

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

Chair: Adam Holliday

## Bi-Monthly Meeting

Nottinghamshire Local Optical Committee  
Bi-Monthly Meeting  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
Virtual Meeting – via Zoom

### Present:

Adam Holliday  
Roma Malik  
Indy Atwal  
Andrew Spybey  
David Cartwright  
David Bennett  
John Clissold  
Katie Franklin  
Sameen Qayyum  
Mo Aslam  
John Yeomans  
Ravi Chawda

**Chair**  
**Deputy Care**  
**Treasurer**

### In Attendance:

Sam Stretton  
Richard Rawlinson  
Anthony Harvey  
Robert Blow  
Sonia Jethwa  
Vimesh Bhundia

**Administrator**  
**Optical Lead - LOCSU**

Adam Holliday welcomed everyone to the meeting

### 2. Apologies for Absence

No apologies received.

### 3. Minutes of previous meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 - matters arising

#### NUH Update

David Bennett asked for clarification in regards to David Cartwright's comment about getting clinical pathways actioned. David Cartwright advised that putting together a strategy paper was one thing, but putting it in to action and changing things is another matter.

David Bennett went on to ask if there was any update on how the pilot eye casualty pathway was progressing which Specsavers are currently involved in. Ravi Chawda advised that it has been a long slow process, but a contract is finally in place to allow Optometrists to attend NUH to undertake their IP. David asked Ravi what type of contract this was and Ravi advised that it was an honorary contract to allow Optometrists to work and undertake training at NUH for their IP. However the Optometrists are still waiting for a start date.

Adam Holliday asked Ravi if he had any update on the community project and the digital platform. There was no update to provide.

David highlighted that if this is a community pathway, why haven't other Optometrists been invited to take part.

The OCCF was then discussed and as lead for this at NUH, Mo Aslam provided an update. There have been delays securing both clinical and education supervisors. Adam asked if this would be Ophthalmologist lead and Mo confirmed this would be, but there are exceptions. Mo gave an example of a competency in regards to IOP checking or VA's and advised that a department Optometrist could sign these off. However most competencies need to be signed off by an Ophthalmologist.

David Bennett asked what the basic competencies were to start off with. Mo advised that these are based on the Registrar training and that there are far too many to list. David went on to ask when or if NUH would be rolling the OCCF out to all community Optometrists. Mo advised that at the moment only a scoping exercise / expressions of interest. This had only been undertaken with Optometrist working at NUH.

David Cartwright felt that once the issues relating to the OCCF had been sorted out, all Optometrists should be offered the chance to enter into this. David also felt that just Specsavers being involved in this was not a long term solution. Ravi confirmed that Specsavers are piloting this and Mrs Tambe and Professor Dua have confirmed this will be opened up to everyone.

Work on the OCCF mapping is also on-going.

David Bennett asked if EMMS had released any data to Mrs Tambe in regards to NUH referrals. Adam Holliday advised that as to date, no formal request has been made. David also asked if the ICS agenda for direct referrals had been actioned.

#### **4. Eye Health Strategy Board (EHSB)**

David Cartwright confirmed that the eye health strategy document was finalised mid-August. There are still a few financial parts to add.

Due to the amount of priorities identified whilst putting the strategy together, a further piece of work has been undertaken to identify what needs to be actioned now to change things.

At last week's meeting it was agreed that the actions would be divided up into three groups.

Group 1 - Prevention and Awareness. Which includes children's screening, education on the importance of eye health and patient education in regards to being seen in the community rather than at the hospital.

Group 2 – Pathways. Looking at referrals into hospital from GPs and how these can be improved. Jayne Thornley and Andy Roylance for the CCG will lead on this. This group would also include representatives for NUH, Sherwood Forest, LOC, a GP, EMMS and Health Harmonie.

There will be financial support from the CCG for pathways as they look at what is being spent and what needs to be spent in the future.

Group 3 – Support for people with visual disability. This would include social services support, mental health support and low visual aid support. Michael Conroy Chief Executive of MySight Nottinghamshire will lead on this.

The intention is that the lead(s) for each group will bring together the appropriate people to thrash out the actions and take them forward.

Each group will report back to the EHSB. It is hoped that an initial plan can be tabled by mid-November, prior to the next Board meeting. This will then be reported back to the Integrated Care System Board.

David expects the group leads to contact the LOC to arrange for a committee member to sit on each group and this is a genuine opportunity for the LOC to put forward ideas.

David also referred to a draft report by the National Transformation Team, in which they sketch out some pathways. A lot of these pathways encourage and support work being undertaken in the community and by community optometry practices.

