

**Minutes of LDC meeting held at the Holiday Inn Express, Llandarcy
on Tuesday 17th March, 2015.**

Members Present.

Rhiain Paul in the chair, Roger Pratley, Mark Harris, Huw Hopkins, Helen John, Allison Walker, Steve Gould, James Bater, Pam Norman, David Jones, Lesley Hicks, James Davies, Anwen Hopkins, Tesni Metcalf, Tony Fodor.

In Attendance.

Chris Wills-Wood, Mary Wilson, Simon Bond, Prash Vasudevan, Keith Silvester, Rhian Jones.

Apologies for Absence.

Bill Walters, David Davies, Karl Bishop, Rob Elliott, Mike Spencer-Harty, Gayathri Kini, Dharminy Martin, Celia Topping.

15/15 Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 27th January, 2015.

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and correct record.

15/16 Matters Arising.

15/07 - Parkway Clinic - There was no update

15/17 Secretary's Report.

There was nothing to report that is not included in agenda items.

15/18 Chair's Report.

This had been emailed to all members previously.

15/19 Treasurer's Report and LDC Finance.

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| The balances now stood at:- | Current Account: £6317.30 |
| | Deposit Account: £23951.93 |

15/20 Delegates' Reports.

Orthodontics

1. MCN meetings are now being held again, the first one had been held in January 2015. LDC representation important at this meeting.
2. Electronic referral pro forma discussed for the future.

3. Hywel Dda had reported no waiting list for orthodontic assessment. A 2-3 years wait however to start treatment.
4. Waiting list times for Orthodontics are not being sent out to GDPs but are reported to be fluctuating.
5. 2019 likely to be the date for a new contract.

15/21 QAS Update - Chris Wills-Wood

There had been 100% QAS returns, with over 95% green and only 3 reds. ABMU have a traffic light system with green being no issues, amber a few minor issues and red major issues and probably a visit needed.

This year a breach notice had been given for a red this needs discussing between LDC and LHB.

The feedback section of QAS is not being filled in by GDPs. This is a good opportunity for GDPs to voice their concerns regarding lack of finance, interpretation of rules and regulations etc. It was hard to justify any problems if GDPs are not making any comments. GDP's are reluctant to use this opportunity as a sound board for fear of being treated unfavourably by the LHB.

HIW inspections seem to be focused more on patient care than the old style of rules and regulations. There is a particular emphasis on complaints utilising the 'Putting things right' guidance. It is felt that the QAS needs to be modified to reflect this.

There is concern about the lack of training for HIW inspectors and lack of calibration.

15/22 GDS Contractual Grey Areas

Welsh GDPC and BDA Welsh Council have become aware that colleagues in General Practice were being judged on performance issues by Health Boards and the BSA DSD in Eastbourne on so called regulations which are unwritten and contain many grey areas of interpretation. Health Boards are accepting DSD judgements on these matters without reference to the practitioners or to LDCs, which they are required to do in Wales by statute. Reports from the BSC are integral parts of cases made against colleagues and they are used at panels as evidence of unacceptable practice, the GDP often not being able to challenge the findings of the report in a face to face meeting with the report author.

An email forum had been set up among members of Welsh GDPC and BDA Welsh Council and a document had been put together containing all the comments made and had been circulated to LDC members for their comments and additions. A number of comments had been received and it was decided that a revised version of the document should be sent to the BDA Wales Director for inclusion into the evidence to be presented to the CDO.

It was further noted that colleagues who were being informed that they were under investigation were often ignored in their protestations and cases had been noted when explanations were forthcoming but the locality in question had refused to investigate further.

It is also noted that mistakes had been made at the DSD computer analyses and that in order to challenge these complaints considerable time needs to be taken by the practice to gather evidence and cases have been known to take more than 12 months between Screening Panel and Reference Panel.

These times are very stressful for the practitioners involved and young practitioners have been known to seriously consider leaving the profession.

Contemporaneous note keeping is of the greatest importance and recording of justification of x-rays. Providers are advised to watch their associates claim patterns as the Provider will be held ultimately responsible should there be an investigation. It was advised to contact the LDC as soon as any notice of investigation is received so that they can be involved early in the process.

15/23 Local Commissioning - Update

A reply had been received from the Chairman of ABMU Health Board. Internal and external auditors are in the process of investigating the complaint.

15/24 Occupational Health - Update

A letter had been sent to all General Dental Practices for them to express an interest in the scheme and sign up in due course.

15/25 In Hours Access - Update

A meeting had been held today with Kim Dunn and Lindsay Davies. An expression of interest letter was to be sent out to all GDPs in the three localities. The SLA if signed up to would last a year and was open to all. Three months notice would be given to all practices currently taking part from 31st March 2015. LDC had agreed to the letter being sent out.

15/26 LDC BGM 20th April, 2015.

All notices had been sent out. There was no need to hold postal ballots for LDC members since the nominations matched or were less than the vacancies in the three localities. Further nominations will be sought on the night at the BGM and if none are forthcoming, then the new LDC will attempt to fill any vacancies.

15/27 Any Other Business.

1. The annual LDC conference is to be held June. The LDC has not sent a representative for 4 years due to the cost and the fact that most of the issues are only concerned with English issues. Tom Bysouth will be attending as GDPC member for SW Wales and will report back to LDC in due course.
2. A complaint had been made regarding the lack of a pharmacy open late at night during the OOH sessions. To raise at LDC/LHB Liaison Meeting.
3. The Chair raised the point of perhaps moving LDC meetings occasionally closer to Bridgend for Bridgend GDPs. To discuss further at next meeting.

15/28 Date and Time of next meeting.

Tuesday 19th May, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Express, Llandarcy. Elections for LDC Officers will be held at this meeting.