LOC Minutes 22/05/2022

In attendance

Peter Bainbridge (Chair) PB

Peter Hampson (Secretary) PH

Louise Sarjeant (Treasurer) LS

Divya Sudera (Vice Chair) DS

Inderpal Bansal IB Jaspinderpal Bansal JB

Majid Jawaid MJ Saima Naroo SN

Iram Noreen IN Wasim Sarwar WS

Paul Sidhu PS Richard Stokes RS

Abrar Zaman AZ

Apologies – David Wright

Conflicts of Interest

LS still missing several declarations – will send email

Minutes of previous meeting – WS typo – CET event was postponed until September not November. Proposed as correct by DS, seconded by SN

Matters arising - nil

Co-opt DO

Propose to Co-opt SN as DO representative – all in favour.

Election of Officers

Current officers re-elected unopposed.

Chair’s Business

PB Collaborative of optoms, ophthalmologists/consultants, and eye-related health service staff – looking at reducing hospital waiting lists. May look at uniting with work done by WFD group. IB CUES not helping? WS CUES is acute conditions rather than routine, so doesn’t really affect waiting lists.

PB talked about reorganisation of cataract surgery, removing pre and post op cataract from hospital, simple glaucoma work, OCT imaging. They know it needs funding. PH they have targets for managing the backlog, so should incentivise. PB need IT infrastructure to work.

Secretary’s Business

PH the GOC call for evidence is out. Can put in a response as LOC, LOCSU due to send out guidance notes. The GOC have launched a consultation on the removal of the delegation statement, and a call for evidence on potential changes on the Optician’s Act for when they get legislative time (approx. 5 years). Eg, should eye health and refraction be split, how should practice change, AI/tech, online, CL supply etc? Can send LOC response and individual responses, important not identical.

Regional confederation

LS we voted for the confederation at our AGM. PS still waiting for Dudley and Wolverhampton to vote at AGM.

Diabetic Screening

PB Heartlands have lost the diabetic screening contract to In Health Intelligence as of October 2022. IHI contacted me, Peter Rockett (Wolves) and Specsavers. Due to arrange

a meeting with LOCs. PH initially mixed practices/hubs, likely to phase out opticians long term. Run a centralised booking system, so they book patients. RS already started screening in GP surgeries eg Oldbury Health Centre.

Primary Eyecare Services

WS payments virtually up-to-date. Wolv post-op cataract launched, Walsall due soon. Talks with BMEC stalled. RHH doing high volume cataracts to reduce waiting lists. West Birmingham moving to BSOL, so will be Sandwell, not Sandwell and West Birmingham.

May revive GERS. CUES going well, Opera keeping 2-factor authentication for extra security.

IB domiciliary work and GOS impractical as difficult to get signatures. PH paper easiest currently, IT solution coming soon that might help.

WS in Staffs launching scheme where pre and post cataract completely done in practice, only one appt in hospital for biometry and operation. DS including consent? PH surgeon should do final consent.

Local Workforce Development

PB received money from NHS for LWD. Had several meetings, created a questionnaire to work out what qualifications people have in the area and then training/qualifications they might want to do. Will be sent out for all to fill in.

ICS/PCN engagement

PH need to start engaging, imminent change. PB emailed relevant contacts found on the Government website, no reply. PS do we engage with ICS through Confederation and PCNs via LOC> PB yes. PH no commissioning at PCN level (approx. 6 GP practices).

CPD Officer Update

WS joint virtual CPD event 30th May fully booked. Main CPD event 26th September, 10 CPD points available, Bethnel Convention Centre. NOC in Leeds, 10-12th October.

Treasurers Business

LS stable bank balance.

AOB

Nil

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 22nd September 2022 @7pm (in person)

Actions

LOC members to complete conflicts of interest form

PH to send GOC call for evidence bullet points to PB for submission.