

Secretary: Paul Sidhu

76 Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, West Midlands B68 0LJ

***Minutes for the Dudley LOC Committee Meeting held at 6.30p.m. on Monday 10th January 2022***

**Held as a Zoom Meeting**

**Committee in Attendance**

Shamina Asif (Chair), Charles Barlow, Hussnan Ejaz, Gurdeep Dosangh, Sonia Tyrell, Sunit Jolly, Rosie Birhah, Shazad Mahmood, Sheena Mangat, Kay Reeves, David Wright

Also in Attendance: Nasir Ahmed – from Cacoulis Opticians

1. **Apologies**

Mark Tuffin, Paul Sidhu, Nicky Ferguson

1. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no new declarations.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

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

**4. Matters arising**

* Paediatric Referrals- CB has spoken to J. Barry but nothing has happened as the regional group is not yet active.

**Carried forward**

* Action point for SA is to ask Wasim why Optoms are unable to view previous patient episodes on the CUES system – Wasim asked Dharmesh Patel about this matter and he has not had a response from Dharmesh yet. **SA has asked the question but no response received to date**.

**Carried forward**

**5. Correspondence**

PS not in attendance so nothing to report

**6. CUES Update**

CB reported that there had been no meeting so no further updates.

Telemed is now optional on OPERA as confirmed by email. Everyone should have received this.

**7. NHS Updates**

SA/CB not received any updates.

**8. Chair’s Business**

**8.1 Extended Primary Care Services**

LOC forum – 7th December - Regional EERS – no report from the NHS on this as the group has been disbanded – they were having difficulty managing the comments from LOCs please see CB report on this.

There have been discussions around PES and how Opera is not flexible as a result PES are being invited to the next meeting so that we can ask questions around this.

There were discussions around the post-cat pathway that was nationally agreed whereby optical practices would be paid £5 for a post op assessment and form filling. This has been rejected by the optical and committee and many of the CCGs are not looking at this service specification. This will most likely be reviewed in the future.

SA accompanied by other LOC Chairs attended a meeting hosted by PES (Wasim Sarwar) regarding the number of patients being referred and how they are unable to cope with capacity issues. BMEC wanted to book patients directly into selected Optical practices – i.e their diaries but it was decided this would not be suitable due to IT issues and Optical practice selection issues. Instead, all the LOC chairs suggested that BMEC made better use of CUES - maybe to have a regional advert, look at NHS 111 and think about writing out to all GP surgeries again so better sign posting to CUES, or they acquire an Optom to help with triaging. RB suggested auditing to see how patients are just turning up to BMEC rather than being referred and then BMEC can plan action. PES are looking at auditing referrals as they turn up at BMEC. Wasim would report back on any developments.

HLOP training dates have now been sorted although liable to change due to COVID for January and there have been new practices that have signed up to become HLOP.

The NOC is planned to take place in April and they would like this meeting to be face to face if possible with elements of virtual but this is to be confirmed.

Russells Hall hospital is looking for Optometrists to fill a couple of positions if anyone on the Committee knows of anyone.

**9. Charles Barlow**

## Updates since last meeting

### Optometry First

* + - LOCSU are seeing services commissioned at scale across small and large areas
    - Opportunities for a complete package of services
    - National impetus at a regional level
    - Seeing consistency of services
    - “Got Legs” as good support from NHSE
    - Good feedback from some areas already
    - NHS is collecting prices from across the country to support both the development of the model, and benchmarking of prices and services between commissioners.

### National Cataracts

NHSE Cataract service specifications - working with a small group of providers, commissioners, and clinicians to rapidly develop a model service specification for cataracts. The objective is to raise minimum standards of services and reduce some of the issues that commissioners and providers have identified.

### BlackCountry Eyecare Group

Cataract Post op pathway - Wolverhampton service launches this 12th January – specifications shared with Dudley and they are considering implementing the same.

Working group met on 20/12/2021 and a terms of reference for the new Blackcountry group is being developed.

