Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Leeds Local Dental Committee held at The Weetwood Hall Conference Centre & Hotel, Otley Road, Leeds on Monday 8th July 2013 at 6.45pm

Attendees:
Jane Moore - Chair
Joanna O’Sullivan - Secretary
Paul Fisher - Treasurer
Liz Barraclough – Minute taker
Paul Fisher
Phil Harris
Mike Lawrance
Maryam Hamer
William Hamer

Peter Fellerman
Sarah Horton
Munaf Qayyum
Sandeep Sharma
Natwaral Tibrewal
Bev Anderton
Alison Little
Jag Deu
Cassim Mohammad

Andrew Hicks
Paul Ellul
Abhijeet Kulkarni
Kamal Patel
Rana Chatterjee
Paul Scott
Jon Swarbrigg
Oliver Wainwright

Jane Moore, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence

2. Minutes of the AGM meeting held 9th July 2012
Proposed by Paul Fisher and seconded by Jon Swarbrigg.
After the meeting Paul Ellul noted that the Minutes showed an error on Page 3, Item 6, where it showed he commented on increased appointment times being positive, but it was another attendee who said this.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes
Andrew Hicks asked whether there was any further progress on Seniority payments.
Jane replied that the British Dental Association had tried many times to fight this, taking legal advice which found it to be a hopeless case due to age discrimination. Jane reported the Department of Health pledged to look at other ways to use the money and that it would remain part of the overall dental spend. The floor discussed issues around superannuation and pensions, with money paid into a pot which pays the retiree and not held for the individuals who paid it.
Jane asked Paul Fisher if the Statutory LDC Levy had been collected. Paul replied it had been paid back now apart from the small percentage increase which wasn’t added. Paul is happy this is concluded.
4. **Adoption of Report of Hon. Secretary of Leeds LDC**
The Secretary’s Report was circulated with the AGM notification and Joanna welcomed any questions.

The Secretary’s Report was proposed by Munaf Qayyum and seconded by Paul Fisher as approved.

Jane thanked Jo for her report and was very grateful for all her hard work over the year.

5. **Adoption of Report of Hon. Treasurer of Leeds LDC**
The Treasurer’s report had also been circulated with the AGM notification and Paul explained the 4 accounts.

- The British Dental Guild Account receives in money which is then sent to the Guild.
- Paul has closed the High Interest Account as it was only paying 0.02% interest.
- The Current Account has a current balance of over £4000. The figures show that LDC Representation has decreased and the Chair & Secretary Expenses increased, but Paul explained that the new accountants had just attributed these figures differently.
- The Voluntary Levy Account was used in 2011 for fighting funds with the PCT over contract issues.

Paul invited questions.

Joanna asked if the Guild Account was closed. Paul replied the Account still received in money and passed this on to the Guild. Jo asked if either of the last 2 cheques had been cashed by the Guild. Paul said not to date.

Paul explained the Dental Guild is a fund that is used to pay professional representation for loss of earnings whilst out of practice attending meetings.

Jo reported some areas pay £12 per dentist on the performer list, Leeds pay much less. Jane and Paul are to follow up with Howard Jones regarding the missing cheques.

Jane thanked Paul for taking over the role of Treasurer and thanked him for all he has done during his first year.

The Treasurer’s Report was proposed by Mike Lawrance and seconded by Peter Fellerman as approved.

6. **Open Forum for discussion**
Jane opened the Forum by reporting on the Contract Pilots:

- From April approximately 25 further practices have been added to the pilots, of types 2 & 3. A number of modifications have been made to the software in particular to the Care Pathway. The Care Pathway undertakes a risk assessment to assess recall interval and Interim Care Episodes. The introduction of ICE’s meant patient charge revenue dropped. This has now been changed so patient charges are levied.
- Appointment books were becoming clogged with Oral Health Assessments, so now they are only carried out initially, and not required when seeing a patient for lost fill, re-cement’s, etc.
- Jane reports she sits on the Evidence & Learning Group, Chaired by Jimmy Steele, as the BDA Representation. A teleconference is coming up to look at further issues. Progress has been hampered by a lack of data returns by the pilot practices.
- The DoH are concerned regarding the lack of knowledge for grass roots GDP’s, so they are putting together an information engagement process.

Jane welcomed any questions:

Joanna asked what year the Contract was due. Jane replied they won’t say, but are consistent that they don’t want another big bang introduction so may possibly roll it out from the engagement.
Rana asked what is in place to discourage manipulation of the system. Jane replied the DoH have statisticians in place to look for ways that the contract may be used to manipulate.

Munaf asked whether there would be any issues regarding the employed /self employed status. Jane replied there is no issue from the DoH to take away the Self Employed status. The issue is with Revenue & Customs, they view same pay and set hours every month as employed. Jane felt young dentists coming through do not seem concerned with this.

