

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE  
HELD AT  
CHELTENHAM PARK HOTEL  
CHARLTON KINGS  
ON  
16 January 2014**

**PRESENT**

C Gifkins, A Calleja-Tolosa, T Banning, Mrs S Williams, P Badham, D Evans, W Ryan, A Lane, G Barber, Mrs V Chelu-Walmesley

**IN ATTENDANCE**

L Yeates (Chief Officer) Mrs E Beech (Professional Development Officer). Charlotte Shepherd. (Area Account Manager Bayer)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Miss R Myers, M Powis, P Harris, A Bashir,

**01.14. GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PHARMACY CONTRACT.**

Mr Yeates advised that Dr Ruth Wain Assistant Director of Public Health Gloucestershire would be attending the meeting later this morning to review the proposed County Council pharmacy contract and suggested that members take time out from the agenda to identify issues to be discussed.

The Chair advised that the contract was similar to other contracts across the service and the review needed to be constructive. One of the principle costs would be the new contract costs for pharmacies who may need legal advice before signing up for services.

The requirement of DBS for all regulated activity was a cost issue for pharmacies and would need to be considered in service payment reviews.

Issues identified:

- ◆ Assurance about FOI requirements because of activity confidentiality
- ◆ Items for additional requirement need to be reflected in SLA Service Funding
- ◆ Services would be managed by PharmOutcomes
- ◆ Timetable for introduction of the contract and revision of SLAs.

**02.14. CALL TO ACTION.**

Mrs Julie McCann attended for this item.

Call for Action was an NHS England consultation about the future of pharmacy within Primary Care and locally the consultation would be lead by the Area Team. It was important that the LPC worked to engage contractors to encourage engagement and to respond.

Whilst she understood the apathy of another consultation – this was NHS England looking at where pharmacy would sit within Primary Care for the foreseeable future given the need for Primary Care to be restructured if it is to meet the demands made upon it going forward.

Mrs McCann advised that she would be leading the CAT programme as acting Chair of the LPN Pharmacy and would welcome the support of the LPC in creating a response which pharmacies could use and amend as their own response but also in gaining engagement with pharmacies and supporting an evening event to take an understanding of the importance.

She would also be seeking to engage with a range of stakeholders to encourage their response to the consultation document.

Mrs McCann advised that she was working with the three LPCs in the Area and would be creating an executive briefing for engagement of stakeholders and Area Team executive.

Mrs McCann said that she would also like to work with the LPC regarding the destruction of controlled drugs. As the Accountable Officer she was responsible for the policy and had decided to work within the National SOP model and create a network of individuals approved to witness the destruction of controlled drugs, this could be managers in large multiples and others who could be authorised for the role. This proposal was welcomed.

In response to a question from a member for Offsite MURs and telephone MURs Mrs McCann advised that in her experience it was a very hard conversation to have for an offsite MUR – but she was prepared to look at the issue across the three LPCs.

### **03.14.COUNTY COUNCIL CONTRACT.**

Dr Ruth Wain Deputy Director of Public Health attended for this item.

After introductions Dr Wain thanked members for allowing her the opportunity to attend the meeting and discuss the provision of the County Council Contract. Firstly she said that the contract was not what she had hoped would be produced but had been written by the Legal Department and based on the national contract requirements.

The County Council had determined that it was necessary for a contract because the transitional arrangements came to an end in March 2014 and that meant that the Service Level Agreements had to be revised as service specification and that the County Council needed a new contractual framework. Payments had been made on the County Council's behalf by the CCG but arrangements were being made for the Council to pay pharmacies direct.

In responding to questions she agreed that services would be managed my PharmOutcomes going forward.

Dr Wain accepted that the 66 page contract was larger than she had hoped and might cause issues for small pharmacies.

Mrs Beech referred to the Warwickshire County Council contract for pharmacy which Mr Yeates had worked on with the County Council solicitor and questioned whether the Council might consider it as an alternative.

Concern was expressed that the Service Specification were part of the contract and therefore every time there was a change to the service specification then the County Council would require a new contract.

Dr Wain agreed that the timetable for the new contract was the 1 March so that the documentation could be issued to all pharmacies and returned in time for the 1 April 2014.

Members highlighted the need for any amendments for services in relation to Sexual Health, Stop Smoking and Substance misuse would need to be completed with the LPC.

Mr Gifkins thanked Dr Wain for her time and advised that members of the Committee including the Chief Officer were happy to meet with officers of the County Council to discuss revision of the contract.

#### **04.14. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 14 November 2013 held at the Holiday Inn Gloucester, having been circulated were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **05.14. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.**

Mrs Beech advised of changes to her entry remaining members confirmed their declarations.

#### **06.14 TREASURER'S REPORT.**

In the absence of Mr Powis there was no update report.

