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Biennial General Meeting of GDPs, 16th September, 2019.

Secretary's Report

The LDC has met on twelve occasions since the BGM of April 2017 and there have once again been numerous subcommittee meetings and representatives have attended regular meetings with HB at the bi-monthly Liaison Group, thirteen in all. The LDC has sent delegates to various HB groups, the Oral Quality, Safety and Patient Experience Group (the replacement of the QAS Group), Special Care Dentistry MCN, Orthodontics MCN, Emergency and OoH Groups, Contract Reform, e-referrals and others.

The LDC has once again decided against sending delegates to the Annual Conference of Local Dental Committees in both 2017, 2018 and 2019 because in part of the costs involved, overnight stays being required, but also the fact that the agendas at both these meetings were particularly English oriented and through our representation on the GDCP and the BDA website we can be kept up to date with happenings in England. We did not send a representative to the LDC Officials' Day of 2018 for the same reason but sent 2 representatives to the 2017 Officials' Day since there were items on the agenda which we thought might have implications for Wales. Ultimately, we were disappointed and confirmed our original thoughts that we shouldn't attend these meetings without evidence from the agenda that Welsh related items were to be discussed, The meeting was useful however from a networking perspective since we had a long discussion with the BDA CEO relating to an education day we were proposing to run. More on this later

Two practices in our area (the only ones in Wales) are still involved in the Welsh prototypes of contract reform and these prototype practices are moving forward successfully. At the time of writing more than 20% (13 in number) of practices are taking part in phase 1 of the WG contract reform programme and after October the strategy is to increase this by a maximum of another six practices, increasing the percentage to over 30% of SBUHB practices. The LDC is actively involved in the selection process for practices who wish to be engaged in contract reform.

Attendance at LDC meetings has again been very encouraging and more younger colleagues continue to attend and have put themselves forward for election to the committee. We still regularly get a full meeting room. Remember that any provider or performer can attend LDC meetings but only elected LDC members are allowed to vote at meetings. We are limited for space at our current venue and so if any non-members wish to attend please email me so that I can ensure sufficient space and seating are available. If we need to abandon our current venue and look for a larger room to accommodate more and more colleagues then we will happily do this. Details of the remaining meetings for 2019 are on the website.

The In Hours Access Service and the Out of Hours service continue as originally set up and all reports appear to suggest that these are still working successfully. The services are under constant review and issues from colleagues need to be reported to the LDC through the secretary so that they can be reported to the review meetings. The 111 service is operating successfully.

In the Secretary's Report to the BGM in April 2017 I mentioned the need for clarification of the 'grey' areas of the NHS contract in relation to claiming. The LDC decided that the BDA has a ready made course on NHS Claiming Regulations and discussions with the BDA CEO at the 2017 Officials' Day advanced our thoughts considerably resulting in the LDC sponsoring and part funding an Education Day at the Morriston Hospital Education Centre on Friday 20th April 2018, organised jointly by the LDC and BDA and carrying 5.5 hours of CPD. The course was very successful and well received and was

attended by 75 dentists and 25 DCPs. Further funding was provided by the BDA sourced sponsors of the event.

The new Private Regulations (Wales) came into being early in 2018 and the LDC objected to the requirement to provide financial information for NHS practices for the registration process, an objection that was unsuccessful. Similarly, it complained about loss of documents submitted by some practices to HIW for the registration process, eventually complaining to the Information Commissioner's Office, a complaint which was eventually settled to the satisfaction of all parties. This led to an offer from HIW to address the LDC on matters we had raised with them and they attended the LDC meeting in March 2019, attended by more than 30 colleagues, and discussed all the issues raised by the LDC. Lisa Howells, Deputy CDO WG was also present and a lively discussion followed the presentation. The general consensus was that the presence of HIW was extremely successful and helpful, hence our invitation to HIW to attend and present at the 2019 BGM.

The Chair has mentioned in her report the boundary change that took place on 1st April 2019, when Bridgend practices were moved from ABMUHB to Cwm Taf UHB and two new HBs were born, Swansea Bay University Health Board and Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board. There were considerable issues to resolve in the run up to the move, the LDC being involved in all issues which affected our Bridgend colleagues.

The GDP Fellowship commenced in September 2018 following considerable discussions between the LDC and the HB. The LDC had reservations about the whole process (detailed in the document at <http://www.morgannwglcdc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Item-8.1-GDP-Fellowship-Meeting.pdf>) but eventually agreed to a 3 year pilot of one fellowship candidate being appointed, to spend 4 days in their FD practice and one day at the Port Talbot Resource Centre doing endodontics with patients taken from the endodontics waiting list. The pilot is due for review after 1 year in September 2019.

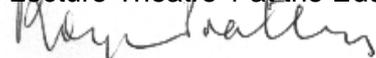
In the summer of 2018 the WG Health, Social Care and Sports Committee instituted a consultation on an inquiry into the Future of Dentistry in Wales, asking specific questions in the consultation. The LDC responded as at <http://www.morgannwglcdc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Item-10-180830ResponseFinal.pdf>. The WG has responded to the inquiry and their response can be found at <http://www.assembly.wales/laid%20documents/gen-ld12688/gen-ld12688-e.pdf> The LDC is currently reviewing and commenting on this response so that it can inform local AMs prior to the plenary session in October.

The Chair discussed the e-referral system in her report and I will not comment further at this stage, but it can be raised further at the meeting.

We were genuinely disappointed that we lost some very active, talented Bridgend members from the LDC after the border change referred to earlier and I would like to pay tribute to, and thank them for, their contribution. In particular I would like to thank Anwen for taking over the responsibilities as Chair on the resignation of Keith Silvester and Allison for doing the same when Anwen was forced to resign. Anwen was our representative on BDA's Welsh GDPC and her term of office ends in 2021. We decided as an LDC, after consultation with BDA Wales that Anwen should remain as our representative until the end of the term provided that she reported to and attended our LDC meetings, which she was happy to do. The LDC also took the decision to suspend the BGM from April to September, when there would have been time for the boundary change to settle. It will revert to April 2021 for the next BGM. We also decided not to change the name of the LDC, as did the LMC. I must also add my thanks to Keith Silvester for bringing his experience to the LDC both as a member and for a period as Chair. We wish him well in his retirement to Tunbridge Wells. Similarly, we have lost Rhiain Paul, former Chair and very active member until Bridgend left us in April last. We will miss her experience and wise, knowledgeable contributions.

Finally, my thanks to Sarah Davies, our Minutes Secretary, for her support during and between LDC meetings.

We look forward to seeing colleagues on the evening of 16th September at the BGM at 6.30 for 7.00 at Lecture Theatre 1 at the Education Department at Morriston Hospital.



Roger Pratley, Secretary, Morgannwg Local Dental Committee