

BEXLEY, BROMLEY & GREENWICH LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE
21ST MARCH 2017
MAIN POINTS OF DISCUSSION

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

Bexley: The Administrative Secretary reported on a meeting that he and the Chairman had attended with the CCG and Kings. He advised the Committee that Kings are planning to go out for procurement for a MECS contract (similar to Bromley) and a suitable service specification was discussed. The possibility of starting with a pilot was also suggested. It is hoped that there would be Ophthalmology input, as in LSL MECS. It was agreed that the LOC would send a survey to all members to ascertain levels of accreditation and interest in community services. The responses could then be collated and the results from Bexley be sent to Kings and the CCG.

Bromley: It was reported that the Bromley Community Ophthalmic Service pilot was on-going, with the e-referral system still being refined. It was confirmed that, once Primary Eyecare (BBG) Ltd receive a copy of the full specification, the company will go out to all Bromley practices for expressions of interest. The Administrative Secretary explained that there will be a Single Point of Access (SPA) which all referrals from Optometrists and GPS will feed in to. These referrals will then be triaged and patients will be referred either to MECS or the HES. The system will give information on hospital choice and waiting times. A question was raised as to whether domiciliary providers would be able to participate in the Bromley service and it was agreed that this would be explored.

Greenwich: Children's Vision Screening (age 4/5) - it was reported that Thomson Screening is now being used and that Healthcare Assistants in all three areas are doing the screening. It was suggested that the LOC could speak to Health Visitors with regards to having additional eye health questions added to the children's red Healthcare Book. It was also suggested that the LOC could arrange a paediatric CET event and invite GPS and Healthcare Assistants.

CET & Training

It was confirmed that the BBG LOC AGM will be held on 25th May at Charlton Athletic Football Club. There followed a discussion on who could give the Margaret Packham Memorial Lecture and it was agreed that a local Consultant could be invited to speak on 'good referrals'.

Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next full LOC meeting would be on Tuesday 18th July 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.