

***Minutes for the Dudley LOC Committee Meeting held at 6.30p.m. on Tuesday 16th July 2024***

**Held as a Zoom Meeting**

**Committee in Attendance**

Shamina Asif (Chair) Paul Sidhu (Secretary), Mark Tuffin (Treasurer), Charles Barlow, Shazad Mahmood, Ameerah Riaz Ahmed, Qadar Baz, Hussnan Ejaz, Gurdeep, Amir Afzal, Nicky Ferguson.

Also in attendance – Chandni Sharma

**Dolores Wishart from Dudley Vision Support Service gave an overview of their services for visually impaired adults, prior to the start of the meeting**.

**1. Apologies**

David Wright, Jasheen Mangat, Sonia Tyrrell

**2. Declarations of Interest**

No new Declarations of Interest.

**3. Co-opting of Member(s)**

PS proposed co-opting Sonia Tyrell onto the Committee for a further year. Voted on and carried unanimously.

**4. Election of Officers**

PS asked if any Committee members wished to take over an Officer role. No answers forthcoming.

PS then asked if all Officers were happy to continue in their current role. They all agreed and a vote was held on each:

Shamina Asif – re-elected as Chair

Shazad Mahmood – re-elected as Vice Chair

Paul Sidhu – re-elected as Secretary’s

Mark Tuffin – re-elected as Treasurer

**5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

SA proposed as an accurate record and CB seconded.

**6. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

* Amir following up emails with Mary Bairstow trying to arrange a convenient time for a Zoom meeting to discuss Jigsaw supporting corporate links with Optometry. Amir confirmed a meeting will be taking place within the next week or so. **Mary Bairstow from Jigsaw has organised a walk around Dudley on 28th July and requested some attendance from Optical professionals. PS sent out an email to all the relevant contacts.**
* CB to send out some dates for drop-in session on EeRS, for distribution. Carried Forward **– Covered in CB Report.**
* MT to investigate and chase up outstanding sponsorship monies from the last CPD event. MT to double check but thinks all been paid. **All** paid.
* **11.1 LOC Cloud File Storage**

CB raised the issue with the National Forum who are looking into how they can support LOCs. with these matters.

* Under AOB - Amir proposed holding a Peer Discussion which was IP-relevant with CPD points to aid more Optometrists. SA said this was a good idea and would take it back to the Workforce Development meeting as holding it via Workforce Development would encompass more IP Optoms. CB suggested that it would be a good idea also to organise an IP network at the same time. SA looking into thi**s.**

 **SA has set up a Facebook Group for IP Optometrists and taken this back to the Workforce Development**

**7. GOS Update**

Nothing to report.

**8. CUES Update**

CB was unable to make the last meeting so was sent a brief report from Wasim. An increased tariff has been requested for pre-op Cataract fees. The report also mentioned a new trial being carried out in Manchester by Primary Eyecare of the 111 service which is proving successful and hoping it will be rolled out into other areas. They are also in discussion with BMEC re direct referrals from CUES.

**9. Chairs Business**

Dudley meeting report

As Chair’s of black country, we are regularly meeting Wasim to have regional updates on PES activity.

I helped Charles chase up practices with regards to Eers.

I managed to organise the post- cat launch with John Barry. Randeep did a short talk and we are hoping there will be more referrals to RHH and that simple post-cat assessments will be sent out to optical practices in Dudley.

We have been attending regular ophthalmology meetings – mainly cat referrals to ISP’s are discussed but also ways of encouraging referrals to local hospitals.

I spent considerable amount of time doing the VCD bid on behalf of black country – unfortunately it was not accepted. Hopefully there will be more opportunities in the future and we can look at different models of doing the blood pressure monitoring e.g. combining with dentistry.

I was invited by Mr. Yang to the MOS meeting – there were some good updates around progression within ophthalmology and also a discussion around spamedica helping to train up ophthalmologists as well. It was good for networking and there have been some ophthalmologists that have approached us to talk about diabetic screening training, however CB has pushed this back to IHA as it is in their remit to put on training around referrals for diabetic patients.

I attended a bitesize training session on time management - this was useful.

Workforce development – we had a good turnout at the foreign body workshop, hopefully another planned. We also have a paediatric training session by ABDO that MT has organised in September over 2 days. We will be having grand rounds again at Newmedica later in the year.

Healthy Living – SA expressed concerns about training from public health, ever since Wendy has left. There are 2 practices interested in becoming healthy living and the current 2 practices will need to renew their alcohol training. Michelle Dyoss who public health use to do the training has quoted £750 for the training session. A vote was carried out and there was agreement to fund this training session. SA to organise a training session in September.

**10. Regional Update**

##  CB Report to Dudley LOC – 16th JulyApril 2024

##  Workforce Development Summary

##  • A total number of 54 higher qualifications awards have been paid since January 2023 totalling £47,344.75 • A further £19,298 has been allocated for applicants so far this year

##  • Paediatric Dispensing workshops provided by ABDO are scheduled for 10th and 11th September. The booking portal is open. • The grant applications portal is permanently open – go to the LOC or ROC websites. Grants for 2024 are available to fund 100% of glaucoma certificates and 75% of other certificates. Only new applicants would be eligible, no retrospective claims. Grants for IP of 50% to continue

## . • Further Grand Rounds VR sessions are planned with improved booking processes and priority for those previously waitlisted.

