

Northumberland, Tyne and Wear Local Optical Committee
Committee Meeting, 5.7.2016, 6.30pm
Waterfront4, Newburn Riverside NE15 8NY

Members present:

Lisa Gibson, Tony Marshall, Sylvia Bailey, Naomi Smith, Lesley Oglethorpe, Iain Armstrong, Mike Offord, Andy McGregor, Mike Offord. Gary McMullen, Sarah Townsend, Carole Thorpe

Apologies:

Ian Hickson, Stephanie Cairns, Kaye Winship.

Minutes of previous meeting:

Had been distributed and were accepted prop. Iain, sec Lesley.

No matters arising other than those covered below.

Chair Report:

Andy reported the sad premature death of our colleague Judith Lowry on Friday 17th June. Judith ran her practice in Jarrow for many years until she suffered a stroke 18 months ago. Andy and other friends and colleagues attended Judith's funeral on June 27th.

Secretary Report: Naomi

- Has been contacted by 2 new performers
- A few performers have retired
- Birmingham LOC have requested information re our Children's Scheme
- Glaucoma Week- the stand we manned with the RVI in Eldon Square generated a lot of interest. Naomi has emailed the RVI to comment but has had no response.
- Capita- ongoing payment issues, most resolved .Please contact Naomi if still outstanding payments.
- Stationery supply issues- still ongoing for some- NE has been worst affected by the system changeover, apparently due to issues with the changeover date in the move from Darlington to Leeds.
- Naomi has passed on 2 further complaints re one contractor to NHS England, we are kept informed of progress but as an LOC have no further role to play.
- SoT waste contract is now aligned with NoT
- SEI has submitted a complaint they received from a parent re a practice refusal to see a child under 5. More evidence is needed before pursuing this, but Naomi will send out a general email reminding of GOS rules re seeing children.
- Naomi suggested we include action points on the minutes which can then be followed up at the next meeting. Committee agreed this is sensible - **Action CT!**

Treasurer Report: Lesley

- Receiving monies but without summary sheet and so no idea of composition and no confirmation that %levy split has been changed as requested following AGM. Repeated emails are ignored. LOCSU to be contacted to discuss way forward- **Action LO**
- Refund from PENE over £6,000 due.

MECS: Tony had emailed:

Following MECS subgroup meeting we have considered the strategy for moving forward in negotiations for commissioning MECS locally.

Attended by Zoe Richmond, Tony Marshall, Sarah Townsend, and Peter Frampton.

Northumberland has been identified as high level priority by virtue of spend and Vanguard status.

South Tyneside has also shown interest.

Zoe is working on new business case with new data relevant to each area.

We have considered how best to approach commissioners and considered meeting with Lucy Clark from the RVI.

Results from questionnaire about funding for MECS were almost unanimous in favour of individuals funding themselves. Perhaps this needs to be confirmed at the committee

meeting.

We have approached WOPEC for guidance on arranging part two OSCES and are in the process of deciding best venues with possibility of trying to train local assessors. LOCSU have commissioned support officers, David Barker and Naomi Mould who will be able to help with administration.

South Cumbria seems to have progressed in light of new service and North Cumbria are considering this also.

Whilst no service is likely to be commissioned imminently we would like to progress sometime later in the summer. We have follow-up conference call next week to report on progress.

- Committee agreed to self- funding. 74 requests for WOPEC codes.
- Tony- not urgent but we need to be ready for any commissioning opportunities.
- Possibly Mike and Peter Frampton's practices to be used for trial OSCES where lead assessors can train assessors and progress from there. WOPEC support has been investigated
- **Action TM** draft email re options and progress to part 2.
- Tony- stressed importance of information sharing- must inform subgroup lead if discussing relevancies. Has been an incident of 2 people contacting Northumberland re the same issue without cross communication. This is potentially embarrassing and a duplication of effort.
- Lesley- how long is training valid- to check with WOPEC **Action TM**

IOPRR update: Sarah

NECS want information as to why every practice isn't in IOPRR service, so lead needed to do this. **Andy** will do. Iain will help with information from Vision Express.

Children's service:

LOC lead also needed - Gill leads for PENE. Andy can incorporate this with IOP lead at present. Iain knows someone interested in joining committee who may be willing to take this role.

Central Fund:

Lesley- letter from CF re change structure asking for 0.1% levy
Request too late for AGM - individual practices decide their levy as is voluntary.
Action LO read through letter and reply. Central fund get a considerable contribution from our area.

CET lead vacancy:

- Pauline has left committee
- Enthusiasm for joint CET event waned- MECS in waiting so shelved for moment.
- **Iain A** will be lead.

Reports from leads

All received reports circulated prior to meeting. See appendix1.
No matters arising from these reports.

PENE Report: Sarah

Circulated prior to meeting. See app. 2
Sarah v busy in April encouraging QiO uploads, but May/June quieter

LOC Forum:

Next week in Darlington. NS will attend, and attend LLG also to save MO travelling down.
Mike will attend upcoming Gateshead meeting.
LOC Forum minutes available on request (circulated to committee prior to meeting)

LEHN:

Interviewing for chair to replace Angela Henderson on 22nd July. At least 1 optometrist application.

CET:

Grant can be claimed from this month. Send reminder to performers. **Action NS.**
Not all contractors will sign forms, so alternative contractor may need to be sought.

