LOC Minutes 13/07/2023

In attendance

Divya Sudera (Chair) DS

Louise Sarjeant (Treasurer/Vice Chair) LS

Wasim Sarwar (CPD Officer) WS

Jaspinderpal Bansal JB Anisha Chowlia AC

Majid Jawaid MJ Saima Naroo SN

Paul Sidhu PS David Wright DW

Apologies – Inderpal Bansal, Peter Hampson, Abrar Zaman, Peter Bainbridge

Conflicts of Interest – No changes.

Minutes of previous meeting – Proposed as correct by WS, seconded by PS

Matters arising – nil

Chair’s Business – DS

DS arranged a meeting with chair of Staffs LOC for advice as new chair. Intend to take an active role. Attended Black Country ICB meeting. Quarterly review. They were proactive and looking at extending things to Sandwell.

Attended BMEC meeting with Professor Cheung about creating new system for referrals into A&E via the internet. Reservations about using another system, would have to duplicate inputting data. They were very keen, they would give us feedback quickly, and advice and guidance. Reiterated they would reject referrals outside of Sandwell & Birmingham. Gave them feedback.

WS ICB said it’s not within their contract to refuse to see patients. Nothing formal from SWB about rejecting referrals out of area. New national recommendations due to come in, patients will be able to choose from up to five providers.

JB will this triage patients? DS hoping this will become the triage system.

Secretary’s Business – (PH update)

National news – change in GOS claim periods, CPD claim window open, GOS forms will need to be submitted online only by Jan 2024. Action – PH to send out newsletter. PS all contractors should have received information.

Diabetic Screening

DS no updates, but any issues with DRS, reports from patients etc, let us know and we’ll forward to HWMOC to take to IHI.

JB see patients daily who are encouraged to have ST with their screening. DS ideally need it in the patient’s words, what was said to them. JB patients also unhappy with the number of sites.

WS gave talk to IHI about CUES, so screeners know where to direct patients with problems.

EeRS

DS EeRS due to launch Sept, has been delayed, likely October. Primary care ready, but delays with trusts’ operational leads. Pilot areas 3/4 weeks behind. Everyone’s engaged and ready. LOC leads due a meeting with Cinapsis.

Local Workforce Development

DS 38 applicants have received the second grant. Had peer review on Monday on paediatric testing. Feedback questionnaires to go out. Due to do some workshops on paediatrics. Also looking at a working group on anterior eye – FB workshop, anterior chamber activity. Any suggestions, let us know.

ICS/PCN engagement

DS PCNs not the most important place, rarely discuss optometry, prioritise ICS/ICB. PS Dudley not prioritising PCNs. DS trying to sort out LEHN chair and intend to engage with LMC, LDC and LPC.

Primary Eyecare Services – WS

WS given talks to GP groups about CUES.

Attended a monthly Black Country Ophthalmology Meeting. Talking about aligning different services, across region, eg post-op cat, GERS etc. Consultants concerned about lack of ‘easy’ cataracts and want to set up a single point of access for cataract referrals. Advised not necessary, need to create a different pathway for ‘easy’ cataracts (High Volume Low Complexity), so they can be seen as quickly as private providers.

Black Country lagging behind on glaucoma, BSol now formed working groups for pathways, looking at starting April 2024. Would create cross border issues, hopefully BC can catch up with monthly meetings.

Glaucoma referral refinement doesn’t need OSCES, just level 1 (MCQs). May be better to do refresher sessions - as part of workforce workshops?

Tariff increase for CUES – extra £1 per episode.

CPD Officer Update -WS

WS next CPD day Monday 18th September, Copthorne Hotel Dudley. 9-10 CPD points, PES sponsoring, PH doing peer review. 4/5 different lectures.

Treasurers Business – LS

LS still maintaining a years’ worth of reserves.

AOB

DS anyone want more of a role? PS would consider secretary role in future, WS vice chair if capacity allows. DS need someone to take on social media role, so we can engage with people more. Not a big task, but allows a point of contact. PS in Dudley Mail Chimp emails automatically post to Facebook etc.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 28th September 2023 @7pm – virtual

Action Points

PH to send GOS update to mailing list.

LOC members to contact DS/LS with issues about DRS to collate.