

**Worcestershire
LMC
Limited**

Working in Partnership to Support General Practice

**Minutes of the Worcestershire LMC Meeting
Held on
Thursday 13th October 2022
7.30pm – The Worcester Room, The Swan, Whittington, Worcestershire.**

Present: David Herold (Chair), Gillian Farmer (Secretary), Leah Jones, Meeraj Shah, Fiona Martin, James Rayner, Rebekah Twomey, Ravi Khehar, Roy Williams, Emma Penny, Paul Bunyan, Kevin Hollier, Seb Morton, Katy Gines, Stephanie Manton, Jonathan Swallow, Felix Obuehi Meryl Foster, Tracey Summers.

Guests: Sarah Matthews (GPC)

Dr James Rankin joined us at the beginning of the meeting to say goodbye on his retirement. The Chair thanked James for his years of service to the LMC Committee. James gave a short speech, reflecting upon his time with the LMC and reminded everyone of the importance of an independent body to represent General Practice especially in these difficult times.

- 1. Apologies:** Roy Williams, Sebastian Morton, Paul Bunyan, Felix Obuehi.
- 2. Approve minutes and review actions:** The minutes were reviewed by the Chair; it was agreed that this was a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Actions reviewed by the Secretary

- **Interface Requirements** – Secretary confirmed that all the Secondary care departments had now been communicated with via email and asked everyone if they had seen it in the Newsletter. The letter had also attracted attention as it was discussed at the Monday morning meeting. This is a contractual issue. Secretary stated that TS had liaised with Christine Blanchard's PA but the response we received was to ask why we needed a specific meeting with her. The response was shared with Mari Gay. As things stand it appears that Christine Blanchard does not wish to engage with the LMC. NHSE are now starting to realise that this problem between Primary and Secondary care is across the whole country.

Action: Secretary/TS to continue to follow up on meeting with Christine Blanchard.

- **Community Mental Health Transformation Programme** – Secretary discussed the letter that had been sent to Simon Trickett and Sarah Dugan from the LMC and CD Forum and the response that had been received.
It was felt that their response did not understand or acknowledge the level of risk involved with what was happening within the service and therefore Sarah Dugan was invited to attend a meeting to discuss the matter further.
The Secretary explained that she had chaired the meeting in which Simon Trickett and Sarah Dugan had been in attendance. Minutes were taken and a list of points to be addressed going forward have prepared in a further letter to go to Sarah Dugan. The Secretary went through each of the points in the letter.
The Chair asked if the committee were happy with the course of action that had been taken so far and the committee agreed they were.
- **Future Meeting Dates** – Chair stated that TS had been unable to confirm the dates in time for the meeting as he had only responded to TS earlier in the day.

Action: TS to confirm dates prior to the next meeting.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 GPDF

- Chair explained that there have been some issues with the GPDF and a number of LMC's were concerned.
- Secretary referred everyone to the documents provided. She stated that Julius Parker had leaked a document asking is GPDF defending GP's. She explained that we pay them part of our levy to provide this service. The document revealed that they had huge reserves and questions how the money is being spent and are they providing us with the service that they should be.
- The Secretary explained how the structure had changed over the past 4 years. Our LMC had benefitted from some small amounts of funding for events but this was becoming more difficult to achieve.
A large proportion of their funds are used to pay their management costs but there is no transparency as to how these costs are broken down.
In response to the document a number of LMC's held a meeting which the Secretary attended. Reference was made to Appendix 2 which details the meeting.
- Paul Bunyan is the GPDF representative for the LMC and the Secretary has discussed the meeting with him.
- Secretary read her response to the committee.
- Chair asked whether the committee understood what the GPDF does. He suggested that anybody unclear should refer to their website.
- SM – stated that she had also attended the meeting and that it was clear that people were not happy with the GPDF. She stated that GPDF stated that some of the issues were true but they have not made clear what these issues are. SM stated that she would like to see a progressive change.
- Discussion took place around the table on the current issues with the Board.
- Secretary continued to discuss issues raised in our letter. Appendix 2
There were no objections to the contents of the letter and it was agreed that it should be sent.

- Chair stated that he would like the GPDF to support the Partnership Model going forward and he would also like to see the insurance policy reinstated that used to be in place to support practices.
Chair stated that there are a lot of reports available on their website.

