

Minutes of the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee meeting

at CCT Venues Barbican, 135-137 Aldersgate Street, EC1A 4JA

on 6th February 2020

Present: Anil Sharma, Janice Perkins, Fin McCaul, David Broome, Mark Burdon, Peter Cattee, Ian Cubbin, Sam Fisher, Mark Griffiths, Alice Hare, Tricia Kennerley, Sunil Kochhar, Margaret MacRury, Fin McCaul, Has Modi, Lucy Morton-Channon, Garry Myers, Bharat Patel, Indrajit Patel, Umesh Patel, Jay Patel, Prakash Patel, Adrian Price, Sian Retallick, Stephen Thomas, Faisal Tuddy, Gary Warner, Sue Killen (Chair)

In Attendance: Simon Dukes, Shiné Brownsell, Alastair Buxton, Jack Cresswell, Mike Dent, Gordon Hockey, Zoe Long, Layla Rahman, Suraj Shah, Rob Thomas

Item 1 – Welcome from Chair

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Item 2 – Apologies for absence

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Marc Donovan, Jas Heer and Andrew Lane.

Item 3 – Conflicts or declaration of interest

3.1 No new conflicts of interest were declared.

Item 4 – Minutes of the November meeting

4.1 The minutes of the meeting which took place on 28th November 2019 were approved.

Item 5 – Matters Arising

5.1 There were no matters arising.

Item 6 – Chairman’s Report and Chief Executive’s Report

6.1 The Chair reported on the number of pharmacies she had visited since the last Committee meeting and how impressed she was with the excellent community healthcare services being provided. The Chair commented that those outside pharmacy are likely to be unaware of the breadth of services provided by local pharmacies and that PSNC has an important role in communicating this to the public.

6.2 The Chair also reported on the meetings she has planned with the Committee and LPCs over the next few months.

6.3 The Chair commented that PSNC needs to make best use of its time and resources, which should include a review of the governance of the organisation as a whole. The Chair met with Professor David Wright who is carrying out the independent review into pharmacy representation and reported that he is starting to consider the governance of PSNC.

- 6.4 The Chief Executive thanked the office for spending so much time in putting together the papers for the committee meeting and opined that the size of the pack is a testament to how much there is to do.
- 6.5 The Chief Executive welcomed Layla Rahman, who joined PSNC in January as Regulations Officer, and Shiné Brownsell who has returned to work following maternity leave.
- 6.6 The Chief Executive reported that Professor David Wright has formed a steering committee composed of contractors, LPC members and officers. Professor Wright intends to publish a draft report by the end of March, with a final version due in early April. Professor Wright will attend the next national meeting of LPCs on 5th May 2020 to discuss his report and the entire committee is invited to attend. Sam Fisher reported that the LPC and Contractor Support Subcommittee will establish a working group with LPCs to create the agenda for the day.

Item 7 – Funding, Transitional Payment, PQS and Hep C (Confidential)

Item 8 – DSPs/Vaccinations (Confidential)

Item 9 – Embarking on a process for the Annual Review

- 9.1 The committee discussed the challenges faced by contractors and how PSNC can gather evidence and articulate the situation and vision for the future. A summary of the key points will be circulated to the committee and the office will approach other pharmacy bodies to invite feedback and contributions. The office will then write to the Government on these issues.

Item 10 – Subcommittee Feedback

- 10.1 RAP: Umesh Patel informed the committee that he is stepping down as Chairman of the Review and Audit Panel after nearly 15 years. Adrian Price has been appointed as his successor, which was a unanimous decision by RAP.
- 10.2 RDF: Mark Burdon reported that the office had been considering appointing new Auditors and following interviews, the subcommittee proposed appointing Sawin and Edwards LLP. The subcommittee also recommended approval of the budget. Both recommendations were agreed by the committee.
- 10.3 LRA: The committee approved the recommendation for the proposed provider assurance work on out-of-pocket expenses.
- 10.4 SDS: The subcommittee recommended that PSNC agree the final PQS criteria and the points allocation set out in the agenda. This was agreed by the committee.