

DEVON LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd March 2010, 7.30 pm at The Devon Hotel, Matford Exeter.

Members in Attendance:

Mr David Bearman (Chair)
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
Mrs Brenda Taylor
Mr George Wickham

Observers

Mr Steve Budden
Mr Nigel Gray
Mr Kevin Muckian
Mr Stephen O'Reilly
Mr Tony Perkins

In Attendance

Mrs Sue Taylor – Chief Officer
Mr Mark Stone – Project Pharmacist
Kathryn Jones – Secretary
Mr Will Cockburn

1/485 Apologies

Mr Michael Barbour, Mr Peter Hope, Mr Andrew Lane, Mr Chris Naidu, Mrs Sian Retallick

1/486 Welcome and Introductions

David Bearman welcomed everyone to the meeting particularly the observers who will be on the new LPC Committee, and also Will Cockburn.

1/487 Register of Interests

No form has been received from Phil Dawes, but an email confirming his change is held by the Secretariat. New registers of interests will be completed by all the members at the meeting in April 2010.

1/488 Minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2010 were then signed as a correct record.

1/489 Actions arising from the minutes

1/469 Any Other Business – As directed audit – Devon PCT
Contractors had not been contacted.

1/478 MHRA Safety Alert – Care Homes Use of Medicines

This will be raised with NHS Devon at the meetings due to take place on 31st March.

1/490 Finance Report month end 28th February 2010

The finance report for February was tabled at the meeting and a verbal report given by Sue Taylor. The total income for February was £24780 against a budget of £22350, giving a net positive variance to the budget of £2430.27. The increase was due to higher than anticipated levy income and sponsorship.

Summary year to date income

For the year to date income for the LPC stands at £271690 against a predicted income of £245850.

The total expenditure for February was £15920 against a plan of £17222.

Summary year to date expenditure

The LPC has spent a total of £237945 against a planned budget of £260762 by the end of February 2010. £22817 less than the planned budget.

Finance Sub-Committee

It was agreed that the current members of the Finance Sub-Committee would continue until June, with the addition of Stephen O'Reilly, new CCA member. The Sub-Committee would set the budget for the year ahead and sign off the accounts for 2009-10.

1/491 Performance Measures

Members received the latest Performance Measures Reports. The initial feedback from the contractor survey was also presented, and the results will be used by the new Committee.

1/492 Secretariat Report

Members noted the Secretariat Report.

It was reported that the appeal by Exminster Pharmacy for a new pharmacy at Dawlish Warren had been upheld by the NHS Litigation Authority. The application by Lloyds Pharmacy at Ernesettle had been refused by NHS Plymouth as it was considered neither necessary nor expedient. The Co-Op application at Barne Barton, Plymouth had been approved by NHS Plymouth as it was necessary and desirable.

New LPC Committee

It was agreed to set up an awayday on 14th May to review the LPC strategy, areas of work and roles to move forward. David Bearman emphasized that there was a very onerous workload forthcoming for the Committee. He recommended that the Executive positions be filled at the June meeting following the awayday, the Committee agreed that the current executive structure would remain in place until then.

Palliative Care LES – NHS Devon.

Sue presented members with the proposed LES. It was noted that the LPC feedback which had been given to the PCT had not been incorporated within the revised LES; in particular the retainer remained at £100. The majority of PCTs in the South West pay between £200 - £300 as a retainer. It was noted that a list of pharmacies was provided, but it would appear that no expressions of interest had been sought initially and they had not been asked if they wanted to be involved. The LPC were not prepared to ratify the LES.

Action: Sue to return the draft LES to NHS Devon with the comments from the meeting.

Smoking Cessation LES – Torbay Care Trust

The Care Trust would like to change the payment structure and had contacted pharmacies to obtain their views. The proposed fees were £50 – Four week quitter made up as follows: £15 – client sign up, £25- Four weeks without CO2 verification; £35 – Four weeks with CO2 verification.

The members agreed with the new structure in principle, Simon Gardner felt this should have been discussed at the Torbay Sub-Committee.

1/493 EPS Release 2 Update

Mark Stone will be attending a meeting with the three PCTs which will look at how they will roll out ETP2. It appears some GP systems are holding up the process.

1/494 Generic Substitution Consultation

Mark Stone had prepared a response to the consultation. David Bearman had spoken to Steve Lutener from PSNC regarding this. PSNC are not actively supporting the proposed changes, and the Dept of Health are lukewarm, members should not be too worried. It was noted that dispensing doctors had not been included in the consultation.

Branded Generics

David Bearman informed the meeting about all the work that has been undertaken with the PCTs in Devon. Both Torbay and Plymouth will be preparing a letter which is to be sent to the DOH expressing concern with how the current system operates. It was noted that Dorset PCT will not undertake any switching. Mike Barbour has been appointed to the SW QIPP Working Party and Mark Stone to the Reference Group. It was felt there could be more serious ramifications for drug pricing in the future, causing more shortages, which would result in more being paid to obtain alternative drugs. There is a serious lack of understanding by PCTs and the SHA.

A letter has been sent by DOH to all PCTs regarding the devolvement of the global sum warning against PCT manipulation of the funding arrangements.

Action: Raise matter of switching with the CEO of NHS Devon on 31st March
Attach copy of letter from DOH to the minutes.
Mark Stone to send LPC response to consultation.

1/495 Community Pharmacy Charter

Will Cockburn gave a short presentation to the Committee on the work he was going to undertake, leading up to the General Election. The work involves hopefully influencing new MPs and using the slogan, Aware, Understand and Support. There is a need to highlight what pharmacy does and can do.

Action: Nerys Cadvan-Jones and David Norsworthy to work with Will Cockburn

1/496 Devolvement of global sum – LPC communication plan

Mark Stone gave an update. A copy of the letter to PCT Chief Executives is attached to these minutes. Brenda Taylor asked the meeting if a practice audit could be undertaken? It was suggested measuring a day's worth of scripts for length of prescribing would highlight any changes brought in by the PCTs.

1/497 PNAs – Feedback for London event

David Bearman and Sue had attended a PSNC event in London with representatives from Torbay and Devon PCTs. PNAs will not be all embracing documents; they are intended to be commissioning tools and should include the seventeen directed services included in the Drug Tariff, as well as essential and advanced services. Although maps will need to be regularly refreshed, over time not all the needs will be reflected in a PNA. In the case of Devon LPC, not only will the PNAs for Devon, Torbay and Plymouth need to be reviewed and consulted on, but also Dorset, Somerset and Cornwall & Isles of Scilly. The PNAs have to be published by 1st February 2011, consultation will be a lengthy process and should start mid summer.

1/498 Any Other Business

End of Term Dinner

A new date needs to be agreed.

Action: Proposed dates to be sent out to members.

MDS – Discharge from hospital

Paul Stevens had concerns about the MDS provision without assessment. It was felt there had been a change of personnel at hospitals and with the change to the LPC, it was thought a good idea to work with staff from the hospital and invite someone from secondary care to an LPC meeting. Karen O'Brien had attended a Care Quality Commission meeting in Torbay that had been called following publication of the CQC report on managing patients' medicine after discharge.

Action: Invite secondary care representative to LPC meeting

Colostomy and appliance contractor regulations

Steve Budden informed the meeting that these regulations come into effect on 31st March 2010. It was felt more information was needed.

1/499 End of term of LPC

Before the meeting closed, David Bearman thanked all those members who were leaving the LPC for their hard work. A few small gifts were given out.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm

Date of the next meeting – Monday 19th April 2010 at the Deer Park.

Signed

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