

**Worcestershire
LMC
Limited**

Working in Partnership to Support General Practice

**Minutes of the Worcestershire LMC Meeting
Held on**

Thursday 28th July 2022

7pm at The Worcester Room, The Swan, Old Road, Whittington, Worcestershire.

Present: David Herold (Chair), Gillian Farmer (Secretary), Ian Haines, Matthew Davis, Leah Jones, James Rankin, Meeraj Shah, Fiona Martin, James Rayner, David Pryke, Rebekah Twomey, Ravi Khehar, Helen Garfield.

Guests: Sarah Matthews (GPC)

- 1. Apologies:** Paul Bunyan, Seb Morton, Emma Penny, Kevin Hollier, Tracey Summers
- 2. Approve minutes and review actions:** The minutes were reviewed by the Chairman; it was agreed that this was a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Actions reviewed by the Secretary

- Lab Tests – the Secretary raised the issue of add on tests with George Henry (CCG). He stated that they could accept routine add on tests up to 4 days after submission. The email system is working well and people were encouraged to use this. If problems persist advise the Secretary and she will escalate with CCG.
- Teledermatology – As a result of the feedback received from members the Secretary informed the CCG/ICS that the LMC representatives choose not to engage with the Teledermatology service at the current time. The reasons for this were discussed at the previous meeting.
- Registrar Representation on the committee was discussed. The Chairman stated that Esien was organising an election process with the registrars. It was stated that there was already a very proactive registrar that had put their name forward in the south. The Chairman confirmed that it was the intention to have a representative in the South and the North of the County.

3. Matters Arising

- **Ambulance Delays Update**
- There have been a lot of reports Nationally of delays resulting in patient harm

- The Secretary raised this issue on the LMC list server and received several responses. Some of the significant responses were discussed.
- Farah Jameel (BMA/GPC) also responded and said that they would take the issues away to action and report back at a later stage.
- There has been a statement issued by Professor Dame Carrie MacEwen, Acting Chair of the GMC. This was included with the agenda.
- Secretary shared local Worcestershire cases with Will Taylor (CMO/ICB)
- Secretary attended meeting with Mary Gay (Quality Lead ICS).
- Deadline of 1st September in place for the Trust to resolve the issues.
- Secretary stated that the issues had been escalated locally and NHSE was addressing the local situation..
- Secretary advised on the changes to the NHS 111 service.
- Discussion took place on discharge formats effecting ambulance service

3.2 Healthwatch Panel

- The Secretary reported back on the recent meeting she attended where alongside members of the ICB she answered questions put forward by patient's representatives.

3.3 Accelerated access to patient records.

- The secretary advised that after delays a new launch date of the 1st November 2022 has been set. There are still a lot of safeguarding issues surrounding this and unresolved issues that need to be urgently addressed.
- Secretary clarified that this was concerning patients accessing their notes through NHS app.
- Discussion took place around the impact this will have on practices and how it is likely to work

4.0 GPC Update by Sarah Matthews

- The July meeting was the first of a new session. The Executive Committee has reconvened with a lot of new members.
- They are changing the way that they appoint people to the committee. People are being asked to apply, any GP can apply even if you are not a BMA member. There will then be an election process before the next meeting.
- There Chair gave an update on what progress had been made regarding strategy and negotiations around the 2024 contract.
- They looked at the pressures on General Practice. In particular the 4% pay rise and escalating energy costs. There were strong feelings in the room regarding how practices would cope with nothing being put in to support them
- There has been a significant increase in junior members on the BMA council and this has resulted in a shift in mood within the GPC
- A recent motion was leaked in the media regarding the GPC's rejection of the recent pay award.
- SM fed back to the committee that there appears to be a differing view of what actions should be taken in different parts of the country
- Farah Jameel sees GPC England representing everyone throughout General Practice and welcomes a broader membership
- The round table discussions continue to be productive
- There is a new speaker who chaired the meeting.