AOB:

- Sylvia - has been to a meeting of an Ophthalmology Special Interest Group involving RVI/SEI/optoms/ reps from industry. Headed by Depali Varma (SEI) around research into implanted telescopes for MD patients. Tom Hedley and Simon Berry are interested in collating a database of those with macular degeneration from community (not hospital) who may be interested in taking part. Sight Service could become a Patient Identifying Centre for the project. Next meeting December SB will attend.
- Sylvia- email (copied in) this afternoon from Ruth Evans re NT referral management to Michelle Spencer - not known to us- asking MS to send copy of referral guidelines as on RVI website to all optometrists NT. In fact the LOC previously stated they did not agree with these guidelines as they give no heed as to what is possible under GOS and what is not. The guidelines were up for renewal 2015 but nothing happened. Sylvia will forward the email to Zoe and copy in Andy and Naomi **Action SB.** Andy will then draft a reply to Ruth Evans as appropriate.
- Mike- LRC meetings have been less frequent, will attend next one when date is arranged.

Actions for next meeting:

LO - contact LOCSU regarding moving forward with levy issues.
- Reply to central fund letter.

TM - draft email on progressing on part 2
- Find out how long MECS WOPEC training is valid.
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AMc - IOPRR practice non participation review.

NS - email re: CET grant.

SB - forward email re: RMS to Zoe (AMc & NS to be copied in)

DONM 13/09/2016.

Appendix 1.

PwLD: Stephanie

- Learning Disabilities: SeeAbility are launching their new report 'Delivering an equal right to sight' on Tues 5th of July. I'm attending the launch, as are members

of the Durham LOC who have been running the pilot.

New Learning Disabilities physical health groups have been set up - one for Newcastle and Gateshead combined CCG and for N Tyneside CCG. They are discussing how they might tackle issues including sensory issues. They have invited me to speak to them in the autumn.

I have arranged to speak to the learning disability partnership board in Gateshead regarding ocular health and the need for regular eye examination in Oct.

- Dementia - I've been asked to speak about ocular health and the need for regular eye examinations, on behalf of the LOC at a carers support group run by Silverline memories, a charity providing support for sufferers and their carers in Newcastle. I'm hoping to do this in July but otherwise will also be in the autumn.
- Falls - Nothing further to report.

Sylvia:

Low Vision: Nothing to report , other than that Sight Service is moving premises to Pelaw.
NT CCG : no report

Sunderland CCG Report: Lisa

I have had a discussion with Sunderland CCG regarding commissioning intentions.

- Pre-cataract (- the current cataract choice will continue to run and there are no intentions to decommission. They are going to look at the new LOCSU pathway for pre cataract assessment.
- Post- cataract - again there is an interest to see what this scheme can offer. Possibly launch at the same time as the pre-cataract.
- MECS- this scheme is not on their radar at the moment but they are interested in looking at the business case. I have contacted Tony and Zoe for more information.

ST CCG: Kaye

- I have contacted Claire again to arrange a face to face meeting to see if we can get any further in commissioning things. I have yet to have a response from her.
- I have not yet had a response from Jo Farey. Her out of office was on until today.
- So as I understand it, in the absence of a reply. The ST CCG were waiting for the results of the Eye Health Needs Assessment for STyneside before making any commissioning decisions on optometry/ophthalmology.
- The EHNA is imminent. I was actually expecting it in April but I'll try and get additional info to Tony and yourself by Monday if I get anything else.

Diabetes: Naomi

- MIUK were taken over last year by Emis Health. The screening system now run by their Emis care division. Local issues with camera quality within Specavers stores. This is being looked into.

Appendix 2

PENE Report: Sarah:

- Work as director for NT&W LOC, PENE e mail enquiries, Policy documents, Accounts, declarations etc.
- Work communicating with Zoe Richmond, Jane Ranns, Steve Thomas and Eric Hagan.
- Communication with John D/ Gill M CG & P Leads. Meeting with both leads to discuss performance issues (IOPRR) and action required. cR-CS discussion around module launch/ communication lists of subcontractors/ service issues.
- Continued work on QiO uploads leading upto the 31st march deadline - extended to April 30th when lists were produced for circulation.

- Continued work on DOS profiles for NHS 111. Practices only included where QiO uploaded. Lists included opening hours/ contact information/ and services provided.
- Final work on subcontract signing, QiO upload and PD&RS statements.
- Removal of none responding practices from 'subcontract lists' at Webstar.
- Agreeing then communicating lock out of practices that have not uploaded QiO docs.
- Signing new contract with CCG's based on new contract variation following consultation with LOCSU (who consulted with NHS England at a national level to query how changes could effect this contract requirements).
- Company logo request from LOCSU.
- Optomanager children's module went live 4th April. As expected there have been several 'issues' with the launch of this. Gradually they are being sorted in priority order (GM carrying out most of this work).
- New PO numbers (confirming Sunderland CCG 'no' PO status.)
- Continuing to chase invoices - this has now been passed to Jane Ranns as Finance Lead.
- South Tyneside Children's module followed finally went live - communications with school nurse lead Maureen Jobling.
- Subcontractor list to NECS - highlighting those signed up with QiO and without QiO (only 3 practices).
- Providing T Hedley with Lists for Sunderland CCG EHNA.

- PENE Board meeting and meeting room costs April 2016 - invoiced to PENE.