

Buckinghamshire Local Dental Committee

Meeting Minutes

10th May 2017, 7pm -9pm

The Bull Hotel, Gerrards Cross

In Attendance

Nilesh Patel (NP), Tiyasa Bagchi (TB) Hardeep Basra (HB) Bobby Degun (BD), Aneel Jaisinghani (AJ) Hugh O'Keeffe (HO) Shanil Shah (SS) Helen Travess (HT)

Chair Person- Nilesh Patel

Treasurer – Bobby Degun

Secretary – Sanjay Rayarel – not in attendance

Minutes – CM

1. Chairs welcome and announcements

The meeting was called to order by NP at 7pm.

2. Apologies for absence

Asha Chandaria,
Sanjay Rayarel

3. Minutes

Amendment to the minutes under the Hospital report. It should read that referrals without X-rays will be rejected, X-rays should preferably be digital.

4. Matters arising

None

5 Thames Valley Team Update

NHS South Central is going to be split into two different regions, this split has been instigated by a former COO of NHS England and will enable individual regions to manage their own sustainability and planning. It will also enable CCGs to work collaboratively and strategically. The new regions will be known as the South East and the South West.

The Thames Valley half of South Central will be the South East and Berks West will be the South West. There is also discussion as to whether there will be four local offices. Thames Valley will be joining Hampshire and the Isle of White to form the South East. All current Directors will be going to the South West region, the South East will be run by Directors that currently work in Wessex.

LPNs will be changing from September, LPNs are currently being funded by Thames Valley regions. When the regions change LPNs will not have to share their funding with different regions.

BD asked how the split will affect GDPs individually, HO stated that it will not. BD enquired as to how patient complaints will be managed when the region has split. Complaints should go through the Practice and then if necessary the NHS England contact centre where they will be sent onto the relevant AT.

The whole country is currently undertaking procurement in Orthodontic services and procurement has started across the South of England. There are currently 134 contracts. The bidding starts in April 2018. Details are currently being uploaded into a dynamic purchasing system. The contracts will then go through an accreditation process. If an application is successful they will be awarded a 7-year contract. A needs assessment around the procurement is ongoing. This has been delayed due to a BDA legal challenge.

The AT have allocated £1million in non-recurrent funding to practices in Thames Valley. This money is allocated to practices who have delivered over 96% over the last 2 years. In future financial years, there will be an element of growth built into the budget. There are ongoing discussions with the LPN on how the growth funding will be targeted at Practices. Early indications show that Bucks are on target to deliver a similar number of UDAs as last year.

There is funding of approx. £200k available due to rebasing of contracts, this will not necessarily be used in dentistry and is non-recurrent.

PCSE- There are ongoing issues with the new service that took over from the Thames Valley Primary Care agency. There is a delay updating performers onto contracts. If Practitioners are experiencing a delay they need to contact the AT. They are hoping to have added NPL 2 and 3 applications by the end of May 2017. This is a short-term fix.

The two-month rule is back in place, the AT need to be informed of any issues with performers on the list that will affect delivery in year. The AT wrote to practices in April asking them to inform the AT of any delays.

Dental Access Target – HO has obtained details of how the target is made up and is concerned it is based on outdated figures. The access target has been achieved and we can continue to see progress.

Community Dental Services, Oral Surgery and Unscheduled Care in the South of England will be going to procurement in April 2019.

There is a proposal to increase Oral Surgery provision. There are ongoing pressures from the hospitals. There are delays and support is need from AQPs. This proposal is currently waiting for approval.

Restorative Pathway is now electronic only. Communication has been sent out to practices with details. Services will continue this year and will be under review from April 2018. This is a unique pathway and not comparable to other pathways.

A communication has recently been sent to practices giving updates on the Orthodontic Referral Pathway.

MCN Proposals – South Central MCN proposals are being worked on and close to being agreed. This will be affected by the region splitting. Funding decisions need to be made and funding plans will reflect the separate allocations. NP expressed concern that pathways will be delayed, HO suggested writing in with any concerns.

