

# Community Pharmacy Devon meeting held on 16th October 2023

## Minutes

**Present:** Rachel Fergie, Chair (Day Lewis); Andrew Jones (Well); Ciaran McCaul (Boots); Jackie Lewis; Kelly Holmes (LPC); Matt Robinson (Boots); Mike Charlton (Boots); Ron Kirk; Sian Retallick;

**In attendance:** Sue Taylor (LPC); Kathryn Jones (LPC); David Bearman (LPC)

Rachel welcomed the members to the meeting. There were no apologies received.

All agreed that notes from the previous meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were accurate.

There were no new declarations of interest.

### 1. Actions

Sue went through the actions from the last meeting. Jackie requested that we add the Action for her to be a member of the Task and Finish Group being set up by Charlie Thomas from NHS Devon ICB. The aim of the Task and Finish group would be to review the Nitrofurantoin PGD. Kelly Holman and Leah Wolf would also be involved.

Sian asked about the purpose of the Action log that now accompanies the minutes. Rachel explained that it helps committee members to see where the secretariat is up to with actions agreed at by previous meetings. Actions may also be assigned to committee members.

Following the request at the previous meeting to set up a Teams Channel for the committee members, a few members are still experiencing difficulties in accessing Teams. It was agreed to continue with Basecamp until everyone is able to access the Teams Channel.

Following a brief discussion on the KPIs for the committee, Sian noted that KPIs are also being developed by Community Pharmacy England. It may be worthwhile waiting to see what they agree on before deciding upon our own. Sue stated that we will have our own specific KPIs relating to social media, service delivery etc so we would still need to agree upon our own measures irrespective of what CPE decide on but in general it would be a good idea to include whatever CPE finalise.

## **2. Finance Report**

The committee was provided with a verbal report on the committee finances.

## **3. Secretariat Report**

Sue stated that most of our key meetings are detailed in the report, but over the last couple of weeks the ICB has recruited a Project Management Lead to take forward The IP Pathfinder Programme.

Sian asked when Devon would be sending out information about the local programme and asking for expressions of interest. Sue explained that there would be a formalised process asking for EOIs from pharmacy owners, that was going to be co-ordinated by the SW Commissioning Hub (hosted by Somerset ICB on behalf of all the seven systems across the region).

Jackie requested clarification on the PCN Community Pharmacy Leads role and asked if we would be sending out information to the wider membership. Sue provided an update on the leads role and what the current position is.

## **4. Workforce update**

David reported that there is work happening to try to engage people to become pharmacists as the application level in Devon and Cornwall is at 10% of the national average. Devon had run a very successful media campaign seeking to increase the presence of pharmacy amongst the younger population, the videos are available on the One Devon website.

A schools engagement campaign is also running from November; David wanted members to think about how they could support these sessions and volunteer if possible.

David discussed the plans for IETP and highlighted the fact that the lack of funding information for this is ensuring that there is lower uptake and engagement from community pharmacy in the scheme.

There is a risk that we will not get enough placement positions, but David is hoping to grow capacity by encouraging GPs to undertake education and support the programme and talking to pharmacists and practices to see if they will become DMPs and DPPs.

Teach and Treat is now in place in Devon; an independent prescribing nurse has been set up in University Hospital Plymouth and David is hopeful that 20-30 people may work through the system this year.

Sian asked if community pharmacists will have the same level of priority as hospitals do with regards to funding and support for pre-reg training. David responded by saying that IEPT and pre-reg funding levels will be aligned.

Ron asked if there were any plans to release technicians from other areas within the system, such as hospitals, to relieve pressure on community pharmacy. David stated that it isn't something that is being looked into at present.

## **5. Community Pharmacy Update**

Sian highlighted the main topics discussed at the LPC and CPE national meeting held the previous week. She stated that there was a lot of discussion around the Nuffield Trust and King's Fund vision for community pharmacy, how it had been received, and the importance of community pharmacy sharing the vision. She also noted that the Common condition service is hoped to go live in January.

Mike Charlton suggested that at the next all-day committee meeting we discuss how we can deliver the vision set out in the King's Fund report. Sue reported that Karen Button is leading on the Devon community pharmacy strategy development on behalf of the ICB and will be attending the 13<sup>th</sup> November meeting so that the committee members can provide feedback to inform the strategy development. In effect, the committee will be the first "Think Tank". The approach being adopted is mirroring the development of the Devon general practice strategy.

Sian wanted to know if there had been any update with the pathfinder service, Sue stated that a lot of information will be coming out in the next few weeks.

Sue reported that there has been a recommendation from Community Pharmacy England that all CP Locals adopt the same values and governance framework that was discussed at the September meeting. A final draft was published and presented last week, and all CP locals will be asked to sign up to that.

Sue and Rachel have agreed that a new finance and governance sub-committee is established if the committee is in agreement. The committee were all in favour. Membership would include the Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer as well as Kathryn Jones and Sue Taylor initially.

## **6. AOB**

No other business.

<b>Date of next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm on Teams</b>
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