



COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 24th May 2023

12.00pm – 2.30pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting via Teams

LPC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lakhminder Flora (LF)

Has Modi (HM)

Matthew Armstrong (MA)

Amrit Minhas – Treasurer (AM)

Rishi Hindocha (RH)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Anne Marie King – Chief Officer (AMK)

Carolynne Allan - Chair (CA)

APOLOGIES

Raju Malde (RM)

Anil Patel (AP)

Veronica Horne (VH)

Bobby Arora (BA)

Daljit Poone (DP)

There were no declarations of interest reported with the agenda.

It was noted that Adeola Adekunle and Hansa Bi are no longer in their positions, and therefore have left the committee.

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting (Thursday 23rd March 2023) were reviewed and approved as an accurate reflection of the meeting and action points. CA signed the minutes as Chair.

Reports

Chief Officer Report

AMK presented her report to the committee. Copy attached.

The committee discussed the changes to Bank Holiday arrangements which are currently being discussed at local level. It is envisaged that these will be arranged annually in future to ensure better planning.

The committee discussed the IP pathfinder work, stakeholder funds and plans to use some of this money for the 'Emergency Baby Milk' project, and PQS. LF expressed concern that the PQS monies are being reduced and the implications this has for contractors.

Finance

AM covered his report with the merger update later in the meeting.

Contracts committee

HM presented the report to the committee (Attached). There are no new applications, but a closure and various transfer of ownership notifications from Lloyds Pharmacies.

Governance committee

LF did not have a report, however expressed that he is happy with the processes being followed for the merger of Northants MK and Beds LPCs.

Services (Strategy) committee

There is no update to the strategy spreadsheet. The current version will be handed onto the new merged committee.

The committee discussed and agreed that we need to hand over the strategy work to the new committee to ensure that knowledge is not lost and important work continued.

MA suggested that emphasis should be placed on LPC Committee Members supporting local service contracting.

Funmi Balogum (FB) ICS Community Pharmacy Clinical Lead BLMK ICB

Funmi introduced herself and updated the committee on her current workstreams.

GPCPCS, Hypertension Service, IP Pathfinder sites, CP/PCN Lead Project were high on the list. She is currently looking at how to use funds from the ICB which have been allocated to CP

The committee discussed the IP Pathfinder sites and FB suggested that this may be a long term project. There has not been an IP in MK who has put themselves forward, and it is unknown how the announcement for the 'Common Conditions Service' in CP will effect the IP work going forward. We are still waiting for more information on this.

FB expressed concern that with DMS, although there have been over 100 referrals, only 76 claims. There is concern regarding claims for other services eg GPCPCS and how this could be improved.

FB asked for help regarding the hypertension service. The proportion of ABPM tests carried out is too low for the number of standard BP tests covered. The committee discussed this and LF explained that the fitting of the ABPM device is difficult. The committee suggested ways to improve pharmacists knowledge to include webinars, 1:1 training and help from local GP surgery.

Update on the merger between Northants MK and Beds LPCs

Finance

Alignment of levies

Conflicting advice from PSNC / NHSBSA re equalization of reserves. Understood that we could do this over 5 months, but NHSBSA state it must be done before the merger.

AM has asked NHSBSA that NNMK Levies are increased to 30K for 2 payments (approximately £175 per contractor) and this will reduce to new 'merged' payment of approx. £96 per contractor thereafter. After this point, funds will be more or less aligned. AMK has written to contractors.

Accountant / bank accounts

Our 'year end' has been extended - Amrit is sending 31st March accounts to our accountant. There will be a further audit for the period up to 30th June 2023.

Appointment of auditor and examiner - Jayendra Shah (Beds current accountant) has been engaged to look after the merged LPC

Bank Accounts Renaming. Update from Paul Fearon (PF)- response from Lloyds Bank states that the rename will happen on 1st July.

NNMK – Will add PF as a signatory to our account.

Bank Indicative Budget for the new committee – being handled by PF

External Stakeholders' Funds

Stakeholders have been asked for permission to transfer funds from Northants MK LPC to BLMK & Northants LPC

HR

CA / CM organising TUPE arrangements for employed staff. Will use Clyde & Co for advice as there may be changes to working arrangements in the future. CA will organize meetings with AMK and will send a letter using approved templates. This work will be completed in June. Letters will be approved by the governance committee. A copy of AMK contract is needed.

From Beds LPC, Clyde & Co have advised that all employed personnel must be TUPED to the new committee. This will include CM, PF and NS. The committee discussed this transfer and strongly supported the fact that the new committee would have a Chair and Treasurer who would complete ongoing work due to the merger, until such a time when the new committee could review this decision.

Need a copy of AMK contract. CM (Beds Chair) will take over payroll and pension for AMK from July 2023.

Beds have signed a contract with Clyde & Co, and NNMK have a signed agreement to share information due to the fact that we will become one committee.

Elections

Have taken place to allocate 4 places for independent contractors. There was no need to ask contractors to vote as we had 4 firm applications (2 in NN and 2 in BLMK)

New members are:

- Viren Bhatia (Independent, Northants MK)
- Rishi Hindocha (Independent, Northants MK)
- Nishil Shah (Independent, Bedfordshire)
- Mahesh Shah (Independent, Luton)

CCA will not be in a position to announce their reps until after their selection meeting on May 25th.

AimP reported to AMK that they are "going through the elections process and will provide details of representatives in due course."

AOB

HM expressed concern at the PSNC announcement for 100 hour pharmacies allowance to cut opening hours. His concern is that some small village pharmacies with low prescription volumes, yet providing a service for the local community, should also be allowed to reduce the core hours proportionately in order to remain financially viable.