#### **07.14. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.**

Mr Gifkins advised that he and Mr Lane had attended the Swindon and Wiltshire LPC meeting – many of the issues being discussed were the same as Gloucestershire. They are ahead in the provision of Sexual Health and using the South West Alcohol Screening programme.

It had been agreed that the three LPCs would continue to work together in meetings with the Area Team with regular joint LPC and AT meetings.

Mrs Castle and Mr Jephson of Swindon and Wiltshire LPC had been invited to attend the HLP Launch.

GCCG were looking at evidence for a clinical MUR at level 3 as a pilot.

Mr Gifkins reported that he and Mr Yeates had met with Dr Buckley and Mark Gregory regarding Specials. At the previous meeting Dr Buckley had been supportive of the LPC proposal but at this meeting they were informed that there was no money for a pilot and it had been decided to look at alternative ways of managing the issue.

#### **08.14 CHIEF OFFICERS REPORT.**

Mr Yeates referred to his report and highlighted the election process and the overall continued improvement in MUR provision.

Mr Yeates referred to the election process currently being undertaken, as a result of analysing the number of pharmacies there was an increase in the number of AIMp seats to 3 and corresponding decrease in independent seats from 4 to 3. CCA remained at 7 seats.

Mr Yeates advised that he had notified CCA and AIMp of the nomination numbers and received notice that full nominations would be made.

Finally Mr Yeates advised that he planned to hold the first meeting of the 2014 committee in Shadow form on the afternoon of the next meeting i.e. 13 March 2014 in order that officers and leads could be appointed so that the committee could continue to function between the 1 April and the May 2014 meeting.

Mrs Williams referred to a URMS incident which had occurred over the Christmas, she outlined the information she had obtained from the pharmacist in relation to the report she had received. Members were agreed that the incident was unfortunate but that the pharmacist had acted within his professional opinion and therefore his actions were appropriate.

It was agreed that Mrs Williams prepare a response to the CCG.

#### **09.14. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS REPORT.**

Mrs Beech referred to her report detailing the progress of the HLP programme and detailed the launch event which would take place on 31 January 2014.

Mrs Beech referred to the ECH Training programme for the coming months which was now managed by Care Services. Whilst fully supporting the EHC programme members questioned why the training continued to be day time when in other areas it had been agreed that CPPE EHC and Safeguarding were appropriate training. Mrs Beech said that whilst that was acceptable in some areas the evidence from recent assessment training was that many pharmacists did not have the appropriate discussion skills to provide the service and hence the local requirement.

Members were agreed that if the day time requirement continued then there had to be recognition of the pharmacy cost in the SLA funding.

Members agreed that there should be a contractor meeting on the 27 March 2014 to advise on PharmOutcomes.

#### **10.14. SLA REVIEW**

Members broke into small groups to review the current SLAs and identify changes which should be discussed before the re-issue.

Where possible PharmOutcomes should be used to record activity and provide data to commissioners and the LPC. It would also provide the monthly invoices.

URMS – there was a need to identify the pharmacies providing the service and keep up to date.

NDS – should be seen as part of the HLP programme and updated.

Sexual Health – being revised by W Ryan, A Calleja-Tolosa and Mrs E Beech

Palliative Care – SLA OK. Mr Yeates advised that in many areas this programme was being de-commissioned by the Area Team and not re-commissioned by CCGs.

Stop Smoking – there were issues with the National Template and the fee structure did not incentivise contractors. There was also a need for services to be advertised by the commissioners. It was also noted that there were no referrals from commissioners to pharmacies

Sharps - the fee structure no longer covered pharmacy costs and there was a need for the re-introduction of Hep B vaccination fees which made the service totally unviable. Mr Yeates advise that he would seek to notify the Council Lead and see whether a meeting could be arranged.

Supervised services issues of prescribing which needed to be discussed and also there was a need to identify who was providing the services. It was agreed that Mr Gifkins and Barber arrange to meet with Mr S O'Neil to discuss the issues.

#### **11.14. PSNC REPORT.**

Mr Lane advised that at the PSNC meeting earlier this week it had been agreed to no longer push for a revised 2012 and 2013 settlement given the national financial pressures and the view that any discussions were unlikely to succeed in increasing the current funding. Discussions were continuing in relation to claw-back, the margin survey and CAT M.

#### **12.14. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK.**

The Chairman referred to committee reports which showed that MUR provision continued to rise. The NMS programme had been national extended until 31 March 2014. The outcome of the SLA review had to be taken forward as appropriate.

#### **13.14. CALL TO ACTION.**

Referring to Mrs McCann's visit to the committee this morning Mr Yeates asked how the committee should take forward the CTA programme locally. Members agreed that details of CTA should be posted on the website including a questionnaire which could provide information back to the LPC. Additionally members would support the Area Team in holding a CAT event to engage with contractors and pharmacists.

#### **14.14. DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS.**

Members noted the schedule of meetings for 2014.

13 March 2014. 8 May 2014. 10 July 2014. 11 September 2014. 13 November 2014.