



www.morgannwglc.org.uk

Biennial General Meeting of GDPs, 23rd September, 2021.

Secretary's Report

Following the BGM of September 2019 when the new LDC came into being, would have thought that within a few months the practise of dentistry would have changed to the extent that it has? I am old enough to remember many situations which caused concern from the 50s on, but nothing like the nature of the current pandemic which resulted in peoples' freedoms being temporarily taken away to keep the country a safe as possible. We all know how this has affected the practise of our chosen profession, and how it is made life much more difficult for us as professionals and for our patients. As I write the situation is worsening once again and we must wait and see how it will affect our practices going forward, although hopefully on the back of a successful vaccination programme the effect will not be as dramatic as previously experienced.

The LDC has met face-to-face on 4 occasions since the BGM of September 2019 and following the start of the pandemic in March 2020 we have met remotely on 21 occasions. There have once again been numerous subcommittee meetings and representatives have attended regular meetings with HB at the quarterly Liaison Group, 8 in all. The LDC has sent delegates to various HB groups, 8 Oral Quality, Safety and Patient Experience Group meetings, 2 reference Panels, 6 Orthodontics MCN, 2 Fellowship reviews, 6 Oral Medicine/Oral Surgery MCNs, 10 BDA WGDPC meetings and others.

We have always encouraged non-LDC members to attend meetings as non-voting attendees and since the advent of remote meetings we have welcomed the attendance of interested DCPs. These remote meetings have been very successful with attendances often approaching the 40s and 50s.

Karl Bishop, the dental director at the health board, has attended all the remote meetings to date and has given us a detailed update on the pandemic and how things are developing at a Welsh government level in each meeting. We thank him for the time he has devoted to this in addition to his other duties, which has been considerable. We have further developed good two-way communication with the HB during this period although there is still room for improvement, which we will endeavour to do on your behalf. I would also like to thank the DPAs for their hard work over the past two years, and for always being available to LDC officials when the need arises.

The Contract Reform programme was suspended from March 2020 at which time more than 30% of SBUHB practices had signed up to the programme. At the start of the pandemic UDAs were suspended and other ways were being developed to monitor performance of practices but the chair has addressed everything in detail in her report so I will not duplicate in my report

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 meetings with the HB. The 111 service is operating successfully.

You will have noted in the Treasurer's report that Mark is standing down from the position of Honorary Treasurer after 29 years active service for reasons he has detailed. I would like to pay tribute to the work he has done over the years; we have worked closely together over this period, and he has always kept a tight reign on the LDC finances.

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 23rd September remotely at the BGM at 7pm at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81803237753?pwd=VG5wVFQvNGY0b3BnbmJONllaRDITdz09>



**Roger Pratley,
Secretary,
Morgannwg Local Dental Committee**