

Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee

Legislation and Regulatory Affairs Subcommittee

Minutes of the Legislation and Regulatory Affairs Subcommittee meeting held on 4 September 2019.

Members: Ian Cubbin (Chair), Stephen Thomas (Vice Chair), Janice Perkins, Jas Heer, Marc Donovan.

In attendance: Gordon Hockey, Will Goh, Sam Fisher, Tricia Kennerley, Andrew Lane, Has Modi, Peter Cattee, David Broome, Bharat Patel.

Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

Conflicts of Interest: There were no additional conflicts of interest declared.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 22 May 2019 were approved with a minor grammatical amendment to 4.2 (c): 'directed' not 'direct'. There were no matters arising.

Item 1 – Hub and Spoke dispensing/delivery models – initial consideration - confidential

...

Item 2 – Prescription direction - confidential

...

Item 3 – Rural working group report and updated terms of reference– open

3.1 The report was noted, and the updated terms of reference were approved.

Matters of Report

Item 4 – Brexit update – the notes of two recent meetings of the Community Pharmacy Brexit Forum and a note relating to medicines with short expiry dates were attached - open

4.1 The reports were noted.

4.2. The function of the forum was raised, and it was reported that the forum:

- a) remained a focal point for DHSC and NHSE&I to communicate key messages to the community pharmacy sector;
- b) received updates on the broad level of preparation in the rest of the medicines supply chain;
- c) had assisted with discussions on serious shortage protocols;
- d) considered issues in relation to medicines and medical devices;

- e) considered issues in relation to contractor readiness for Brexit and considered the PSNC briefing for contractors;
- f) discussed contractor reporting of issues relating to Brexit – which will use business as usual systems;
- g) assisted the DHSC to find additional trusted sources to provide information on the supply chain;
- h) maintained the message to the sector not to stockpile medicines and medical devices beyond business as usual;
- i) liaised on communications messaging to ensure a consistent approach by the sector and one consistent with the Government; and,
- j) provided a forum for members to report relevant Brexit issues to DHSC and NHSE&I.

4.3. There was a brief discussion on Government preparations for the continuity of supply of medicines in the event of a no-deal Brexit and a variety of views were expressed. Gordon Hockey reported that Government plans remained robust and it was anticipated that similar to the last deadline, greater evidence of stockpiling by manufacturers and alternative arrangements would be made available to the DHSC's continuity of supply group to provide greater assurance.

Item 5 - Community Pharmacy Assurance Framework (CPAF) - open

5.1 The report was noted.

Item 6 – Primary Care Support England - open

6.1 The report was noted.

6.2. Will Goh confirmed that the current planned 'go live' date for the market entry portal is November this year. It was expressed that the thoroughness of the user acceptance testing scheduled for mid-September was less than desirable as testing is now restricted to PCSE's headquarters in Leeds rather than remotely which had been promised.

Any other business

The Chair indicated that this is Will Goh's last subcommittee meeting as he is moving on and he and the subcommittee thanked him for his support and work and wished him all the best in the future.