

WMLDC meeting 12.10.16

Local Issues

Birmingham Ldc had a recent meeting with Matthew Hill, Director of Strategy at GDC as speaker. Much of his talk echoed what he said to GDPC which we have seen reported last month. In future for CPD requirements there will be more emphasis on quality, less on quantity.

Many people reported difficulty contacting the new dental hospital by telephone, this is also a problem for patients if they wish to change an appointment. Also difficulty getting referrals accepted by BDH, they seem to be bounced back for very minor reasons.

Conversion of PDS+ contracts

Variable success with renegotiation. I reported one of our members was given no negotiation on the 51% of contract value, other people seem to have been able to negotiate. Some have been advised to use a partnership arrangement to prevent PDS+ contracts being added on to other contracts and the UDA value being averaged out between both.

Anyone wishing to be aware of contracts coming up to tender for should register with BravoSolutions.

A Shropshire practice had not been accepted to move from being a pilot to a prototype practice. They had subsequently suffered a £100,000 clawback which has resulted in the sale of the practice.

Capita still seem to be performing poorly with a long delay for new entrants to the performer list.

MCN news

There is to be a new MCN looking at urgent care.

Some disillusionment of MCN chairs was reported- “what is the point, what is the end game?”

GDPC

Members will have seen the latest report.

A general dissatisfaction with the effectiveness of GDPC.

Lack of any negotiating power – the dispute with the junior hospital doctors has shown the DoH to be unwilling/unable to negotiate at all.

Our best option is to get patients on our side- eg by explaining the hike in dental charges is just a tax increase and not being used for dentistry at all.

Any uplift next year is likely to be minimal, which will mean a pay cut when increased overheads are taken into account.

Yet another meeting which ended with a feeling of gloom for the future of NHS dentistry.