**North Staffs and Stoke Pharmacy Committee**

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2021. The meeting was held at 1.30pm via Teams due to the COVID-19 pandemic

**Present:**

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| Committee member | Present | Apologies |
| Nita Allen (NA) - Chair |  |  |
| Elliot Patrick (EP) |  |  |
| Raj Morjaria (RM) |  |  |
| Hema Morjaria (HM) |  | A |
| Harpal Bhandal (HB) |  |  |
| Ellie Lawton (EL) |  |  |
| Vicky Greenwood (VG) |  |  |
| Peter Walker (PW) |  |  |
| Lucy Platt |  |  |
| Ben Morris |  |  |
| Soura Kafaji (SK) |  |  |

**In Chair:** Mrs Nita Allen (NA)

**Chief Officer:** DrTania Cork (TC)

**In attendance;** Mr Simon Hay (part) James Wood (part)

**Standing Items**

*0321-1* **Chair:** NA welcomed all members to the meeting and explained the rules for having the meeting via live webinar

*0321-2* **Apologies:**

*0321-3-* **Governance/Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (DOI):** verbal confirmation taken of DoI

*0321-4-* **Power to act:** these will be discussed during the meeting

*0321-5-* **Minutes from previous meeting**: all agreed andwill get wet signature once we all meet physically again

*0321-6-* **Matters Arising: None**

*0321-7-* **Finance:** Bank accounts looking healthy, all expenses paid up to date. Almost ready for auditors to check at the end of financial year. More money allocated to us via LPN. PCN levy to be paid.

There was a discussion around how to spend some of the allocation money to support contractors. Suggestions were;

* Flu training
* Mental health first aid – on agenda later with money coming from LPN
* Otoscope purchases for all pharmacies – could help to drive up CPCS for ear conditions
* Schedulista for patients to make appointments to see pharmacist
* DMS data collection tool via PharmOutcomes

All members to think about this and make decision ready for next meeting

*0321-8* **- Action Tracker;**

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| Constitution amendment | completed |
| Invite PSNC to meeting | Completed – James Wood attended |
| IPMO | On agenda |
| Libre Freestyle | Note completed |
| Sexual Health event | Completed. 48 attended |