### Midlands POD Professional Networks

Talking about white paper and its implementation with Dentistry & Pharmacy

A delegation agreement between NHSE and ICS is being developed and will clarify:

* + Who will be responsible for maintaining registrant lists and contract management.
  + If GOS could be managed at a regional level rather than at an ICS level
  + Where the Local Representative Committees fit into this
  + Where LEHNs sit.
  + LEHN, LDN, LPN as clinical leaders supporting the integration of POD services across the ICS
  + need to bring the right ICS clinical leads with the regional leads as local networks not fully joined up with the ICS clinical model...
  + CB asked why is there not a regional chief optometry lead and was advised that there will be more senior support for optometry across the region. RR advised that this role is being recruited across all regions and some colleagues are already in post.

### EeRS The Primary Care Leadership Advisory Group has been mothballed the meeting on the 5/10/2021 final meeting. An existing monthly comms meeting including NHSX, the colleges and professional bodies already exists and will be a channel for LOCSU and LOCs to feed into the programme going forwards. LOCSU said they would facilitate LOCs meeting to pass on comments – no invite received yet.

Nationally a Mid point programme review has been presented and discussed The national team SROs have agreed to make additional national funding available for the continuation of EERS licences across ICSs that are live or imminently going live.

The Midlands EeRS Project team deliverables for October – December 2021 are as follows:

* + - Work on the issues that have already been communicated to national team colleagues, both regionally and for some issues, collaboratively with the national team;
    - Consider and take on board lessons learned from the national review;
    - Engage with EeRS suppliers to understand their ability to meet our requirements and the challenges that they are facing; we had our first sessions during the first week of November, with others planned throughout November
    - Secure additional resource to support the region and systems with pathway and process mapping.
    - Continue to engage with stakeholders including ICSs and LOCs;
    - Continue to progress the process mapping by ICS, an activity which we are aware is time consuming, complex and presents challenges regarding stakeholder availability, however it also presents opportunities and is critical to the programme.
    - Provide a monthly communication - feedback from our last communication was that stakeholders find these very useful;
    - Continue with other implementation planning activities such as ICS implementation meetings, ICS Learning Collaborative and IG Leads and CSO Leads meetings.

### Midlands Eyecare Transformation Network

November - High Volume Cataract Surgery and Eyecare Variation – Introduction to Model Health System and Right Care Data

January – Discussion on priorities for the year

### Birmingham, Solihull & Black Country Regional Optical Committee

Routine information sharing meeting - Next Meeting this Thursday

### Birmingham, Solihull & Black Country Workforce Development Project

No funding received yet, so no meetings scheduled.

### Midlands LOC Regional Forum

LOCs from the across the whole Midlands meet to receive information from NHS and other stakeholders and share experiences and work collaboratively.

Last meeting was December and covered most f the points already advised by CB plus updates from all the LOCs around activity in their areas. Questions were also asked about the recent problems with PES and a member of their executive team will be invited to a future meeting to take questions.

Additional item:

RB asked how to change providers once a patient has been referred for a Cataract operation on OPERA. CB explained the IT involved in making the change.

**10. Hospital Liaison Business**

NF absent from meeting so nothing to report.

NF is to confirm SA’s query regarding images **– NF confirmed to SA that images could be seen on OPERA**

**11. Secretary’s Business**

PS to insert report if there is one – or nothing to report.

**12. GOS Fee increase and Committee Remuneration**

It was decided that this Agenda Item should have been removed as discussed at the previous meeting.

**13. Treasurer’s Business**

Treasurers Report 10/7/21 – submitted in MT’s absence

Current balance £27K will still owe LOCSU for December 2021 so “true balance” £26K, everyone who has submitted bills have been paid and the accounts balance

Nothing else to report on accounts side, just a general question when the is honorarium paid either in advance or arrears?

Under AOB do we have to have meetings on a Monday as I will find Monday evening zoom meets more difficult from now on?

Sorry for not being available today and questions please email me

David Wright confirmed that payment is made in arrears.

**14. CET Officer’s Business**

RB confirmed that the next joint CET event with Sandwell has been moved to September. This should be a face to face event, Covid permitting.

RB is also aware of the Dementia talk due at the end of January has been postponed until further notice.

**15. 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

**16. 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

**17. A.O.B.**

SA to confirm with PS that it is OK to change our meeting dates to Tuesday as requested by MT.

SA would like to alternate between Zoom and face to face meetings as the Covid situation improves.

**18. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd March – 6.30pm via Zoom

Meeting closed at 7.45pm.

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| Action | Action by |

PES to give update om patient episodes SA

Peadriatric pathway – regional update CB