

Minutes of the Meeting held Wednesday 19th September 2012

## Brockholes Reserve Preston PR5 0AG

(Junction 32 M6/M55)

Present:

Mike Broadhurst	Philip Harper
Teresa Broadhurst	Simon Kay
Vic Cottam	Val Hughes
Ian Shaw	Marian Gray
Jane Quinn	Ruth Cuthbert
Antony Mazeika	Riz Iqbal
Jane Barker	
Phil Jones	
Michael Jackson	
Tom Mackley	
Alan Bowen	
Neil Pearson	
Sally Ferguson	
Matthew Nelder	
Paul Hutchence	
Sarah Bentley	

- 1 **Apologies for Absence were received from** ACTIONS  
Mike Ryan  
Colin Tonner  
Edwin Shield
- 2 **Any Other Business not on the Agenda**  
MB – Local Professional Network, RPH letter to optom,
- 3 **Approve the Minutes of the last meeting**  
All committee members agreed the minutes to be a true record - Approved and signed.
- 4 **Matters arising from the last meeting**  
MB advised that following an email to Ges Naylor (Clinical Director) regarding the Eye Casualty Discharge Scheme, no response had been received.

Brockholes venue - JG confirmed negotiation complete for a series of events for 2012/13.

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Replay learning – MB reported that the information needed to run an event for the NWLLOC was still not yet available.

MB reported that following a survey to optoms regarding the eye drops used in practice, there had been approx 20/30 responses and MB had reported findings to Melanie Greenall at the PCT. The clear favourite had emerged as Systane.

MB advised that the Hospital Referral Guide was now live on the NWLLOC website for reference. VC suggested that this would be a useful tool for any locums and advised all to direct all locums used to this site to familiarise themselves with the system.

## 5 Treasurers Report

5.1 **Balance** – IS - Confidential part of Minutes

5.2 **Statutory Levy Report** – MB explained the Levy had jumped up because of the delay in implementing the new rate as LASCA had to get approval from the PCT's meaning that the levy would be collected over a shorter period of time (8/12 months) and advised there would be an increase in percentage taken. MB advised that the levy would stay at this level until March 2013.

IS asked the committee if they would prefer him to set up a standing order in respect of the Statutory Levy payments or if they would prefer a lump sum to be paid. After a short debate it was decided to set up a standing order.

## 6a. Optometric Advisor Report - Delivered by MB

### 6.1 **Glaucoma Discharge Scheme Blackpool/North Lancs**

This scheme in Blackpool had closed down as it was not NICE compliant. Patients were being told that they would be going back to hospital for their care and that the OHT patients would be transferred into the OSGaR Scheme. The hospital had come up with extra funding for this service. Several questions were asked about patients who had not been seen for a few years/ patients who were due to be seen next year. MB agreed that there were many 'grey' areas that would need exploring.

### 6.2 **GRR Blackpool/North Lancs**

Blackpool was talking to North Lancs regarding results of pilot scheme however as yet no data had been produced for monitoring / statistical purposes. JQ asks if GP CCG's would be coming in later this year. MB explains CCG groups and explains how hard they are to implement as not all professionals will comply. He explains how the higher structure keeps changing and is not in place yet; however higher up strategically they do seem to know what is going to happen. IS advises he thinks the GP's seem scared of the new responsibility. MB confirms that they a)

don't seem to want the responsibility and b) don't know what they are doing. MB also advised that all contracts will be held in Leeds but will be managed a team at local level. A discussion then followed around the tendering process and how important it was to become part of groups that would tender for these services. SK advised that the advantage of the hospital run schemes would be that they already have a strict protocol and software base with a consultant overlooking the service whereas managing all this in community would never be easy.

### 6.3 MECS Central Lancs

MB reports that this service is now up and running and approx 350 patients had been seen so far and the Patient Satisfaction Survey results show that the service has been well received from patients. GP's in Preston are still not sure how it works and there had been some teething problems, however these were all now dealt with. At present MB reported that the activity was restricted to 5/6 practices until activity increased. RI states that his practice would like to be involved in the scheme. MB states that another training event for optoms wishing to be involved would be taking place in October and he would email all when the date /venue had been set. IS asks if CRB's are transferable. VC thought that this would only be an issue for people working in different areas but agreed it was a grey area. VC reports that a patient from Penwortham seemed to have been sent to Cleveleys for treatment under Central Lancashire Eye Service - MB asks for details to follow up. PH asks if the committee were aware of/ had used the 111 service yet. MB adds this is a non urgent advice line (instead of 999) – First Choice Eye Care were on the list for referrals for this service which was active in Blackpool and North Lancs but PH reports this is not running in West Lancs yet.

