



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 2019

Dr Julian Spinks welcomed members and observers to the meeting and introduced Dr Helen Smart who was recently appointed as a GP Trainee LMC Representative.

It was noted that Loraine Kay will be joining the LMC on Monday 4th February as Senior Administrative Officer (Finance).

Mental Health Services

Following discussions at the last Full LMC meeting progress has been made. The LMC had a positive meeting with Helen Greator, Chief Executive of KMPT, a task & finish group has been established and a further KMPT/LMC liaison meeting has taken place.

The task & finish group are working on the high rate of rejection of referrals, and a pilot is underway where instead of rejecting referrals KMPT are requesting missing information from the referrer before making a decision. The need to ensure referrals include key information and adequate history was emphasised.

Members discussed the one-hour telephone access to consultants, and the possibility of consultant access via email. Both options were seen as beneficial, but concerns remain for those patients who are acutely unwell.

Helen Greator is keen to work with the LMC and general practice moving forward, and it was agreed to invite her to the next Full LMC meeting in April.

EU Exit Operational Readiness Guidance

The Government have published 'EU Exit operational readiness guidance' for the health and care system in England which identifies actions that GPs and commissioners should take to prepare for, and manage the risks of Brexit.

CCGs have emailed practices across the patch requesting they complete a template as part of a readiness review.

It was noted that concerns around implications of Brexit have resulted in patients requesting longer prescriptions. Practices and patients were not encouraged to stockpile, and it was suggested that raising public awareness at a national level would be beneficial.

The LMC reviewed and discussed the form, and whilst it is appreciated that CCGs need assurance that practices will be able to cope with any adverse eventualities as a result of BREXIT, many of the questions are not relevant to practices. The LMC do not believe that practices have a contractual obligation to complete the form. It was suggested a more supportive approach would be to seek to ensure practices have an up to date Business Continuity Plan in place that will mitigate any risks.

Report of the Sessional Sub-Committee 31st January 2019

Plans are moving ahead with the Sessional/VTS Conference on the 15th May 2019, and registration is now open via the Kent LMC website. Key speakers include Professor Chris Holland, Dean, Kent & Medway Medical School and Dr Farah Jameel, GPC Executive Team. SW encouraged all Sessional GPs/GP Trainees to attend.

It was suggested that a stand be set up at the conference to include information on job vacancies in practices and with OOH providers to help VTS trainees who are seeking employment.

Feedback on the Next Generation and East Kent first five GP programmes was extremely positive.

The First Five programme in East Kent was well received by attendees and feedback is currently being analysed. It was noted that considerable interest has already been expressed to continue the programme next year.

GPC News

The November 2018/January 2019 GPC Newsletters were circulated prior to the meeting for information. Questions for the GPC can be raised with GG or MP via the LMC office.

As a GPC regional representative for Kent Dr Mike Parks thanked the LMC for their support over the past 6 years, and announced that he will be retiring from the LMC in June and will not be standing for election. Dr Spinks thanked Mike on behalf of the LMC for his work on the GPC, and members responded with a round of applause.

Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) GP Contract Holders and Salaried GPs

Dr John Allingham reported that with CEPNs and the development of the Kent & Medway Medical School there will be a need for trainers to work collaboratively across hubs and networks.

It is likely that GP trainers will be looking after a number of trainees. There are a growing number of trainers who are not partners, and the need to enable work/job plans to be flexible to allow for training was highlighted.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been drafted to help facilitate a relationship between employing partners and salaried trainers, and is being used as a pilot scheme in East Kent. Dr Allingham commented that the MoU would give flexibility to support education delivery of the Medical School, and with the LMC's endorsement could be used across Kent & Medway.

Members discussed the value of GP training, ensuring adequate reimbursement of trainers and the need to make it a quality experience.

The MoU was welcomed as it provides flexibility and support for salaried educators, and supports the motions submitted to the Belfast LMC Conference. The Committee agreed to share the MoU with the CEPNs with a view to taking it forward.

GP Contract 2019/20/NHS Long Term Plan/GP Partnership Review

Following the release of the GP contract for 2019/20, members watched [short video by Richard Vautrey](#), announcing that GPC England has negotiated a deal spanning the next five years, with elements being introduced throughout the five years. Details of what practices need to do now, together with a summary of the changes, including an overview of primary care networks, Indemnity, Practice funding and pay, IT, digital support and access arrangements, QOF and other contractual changes is available on the GPC website.

Dr Caroline Rickard provided an overview of Primary Care Networks (PCNs), the two components: Network Contract DES and Network Contract Agreement, and outlined the timetable for implementation:

Jan-April 2019	All PCNs should prepare to meet the registration requirements
By 29th March 2019	NHSE and GPC England will jointly issue Network Agreements and the 2019/2020 Network Contract DES.
By 15th May 2019	All PCNs submit registration information to their CCGs
By 31st May 2019	CCGs confirm network coverage and approve variation to GMS/PMS and APMS contracts.
Early June 2019	NHSE and GPCE jointly work with CCGs and LMCs to resolve any issues
1st July 2019	Network Contract DES goes live across 100% of the country
July 2019-Mar 2020	National entitlements under the 2019/20 Network Contract Start
April 2020	National Network Services start under the 2020/21 Network Contract DES

A PCN must be primary care based and GP led. Each PCN will need to appoint a Clinical Director, and each PCN will receive ongoing funding equivalent to 0.25 FTE per 50,000

population size. If practices do not sign up to the DES, the patient list will be added to another PCN, who will receive the funding. There are upper and lower limits for PCN list sizes, of between 30,000 and 50,000. It was agreed that PCNs could be seen as an opportunity for small practices.

Dr Parks commented that the overarching changes to the GP Contract, with overall funding in excess of £2.8bn over a five-year period and the introduction of the indemnity state backed scheme, are welcomed and will have a positive impact on recruitment and retention.

The new state-backed indemnity scheme was discussed, which is for all GPs, both in and out of hours, for NHS work, from April 2019. Issues around liability were discussed, and it was noted that GPs will still need MDO cover for GMC representation and private work, but the cost will be significantly less than current subscriptions.

The LMC will be attending PLTs and federation meetings where possible over the next couple of months to explain about PCNs, Network agreements and the opportunities for practices moving forward.

The GPC Roadshow will be held on Tuesday 26th February at the Tudor Park Marriott Hotel & Country Club, Ashford Road, Bearsted, Maidstone Kent ME14 4NQ. This is a valuable opportunity for GPs to hear about the GP Contract 2019/20 and the most significant changes to Primary Care in 15 years. Dr Farah Jameel, Executive Team of the GPC, will also discuss the indemnity scheme, Primary Care Networks and the NHS Long Term Plan. Registration is now open on the LMC website and members were urged to book their place.

Kent & Medway Primary Care Board Update/Strategy

Dr Parks reported that the Primary Care Board continues to strive for more funding in primary care and is writing the Primary Care Strategy for the STP. GPs are invited to attend a Primary Care Strategy workshop/listening event on the 28th

February. It is anticipated the draft Strategy will be in place at the end of April.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th April 2019.

Kelly Brown

Senior Administrative Officer (Comms)