##  • OCT workshops dates to be announced shortly • Paediatric workshops with BMEC will be in the Autumn.

##  • FB workshops planned.

##  • Wolverhampton LOC are leading on a Glaucoma workstream, including PACs plus.

##  • Additional IP Placement opportunities have been identified and are in place for recipients of LOC grants.

##  • Regional Neuro-Ophthalmology training is planned with support from UHB. EeRS Update • Cinpapsis EeRS went live in the Black Country on December 15th

## . • Across the Midlands more than 11,000 referrals have been processed by Cinapsis • All Black Country Hospitals are now live on Cinapsis EeRS..

##  • Dudley practices can “see” Russells Hall and Walsall Hospital. Other hospitals will become available shortly once internal hospital systems are able to safely manage volumes

## . • BMEC has gone live piloting an emergency service - if successful it will be available for all hospitals. (no more waiting on the phone!) • Dudley has 90% of practices singed up to Cinapsis. All remaining practices have been contacted by telephone or face to face to encourage sign up.

## • CPD (supported by the Workforce group) is planned on referrals and use of the Cinapsis system Enhanced Services update I was unable to attend the most recent Contract Review meetings between the LOC, PES and the ICB commissioners. Wasim reports:

##  • Pre-op cataract – in BC, dilation is mandated – requested increased tariff as other areas with mandatory dilation have higher fees, with the option of the same fee but dilation where clinically indicated. The consultants in BC were clear that they wish for it to stay as mandatory dilation and so I have asked the ICB to apply for a higher tariff

## • Primary Eyecare are trialling a new way for 111 to refer into CUES – via email that gets sent to their hub, who will triage and see the patient for a telemedicine appointment. If they require a F2F appt, they will call local practices and get them booked in. Having trialled this in Manchester, 111 have felt more confident in referring eligible patients into the service as they can physically ‘refer’ and activity has increased.

## • Discussions with Mr Ch’ng at BMEC’s ED for referrals into CUES to implement the same pathway • Hopefully the next practice visits with the ICB in Walsall and Wolves will be happening in October HWMROC meeting 25th April

##  • Attended by Waheed Illahi – Head of Optometry Services at BMEC – with agreement to develop more cooperative working between Primary and secondary care optometrists, especially around workforce and service development. An IP support group has been formed as a consequence

##  • Further surveys on the DESP programme will be sent out shortly. National LOC Forum I represent the Midlands on the National LOC forum – next meeting 1st August Matters to be discussed include:

##  • Constitution

## . • PPV

## • LOC support

**11. Hospital Liaison Business**

NF reported that Russells Hall hospital are looking to relieve the backlog of referrals by utilising some private companies potentially. Not sure how far this has progressed. Currently 4,100 follow-ups which has been reduced from over 5,000.

**12. Secretary’s Business**

PS reported he has received an email informing us that LOCSU are setting up a Comms Network which will involve a quarterly meeting which the appropriate LOC committee member will attend. PS asked if anyone would be interested in getting involved. First meeting will be in September. PS to have a chat outside of this meeting with Chandni who offered her assistance with this role.

**ACTION: PS**

**12.1 – Cloud File Storage** – Covered in CB’s report.

**13. CPD Officer’s Business**

A reminder email has been sent out today regarding Kam Balaagan’s upcoming lecture organised by RB to be held on 23rd July. .

**14. Treasurer’s Report**

 MT reported a current balance of approx. £110K split £72.5K EeRS and £35K LOC (after bills).

The Levy reduction request has been actioned.

CB/MT working on EeRS accounts to enable access for both of them.

NOC cost for Dudley LOC attending (requested in previous minutes) – approx. £5.5K.

Annual remuneration review:

There has been a small increase in GOS fees recently – MT put it out for discussion.

PS suggested that our current fees are satisfactory.

CB suggested going forward that all increases are in line with the GOS fees increases

**voted on and carried unanimously.**

CB proposed that the Honoraria be scrapped going forward and Officers bill for the time spent on tasks – **voted on and carried unanimously. Billing to start from end of September.**

MT to send final figures for the new rates to PS.

**ACTION: MT**

 **15. Authorisation to act and email conversations**

The motion from previous meetings was put to the committee (*the committee give continued permission and authority for officers to deal with and make decisions on matters that arise that need urgent attention. When this occurs, wherever possible a discussion by email with the Committee should take place before a decision is made. Whenever possible and reasonable officers should bring all matters that require decisions to the next committee meeting, and decisions will only be made outside meetings where waiting is not a realistic option.)*

Agreed unanimously

**16. Authorisation to act on ROC**

The motion from previous meetings was put to the committee (*The committee to agree to Charles Barlow and Paul Sidhu continuing to represent the LOC at HWMROC, with permission for them to use their judgement when deciding if individual decisions made there amount to minor decisions or major decisions. For decisions they consider minor they are authorised to act on the LOCs behalf. For all decisions they consider major they must seek to have those ratified by the LOC, and they must make this clear to the ROC.)*

Agreed unanimously

**17. A.O.B.**

Wasim is looking for practices to come forward with interesting cases from CUEs to be in an ICB video. Anyone interested please email Wasim directly.

CB – Lisa Cowley – Chief Executive of the Beacon Centre (Low Vision) has been trying to do some work around the social impact of sight loss. Trying to get more visitors through the Beacon Centre please look out for invites.

RNIB having a launch event for their Eyecare Support Pathway in September at the ABDO National Resource Centre. Lisa Cowley attending in place of CB and report back. Event is supported by LOCSU.

**18. Date of Next Meeting**

The next LOC meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th September 2024 – 6.30pm via Zoom. The meeting closed at 8.15pm

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| Action | Action by |
| PS to discuss social media role with Chandi | PS |
| MT to send new remuneration rates to PS | MT |