

Précis of March meeting of Derbyshire LMC

LMC website: <http://www.derbyshirelmc.co.uk>

BMA website <http://www.bma.org.uk/>

Derbyshire LMC met on the afternoon of 3 March 2011 at Santos Higham Farm. Dr Peter Williams was in the Chair and the following members were present: Drs Bermingham, Crowley, Enoch, Gembali, Grenville, Hands, King, Komal, Love, Nayak, North, Portnoy, Ryan, Weston-Smith, Wood, Zammit-Maempel, Dr Naveen (Registra) & Kate Lawrence, Lisa Soultana and Helen Watts. Paul Cook and Jackie Pendleton, Derbyshire County PCT, were in attendance. From DHU, Chairman Dr David Disney and Chief Executive William Jones were present.

UPDATE ON DHU

Dr David Disney and William Jones gave a presentation covering the following aspects of DHU: Board structure, Company/Clinical Governance, Assessments, OOH Benchmarking, Audits, Quality and Productivity, staffing and Contracts, including the fact that they are about to take over the Derby City Walk-in Centre contract. DHU are also participating in the CQC pilot. William Jones noted that DHU had come overall top in all OOH's providers in the MPS's review in June 2010.

Over the Christmas period this year there had been a 53% increase in calls compared to last year and a 40% increase over New Year. The service still achieved 98% of their target to answer calls within 60 seconds. Only 4.2% of patients were referred on to A&E. Staffing, there are over 180 sessional GP's, 140+nurses, 12 forensic medical examiners and over 300 non clinical staff at DHU. Should any new GP's wish to apply to DHU, they should simply submit their CV.

MATTERS ARISING

SRM motions. Derbyshire LMC had submitted 3 motions. A letter had been received from the GPC listing all motions that had been submitted by all of the LMCs.

Blue Badges. John Grenville confirmed that the Department for Transport had recently announced that from 1st April 2011, First Tier Authorities (the City and County Councils) will take complete financial responsibility for organising Blue Badge assessments and that it was expected that patients' GPs would be removed from the process.

Fairer Funding in Derbyshire County Practices

There are updated specifications on the website discussion forum and new offers have gone out to practices.

Health and Social Care Bill

There are now five Consortia in Derbyshire. Pathfinder status has been awarded to the North Derbyshire consortium, the Independent Practices Cluster consortium and Erewash consortium. High Peak & Buxton Commissioning group have confirmed their interest in joining established Consortia. The fifth consortium is City and Southern Derbyshire. It was advised that to-date it is not known exactly how the National Commissioning Board is going to work, but there are indications that the functions of the GP Commissioning groups have been agreed and will be published in the next week or two.

Mental Health Issues.

Derbyshire Mental Health Services now have Foundation Trust Status and are called the Derbyshire Healthcare Services Foundation Trust (DHCS), not to be confused with DCHS, Derbyshire Community Health Services.

GPC Negotiators Roadshows

Attendees for this event in March have now been submitted.

MULTIPLE DIFFERENT BOOKING STRATEGIES

It was suggested that the PCT / Consortia could discuss with Commissioners minimum data sets required to be provided by GPs about patients and there be a standardised format that all GP system suppliers would use. The hospitals current practice of sending referrals back is potentially unsafe for patients. Examples of different lengthy forms were discussed including Pain Management and Social Services, the LMC will take these examples up with the providers.

NHS DERBY CITY REVIEW OF DIRECT ACCESS SERVICES

John Grenville reported that the review in the City of Direct Access services is currently out to consultation, it was agreed that the Derby Open Access Centre would seem most likely to be closed.

CAMERON FUND NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL

The Cameron Fund supports GPs and their families who may be in need. One of the two members of Council of Management for this area has reached retirement by rotation, but is also willing to stand for re-election, the committee were asked if there was anyone who would like to be proposed. (The Council members decide who the trust's funds are distributed to).

PENDING SPEAKERS

The following speakers will be invited in the coming months to attend the LMC meeting: Dr Sheona MacLeod (Training/Deaneries), Dr Martin von Fragstein (Alcohol services), Dr John Sykes (Derbyshire Healthcare Services Foundation Trust (DHCS)) and Jon Baker (Director) - Shared Business Services (SBS).

OFFICE REPORT

Minutes of the LMC Team meeting had been circulated and were accepted. Reference was made to the draft Annual Report that was to be printed once final amendments had been agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Smoking Cessation - the LES and Pharmacy provision are about to be ceased by the County PCT and letters should have been sent out to Practices by now. The PCT plans only to contract for Smoking Cessation services from the Derbyshire Smoking Cessation Service, which will be run by Derbyshire Community Health Services and to use the funds freed up by decommissioning the LES and Pharmacy Additional Service to roll out the CVD Health Check program. It was pointed out that more than 50% of Nicotine Replacement Therapy provision is done by voucher now and that the demand for FP10 prescriptions from GPs could potentially double. The committee agreed to write to the PCT to express their displeasure regarding the non-consultation and the service withdrawal and that the national tariff should be adhered to.

'111' – A practice had met with their local Age Concern group who had concerns that the '111' service may be used to book appointments directly with their surgery. The LMC will write officially to Jackie Pendleton for representation on the '111' pilot Board.

Easter and Royal Wedding and May Day Bank Holidays – DHU are anticipating heavy demand over these periods and to support DHU, please could Practices use the right hand side of prescriptions to remind patients to ensure that they have sufficient supplies of their repeat medications to last over this period. John Grenville has also emailed practices.

GPSOC – post meeting note – the County PCT has now agreed that funding will be available for all Emis Practices to upgrade to Emis Web. Roll-out to start in July 2011 in a prioritisation order.

There was no other business and the Chairman closed the meeting at 4.45 pm.