



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Cheshire LOC
Wednesday 27th March 2019
The Cottons Hotel, Knutsford

Present: Committee Members

Lyndon Taylor	Chairman
Fionnuala Stott	Secretary
Phil Cooke	Treasurer
Amy Thompson	
Jane Smellie	
Jill Umpleby	
John Blaney	
Harinder Notay	

David Knowles	Returning Officer
Sandie McBennett	Administrator

1. Welcome by the Chairman, Lyndon Taylor

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and encouraged all present to take the opportunity to vote in the Contractor and Performer election if they had not already done so.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received Mark Simpson, Nigel Oldbury, Elizabeth Taylor, Philippa Longmore, Steven Morris, Chi Choi, Manish Patel, Derek Clare, Rupesh Bagdai, Bronagh Cooke, Gurj Bhamra and Chris Houghton.

Resolved: that apologies for absence from the above named be accepted.

3. Minutes of the 2018 AGM

Proposer: Miss T Cox, Seconder: Mr H Churchman.

Resolved: that the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

No matters arising were reported.

5. Chairman's Report

Lyndon Taylor, Chairman, report received: -

- PECC Merger followed by the formation of new national company: Primary Eye Care Services
- Cost saving benefits received from the merger, resulting in a predicted zero statutory levy and 0.5% levy to LOCSU.
- No new services had been negotiated due to NHS budgets; the Western Cheshire CCG MECS Service looked hopeful.
- Central outstanding payments from 2014 to 2017 had been recovered and would be repaid by the year end.
- Thanks to the Committee as a whole for their work over the past year, in particular to Mark Simpson and

Fionnuala Stott in post as Secretary and to Phil Cooke as Treasurer. Particular thanks were noted to David Knowles for his scrutiny of the accounts and for acting as Returning Officer for the election.

6. Secretary's Report

Fionnuala Stott, Secretary, report received.

The Secretary thanked all for their attendance and engagement. The following notes from her report were noted: -

- The LOC had met 4 times in the past year, welcoming new committee members Gurj Bhamra, John Blaney and Harinder Notay, along with observers such as David Knowles and Andy Riley. Rupesh had attended regularly to report on LEHN matters of interest.
- Fionnuala Stott and Phil Cooke had attended the NOC in November 2018; their reports from the conference had been cascaded to the Committee. The LOC had received regular reports from the CGPL, Julia Maiden, updating on all services, in particular to ask Contractors to consider the under utilised PwLD service. JM expressed her thanks to Jane Smellie in taking up the Lead for the Service within Cheshire.
- In the past year the LOC had arranged a Peer Discussion; a Lecture on Prescribing Guidelines for Children in October and a 6 inter active point Discussion Workshop in November covering Visual Impairment and Supporting Sight Loss. All CET events had been well attended with excellent feedback received. Thanks were noted to Jill Umpleby for the quality CET provision. In addition, the LOC had funded OSCE places for MECS and Glaucoma in Manchester, which was arranged by PECS, 8 Optometrists passed the MECS and 6 passed the glaucoma OSCE which would ensure a skilled workforce was available when services were commissioned. The Secretary wished to note the Committee's thanks to Jill Umpleby for her work in arranging relevant CET for the profession in Cheshire.
- Lyndon Taylor would be retiring from his position as DRSS Lead Optometrist in 2019; the time that Lyndon had devoted to the service was noted, the Committee and those present thanked Lyndon for his years of service and commitment.

7. Treasurer's Report

Report received. The Treasurer gave context around the accounts presented and scrutinised: -

- The levy had been reduced from 1.5% in September 2019 to 1%. There had been a delay in implementing the levy reduction due to PCSE administration.
- The fees and expenses shown were greatly reduced due to less activity in year and the LOC no longer supporting the CGPL roles which would be supported by PECS in future.
- A delayed payment to LOCSU of £19,530 for the year would show in the following year 2019/2020 accounts.
- A healthy surplus was held in the account; £61,884 held, although there were some outstanding payments which would adjust this down to approx. £56,000.

