

# ***Morgannwg Local Dental Committee***

## **Secretary's Report 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

Much of my time since the last meeting has been spent on the usual housekeeping tasks that inevitably crop up, reading and responding to various emails that we receive and dispersing the relevant ones to members, attending meetings on behalf of the LDC and attempting to support constituents in their inevitable disagreements with Locality Offices in relation mainly with contractual matters.

I have attended three meetings as an official of the LDC, a meeting, also attended by the Chairman on 10<sup>th</sup> February with Locality representatives concerning Out of Hours and Access, a meeting of the LDC/LHB Liaison Group on 15<sup>th</sup> February, attended with the Chairman, a report of which is attached and both the Chairman and myself attended the Education sessions at the Baglan Resource Centre on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. We attended both the morning and afternoon sessions in order to input LDC opinion should it have been required.

The Out of Hours and Access meeting was attended with the intention of taking the views of our members who replied to the document we circulated on the subject. We were broadly in favour of the principle that more resources should be put into weekend sessions with the loss of weekday sessions to balance this. We were also prepared to consider a triage system using a supplier other than NHS Direct. We were also anxious that the service should have Pharmacy support at weekends and that other providers of the service, both Providers and Performers, could be involved should they so wish. We stated that at present the LDC were not in favour of a single site for the various reasons put to us by members and this was accepted. We also wanted clarification of the responsibilities of the Hospital Services in relation to urgent and emergency care of patients, and further clarification of the patient pathway for accessing these services. There was an urgency on behalf of the Localities that we needed to move into new arrangements by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 but we felt that we should have the detail of further information before moving in this direction. We were told that the paper would be modified to include detail addressing our concerns and that the rota would be extended to the 1<sup>st</sup> June, a matter confirmed at the Liaison Group meeting. We have made enquiries as to when this revised document will be available but to date this enquiry has neither been acknowledged nor responded to.

The Education Day at Baglan was generally thought of as a success and was carried out over two identical sessions, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. The sessions were introduced by Karl Bishop (Catherine Roberts in the afternoon) with formal contributions on Quality and Safety Issues by Lisa Howells and Audit by Ewart Johnstone. The attendees split into round-table groups

for discussions about referral pathways with David Davies (CDS in particular Special Care and Vulnerable Persons), David Drake (OMFS), James Owen (Restorative Dentistry) and Charlotte Eckhart (Orthodontics). The feedback we received was positive with a view that regular updating should be done.

I mentioned in my previous report that we were concerned about there being no protocol for the removal of patient records from practices. We decided that this issue should be taken to the Clinical Governance Group of the DSSPG. The Chairman arranged for the subject to put on the agenda of a recent meeting but the meeting was belatedly cancelled. It will remain as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Roger Pratley  
Secretary