**Heart of West Midlands Regional Optical Committee 14/09/2023**

Present

Charles Barlow (CB) Dudley LOC

Debbie Graham (DG) Birmingham LOC

Ian Hadfield (IH) Birmingham LOC

Peter Hampson (PH) Sandwell LOC

Aisha Jeewa (AJ) Walsall LOC

Spencer Parkes (SP) Solihull LOC

Sofia Fazal (SF) Wolverhampton LOC

Peter Rockett (PR) Wolverhampton LOC

Louise Sarjeant (LS) Sandwell LOC/Minutes

Wasim Sarwar (WS) PES Clinical Lead

Paul Sidhu (PS) Dudley LOC

Dan Spencer (DPS) Solihull LOC

Divya Sudera (DS) Sandwell LOC/CPD Officer

Joanne Tutt (JT) Walsall LOC

**Apologies –** nil

**Conflicts of Interest** – no changes

**Minutes of the previous meeting** – approved. CB would like to extend thanks to LS for minute taking over the years.

**Matters arising** – Action points completed

**Diabetic Retinopathy Screening – John Grayland (Head of DESP IHI) & Becky Smith (Programme Manager)**

JG programme running well, patients getting used to new places and procedures. Pleased and proud of the programme. BS patient uptake slow initially, but higher than under Heartlands. KPIs on national website.

PH main issues with regards to patient difficulty in booking/rearranging appointments and travel distances. BS new text booking and rearrangement system and more staff, all implemented within the last few weeks.

PS if concerns about practices coercing patients to have a ST, who can we contact? BS letter to screening sites with local policies and processes made clear. Patients can complain by call or email, info on website. Complaints manager is my deputy, so will see issues.

SP disruption when changing over systems, how long would you expect? JG aim to see patients within 12 months and 2 weeks of due date, if 12 months and 6 weeks then clinical incident and have to record. First 3 months is slow, but should catch up within 12 months. Will end up with penalties if not.

JG from 1st of October, ROMOs can go onto 2 year recall, so in the first year, half will receive 12 month recall and half 24 months.

PH when will practices find out if their contracts are continued? BS continuously map areas to look at capacity. Two practices have left already, one might leave. Will look at booking situation. Not obligated to send practices patients.

CB we can ask contractors again in 5 months to see if things have improved and invite IHI to meeting in 6 months.

BS some optical practices are doing “private screenings”, and then patients complain. PH send me details.

**EeRS - Cinapsis – Dominic Markham**

DM current start date 15th October. Starting one-to-ones with hospitals (Wolvs and Dudley), sessions with Sandwell and Walsall booked in. BSol discussions ongoing. PS if go-live dates different, what happens with border patients? DM depends on the referral provider, if not “switched on”, refer by normal method. Not all optoms will be live from day one, so will initially be several systems anyway. Most multiples on board with the process.

**Primary Eyecare Services**

WS preliminary discussions about glaucoma services starting in April 2024.

QE launched low complexity cataract clinic, comms sent out. Problem with IT at QE as didn’t receive some referrals, investigation ongoing.

BMEC cataract waiting time 9 weeks.

Black Country approval for 6 funded places for glaucoma and IP as part of the transformation programme.

Discussion with BC ophthalmology about single point of access for PES.

RHH near final stages for post op cataract.

Working on CUES module, any suggestions for changes let me know.

**Workforce Development**

CB lots of good work. Will change to open window to apply for courses.

**LEHN**

DS trying to get LEHN restarted, no further progress.

**AOB**

AJ email from Andy Byrne requesting data? CB will clarify the request. WS can make PES reports available redacted if needed.

**Date of Next Meeting –** 6:30pm on Thursday 18th January 2024

**Action Points**

PH engage with BS

CB email AB