

**BEXLEY, BROMLEY & GREENWICH LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE**

**18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017**

**MAIN POINTS OF DISCUSSION**

**Election of Officers**

It was confirmed that Gordon Ilett was willing to continue as Chairman, if the Committee wished. Gordon was proposed as Chairman by Ray Small, seconded by Kris Cottier and it was unanimously agreed. Kris Cottier then proposed Ray Small as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by Farah Awan and unanimously agreed. Ray Small proposed Mark Waine as Treasurer, seconded by Farah Awan and, again, this was unanimously agreed.

**South East London Local Eye Health Network (SEL LEHN)**

It was reported that, at the recent SEL LEHN Meeting, the draft NICE glaucoma guidance was discussed and feedback was requested. In the guidance (to be finalised and published in November) the threshold pressure has been raised from 21 and 24 and pressures must be measured using applanation. It was observed that this creates a gap between the NICE guidance and GOS requirements and there are concerns that, if an area does not have a Repeat Measures Service in place, referrals could be bounced back. There followed a discussion on WOPEC Glaucoma training and it was agreed that the LOC would wait for the finalised NICE guidance to be published before deciding on what level of glaucoma training members needed to attain.

It was then reported that the waiting times for glaucoma referrals to Kings is presently 32 weeks. St Thomas' is presently running catch-up and evening clinics to decrease their waiting times.

**Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)**

**Bexley:** The Administrative Secretary reported that King's, who hold the Ophthalmology contract, are looking to go out, via full procurement, for the community element of the contract. A question was raised as to whether Bexley practices could participate in Bromley MECS. It was confirmed that they should be able to join in the future but, for the time being, the emphasis had to be on getting Bromley practices up and running on the service.

**Bromley:** It was reported that the new MECS scheme has been running for approximately two months. There have been several teething problems, mainly around the IT element of it, but many of the issues have now been rectified. It was confirmed that the LOC had recently run another WOPEC OSCE event which was almost fully booked with approximately 10 attending from the BBG area.

**Greenwich:** It was reported that some practices had not been paid by Bexley Health Ltd, for community services, for approximately seven weeks. It was agreed that this would be chased.

**Any other business**

The updated BBG LOC Constitution was unanimously agreed and adopted.

**Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next full LOC meeting would be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 6.45pm at The Royal Blackheath Golf Club.

All optical professionals are welcome to attend the BBG LOC meetings provided that they practice in one of the three areas covered by the LOC.