

## Minutes of LOC meeting Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022 – via Zoom

Present: Matt Bellamy, Alvaro Borges, Amy Clarke, Nigel Harris, Carole Jenkin, Sid Maher, Ian Shapcott & Adrian Street

Guest: Louise Birt (ECLO Gloucester) and Gary Learmonth (ELCO Gloucester)

### 1. ECLO Update

Gary and Louise updated the committee on developments in the ECLO service, Louise noted it was much busier in Gloucester with around 500 referrals a year with 2 to 3 per month from Community Practitioners.

A new member of the of the ECLO team had been appointed, Nicola , who was working full time between Gloucester and Cheltenham. Nicola's role was working with inpatients in the Care of Elderly wards if ward staff had noticed patients with possibly previously undiagnosed visual difficulties using a simple bedside screening test. Nicola was supporting these patients with low vision services such as assisting with the use of low vision aids.

Ankur noted that David Adams had been attempting to establish an in-patient service in the Forest of Dean and wondered if David could be helpful at all. Louise responded the she understood Forest Sensory Services were involved at the Dilke Hospital

Alvaro thanked Gare and Louise for the information.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Dave Jeavons & Ankur Trivedi

### 3. Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no new declarations of interest

### 4. Minutes of last meeting

There was an error under item 11, Any Other Business – Nigel had received a letter from Bristol Eye Hospital not BRH.

The minutes were approved with this amendment.

## 5. Matters Arising and Action Points

### *Action Points from last meeting*

|      |                                 |                  |
|------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| i.   | Confirm levy reduction          | Completed        |
| ii   | Newsletter item re VHCP         | Completed        |
| iii  | MoU wording                     | Completed        |
| iv   | Workforce Skills update         | Item 7 on agenda |
| v    | Aston Capacity                  | Item 7 on agenda |
| vi   | Strategy Day agenda             | Completed        |
| vii  | Mileage claim amount            | Completed        |
| viii | Contact LMC re direct referrals | Ongoing          |
| ix   | Complete LOCSU EDI survey       | Completed        |

## 6. Treasurer's Report

Nigel reported that the levy amount being collected had changed on the 1<sup>st</sup> August so fund would increase more slowly in the future. See Appendix 1 for the current balance.

Nigel had sent the documents from the recent LOCSU Treasurer's call (See Appendix 2, 3 and 4) and noted that the current Gloucestershire fees were set at an appropriate level when compared with the benchmarking document.

All members to read the documents for possible discussion at the upcoming Strategy Day. <sup>i</sup>

Alvaro noted that committee members were submitting expenses claims more regularly and recommended tracking any time spent on LOC work.

## 7. Chair's Update

Alvaro reported that the newsletter had been completed, all agreed the format was very good but it would be helpful to track the number of people who access the communication. Ian asked if it would be possible to link the newsletter to the web-site, Alvaro thought so and Ian would attempt a link. <sup>ii</sup> Alvaro hoped that the Communication Lead would take over the newsletter in the future, the role would be discussed in more detail at the Strategy Day

Alvaro related that the dates of the monthly meeting with NHSE were changing and he would like someone else to attend with him, they lasted for an hour. Amy offered to assist, Alvaro would share the details. <sup>iii</sup> Alvaro went on to explain that the NHS Area Team deals with Optometry for the region and liaise with PCSE etc and noted that there was due to be a cut of 40 to 50% of administration staff over the next two years as the CCG transferred over to the ICS.

Alvaro stated that Gloucestershire ICS was leading the region on Patient Initiated Follow Up (PIFU) and had attended a workshop on the subject. Eyecare was different from other specialities and it seemed that cataract post-operative checks carried out by community practitioners would not be effected, as reported previously the CPG were happy with the current arrangements. There was concern that patients would expect to attend Community Practices without any funding, the clinical protocols would need to be checked carefully.

Alvaro had been informed that Gloucestershire as a County was top of the table for the numbers of cataract surgeries carried out by independent providers at approximately 75%. Apparently, the Trust were not happy with this but it was probably not surprising as the current waiting list for cataract surgery at the Trust was a year. It was agreed that Community Practitioners must not get involved in any 'political' referrals, they must always do their best for each individual patient.

20 people had expressed an interest in the Higher Qualifications with the majority of places being in Cardiff. It was noted that the Aston system was not very user friendly and availability not clear. Alvaro had received confirmation of 5 IP places and needed to ensure hospital placements were available. Amy thought that placements may be available at some of the Independent Providers.

The funding from Health Education England would normally be paid to the ICS and then direct to the relevant university but Gloucestershire ICS preferred to send the funds to the LOC and it was agreed the LOC would re-imburse Gloucestershire practitioners once a completed MOU and proof of enrolment was received.

The ICS had agreed to try to facilitate payment direct to the relevant university for practitioner who wasn't able to pay the fees themselves.

Alvaro noted that if all courses were paid in full the total was around £37.5k so all the available £45k would not be required. It was agreed that funding the higher amount for IP in full was appropriate to widen availability for patients in the county.

Alvaro also noted that the Medical Retina qualification might be helpful in the future as a naevus monitoring pathway was being developed nationally which could also utilise the Community Ophthalmic Link.

Overall it was agreed this had been a successful exercise and Alvaro was thanked for his efforts.

#### 8. Strategy Day

Alvaro had arranged for Ma to lead Needs Analysis discussion first on the agenda and if any other items could be sent to Adrian he would liaise with Alvaro to settle the running order and timings.<sup>iv</sup> It was agreed to arrive at 9:30 for a 10:00 am prompt start, lunch from 12:30 to 13:30 and close at 16:30.

#### 9. Any Other Business

Ian was asked to share the LOCSU Jargon Buster Glossary on WhatsApp<sup>v</sup>

Adrian would scan the CPD Signature Sheet from the AGM and add it to Dropbox in case it was required in the future.<sup>vi</sup>

#### 10. Date of Next Meeting

Strategy Day – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 9:30 am

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 7:00pm

*Action Points*

|            |  |               |
|------------|--|---------------|
| i.         | LOCSU Treasurer call documents                 | All           |
| ii         | Newsletter – numbers viewing and web-site link | Alvaro/Ian    |
| <u>iii</u> | Details of NHSE monthly meeting for Amy        | Alvaro        |
| <u>iv</u>  | Strategy Day agenda                            | Adrian/Alvaro |
| <u>v</u>   | LOCSU jargon busting glossary on WhatsApp      | Ian           |
| vi         | CPD signature sheet to Dropbox                 | Adrian        |
| vii        |  |               |

The screenshot displays a web browser window with multiple tabs open, including 'securebusiness.lloydsbank.co.uk'. The user is logged in as Mr N. Harris, with a last login time of 17 August 22 at 07:57 PM. The account is identified as 'County & City of Gloucester Optical Comm'.

**Account Details:**  
 TREASURERS ACCOUNT 30-95-72 02256279 View IBAN and BIC  
 COUNTY & CITY OF GLOS OPTICAL COMM  
**£ 84,661.53** Current balance  
 £84,661.53 Available funds  
 Trial our accounting software for free for 3 months  
 Payments and transfers  
 More actions

**Statement:**  
 Search your statement  
 Jun Jul **Aug** All transactions  
**August (so far)**  
 In + £36.62  
 Out - £2,220.00

**Sidebar (OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES):**  
 CONTACT US  
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 What are pending transactions?  
 How do pending transactions affect my balance and available funds?  
 How do I look for historic transactions?  
 More  
 LOANS  
 CHARGE & CREDIT CARDS  
 OVERDRAFT

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as 11:25 on 19/08/2022.