



Salford and Trafford Local Medical Committee

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**Minutes of the Trafford Sub-committee
held on Wednesday May 18th at Sam Platts, Old Trafford**

PRESENT:

Dr J Berry
Dr R Sumra

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Dr Ravi Mene (Chair)
Dr Iain Maclean

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Vivienne Simenoff
Mrs Kerrie Rowlands (minutes)

MEMBERS

Dr K Kuna
Dr C Westwood
Dr M Jarvis
Ms D Darlington (PM Urmston)
Mr C Booth (PM Bodmin Rd)

APOLOGIES

Dr N Hyams
Dr L Wilson
Mr A Raja

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mr D Hanley (TMBC)
Dr N Guest
Ms S Sutton (Trafford PCT)

OBSERVERS

Ms A Overton
Mr S Belk
Ms S Woodward (Trafford PCT)
Ms A Ferguson
Ms C Edwards (Trafford PCT)

AGENDA - PART A

1. APOLOGIES

Noted above

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the last meeting held May 18th were agreed as true and correct.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Walk in Centre update

Suite one is now completed and work continues on the rest of the building. There is no set date for the centre to re-open as yet however estimated completion is around four weeks. Therefore it is unlikely it will be ready in time for the May bank holiday.

EUR update

RM suggested that this continues to be an item on forthcoming agendas for discussion. RM highlighted an issue with Memory Services. It appears that patients who have a Trafford postcode are not being referred to South Manchester clinics, but instead are being referred to West Manchester, which may not necessarily be the closest to them. There was further discussion about Community Care nurses referring patients direct and whether this was appropriate. RM asked who would be responsible for wrong referrals. RB said that the referral would be logged against the GP practice but the clinical referral would be against the Community Nurse. RM said that he would provide a further update at next months meeting.

NG informed the group that all previous issues raised by Trafford GPs had been discussed and that a new document had now been sent to the CEC and a letter was due out shortly. NG was asked to email a copy of the policy to RM

Commissioning Consortia

RM said that the transition towards a consortium continues. Work is ongoing and they are look with interest at what others are doing. The idea of a Reference group has been put forward for interested GP's to get involved. Paper ' GP Consortium Seminar a plain English guide to navigate changes' written by RM after he attended a seminar hosted by Hempsons on April 7th 2011 was noted

NG said that Trafford Commissioning consortium has a target for CRES / QUIPP saving of £15m, of which £6-8m needs to come from primary care.

NG said that the consortium is looking at a QOF solution that will reward GPs for a lot of the work that has already been done. He said that the prescribing budget is just over 1% over target. Those practices that were underspent before have increased their underspend, but those that are over have unfortunately increased their overspend.

RM asked about the Board constitution and the election of Members, he said that it is important to include determinants that show that Board Members have the confidence of local GPs. He offered the services of the LMC in any electoral process.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST LMC/PCT MEETING

QOF year end sign off

RM said that there are still a handful of practices that had not advised the PCT that they will be in a position to sign off their QOF on 17th June. VS asked the PCT to notify her and she will talk to the practices.

Patient transport

This has now been resolved. RM informed the meeting that Referral Booking Management System (RBMS) will be taking over the booking of all patient transport after 31st May 2011. Patients will have a direct dial telephone number however they will need their NHS number, which may cause some problems. Practices will need to find a way of ensuring that these vulnerable patients have this information.

Action: RM to write to practices?

Electronic prescribing

It was advised that this had gone live on the day of the meeting.

On the associated issue of prescribing – RM advised that 7 day prescribing is under discussion currently with colleagues from the Local Pharmaceutical Committee. He said that he would keep the LMC informed of progress.

Choice & Booking Component 2

Trafford PCT has said that it feels that it is unable to pay GPs for the section 2 of the Choice and Booking LES in 2008/9. It says that Part 2 of the LES was to support Choice and was to establish if 60% of patients referred to secondary care recollected being offered a choice of provider/hospital at the point of referral". The PCT felt that unfortunately the National Patient Survey has not provided evidence to enable this information to be known by practice.

RM informed the meeting that legal advice is being sought to help resolve the issue.

Drugs LES

The 12 patients specified in the Drugs LES is not mandatory and practices need to know that if they believe they will see 12 or fewer patients they will still be able to take part. VS agreed to send out an email to all practices.

5. WHITE PAPER UPDATE

Even though the White Paper is technically on hold for the moment, RM said that he believes it will go thorough but will be diluted. He also said that anyone who wanted to add any comments could visit the BMA website.

6. TRAFFORD COMMISSIONING CONSORTIUM UPDATE

Covered under Agenda item 3

7.DES

The LMC has disputed that the PCT can offer the DES whilst wrapping it up in the LES. The LMC belief is that the PCT needs to offer the DES, and that it can offer a LES along side it and allow practices to choose which they offer.

Sue Sutton recognized this. She said that the DES says that GPs would have to offer extended hours at a time determined by the patient survey. RM said that the LMC would discuss this but felt that it is important that the PCT gives GPs the choice. JB said that his practice has carried out two random surveys on patient views. MJ said that this should be acceptable to the PCT.

Question was asked as to whether practices could change from the LES to the DES and it was recognized that this is the case.

RM said that the LMC will be reviewing all LESs and DESs and applying the same principals.

18. BLUE BADGES

This process is running smoothly in Manchester. RM asked what information patients would require to apply directly to Trafford Council. DH said that he would check and feedback to the group.

1. CORONER'S REQUESTS

Coroners covering Salford and Trafford have recently stopped paying for GP reports. LMC have tried to arrange a meeting with them to discuss however Jennifer Leeming (Mcr West) has written to the LMC to say that she felt, as the issue needs to be addressed at a national level, there would appear to be no point in meeting. Reference was made at this point to copies of the letters received from Jennifer Leeming with correspondence to Dr John Canning from Judith Bernstein Head of Current Coroner Policy Unit. This issue was further debated in the meeting and the outcome was that where information was requested by the coroner GP's would send off a print out but would not express an opinion.

10. AMBULANCE BOOKING UPDATE

Covered in agenda item 4.

AOB

RM raised the issue of increasing requests for letters of support from GP's regarding benefit appeals and referrals to independent medical officers. Correspondence was noted from Trafford Social Services, which explains why this is happening. The LMC is keen to work with agencies to see how we can work together and asked DH to look into how we can do this.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

June 15th lunchtime, Sam Platts

July 13th lunchtime, Sam Platts

August- usually no meeting

September 14th lunchtime, Sam Platts

October 12th lunchtime, Sam Platts

November 16th lunchtime, Sam Platts

December Monday 12TH evening – joint for all Members of Salford and Trafford sub-committees.