

**MINUTES OF CHESHIRE LOCAL OPTOMETRIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**9TH JANUARY 2020**

**THE SWAN, TARPORLEY**

**Present**

Lyndon Taylor, Chairman, Fionnuala Stott, Mark Simpson, Phil Cooke, Amy Thompson, Chris Houghton, Andy Riley, Stephen Halpin, Nigel Oldbury, Harinder Notay, Jane Smellie, Jill Umpleby

Julia Maiden – CGPL

Tom Mackley – CGPL

Fionnuala Kidd

Cathy Tripp

Theresa Adamson

**In Attendance**

Sandie McBennett – Administrator

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

Lyndon Taylor welcomed all to the meeting.

**Resolved: That apologies received from Rupesh Bagdai be accepted.**

**2. Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were noted.

**3. Minutes of the last Meeting held on 11th September 2019**

Fionnuala Stott nominated the minutes be accepted; Lyndon Taylor seconded.

 **Resolved: That the minutes of the 11th September 2019 meeting be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**4. Matters Arising**

 All items were dealt with in the agenda.

**5. CET Update**

Jill Umpleby reported the recent CET Event – Dementia, Dignity and the Optometrist delivered by Mrs Elaine Grisdale had been well received with excellent feedback with all objectives being met. Comments included; more intervention information from services for the patients would be welcome.

The lecture by Mr Arun Sachdev had also been well received.

Suggestions for future CET topics were: -

* Glaucoma – Field Interpretation
* OCT
* Contact Lens
* Paediatric Dispensing
* Ocular Examination and Binocular Vision

Jill Umpleby reported she had a paediatric dispensing presentation that she had facilitated in the past if required.

JU had contact Kerry Smith James in relation to Field Interpretation; she recommended Prof John Wild who gave a lecture a 100% Optical.

Ahmed Sadiq had a Dry Eye lecture.

It was agreed to ask Mr Mandagere Vishwanath Ophthalmologist to give his presentation on - ‘Visual Fields and Neuro Ophthalmic Problems’.

 A GDPR evening presentation had been arranged by Wirral LOC on 26th February 2020; Cheshire LOC members would be welcome to attend.

Lyndon Taylor and Trevor Warburton would hold a Peer Discussion on 20th May 2020 at the Cottons Hotel, Knutsford.

**Action: SMcB to arrange the Cottons Hotel for 20th May 2020.**

**6. Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer reported all expenses to the year end had been paid. Cash at bank was £44k; outstanding payments to LOCSU of £9.5k, giving approx. £34k remaining.

The committee agreed to keep the levy at the same rate of 0.5% with the ability to raise or lower it by up to 0.5% in year.

**Resolved: The Committee agreed to propose the resolution at the AGM to retain the present levy of 0.5% with the second resolution to alter the levy by + or – 0.5% in year.**

The Committee discussed the forward finance plans and how the levy should be utilised. Training?

Tom Mackley advised the next LOCSU Induction Course would run from 27th January. It was a free course designed for succession planning and broader understanding of committee organisation. Those taking part in the Induction Course would be paid for their time to complete the course.

The Leadership Training Course facilitated by LOCSU would also be supported by the LOC with funding for participants. The next course would run from March – June 2020.

**Action: Hari Notay and Amy Thompson would enrol on the induction course.**

Tom Mackley also noted there was a Treasurers Course available from LOCSU. Hari Notay expressed an interest in completing the Treasurer’s Course.

The LOC would fund Cheshire based Optometrists to complete the MECS OSCE. The launch event would be held on 20th January 2020, followed by the OSCE on 24th February.

The MECS Launch Event would be half funded between the LOC and PCS.

**7. Chairman’s Report**

No additional reports.

**8. Secretary’s Report**

The Secretary, Amy Thompson referred back to the LOC Needs Analysis Survey which had been completed by a working group in the summer. From that report, one of the activities highlighted was STP meetings; HN, AR and FS had attended an STP meeting in September.

FS had also attended the Care in Community Development Group where the Primary Care Networks had been reported and details of the funding held by the networks. The Group had also discussed the extended role of Optometry; the Primary Care Optometrists and how to make best use of the optometric workforce. FS reported there were approximately 25 PCNs; the LOC would need to have a presence at each meeting to develop engagement alongside other primary care providers. FS had received the contact details of all PCN leads to progress.

**Action: FS to make contact with all PCNs leads in Cheshire.**

NHS England had rolled out the campaign; Alcohol Awareness: Dry January. A laminated poster had been provided for promotion in practices.

AT reported inter LOC communication would be supported and encouraged to increase idea sharing and best practice knowledge.

Inter committee: The Referral Pathway Meeting held by AT, LT, SH and HN had been held to detail the pathways and provide a valuable resource for all practice staff.

Inter Optom: the LOC needed to push comms via the website to include up to date advice including the referral pathway templates and CET events.

Following the Dementia Lecture, the LOC had agreed to make a donation to Alzheimer’s UK in place of a fee to the speaker.

