

Leek & Biddulph Patient Locality Group

Notes of meeting held on 19th November 2024

Via Microsoft teams

Present: L Roberts (LR) Chair, I Robbins (IR), L Dulson(LD), S Tatton(ST), T Parker(TP), E Thomas(ET), R Hurst(RH), W Armstrong(WA), Dr J Cox(JC), D Cunningham(DC), E Shelton(ES), M Berry(MB), B Pickering(BP)

In Attendance B Tameez, E Ford Healthwatch

Apologies: M Cozens, H Potts

1. Notes of the meeting held on 17th September 202

These were approved.

2 Matters Arising

TP stated she wished to correct the item on Biddulph Valley in the last Notes in her report. This was agreed.

3. Update of PCN developments

LD reported that it was a little quiet at present, with activity continuing on core elements of the contract. The ICB was currently asking for evidence to support how PCNs are delivering aspects of the DES and had recently requested a Proactive Care return and in December 2024 we had to submit a Health Inequalities return.

The Board have decided on the additional post under ARRS and are recruiting a GP via the GP Federation. The GP appointed would be available to work across all five Practices however, how this would look is still being worked on. The recruitment process is ongoing and so LD will update at the next meeting.

A new Pharmacist has been recruited to the team and will commence work on 2nd December.

In answer to a query she commented that the remaining ARRS budget had been used to award staff an inflationary uplift, but that this was lower than elsewhere in the NHS due to PCNs not being granted the funding to award this, as had happened elsewhere in the sector.

4. Report on Board Meeting

LR reported that the planned meeting had been postponed and rearranged for 21st November and hence she had no report until next meeting.

5. Feedback on ICB. Engagement meetings re Emergency and Urgent care centres.

BP reported that he managed to attend the extra meeting at Haregate Community Centre on 8th October despite only receiving confirmation at noon on day of event. At least two people present did not receive confirmation until 4 pm on the day and the meeting commenced at 6.30pm. He also commented

that many did not turn up and this had happened for the rearranged meeting at the Maude to allow more people to attend. He stated that he had raised these issues with ICB and they recognised that they had a problem. He reported on the meeting and stressed that the approach had softened considerably from the presentation we attended at Biddulph in August. If Leek could not have an Urgent Care Centre then they accepted we needed a form of treatment centre whatever it is called. This has been confirmed in a Letter to Dame Karen Bradley MP from the Chief Executive of MPFT.

LD commented that MPFT had initiated a meeting between MPFT and the PCN on the way forward and together they would be meeting with the ICB again.

IR stated that M Cozens had been in touch with Wes Streeting Minister of Health regarding this matter and was compiling a detailed letter on behalf of Leek patients.

BP stated that David Jones, a member of Moorland PPG and a member of the ICB people panel had requested a meeting with David Pearson Chair ICB and Tracey Sherwan and this took place last week. He emphasised to them that the ICB were not complying with the NHS statute clause 274 regards of involvement of patients on all matters and in particular the fate of Minor Injuries /Walk in Centres post the development of Urgent Care centres.

6. Communication Group

BP reported that he had made no further progress in contacting the Cheadle Practices but E Ford, Healthwatch was endeavouring to establish contact for him. He stated that he would try again and establish contact with Waterhouses as their Chair had failed to respond.

BP congratulated DC on the latest PCN Newsletter received just prior to the meeting looked great and he would circulate after meeting.

7. Updates from member PPG's

Biddulph Doctors

Unfortunately no representative present

Biddulph Valley

TP stated that the report at the last meeting was inaccurate and the loss of members was not due to the past chair of the group as quoted in the notes last meeting. She wished to emphasise that the PPG is continuing meet with a smaller number of members and the group have decided to rotate the Chair and Secretary at each meeting at this stage. She was pleased to report that they had gained 2 new members from the recent Covid/Flu clinic. She stated how much the Practice valued the support of the PPG members at the Covid/Flu clinic. TP stated that they are advertising for further new members in the local press.

Park Medical Centre

ET reported that the group are working with the Practice to develop a Facebook page. Trying to stabilise membership and the members were extremely helpful in increasing the footfall of patients by their meet and greet role at the Covid/Flu clinics.

8. Leek Medical Centre

IR reported that they had discussed the contents of the letter from Dame Karen Bradley regarding Leek Hospital and M Cozens contact with Minister of Health. He stated He commented that although PPG members acted as volunteers for the Covid/Flu clinics the Practice was so well organised that the member's role was superfluous but enabled members to try and recruit new members.

Moorland Medical Centre

ST reported that members had been volunteering at the Covid/Flu clinics. The Subgroups on Communication and display were working on the outcome of Patient Survey which had been answered by over 2000 of the 7000 patients who could be contacted by mobile phone. The survey was only 4 questions regarding how patients contacted the practice and how they would prefer to contact in the future. PPG members will be trying to persuade patients who have not completed the Survey on line to do so in the Waiting Room next week.

The Display group are also working up a display targeted at recruiting new members to strengthen our team.

that they had had no response to their letter to the ICB regarding Out of Hours provision for Pharmacy in Leek, He commented that a quick response was unlikely due to the threatened action by Pharmacies in response to Funding issues.

8 Time and date of next meeting

The next meeting will be 13.00 to 15.00 Tuesday 21st January 2025 via Microsoft Teams.

