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# Kent and Medway LOC

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## KENT & MEDWAY LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

**MINUTES** OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF KENT & MEDWAY LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016, AT THE TUDOR PARK MARRIOTT HOTEL, ASHFORD.

Attendees: Linzi Bacon, Marthinus Bonthuys, Tony Booth, Tim Bowden, Jonathan Brothwell, Harpriya Chaggar, J C Cheong, Jo Connell, Kelly Darke, Sharon Elsby, Lesley Everson, Charles Greenwood, Mark Hammond, Bhavesh Hansjee, Deacon Harle, Gordon Ilett, Leslie Jackson, Lynn Jackson, Sudheer Kondaveeti, David Lacey, Elisabeth Lowe, Rosalind Meigh, Pritin Patel, Neelam Patel, Huw Pinney, Ramu Rao, Kate Rowe, Satvinder Shoker, Sahar Syed, Andrew Tremain, Katrina Venerus, Peter Wood, Elaine Yorwarth (Michelle Martins).

### 1. Welcome by Chairman

Elaine Yorwarth, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting of Kent & Medway LOC.

### 2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Harkiret Bahra and Lucy Hall.

### 3. Minutes of Kent & Medway LOC AGM held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015

The Minutes were proposed by Deacon Harle, seconded by Huw Pinney and unanimously agreed.

### 4. Activity Report for 2015/2016

Elaine Yorwarth, Chairman, and David Lacey, retired Administrative Secretary, presented the LOC Activity Report for the previous 12 months. Key matters and developments were highlighted, including the following:

- This AGM marks the end of the first year of the three year term for the current LOC committee. Following the elections last year Jon Brothwell and Michelle Derbyshire were co-opted. The full list of members for the LOC Committee 2015 -2018 is on website. The Chairman stressed the importance of the LOC website for accessing local information.
- The LOC met 6 times during the last year and Members were also involved in various working groups at NHSE South East, local CCGs and the LEHN. Observers are welcome at LOC meetings if interested to see what the LOC do.
- NHS GOS Contracts are now held with NHS England (South East), York House, 18/20 Massetts Road, Horley.
- Faith House, Maidstone (KPCA) is closing at the end of the month. The procurement process by NHSE to appoint a preferred supplier of Primary Care Support service across England chose Capita and all forms, including those for this month, should be sent to their Darlington Office. If you have not received details about this please let JCL Consulting know.
- The LOC observes at the NHSE Practitioner Performance Management group and two committee members are awaiting training so they can play a more active part in the group. The LOC is always willing to help support any practitioner from Kent and Medway should the need arise.
- Local community (enhanced) services continue to be commissioned by CCGs and the LOC recommend through PEKM Ltd wherever possible. The LOC is pleased to announce that it will pay the cost of MECS OSCEs for practitioners wishing to become accredited, but with the proviso that the LOC would expect them to commit to working with PEKM.
- Update on East Kent: Huw gave a brief update on activity in East Kent. He reported that the Repeat IOP Service has been running since June 2014 with more practices now joining and activity increasing. The LOC and PEKM Ltd are keen to have PEARS commissioned but the CCG are resisting. The LOC are aware of an inequality of fees received for post-op cataract checks (depending on the location of the operation) and this is being looked in to. Huw finished by

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reporting that East Kent and West Kent CCGs are looking at developing the Open Eyes software package for these areas, to facilitate online referrals. The software has been developed by Moorfields and, it is hoped that, its introduction will enable better communication between primary and secondary care.

- Update on North Kent: A lot of work went into the submission for North Kent Procurement but, unfortunately, the submission was failed on the financial analysis. Since then the LOC and PEKM Ltd have been in discussion with two of the remaining bidders for the contract. It is hoped that whoever wins the contract will work with PEKM Ltd, therefore utilising the skills of the practices who have been participating in the existing services so successfully. The LOC and PEKM Ltd are working hard to ensure that practitioners get the best outcome possible.

- Update on West Kent: Unfortunately there is a singular lack of progress regarding MECS and a lack of willingness to engage with the LOC. There are currently negotiations regarding COT but, despite it being a statutory requirement to engage with the LOC, no such discussions have taken place.

- WOPEC courses, including MECS, are still freely available and members were urged to complete as many courses as possible as WOPEC accreditation will be required for all community contracts.

- CET: The LOC would be pleased to know what subjects members would like to have in the CET evenings and where would be convenient. A big thanks to Kris Cottier for not only organising tonight's Peer Discussion, but also his continued support with organising the points for the LOC's CET events.

- National Eye Health Week this year is 19th -25th September.

- Finally it has been decided to share lead roles in the future, with the establishment of three regional sub – committees, with the Chairman receiving reports from these and conducting the Committee Meetings.

## **5. Guest Speaker – Katrina Venerus, LOCSU Managing Director**

Katrina Venerus explained the structure and role of LOCSU and went on to explain that its main aim is to help with the development of community services. She explained that LOCSU is working towards cross-border services with the hope that CCGs will work together within acute trust areas. She finished by outlining the LOCSU Breakthrough Strategy and explained that, to fund this, LOCSU propose to revert its levy to 0.5%.

## **6. Guest Speaker - Deacon Harle, Local Eye Health Network (LEHN)**

Deacon Harle explained the role of the LEHN and that the stakeholders include representatives from health care, social care and the CCGs. The role of the LEHN is to ensure that there are service providers available and he reported that the LOCSU pathways have been adopted by the LEHN. To ensure that community optometry has the best chance to be a service provider, Mr Harle urged members to complete the WOPEC training; engage with the LOC and PEKM Ltd and make full use of their NHS.net accounts.

## **7. Annual Accounts for 2015/2016**

Ramu Rao, Treasurer, presented the LOC Annual Accounts for 2015/2016, which had been independently examined. Copies were circulated to those present. The accounts were proposed by Michelle Derbyshire, seconded by Andrew Tremain and were then adopted. The Treasurer was thanked for his stewardship over the year.

## **8. Appointment of Accounts Examiners**

It was proposed by the Treasurer that Osborne Accountants be appointed to examine the accounts for 2016/2017. This was unanimously agreed.

## **9. Any Other Business**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Kent & Medway LOC AGM and also thanked the Committee for their forbearance and also the retiring Administrative Secretary, without whose help, she could not have managed the role of Chairman. The Administrative Secretary wished all good luck for the future.