



MINUTES OF CHESHIRE LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
13th SEPTEMBER 2023 HELD AT THE FOX AND HOUNDS, SPROSTON

Present

Fionnuala Stott, Phil Cooke, Amy Thompson, Andy Riley, Harinder Notay, Fionnuala Kidd, Jill Umpleby, Jane Smellie, Mark Simpson, Helen Counsell and Cahir Mullan.

Sandie McBennett – Administrator

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Stephen Halpin were accepted.

2. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

No new conflicts of interest were noted.

3. Minutes of the Meeting on 4th July 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th July 2023 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising:

1. One off donation - complete.
2. Presentation circulated – complete.
3. Opera episode to remain on action list.
Action: CM to re-send details to FS.
4. AT to contact Macc Hospital – complete.
5. ALL to contact GP practices – complete.
6. HC to make a list of practices in Chester – outstanding.
7. Links to neighbouring LOCs – outstanding.
8. FK to add participating practices to websites – complete.
9. Contact ECLO – complete.

4. Chair's Report

Work had been completed on the Primary Care Strategy Document; FS had suggested that the LOC would want to contribute to the document.

The Primary Care Forum was developed to give a platform to comment into the ICB, made up of two optometry representatives, dental, pharmacy, GPs, LMC and PCN Directors from Primary Care Networks and a Primary Care rep who then held a role on the Primary Care Board; from that forum, both a GP and a non GP had been nominated from Primary Care. The Primary Care Forum was funded by the ICB; this funding had now been withdrawn. FS would remain as one of the representatives, together with Bob Wilkes. A new group would be formed, however, the make up would be decided in future. All optometry sector bodies would come together to agree information to upload to this forum.

The questions to the ICB would be:

1. Would the ICB continue to fund? Or should representatives be paid by the organisation being represented?
2. Administrative support funding would be requested.

Cheshire LOC would need to be strategic in the future and consider what information should be uploaded to the Primary Care Group, what issues are the issues at the top of CLOC agenda.

Action: Add to LOC agenda – items to be considered for the System Primary Care Committee.

The committee agreed to fund a representative to attend the forum pro rata.

As soon as the structure of the new format forum was decided, FS would report back to the committee.

5. Treasurer's Report

Report received.

PC reported the balance at bank was c. £55k, of which £21k was AF/BP funding which would be discussed later in the agenda. The remaining balance was £34k. The KYC process with Barclays was ongoing. The donation of £1000 had been paid to The Eyecare Trust.

Fionnuala Stott would take the funded place from LOCSU to attend the NOC (13/14th Nov) and Amy Thompson and Jill Umpleby would attend from the LOC, funded from Cheshire LOC. Fionnuala Kidd would attend also, although funded by LOCSU in her Clinical Lead capacity.

Action: PC to chase Barclays Bank re contact with FS.

6. Website

AT reported a meeting had been held to confirm referral guidelines. The information had been forwarded to HN to be collated into a flow chart. Work was ongoing and another meeting would be held.

Action: Send the draft flowcharts on referral guidance to all committee for feedback.

7. Digital

The Accelerator Bid had a new project lead, Sarah Lever. The bid was about advice and guidance and single point of access.

8. Secretary's Report

All reports included in other agenda items.

9. Glaucoma/OSCE

10. CPD

AT confirmed that Macclesfield Hospital had agreed to hold a Cataract CPD lecture on 31st October 2023.

OSCE date planned by Sefton LOC had changed. Expressions of interest had been received. When the date was re-arranged these Optoms would be put forward.

Action: SMB to check how many wished to complete the OSCE and if there would potentially be more if the date changed further ahead.

A list had been obtained from K Liu of all those who could be OSCE Examiners.

FS updated on the application for Workforce Upskilling funding; it would be reviewed again on 2nd October. Peer discussion events for IP qualified Optoms had been factored into the bid.

Action: MS and JS to review the IP Leadership Network document to inform the business case for an IP Network across Cheshire and Mersey.

It was important to understand if the practices across the patch would want to deliver the higher level qualification services.

Upcoming CPD Events:

25th September – Glaucoma - provided by Nuffield Health

19th October – Leighton - OCT

31st October – Macclesfield Hospital – Cataract

9th November – Wellbeing - by Inspiring Success

11. Leighton GRR Discharges

Recent discharges had been reviewed and discussed with Leighton.

12. GOS CPD Grants

FS reported CPD payments were for optoms completing GOS eye tests. Optoms working in special schools, outside of GOS but still providing eye tests would still need to apply for CPD points.

The Committee agreed that optoms delivering services to vulnerable groups (e.g. special schools) should be able to claim CPD points.

13. LOCSU

Fionnuala Kidd reported from LOCSU.

- Feedback received from the profession asked for more transparency.
- Some feedback reported receiving too many emails.
- The NOC would give more opportunities for networking and peer engagement.
- Attendees would have the opportunity to choose workshops and workstreams most pertinent to themselves.

In 2022, the NOC provided a Wellbeing workshop, this would be reviewed again by Cheshire LOC.

Action: JU to review information from the Wellbeing Workshop delivered at the NOC in 2022.

14. AF/BP

The funding (£21k) received by Cheshire LOC for the AF/BP would fund a short (6 weeks) pilot from 31st October and mid-December, across the Cheshire and Mersey areas. There would be 9 places plus 1 homeless setting. In Cheshire the focus would be in Crewe, Ellesmere Port and East Cheshire. Jill Umpleby would lead on the pilot, aided by Fionnuala Stott and Fionnuala Kidd.

15. AOB

Any items for the Newsletter should be forwarded to AT. The Newsletter would be circulated by Mailchimp in October.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Cheshire LOC would be held on:

Thursday 29th November 2023 at 6.00pm at the Fox and Hounds, Sproston

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Actions

Item 5 July	CM to email FS with details of the episode management on Opera. CM to re-send details to FS.	CM
Item 5 July	HC to make a list of practices in Chester that would benefit from a presentation.	HC
Item 3	Add to LOC agenda – items to be considered for the System Primary Care Committee.	SMB
Item 7 July	AT/SMB to add links to neighbouring LOCs to the website for information.	AT/SMB
Item 5	PC to chase Barclays Bank re contact with FS.	PC
Item 6	Send the draft flowcharts on referral guidance to all committee for feedback.	HN
Item 11	SMB to check how many wished to complete the OSCE and if there would potentially be more if the date changed further ahead.	SMB
Item 11	MS and JS to review the IP Leadership Network document to inform the business case for an IP Network across Cheshire and Mersey.	MS/JS
Item 14	JU to review information from the Wellbeing Workshop delivered at the NOC in 2022.	JU