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Minutes of NEWBURY LRC/PCT Liaison Meeting

Tuesday 12th December 2006, 2 pm
The Chapel Row Surgery, RG7 6NS

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Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of 10th October 2006 were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

Repayment of Staff and Rent 2004

It would appear that practices were paid some items twice in April 2004. The minutes of the nGMS and the GP Forum in June 2004 made it clear it was a cash advance. Accountants have said that the practice cannot close their accounts until this has been sorted out. The nGMS meeting of 23rd March 2004 said that Jane Kettlewell had made a cash advance to GPs.

It was agreed that this needed to be repaid and it was suggested that it be repaid on a monthly basis from January to June 2007, taken straight from the TVPCA payments and would have an audit trail.

**Action: To repay the PCT from January – June 2007.
NC will copy JS with the letter that is sent to practices**

The New PCT

It is very demoralizing in the PCT at the moment.
If the new structure is not published by the end of this week it is unlikely it will be available before mid January.
There will then be a 28 day consultation so all practices will be sent the details to enable them to make comments.

Action:

PBC Progress

The PMs have just heard about Fair Shares which is the allocation of budgets based on weighted population rather than historic.
The managers have been told how the national toolkits will be working.
The change has been decided by the Department.

Action:

PCT Administered Funds

There has been correspondence with Margaret Crawford on this.
It all comes down to what is a blanket policy. It may be that the PCT need to say £1500 is the blanket policy.

Action:

Superannuation Certificates

All GPs in Newbury have submitted their certificates.

Action:

Pensions

The Government has reneged on pensions, instead of getting 48% over 3 years it will now be over 5 years.
It will make a difference to those who are retiring in 3 years not 5.
The LMC list server will keep GPs informed of this issue.

GPC Guidance on Completion of Health Report form for GDC

Dentists need a medical examination before they are allowed to practise, GPs will have to do this and will now be able to charge for the services.

The PCT did not know who would be paying for the report whether it was the dentist or the PCT. The fee has already been decided.

Action: JS to send NC a copy of the guidance.

Collaborative Fees

Only 3 practices have submitted their fees to the PCT so far despite all being asked to do so.

Not many practices are billing the PCT for work done

It was felt that the Local Authority is being billed but they are not sending these invoices onto the PCT for payment.

The PCT Finance Department has agreed the fees and it is important that the practices are informed.

VAT does not apply to these fees yet but this may change next year.

As case conferences take a lot of time, and payment need to be assessed on the caliber of the report submitted.

Action: Practices to be encouraged to submit their fees

Population Increase Implications

The population in town practices have gone up by 6% from 2004-2006 which relates to approximately 2% per annum which has had implications for practices and will continue to do so.

A short term solution is to make use of the hospital with a GP service run by them.

The CPC recognized that this is a problem now.

The long term solution could be Market Square.

The PCT do not want to let Market Square go at the moment until it is know what else is available.

Currently there is no funding available.

Populations within Reading and Wokingham are also increasing.

The problem is the funding has been included in the global sum so is not now available.

It depends where the population growth will be based.

People will not want a 30 minute drive to see their GP.

The problem is if a practice relocates the population will have to relocate to another practice and it depends whether practices are willing to say goodbye to a large proportion of their population.

Some patients will be upset at being moved off the list.

Action:

ES Monitoring

The 9 month audit will be done shortly to see how practices are doing against the financial cap.

When all the information is received practices will be informed.

Wokingham have a very good book and JS agreed to show this to NC.

Practices did not see any problems with activity being published for other practices to view.

Wokingham gave each individual practice their own book with their own data in it.

Action: JS to show NC the Wokingham workbook

QoF

The Apollo data has been looked at and is showing some weird anomalies.
Apollo shows you what you will achieve on 31st March and always looks ahead and this should not be worried over too much.
GPs found there were problems with the Mental Health Register.
Repeating the eGFR shows very large differences. The problem is that when it is done with a fasting cholesterol it shows different readings.
The main team will go out from Wokingham or Reading, not a Newbury member of the PCT.
Practices will be informed of their visiting team.
Only 4 practices will be visited this year.
QMAS is used to pay practices.
Apollo shows dates when things have happened whereas QMAS does not.
It is a national decision to change from QMAS to Apollo now, although in April payments will be made using QMAS.
PPV will be made using Apollo.

Action:

Update on LDP Workshop

These were disappointing, it did not appear there was enough direction coming out.

Action:

Dispensing Quality Scheme

There had been a meeting to talk about getting a pragmatic approach towards training etc.
Barbara Booth and NC will be doing the 4 in the Newbury area,
They recognized that every practice needs to have done 7.5% of patients.
If a practice only made 7.45% technically it is no payment.
It is intended to visit practices early to highlight any problems.
There were wide views on this within the PCT.
With training as long as the person was booked on training shortly after the end of the year, this would be acceptable as the intent was there.
A protocol has been agreed for PPV visits as for QoF visits.

Action

Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday 12th December 2006

Present	Name	Organisation
*	Cave James	Member
*	Hyde Maria	Member (Co-opted)
*	Powell Hugh	Member
*	Robertson Peter	Member (Co-opted)
*	Westcar Paul	Chairman
	Roblin Paul	LMC Chief Executive
*	Solomon Jane	LMC Director of Development & Liaison
*	Birchall Carol	LMC Minute Secretary
*	Cambrook Nicky	NEWB PCT Head of Primary Care
	Bartlett Jan	NEWB PCT
	Barbara	NEWB PCT
	Hayes Sheila	NEWB PCT
	Tayton Robert	NEWB PCT PEC Chair

Apologies were received from Dr Roblin