

LPC Meeting 17th May 2016

This was the first committee meeting of a new LPC year and the committee met for the entire day. A copy of the agenda, which includes the names of our guests during the day, can be found [here](#).

Officer Appointments for 2016-17

The Committee is required by our constitution to appoint a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer annually. Nominations were invited and as there were no other nominations, the current holders of these posts (John Sargeant, Ian McKenzie and Stuart Kelly respectively) were re-appointed unopposed.

Funding Cuts – update

Garry Myers provided an update for the committee on the PSNC negotiations with the Department of Health and NHS England. Garry is an independent contractor, PSNC regional representative for our area, vice-chair of PSNC's funding and contract subcommittee and a member of this LPC. Over 1.7 million people have signed the petition against the cuts. This was delivered to 10 Downing Street on 24th May. However, PSNC are very pessimistic about the outcome of the consultation on Community Pharmacy's future. Contractors can find information on the negotiations [here](#). We would particularly draw contractors' attention to the statement by Peter Catee, chair of PSNC's funding and contract subcommittee, CEO of PCT Healthcare Ltd and a member of this LPC. He warns that "Combined with the determination to remove £170m from community pharmacy in October, this financial year will be very difficult for the sector. We strongly advise all contractors to make whatever provisions they can for the funding reductions. Earnings from the first half of this financial year will be adversely affected by the Category M price reductions, but will still be significantly above those expected for the second half." The LPC chief officer has written to all nine Derbyshire MPs with a briefing on the funding cuts and invited them to a Parliamentary briefing in the House of Commons on 24th May.

LPC Officers' Activities

Since our last LPC meeting, officers and members have engaged with the Derby City Public Health Team, the Derbyshire Tobacco Control Alliance, the Derbyshire/Notts LPN and have hosted two events on Acute Kidney Injury.

Derby City Council Public Health

A contractor engagement event was held on May 12th to inform contractors about Derby City Council's public health commissioning intentions when current contracts expire on 31st March 2017. Slides from the event can be found [here](#). An Invitation to Tender (ITT) will be issued around 1st June on the East Midlands Tenders portal www.eastmidstenders.org

Flu Plans

Contractors will no doubt be aware of the decision by NHS England to recommission the national flu immunisation service from pharmacies. In the Derbyshire County Council area, where we have some 150 contractors, the LPC is in discussions with Derbyshire County Council for the commissioning of a private flu jab service for council staff who are not eligible for the NHS, but are to be offered the flu jab by the council. Further details will be communicated when the plans have been developed further.

Joint LPC/LMC Delegation on Stop Smoking Services in the County

Officers from the LPC and the LMC met recently with commissioners from Derbyshire County Council and directors from DCHS to discuss their joint concerns about the demise of Stop Smoking services across the County. There were frank and honest exchanges and everyone present shared their frustrations around the apparent inability to secure better accessibility to services under the current contractual arrangements. The current contract still has 17 months to run and it would appear that further progress is unlikely to be achieved until the services are re-procured.

All Pharmacy Teams should be aware of the following:

The Accessible Information Standard – for information about this, [click here](#). Also: *The NHS Whistleblowing Policy for Primary Care* - [click here](#) for a copy. If you would like to get the very latest information on what is happening across the Health & Social Care Landscape, you can access details [here](#)

Stop Press – LPC Award Nomination

We have just received news that Derbyshire LPC has been nominated for the Pharmacist Awards 2016 in recognition of our work in partnership with the National Osteoporosis Society last autumn. More news next time.