



Sixth Inter-Island Public Health Forum

Les Côtils Christian Centre, Cambridge Park Guernsey

Wednesday, 17th October - Saturday, 20th October 2001

The Remote and Rural Areas Resource Initiative - A Health Board Perspective

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The RARARI was established in late 1999 by Sir David Carter, the former CMO (Scotland) following his review of Acute Services in the country. Essentially it is a project funded by the N.H.S. in Scotland to develop healthcare services and support for professional staff in remote and rural parts of Scotland. The initiative will run until 2003 with the possibility of a 4th year to undertake evaluation.

A steering group was established to oversee the project and allocate money from the overall budget of £8m over 3 years. Bids were sought for these funds and 2 bidding rounds have now been completed. A few of the successfully funded flagship projects will be highlighted and discussed.

A mid term review was done early in 2001 and various criticisms were made of both the process RARARI has used and the impact it has made. Several changes resulted.

These criticisms will be discussed from the perspective of Highland Health Board, the largest rural area in Scotland.

The potential legacy of RARARI will be explored including some of it's future aspirations. Finally, the presentation will draw conclusions from the development process and it's progress to date to learn lessons for the future and assess the potential for application and similar work elsewhere.