

Sandwell Local Dental Committee

Chairman

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Minutes of a meeting of Sandwell Local Dental Committee held on Monday 9th October 2017, in Meeting Room 3, Lyng Health Centre.

Present

Suresh Kumar (Chairman), David Cooper (Secretary), Pamela Kainth, San Qamar and Shubnum Rabaab.

Apologies

Ateef Azam, Rav Kumar, Gurjit Moore and Phil Tangri.

Minutes

These had been circulated. They were accepted by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

David Cooper reported that the Peer Review groups had been given positive feedback and were to be continued into this financial year. DC had resigned from his position as a Facilitator.

LDC Chairs/AT Meeting

Suresh Kumar reported on the meeting that had taken place in September.

Mike Buckle had now been seconded to another department within the AT. Nuala Woodman had taken over his position as the AT lead.

RMS Procurement - the AT were currently evaluating bids for which the implementation period would be from November until the end of March.

Domiciliary Care - Practitioners were increasingly opting out of providing these services due to the onerous compliance issues. NHS111 was receiving many enquiries for domiciliary and sedation services. It was suggested that NHS111 could hold a list of providers who were willing to them.

Dental Checks by 1 - there was still no information regarding requirements necessary to claim one UDA for a small child.

Contracts - it was possible that breach notices could be removed after three years.

Overseas work - Providers had a duty of care to alleviate pain for patients who had received dental treatment overseas, but their responsibilities stopped there.

Dental Concerns Group - this was a group focussed more than PIGG and PAG on dental issues. Its aim was to deal with issues more appropriately. DPAs may be used to investigate or to visit practices.

BSA were conducting mid-year reviews. If a contract had delivered less than 30% by mid-year money may be withheld.

There was a move to uplift the minimum UDA value to £21. Anything less than this figure was deemed unsafe.

Orthodontic Procurement

BDA had issued a legal challenge over concerns about the procurement of Orthodontics in the South of England which was favouring large contracts to the detriment of smaller practices. In response, NHSE have announced that existing contracts will be extended until March 2019.

GDPC Meeting Report

A full report from our GDPC representatives had been circulated to all practices and was available on the LDC website.

The prototype evaluation was not going well and some members had questioned if it was worthwhile continuing with the process.

It appeared that the Tier 2 Accreditation process was more advanced than had been expected and that although the GDPC Executive had been involved in the work, it had not sanctioned it.

BDA was concerned that the GDC ARF had not been reduced despite falling costs and fewer complaints to be dealt with.

Proposed New Practice in West Bromwich

Shubnum Rabaab reported that planning permission had been granted for a dental practice in Hill Top, 0.3 miles from her practice.

She, as well as DC and Eddie Crouch, had contacted the AT for clarification. The reply had been noncommittal but it appeared that there was a re-commissioning of UDAs freed up by the closure of the Great Bridge practice last year.

However, Hill Top is not Great Bridge and it was agreed that the LDC should contact the AT again to seek reassurance that the needs of Great Bridge patients were being met.

Any Other Business

Members were invited to attend the Birmingham LDC AGM on 1st November at Edgbaston Cricket Ground. Sara Hurley, CDO, and Henrik Overgaard-Nielsen, Chair of GDPC, will be the speakers.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday January 8th at 6.30pm at the same venue.