

Dudley Local Dental Committee

Chairman

Dr S Stevens
The Dental Health Centre,
20, Hagley Street,
Halesowen,
B63 3AU
Phone:0121 550 5948
sue_stevens101@hotmail.com

Secretary

Dr D Cooper
Fordbrook Cottage
Fordbrook, Torton
Kidderminster
DY11 7SD
Phone:01299 251007
deecedent@btinternet.com

**Minutes of a meeting of Dudley Local Dental Committee held on Monday 16th
October 2017, at the Queens, Belbroughton.**

Present

Sue Stevens (Chair), David Cooper (Secretary), Annette Southall (Treasurer), Ari Kapnisis (Vice Chair), Balbir Bhandal, Jennifer Cooke, Sheena Patel, Naven Pillay, Stephen Rees, Anjum Sheikh, Joanne Thompson, Lucy Thompson, Owain Rees, Jayne Emery and Rob Dalziel.

Minutes

These had been circulated and were accepted by the meeting.

Matters Arising

A letter from the CDO regarding the treatment of 0-2 year olds had been circulated and posted on the LDC website.

Healthwatch Dudley

Jayne Emery and Rob Dalziel, from Healthwatch Dudley, were guests at the meeting and gave an insight into the functions of their organisation.

Healthwatch was set up through the Health and Social Care Act. Its role is as a 'consumer champion' within the Health Service. It is not there to field complaints or to replace regulators but does make sure that the overall views of patients are heard and are taken seriously with a view to improving local services. It had some involvement in Dentistry through the recent problems with Orthodontics at Russells Hall Hospital and was involved with the LPN network.

Local Healthwatch feeds into the national Healthwatch England which is a sub-committee of CQC. It had been represented at the Commissioning Guide review in Orthodontics and Paediatrics, and had been locally involved with the MCN for special care dentistry aiming for an improvement in the service. It has also done work on various projects within the CCGs and was about to do work on the journey through the healthcare system for people with babies or infants.

Dudley had become a 'vanguard' site and following the extensive financial investment that this entailed it was now a 'spotlight' area. NHSE would be watching closely and this could mean that there could be a radical change for the future deliverance of healthcare in the area.

There was an initiative called 'Introducing All Together Better', a shared vision of future healthcare. Support from GMPs was pivotal to its success.

Further information is available at healthwatchdudley.co.uk.

At the moment there was not much relevance to general dentistry apart from its relationship to other aspects of healthcare. The ultimate aim was for multiple integration and involvement for all branches of the healthcare system.

LDC Chairs/AT Meeting Report

Sue Stevens had attended the most recent of these meetings. A report had been circulated with the meeting papers and was on the website.

West Midlands LDCs Meeting Report

SS again had produced a report which had been circulated. Carol Reece from NHSE had been a guest at the meeting and had promised that the problems with Capita were on the verge of being resolved. However, this seems not to have been the case as things are still not running as well as they should be.

Orthodontic Procurement

At the recent Stakeholder meeting, Mary Tomson (CDPH) presented an Orthodontic needs assessment, the aim of which was to ensure that future procurements could be targeted correctly. Currently Dudley was not adequately procured.

The process in the South of England had been legally challenged by BDA as it seemed to favour larger contracts at the expense of smaller ones thus driving those small contracts out of the procurement process.

The result of this had been that NHSE had extended the expiry of PDS Orthodontic contracts until March 2018.

Dementia Awareness Meeting

SS had been approached by the CCG, via the LPN, to see if dentists could help to increase diagnosis rates for dementia within Dudley.

A training event will be taking place, possibly on 16th November, and will supply two hours of CPD. This will be for Dudley Dentists and their teams and has the support of LPN and HEE.

Any Other Business

The report of the recent GDPC meeting compiled by our representatives had been circulated.

LDC Officials' Day will be held in London on December 1st. SS and David Cooper will attend.

Phase two of the Peer Review programme will take place this year but with no funding for participants. SS will again be acting as a facilitator.

Members were invited to attend the Birmingham LDC AGM on November 1st. The speakers will be the CDO, Sara Hurley, and the Chair of GDPC, Henrik Overgaard-Nielsen.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday January 15th at the same time and venue.