

DEVON LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th February 2009 7.30 pm at Deer Park Business Centre, Haldon Hill, Kennford, Exeter.

Members in Attendance:

Nerys Cadvan-Jones

Mr David Chapman

Mr Martin Frankland

Mr Simon Gardner (Chair)

Mr Andrew Howitt

Mr George Wickham

Mr David Norsworthy

In Attendance

Mrs Sue Taylor – Chief Officer

Mrs Kathryn Jones - Secretary

Mr Mark Stone – Project Pharmacist

1/316 Apologies

Mr Mike Barbour, Mr David Bearman, Mr Phil Dawes, Mrs Ali Hayes, Mr Andy Lawson, Mrs Sian Retallick, Mr Paul Stevens, Mrs Brenda Taylor.

1/317 Welcome

Simon Gardner welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Nerys Cadvan-Jones, who had been appointed by the CCA to fill the vacancy on the Committee following the resignation of John Finn. He also welcomed David Norsworthy, an independent contractor, who had expressed an interest in becoming a member of the LPC and was attending as an observer.

1/318 Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2009

The meeting not being quorate, the minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2009 were not signed as a correct record.

1/319 Matters arising from the minutes

The matters arising from the last meeting were highlighted on a separate sheet, which had been distributed with the minutes.

1/315 LPC Awayday 24 April 2009

Nine members had indicated that they would attend. It was agreed that the awayday should proceed.

Action: Venue to be booked.

1/320 Finance Report month end 31st January 2009.

The January financial position was reported.

1/321 Performance measures ended 31st January 2009

Website

There had been over 4500 hits on the website in January with Devon is still top of the leader board, receiving 25% of the hits through the PSNC portal.

MURs

It was noted that the number of contractors undertaking MURs is starting to plateau at around 62%. The money taken back into pharmacy has reached 35% of the available money. The number of contractors undertaking MURs in Plymouth is falling; members expressed concern as some PCTs in other parts of the country are starting to open up to applications in areas where MURs are not being undertaken by existing contractors.

Plymouth tPCT is keen to undertake a multi disciplinary audit, which would be funded by the RSPGB initially as a pilot, to be rolled out in April. Six to eight pharmacies are needed for the pilot which would be run for a week at the end of February. The LPC has had an input and secured payment for those wishing to help with the pilot. The RSPGB will pay £50 and the PCT £50. There is a need to keep promoting MURs to

contractors. Martin Frankland expressed concerned as to where MURs sit – it seems as if the MURs are moving from an advanced service to a LES.

Action: Re-establish the LPC MUR Sub-Committee

1/322 Secretariat Report
This was noted.

Contractual information

Oral hearing – Appeal against Devon PCT decision to refuse Day Lewis PLC application for minor relocation from 1-2 Birdwood Court, High Street, Totnes to Morrisons Superstore, Coronation Road, Totnes.

It was reported that the Litigation Authority had overturned the PCT decision and the appeal was upheld.

Application by Peninsula Pharmacy Limited for inclusion on the pharmaceutical list for a wholly Internet/Mail Order Pharmacy at Unit 6, The Watermark, Erme Court, Ivybridge.

It was reported that Devon PCT had approved the application. It was not clear from the letter received from the PCT if the LPC concerns given in the response to the application had been addressed. The LPC cannot appeal against the decision, but would be notified if an appeal was lodged and representations could then be made by the LPC.

Appeal by Day Lewis PLC – Bay Pharmacy, application for minor relocation under 500 metres from 237 Torquay Road, Paignton to Unit 2 Concorde House, 266-276 Torquay Road, Paignton.

As the meeting was not quorate, it was agreed to send out the correspondence received to all the LPC members for their consideration, as the closing date for responses was the 7th March 2009.

Action: Copies of the paperwork to be sent to all members asking for comments to be fed back to the Secretariat.

George Wickham informed the meeting he had given ninety days notice to the PCT that he wished to change his supplementary hours, he had received a letter from the PCT informing him that the new supplementary hours could start after a further thirty days. He felt this was not correct.