Richard Rawlinson advised that LOCSU are part of the steering group for the Outpatients Transformation programme, along with the College and Royal College of Optometrists. Where the LOCSU pathways are currently in place, there are not a lot of differences between the two. It is all centred around what community optometry can provide to support processes. The only difference is that Ophthalmology is involved. It is envisaged that LOCSU will support these pathways going forward.

## **5. Healthy Living Optical Practices Update**

David Cartwright advised that there are 2 practices in Derbyshire and 2 practices in Nottinghamshire that are providing services. Prior to lockdown, further training dates were being looked at. At the present time there is nothing further to report on.

Adam Holliday advised that the LOC would be more than happy to help in regards to promoting Healthy Living Optical Practices.

## **6. ICS Partnership Update**

Alongside the work that David Cartwright has been doing, the ICS partnership group have been meeting. This is a forum where different sectors can attend to hear what the ICS has been up to and also to feedback what is happening in their sector. The forum is made up of a very diverse group ranging from the voluntary sectors right the way through to the Fire and Rescue service, the Police Service and some Members of Parliament. Unfortunately not a lot seems to be happening, apart from updates as to what is happening elsewhere. There is also no opportunity to influence change. Sameen Qayyum asked if anyone can attend these meetings. Adam Holliday advised that attendance is invitation only and thinks this is to ensure that the forum doesn't get flooded by one particular sector.

## **7. PCSE Online**

Those present that use PCSE Online did not report any issues. It was noted however that there has been some issues in regards to integration with some Practice Management Systems.

If anyone does have any issues, they should contact PCSE directly.

## **8. LOCSU Regional Forum**

Roma Malik and Indy Atwal have been attending these virtual forums.

Roma advised that the forum she attended had talked about and tied in with David Cartwright's work around children's screening and arranging a more formal service pathway.

Indy advised that the forum he attended discussed the learning disabilities pathway that had been developed by LOCSU. This pathway would allow patients to be managed in the community and not in secondary care.

## **9. LOCSU Levy**

Prior to the meeting Indy Atwal circulate some suggestions in regards to levy payments moving forward.

The LOC is seeing a reduction in its income and steps have been taken in regards to reducing its costs. There is a question over fees paid to LOCSU, in that if the LOC doesn't have the money coming in, how can LOCSU be paid.

Richard Rawlinson advised that the income LOCSU receives is based on activity of GOS the same as LOC. So if the GOS activity has dropped this will affect them both. Some LOCs pay LOCSU an annual or some a fixed amount each month, rather than activity based payments like Nottinghamshire. Richard went on to say that LOCSU have envisaged GOS fees coming in at around 60%, however they are seeing it running at 50% over the past month.

Richard went on to say that Nottinghamshire is a very well ran and organised LOC. The finances have been well managed and everything that can be done has been done in regards to reducing costs.

Richard asked for clarity around a point in the previous meeting minutes about having an umbrella of practices. David Cartwright advised that in Nottinghamshire if a contract came up, there would potentially be three interested groups Health Harmonie, EMMS and the Primary Eye Care Company and it would be far more sensible to get it all under one umbrella / provider.

David Bennett asked Richard about support for private providers and what was his view on supporting these. Richard advised that there aren't any and that LOCSU and LOCs both relate to GOS contractors. There are a few in London, but Richard isn't familiar with these and they do not contribute to the LOC financially. David went on to say that if 50% of contractors went private, this would affect LOCSUs income and how would they manage this. Richard was honest and said he had no idea and this was not something that had been discussed or something on his radar. NHS England may have this on their radar, as where would NHS patients be seen.

Those present felt it would be a good idea to have another meeting in the next month or so to look at the LOC finances and projection.

**9. Ongoing Communications / Information Technology**

Adam Holliday advised that he had asked Sam Stretton to set up a Google calendar for the committee to use. There are lots of meetings going happening at the moment and this would allow everyone to see these are attend on behalf of the LOC if they wished too.

**10. Any other business**

**Secondary Care Waiting Times**

Sonia Jethwa asked if there was any information available in regards to waiting times at the local hospitals. Adam Holliday advised that both NUH and Sherwood Forest are seeing patients, but unfortunately waiting list times have never been provided to the LOC. David Bennett agreed to lead on this and request the information. Sameen Qayyum also offered to help with this.

**Date and times of future meetings:**

Bi-monthly Meeting – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.00pm

Bi-Monthly Meeting – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.00pm

Bi-Monthly Meeting – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm

AGM – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00pm