



Kent Local Medical Committee

Supporting list based personalised care, the partnership model and meaningful collaboration

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Highlights from the Full Kent Local Medical Committee Meeting January 2020

Dr Gaurav Gupta welcomed members to the last meeting of the 2017/2020 term of office.

Drs Simon Lundy, Stephen Meech and Robert Blundell announced they were stepping down from the Committee at the end of the term, and were thanked for their invaluable contributions over the years.

ST3 Conference 13th May 2020

The ST3 Conference: 'Preparing for General Practice' will be held on 13th May 2020 at the Great Danes Hotel (Mercure) Heart of Kent Suite Hollingbourne ME17 1RE. The Conference programme is intended to help smooth the path from training to independent practice. It is free to attend and is open to all GPs, GP ST3 Trainees and programme directors. Booking is now open via the LMC Website:

<https://www.kentlmc.org/events/10375>

Mental Health Update

The LMC met with Helen Greatorex, Chief Exec and the new Medical Director Afifa Qazi on the 18th December and outlined the LMC concerns. Subsequently Dr Qazi has confirmed that a generic email address will go live on the 27th January to deal with clinical admin queries kmpt.clinicalqueries@nhs.net. The emails will be dealt with by KMPT Medical Director and her support team, but is not for patient specific queries. If an email is considered of an urgent clinical nature a response will be sent with an urgent referral bleep number.

The benefits of fostering relationships between practices and KMPT were discussed. Shadowing of KMPT psychiatric trainees with GPs to improve their understanding of primary care was suggested at a previous KMPT meeting. The LMC agreed to raise the issue again and discuss how KMPT resources could be transferred to practices.

A further meeting to discuss progress and other issues has been arranged with Helen Greatorex and Dr Afifa Qazi on 16th March.

Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations (IRMER) Training

Following discussions at the recent MFT meeting, the LMC is working with all four hospital trusts to establish a Kent-wide policy that would allow Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) to order x-rays. This will require AHPs to undertake 3 yearly IRMER

training which could be commissioned by the GP Staff Training Team.

NHS System Changes: Single CCG and ICPs

The four ICP development boards are up and running and have both LMC and PCN Clinical Director representation. Some LMC representatives are also PCN CDs and will be attending the Board meetings.

PCSE Update

The LMC met with Julie Gibson on 13th January. GPs should have all received and activated individual PCSE online logins. It was noted in addition to performer list changes needing to be made online, from May pension forms will also need to be completed by each individual GP online.

It was reported that 2 locum GPs informed the LMC that they accidentally discovered that they were not appearing on the National Performers' List. All GPs were advised to check their status on the National Performers List and inform the LMC office of any issues.

Dr Sarah Westerbeek met PCSE on behalf of the GPC Sessional Committee, and they have agreed to re-send the login email as around 50% were not activated.

Next Generation GP

The second Kent & Medway Next Generation GP programme has now started, anyone still wishing to join should contact the LMC office. The meetings will be held at Tudor Park Hotel, Maidstone and will be both interactive and supported by external speakers.

Exit interviews service

The LMC are offering a service to facilitate exit interviews for GPs leaving a practice. Practices interested should contact the LMC Office.

Verbal report of the Sessional GP Sub-Committee held on 23rd January 2020

The BMA Salaried GP model contract template has been updated to reflect the latest legislation. No major changes have been made however it now includes a wider section on details of continuous employment. Practices are encouraged to proactively utilise the new contract for their salaried GPs.

Death in service payments for locum GPs was discussed, as currently locum GPs are only entitled to payment if they die during the time they are actually working. The national appeal was recently rejected, and the BMA are looking into alternative ways to challenge the decision.

All Sessional GPs were reminded that they need to complete and submit their Type 2 forms by the end of February 2020.

The Sub-Committee discussed the current LMC Election and the difficulties sessional GPs encounter attending or negotiating time off for meetings. Practices were asked to support GPs who request time off to attend LMC liaison and interface meetings.

Practice Manager Group Update

At the last Practice Manager Conference PMs felt that they were not actively communicating with managers in other areas, and it was suggested that the LMC facilitate a Kent & Medway wide Lead PM Group, which was welcomed.

The first Kent & Medway Lead Practice Managers' Group was held in November, and a second meeting has now taken place. The meetings are very well attended. A summary is circulated to all PMs following the meeting and feedback from both meetings has been extremely good.

Issues discussed to date include PCSE (pensions/records etc), change in provider of Diabetic Eye Screening programme and cytology system changes. It has been agreed the meetings will be quarterly and all CCG areas, with the exception of Canterbury, are currently represented.

GPC Update

NHSPS Legal Challenge

The GPC have launched a legal challenge with five practices, which is progressing. Dr Gupta will provide an update in due course.

Anyone wishing to raise issues or concerns for escalation to the GPC should contact Dr Gupta via the LMC office.

LMC Constitution

As agreed at the Full LMC in November, the LMC Constitution has been amended to reflect the changes to the NHS landscape. The number of Local Constituency Committees (LCCs) has been reduced from 8 to 4, to reflect the emerging Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs).

The Constitution has been reviewed by legal advisors to ensure that it is coherent and up to date with current NHS legislation. The Standing Orders have also been pared down to remove any duplication with the Constitution.

The revised Constitution will come into effect on 1st April 2020 and will be available on the LMC website ahead of the inaugural Full LMC meeting on the 23rd April.

PCNs/Service Specifications

Following the consultation, the LMC wrote a joint letter with the 42 PCNs on 15th January 2020 to the GPC, Kent & Medway ICPs, Kent & Medway CCGs, Kent & Medway STP and NHS England and Improvement detailing their response to the Draft Outline Service Specifications for the Network Contract Direct Enhanced Service.

The letter outlined that PCNs need time to develop before they are compelled to achieve targets which risk destabilising General Practice. Appropriate workforce funding streams to fulfil the requirements and a number of other significant comments were detailed.

It was felt that the current transformation is reliant on PCNs working, and that as the draft specifications stand, if agreement cannot be reached practices will no longer participate in PCNs.

Concerns were raised around ongoing employment liability as PCNs are not legal entities.

It was agreed that the draft specifications are too onerous, too prescriptive, lack reimbursement and leave practices with too many liabilities. Negotiations are ongoing nationally.

Annual Conference of LMCs 6/7th May

Members divided into small groups to debate and draft Motions for the Annual LMC UK Conference. Deadline for submission of motions is 24th February 2020.

Reflections of LMC Term of Office

Members were thanked for their contributions over the last 3-year term and asked to reflect and feedback on their experience.

Ways in which representatives engage with and canvas views of their constituent GPs was discussed. In West Kent the PM forum was noted as an extremely successful way of canvassing opinion and obtaining feedback. The merits of representatives engaging at PCN and federation level was discussed.

It was suggested a WhatsApp group be established for LMC representatives to use alongside the listserver. Other forms of social media as forms of communication were discussed.

The pressure GPs are under was discussed, and the importance of the LMC highlighting where support can be found if needed was noted. NHSE have now agreed that the LMC can contact GPs

following a Performance Advisory Group (PAG) or Performance List Decision-making Panel (PLDP) to offer support. This was seen as an extremely positive change.

Overall members reported a positive experience. The LMC office were praised for their support and efficiency.

LMC Election 2020-2023

The LMC Election is now underway. Members were encouraged to step forward for the next Committee and to encourage their colleagues to stand. Current representatives not standing for the new committee were asked to inform the office.

Date of Inaugural Meeting of New Committee

Thursday 23rd April 2020

Kelly Brown
Senior Administrative Officer (Comms)