

DEVON LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th September 2009 7.30 pm at Devon Hotel, Matford, Exeter.

Members in Attendance:

Mr David Bearman (Chair)
Mr Mike Barbour
Miss Nerys Cadvan-Jones
Mr David Chapman
Mr Phil Dawes
Mr Martin Frankland
Mr Simon Gardner

Mrs Ali Hayes
Mr Andy Lawson
Mr Michael Lennox
Mr David Norsworthy
Mrs Sian Retallick
Mr Paul Stevens
Mr George Wickham

In Attendance

Mrs Sue Taylor – Chief Officer
Mr Mark Stone – Project Pharmacist

Kathryn Jones - Secretary
Adrian Tebby – Day Lewis PLC

1/406 Apologies

Mrs Brenda Taylor

1/407 Welcome and introductions

David Bearman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced Adrian Tebby who was attending as an observer

1/408 Register of Interests

There were no changes to the Register of Interests.

1/409 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th August 2009

The minutes of the meetings held on the 10th August 2009 were signed as a correct record.

1/410 Actions arising from the minutes

1/392 Compliance Aids

Karen O'Brien is carrying out some work on behalf of the LPC relating to demand for compliance aids in Torbay. A letter and short questionnaire is to be sent out to pharmacies in Torbay and an article included in the next LPC newsletter. Mike Barbour informed the meeting that one of his pharmacies had been informed by a local practice that no seven day scripts would be issued following receipt of a letter from Devon PCT. This will lead to increased waste. David Chapman knows of surgeries that will not issue less than 56 day scripts.

Action: Mike Barbour to obtain a copy of the letter and forward to the Secretariat

1/403 Branded Generic Prescribing

PSNC have prepared a document, which covers all the salient points.

Action: Phil Dawes to obtain some specific drug information and inform Mark Stone.

1/404 Community Pharmacy Charter

No feedback had been received from members. A response had been sent to PSNC by Sue.

1/411 Finance Report

Income

There was a net positive variance to the budget this month of £1859.24 due in part to a higher than anticipated levy income (£1,390.56). Our sponsorship for the month was £200 lower than expected.

Summary Year to Date Income

If all income lines come in on budget for the remainder of the year, the LPC is forecast to make a significant surplus of £17,820.12. This is due to higher than expected income as detailed below, in addition to lower than anticipated expenditure.

The misc income includes a refund of £2,193.86 from Devon LMC.

The PPA levy has been higher than anticipated and we are currently £4,812.19 above our budget. Additionally the LPC has achieved great results from sponsorship and achieved £2,025 above the budget at this point in time.

In total the Income for the LPC stands at £121,151.25 against a predicted income of £111,750.00.

Expenditure

The LPC managed its expenses well under budget for the month of August. In total the LPC spent £2,526.24 less than planned in August providing a net surplus this month of £4,385.48.

Summary YTD Expenditure

The LPC has spent a total of £107,982.13 against a planned budget of £116,225.00. We are therefore £8,242.87 better than planned.

Devon LPC Annual Accounts 2008-09

The draft accounts were presented to the meeting for approval. Apart from a slight amendment to one of the headings it was proposed by Nerys Cadvan Jones and seconded by Simon Gardner that the accounts be approved. This was unanimously carried by the LPC.

1/412 Contractual Issues

Change of hours – Pinhoe Pharmacy, Station Road, Exeter

It was agreed that in future the LPC would only wish to be scrutinizing changes to core hours and not supplementary hours, but would want to be informed of proposed closures on Saturdays. The PCTs need to differentiate between core and supplementary hours. There appears to be no consistency in process between the three PCTs in Devon.

Action: Sue to follow up with the three PCTs

Application for 100 hours a week exemption for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list – Keyham Pharmacy Ltd, t/a Tavyside Pharmacy, Tavyside Surgery, Abbey Rise, Tavistock PL19 9BB

The following members declared an interest and left the meeting

Nerys Cadvan Jones, Andy Lawson, David Chapman, Michael Lennox, Simon Gardner and Phil Dawes

It was agreed that the application meets the current criteria.

Action: Sue send response to Devon PCT.

The following members returned to the meeting

Nerys Cadvan Jones, Andy Lawson, David Chapman, Michael Lennox, Simon Gardner and Phil Dawes.

1/413 Secretariat Report

Chlamydia LES for Devon

Devon PCT is in financial recovery and the PCT will not be actively promoting the Chlamydia Screening Services although the pharmacy services will be commissioned. Sue informed the meeting that pharmacy is considered to be a core service for Chlamydia screening nationally which is why the Devon PCT agreed to continue with the local LES. Plymouth PCT are also commissioning Chlamydia screening and treatment in two of the larger contractors in Plymouth who have a high footfall for EHC.

Flu

It was reported that GPs are to be paid £5.25 per flu injection. There is a need for pharmacists to become involved. Some pharmacists in Devon are already NPA trained to administer the injection.

