

NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR LOC

COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY 6th June 2017

M Offord Optometrists, Kingston Park.

6pm for 6.30pm prompt meeting start

Agenda

1. Members present
Andy McGregor, Naomi Smith, Kaye Winship, Lesley Oglethorpe, Tony Marshall, Mike Offord, Sarah Khudarieh, Lynn Clapham, Caoimhe McGovern, Craig Sixsmith, Ian Hickson, Matt Cooper, Iain Armstrong, Simon Raw, Gary McMullen
2. Apologies for absence
Sylvia Bailey, Stephanie Cairns, Bill Lowry, Lisa Gibson.
3. **Action points** - all to be covered later in meeting.
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting & Matters Arising & Action points.** No matters arising.
5. **Chairs report**
Nothing to report
6. **Secretary's report** -
Not a lot to report as things have been quiet for me. Thank you to the committee for those of you who have taken on the diverted queries from contractors related to your roles on the LOC. This does make life as secretary much easier knowing that queries will be dealt with swiftly and efficiently by the appropriate lead.

AGM went well and was well supported. Lots of feedback and apologies from those who did not attend which is always nice to get as at least people are reading what we send out.

NT RMS complaint has been closed. The contractor was informed of the results of the investigation but did not return any comment on the findings so we have closed this with RMS. Sylvia does think it would be sensible to send out some advice to optoms about future referrals and quantifying Van Herricks angles if they have chosen to do tests beyond GOS and referring for narrow angles. She has asked for committee feedback.

Lots of communication regarding the North Durham cataract scheme which Lisa has dealt with.

Two complaints received from ac contractor which Andy has taken on - he can report on the progress of these.

One mandatory contractor change since the last meeting - Morpeth VE now contracted to Morpeth Town VE Ltd.

Two new additional contracts issued to Caring Practice North West

(visioncall)

Finally I'd like to thank the committee for all your hard work and support over the years I have worked with you. I've enjoyed my role as secretary over the last 10 years although at times it has been very challenging. I am looking forward to a less demanding role within the LOC over the next few years.

Discussion held over the Van Herrick advice to optoms about quantifying angle measurements. Agreement for advice to go out.

Action SB to prepare then Sec

Discussion first complaint over GP's referring patients to optoms for non GOS assessment. GP's and Pharmacists to be advised that patients referred for red eye to optoms can be seen by an optom but there may be a charge for this.

Discussion on the second complaint when patients are advised by the RVI to attend for 6 monthly sight tests. LOC to write HES with regard to this and copy to contractor regarding LOC action on the complaint. This can then also be fed through the LEHN and GEIG.

Action AMc.

LOC to collect data on examples of patient being given inappropriate advice. Send a copy of this letter to contractors for feedback.

Action Sec once

letter prepared

7. Treasurer's report

No further information on payments. No input from Katrina. Payments are coming through but no information about the levys to other parties. Central fund and LOCSU have not replied to any correspondence regarding the amounts paid into them. LOCSU has arranged for a monthly summary to be given to the LOC but this summary contains Durham and Darlington.

Auditing is difficult due to there being no information regarding where the amounts are paid and if they are correct.

LO will send out the expenses protocol to all new committee members. The claim form is available on the website.

Action LO

8. Appointment of new officers.

Chair: Andy McGregor

Vice Chair: Kaye Winship

Secretary: Sarah Khudarieh - will take on a shadowing role for next few months.

Treasurer: Lesley Oglethorpe

Minutes/Meetings Secretary: Naomi Smith

Separating roles:

A discussion was held over dissolving the secretary's role into an easier job.

Contractor/Performer updates: Simon Raw
Drug bins: Claudia McTaggart

Action AMc

9. **PENE** - There's a meeting planned for 2 weeks try to finalise the new structure of PENE. This is to make it in line with other PE companies. The plan is have two CGPL's to cover a range of services for the whole of PENE. They would be supported by LOC CGPL's for each service who basic queries would be directed to in the first instance. Employing an Admin person is also being considered.

Jane hasn't forgot about the money promised back to the LOC's but she still hasn't had time to organise it.

there's a lot of activity in the Durham Tees region redirecting all Cataract referrals via the pre-op pathway, all raised NCT IOP's must be rechecked with Contact Tonometry in practice or referred to participating practises. Also MECS along with the other pathways, is being used as a system to reduce referrals into Durham University Ophthalmology department.

10. **MECS** - TM and ZR (Zoe Richmond) had a meeting with Steve Summers and Graham Hunt. Very good meeting although Steve Summers has now stood down. David Grainger is taking his role. Range of subjects discussed. All discussion revolved around how to save money. ZR has fed back good examples of how the systems can work and save money. They have reported back to the commissioners so it's a watch this space as to what will come about.

