

BIIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of Birmingham and Solihull Local Pharmaceutical Committee held at 9.30 am on Monday, 16th December 2019 at Becketts Farm Conference Centre, Heath Farm, Wythall B47 6AJ.

PRESENT:

Miss H. Elliott (in the Chair)

Mr. J. Blankley (LPC Chief Officer)

Mr. Z. Chishti

Mr. M. Ismail

Mr. L. Dalton

Mr. A. Pancholi

Mr. S. Dhami

Mr. S. Panesar

Miss M. Dhanjal

Mr. C. Parmar

Mr. M. Eshak

Mr. M. Paul

Mr. A. Esmail

Mr. D. Zeitoune

Mr. D. Gallier-Harris

IN ATTENDANCE:

Miss K. Begum – Service Development Officer

Mrs. C. McNidder – LPC Treasurer

Mrs V. Morley - Service Development Officer

Mr. T. Wedgbury – LPC Secretary

Ms. S. Amin – Dispharma Ltd. - Observer (Open Part of the meeting only)

Ms. L. Currie - Umbrella (For Minute No 20 only)

Mr. M. Kelsall - Umbrella (For Minute No 20 only)

Ms. R. Robotham - Umbrella (For Minute No 20 only)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. S. Melwani as well as from Mr. H. Sadhra, Corporate Governance Officer.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

HE introduced and welcomed Ms. S. Amin, Cluster Support Pharmacy Manager, Dispharma Ltd, as an Observer for the Open Part of the meeting.

HE said that colleagues from Umbrella would be attending later in the meeting to brief members about various matters and for a discussion.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage. During the course of the meeting, LD declared an interest in some agenda items as they arose, in his capacity as a Director of CHS Ltd. (See Minutes No 8b and 15).

4. MINUTES OF THE OPEN PART OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18TH NOVEMBER 2019.

The Minutes of the Open part of the meeting held on 18th November 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record. (Proposer-ME;Seconder-SD).

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN PART OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18TH NOVEMBER 2019 (OTHER THAN THOSE INCLUDED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA).

There were no items dealt with under this heading.

6. ACTION POINTS

The Committee reviewed the Action Points from the last meeting, Members noted updates on each of them, making new decisions, as appropriate (See below).

7. NEW CONTRACT APPLICATIONS /PHARMACEUTICAL LIST MATTERS

TW briefed members on current cases. Members noted this report. A brief discussion ensued. This focussed on the number of pharmacy closures in recent times and the possible underlying reasons for this. TW undertook to produce a list of closures that had happened since 1/4/18, with a view to a further discussion taking place.

8. COMMUNITY PHARMACY FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

JB brought members up to date with developments nationally and locally with regard to the new CPCF funding agreement and related matters. Discussion ensued on a number of matters.

(a) Contractor Support Events

This matter was discussed later in the meeting (See Minute No 8b).

(b) Community Pharmacist Consultation Service

Discussion took place about the new CPCS Advanced Service which had commenced on 29th October 2019. JB presented the latest summary activity data about the uptake of the service so far. He and VM also reported on the outcome of the telephone calls that had been made to those contractors who had not signed up for the service. Members noted these reports. They also shared, anecdotally, their experiences of providing the service to date. JB noted these and undertook to raise the problems identified with the appropriate organisations. HE also summarised a piece of work from Boots which highlighted the early successes, learning points and challenges presented to date, which members found interesting.

Members then considered how best to support contractors to continue to develop the service as effectively and successfully as possible. They noted that the courses run by CPPE were very good but were now fully booked for the remainder of 2019/20. JB reported that he had been approached by CHS Ltd who have a proposal to run additional courses. LD declared his interest in this matter, as a Director of CHS Ltd. He described the proposal in more detail, including how it might link CPCS face-to-face training with skills-based training related to a range of private PGDs.

A lengthy discussion took place about this, focussing on contractors' needs, likely demand for sessions on these subjects and the extent to which the Committee could and should support them. On balance, it was agreed that the Committee should support the provision of two CPCS-related training events in the period January 2020 – March 2020, until more CPPE courses become available. and funding that had been spent on Flu Vaccination Service training in recent years should be reallocated for this, within a budget of £10,000. It was decided, however, that any training costs related to possible private PGD services should be borne directly by those contractors interested in it, although members saw the merits of running both elements together. It was agreed that JB should explore this further with CHS Ltd, as a preferred provider, although enquiries should also be made of other possible providers (eg: NPA, Numark, Alphega) about any possible training provision that might be available from those sources.

(c) Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS)

Reminding members about previous discussions about how best to support contractors with the Healthy Living Pharmacy scheme, JB informed them that he had recently distributed some HLP Zone boards and box files to contractors who had requested them and that he had a small number of each left which were available on a first-come-first-served basis.

(d) Public Health Campaigns

A brief discussion took place about the latest campaign, “Help Us Help You- Stay Well for Winter”. No problems were reported.

9. PRIMARY CARE NETWORKS

JB brought members up to date with the work that was continuing to support contractors to engage with Primary Care Networks. He referred, in particular, to the activity being done by the SDOs to continue to develop the contractor alignment database and the response to the recent hard-copy mailing aimed at those contractors who had not previously provided the information that had been requested. KB and VM supplemented this report. JB then presented the results of all of this work, in spreadsheet form, reporting also on the discussions that had taken place at the PCN sub-committee meeting that had been held on 13th December 2019, when the next steps had been discussed. He summarised these.

