

PSNC Minutes

For the meeting held on 12th & 13th July 2016

at The Athenaeum, Church Alley, Liverpool, L1 3DD

Present: David Broome, Christine Burbage, Mark Burdon, Peter Cattee, Mark Collins, Ian Cubbin, Marc Donovan, David Evans, Samantha Fisher, Peter Fulford, Mark Griffiths, Clare Kerr, Sunil Kochhar, Andrew Lane, Margaret MacRury, Garry Myers, Bharat Patel, Indrajit Patel, Kirit Patel, Prakash Patel, Umesh Patel, Janice Perkins, Adrian Price, Rupen Sedani, Anil Sharma and Gary Warner

Chairman: Sir Mike Pitt

In Attendance: Sue Sharpe, Alastair Buxton, Harpreet Chana, Shiné Daley, Mike Dent, Gordon Hockey, Mike King, Zoe Smeaton, Rosie Taylor

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from David Hamilton, Mike Hewitson, Tricia Kennerley, Rajesh Morjaria, Adrian Price (Wednesday only) and Faisal Tuddy.

2. Minutes of the last meeting of PSNC

The minutes of the PSNC meeting held on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th May 2016 were approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman commented on the impact the Brexit vote, change of Prime Minister, the Cabinet reshuffle and the Labour Party turmoil was having and noted that it could create opportunities for PSNC. The Chairman also noted Alistair Burt's announcement that he will resign in September.

The Chairman talked about the positive collaboration on the campaign between the national pharmacy bodies. The NPA patient petition has reached 2.2 million signatures and it is clear that we have support from GPs, MPs and the All-Party Parliamentary Group on pharmacy. Good proposals have been put forward to the Government however there is a feeling that these have bounced off. The Chairman raised some questions on why the Government isn't listening and suggested that this could be a good time to review our relationship with the NHS and gain an understanding of what they want and what we can offer.

The Chairman referred to the special PSNC meeting that took place on 6th June and commented that it was his view that we should always seek to operate on a consensus basis. We deal with tough issues and we must ensure we provide ourselves with enough time to discuss matters in order to avoid getting into difficulties.

Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive also commented on Alistair Burt's announcement of his resignation.

All the timescales related to the 17th December letter, including the length of the extension to the DH/NHS England consultation period following our request in February, were based on making an announcement at the end of June/ beginning July. It seems more likely now that issues will be going to the new DH ministerial team and it is unlikely that we will get an announcement before September/ October.

The campaign will continue through the summer. The Communications team and the Campaign Steering Group will be working together to align messages. Other events linked to the campaign are coming up, including round table events at the Party Conferences and the Royal College of General Practitioners conference.

It was agreed that it is essential to keep up momentum and it is important that we work together across the sector. Any short term decisions must be guided by what we may face in future.

The key issue for PSNC is that we must focus on those we represent and their needs for a sustainable future. We must confront perceptions and address any negative ones. Issues that are not for us, for example market manipulation, must be firmly parked elsewhere; we cannot be tainted by them. We must prove the social value of pharmacy and build on it.

The Chief Executive reported that PwC have gone above and beyond a narrow look at pharmacy's value, looking at key aspects of community pharmacy and commented that the report will be a really rich source of information which we must use effectively.

5. Social value of pharmacy – PwC report

Alastair Buxton gave an update to the Committee on the PwC work to assess the social value of pharmacy. The final report will be available by the end of July. PwC have been invited to attend the PSNC meeting in October to run through the report with the Committee and to discuss other related work that could potentially be undertaken.

ACTION

6. Future Funding distribution

Table discussions were held on potential future funding distribution and comments from these were fed back to the full committee.

RATIFICATION

7. Meeting of Review and Audit Panel

Umesh Patel reported on the meeting the group had held the previous night and felt that in future, it would be better if the Committee Members made sure that they worked in mixed groups for any group discussions. The Committee is here for contractors during this difficult time and it is important that we show our camaraderie together.

8. 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:

- Expenditure of £30K on evaluating MURs to provide support for our input into the Clinical Services review.
- The report proposed at item 5a Appendix B in the agenda to be commissioned.

Mark Burdon informed the Committee that the office had enlisted help from advisors with regard to the rent review, who confirmed that we should expect the rent to go up steeply due to the development of the King's Cross area. The office is looking at plans for investment in an office property and will speak to advisors to see what we can get with the available funding. An update on this work will be provided in due course.

9. Health Policy and Regulations subcommittee

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

- A proposal to DH that they should extend the requirements for the reissue of PNAs to every 5 years;
- Include in the FMD UK MVO consultation response that the impact, if any, of the UK Brexit vote to leave the EU should be considered, because the Government might want to reduce the scope and, therefore, cost of implementation; and
- PSNC should write to NHS England, to discuss the problems with service delivery by Capita (Primary Care Support England), indicating that this is unacceptable and seeking compensation for contractors.

10. LPC & Implementation Support subcommittee

The key points of the discussion at the subcommittee meeting were presented by Christine Burbage.

There was positive feedback on the Leadership Academy and the Subcommittee will look at what we can do next year. The Chairman reassured the Committee that they will keep in touch with people who went through the Leadership Academy and will get feedback from LPCs.

The subcommittee discussed the format of the 2016 LPC Conference. In recent years PSNC regions have been asked to submit topics for discussion, however this year LIS felt that due to the current uncertainty, discussions should reflect the environment at the time of the meeting, so a more flexible approach and agenda may be needed.

The subcommittee also discussed proxy voting at the LPC Conference. LIS felt that proxy voting should be allowed on the basis that where an LPC sends fewer delegates than the maximum allowed, each delegate attending may have one proxy vote up to the maximum total number of votes allowed for a particular LPC based on the number of contractors it represents.

LPCs would be consulted on the proposals and other suggestions invited with the resulting draft agenda sent to LPCs for further feedback.

11. Funding & Contract subcommittee

The key points of the discussion at the subcommittee meeting were presented by Peter Cattee.

12. Service Development subcommittee

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

It was noted that the development of the care plan service would also reflect the services that community pharmacists could provide to people living in their own homes and in care homes.

REPORT

13. The campaign for community pharmacy

The information in the agenda was noted.

14. Update on the Health and Care Landscape

The information in the agenda was noted. The services team were complimented on the quality of work that was produced.

15. Next PSNC Meeting

The dates for the PSNC meeting are Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th October 2016 at Harte and Garter Hotel, 31A High Street, Windsor, SL4 1PQ.