5.1 Health & Care Trust

- **Adult ADHD** - Secretary reported on the ongoing problems with the current system. The service can not cope with current levels of demand. This is now being dealt with by the Mental Health Leadership team who are discussing issues with the CCG and looking at how they can improve the service.
A discussion took place about the problems in referring patients.
- Secretary met with John Devapriam the Medical Director. They are reviewing their systems and struggling with workforce issues

5.2 Integrated Care System

The Chair provided an update on the ICS:

- The new ICB Board has been created. Nikki Burger is the Worcestershire rep and Nigel Fraser is the Herefordshire rep. There is a good Primary Care representation on the board.
- Secretary went through the appendix document on the Fuller Stocktake Report NHSE have stated that they will look at how this adapts locally. Further discussions took place on how this will be implemented and funded

5.3 Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust

- Secretary updated the room on her meeting with Mary Gay and Will Taylor
- Discussion took place on Lab results requested by consultants going to GP's
- Secretary stated that there was consideration being given to Phlebotomy being done in diagnostic hubs

5.4 NHS England

- Secretary updated on discussions at the Regional NHS meeting
- SAS complaints were discussed
- An updated Enhanced Services specification was discussed

5.5 Public Health

No update

5.6 Education

- FM reported there was a low take up with only 14 trainees signing up this year.
- A discussion took place on how we could do more to encourage trainees into General Practice.

5.7 People's Board

- No update. Report to follow.
- Secretary said that Hollie had not been replaced as workforce lead as yet,
- Discussion took place around whether this format was likely to change in the future

5.8 EDI

- MS encouraged people to attend the GP recruitment event on the 29th September at the Bank House Hotel.
- Discussion took place on how we can encourage GP's to move into the area

5.9 Estates

- MD updated the room on the lack of funding available for Estates within Worcestershire.
- Discussion took place about the impact of no funding on practices
- Practices need to be prepared with plans in place for when funding is available

5.10 Dispensing

- JR gave feedback on his meeting with Fiona Lowe
- There are supply chain issues that are affecting dispensing practices and local pharmacies
- Staffing issues within community pharmacies

5.11 OOH/NHS 111

No update.

5.12 Non Principals

No update.

5.13 Registrars

No Update.

5.14 PM Groups

- A question was raised on behalf of a practice. Why in some cases patients are being discharged from hospital after an operation without being issued with sick notes or 7 day prescriptions.

Action: Secretary to raise this issue with the Acute Trust

5.15 ADMIN

- Secretary announced the retirement of James Rankin in September
- Catriona Whyte who has also retired was unfortunately not able to be at the meeting to say goodbye. The LMC sent flowers to thank her for her service.

5.16 GPPF

No update

5.18 PCN

- Secretary stated that communications are good with the PCN. We are in receipt of regular updates from Hollie Hastings

6. Any Other Business

- **LMC Meetings:** The Chair asked for an opinion on the timings of future meetings. It was stated that 7pm was too early for a face-to-face meeting to start.

The Secretary put forward a suggestion from TS in her absence for Quarterly face-to face meetings with virtual meetings in between. It was suggested that the quarterly meetings start later at 7.30.

The room took a vote. There was unanimous agreement to adopt this as the new format for meetings going forward.

- **BMA/GPC England Conference of LMC's:** Secretary spoke about the motions to be put forward for the BMA LMC Conference in November and the questions the GPC had asked to be answered on the 2nd day of conference.

The committee were asked to submit their suggested motions and comments by email to the secretary. Motions to be submitted by the 8th September.

The Chair stated that this will influence GPC policy going forward. Therefore committee members feedback on these issues is important.

Action: Committee members to email Secretary with any comments and Secretary to submit motions by the 8th September 2022.

- **Firearm Flags:** Secretary discussed the new flagging system and advised that this has now been put on hold. A different format will come through at the end of August.

Chair stated this issue only relates to practices with EMIS. He shared a specific case with the committee.

A discussion took place on what GP's are expected to consider when completing this process.

- **Access to Community Hospital Beds:** The Secretary was asked by Tristan Brodie to ask the committee their opinion on access to community hospital beds.

A new pathway has been proposed and this was discussed. A copy has been sent out to all members in advance of the meeting and views were taken.

Action: Secretary to feedback comments to Dr Brodie.

- **Sad News:** The Chair announced the sad news of the death of Dr Carl Ellson and a discussion followed regarding the circumstances surrounding his death. The family have issued a statement.

Action: The Chair will write a statement on behalf of the LMC which will be included in the next newsletter.

The Secretary will attend the memorial service. Date to be confirmed.

Meeting ended at 21:16