

MINUTES of the LOC COMMITTEE MEETING

held on 15th October 2014

in the Disraeli Room, Pontlands Park Hotel, Great Baddow, Chelmsford

at 6.30pm

Attendees

Kevin Lewis (KL) Chair	Emma Spofforth (ES) Secretary	Chris Rushen (CR) Vice Chair
Kennedy Rath (KR) Treasurer		Maggie Glover (MG)
Judith Ellis (JE)	Sheila Purser (SP)	Kate Clarke (KC)
Stuart Humfrey (SH)	Nicholas Hagan (NH)	Liz Gillam (LG)
Reshma Patel (RP)	Liz Agrippa (LG)	

In attendance

Lynne Brown (LB) Minutes, Sara Porter (SP) observing Brian Beveridge co-opted.

Abbreviations:

The LOC: Essex LOC

PAG: Patient Advisory Group

EPE: Essex Primary Eyecare (used to be the corporate arm of Essex LOC)

LOCSU: Local Optical Committee Support Unit (comes under umbrella of AOP)

NHS111: NHS facility that will replace NHS Direct i.e. telephone-based acute but non-emergency medical advice

CET: Continuing Education and Training

CCG: Community Commissioning Group

EPIC: Engagement, Partnership, Information, Communication - a 3-year project funded by the Department of Health which supports the aims of UK Vision Strategy

EAT: Essex Area Team

QUIPP: Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention

AQP: Any Qualified Provider (a bidding process the NHS sometimes uses to identify people suitably qualified to provide a service)

NOC: National Optometric Conference (this annual event is a get-together for LOCs)

LPN: Local Professional Network (a multi-disciplinary group of professionals involved in a particular field of public health e.g. optometry)

LEHN: Local Eye Health Network: Local network of professionals that are involved in eyecare e.g. ophthalmologists, social workers, optometrists, CCGs. Currently chaired by Lyn Price.

ABDO: Association of British Dispensing Opticians

GRR: Glaucoma Referral Refinement

QIO: Quality in Optometry

LP: Lyn Price (former LOC Support Officer)

ESO: Enhanced Services Optometrist

OPL: Optical Performers List – maintained by the Area Team – containing the names of all optical Performers and Contractors that practice in a given area.

PEE: Primary Eyecare Essex

PPV: Post Payment Verification (Agencies working on behalf of CCGs visit practices to look at patient records to check on accuracy of GOS claims)

2014/32 Welcome and apologies

Apologies received from Malkiat Singh,

Conflicts of interests declaration: ES Clinical Lead PEE, occasional work for Area Team, AOP Councillor

2014/33 Minutes of last meeting

Agreed and signed by KL.

2014/34 Matter's arising from Action Points from last meeting

Evolutio pilot to save money on GOS: Sara Lingard(Area Team) refused to divulge results.

Medical Director at Broomfield – Mr Porooshani

MG and SP talked to Mid Essex CCG. Meeting also attended by ES and KL.

'Call to Action' – see below

£500 donation sent to Eye Health Week

LV scheme – see below

Diabetic Screening 'At Risk' - invitation went out to practitioners to express interest in new comprehensive Eye Screening Service (photography, grading etc). LOCSU put in bid on behalf of profession but didn't get past first hurdle. Still hasn't been decided.

BB: cheaper (£15 per Px) to employ screeners than optoms (approx £28).

ES: Are Specsavers putting bid in? NH: No, as far as he knew.

2014/35 PEE Report

Delivered by MC.

NE GRR scheme: during first 6/12, 160 Px seen. 36% referred into HES – higher than CCG had hoped but no complaints from hospital about referrals.

Peer Review event in June.

26 referrals from other optoms, 9 from GPs.

Meeting with CCG: ES and MG to talk about referral rate.

Not all Px seen within 14 days.

Some optoms using wrong report forms.

Extending service to 31st October 2015

South Essex Stable Glaucoma & OHT: Meeting took place regarding understanding of requirements and pathway.

Need to clear backlog of up to 2,000 Px.

Looking at £58 fee for optoms + £9 to cover other costs including IT.

6 days of training at HES for participating optoms starting 1st December. Also equipment list has gone out to optoms.

Service spec has come through. Sent to Poonam at LOCSU to form business case.

SH looking into what will be best IT and best value.

Ophthalmologists 'discharge' to optom, then it is up to optom to send back into HES if necessary. 1200 stable Px 'ready to go' who are currently attending HES clinics. Some Px months behind with follow-up appointments. Ophthalmologists want to start 1st Jan.

PEE Directors are looking into IT providers. Considering Webstar and Evolutio as well as company called 'Patients Know Best' (patients have access to their medical notes and self-manage their own care) plus one other company. CR says New Medica have glaucoma software – to send details to SH.

MC thanked everyone in PEE for their hard work.

2014/36 Chairman's Report

Copy of Chair's report to be sent out by e-mail after meeting.

KL attended LEHN meetings as optom, not as Chair of LOC.

