**Wiltshire LOC Committee Meeting**

**22 November 2023**

**The Bear, Devizes**

Recorded by: Carolyn Hudd

Approved on:

**Attendees:**

Victoria Barrett, Colin Gault, Carolyn Hudd, Jamie Bowden, Rob Hopwood, Madeline Hocking, Tom Mogford, Martin Bull, Alvaro Borges

**Apologies:**

Neelam Patel

**Observer:**

David Leighton

**Chairs Welcome:**

Colin thanked those for attending and confirmed Angela Davey has resigned from the committee due to lack of availability to commit to the cause.

**New Conflicts of interest:**

There were no new conflicts of interest. Carolyn will be sending out the annual conflict of interest forms for the records. Please complete and return as soon as possible.

**Previous Minutes & Actions**

The minutes of the last minutes were approved. All actions are complete.

Rob confirmed the issued flagged with the RUH have improved with better training for new staff. There was recognition that out of hour’s urgent care is not as efficient as before. Maddy suggested emailing the unit is better because it produces a received receipt confirming that the duty of care is now with the hospital.

Maddy has attended a LOCSU training event for engaging new members. A discussion followed on the methods the LOC could use to raise awareness. Jamie has recently opened an Instagram account for the LOC and continues to develop the new website. It was agreed to increase social media presence with regular posts and use LOC CPD events to promote the aims and developments of the LOC to encourage new members. The committee discussed a door-to-door approach to increase our presence and Martin suggested circulating a poster containing useful information that can be pinned up in practice, also containing the details of the LOC.

**ACTION: Whole committee to upload to SharePoint a profile picture and bio to be posted on the new Instagram feed.**

**NOC Feedback**

Jamie attended on behalf of the LOC. Alvaro updated the LOC on the LOCS approach by the Department for Health & Social Care about single national service specification for an urgent eyecare service. Currently the majority are MECs or CUES or a hybrid of an older eyecare service. Although this would be a national specification, the commissioning would still be at a local level but would require a really strong commissioner to decide not to follow the directive to have a national service delivered locally. This service specification should be available from Jan/Feb 2024 so that by the renewal date in April it is approved. LOCSU has asked for feedback on what the specification should look like. The deadline for this was 20th November, but if you still want to share your thoughts, please contact Alvaro for the link: aborges@locsu.co.uk

Single point of access was also discussed in reference to this in terms of how to you manage a service if there are only a few that sign up. Re-engagement of the CUES service can be addressed at renewal.

Jamie discussed the content of NOC including engagement and possibility of having a pre-reg or student on board to increase awareness to the younger element coming through. Sharing committee vacancies via the website and the possibility of attending LOCSU training for LOC succession planning.

LOCSU will begin a consultation with LOCs in the South in February to understand better the needs of LOCs and how LOCSU can support going forwards. They will look at whether the support is value for money and how it can improve.

**PAYE Payments**

Payments via PAYE are now set up. The committee now gets paid hourly for their time at £55 per hour including LOC meetings. The committee discussed paying Colin a set fee every month based on so many hours or days.

Mileage or expenses can be paid immediately as opposed to time invoiced that will be paid monthly.

**ACTION: Colin to record the work he carries out accurately to reflect an average monthly value over the next three months to the next LOC meeting. The committee will then decide a monthly fee at the next meeting. (Alvaro suggested using the app Toggl)**

**CUES**

As discussed above, the CUES service was rumoured to be decommissioned by April, however, Colin received confirmation from the ICB (in conjunction with Avon LOC) that there is no intention to put a stop to CUES. It is possible they will extend CUES for 6 months until the rules change and re-procuring services becomes easier.

Observer David discussed the problems encountered by his practice in Marlborough. With scant CUES coverage they have been inundated everyday and many patients appear not to have gone through the PES triage. Patients arriving through triage appear to have not been accurately dispatched. It suggests the triage team are under timely pressure to refer patients quickly. GP receptionists seem to have been instructed to put all eye related problems to practice rather than using the PES triage number.

Rob encouraged that problems with CUES need to be fed back to Amy Hughes, PES for address.

**ACTION: Request Amy Hughes attend the next LOC meeting to clarify some issues with CUES particularly with time limit on when the practice can see a patient.**

**Committee to feedback regularly with CUES issues to Amy.**

**CUES Teams Chat to be opened for LOC internal communication.**

**BSW Eyecare Group Meeting**

All meetings have been cancelled including for cataract and glaucoma. Jamie has received 6 teams invites for cataracts for next year so hopefully will improve.

Colin will feedback to BSW Eyecare group about the lack of engagement for specific meeting groups.

**POD News**

Wessex LMC have developed primary care meetings for supporting each other in referral pathways and funding. There have been no recent meetings due to Edd Rendell, Chair, being away.

**Future Planning**

The website, email and social media aspects have greatly improved. Colin reiterated the LOC need to plan for succession. Colin wishes to develop the LOCs wishes and purpose.

**ACTION: Colin to circulate document for committee to make suggestions for Mission, Vision, Values and motto. Respond by 1st December 2023.**

**Medical Retina**

Neelam was unable to attend but sent the following update:

‘There have been no further medical retina meetings.

**CPD Event**

At our last meeting we had discussed an ophthalmology led CPD event for January. I haven’t had any response from Ophthalmology leads at RUH or GWH. The RUH are planning a CPD event early next year and so this may be why I haven’t heard back from them. Richard Antcliff has put me in touch with Helen Broadbent and Freya McGregor at the RUH about this but I’m still waiting to hear back.

I have spoken to Piyus Tanna regarding the LOCSU funded wellbeing CPD event. The event is virtual over Zoom with break out rooms.  The cost is £300, which the LOC will pay and then claim back through a link. They organise the event via Eventbrite and send us info to circulate. They take care of CPD accreditation and sending out CPD certificates. The title of the CPD is ‘Transform your mind and life’, it’s 1hr 15 mins and accredited for 3 points for Optoms and DOs. It seems to have had positive feedback from other LOCs that have run the session. They would be able to deliver the event on the following dates: 7th Jan, 11th Jan, 13th Jan and 14th Jan.

If the committee are happy with this then we can book a date for January and perhaps focus on an ophthalmology led CPD event for our AGM. The LOCSU funding for the well-being CPD is available for around 6 months, so could be pushed back if needed.

When speaking the ophthalmologists about doing a CPD lecture it would be good to have a date to share with them. Would it be possible to confirm a date for next years AGM and I will see who is available.’

**Date of the Next Meeting**

Thursday 22 February 2024, 1830 hrs - Teams