

NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR LOC

COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 16th January 2018

M Offord Optometrists, Kingston Park.

6pm for 6.30pm prompt meeting start

Meeting chaired by Naomi Smith

Minutes

Members present: Naomi Smith, Sarah Pencott, Lesley Oglethorpe, Lisa Gibson, Sylvia Bailey, Mike Offord, Stephanie Cairns, Ian Hickson, Iain Armstrong, Caihome McGoven, Craig Sixsmith, Bill Lowry.

Apologies for absence: Simon Raw, Kaye Winship, Tony Marshall, Gary McMullen, Matt Cooper.

3 consecutive meetings missed by Lynne Clapham - Sarah to contact her to ascertain if she wishes to remain on the LOC as per constitution.

Action Sarah

Action points

Andy - Confirm status of letter regarding referral guidelines.

Confirm status of letter to RVI following contractor complaint.

Provide chair report from Sept meeting for minutes - Andy not present. No report submitted on action status.

Sort payment for Claudia - LO completed this action due to payment delay. Action complete

Lisa -check contractor is registered for children's scheme - contractor now a member of the scheme. Action complete.

Tony- ask Jill regarding information on schedule for children's screening. Tony not present - but situation concluded so action marked complete.

Sarah - reply to VAO - acknowledged email - action complete

Naomi - speak to Emis health regarding dom diabetic retinal screening.

Complete - see report.

Questions for Katrina onto next agenda. Complete - see meeting notes.

All - expenses to Lesley - carry action forward.

LEHN members to Gary - action for LOC forum meeting to question Katrina

Minutes of the previous meeting & Matters Arising & Action points

Minutes accepted as accurate. Proposed by Craig Sixsmith

Seconded by Stephanie Cairns

Chairs report - none submitted

A discussion was held regarding the lack of chairs attendance.

This is the second meeting where the chair has not attended, submitted apologies, arranged a meeting chair or submitted a report. This is a major concern for the committee.

The following actions also remain outstanding:

Contacting no participating IOPRR contractors (April 17)

Letter to RVI following contractor complaint about inappropriate advice to patients (June 17)

To write a letter following referral guidelines meeting Monday 25th Sept (September 17)

To contact practitioners asking for any problems their patients had experience when attending 2nd cataract surgery (September 17)

To draft letters regarding cataract/Glaucoma expressions of interest (September 17)

To provide a copy of the Chairs report from September meeting (September 17)

To organise payment of his employee for her work on the drug bin contract. This was eventually completed by the Treasurer.

There was also concern raised over the Chairs handling of the complaint from SEI on Children's testing where the Chair failed to engage with the LOC discussion and took another route of action and failing to report this to the LOC. The Chair had contacted another colleague who escalated this to NHS England. The Chair failed to advise the LOC committee of this result and thus the contractor was given incorrect information.

After discussion with the committee the it was proposed that a meeting should be set up between the LOC Officers and the Chair to discuss the concerns raised. This meeting would be looking at how to move forward either with; the present Chair

continuing in post with support provided as required by the LOC committee or for the present Chair to stand down.

Proposed by Iain Armstrong. Seconded by Michael Offord. All in agreement.

Sarah to arrange meeting. **Action Sarah**

In the meantime, the Secretary will monitor the Chairs email account to ensure that all essential emails are dealt with appropriately. There are currently around 550 emails unread in the Chairs inbox.

Action Sarah

Ian H to check if any email forwarding has been set up by the Chair. **Action Ian H**

Following the outcome of the agreed meeting any outstanding chair actions will be distributed at the next meeting.

Secretary's report

New Contractors Or Changes To Practice Ownerships

ABC Optical Ltd have taken over Summer Opticians, 407 Durham Road, Low Fell, Gateshead, NE9 5AN from 01/11/2017. Previous contractor was AKS Opticial Ltd.

PENE Merger

Thanks for the committee's feedback and comments - I emailed Zoe Richmond on 12/12/17 confirming our support and sharing our thoughts and comments.

Incorrect Fax Number For RVI referral of WET AMD

Contractor contacted us to say that the fax number on the RVI referral guidelines was not working. I contacted Zoe Richmond who asked me to inform all our members. She then copied in Katrina Venerus as she was concerned it was a potential risk to patient care. Katrina was to get in touch with Margaret Grey at the RVI to get the document updated.