Meeting with **South Essex Ophthalmology Clinical Network**: Shared care glaucoma and OHT scheme in Castle Point, Rochford and Southend being discussed.

Recommissioning of GRR scheme gone to CCG Finance Board.

Pilot operating with Evolutio to gather data so the CCG have some numbers when they design new scheme.

Further meeting with Evolutio (Lyn & Peter Price) attended to discuss IT for shared care scheme.

1st meeting with Mid Essex CCG, another in December.

Attended meeting with Sara Lingard regarding Evolutio results of pilot.

Thanks for CET evening.

NOC Conference – 4 attendees from LOC going.

2014/37 Secretary's Report

Thanks for CET event.

Attended Westminster Health forum.

Reports of meetings attended always sent out by e-mail.

NOC sessions will be reported.

2014/38 Treasurer's report

£78k in, £74k out.

CET event self-funding.

Report to be sent out by e-mail.

ES asked if we could afford a Support Officer to do LOC commissioning work. KR thought there were sufficient funds.

2014/39 Update on activity in NE and South Essex

For **NE Essex** see above.

SW scheme fallen off CCG radar so carry on as normal but numbers of Px are decreasing. Not being audited and no governance.

CCG has sent out new instructions for referring.

Will probably join with rest of South Essex when they start new schemes.

Meeting with **Mid Essex CCG** including people from Area Team (Sara Lingard), LOC, Sara Porter, ES and MG but no hospital representative even though Mr Porooshani asked to be involved. Looking to LOC for ideas for new schemes. Simon Klein taking patients from CRS and only referring 5% into HES.

Pilot **Paediatric scheme** operating via **The Practice**. Not sure how they got the work. Another meeting 8th December where it will be suggested optoms take part in Paediatric pilot.

CCGs should share ideas and attend Area Team meetings

NE Schemes: from 1st Nov 2015 it is intended to combine scheme with other services e.g. post-cataract, paediatrics, LV, OHT, GRR refinement and other triage-type services via procurement process and tendering so one Provider undertakes all services and sub-contracts to practitioners who can provide as many services as they wish. Specifications have been worked through but optoms haven't been invited to any meetings. Need someone to help set up and run schemes, one day per week, employed by LOC – discuss fees etc at next meeting.

2014/40 Evolutio

Meeting with Sara Lingard: Statistics related to GOS forms e.g. evidence of benefits, early retests. GOS3 ratio to GOS4 forms, prisms, small frame supplements and tints all being analysed.

Difficult to identify outliers.

Discussed what to do with information. Letters to be sent to outliers asking for explanations. Might result in PPV checks.

LOC might send out letter warning optoms that Area Team is sending letter regarding the outliers and that they can contact LOC if they have problem.

OA has been employed for Essex – 'Rupal' from Cambridge University.

Also need to check for fraudulent activity by patients but Sara Lingard has no idea how she's going to deal with it.

Discussion about spare pairs for children with high Rx who have frequent breakages. Considering spares on NHS so child has them for school but no conclusion reached.

2 months notice to do GOS QiO over Christmas period.

2014/41 CET

Do CET event with AGM

Then one at end of 2015.

Hospital event on paediatrics/orthoptics taking place March or April

2014/42 Update on LV

JE has compiled new list of practitioners

LB to produce new list and SH and EA will place in hospital.

2014/43 Evolutio rejection of referrals

Evolutio will 'bounce' the referral back to practitioner if it is not readable.

Withdrew threat refusing to process 'poor' referrals from 1st September.

2014/44 LEHN membership

LOC representation on the LEHN: MG and NH volunteered.

LP dismissive of Southend orthoptist-led scheme and no invitations to take part in scheme have been sent to hospital.

LP did not organize event for 'Call to Action'.

LP appointed by NHS England. Very little advertising. She has asked for someone to be a deputy and possibly a successor.

BB: hardly any consultant input to LEHN in Essex

BB no longer on LEHN – replaced by Patricia Marshall

2014/45 AOB

W Essex: has invited LOC to meeting. ES to attend. Tim Dulley also wants meeting.

QiO: Contractors have to fill in Level 1 and Level 2 if they do Enhanced Services.

'Call to Action': SP and KC wrote it, ES finished it and it was submitted to LOCSU. Only received input from about 7 Essex practitioners.

Letter from **ACE** seeking our support in the light of a nationwide tender to make electronic GOS payments . KL to ask for details.

We are finalists in **LOCSU poster competition** – winner to be decided at NOC.

NE getting **new ophthalmologist**

Date of next meeting

January 28th 2015 at Pontlands Park

Officers' meeting January 21st 2015

Meeting closed 21.50

Action points

LB to send out Treasurer's & Chairman's reports by e-mail.

LOC might send out letter warning optoms that Area Team is sending letter to outliers and that they can contact LOC if they have problem.

LB to produce new LV practitioner list and SH and EA will place in hospital.

KL to ask for more details regarding letter from ACE

CR to send SH information about New Medica glaucoma scheme software