A discussion ensued. The Committee agreed that the confirmation of the Pharmacy PCN Lead in those PCN areas where there was only one contractor who had expressed an interest in being the Lead was now straightforward. Members also agreed with the sub-committee’s recommendations about how to proceed in those PCN areas where there was more than one contractor interested with candidates being invited to submit personal statements prior to a ballot, as necessary. They felt that the process was as open, transparent and robust as possible. The Committee noted and accepted the guidance from PSNC with regard to a contractor being a Pharmacy PCN Lead in more than one PCN area.

10. PSNC MATTERS

(a) Independent Review of Representation and Support for Contractors

Reminding members about his report at the last meeting about the work that was taking place, led by PSNC, to develop a process for conducting an independent

national review of arrangements for representation and support for contractors, JB brought them up to date. He said that, following the appointment of Prof David Wright to chair the review, a Steering Committee had recently been selected to conduct it. He reported the membership of the Steering Committee and also the proposed timetable for the exercise. Members noted this, A brief discussion ensued.

11. SERVICES FOR DRUG MISUSERS

Reminding members about the discussion at the last meeting with regard to the Solihull MBC services, JB and ZC reported that a meeting with SIAS colleagues was due to take place in January 2020.

I
c
t
With regard to the Birmingham services, JB said that Mr. K. Ratcliffe, CGL, had recently invited comments from the Committee's representatives on proposed updated SLAs containing minor changes, and that he, ZC and SP were looking at these. Members noted this.

12. SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

JB confirmed that colleagues from Umbrella would be attending later in the meeting. (See Minute No 20).

13. SMOKING CESSATION SERVICES

Reminding members about his report at the last meeting, JB said that he had now written to Gateway, the prime provider of the Solihull service, to express the Committee's concern at the lack of progress with regard to the development of the services there and was awaiting a reply from the organisation or from Solihull MBC. Members noted this.

14. LPC CHAIRS AND SECRETARIES GROUP (CPWM)

JB said that there was nothing new to report under this heading as the LPC Chairs and Secretaries Group (CPWM) had not met since the last LPC meeting.

15. CHS Ltd

LD declared his interest in this matter, as a Director of CHS Ltd.

JB reported on a meeting between representatives of the local LPCs and the Directors of CHS Ltd that had taken place on 2nd December 2019, which had been very positive

LD supplemented this, agreeing with JB. For members' information, he also outlined changes that had been made to the company's Articles and Rules, dealing with categories of membership and fees.

Members noted these reports.

16. NHS ENGLAND MATTERS

(a) TCAM project

JB reported that work was continuing locally to develop the TCAM project. Members noted this. A brief discussion ensued. Although the project was unlikely to have much impact in Birmingham in the short term, there was some confusion about how any Birmingham patients and their contractors would be affected. ZC undertook to review the draft Service Specification that had been circulated with the agenda pack and let JB have any comments.

17. CCG MATTERS

(a) MOCH project

JB and HE brought members up to date with regard the MOCH project. Members noted these reports.

(b) Senior Pharmacists Group

JB said that there was nothing new to report.

(c) MECS

Reminding members about previous discussions about the operation of the MECS schemes in BSol CCG and SWB CCG, JB said that he was still awaiting full clarification from both CCGs about various aspects of the SLAs, with a view to issuing updated guidance to contractors.

18. CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Meeting with Dr. J. Varney, Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council

JB reported on a meeting that he had with Dr. J. Varney, the recently appointed new Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council. He said that the meeting, which had covered a number of matters, had been very constructive.

(b) NPA Support

JB drew attention to an NPA event scheduled for 7th January 2020 as part of an initiative to develop support for its' members locally. Members noted this

(c) Flu Vaccination Service

JB drew attention to the latest available data for Flu Vaccination Service uptake in BSol community pharmacies. Members agreed that the figures were excellent and agreed that the Committee should write to contractors to congratulate them on the success of the service.

19 SUB-COMMITTEES

It was agreed that, with the exception of the Control of Entry sub-committee, none of the other sub-committees needed to meet on this occasion. The Control of Entry sub-committee would meet later in the day.

20. GUESTS – COLLEAGUES FROM UMBRELLA

HE introduced and welcomed Ms. L. Currie, Mr. M. Kelsall and Ms. R. Robotham, colleagues from Umbrella who had been invited to brief the Committee on a range of matters relating to the Birmingham Sexual Health Services.

Ms. Robotham began by outlining the training plans for 2020/2021. She referred, in particular, to changes that were necessary as a result of the restructuring of the services, which she summarised for members.

Mr. M. Kelsall then briefed members on the forthcoming next round of procurement. Ms. L. Currie supplemented this by referring to the anticipated extension of the contract between Birmingham City Council and University of Birmingham Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust for all of the Sexual Health Services.

A lengthy discussion took place about all of these matters, with Umbrella colleagues answering a number of questions from members.

The Committee appreciated all of the information provided and advised the Umbrella colleagues about how best to share this with contractors.

The Committee was disappointed that none of those present could answer questions about funding and remuneration and it was agreed to take these matters up with other Umbrella colleagues at a later date.

HE thanked Ms. Currie, Mr. Kelsall and Ms. Robotham, who then left the meeting.

At this point, Ms.S. Amin also left the meeting.

The Committee went on to consider items of Confidential business.

