

***Minutes for the Dudley LOC Committee Meeting held at 6.30p.m. on Tuesday 4th October 2022***

**Held as a Zoom Meeting**

**Committee in Attendance**

Shamina Asif (Chair) Paul Sidhu (Secretary), Mark Tuffin (Treasurer), Charles Barlow, Shazad Mahmood, Ameerah Riaz Ahmed, Qadir Baz, Sheena Mangat

**1. Apologies**

Sonia Tyrell, Nicky Ferguson

**2. Declarations of Interest**

CB has been nominated as a Regional LOC Lead. There were no other new declarations.

**3. Minutes of the previous Meeting**

The minutes were proposed by CB and seconded by QB as a correct record of the meeting.

**4. Matters arising**

* Find out if practices prefer face to face or online for HLOP training. Carried forward.

ACTION: SA

* Send link for New Member Induction training again to all new members.

ACTION: PS

**5. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to report. CB shared the Newsletter received from Health Intelligence re diabetic screening.

**6. CUES Update**

CB has received the quarterly statistics from Wasim (Primary Eyecare). SA to ask Wasim for an update on a recent BMEC meeting regarding CUES which neither SA or CB were able to attend.

ACTION: SA

**7. NHS Updates**

PS had nothing to report. CB said his would be dealt with in his report.

**8. Chair's Business**

**8.1 Extended Primary Care Services**

SA updated the committee on the workforce development project

Year 1 – funding – 50,000

£25,000 is core competency and the other £25,000 is funding for higher qualifications

At the last workforce development meeting it was agreed that we would go for **option 3** in terms of funding for different qualifications, i.e. Equal budgetary allocation across 4 disciplines with payment of Course fees less CET grant and payment of 50% of placement fees

This results in the following funding:

2 IP

8 MEDICAL RETINA professional certificate

10 glaucoma professional certificate

9 Paediatric care

This option gave more spaces

Peer discussion on OCT, visual fields and ONH and paeds is being organised

CB is designing application forms which will sent out once approved

HLOP – 3 new practices have become accredited as HLOP – Wendy and I went to visit them gave them banners and tried to set everything up – pharmoutcomes – half a day of practice visits. Leaflets around winter campaigns are going out, trying to encourage the previous practices to start doing ALCOHOL screening.++

Hoping to have results around this – in 3 months and can show these results.

Different note – practices interested in participating in scheme to measure blood pressure take 2 fundus pics and ask a few questions around h and s – paid £25 for each and need a minimum of 100 in a year – please email if interested in taking part. Paul will send out an email on this.

Ophthalmology meeting – a lot of discussions around issues but the commissioners need to look at what paying for maybe post – cat services/ enhanced case finding schemes. This needs emphasising at every meeting.

Nizz Sabir joined the meeting at this point.

SM asked if IP was to be funded how can we ensure that there will be sufficient placements available. SA confirmed that placements have been secured.

SA has asked CB to compose an application for those interested in applying for IP. Nizz to send a similar form from another area to assist CB.

ACTION: CB

**9. Charles Barlow**

# CB Report to Dudley LOC 4th October 2022

## Since last meeting

## Black Country ICB Ophthalmology Clinical Network Group

There have been numerous meetings, all led by Consultant John Barry. Attendance has been poor from the hospital consultants delaying consensus on proposed service developments.

The Black Country CCG commissioner has left post and we are awaiting a new appointment, this is also delaying change as this prevents the release of funds to develop services.

Priorities that involve Optometry are:

* Role out of Cataract Post OP across the whole region and interoperability between Opera and Medi-Soft is a key component of this.
* Cataract High Volume Low Complexity pathways – the setting up of two new hubs in Dudley and Cannock is proceeding. The use of us in the pre-and post op part of this pathway is crucial. Learning from the last LOC meeting around zero feedback from RHH cataract referrals has been passed on and acknowledged and will be addressed by the rollout of the post op pathway.
* Glaucoma – GERS roll out across the ICB and trialling stable glaucoma management in the community
* Medical Retina – services to use community OCTs

A Black Country Ophthalmology Clinic summit is being held on 19th October – CB attending, as is PES representative as key items on the Agenda are the interoperability of Opera and Medi-Site and also workforce development.

A local Vision Strategy is to be developed led by Lisa Cowley (CEO Beacon Centre) supported by CB from ROC

## EeRS

The Midlands EeRS procurement should now be at the Evaluation stage, where compliant bids are being assessed and in theory this will be moderated by the middle of October. We do not know how many applications there have been, or who the applicants are. A EeRS project roll out group has been set up by the ICB and CB and other LOC representatives have been invited to join. So far we have as a priority been reviewing the process maps, and referral maps are complete, pathway and hospital process flows are being completed ASAP. Theoretically contracts could be signed as soon as December. The Black Country has opted not to be an early adopter.

