

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF CHESHIRE LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**5th DECEMBER 2024 SWAN INN TARPOLEY**

**Present**

Fionnuala Stott, Phil Cooke, Amy Thompson, Harinder Notay, Jill Umpleby, Jane Smellie, Stephen Halpin, Helen Counsell, Andy Riley, Mark Simpson and Cahir Mullan

**Observers**

Catherine Turnham (clinical lead for PES) , Gillian Rudduck (President of the college of Optometrists), Viki price (chair of Wirral LOC)

**In Attendance**

Aisling Stott, Administrator

**Welcome and Apologies for absence**

No apologies were received

**Declarations of interest**

Gillian Rudduck – employed by Wirral University trust and works for CQC and university of central Lancaster and member of the AOP

Andy – clinical lead for ICB

Fionnuala – Nonexecutive director of Primary eyecare services

Catherine Turnham – Clinical lead for Primary eyecare services (PES)

Viki Price – Chairperson of Wirral LOC

**Minutes of meeting from 16th September 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2024 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

**CPD & AGM**

**CPD**

* JU has been looking at Options for CPD at AGM
* PES contacted the LOC to run a 3 CPD point online presentation
* FS reported that the workforce project is planning Fb workshops and WOPEC 2 glaucoma workshops in east cheshire in early February.

 **AGM**

* A date was greed for AGM - Wednesday 2nd April.
* As per annual cycle 3 positions on the LOC are now available. This year two performers (HC and SH) and one contractor (AR) position are up for vote.

**CVD pilot and funding award verbal update**

* 60k funding has been allocated to C&M for a hyper tensive screening programme in line with the health inequalities programme
* Progress is being made to finalise the specification and expressions of interest are soon to be sent to practices directly from PES.
* It was reported that in the ongoing small pilot 154/453 patients were sign posted by their GP for further tests.

**Chairs report**

* FS asked if CUES in practice is working. In particular if it was necessary to use PES for triage in practice. It was agreed to continue as we are.
* Committee voted whether to stick with cues or not. Majority voted Yes.
* Cheshire LOC voted to remain fully managing cues in practices for now. CT agreed to report back on GM pilot.
* It was agreed that CT would report back to Primary eyecare services the concerns regarding the patient questionnaire.
* The Pre cataract pathway was discussed and how patient choices is opened.
* FS reported the cataract choices tool is now live on opera
* Emails were sent to local colleges asking if Cheshire LOC could have a representative attend and speak about a career in optometry. Following discussions about the wider optometry workforce, all in agreement that this was a valuable piece of work.
* CT reported a new plot is being implemented using winter pressures budget in GM to help with capacity issues in practice.
* FS said there’s a piece of work to confirm which practises have OCTs
* The Pre cat pathway was discussed and how patient choices is opened.
* FS reported the cat choices tool is now live on opera
* Glaucoma monitoring going out to whole patch in 2025
* Glaucoma referral refinement going out next week for procurement

**Special schools**

* It was agreed that PC would draft a letter to the ICB and LOCSU to raise our concerns with the new specification.

**ICB update**

**A&G**

* AR spoke about digital strategy – attended primary care digital meeting. AR said not a lot to report.
* AR said advice and guidance is now live across cheshire.
* AR suggested expanding pilot to other practices in east cheshire.

**SPOA**

* AR reported evidence of a shift in patient choice by approximately 10%. It was agreed further data was required.
* AR reported that SPOA was initially a 6-month pilot but is likely going to be extended

**LOCSU review & regional optical conference report**

* FS and AR reported that they met with LOCSU chief executive to discuss the relationship between cheshire LOC and LOCSU. AR, FS, AT attended the regional optical conference in Manchester recently and reported that there was a wider ask from LOCs for LOCSU to represent LOCs at national level.
* It was greed that FS and AR would follow up with LOCSU before the AGM

**IP clinical network Group update**

* JS reported that work is ongoing with IP optometrist across cheshire and Merseyside. They have met face-to-face and virtually. Work is ongoing to encourage better use of IP in the CUES service.

**Workforce development update**

* Work is ongoing across C&M. there is a FB workshop planned in Merseyside in early 2025. 6 more optometrists are due to start the IP course in January. The two cohorts are progressing well with the IP course at City University.

**Treasurers report**

* + 1. **Finance update**
		2. **Workforce update**
* 6 people interested in Mod 1 and will approve these places
* 2 interested in glaucoma
* Spent £107,000 going into quarter 3. Up to £150,000.
* Next intake is March 2025 for IP
* 9 of the 12 who have recently completed Mod 1 Passed
* 11 are on module 1 now.

**AOB**

* GR said the college are very busy with the change review and universities have started the new scheme
* GR said council elections are this year. Encourage a representative from our area
* Glaucoma monitoring going out to whole patch in 2025
* Glaucoma referral refinement going out next week for procurement

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| **Item** | **Action** | **Lead/update** |
| 1 | Contact Fox and Hound in regard to AGM Venue. | Admin  |
| 2 | Advice and Guidance – reach out to Practices  | Admin and FS |
| 3 | Ring local colleges and chase up about careers  | Admin  |
| 4 | Draft a letter on behalf of LOC for special schools  | PC |
| 5 | Feedback on CUES to practices in Northwich  | FS |
| 6 | Remind optoms of choice conversation? | AR/FS?? |
| 7 | Investigate PANDO platform for workforce | JS |
| 8 | Putting more useful info In referrals  | FS |
| 9 | Face to face IP meeting in March- sort date and venue  | JS |
|  | Stephen Goldmans clinics / fields  | SH |
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