

Coventry and Warwickshire LPC & Coventry LPC – 22nd March 2022

CHAIR Faye Owen - joint session (VR / JH Coventry only & FO Warks only)

MEMBERS Coventry LPC: **Jas Heer (JH)**; Vicki Roberts (VR); Prad Duggal (PD); Ashwin Hindocha (AH); Adel Ghulam (AG); Dev Joshi (DJ); **Ashok Jassi (AJ)**;

MEMBERS Warwickshire LPC: Faye Owen (FO); Theresa Fryer (TF); Sat Kotecha (SK); Sam Griffiths (SG); Mike O'Donnell (MO); Deepak Lodhia (DL); Lucie Kemp (LK);

IN ATTENDANCE Fiona Lowe (FL) Zoe Ascott (ZA); Andy McKenna (AM);

Attending virtually: Caroline Harvey (CH); Faye Owen (FO); Kathy Robinson (KR);

MEMBER APOLOGIES: Jas Jeer (JJ); Bal Heer (BH);

Guests & Observers expected to attend:

DOI: No changes

AOB: Bank Holiday Rota

Minutes: No amendments.

Merger Update:

Well done from the committee to FL for the work. FL – will be a merged committee from 1st April 2022 and have shadow meeting this afternoon. This is the last meeting as separate committees.

VR – claims for today, FL – claim as normal for today, as this afternoon is meeting in shadow. FL – there are still a few financial issues to sort out. VR need to leave this meeting for half an hour at 11.15am. FL – looked at the monies both LPCs have left and once take out the NHSE money there is not a huge difference, Warks has slightly more, but have made as close as we can. Will sort this out this afternoon. Will leave accounts open for a period of time as obviously have the accounts to sort. Moving to Xero from Sage, ZA and TF attending a training session with Accountants next week. HLP account discusses.

TF – mostly financial updates that need to be finalised. Will gradually change over to one website. TF – admitted at the treasurers day that their website was not fit for purpose. NHS levies are already sorted.

SK – the PSNC websites are not good and where does the accountability sit? It is contractors' money, and it is frustrating.

TF – from the treasurers meeting it was apparent that the PSNC will be asking for a large payment. The treasurers meeting was very frustrating, looking at how pharmacies can do more for less, they are not expecting any more money. TF – not much faith in the RSG to improve.

SK – when the RSG started, no one knew that the contract was going to ICS level, so it has changed.

VR – the RSG have had a difficult job as the sector cannot agree. There are sessions being held where they are going to share detail.

Market Entry: ZA – CLOSED

PSNC Update:

JH is not present to give update.

CPWM Update:

VR and FL attended.

RSG update from James Wood, year 4 negotiations have started. He could not say much more. There was some news, the delays and challenges have been caused by none agreement in the sector. There were 19 recommendations that the sector agreed with, and they have now increased until about 28, there are still 5 that the sector cannot agree on. They are having sessions today and tomorrow. Will probably be more of a compromise. They have come up with a proposal on what can be agreed and then some recommendations on what cannot be. FL – should find out what the split in levy money should be, expecting the levy for PSNC to increase and LPC to decrease, so hopefully see this week. They have already done the mapping exercise of LPC against ICS. They want to end up with 42 LPCs, which is very similar to the amount of ICS's. VR – contractor vote will happen during May. The LPC committee have still got a vote to make as it is a constitution change. AM – more difficult to engage the independents to vote and to be cast. The triple lock did not get through, it is going to be of those that vote. SK – within the past 3 years the pandemic took place, secondly need to think about what has not been delivered as promised. SK – do not believe CPCS is a clinical service, think it is based on self-care. SK – looking at the past to negotiate the future my not work. Problems with Pharmacists jumping ship. Negotiators need to realise what they are negotiating for on the ground. VR – similar issues with the engagement with the advice audit, but there has still been no change.

Further discussion over funding and risk and incentive of investing within community pharmacy. Added value that pharmacy offer need to be considered, risk of the 'amazonisation'.

VR – there was a discussion whether to align across the whole Midlands, so join with East Midlands. It would need to be fair.

Actions to complete closure of individual LPCs:

Financial – claims, accounts, AGM, websites, emails, box etc, minutes Closing financial position. Treasurers to circulate updated standing and projected funds (excluding and NHSEI money) in advance of the meeting. Projected end March 2022.

Warwickshire will end up putting slightly more into the new committee but is marginal. Claims need to be completed today as the accounts need to be closed.

Will have 2 AGMs, can have on the same evening. But the accounts will have to be done separately for this year.

Rota:

CH – seems to be a discrimination towards independents towards the directions. Since NHSE took over they firstly offer to pharmacy, more recently they have looked at what the provision is, normally, and they say Christmas Day and Easter Sunday, the others are usually covered. The rota now has a situation that NHSE actually look at who is already offering the Friday/Mondays so do not count into the Christmas and Easter – so ends up with a relatively small number who get directed to do the Easter Sunday and Christmas. They also do not take into account where a company has more than one contact. So, it appears that some pharmacies are directed more often than others. CH

has been battling with NHSE over this, they will not explain the decision-making process. It will go to ICB level to sort out, they should have more of a sensible approach. AM – direction should be rotated. Should be at least 8 weeks' notice as well. FL – it is largely down to pharmacies being slow at sending the opening hours to NHSE. Would be a breach if you did not open when directing. FL – have to have the patient provision. MO – both the mechanism and attitude of NHSE. IT is the individuals who answer directly, and they are quite slow at responding. SK and FL attend weekly meetings, have pulled this issue up and they never engage. The staff there are thinly stretched, blame the system not the individuals. CH – directions should be a completely separate list. Multiplies are 9 times out of 10 are not being directed.

TF – taking turns is the fairest way.

If have a rota for a specified geography and take it in turns and can plan years in advance.

Suggestions over bringing the issue up in the PNA. SK – mechanism to hold to account. Further discussions over what should be included. SK – process could be put in PNA. FL – PNA cannot recommend it.

CH – no staff are contracted on Sundays, so cannot force them to work.

Break.

Covid Vaccinations Update:

No updates.

Hub and Spoke:

It is in the PSNC newsletter, a hub and spoke consultations. FO – also need to discuss the flu proposal for the next season.

Hub and Spoke consultation closing by 8th June 2022: [Hub and spoke dispensing - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

CW Members to read and send comments before Easter, if want to give an LPC response.

Concerns over the staffing of dispensing practices in the very rural areas.

Discussion over category M.

AM – difficult as LPC to comment on this, would need to ask individuals to comment.

Agreed to just point out to contractors, but members should read.

MO – could ask for a list of the clinical services to be provided by the spokes.

SK – we do not have any assurance until we know the clinical services.

Flu Proposal:

SK – were allowed to amend orders following the publication of the letters. Agreed there is not much to comment but want equality with GPs. Have created an expectation with the over 50s but will have to deal with it.

GPCPCS – 10th March meeting and progress to date:

Working group, New Leads, support and funding, progress to date.

Successful evening on 10th March, good representation from PCNs and the CCG. Attendees where actively participating.

GPCPCS – CLOSED

Discussions over measuring the data.

Smoking service- Warwickshire: KR – CLOSED

Drug User Services- C&W: - CLOSED

Vote of Thanks for outgoing members of Coventry LPC and Warwickshire LPC members.

Break for Lunch.