Homeless charity eye clinic - John Davidson looking for a suitable venue for testing. The idea is to set up a permanent clinic to be staffed by volunteers. All in the process. Nothing finalised. **Action Sarah - to ask John to feed into LOC with details as and when.**

Treasurer's report -

The bank balance is very healthy

Discussion over spending of money. The money will be required once schemes are set up.

Payments coming through well. There is now a report to advise what payments have been made. They are unable to separate the information.

Central fund contributions appear to be adhoc still. South Tyne payments are still going through. No money North of Tyne going to central fund.

IA brought up the fact that Sunderland LOC still have an open account with a bank. Very small amount held. IA will look into closing it.

LO is working towards internet banking for the account and to log the accounts on computer with Excel. Currently all paper based.

Claudia has been paid directly via the LOC for her work. Andy had failed to complete this task after 3 months. She was paid at the fee of £15.00/hour which has a historic agreed figure for outside workers.

Figure for outside work needs to be re-evaluated. This was historically set by the LOC region. This can be taken back to the forum for an agreement locally. **Action - Sarah take to LOC forum**

PENE merger

Formal accepted from PEN (Primary Eyecare North) for a consideration of a merger. This will be taken to PEN board meeting 26th Jan. There is also an application for 2 other northern PEC's to merge. These are located in Yorkshire.

The outcome of the merger decision will be communicated out to all LOCs via the forum Jan 29th.

Three elements to keep localisation with this proposed larger company:

1. LOC remain lead for new service development. This will encourage commissioners to come directly to LOC rather than PENE regarding contracts.
2. Model recommends each LOC appoints a PEC liaison. They cannot be already involved in the PEC.
3. Provided enhanced communication (monthly email updates)

In addition the clinical governance and performance leads will be recruited locally to maintain local relations.

Each PEC who is merging would provide a director into the group.

LOCs would be asked to provide reps for the interview panel (2 from the entire PENE area) Stephanie C is not going to stand for director but would be keen to take on the PEC liaison role.

IOP scheme/Glaucoma -

Commissioners now have received a letter regarding NICE guidelines. Also asking to expand the scheme. A letter was circulated from PENE to implement new pressures of over 24. Optomanager will be updated by April.

Reports from community service leads: MECS - nothing to report

Children's - nothing to report

Diabetes - NS contacted Emis Health after the last meeting regarding the domiciliary screening. The following reply was received:

“This is presently being discussed with our Commissioners and NDESP and an update will be provided to GP’s shortly”

Low vision - nothing to report

PwLD - report will be submitted to the forum as it’s a regional report rather than local.

Cataract - Cataract

I contacted Katrina Venerus as LEHN chair to ask if she had a progress report on the RVI post cataract pilot that has been going on.

Her reply: At the LEHN meeting on 21 November I was able to give a verbal update that the RVI had informed me that they had evaluated the pilot. At that point they were reviewing the findings internally before they could be shared but they were optimistic that the evaluation would show positive results. FYI - I have been able to establish that patients deemed to be suitable for inclusion in the pilot were all having "2nd eye" surgery and had previously had uncomplicated cataract surgery in the first eye and did not have any significant eye co-morbidities.

I have suggested that all stakeholders should come together to 'review' the cataract pathway once the results of this audit are ready for sharing which is timely in any case since as you will be aware NICE have recently published a guideline on the management of cataract. The Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning are in the process of developing some tools to help areas to review the implications of the NICE guideline (and also the glaucoma and AMD guidelines) to assess what action is required to ensure the guidance is successfully implemented. These tools are expected to be ready by the end of February so early March would be about the right time to have a meeting/workshop.

I need to discuss with the medical directors responsible for the STP workstreams to get the go-ahead for the LEHN to take this forward. I discussed it principle with them a few months ago but I am aware their support will be needed to get the various commissioners and providers to the table, so I need a more formal discussion with them. I also need to understand what is happening to the previous work done by the Value Based Commissioning Group on access to cataract surgery as that is another piece of the jigsaw.

I will be in touch early in the new year to let you if we are in a position to proceed with a stakeholder event.

I then asked if she could guarantee that the RVI wouldn't take this to the commissioners before the meeting takes place. She couldn't give any guarantees on this.

The committee now needs to decide if we go ahead and contact the CCG with our concerns or wait until the LEHN discussion takes place.

LG to contact the commissioners regarding this pilot scheme to ensure that we are around the table for any further discussions. Also to raise concerns regarding the forms which are issued.

Action Lisa Gibson

LRC reports -no meeting since last LOC.