1/323 LPC Constitution

Sue explained to the meeting that the consultation period closes on 20th February 2009. To adopt the new constitution, the LPC will need to hold an extraordinary general meeting towards the beginning of October, which could be combined with the LPC Annual General Meeting. The terms of office of the elected members ceases at the end of March 2010, a new Committee will need to be elected by January 2010.

It was decided to take the revised constitution as read.

1/324 LPC Work plan – Report from LPC Management Executive.

Sue presented to the members the revised work plan. It was agreed to discuss this in more detail at the next LPC meeting.

Points to be noted were that the PSNC are pushing the Vascular Risk Assessment Programme and expecting LPCs to negotiate with PCTs for pharmacy inclusion in the local programmes.

With the resignation of Jonathan from the Secretariat, there would be no recruitment to fill the post, it was agreed to look at the work plan and then agree the work priorities. It was agreed that the sub committees for Communication and PR, Performance management and MURs be re established to spread the workload.

The locality forums are being run by key pharmacists, although a new lead is needed for the North Devon one.

The everyday work of the Secretariat continues to grow with extra support currently being given to several contractors.

Action: Revised work plan to be sent out to all members with feedback to Sue

1/325 Devon LPC and PCT Joint Meeting

A meeting was held on 30th January 2009, George Wickham, Simon Gardner, Andy Lawson and David Bearman had attended on behalf of the LPC. The main points arising from the meeting were as follows:-

The PCT will continue with local enhanced services for EHC, Smoking and Chlamydia, which was meant to be relaunched on 1st January 2009, but Sue is still waiting for the new specification. The fee will be £15 per Chlamydia Screening.

It was reported that payments due to contractors had been found going back to February 2008. These would be processed by the PCT.

Palliative Care boxes will be commissioned across Devon; a copy of the specification was awaited.

The PNA still has to be completed by the end of February 2009.

Seven day prescriptions. There was some discussion about the ongoing demand for seven day prescriptions to fund the cost of filling monitored dosage systems, despite work that had been completed previously on training carers to prompt patients to take their medicines from original containers. A concern was expressed that following devolution of the global sum PCTs would no longer support the issue of seven day prescriptions and it was felt that a piece of work needed to be undertaken to review the use of seven day prescriptions and where the demand lay. David Norsworthy and Mark Stone to build this into the work programme.

Targeted MURs were still seen as a potential route for reducing waste medicines and some work needed to be done to get this message out to contractors.

The PCT have a negotiating process for the LMC and would like the same process for the LPC although the documentation had not been received yet. Three trained negotiators would be needed within the LPC whose brief would be to have authority to negotiate on the LPCs behalf.

A new monitoring visit template has been adopted by the PCT.

Mark Stone had recently prepared a Medicines sales protocol and matrix which may be useful for contractors.

Action: Sue email new monitoring visit template to members.

1/326 Any Other Business

Controlled Drugs Destruction

Concern was expressed that the situation had gone backwards. Letters had been prepared to be sent to the Accountable Officer at each PCT to raise the matter of urgency with regard to this situation. It was noted that multiples are having the same problem as independent contractors.

Action: Canvas contractors through the next newsletter and to give contact details for Accountable Officers.

Derriford Out Patient Units

David Chapman had been encountering problems with scripts and getting a response to changes that were needed.

Action: Mark Stone to raise at next Medicines Management Meeting.

Devon PCT Pharmacy Forum

Martin Frankland gave members a resume of the meeting held at Kingsteignton.

Authorisation of CRB checks

George Wickham had tried to get CRB forms authorised; the contacts given were not too helpful. It was agreed to ask someone from the PCT to attend the next PCT pharmacy forum. A suggestion was made that the LPC could offer to cover the expenses of the PCT personnel attending the forum if this would expedite the matter.

Action: Contact PCT

Return of oxygen cylinders

George Wickham was not sure where to obtain the phone number for returning cylinders; it was thought it was in the Drug Tariff.

Date of the next meeting – Monday 9th March 2009.

Signed

Date