

BIIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of Birmingham and Solihull Local Pharmaceutical Committee held at 9.30 am on Monday, 18th November 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. S. Melwani

Mr. S. Dhani

Mr. A. Pancholi

Miss M. Dhanjal

Mr. S. Panesar

Mr. M. Eshak

Mr. C. Parmar

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. H. Sadhra - Corporate Governance Officer

Mr. T. Wedgbury – LPC Secretary

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. M. Paul.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements made

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 Minute No 15).

4. **MINUTES OF THE OPEN PART OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st October 2019.**

The Minutes of the Open part of the meeting held on 21st October 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record. (Propser-ZC;Seconder-SD).

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN PART OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st October 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**

SP declared his interest in the proposed relocation of Sheldon Pharmacy, listed on the Tracker, and took no part in the discussion.

TW briefed members on current cases. Members noted this report. A brief discussion ensued.

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**

The Committee reviewed the briefing event that had been held on Sunday 10th November 2019 at West Bromwich Albion FC. JB said that the feedback had been very positive. Those members who had attended agreed that the event had been very successful. It was noted that over 100 pharmacists had attended, that the cost had been within the £5000 budget, and that this would also be reduced by income from sponsorship and a contribution from a neighbouring LPC for its' attendees.

It was agreed to review the need for future events at the next meeting, after the PCN sub-committee had assessed the response to the current data collection exercise and the associated request for Expressions of Interest in becoming PCN Pharmacy Leads.

(b) Community Pharmacist Consultation Service

Discussion took place about the new CPCS Advanced Service which had commenced on 29th October 2019. JB presented summary activity data about the uptake of the service so far. Members shared, anecdotally, their experiences of providing the service to date. JB noted these and undertook to raise the problems identified with the appropriate organisations. It was agreed to keep the development of the service under review for the foreseeable future.

(c) Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS)

Reminding members about previous discussions about how best to support contractors with the Healthy Living Pharmacy scheme, JB said that the Committee now needed to decide on future activities. A lengthy discussion ensued.

The Committee considered how best to achieve a fair and equitable use of resources to balance the needs of those contractors who had previously benefitted from LPC support and now required to self-accredit themselves again or would do so in the near future, those who had not previously taken advantage of the support that the LPC had provided, whether or not they had claimed QPS points, and new contractors, primarily those who had acquired their pharmacies more recently.

SD made the point that it is not yet entirely certain that the requirement to be an HLP will actually be in the Essential Services element of the new CPCF funding agreement and the associated Regulations. He felt that, until this is definite, any decision on further LPC support would be premature. Despite acknowledging this, other members felt that preparations should be made to support contractors. The roles of Ms. M. Dyoss, HLP specialist, and the LPC's Service Development Officers were discussed. It was felt that it would be helpful to commission Ms. Dyoss to brief the SDOs fully about the HLP scheme so that they could support contractors in the future.

On balance, it was felt that the new LPC internal support arrangements for contractors should be limited to those who had not previously benefitted by completing the requirements to become an HLP with LPC support, including new contractors, and that others should be advised about taking any necessary action themselves, from a source of their choice, at their own expense. It was agreed to write to contractors to inform them about the Committee's policy about eligibility criteria and the various sources of support available to them (including any remaining HLP Zone boards and the box files that had been purchased originally by NHSE and held by the LPC).

(d) Public Health Campaigns

A brief discussion took place about the recent Stoptober campaign and the current “Help Us Help You- Stay Well for Winter” campaign. 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. KB and VM supplemented this report and noted several minor amendments identified by members. JB also reported on the PCN session at the recent contractor briefing event on Sunday, 10th November 2019, which he felt had been helpful to those contractors who had attended and to the LPC’s work.

A discussion ensued. It was agreed that, once identified, the local PCN Pharmacy Leads would probably require training and support with regard to negotiating and influencing “soft skills” and that a specific evening session might be needed to brief these contractors more fully.

SD was keen to ensure that the LPC has open, transparent and robust arrangements for the identification and selection of the Pharmacy PCN Leads. The Committee fully agreed with this. At this stage, it was felt to be very important to give those contractors who had not yet responded about their preferred primary PCN or express an interest in becoming a Pharmacy PCN Lead a final opportunity to do so. It was agreed that this should be done through a hardcopy mailing to those contractors, other than CCA members whose companies should continue to deal with this. It was agreed to analyse all of the responses at the next meeting, prior to which the PCN sub-committee should meet to discuss these various matters further.

10. PSNC MATTERS

(a) Independent Review of Representation and Support for Contractors

JB reported that, following a discussion at the Annual Conference of LPCs, held on 25th September 2019, work was taking place, led by PSNC, to develop a process for conducting an independent national review of arrangements for representation and support for contractors. He said that he would keep members informed of developments. 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 reported that he was in the process of arranging a meeting with SIAS colleagues. DGH reported that the operational problems were continuing and emphasised the need for an SLA.

JB said that there was nothing new to report with regard to the Birmingham services.

12. SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

JB informed members that colleagues from Umbrella would be attending the next meeting to brief the Committee about various aspects of the Sexual Health Services in Birmingham.

13. SMOKING CESSATION SERVICES

TW informed members that there would be an E-cigs briefing evening for Birmingham contractors on 3rd December 2019.

JB reported that he was in the process of arranging a meeting with Solihull MBC colleagues to continue to discuss the development of the services there.

14. LPC CHAIRS AND SECRETARIES GROUP (CPWM)

TW reported on matters that had been discussed at the latest meeting of the LPC Chairs and Secretaries Group (CPWM) that had taken place on 12th November 2019. Members noted this report. A brief discussion ensued.

15. CHS Ltd

LD declared his interest in this matter, as a Director of CHS Ltd, and took no part in the discussion of this item.

Reminding members about previous discussions with regard to the repayment of loans made by all of the local LPCs to CHS Ltd, JB briefed them on the outcome of the latest meeting of the Scrutiny and Oversight Committee, held on 12th November 2019. He reported that the Committee had considered carefully the advice that had been received from Thursfields Solicitors about the options available to LPCs to address the problems of the loan repayment schedule. He reminded members what the options involved. He said that the LPC's preferred option, from the range set out by the solicitors, Option 1, was shared by three other LPCs but that the majority, seven, had preferred Option 2.

After a brief discussion, members accepted that the Scrutiny and Oversight Committee's decision to approve the majority view was the agreed way forward. They noted that, in practical terms, this has little consequence for the LPCs until 2026/27 in any event.

16. NHS ENGLAND MATTERS

(a) TCAM project

JB reported that work was continuing locally to develop the TCAM project. Members noted this.

17. CCG MATTERS

(a) MOCH project

JB reported on the MOCH project. HE supplemented this in respect of the Boots UK pharmacy that is participating in it. 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

There was nothing dealt with under this heading.

19. SUB-COMMITTEES

It was agreed that none of the sub-committees needed to meet on this occasion.

