

encourage patients, staff and family members to visit the studio to see the working of hospital radio.

Working with Vulnerable People and Children

As Causeway Hospital Radio operates solely within the Causeway Hospital it therefore has to abide by rules and regulations in accordance with the Hospital Trust policies. The radio Trustees have read and understand the Charity Commission's guidance on Access NI checks and are jointly satisfied that the necessary checks have been made on all volunteers to safeguard our beneficiaries. All Access NI checks are carried out by the Hospital Trust before any volunteer is accepted to hospital radio and all volunteers are familiar with the Trust's policy documents on Safeguarding Children and Young People(ref.no. NHSCT/15/861) and Vulnerable Adults (ref.no. NHSCT/17/1089)

Promotion of Hospital Radio

Promoting hospital continues to be done through the local Volunteer Bureau in Coleraine, information leaflets in the hospital and of course, word of mouth through families ,friends and patients. More people are now able to contact us through Facebook and Twitter. Recent modifications to the studio layout means it is now more suitable for wheelchair users.

Financial Statement

Causeway Hospital Radio does not require a large operating budget. Income is from membership fees, donations from the public and local Council Community Grants. We have also received grants in the past from the Triangle Housing Association's Charitable Giving Group, and we continue to seek funding from wherever possible. All monies are used for promoting our work. Promotional goods such as pens, pencils and notepads with our logo etc. are distributed around the patients to encourage them to listen and ask for requests. All radio equipment and studio furnishings are the property of the Causeway Hospital and in the event of any decision to dissolve C.H.R. the radio equipment shall be transferred to another charity with similar objectives.

Covid-19

Hospital radio is all about visiting the wards, distributing headphones to the patients and collecting their requests. Due to the recent pandemic and after consulting with the Hospital Trust, the decision was made on 18th March 2020 to close the studio. With the continuing restrictions on ward visiting we are still unable to provide a radio service. This is extremely frustrating for our volunteers. The Chairman had discussions with Trust Management and it was agreed that the studio will probably remain closed for some time until restrictions are lifted. We have suspended all meetings in the hospital and our A.G.M. All existing members of the radio volunteers have agreed that all office bearers remain in office until we have our next A.G.M . In an attempt to get back to broadcasting the Chairman has recently instigated a meeting with hospital management to discuss the possibility of introducing online broadcasting thus avoiding ward visits. Patients and family members will be able to listen on their phones, laptops etc. and phone or email requests to the studio. The Trust is at present investigating this possibility and we hope to have a favourable answer soon.

Rodney Magee

Chairman

19.05.23