

CORNWALL & ISLES OF SCILLY LOCAL DENTAL COMMITTEE

Meeting of the LDC on Tuesday 20th October 2020 7.30pm
held remotely through Zoom
Minutes

1. Apologies-

None

2. Matters arising not otherwise included in this agenda-

Andy Taylor to officially close down LDC committee and to vote in new members, Jenna Murgatroyd voted in as chair and Carrie Bradburn as vice chair.

3. Chairs report- Jenna Murgatroyd

Where are we today: COVID-19 National alert level 4 (severe, care services are stretched but coping). Local Tier 1 Medium risk. Since last meeting we have gone back from alert level 3 to 4 and restrictions have changed to 'rule of six', pubs and clubs shutting at 22:00 and people encouraged to work at home again where possible.

Dental Practices have been working towards achieving routine face to face care whilst continuing to provide remote triage. NHS contractual arrangements were roughly understood to be full contract value in return for minimum 20% of previous numbers of courses of treatment completed in the same period 2019. There has been some discussion about how these numbers will be calculated. It is not clear yet how the NHS contractual arrangements will be managed from the October schedule onwards. We are waiting for guidance from the CDO but have updated guidance from the FGDP released 5th October 2020. During the meeting PHE published new guidance on infection control for dentistry which was disseminated via the WhatsApp group.

<https://www.fgdp.org.uk/implications-covid-19-safe-management-general-dental-practice-practical-guide>

Second wave/further lockdowns: unlikely dentistry will be affected although I personally wonder whether 'routine care' will become emergency care only, possibly due to travel restrictions and patient concerns over infection transmission. The Area Team believe that we are still at a point in NHS dentistry where we are only expected to be providing emergency care. One big challenge to overcome is patient expectations of what we can deliver currently.

LDC changes: Recently sent email and message to all members regarding handover from Andy to Myself as chair of CIOS LDC and formal voting completed this meeting. Other roles changed and voted.

Area Team: all waiting for news from CDO after new guidance published from FGDP and SDCEP. Also waiting for NHS contractual arrangements for Q3/4. Flu vaccine encouraged but now discussion on whether dental teams should get free vaccine. Healthwatch 'secret shoppers' have been calling practices in Gloucestershire.

Urgent care project group: meeting currently every 2 weeks. All LDC's contested a proposed urgent care project but urgent care provision for the region remains high on the agenda. All LDC's discuss issues in their localities during this meeting so any feedback from the LDC committee is great.

Conference tomorrow 'Westminster Forums Project' will look at contract reform and dentistry Post-Covid.

PPE Portal: mixed messages. Question asked as to whether it is for routine supply or emergency only. Update today from NHSE stating we should use it for all PPE supply due to increased demand based on infection control requirements.

Fit-test kits: I have 11 for Cornwall. Should be distributed with demand but I am awaiting correspondence from AT on need across the county. LDC committee please let me know if you know of practices with this need.

4. Report from meeting with MPs-

2 MP's attended, Derek Thomas and Cherylin Mackrory. They are aware that we are doing what we can as a region for access, but it is a massive problem in Cornwall in particular.

Good opportunity to give MPs our views on access to dental care, a further meeting is planned for November. Information gathering meeting, helping to improve understanding of NHS dental contracts.

Jenna, Fergus and Sarah to continue to attend future meetings for continuity.

5. Special care MCN report-

Special Care MCN

Discussion about use of E-Referral forms however currently not completed hoping for completion in new year.

Staffing- recruitment of paediatric consultant for Peninsula dental school. Also working towards establishing tier 2 accreditation.

Urgent care MCN to be set up awaiting NHS approval.

GDP's to be asked to re-assess GA referrals to help to reduce waiting lists as significant increase during COVID and not re-established lists yet.

Continue to follow current SOPs from CDO until further updates.

Toothbrushing in schools resumed with altered techniques.

Re-procurement of contracts postponed until 2023, considering longer term contracts at this time.

LDN meeting report

Discussion regarding changes to CQC visits and completing more online using a different grading system.

Hospital waiting times and how use of COVID testing in hospitals could be transferred to dental practices. It should be possible to give patients information about length of waiting lists when making referrals, looking into making that information available.

Next meeting to be taking place in December.

Restorative MCN report

No updates at the moment on E-referral forms.

Funding available for masters courses at Peninsula and Bristol dental hospitals.

6. Treasurers report-

£65,312.39 in the current account and £24,329.20 in the deposit account.

The joint account is still open until Devon can confirm no problems with monies going into their own account. To be reviewed in December. The balance of the joint account is £381.50.

7. Any other business-

LDC officials day on Friday 27th November- Carrie, Jenna and Vanessa to attend.

8. Date of next meeting- Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7:30pm.

Meeting started at 7:30pm and ended at 9:30pm.