The Treasurer asked for any questions from the floor: Cathy Tripp asked what would the capital holding be used for? The Treasurer explained the PECC merger had contributed to the capital holding as the new PCS now covered the expenses of the CGPLs, in addition, the reduction in the levy in the previous year had been delayed due to administration problems within SPS. The LOCSU advice was for LOCs to hold 1 year's turnover in hand; presently Cheshire LOC held 2 years, therefore, the levy would be adjusted down as in Agenda item 9. below to 0.5%, all of which would be LOCSU contribution.

8. Approval of 2018 Accounts

Proposer: Mrs C Tripp, Seconder: Mrs H Notay.

Resolved: that the Cheshire LOC 2018 Accounts be agreed.

9. Vote on the Following Resolutions: -

- a. **Resolution 1-** to reduce the statutory levy on all NHS sight tests to 0.5%
- b. **Resolution 2-** to give the Cheshire LOC a mandate to vary the statutory levy by no more than plus or minus 0.5%

Resolved: following the vote with those present, all in favour that the Resolutions 1 and 2 be agreed.

10. Adoption of the 0.5% contribution to the LOC Support Unit for 2019/20

Resolved: following the vote with those present, that the adoption of the 0.5% contribution to LOCSU be agreed.

11. Appointment of Account Inspector for 2019/20

The Chairman wished to note Cheshire LOC's thanks to David Knowles for his work and oversight during the past year.

Resolved: that David Knowles be appointed the Account Inspector for the Cheshire LOC for the year 2019/20.

12. Primary Eyecare Services Limited Report

The Chairman reported PECS would bid in the tender process for the DVLA Contract currently held by Specsavers. LOCSU, FODO, ABDO and the AOP had considered the tender document and agreed it would be a viable proposition to bid on using PECS as the national vehicle to bid. An email had been circulated from Cheshire LOC and PECS requesting completion of a survey to gauge the amount of support and capacity for the service would be available. Lyndon Taylor requested all Contractors to complete the survey as soon as possible to aid the bid.

Lyndon Taylor reported in West Cheshire, an OHT monitoring service had in the past been transferred to the CCG; the CCG had been paying the practice fees but had not paid Webstar. On realising fees had not been paid, Webstar had closed the service. Cheshire LOC had raised the problem with West Cheshire CCG over the past two years. Presently, there would be no access to the data and no knowledge of how many patients were in the service was known.

13. LEHN Report

Rupesh Bagdai had sent his apologies. Lyndon Taylor gave a verbal update; the LEHN had been conducting a lot of work on services covering a larger footprint, including Cheshire, Lancashire, Wirral, Merseyside and Warrington.

14. Election Results

David Knowles as Returning Officer had reviewed the results of the 2019 Election.

Performers elected were Lyndon Taylor and Stephen Halpin.

Contractors elected were Mark Simpson and Andrew Riley.

The term of office for both Performer and Contractor would be 3 years from 2019.

The Chairman thanked David Knowles for his service as independent Returning Officer.

Resolved: that Lyndon Taylor and Stephen Halpin be elected to Performer seats; that Mark Simpson and Andrew Riley be elected to Contractor seats, both for a period of 3 years from 2019.

The Chairman wished to note the Committee's commiserations to Jane Smellie and John Blaney and thanked both for their time served on Cheshire LOC.

15. Any other Business

The Chairman asked for any questions from the floor.

Cathy Tripp asked what would be done with the patients in the OHT Service that had been seen for 5 years.

Julia Maiden had reported new guidelines would be issued. Further advice was required.

Action: LT to seek further information from Julia Maiden.

- 16. CET approved presentation by Mr D Price, FBDO (Hons), CL COA: -
"The Role of Multi-focal Soft Contact Lenses in Myopia Control"
1 CET Point Approved for both Optometrists, CLOs and Dispensing Opticians.**