

Minutes of a Meeting of the East Lancashire local Optometric Committee held at Ewood on 19 February 2013

Present:

Clive Duerden (Chairman)	Stuart Ingleby
Aftab Ahmed	Mark Jkinson
Vicky Chiu	Jawad Malik
David Cleasby	Nynisha Patel
David Gould	Ceri Smith-Jaynes

In Attendance: Ruth Cuthbert (Optometric Observer) and R Kausar (optometrist)

Declaration Of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

01/13 Minutes of Meeting held on 11 December 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2012 were agreed as a correct record

02/13 Chairman's Report

OHT/Suspect Glaucoma: It was noted that the deadline for completing the CDs was 20 February and although there had been an issue about obtaining codes it was hoped this had been resolved . It was also reported that there had been a corrupt batch of CDs issued and an extra assessment session was planned to cover this . It was anticipated that 29 optometrists had registered to partake in the Service and Clive added that he would need to inform Donna of the position. Aftab commented that details of the “ launch” date were awaited but it was hoped to hold this in mid-March. Details were awaited from Vijay.

BwD: Wellbeing Strategy: Clive reported on the receipt of this document copies of which had been previously circulated .He added that progress in delivering the strategy would emerge through the CCG.

Eye Care Transformation Board: Stuart ,Jawad and Clive had attended the last meeting. where there was a presentation on the relationship between the Board and CCGs (as Commissioners) and the development of sub groups to progress the drafting of eye care strategy papers. The presentation had suggested that the Board would advise on commissioning but it remained to be seen how CCGs would respond particularly given the other statutory bodies under the new NHS which had to be consulted. Clive reported that Diabetic Retinopathy Screening had been raised and it appeared that this could be open to new commissioning arrangements which could give optometrists opportunity to tender. This would be looked at later as the LOC developed its Provider strategy. Clive added that it was difficult to see how the Group would develop in the future or be subsumed into the LPN but at this point of time we needed to continue to engage with this and any other developing forum.

Minor Eye Condition Service: Clive referred to his email correspondence with Dr Berry who was anxious to publicise the service across East Lancashire and the extension of the service into BwD .Ruth commented that with the emergence of CCGs there had been no progress in setting up a service in BwD but it was noted that a triage audit was currently being carried out about the service provided by the GPSIs which may result in a MECS being commissioned to relieve the pressure on the Acute Trust. There may be more information presented at the next Pennine meeting. James highlighted his position which ,although qualified ,he was not contracted to provide the service in East Lancashire and although patients were referred to him by the GP he had to direct them elsewhere. Members were mindful that there had not been a review of the service providers since the scheme started and Ruth was advised that it may be timely for this to be carried out to ensure that the terms of the specification were met.

NHS Review : Clive gave a general update on developments .Confirmation had been received that Enhanced Services would be extended for 12 months to enable CCGs and the NCB Area Team to settle . The National Commissioning Board was also to write to Contractors setting out its functions and in particular to confirm that it would be responsible for GOS contracts and performance. Arrangements were being made for Clive and the David N to meet the NCB Director of Commissioning (Martin Clayton)prior to the next meeting to discuss our relationship with the Board, contractual issues ,practice visits and other relevant matters. It was also unclear whether the CCGs/Area Team would appoint an Optical Adviser. **NHS Mail :** This was now in abeyance and questions relating to Information Governance were yet to be resolved.

Sub Groups: The review of the Committee sub group structure would need to take place given the demise of PCTs and the new commissioning arrangements and once further clarification was available as to the our relationships with the various new organisations we would seek to identify relevant sub groups . Possible headings could be : Contracts and Performance; Training and Mentorship; Commissioning; CCG Liaison. The LOC Executive would need to consider the best way forward. As well as the links with other LOCs across Lancashire.

Pennine Ophthalmic Development Group: This was an informal liaison group between the LOC,CCGs and the Acute Trust but it did not have formal recognition beyond the area. However it was a useful forum to explore possible developments across the area including issues emerging from the day to day contacts on existing services. At this point it was unclear how it would fit in with the new structures but it was hoped it would continue as a mechanism of developing relationships within the local services. The next meeting was 5 March

Diabetic Training Workshop : Nynisha referred to the recent invitation to attend the forthcoming GP Workshop. Clive understood that the workshop would be aimed at looking at the existing scheme and was unsure whether it would have real relevance other than general interest . He understood that CET approval had not been sought.

03/13 Treasurer's Report

Mark circulated details of the year end expenditure report and draft budget for 2013/14.In so far as the expenditure was concerned the report showed a slight overspend in year but this was containable and within acceptable limits given the uncertainties of activity as we developed Enhanced Services and involvement in NHS review discussions. Members were

reminded of HMRC requirements in terms of meeting expenses and the introduction of a revised claim form.

Mark went through the Budget proposals which he would present to the AGM and highlighted:

- *Meetings including liaison with CCGs were likely to increase;
- *Travel costs were in line with HMRC rates and not taxable
- *LOCSU levy was 1.23% of NHS receipts and 0.5% was raised to meet commissioning support (including LOCSU advice)
- *The proposed budget showed a projected overspend and a decision would be needed whether this could be contained
- *Fees would be unchanged
- *Chairman's Honarium and Secretary's fees should be referred to the Executive
- *Training and Leadership would need to be considered

It was agreed that the draft budget should be presented to the AGM subject to the above points . It was felt that any overspend could be met from the Reserves and that it was not appropriate at this time to increase the levy bearing in mind our balances and the recent suggestion by LOCSU that our contributions could be reviewed. The possible developments of the training and educational function of the LOC was felt to be positive and consideration could be given to developing some in-house sessions eg negotiating skills and update sessions on implications of NHS reforms

04/13 NHS Review

Clive reported that information on the forthcoming NHS reforms had been discussed elsewhere on the agenda. However he referred to the demise of the PCTs and the implications and uncertainties this had had on NHS staff.

05/13 Education and Training :

Members were reminded of the arrangements for the forthcoming presentation by Trevor Warburton " Staying out of Trouble" to be held at Clayton Park. Details of the costs were reported and agreed .

Future events would be a session on Peer Review and the AGM when it was agreed to ask Spectrum Thea to do a presentation on Dry Eyes. GPs could be invited . Nynisha agree to take this forward.

06/13 Website

Members were reminded to submit items to Ceri for inclusion on the website . It was important to keep the contents of the website topical and timely.

07/13 Correspondence

Details of correspondence received since the last meeting were presented.

It was agreed that Vicky should attend the NOC and interest sought for the other place .It was noted that the LOCSU Induction Day and Leadership Training events were fully booked.

07/13 Date and Time of Next Meetings

It was agreed that the AGM be held at the Dunkenhalgh on 21 may (the date was subsequently changed to 23 May)

The next LOC meeting would be held on 30 April