### 6.4 GRR, MECS, LVA north of North Lancs

MB asks if all these services are running ok and everyone is getting paid. MJ,PJ & TM report yes.

MB reports on the merits of offering Patient Satisfaction Surveys and without them how no statistical data can be provided therefore no proof or evidence of the scheme working. He reports how First Choice Eye Care works and how all models will change in the future. CCQ registration will be compulsory and Limited companies are going to be needed to manage/ more clinicians will be involved/ ophthalmology will work closer with optometrists. MB states that at an Eye Care Transformation Board meeting next week all schemes across the area will be looked at and the most cost effective will be chosen to run services.

### 6b RC Report for Central Lancs

RC reports that all contracts for Central Lancs were in place, however will staff leaving it was unlikely that the contracts would be issued any time soon.

GRR – RC asks MB if Central Lancashire Eye Service would be running the scheme for Central Lancs. MB advises that Central Lancashire Eye Service are waiting for

Central Lancs to ask for the scheme to be set up.

## 7. Gary Hardwick letter re Statutory Levy

A letter received by Gary Hardwick regarding the statutory levy was discussed by all committee members. MB confirmed that IS, VC and MB had already had a conversation around this and justified the points raised, however it was felt that the committee needed to make a decision on whether the points raised were valid and any action needed to be taken around attendance payments etc.

SK states the he feels that the letter has no validity at all.

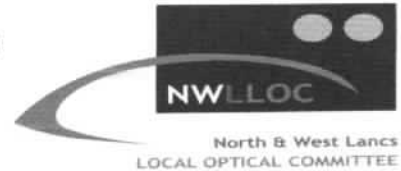
IR asks if GH attends any meetings - MB advised that GH resigned as he felt that the committee was too large.

VH asks if more is spent now – IS advised that the manpower is the same and covers a better area so percentage wise it was pretty much the same. The only difference seemed to be that NWLLC meet more than previous committees.

PH adds that all optoms are aggrieved regarding PCT fees but everyone was in the same position.

MB stated that he felt that the LOC had a good representation from all of the patch and in the new world of CCG's it was important to know local faces, he added that liaison groups had been great for that purpose. MB also stated that if optoms were not paid appropriately for their time then they would not turn up. MB advised of the need to be transparent and that the committee have to be accountable for the fees paid.

It was agreed by the committee that no further action should be taken in respect of this letter.



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## 8. Any Other Business

A question was raised around the CET claim for this year. MB said he had not had any correspondence regarding this to date, however he asked JG to email a link to all to access this year's form.

JG to email link for CET claim form to all members.

Following a complaint by an optometrist working in the Central Lancashire Schools Service, a letter was discussed regarding the Royal Preston Hospital Orthoptic Department. MB gave a brief outline of how the schools scheme worked and the continuing struggle to get the parents to understand the 'consent' forms sent home with their children. It was agreed that this seemed to be an ongoing situation that needed resolution. It was suggested that rather than emails and letters, a face to face meeting may be the way forward.

SF advised of the need to build up a good relationship, re assuring the hospital that optoms are very proficient in what they do.

MG also thought that it would be good to try and find some 'middle ground' and express the need for better communication.

SK advised that he thought that all correspondence going home to children should be done through the post and not sent home in bags. A copy should also be kept in school as 'evidence' should this be needed.

MB agreed to discuss Schools Service protocol with optoms at next meeting in October.

The committee agreed that a meeting should be offered to Derek McPhee, where feedback should be requested following school referrals. It was also agreed that at the next school meeting in October the protocol would be discussed and tightened up if necessary.

MB to offer a meeting to Derek McPhee

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## Local Professional Network

MB explains the LOC's involvement with the LPN and how it was important to talk with other professionals and how the Eyecare Transformation Board was evolving to ensure that optometry has a voice. MB had approached LOCSU for a strategy to adopt only to be told there was no strategy available, but have since emailed some advice.

IS asks if anyone had been following the LOC forums debate recently on Declaration of Interest. This was briefly discussed and all agreed that a declaration must be made if there was an interest.

## Dates of Future Meetings 09/01/13, AGM 27/03/13 18:00hrs start

The meeting closes at 9.00pm

Signed:



**Vic Cottam Chair**

Date:

9th Jan 2012