

Buckinghamshire Local Optical Committee

Representing all GOS contractors and performers in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes
www.loc-online.co.uk/buckinghamshire-loc

CHAIR

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Bucks LOC AGM 27th April 2022

Report from the Chair

COVID-19

Much of our time has still been used supporting Contractors and Performers through this very difficult time. Sonal has collated huge amounts of information and guidance and kept everyone informed and updated. We have engaged with our opposite numbers across the South East and across the East of England to share experiences and learn from each other, in turn helping us to share more information across Bucks and MK. Many of our existing projects and discussions are still on hold because of the pandemic.

Finance

See the Treasurer's report.

Post Payment Verification (PPV)

These visits are ongoing. We will support queries from contractors and offer guidance and advice where needed.

Buckinghamshire ICP (Integrated Care Provider) – formerly ICS

This is essentially on hold, at the moment, but will continue. We continue to work with the ICP, BHT (Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust) and Bucks CCG. Progress is being made and we will share information and changes when they have been finalised.

Glaucoma/OHT

The Goldmann IOP referral refinement scheme in Buckinghamshire was previously cancelled. It will be replaced by a different scheme. This is currently being worked on with the ICP.

Bedfordshire, Luton & Milton Keynes CCG (BLMK)

Development is moving forward with work on EeRS (Electronic eyecare Referral System). CUES is still running.

Bucks direct cataract referral

This continues to work well. This will continue with little change under the ICP.

LOCSU

In addition to their pathways, we have had a great deal of support over COVID-19. LOCSU's pathways and training exist for: CUES, Glaucoma Referral Filtering & Monitoring, MECs (Minor Eye Conditions service), Cataract Pre & Post-op, Children, Low Vision, People with Learning Disabilities, Maculopathy Referral Filtering & Monitoring, Medical Retina Monitoring (HCQ – Hydroxychloroquine), Healthy Living Optical Practice Framework.

Referrals

Electronic referral is now enabled and encouraged for all of our referral pathways. Information and forms are available on our website. Remember that your email will only be secure if it sent **from** and **to** an address ending in '@nhs.net'. There are a few exceptions where certain other recipients are allowed, like @mkuh.nhs.uk. Please always state a provisional diagnosis near the top of the letter/form – even if you're wrong it helps the triager by knowing what's on your mind. Please also state that the patient is happy for the hospital/clinic to feed back to you.

Bruce Gilson
March 2022