Rana asked about the retraction of the RDO system. Jane replied they have already had feedback that this was a good system of regulation, but the Board can already look for outliers from current data.

Jo reinforced the RDO was a system that could confirm correct treatments claimed and carried out accordingly, though Jon Swarbrigg said practices could select the patients the RDO’s examined.

Peter Fellerman felt it won’t be open to as much abuse, and Jo reported that there are already in place Clinical Policy Advisors who can examine patients if required.

There was further discussion regarding the issue of funding and implementing a universal system in a diverse country.

Phil Harris asked if Oral Health Assessments will hold up all treatment for practice when rolled out. Jane replied the problem was software based and the streamlining will largely resolve this.

Jane reported she is hopeful we are learning from the pilots.

Abhijeet Kulkarni asked about Associate Pay. Jane replied the pilots have been paid the same way as the current contract, but is unaware how the new mechanism will work.

Paul Scott asked if fee per item wasn’t preferable?! Jane replied the DoH and Ministers want to implement a contract to improve Oral Health of the population not just treatment of the disease.

Maryam Hamer asked if capitation grows with growth of practices. Jane replied this has been discussed at length, whether money stays with the patient; then what happens with new patients as this would need an uncapped budget.

Jag Deu asked whether new providers can open or just existing providers, and how will the contracts be fair on patient numbers. Jane replied this fundamental question has not been answered.

Jane anticipates it will be a constant list of number of patients, but no decision has been reached yet. Jane said patients will be “registered” with the practice, and Out of Hours services should stay commissioned by NHS England.

Jane said that the DoH don’t want contracts to go out to tender. Jo reported how the National policy on Incorporation will be implemented by the Local Area Teams. Jo said usually practices go into partnership then the owner pulls out, and the DoH want to close this loophole.

Joanna offered to distribute the SOPs on Incorporation if requested.

Joanna reported on NHS England and West Yorkshire Area Team:

The National HQ for NHS England is based here in Leeds. There are 27 Area Teams and Leeds is in West Yorkshire along with Airedale, Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, and Wakefield (WYAT)

Jo outlined the posts taken with Andy Buck as Director of the WYAT, Damien Riley as Medical Director, Sue Cannon Nursing Director, Alison Knowles Commissioning Director, Kath Hilliam as Head of Contracts for West Yorkshire, Neil Coulter, Contract Manager for Leeds & Bradford, Mark Jenkins for Calderdale Kirkles and Wakefield. There are also Finance & Public Health Directorates.

Jo will circulate the website link for National Policies: Termination Policy; Mid & Year End Contracts; PDS to GDS; Incorporation. No policy on sale & goodwill available.

The Performance Screening Group meet once a month observing any Practitioner concerns, with a monthly panel meeting with compulsory LDC Representation.

The Local Professional Networks are to get up and running, the Chair post has been advertised and interviews are being arranged.

Jo invited questions.

Jo asked if everyone was aware that in Leeds the 4% contract tolerance was still valid for 2012/2013 year end but 2013/14 year end will decrease to a carry forward of 2%. The portal gives up to date processing on forms.
Mike Lawrence reported as a 24 hour retiree, he was over target on the old contract but under on the new contract.
Rana asked what happens to rolling over Oral Surgery contracts. Jo replied they are continuing to roll over at present.
Jag asked if RMS was still operating. Jane and Joanna replied yes at the new Area Team address.
Paul Ellul asked about Bradford arrangements and Sandeep explained they have direct referrals for Oral Surgery, Ortho, and Endo, using set Referral Forms. There was discussion on patients needing referring to Leeds if their GP is not a Leeds postcode, and Bradford postcodes referred direct to St. James’s. Jane will attempt to have a meeting with the emerging Area team to clarify referral arrangements.
Oliver Wainwright asked if the RMS still had a backlog. Jo replied she thinks they have caught up since the April backlog; the 18 week target is still in place.
Jon Swarbrigg asked if Neil Coulter will be introducing himself. Jo replied a letter had gone out, but no one here had received it. Jo will look into this.
Jane reported the WYAT team are not sufficiently up to speed yet, she is still waiting for the LDC / WYAT meetings to be set up.
Joanna asked if anyone had any further feedback on the OOH / 111. Jon reported he had 2 patients today that were told 2-3 days to wait to be seen, Joanna reported still having issues with triage.
Mike Lawrence asked how to refer urgent cases. Jon Swarbrigg replied you ring LGI and ask for the on-call Max Fax on duty, and hand them the letter.

7. A.O.B.
Maryam asked how mixed practices will be affected by the new contract when referring privately to the hygienist. Jane replied if NHS treatment is required we need to provide nhs treatment.
Mike Lawrence commented he was unhappy at being addressed as Colleague on correspondence from the CQC.

Jane thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 8.35pm.