**Business Agenda**

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| --- | --- |
| *0321-9* | **LPC Conferences/Meeting Wed 17th March 2021- online**  NA gave an overview of the meeting regarding the many topics discussed, such as  The Wright Review and formation of the RSG. The RSG has been formed in relation the Wright recommendations   1. Improving engagement with, and reflection of, the views of contractors at both national and local level 2. The need for a shared external governance framework for both LPCs and PSNC to operate under 3. The creation of an independent Governance and Strategy Board responsible for oversight of all national and local representative bodies 4. The need to improve the links between local and national representation   NA briefed the members about the RSG  -Formation of RSG in November 2020 with members representing the sector selected by CCA, AIMp, and the independent and NPA representatives on PSNC  -The RSG is accountable to the entire sector i.e. all contractors  -The RSG is not a decision-making body  -A top priority for the Berkeley Partnership is to put together a work programme and associated budget  -Initially £90,000 allocated by PSNC – this was from savings made last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic  -LPCs have therefore been asked to plan to match PSNC funding – approx. £1,300 per LPC  Other topics at the meeting included;  Audit – reinforced that pharmacies are not being paid for the patient they see, approx. 1 in 4 where regarding covid issues.  The Discharge Medicines Service (DMS), which became a new Essential service within the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) on 15th February 2021. At the time of commencement of the service, not all NHS Trusts had put in place processes to refer suitable patients so receiving DMS referrals will vary depending on the local situation. Huge amount of work going on locally by LPCs to support the introduction of the service. There is a status report prepared by the PSNC and is available on their website.  Finally, there was a breakout session to exchange ideas amongst LPCs and inform LPC support. The ideas would then feed thoughts into PSNC about how PSNC and LPCs can work together on key priorities. |
| *0321-10* | **IPMO**  Staffs ICS and Shropshire ICS update. TC gave an update on the progress on this. As an overview, it delayed until Sept. Richard Seal wants the plan on a page completed by May time. The group thought there could be an issue with the role of this chief pharmacist in terms of funding and is there a need for another person to lead on this – this could potentially cost a lot of money. This is a top-down approach although the worry is that the leaders already on the ground may be doing most of the work.  For Staffordshire the action plan for this will take place on the Thursday STP call (every other week) of which TC is part of. |
| *0321-11* | **Primary Care Networks**  There will be a survey from the PSNC sent to PCN leads to complete. The PSNC are starting to prepare for negotiations on year 3 of the CPCF and are keen to understand more about the experience of PCN leads, hearing feedback directly from them. It will be important to reflect some of this in so this can be reflected in the negotiations on the 2021/22 PQS with the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England and NHS Improvement.  TC has sent some comments to the PSNC about the survey. |
| *0321-12* | **Independent review**  The community pharmacy Review Steering Group (RSG), which is taking forward work following the independent review into contractor representation and support, has announced two engagement events:   1. Community pharmacy contractors - ‘Your Representation, Your Say’ engagement event on Tuesday 9th March, 7.30pm – 8.30pm.   contractors had a reminder of the key issues identified by the independent review, learnt about the work of the RSG to date and next steps, and had the chance to ask questions about the RSG. The focus of this meeting was to give contractors the opportunity to put their views forward, to discuss how they want to be kept informed of the RSG’s work and to consider whether they would like to join an online contractors’ forum. Feedback from the meeting will shape how the RSG engages with contractors over the coming months.   1. LPC Chairs and Chief Officers: The RSG will run a session at the PSNC-hosted meeting of LPCs on Wednesday 17th March.   LPC Chief Executives and employees had the opportunity to hear from RSG members and put forward their views at the LPC Conference. This event followed a similar format with an update from the RSG and a chance to ask questions.  Funding of RSG  The RSG has begun to consider the work ahead and resourcing. The group has a significant amount of work to do and will need to commission experts in order to complete this. This programme plan will help to better inform the RSG about its funding needs, but at this stage the RSG anticipates that it will need further funding to sustain its work over the course of 2021/22. The RSG will contact LPCs about this in due course, but at the moment it anticipates asking them to match fund the £90,000 allocated to the RSG by PSNC in 2020/21. |
| *0321-13* | **Services**   1. **Extended care service Tier 2**   Extended Care Service Tier 2 Launch - this has now been launched. Sits along side UTI service. Good service that integrates with primary care and CP. GPs can refer patients to these pharmacies either with or without GPCPCS element   1. **CPCS**   SH updated the committee.   * Slow progress * GPs starting to increase interest after primary care association meeting last week * SH now attending PNC managers meeting * We have a few sites live already and some postponed * Must stop verbal referral at the expense of CPCS referal * The main problem is there is no definitive way of using the IT systems * Midlands NHSE will be using Harding * NHS mail can be used but a bit lumpy      1. **DMS**   SH updated the committee.   * Soft launch, numbers will be low at first * Some referrals coming from local hospital for MDS patients at cardio, Renal wards. May struggle to ramp up the numbers in the short term  1. **LFT service**   20 in Stoke – should be extended for a few more months, possibly June 2021. 1165 test completed as of today.  84 pharmacies for Staffordshire coming on board with the service later this week  All information, SLA, protocols etc can be found on LPC website  A new national service may be launched so need to understand how the two service can run side by side. Still waiting to hear about the national service from the PSNC   1. **Stoke Substance Misuse**   New SLA/contract sent to all Stoke pharmacies. No really changes just bringing it all up to date  Contractors to sign page 14 and 15 and send to the council email – copying in TC for information.   1. **ABC**   NHSE&I have recently become aware that the POM chloramphenicol products are no longer licensed for under 2 years old so are having to pull the ABC service with immediate effect.  The modules are turned off and Dr Gill Hall sent the message via PharmOutcomes. NHSE&I are also sending it via NHS mail to contractors - LPCs also cascaded this message to contractors urgently. |
