

Minutes of the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee meeting

held on 8th September 2021

via Zoom

Present: Reena Barai, David Broome, Mark Burdon, Peter Cattee, Ian Cubbin, Marc Donovan, Samantha Fisher, Mark Griffiths, Jas Heer, Tricia Kennerley, Ifti Khan, Sue Killen (Chair), Rhys Martin, Fin McCaul, Has Modi, Lucy Morton-Channon, Roger Nichols, Jay Patel, Indrajit Patel, Prakash Patel, Umesh Patel, Adrian Price, Stephen Thomas, Faisal Tuddy, Gary Warner

In Attendance: Simon Dukes, Shiné Brownsell, Alastair Buxton, Mike Dent, Michael Digby, Gordon Hockey, Zoe Long, David Onuoha, Layla Rahman, Suraj Shah, Gabriele Skieriute, Rob Thomas, James Wood

Item 1 – Welcome from the Chair

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair reflected on events since the Committee meeting in July: PSNC had reached a deal with HM Government on COVID costs (and contractors had put in claims accordingly); and the CPCF Year Three deal had been agreed and announced. The Chair thanked the Communications team for managing the comms on both topics.
- 1.3 The Chair once again emphasised the importance of confidentiality on the information discussed at the meeting.
- 1.4 It was also noted that this was the last PSNC meeting for the current CEO, Simon Dukes.

Item 2 – Apologies for absence

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Clare Kerr, Sunil Kochhar, Margaret MacRury, Bharat Patel, Sian Retallick and Anil Sharma.

Item 3 – Conflicts or declaration of interest

- 3.1 No new conflicts or declarations of interest were made.

Item 4 – Minutes of the 7th-8th July 2021 meeting

- 4.1 The minutes of the meeting which took place on 7th and 8th July were approved.

Item 5 – Matters Arising

- 5.1 None.

Item 6 – Annual Review

- 6.1 PSNC agreed with NHSE&I and DHSC to undertake jointly an annual review of the contractual framework in order to show progress and value to taxpayers. Simon Dukes took the Committee through the approach and objectives.

Mike Dent provided a summary of DHSC and NHSE&I data, and of PSNC's data. The Committee met in groups to discuss their observations on the data and exploring other data sets.

Simon Dukes also provided an update on the most recent Annual Review meeting with DHSC and NHSE&I to discuss the data. PSNC would continue to push for additional money to the core sum of £2.592bn. This was despite DHSC clearly stating as part of the Annual Review discussions that PSNC's last bid (in time for this autumn's Spending Review (SR21)) had been rejected.

Mike Dent took the Committee through capacity and efficiency enabling initiatives and the Committee met in groups to discuss in more detail and what actions we should take to prepare for the remainder of this CPCF and for the next deal in 2024/25.

Item 7 – Update from Appointments Panel

- 7.1 Gordon Hockey confirmed that Adrian Price and Bharat Patel were elected to the Appointments Panel.
- 7.2 The Chair stated that Odgers Berndtson were appointed to assist with searching for a new CEO. The Chair confirmed that the search is underway. The Committee will be kept informed on progress.

Item 8 – Governance Issues

- 8.1 Gordon Hockey informed the Committee that no candidates came forward for the Regional Representative position for East Midland and Yorkshire. This means the process to co-opt a representative had started.
- 8.2 The risk register was circulated to the Committee and Gordon Hockey highlighted key changes.
- 8.3 It was confirmed that the PSNC office had now received each Committee member's code of conduct forms.
- 8.4 Faisal Tuddy was elected as a new member to the Review and Audit Panel.

Item 9 – Update from Review Steering Group

- 9.1 James Wood and Ami Lakhani provided an update from the RSG, talking about their progress to date, engagement approach, and what they are focusing on in September and October.
- 9.2 Deep Sen Gupta was also welcomed to the meeting. Deep joined PSNC on fixed-term contract for 12 months from 6th September as Programme Manager for the RSG.

Item 10 – Subcommittee Reports

- 10.1 Key points of the discussion at the Resource Development & Finance Subcommittee were presented by Mark Burdon. The Committee approved PSNC's financial accounts for 2020/21 as amended.
- 10.2 Key points of the discussion at the Communications and Public Affairs Subcommittee were presented by Tricia Kennerley.
- 10.3 Key points of the discussion at the Funding and Contract Subcommittee were presented by Peter Cattee.
- 10.4 Key points of the discussion at the LPC and Contractor Support Subcommittee were presented by Sam Fisher.
- 10.5 Key points of the discussion at the Service Development Subcommittee were presented by Gary Warner. The Committee was asked their view on charging patients a deposit for ABPM devices. Following a discussion, it was agreed that Gordon Hockey should seek legal advice on this matter as soon as possible.

Item 11 – Any other business

- 11.1 The Chair thanked the office for all their hard work and for getting the minutes of the subcommittee meetings out so quickly.

11.2 The Chair thanked Simon Dukes for steering the Committee through such unprecedented times and for improving our communication and relationship with the DHSC and NHSE&I.

Simon thanked the Committee for their support and guidance and that it was a pleasure to serve community pharmacy and work with such an experienced committee and dedicated team.