**Action: Committee Members were asked to forward pictures of their use of the Dry January Posters.**

Jill Umpleby had recently completed a trip to Zambia for Vision Aid Overseas which would be published on Instagram.

**9. PECS Report**

Julia Maiden, CGPL for Cheshire and Merseyside was in attendance to give her report.

 JM gave an overview of the current services: GRR in East Cheshire 36 episodes over Q1 and Q2, South Cheshire & Vale Royal did 159 and in West 129.

 The Leighton Post Cat service recorded 758 episodes were recorded across all areas. A meeting had been requested with Leighton Hospital to address inconsistencies in service administration.

 OHT monitoring in South Cheshire & Vale Royal recorded 693 active patients. Less patients were being referred out due to changes in the NICE guidelines.

 South Cheshire & Vale Royal Pre Cataract had seen 600 patients in Q1/Q2. Due to the low deflection rate, it was noted 99% of patients go on to be referred.

 MECS implementation had commenced with the launch event and OSCEs.

 The leaflets in development for the MECS service, including the practice lists with the dates they are open and able to provide the service would be finalised and published on the website.

 PwLD figures were reported for Q1 and Q2: 68 patients were seen over the whole of Cheshire and Merseyside, East Cheshire saw 1, South Cheshire saw 0 and West Cheshire saw 11 patients.

Post Cataract at COSH had been put out to tender; a tender had been submitted at short notice. Another tender had also been received.

JM had met with Adele at West Cheshire where it was confirmed she would remain in post for the time being; she would hold post until the CCGs merge. She intended to change the contract for MECS to align to the ones that would be proposed for the whole of Cheshire.

**10. East Cheshire**

No further report from the East.

**11. Central Cheshire (VR&S)**

DRSS – choice centre leaflet only listed the 4 hospitals. ‘Other providers are available on request’ should also be included on the leaflet.

**Action: JM to progress addition to the DRSS leaflet.**

**12. Western Cheshire**

No report.

**13. Learning Disabilities Service**

Jane Smellie reported she had met with Andy Riley to plan the promotion and engagement for the PwLD Service. It was agreed to produce a leaflet for the service to give to the parents and carers with the help of See-ability. A meeting would be held on 6th February 2020. Practices and GPs would be encouraged to promote and join the service. The service was presented at the NOC which represented a national service that would be rolled out.

 **Action: Jane and Andy to consider presenting the pathway at the AGM.**

**14. LOC Needs Analysis Update**

 Cross border connections: could be amended slightly to the positive, 3 to 4.

 Communication with members: it was agreed optometrists should have in their consulting room a one page document holding all the pathway procedures for different clinical episodes in each CCG area. All details held on the referral pathway leaflets had been checked and verified. The documents would be published on the Cheshire LOC website and distributed to practices, in particular with those practices that do not presently engage with the LOC. There would be two versions, an Optom leaflet and a Practice Manager leaflet (including fees). The document when complete would be sent to Julia Maiden for sign off.

**15. NOC Feedback**

Andy Riley, Fionnuala Stott, Jill Umpleby and Harinder Notay attend the NOC in November 19. The workshops attended were engagement with PCNs, special schools; an employed Optom would attend the special schools. LOCSU breakaway sessions included clinical pathway development; what opportunities were available to deliver different services to patients. New ideas were discussed as to how optometric resources could be further used by CCGs and PCNs.

 GOS 18: GPs had requested a tick box which noted what the referral was for, information/GP not required. The committee held a robust discussion on the implications of a tick box. It was agreed when e-referral was rolled out nationally this would negate the issue.

 Tom Mackley reported the Regional Forums would be set up to bring together the LOCs to discuss regional working.

**16. AGM**

 The Cheshire LOC AGM would be held on 18th March 2020 at the Cottons Hotel, Knutsford. FS noted the invitation to the AGM should include the caveat that the AGM and LOC meetings would be held in an appropriate venue that was inclusive to all the profession. Suggestions from the profession on the location, type of venue or time of day would be welcome.

 David Knowles had agreed to be the Returning Officer for the election at the AGM.

**17. LEHN Update**

Rupesh Bagdai had sent his apologies.

**18. AOB**

The IP Pilot was planned for East Cheshire (only one CCG). It was hoped the pilot would provide proof on concept to enable the IP Pilot to be rolled out nationally.

**18. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Cheshire LOC would be held on 2020.

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| **Owner** | **Action** | **Update** |
| SMcB | SMcB to arrange the Cottons Hotel for 20th May 2020 | Complete. |
| HN/AT | Hari Notay and Amy Thompson would enrol on the induction course. | Complete. |
| FS | FS to make contact with all PCNs leads in Cheshire. | Ongoing.  |
| ALL | Committee Members were asked to forward pictures of their use of the Dry January Posters. | Complete |
| JM | JM to progress addition to the DRSS leaflet. |  |
| JS/AR | Jane and Andy to consider presenting the pathway at the AGM. |  |