

Minutes for the LDC Meeting
Held on the 29th January 2008

1. Apologies

- Barry Tiernan, Sarah Jackson, Brian Parnell

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

- OOH – Chairman spoke to Martyn Rogers and Adrian Wright said had no 'leg to stand on' so no point in the LDC sending a letter.
- Adrian Wright did seem reasonably open to making it work though
- Point 5 – East Dorset is £75k and Bournemouth and Poole is £100k
- Point 10, At the Bournemouth and Poole meeting Adrian Wright said would be getting this up and running

3. Buying and Selling of Dental Practices

- Chairman wrote to both chairs of the PCT's – Debbie Fleming and Andy Meakin
- Letter read out to members stating the concerns over this matter – Buying and selling Practices, Practices going out to tender and the Oral Health provisions
- Debbie is looking into it, as so Martyn Rogers
- Adrian Wright has a meeting with the Chairman on the 12th February
- Chairman spoke to the BDA and they said a way of avoiding this is to make the associate of the practice/buyer a partner, and then you leave with the partner taking over.
- Chairman to talk about this at the meeting in Feb
- It was discussed that the practice would have to go to tender even if it is incorporated
- Chairman felt the dentists need guidance on what the PCT's are going to do as there is no formulated plan at present. – Chairman hopes to formulate a plan
- Government states the UDA value, is not looking for best value, its best quality of care
- It was discussed that Adrian Wright should work Full-time as it is very difficult to get hold of him at present – with the Dorset PCT do we know the points of co-operation?

4. Superannuation

- Has not changed since last April
- PCT Responsibility
- Adrian Wright is short staffed
- Last month, changed payment, but still wrong. At some point there will be a catch up but unsure when this will be.
- Practices with a number of associates this is very concerning
- Unsure of what to do

- Chairman to bring up on agenda of the February meeting
- Reg Carnall advised it may be better to e-mail Carol Laurence-Parr
- Dental Advisor stated there are various steps to take for reaching people for information – this should be improving in March
- Advised dentists to e-mail carol if unable to get hold of Adrian
- It was discussed that the PCT's want to be able to have the ability to move money to somewhere else where dental aid is more greatly needed when a practice closes.
- Finance has a lot of power in where the money goes
- Jeremy Moore asked if obliged to put practices out to tender. - Dental Advisor replied above limits it has to go to tender
- Question was raised why is it ok to incorporate?
- There is no policy at present
- Incorporates tend to have a large turnover of staff, and lose patients
- PCT have more concerns at present

5/6 Training day and AGM

- Chairman has idea to ask BDA for speaker at the AGM to talk for 1-2 hours
 - Tim Parsons charges £500.00 + VAT + travel and hotel and will speak on tendering for NHS contracts.
 - Treasurer stated we could have speaker and maybe offer no food
 - Chairman advised would be helpful to have a speaker who is well known
 - It was thought that tendering may be a very important discussion for dentists
 - Chairman advised it would be better to have a good speaker and offer food so more dentists are likely to come to the AGM
 - Good opportunity to advertise the LDC
 - As PCT now paymasters and are obliged to liaise with the LDC as a speaker for dentists in the area
 - The elections are coming up soon for the LDC – as the PCT have to liaise with the LDC will encourage dentists to elect themselves
 - Decided to have Speaker and food at the Post Graduate Centre
 - Treasurer stated we could afford around £1,000
 - Decided to ask Tim Parsons to talk about negotiating with the PCT also
 - Tender in 2009 – Probably not, many see it as a rolling contract
 - Adrian Wright feels nothing will change
 - Still unsure
 - Adrian Wright also said that it would not be easy or practical to reduce contracts by a lot
- Ø To contact Tim Parsons
 - Ø AGM to be held on Tuesday 8th April
 - Ø Date Later changed to 15th April as Tim could not make the 8th

7. Government for GDP's

- Last year there was suppose to be funding – more money available this year
- Anne Williams has enquired and was told they were not sure they still had money available

- Chairman to bring up at the meeting in February to advised there should be a structure in place for funding
- Endo instrument funding is available in Dorset and was an on going contract
- Vast majority of dentists did not apply even though a letter was sent out to them by Adrian Wright
- Dentist assume they are not going to get the funding
- Huw James stated the LDC should have negotiated for all dentists so they all had access to this knowledge
- LDC should have written to both PCT leads
- Dental Advisor stated we need to send all letters on headed paper
- To put letter in with the election letters that money was available last year for endo instruments

8. PCT Strategy towards Dentistry

- Chairman wrote a letter to Lisa Harding
 - Lisa Harding offered to meet up on a regular basis and bring information back to the PCT
 - Liaison group for the Dorset LDC
- Ø Dorset: Huw James
Ø Bournemouth and Poole: Richard Wood
- Discussed meetings should be held before the LDC meetings
 - To liaise meetings with the PCT
 - To invite PCT's to the LDC meetings in future
 - Adrian Wright felt harassed when attending meetings before so felt reluctant in the past to come
 - To see how the future meetings go
 - Discussed that the OHAG and LDC meetings the members should get paid for attending – UDA's per session?
 - Jeremy Moore Felt the meeting s should take place in the afternoons
- Ø Chairman to ask PCT at the February meeting – to state that Cornwall LDC get 20 UDA's for LDC meetings
- Ø To approach both PCT's
- Ø After the election in the spring – to modify the fee guidelines and discuss what everyone wishes to do
- Ø Chairman is going to go to many meetings now
- Ø To write letter to PCT as king for money
- Ø Dental Advisor advised to anticipate how much the LDC wanted – 20 UDA's per meeting

9. Report from Dental Advisor

- Many items already discussed
- Have had many complaints from patients on 'what is urgent'?
- Increasing RCT and nowhere to refer them
- Bournemouth an Poole are looking into providing a service into this growing problem
- Endo specialists?
- Restorative consultant?

- Anne Williams stated that if it is under contract it is not a referral topic
 - More complaints are needed to make aware of this problem
 - Somerset has opened a lot more practices
 - Ortho – UOA value is set too high, anticipate will start to drop
 - 2009 – Still waiting for guidance
 - PASSE Scheme – now funding up to £15,000 from PCT £7,500 each recurring
 - LDC to meet with PCT leads
 - LDC should be in control or participate heavily with the PASSE scheme
 - PCT may not work running the scheme
- Ø Chairman to talk to LDC members Sarah and Claire to formulate and contact dental advisor
- Advised to do model on the national model
 - LDC needs to be pro-active
 - Money should be available from April – advised to push the matter as much as possible

10. Treasurers Report

- Draught of End of Year
- £9,000 in compared to £6,000 from last year
- 2 session fees – now all paid and up to date
- Full report to come at the AGM

11. Reports from other Meetings

- LDC meeting – minutes on website
- OHAG

12. Correspondence

- None

13. Any Other Business

- To invite PCT's, Oral Surgery Consultants and Community to AGM
- Bill Fields, Reg Carnall, Anne Williams, Alistair Danby all very important to the LDC – to opt on the LDC again
- E-mail letter to Treasurer about endo funding to be sent out with the election letter
- Website
- Dentists unable to contact us – to contact website operator

14. Date of Next meeting

Tuesday 29th April 2008

Following LDC Meeting Tuesday 1st July 2008

AGM

Tuesday 15th April 2008