3.2 Supporting General Practice / PCN's and their teams through the winter and beyond

- Secretary referred to Appendix 3. Secretary stated that GPPF has now been transformed into the GPSF which has Lynda Dando on it. Secretary gave details of who was involved in the forum and what the forum was set up to achieve.
- First meeting went well. Lynda Dando is there to support the group.
Secretary referred to the Safe working guidelines detailed in the recent LMC Newsletter and read through the guidelines.
- SM stated that the workload needs to be distributed better across the skills within the practice, rather than the GP dealing with routine issues.
- JR – asked if there was a danger of appointments being scrutinised by the system.
- Chair stated that we need to be clear what our boundaries are within our practice.
- Secretary stated that we are being supported by the GPC in these changes.
- A round table discussion took place on workload pressures
- Chair stated that there will be more support coming on board through PCN hubs/ ARRS.
- Secretary stated that we do need to continue to push back on transfer of workload

Action: Secretary to arrange a meeting with Richard Van Mellaerts from the BMA. To include practices.

3.3 GP Recruitment Event

- Secretary commended MS on his work at the event and gave feedback on how the event was received. There were approximately 20 attendees at the event.
- Secretary has mentioned to Lynda Dando that this should be a regular event supported by the LMC.

3.4 Most Appropriate Agency – West Mercia Police

- Secretary referred to the letter received from West Mercia Police provided in Appendix 4.
- West Mercia had confirmed safe and well checks will cease.
- A presentation was offered by West Mercia police on the issue of Appropriate Agency.
- Discuss took place on what the role of the police should be

Action: Secretary to arrange a presentation with West Mercia Police.

4.0 GPC Update by Sarah Matthews

- The planned GPC UK meeting for 22nd September did not go ahead and was postponed until later in the year.
- Officers from UK still met in the morning to discuss the way forward for future meetings
- SM explained the structure of the GPC meetings throughout the year.
- SM Read out the motion that was discussed and passed by the GPC reference the GPDF.

- Presentation from Farah Jameel where she gave an update on contract negotiations. In the presentation FJ discussed the announcement made by the Health Secretary that day referring to the maximum 2 week wait for patients and reminded those present that this was not a contractual obligation.
- David Rigley is heading up the industrial action group and there will be a presentation on the way forward in the early part of next year.

5.1 Health & Care Trust

No further Update.

5.2 Integrated Care System

No update.

5.3 Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust

No update.

5.4 NHS England

- Secretary updated on NHSE regional meeting. Explanation was given on the new system first approach. Need to speak with the ICB to get their feedback on issues before escalating.
- Secretary volunteered to get involved with the NHSE looking at the Primary and Secondary Care interface.
- Letter written by Amanda Doyle was discussed at the meeting.

Action: Secretary to obtain a copy of the Amanda Doyle letter.

5.5 Public Health

No update

5.6 Education

No update.

5.7 People's Board

- In S Morton's absence the Chair referred to the report linked to the agenda.
- Workshop arranged for the 20th October. MS agreed to attend on the behalf of the LMC.

5.8 EDI

No Update

5.9 Estates

- Chair updated the room on the absence of the Estates Representative and Vice Chair.

5.10 Dispensing

- Chair announced that Paul Bunyan will be taking over from James Rankin as Dispensing Representative. Dispensing doctors will give him their support.
- Chair confirmed that the pharmaceutical group recognised that there are no gaps in the service throughout the county.

5.10 OOH/NHS 111

No Update.

5.12 Non Principals

No update.

5.13 Registrars

- JS advised the committee that there was now and 'Push Model' in practice at WRH. He explained what was involved with this and the reason that it has been implemented.

5.14 PM Groups

HG stated that MF had been trying to get a meeting with Chris Plant but he has now left and Emma Cox in ICB Finance will now be liaising with the PM's on payments for services. Secretary stated that MF will be leaving at the end of the year. HG offered to speak with the other PM's to source another PM rep for the committee

5.15 ADMIN

No update.

5.16 GPST

- No update

5.18 PCN

- No update

6. Any Other Business.

- LJ asked if there was a reason why the minutes of the meetings were no longer being added to the LMC website. The Secretary explained that TS had a considerable amount of work to cover since she started the role. TS stated that there would be a new website coming online in the beginning of 2023 but in the meantime she would bring the website up to date

Action: TS to update minutes on the website

Chair confirmed that the next meeting would be on the 10th November and a virtual meeting.

Meeting ended at 21:24