Treatment funding requests assurance pilot is going to start in June, It will be started in London, successful providers have been contacted.

Electronic referral management – A proposal has been submitted for DERS from October 2018. NHS Digital is working on a paperless system.

AJ queried a letter that had been received regarding Orthodontic Treatment. Contracts are coming to an end in March 2018, what is going to happen after the deadline? there has been no communication regarding next steps and there is confusion over what to tell patients. This will be raised at the MCN.

AJ also asked what happens to referrals that are sent back to practices as incomplete, will this affect Practices KPIs? This will be raised at the MCN.

6. LPN Update

The regional split will affect the LPN. There will be questions such as where will the LPN sit within the region and how will this affect LPN plans? Whose data will be used? The South Central LPN is currently under the process of re starting but this will change depending on the region split. New terms of reference will be issued once agreed.

Cancer research tool kit needs to be distributed as widely as possible, Cancer research have offered to attend the AGM as a speaker.

LPN recommend that each LDC has a list of individual performers, whilst this list is fluid it is essential to reach out to individual GDPs. LPN feedback suggests that GDPs need a federated LDC, a new LPN will be in place in June.

7. Reports from officers

7.1 Chairs report –

NP discussed the meetings he has attended since the last LDC meeting including Dental Commissioning group, LPN as representative of Thames Valley LDCs, Restorative MCNs.

The creation of a Vice Chair position was discussed, this will be discussed further by current officers, it was agreed unanimously that current officers have the confidence of the committee to appoint a Vice Chair if they feel it appropriate.

7.2 Secretaries report – None

7.3 Treasurers report

The money in the development fund has now been deposited in the current account. Overdue invoices for expenses for the Chairman and the Secretary have now been paid, they were back dated by 4 years. The Treasurer has yet to submit his invoice. It was agreed that for budgeting purposes the Chairman will decide what meetings he will be attending so that expenses can be budgeted. Invoices are available on request.

BD is going to reconcile the account and funds received before the next meeting to ensure that all levy contributions have been received.

8.GDPC Update

NP has circulated notes of the most recent meeting and gave a verbal update on DDRB decisions, Orthodontic tendering, performer list and contract reform.

9. Hospital Report

Report from Helen Travess –

There is a new Clinical lead in Bucks.

Nationally the Primary care Orthodontic contracts are being re tendered, and a process is underway for the whole of the South, including Thames Valley. This could potentially have major implications in the way in which orthodontics is provided in Primary care for Bucks since many of our current providers have smaller contracts.

Secondly, the Secondary care Ortho is under great pressure with increased referrals and cases wanting treatment in the hospital setting. BHT are formally revisiting the acceptance criteria for Hospital treatment and have circulated this via the area team to all NHS providers in the area. Surgeons are still happy to give advice for cases, this effect only those accepted for treatment. There are lengthy delays in General Anesthetic surgery for children.

Much has been done to try to inform and highlight the issues faced by the area team and the MCN. Contracts will be awarded to start in April 2018, and providers who do not win an on-going contract will be funded for 2 years to wind down their NHS cases under treatment.

Referrals are currently only paper however X-rays can be submitted electronically. Electronic referrals will not be looked at.

A referral proforma has been developed to streamline the system with a view to paperless referral in the future in line with the NHS commitment for all hospital referrals to be online by 2019. Currently this is still to be submitted in paper format. The proforma is available to download on the Bucks hosp Website.

<http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/Our%20clinical%20services/A%20to%20Z%20of%20clinical%20services/Orthodontics/useful-information-for-referrers.htm>

10. Salaried Services Report

No recent reports

11. Pass group update

No report

12. Event Planning

Next event is on the 12th June at the Holiday Inn, Subject is Clinical Note taking by Shreeti Patel. Members to be informed on the 12th May by email.

13. Information sharing with members

Minutes will be uploaded onto the website when approved. A newsletter will be issued, administrator will liaise with Sanjay.

14. Date of next meeting

20th September 2017

15. AOB

None