Reports from CCG leads.

Sunderland: I have been in contact with the CCG regarding the payment run for the Cataract Choice Service over the past year and they have instructed me to collate the numbers and arrange the payments. Letter has been sent out (via Secretary) to practices and Webstar Health have been contacted to confirm they are happy to facilitate the payments. I will be hopefully getting the information in and have it sorted in the next month.

Sunderland CCG having a meeting 12/01/18 where cataracts will be discussed. I have provided a brief overview of the LOCSU cataract service that is running in Durham. Lets see how it goes

Lisa will collate the information. Action Lisa
Gibson

Lisa would appreciate some help with the Sunderland cataract scheme especially if a meeting goes ahead. Iain will assist where he can.

Action Iain
Anderson

Lisa will send the Durham service specification to Sunderland CCG to highlight the service provided there with the hope to remain within the scheme.

Action Lisa Gibson

NT - nothing to report

ST - nothing to report

New/gates - no report

Northumberland - no report submitted

LOC forum/LLG - no meeting since last LOC meeting.

Questions for Katrina for LOC forum meeting - Monday 29th January.

Attending : SC, LG, SP, KW.

From Kaye - Questions to Katrina- what happened to the EYe Health Needs assessments for Sunderland and South Tyneside?

Also is there a timescale for EHNA's being done in the other regions ?

Who pays for an EHNA? And the costs?

Who is on the LEHN currently?

LEHN - no MiM received

AGM and CET event (flyer circulated) - Sight loss and dementia. SC suggested a joint CET event with care home staff and optoms. SC will discuss with her contact and get back on possibilities.

Sarah also had received an email from Sarah Townsend regarding a CET event.

AGM:

LO has a dry eye consultant who also would be available for the AGM.

AGM venue - Novotel Kingston Park 5.30 -9pm. May 15th Action Lesley

Scope ophthalmic - Peer discussion for AGM Action Lesley/Iain Armstrong

LOC engagement:

Website page about who we are based for commissioners. Commissioners tab on first page.

Add website info to LOC signature at bottom of email **Action Ian H**
Send out another email to all contractors and performers regarding the website. **Action Sarah**
Ask practices to put a link to LOC website on their own practice websites. **Action Sarah**

Ask LOCSU how many hits the website receives. **Action Ian H**
Encourage DO's to get involved with LOC. Send out info to ABDO who can circulate it. **Action Sarah**

Complaint from SEI regarding children's testing - concerns were raised on this but covered in Chair concerns above. No further update on the progress.

Leadership course - SC and SP have applied for the WOPEC module LOCSU funded place on the leadership course. Both have an interview. The LOC will fund travel and accommodation.

The LOC may consider funding the places if they are not successful in gaining the funded places. SC to confirm costs.

AOB : SC has a number of clipboards from a previous CET that the LOC own. SC can donate them as she feels fit.

K W - has asked for approval for a presentation to GP's in eye training ST. All in agreement. Sarah to reply formally to Kaye in favour **Action Sarah**

MO will send his presentation to KW for her information. **Action Mike**

DONM 13/03/2018

Actions:

Chair:

Contacting no participating IOPRR contractors

Letter to RVI following contractor complaint about inappropriate advice to patients

To write a letter following referral guidelines meeting Monday 25th Sept

To contact practitioners asking for any problems their patients had experience when attending 2nd cataract surgery

To draft letters regarding cataract/Glaucoma expressions of interest

To provide a copy of the Chairs report from September meeting.

Sarah: Arrange meeting with LOC officers

Check Chair emails

Contact Lyne Clapham

Speak to John Davidson regarding feeding info to LOC

Take LOC expenses figures to LOC Forum - including outside workers.

Send out email to all contacts regarding use of website

Send out email asking all practices to link LOC site on their practice websites

Send regular info to ABDO for distribution to local DO's

Send Kaye an email with formal agreement of her presentation/training to GP's

Mike O

Send Kaye a copy of GP presentation

Ian H

Check Chair email for forwarding set up

Website page for commissioners

Check with LOCSU how many hits the website receives

Add website info to LOC signature at the bottom of emails

Lesley

Book AGM venue and liaise with Iain A on CET

Iain A

CET event for AGM

Assist Lisa G as required with Sunderland issues.

Lisa

Contact commissioner regarding RVI cataract pilot

Collate cataract choice information for Sunderland CCG

Send Durham service specification info to Sunderland CCG