CA thanked the committee for their support during her time as Chair. The new merged committee will be in place from 1st July 2023. A full handover will take place with some continuity of committee members to ensure that workstreams are not lost.

Date of first meeting for new committee has been provisionally set for 4th July 2023

The meeting was closed at 2pm

Signed



21st June 2023

Carolynne Allan (Chair)

Reports

[Chief Officer's Report May 24th 2023 LPC meeting](#)

Northamptonshire ICB matters arising

1. CP - IP Pathfinder project EOI update
 - Regional Moderation completed – requested cost grid which was completed
 - National moderation in progress – from initial feedback for Northamptonshire -some questions around DSP . Comment for other aspects – complementary so far . There will be some restriction on number of sites per ICB based on funding available. Awaiting further details from national team
2. Health and Social Care Parliamentary Committee Pharmacy Evaluation – completed feed back for CP question 1,2 and 5 – as attached (*confidential document not for wider circulation*)
3. Update on activities in the last 2 months for IMOC -May 2023 (*confidential document not for wider circulation*)
4. *Tablet Press Extra Oral Anticoagulant Audit*

Change in Regulations

Bank Holiday arrangements

For East Mids...My initial thoughts are to create a Microsoft teams form for contractors to complete to establish an appetite for this in each area but I am open to suggestions you may have, these would only be sent to those areas we look to commission a contractor to open so will not need to be sent to all contractors.

This could be created and sent out to contractors before the start of the task and finish group or run alongside. Thoughts?

It would also be good to establish the key questions you feel we need to be asking?

Emergency Infant Feeding Pathway

Services positions

External funds update

Advising NHSBSA of merger

From May 30th PSNC will be known as Community Pharmacy England, with new branding designed to be more impactful and authoritative, helping us to better represent community pharmacy. LPC to receive help with their own re branding.

No mandatory clinical audit

Community pharmacy contractors are not required to undertake a contractor-chosen or an NHS England determined clinical audit in 2023/24. This follows PSNC's request to remove this clinical governance requirement for contractors in 2023/24.

A clinical audit on anticoagulants is included in the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2023/24. If contractors choose to not participate in PQS, and therefore do not complete the anticoagulant clinical audit, there is still no requirement to complete two clinical audits in 2023/24.

The Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England have also committed to consider, during 2023/24, the removal of the requirement for a contractor-chosen clinical audit permanently.

Regulatory changes

Regulatory changes will come into force on 25th May 2023 to allow some flexibilities for contractors to a) close for rest breaks and b) manage closures through ICB local hours plans. Changes will also allow 100-hour pharmacies to reduce their core hours and the regulations will require all pharmacies to ensure that business continuity plans to deal with temporary suspensions of service are in place to address circumstances when pharmacies have to close on a temporary basis.

PSNC requested that DHSC and NHSE consider regulatory easements to reduce the pressures on community pharmacies and made over 30 changes that could help improve the operating environment.

The package of regulatory changes now being introduced was opposed by PSNC on the basis that it is wholly inadequate to address these crippling pressures. The proposals to ease requirements for 100-hour pharmacies, devised by DHSC and NHSE, is not matched, in PSNC's view, by equivalent easements for 40-hour pharmacies. While some of the changes being introduced have some merit and will assist contractors, the overall package does not go far enough and does not show that DHSC and NHS England have recognised the severity of the situation for over-worked and under-funded community pharmacies.

PQS

The reduced Year 5 Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) PQS scheme will launch on 1 June 2023.

It will consist of one gateway criterion (NMS) and three domains (Medicines Optimisation, Respiratory and Prevention) with annual funding of £45 million to support national health priorities.

The details of the scheme are included in [Part VIIA - Pharmacy Quality Scheme \(England\) Pharmacy Quality Scheme \(PQS\) 2023/2024](#). Further information will be published in the NHS England PQS Guidance prior to the launch of the scheme

Market Entry Summary Report

New Applications: None

Closures:

Lloyds Pharmacy at Sainsburys, Sixfields, Northampton NN5 5DG – Closing on June 9th 2023, Notice of closure received.

Change of ownerships:

Approved:

Lloyds Pharmacy at Greenview Drive, Northampton NN2 7LA to Kara Brothers Ltd.

Lloyds pharmacy at Stubbs Close, Redhill Farm, Wellingborough, NN8 4UQ to MPG Healthcare Ltd.

Lloyds Pharmacy at Christchurch Medical Ctr, Northampton NN1 5LT to Health Corner Ltd

Lloyds Pharmacy at 3 Field Street, Kettering, Northants NN16 8EJ to Health Corner Ltd

Approved & Commenced:

Lloyds Pharmacy at 15 The Square, Wolverton, Milton Keynes MK12 5DG to Jardines (UK) Ltd – Commenced 24/04/23

Lloyds Pharmacy at Swinnyford Rd, Towcester NN12 6HD to Jardines (UK) Ltd – Commenced 25/04/23

Lloyds Pharmacy at Watling Street, Towcester NN12 6BT to Jardines (UK) Ltd – Commenced 25/04/23

Lloyds Pharmacy at Kingfisher Centre, Newport Pagnell MK16 0JR to Jardines (UK) Ltd – Commenced 25/04/23

Lloyds Pharmacy at Watling Street, Towcester NN12 6BT to Jardines (UK) Ltd – Commenced 27/04/23

Lloyds Pharmacy at 127-129 Queensway, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK2 2DH to Jardines (UK) Ltd – Commenced 23/05/23