| *0321-14* | **James Wood - Director of Contractor & LPC Support PSNC**  James Wood attended the LPC meeting (in part). He introduced his role and that he would be supporting the PSNC CEO in the future vision for pharmacy. His role is also to fully support LPCs. JW discussed at length the Wright Review and what this means going forward, along with the formation of the RSG.  He discussed the pharmacy contract and that negotiations would start soon for the next phase – the priorities were discussed and noted at the conference (see notes above).  Committee members voiced their concerns about the lack of replacement income seen with new services, such as CPCS and DMS, compared with MURs. There were also concerns about how these new services relied on other healthcare professional or organisations (NHS111) recruiting patients for pharmacy. Pharmacy had no way of recruiting patients anymore for services. |
| *0321-15* | **LPN project bids**   1. **Mental health of contractors**   Mental Health First Aid Course – see if we can get support for training from LPN Highlight what PSNC are doing with Pharmacy support. It is only for registered staff, but there will be some contractors that will find some help with that.   1. **Musculoskeletal**   TC has submitted a bid for the MSK service – this will mirror Shropshire service, however it is intended that more data will be captured so papers can be published. It is intended that the pharmacy with receive an up-front fee to cover training and setting up the service and then an intervention fee per consultation. |
| *0321-16* | **Covid- 19 update**   * **Pharmacy vaccination sites**   9 – either live or going live in April – across the whole of Staffs. LPC supporting with updates and information and collaboration with NHSE and CCGs. TC informed members that all pharmacies and LPC now have pharmacy calls with the STP leads or CCG to share information, ideas and concerns.   * **LFT for pharmacy staff**   Lateral flow testing has been made available to all asymptomatic patient-facing NHS staff, NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) published [a letter to all primary care contractors](https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2020/12/C0943-Lateral-Flow-Testing-in-PC_16dec.pdf) on 16th December 2020, announcing how they can order lateral flow tests.  The supply of these tests will allow all patient-facing staff to be able to test, twice-weekly, using self-administered nasal swabbing and report their results through an online platform. Any positive lateral flow antigen tests will need to be followed up by a confirmatory PCR test.  From March 2021 pharmacies can now order more LFT for pharmacy staff   * **Closures and lockdowns**   The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has launched a new social media campaign to tackle false vaccine information online through a series of shareable videos and support from social media companies.  The main aim of the campaign is to counter the spread of misleading and false information through private messaging channels on social media. |
| *0321-17* | **Community pharmacy workforce**   1. **Workforce Survey see** [**https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/hee-to-repeatcommunity-pharmacy-workforce-survey/**](https://psnc.org.uk/our-news/hee-to-repeatcommunity-pharmacy-workforce-survey/) 2. what are the underlying challenges facing community pharmacy in recruiting, training and retaining a workforce fit for our future?   Community pharmacists are asked to complete the workforce survey when it is released in May  **The GPhC has announced that they are extending the provisional registrant arrangements until January 2022, and due to an associated delay to the Summer registration exam date, any of the current (20-21) cohort of pre-registration trainees wishing to practice from 1 August will now have to also become provisional registrants until the results are released and they are eligible to join the pharmacist register.**  The revised registration assessment dates for 2021 are:  Summer assessment: 27, 28 and 29 July 2021  Autumn assessment: 16 November 2021  The July dates are in place of the original June sittings. The GPhC has confirmed that the papers on each of three July dates will be different, though identical in number and types of questions and the standard required to pass.  Sittings are for current Pre-Registration pharmacists, those Provisionally registered and resitting candidates who have decided not to sit the March assessment. |
| *0321-18* | **PQS update** |
|  | CLOSED MEETING |
| *0321-19* | Applications – the following was discussed by the committee.   1. Change of ownership application for Biggarig Ltd (Ridgeway) at 73 Baddeley Green Lane, Milton, Stoke-on-Trent, TO Secret Potions **APPROVED** 2. Trent pharmacy 339 Ash Bank Road, Werrington, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST9 0JS will be operated by NH Pharm Ltd **APPROVED** 3. Change of ownership application for Imaan Ltd at 72-74 Milton Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST1 6HD TO Allopathic Healthcare Ltd **APPROVED** 4. Application to change core opening hours at Well pharmacy, 57 Biddulph Road, Chell, Stoke-on-Trent, ST66SW **PENDING** 5. Application to change core opening hours at Well pharmacy, 42 Dunning Street, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 5AP **PENDING** 6. Application to change core opening hours at Well pharmacy, 396 New Street, Biddulph moor, Stoke-on-Trent, **PENDING** 7. Application to change core opening hours at Well pharmacy, Wilson Road, Hanford, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 4QQ **PENDING** |
| *0321-20* | AOB – Strategy planning |
|  | **Next Meeting**  **May 25th 2021** |

These minutes are signed as being a true record of the meeting, subject to any necessary amendments being made, which will, if any, is recorded in the following meeting’s minutes.

Signed: ………………………………………………Position:......CHAIR............. Date:............................

Signed: .................................................................Position:......CEO.................Date:............................

During this meeting, along with these minutes, there was a constant check to ensure no discussions could constitute to breaking competition law.

Signed......................................................position.............................................Date