

PSNC Minutes

for the meeting held on 12th & 13th January 2016

at Radisson Edwardian Grafton, 130 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 5AY

Present: David Broome, Christine Burbage, Mark Burdon, Peter Cattee, Mark Collins, Ian Cubbin, Marc Donovan, David Evans, Samantha Fisher, Mark Griffiths, David Hamilton, Mike Hewitson, Ian Hunter, Tricia Kennerley, Clare Kerr, Andrew Lane, Margaret MacRury, Rajesh Morjaria, Garry Myers, Bharat Patel, Indrajit Patel, Kirit Patel, Prakash Patel, Umesh Patel, Janice Perkins, Adrian Price, Rupen Sedani, Anil Sharma, Faisal Tuddy, Gary Warner

In the Chair: Sir Mike Pitt

In Attendance: Sue Sharpe, Alastair Buxton, Harpreet Chana, Shiné Daley, Mike Dent, Russell Goodway, Mike King, Steve Lutener, Zoe Smeaton

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Fulford.

2. Minutes of the last meeting of PSNC

The minutes of the PSNC meeting held on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October 2015 were approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on various meetings he attended over the past couple of months and commented on the letter about community pharmacy in 2016/17 and beyond, believing it was clear that a lot of consideration had been given about the savings that have to be made.

There will be an emergency meeting for the LPC Chairs and Chief Officers on Wednesday 20th January and it was noted that the proposals that comes out of the Committee meeting will feed into that meeting.

In view of the seriousness of the conversations over the two days, the Chairman touched on the code of conduct and also reminded the Committee about reading through the governance papers that are sent out before each meeting. The Committee make their decisions on behalf of the general body of contractors and it is important to leave aside personal interest. Any conflict of interest must be declared and the confidentiality of the papers should be respected.

The Chairman stressed the importance of having a mandate, so that the Committee can be confident on where it stands.

ACTION

5. Community Pharmacy in 2016/17 and beyond

Following a presentation from the Chief Executive, the Committee considered a number of elements from the letter dated 17th December 2015.

7. Incorporation

The lawyers had responded with draft Articles which addressed all the comments made by PSNC in November 2015. There were a small number of comments from Steve Lutener included in the draft Articles which were considered by the Committee. The Rules were also proposed to be amended, although it was recognised that these could be amended at any time (subject to a resolution of the Directors). The facility for LPCs to appoint a proxy to represent a number of places at conference was discussed, and agreed, and Review and Audit Panel would reflect on whether further change is needed (there would be time to amend these at the March 2016 meeting of PSNC).

The Chairman asked for a vote on proceeding to incorporation as set out in the papers, and the Committee were unanimous in agreeing this proposal.

8. PSNC Communications 2016

Zoe Smeaton provided a summary on the work the team will be doing.

It was noted that a large part of the work in 2016 will be around the campaign in response to the Government's plans for pharmacy once that is decided. Communication with contractors and LPCs will be important at a time like this, to engage them in the campaign and in responding to likely changes. The plans cover these including reviews and redesigns of the LPC Members and funding pages of the website.

Press work is ongoing, responding to queries and any proactive work will be linked to what is coming out regarding the campaign.

9. EPS and community pharmacy IT

HSCIC and NHS England were due to attend the PSNC meeting to discuss progress with EPS and the move to phase 4, however it was agreed that there were more urgent matters that needed to be addressed during this time.

Alastair Buxton proposed forming a limited duration IT working group to support the office on policy matters such as EPS, Summary Care Records and the rollout of NHS email 2. It was noted that most of the work could be done by email and with short meetings at the existing Committee meetings. Working group members may also be invited to attend some of the regular meetings with NHS England and HSCIC. David Broome, David Evans, Margaret MacRury and Andrew Lane had expressed interest in joining the group.

Reassurance was provided that the working group would focus on IT policy matters that were the responsibility of PSNC and the proposed membership included people who were also involved in Pharmacy Voice's IT group, so synergies could be exploited and duplication of effort avoided. The Committee took a vote and approved the proposal to form an IT working group.

Alastair Buxton provided an update on the EPS costing and benefits work which is being undertaken with NHS England, NHS Employers and HSCIC. He thanked the PSNC nominees to the project's working group (Margaret MacRury, Mark Colling and Roger Nichols(Boots)) and Mike Dent for their efforts in supporting this work. A lot of work and discussions with PwC (the contractors for the project) has focussed on the design of the pharmacy sampling methodology, data collection methods and planning for implementation of the active phase. Once pharmacies are selected to take part in the work, PSNC will help PwC to contact the pharmacies for participation in the project. A survey will also be issued which will seek views from all contractors on their experience with using EPS.

RATIFICATION

10. Resource Development & Finance subcommittee

The key points of the discussion at the subcommittee meeting were presented by Mark Burdon. The following recommendations were approved by the Committee:

- That no increase in levies for 2016/17 be sought.

The Chairman commented on Steve Lutener's plans to retire and reported that Gordon Hockey will be replacing Steve. Mr Hockey will be starting in April to spend a few months with Steve to get settled into the role.

11. LPC & Implementation Support subcommittee

The key points of the discussion at the subcommittee meeting were presented by Christine Burbage. The following recommendations were approved by the Committee:

- The three PSNC Directors of the National Provider Company should include one independent contractor and one multiple contractor who both sit on PSNC and one LPC member not on PSNC, but with Provider Company experience. The 3 Directors recommended are Anil Sharma, Adrian Price and Liz Colling.

12. Funding & Contract subcommittee

The key points of the discussion at the subcommittee meeting were presented by Peter Cattee. The following recommendations were approved by the Committee:

- The 2nd option should be used for the addition of unlicensed solid dosage forms into the Tariff (i.e. Part VIIC in addition to Part VIIIA and B); and
- DND status should not be allowed for Category M items, unless the item fulfils group criteria, e.g. cold storage/CD.

13. Service Development subcommittee

The key points of the discussion at the subcommittee meeting were presented by Gary Warner.

14. Health Policy and Regulations subcommittee

The key points of discussion at the subcommittee meeting were presented by Ian Cubbin. The following recommendation was approved by the Committee:

- Amendment of the terms of reference of the Rural Working Group as set out in the agenda, but amended so that the Chairman of the subcommittee plus the Director of Regulation and Support would agree the appointments nominated by the LPCs.

REPORT

15. Changes in Pharmacy

The information in the agenda was noted.

16. Update on the Health and Care Landscape

The information in the agenda was noted. Mark Collins thanked the team for the information.

17. Future PSNC Meeting

The dates for the PSNC meeting are 8th & 9th March 2016 at Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TA.

It was agreed to host another PSNC meeting on 8th February 2016 at Radisson Edwardian Grafton, 130 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1T 5AY.

18. Any Other Business

None.