The LPC had been approached to consider co coordinating in the event of a “Command and Control” scenario arising. The members did not consider this to be appropriate.

Devon PCT are organising “Exercise Coldplay” on 25th September and have asked for a LPC representative.

The NPA Flu Pandemic event organised for 10th September had been rearranged to 10th October. Phil Dawes was still able to attend.

Meeting with Devon LMC

The next meeting is due to be held on 14th October at Deer Park. Martin Frankland has attended the last two meetings. Originally it was agreed to have rotational attendance at this meeting. It was felt the meetings are beneficial and aid items appearing in the LMC Purple Pages with a sensible message. The Committee was asked if any other member would be interested in attending. No-one expressed an interest.

Paul Stevens left the meeting.

1/414 Performance Measures

MURs

It is understood that in Bristol MURs are being undertaken over the telephone. It was felt more activity could be undertaken around discharge MURs.

Action: Sue to raise this with Plymouth at meeting on Tuesday.

The MUR Audit being undertaken in Plymouth is trying to encourage GPs to promote MURs.

Devon PCT is piloting domiciliary MURs in Mid Devon and Newton Abbot. There could be an issue for more complex MURs rather than ordinary ones.

Martin Frankland reported that patients being discharged from hospital are having Manvax compliance aids, he wondered how this would tie in with discharge MURs. Other members felt it was an increasing problem. John Fereday (locum in North Devon) will be attending the North Devon Prescribing Interface Group and could raise the issue with them.

Action: Nerys Cadvan-Jones to contact and meet John Fereday.

It was felt consistency of prescribing is needed. It was felt this should be raised and worked through at the meeting due to be held with the LMC.

Website hits

The latest report was shared with the meeting. Ian Peacock (contractor in Bere Alston) is checking the resources on the website, and this will be undated when he has finished. The Responsible Pharmacist papers from the workshops will be uploaded shortly with a disclaimer added.

1/415 Responsible Pharmacist

David Bearman thanked Simon Gardner and Mark Stone for the work they undertaken with regard to the workshops which had been held. Over 240 people are due to attend the evenings. All members of the LPC agreed. Locums are very concerned about the implications of the Responsible Pharmacist regulations. There will be an extra workshop organised during October to clear the waiting list. It was agreed to approach Barry Cohen and invite him to attend the LPC AGM on 15th October. It was felt his remit would be "Responsible Pharmacist – the practical realities".

Action: Sue contact Barry Cohen and additional workshop to be organised.

1/416 Any Other Business

High Cost Drugs

George Wickham had received a phone call from Devon PCT regarding the use of high cost drugs. He asked whether it was appropriate for the pharmacist to approach a GP asking if a cheaper version could be used?

Ambush Marketing

George had been informed that members of the public were due to be stopped in the street and asked if they wished to give up smoking, if so, they would be directed to his pharmacy. No one appeared asking for

advice. It was felt by members that the wrong people were being recruited and considered it a waste of money employing consultants.

Aricept

Nerys Cadvan Jones expressed concern about shortages of this drug.

Dispensing

Nerys was concerned that the LPC and LMC should be working together to highlight the implications of the Responsible Pharmacist, and also remind them to use if possible repeat dispensing. It was agreed that Nerys and Mark Stone discuss the matter and arrange for an article to go in the LMC Purple Pages. The level of business has grown so much that dispensing is under pressure. GPs ask for 48 or 72 hours for a prescription to be done, but expect a pharmacy to dispense straight away. Customers get angry, and it was suggested that a customer's complaint could be the trigger for a significant event report.

Action: Article to be prepared for Purple Pages and the matter raised at the meeting with the PCTs due to take place in the next week.

MHRA Alert – Codeine and dihydrocodene

Simon Gardner was not sure that GPs realised they could be seeing more patients because of the recent MHRA alert.

Action: Prepare an article for Purple Pages.

Controlled Drugs

David Norsworthy asked for a progress report on the recent draft LES for Palliative Care drugs issued by Devon PCT.

Sue had given feedback to the PCT but had heard nothing since. There was some confusion over the targeting of the pharmacies to provide this service; David Bearman reminded the committee that PCTs would be looking at access more and more; therefore the 100 hour pharmacies and pharmacies with extended opening times are more likely to be commissioned in the future.

Action: Sue to seek clarification from Devon PCT

MHRA Alert – NHS Number

A further alert had been sent out, and it was agreed that clarification was needed.

Action: Agenda item at next LPC meeting to be held on 5th October.

Dates

Plymouth AGM 24th September

Oksana has agreed to pay backfill. Sian Retallick to ask some of her staff if they would be able to attend.

Obesity Service Redesign Event – Torbay 30th September

Simon Gardner offered to attend.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm

Date of the next meeting – Monday 5th October 2009 at the Deer Park.

Signed

Date.....