



MINUTES OF CHESHIRE LOCAL OPTOMETRIC COMMITTEE MEETING
6th DECEMBER 2022 HELD AT THE SWAN, TARPORLEY

Present

Fionnuala Stott, Phil Cooke, Harinder Notay, Amy Thompson, Stephen Halpin, Jill Umpleby, Fionnuala Kidd, Lyndon Taylor, Andy Riley, and Cahir Mullan.

In Attendance

Sandie McBennett – Administrator

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Jane Smellie were accepted. Chris Houghton had tendered his resignation from the LOC.

Resolved: That the resignation of Chris Houghton was accepted.

2. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were noted.

Action: SMB to circulate the COI forms for completion for 2023.

3. Minutes of the last Meeting held on 18th October 2022

Resolved: That the minutes of the 18th October 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

Matters Arising and Action List were reported as complete.

4. CPD

The committee wished to thank Jill Umpleby for her commitment to the role of CPD Officer, and noted their appreciation of Jill's time and effort devoted to the role.

The next CPD meeting was suggested for 12th March which would incorporate the AGM.

Action: FS to contact Spa Medica regarding provision of CPD presentation on 12th March.

5. Treasurer's Report

Report received.

The LOC were now members of the Central Optical Fund. The proposal to include the COF donation as part of the levy would be addressed at the next meeting and for inclusion at the AGM 2023.

The payments received from NHS Greater Manchester was still being investigated. Enquiries had been made with the bank and NHS regarding the origin of the payment. The remittances received to date would be ring fenced until more was known. PC would report on his findings at the next meeting.

The invoice to NHS England (£21,000) for the AF/BP Pilot had been submitted for Cheshire and Mersey LOCs.

The LOC account balance was £35,364 (£6732 owed to LOCSU) leaving a balance of £28,632.

The guidance on PAYE for Officers of the LOC would be circulated from LOCSU in the near future.

6. Secretary's Report

No items reported that were not already covered on the agenda.

7. **CUEs/Extended Services**

FS reported engagement with GP's had been and will be the most beneficial to the optometric sector and in turn the ICS. CUEs had proved to be a valuable resource and efficiency in primary care; the service deflected patients from GP services directly to optometry. The first CUES GP Presentation had been delivered to a GP practice in Wrenbury delivered by Rebecca Ireland. The presentation was positively received. A video of the GP presentation with an accompanying FAQ file would be prepared for future presentation and circulation. The letters generated from Opera would be made clearer (for info only etc for GPs).

Issues reported from CUEs referrals included:

- No triage
- Practices are inundated with CUE's appointments in the area
- Capacity issues in East Cheshire and Wilmslow

CUEs triage timeframes had been amended from 4 hours to 24 hours.

Telemedicine had made a great impact for those who would use it, the barrier in particular was the patients who would need to access telemedicine.

The solution to combat the problems were discussed:

- A wider up take of practices to meet the demand.
- A more comprehensive education of the CUEs service to GPs.
- A broad education to pharmacists and non participating practices.
- Provide peer support and peer on peer training for confidence in Telemed.
- Target 60-70% non face to face CUEs.
- Training for non-clinicians to signpost.

Action: Hari Notay and Stephen Halpin would meet outside of the meeting to discuss ways of working to expand the CUEs service.

8. **Strategy Day**

It was agreed to hold a whole Strategy Day to agree the forward plan for the LOC Strategy. 13th January 2023 was agreed.

Action: SMB to arrange venue for Strategy Day venue for 13th January.

Action: FS to secure a facilitator for the day.

9. **Eers**

AR reported the Eers meetings were ongoing, however there was a move for Eers to become ERS.

10. **Chair's Report**

Report received.

Fionnuala Stott reported on recent business across the patch:

- The requirement for QIO was currently under review and may change in the near future.
- After the closure of the Iris Centre in Crewe, the bid to National Lottery Fund had been submitted for a hub for patients with visual impairment; news expected early in 2023.
- Strep A infections had impacted GP appointments.
- ICS Forum meetings were ongoing.
- CUEs prescriptions; to include in the next newsletter that practices should prescribe rather than signpost to the pharmacy.
- The resolutions for the AGM would be discussed at the next meeting.

11. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meetings of the Cheshire LOC would be held on Friday 10th February 2023.

ACTION LIST

Owner	Action	Update
SMB	SMB to circulate the COI forms for completion for 2023.	
FS	FS to contact Spa Medica regarding provision of CPD presentation on 12 th March.	
HN/SH	Hari Notay and Stephen Halpin would meet outside of the meeting to discuss ways of working to expand the CUEs service.	
SMB	Arrange date for Strategy Day venue for 13 th January.	
FS	FS to secure a facilitator for the day	