Shall we hold another OSCE? WOPEC were unable to provide the information regarding who had done the level1 and not level2.

There is a good enough coverage for the qualification at the moment. Specsavers have 40 qualified North Tyne and we have around 30. So around 70 optoms already qualified locally. Leave OSCEs for now.

11. **IOP scheme/Glaucoma**

Question from GMC regarding requirements of level 1 for continuing with OSCE qualifications. Need to clarify this before we look in to running courses for the OSCE.

Action GMC.

Discussion on the possibility of setting up OSCE but GMC to look in to the requirement of this locally to speak to ZR.

Action GMC.

12. **Reports from community service leads:**

Children's - no report

Diabetes - Emis Health have been in touch as they would like to present to the LOC regarding the diabetic screening scheme that runs locally.

They had their contract renewed in April 2016 for a 5 year term with the option to extend for a further 2 years.

Currently the only optom involvement is with 7 practices in the Gateshead area although they have now agreed a contract which includes Specsavers throughout the area. There is no real provision for optoms to be further involved so I feel that a presentation to the committee is not required. NS can replay any issues or requests

for data that the LOC have. The committee agreed not to invite Emis health to attend. NS to reply.

Action NS

Low vision - Sue Taylor confident there may be further schemes set up soon.

PwLD - LD report-I have a meeting with a LD health group chaired by the CCG clinical lead at the end of June. To highlight the need for eye exams in this group of patients and explain again why GOS doesn't cater for people with moderate LD. They are also interested in the findings of the Durham children pilot and Adult pathway.

Cataract - no report

LRC reports - Rebecca's report had been circulated and KW had prepared a response to the pharmacy issue. Some alterations were suggested as the following agreed. Also point to AOP GOS guidance.

Advice from LOC to Pharmacists on Pharmacy First

Within the remit of Pharmacy First, pharmacists are advised that in the event of any customer attending the pharmacy with eye problems it is important to point out that sending them on to an optometrist for a 'quick look' is not acceptable without further qualification.

Whilst we as optometrists possess the professional skills and necessary equipment to assess such eye problems, we are not able to have a "quick look" at someone's eye under the existing NHS core contract of General Ophthalmic Services (GOS)

If they are a regular patient of an optometry practice or specifically a contact lens patient then the optometrist may see them with or without a private charge but they cannot just have a "quick look" at a patient that they have not seen before.

Under GOS a "patient presenting with symptoms or concerns requiring ophthalmic investigation"

who is eligible for an NHS sight test and is due/overdue only, could have a full GOS eye examination but outside of that a private fee would be chargeable.

If a pharmacist is concerned about the status of an eye the correct pathway to follow in the absence of any kind of Minor Eye Conditions Service (non active currently in North of Tyne and Wear is to send that person to an eye department A&E.

Further information can be obtained from the Association of Optometrists website

KW will forward to RH for the LRC next meeting.

Action KW

Mike is attending a conference for GP's and has been asked to present what an optom can do for a GP. So tis maybe a good opportunity to promote GOS and its confinements.

13. Reports from CCG leads

STyneside -no report. Sunderland - no report. Northumberland - no report. Newcastle -no report

14. LOC forum/LLG - KW and AMc to attend next meeting

15. LEHN - next meeting July

16. AOB

Drug bins - discussion on how to manage this. Claudia McTaggart to be asked to sort the drug bin contact.

NOC - good conference to attend to get an idea of what goes on with the LOC. New members should be encouraged to attend.

Speakers from AGM - donations. Agreed to send a donation to all parties. £100.00 to each

LO

Action 1Ar. Action

Tynedale optical - patient wishes to complain about the most recent letter. NS to give TM the details to complain.

Action NS

17.DONM 12/09/2017

Action Points:

Andy Mc -

1. Speak to Claudia with reference to sorting drug bins and get this organised by contract turnover July/Aug.
2. Write letter to RVI following the contractor complaint about inappropriate advice to patients. Copy this to LEHN and GEIG.

Sylvia Bailey - prepare advice for NT optoms of Van Herrick measurement. Then feed to sec for distribution.

Lesley Oglethorpe -

1. Send out expenses protocol to new members.
2. Cheques for AGM speakers

Gary McMullen -

1. Confirm protocols for OSCE and level 1 requirements for IOPRR/Glaucoma qualifications
2. Discuss need locally for OSCE.

Naomi Smith -

1. Reply to Emis health and decline their request for attending next LOC meeting.
2. NHS complaints procedure to TM.

Kay Winship - send pharmacy guidance to Rebecca Hankinson ahead of next LRC meeting.

Iain Armstrong - send thank you and donation to all AGM speakers (liaise with LO)

Hon Secretary - (Sarah K)

1. Send out advice on Van Herricks to all optoms once received from SB

2. Send our LOC letter to HES to all optoms once received from AMc,