

Dudley Local Dental Committee

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Minutes of a meeting of Dudley Local Dental Committee held on Monday 29th September 2014, at the Queens, Belbroughton.
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Present

Sue Stevens (Chair), David Cooper (Secretary), Annette Southall (Treasurer), Naven Pillay, Stephen Rees, Hazel Smith, Lucy Thompson and John Walker.

Apologies

Emily Cairns, Suzanne Morgan and Parminder Sunnar.

Mudasser Latif had relocated to South Yorkshire and had therefore resigned from the Committee.

Minutes

These had been circulated. They were accepted by the meeting.

Managed Clinical Networks

Hazel Smith had attended previous meetings of the Orthodontic MCN. Meetings were in the evening and were rotated around the AT region. She thought that it was possible that some good might come from the group and a working party had produced some good recommendations. However, the fear was that it might become another 'talking shop'.

David Cooper reported that members of Sandwell LDC had attended various MCN meetings. The Restorative MCN had been served with Inlay/Olay guidelines and the Oral Surgery MCN had made no progress with tiering.

Sheridan McDonald had produced Acceptance and Discharge criteria for Paediatric Dentistry. She had offered to attend LDC meetings to present these criteria. HS said that she thought the criteria were reasonable but as referrals would need to be processed electronically there might be problems for GDPs acquiring [nhs.net](https://www.nhs.net).

A Special Care MCN had recently been set up.

Levies

The holding account had now been set up and was being administered by Clive Harris, Birmingham LDC Treasurer. All AT LDC Treasurers were signatories to the account. The AT had made errors in levying the correct amounts for the five-month one off payment in September with a shortfall of about £10,000. It appeared, however, that a team effort by the LDCs had managed to work out who was actually owed what and each LDC would shortly receive its payment.

it was decided that DC should contact all PDS practices to invite them to contribute to the levy.

GDPC/BDA/GDC Update

BDA had shown strong opposition to the process by which GDC had proposed a 64% increase in ARF. GDC were due to issue a further statement on 30th October and the BDA threat of judicial review remained in place.

The proposed cut in FD salaries would now not happen and all of this year's graduates had secured a place on FD schemes.

Tracy Harvey had confirmed that there would be no breach notices served for under delivery of UDAs this year.

There were rumours afoot that ATs were to be merged, reducing their numbers to as low as seven. The aim was to reduce the tier of senior management. More worryingly, it was also rumoured that administration of Dental Contracts might pass from NHS England to CCGs.

Many LDCs had supported an initiative put forward by LDCs in North Yorkshire regarding the GDC ARF. This had now gone further and proposals for Alternative Contract Reform had been put forward. Support was being sought from LDCs as well as funding for an intense PR campaign.

The Committee felt that this was not a sensible way forward. The proposals still recognised UDAs as a way of monitoring activity and would surely undermine work already done by GDPC in negotiating with DoH. Dudley LDC would not support the proposals nor the PR campaign.

There had been a call for a Special Conference of LDCs to discuss the GDC situation.

The Committee voted unanimously to support the call for a Special Conference if BDA felt it needed such a mandate in order to continue its confrontation with GDC.

Any Other Business

DC had received requests from Dental Health Support Trust and British Dental Guild for donations. It was decided to discuss these at the next meeting when the state of LDC finances would be more clear.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday November 24th at the same venue.

This meeting will be the AGM and DC would circulate nomination papers to all GDP practices to begin the election process.

Stephen Rees and Lucy Thompson were proposed and seconded to be co-opted onto the Committee with immediate effect.