## Midlands Eyecare Transformation Network

### Meetings 4th August:

* Presentation on the progress of the Optometry First Pilot in Nottinghamshire – which included MECS/CUES, Paediatrics, Cataract pre-post op, Low Risk glaucoma and a Referral Assessment service. Initial results show reduction in patients waiting over 52 weeks and reduction of patients waiting for first appointment.
* Presentation on funding opportunity to develop Optometric workforce for systems that commit to commissioning services. CB is following up with this offer

## Birmingham, Solihull & Black Country Regional Optical Committee

### Meeting 15th September

Topics Discussed were

* Presentation from Lisa Cowley on importance of Vision Strategy and how we can link local sight loss charities (and other organisations where relevant) and opticians to provide a broader community support packages for those impacted by sight conditions as well as raising public awareness of the range of services we all provide
* The DESP – agreed comms to be sent out rasiing awareness of all practices of obligations to diabetic patients under GOS
* EeRs progress and alternatives going forward
* Workforce Development project
* PES reports
* ROC confederation document – all agreed and CB to produce an implementation plan

## Midlands LOC Regional Forum

### Meeting 6th September

Updates from arounf the region and plans for NOC and sharing costs of representatives at meetings

## Birmingham, Solihull & Black Country Workforce Development Project

### 20th September, 10th August

Since last LOC meeting:

* Workforce Survey results have been written up and shared with LOCs and other parties in the BlackCountry
* IP placements have been found and reserved for 12 places from 2023
* PEER Discussion topics have been agreed for workforce development and are being written for roll out across the region shortly.
* Funding agreement reached on higher qualifications and applications forms for places to be issued shortly
* Ongoing development framework being discussed with NHSE and also meeting with course providers (Aston & Cardiff)
* Local discussions with acute providers around placement and shared resource frameworks

**10. Hospital Liaison Business**

NF has managed to get hold of the Out of Hours Co-ordinator’s email address and will forward to PS who will in turn circulate to the Committee.

ACTION: PS

**11. Secretary’s Business**

The Committee discussed SA’s request to attend the NOC as she missed the meeting when it was decided who would be attending. CB is attending using Sandwell LOC free place.

SA explained about how attendees are funded for their time and PS put the daily rates into the group chat. MT confirmed there were sufficient funds to cover the costs of all those wishing to attend. CB thought there would be some benefit in chaperoning the NOC first time attendees.

The Committee were asked to vote re SA’s attendance. All voted in favour, carried unanimously.

**12. CPD Officer's Business**

RB not in attendance. PS reported that the recent joint CET event with Sandwell on 26th September in West Bromwich was a great success and well attended.

**13. Treasurer’s Business**

MT reported that payments have been made into the Committee account by Spa Medica, Spectrum Thea and Optegra. RB confirmed these payments were for sponsorship for events.

MT reported an approximate balance of between £34-£35K after all recent expense form submissions.

MT attended the Quarterly Treasurers meeting where the big topic of conversation was PAYE. It was suggested that all LOC Officers should be on a payroll for their Honorarium and that Committee Members also ought to pay the appropriate tax and NI for attending meetings.

CB informed the Committee that LOCSU has taken advice from a tax advisor and is still under review due to the recent mini-budget. In view of the IR35 changes the LOC should seek further clarification from the national bodies.

**14. Authorisation to act and email conversations**

The motion from previous meetings was put to the committee (*the committee give continued permission and authority for officers to deal with and make decisions on matters that arise that need urgent attention. When this occurs, wherever possible a discussion by email with the Committee should take place before a decision is made. Whenever possible and reasonable officers should bring all matters that require decisions to the next committee meeting, and decisions will only be made outside meetings where waiting is not a realistic option.)*

Agreed unanimously

**15. Authorisation to act on ROC**

The motion from previous meetings was put to the committee (*The committee to agree to Charles Barlow and Paul Sidhu continuing to represent the LOC at HWMROC, with permission for them to use their judgement when deciding if individual decisions made there amount to minor decisions or major decisions. For decisions they consider minor they are authorised to act on the LOCs behalf. For all decisions they consider major they must seek to have those ratified by the LOC, and they must make this clear to the ROC.)*

Agreed unanimously

**16. A.O.B.**

CB attended a meeting with Avon & Glos LOC. There was a presentation on sight care for the homeless who work from a location in Birmingham. CB said he would be happy to facilitate a meeting for them to present at the ROC.

SA asked CB if she could apply for funding from the Central Optical Fund for training costs for the Healthy Living Scheme. CB confirmed SA could apply.

**19. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th January 2023 – 6.30pm via Zoom

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| Action | Action by |
| Find out if practices prefer face to face or online for HLOP training. Carried forward. | SA |
| Send the email address for the Clinic Co-ordinator for referrals to the committee | PS |
| Send link for New Member Induction training again to all new members. | PS |
| Ask Wasim for an update on a recent BMEC meeting regarding CUES which neither SA or CB were able to attend. | SA |
| Compose an application for those interested in applying for IP. | CB |