



LANCASHIRE &
MORECAMBE BAY LOC

Minutes of Meeting held 3rd July 2024
Brockhole Visitor Centre, Preston PR5 0AG (Junction 32 M6/M55)

Item	
1.	<p>Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>Committee Members in Attendance: Michael Jackson (MJ) (Chair), Jennifer Smith (JS) (Secretary), Edward Ovenden (EO) (Treasurer), Sajeel Abrar (SA), Asma Adam (AA), Tim Bagot (TB), David Barras (DB), Michelle Cole (MC), Philip Harper (PHa), Neil Pearson (NP), Mike Ryan (MR), Drew Thompson (DT), David Gleave (DG) - Co-opted DO</p> <p>Observers in Attendance: Tom Mackley (TMA) (LEHN Chair NHS), Mohammed Bhuta (MBh) (LOCSU Lead), Hamza Abrar (Optometrist)</p> <p>Apologies: Sarah Bentley (SB), Mike Broadhurst (MB), Ruth Cuthbert (RC) (Optometric Advisor NHS),</p> <p>MJ opens the meeting and welcomes all. He advises the meeting will be recorded by JS for the purposes of taking the minutes.</p>
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>MJ reminded all committee members to inform JS of any changes. JS will be sending out everyone's forms for them to review and for new members to complete.</p>
3.	<p>Notes and Actions from Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held 20th March 2024 were adopted by the group. Proposed by DT, Seconded by DG. Please refer to the action and decision log at end of minutes for more detail.</p> <p>Further discussion from the group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Action Log No. 40 NEHW – PH reports a national webinar is coming out on 15th July about what is planned and how to get involved. He will circulate this as it has the support of the major bodies College, AOP etc and so it will hopefully encourage more practices to get involved. 2) Action Log No. 43 WOPEC OSCEs – JS advises not all the places were filled for the recent glaucoma OSCEs but there are a few people interested in the MECS OSCE who missed out last time. TB advises that when the Tier 1 contract winner is announced, and practices are reminded that for GECF Glaucoma level 2 or Prof cert. is needed there may be more interest. The LOC may consider running another event in the autumn in a different location. Committee agreed that events can be held without full committee approval while there are sufficient funds for training. 3) Action Log No. 43 - TB attends regular meetings with the Trust following the last LOC meeting. He was initially attending in his role with PES but is happy to represent the LOC at future meetings to continue working on improvements to the referral pathways. DT will try to attend the virtual meetings to support.



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	<p>4) Action Log No. 47 - DG & EO advise work has started on a pack but needs further work.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held 24th April 2024 were adopted by the group. Proposed by MC, Seconded by EO. Please refer to the action and decision log at end of minutes for more detail.</p> <p><i>No Further discussion from the group.</i></p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Chair's Report</p> <p><u>Chair's Report – July 2024</u></p> <p><i>Further discussion from the group</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MJ reports he & EO went to the Primary Care Training Hub's AHP Conference at UCLAN yesterday. It was an opportunity to talk about what Primary Care Optometry does, what GOS is etc. Dentistry & Pharmacy were also represented. MJ feels this is something worth getting involved with regularly and maybe even having a stand at in the future – next year we could talk about the Tier 1 services available. TMa advises he was unfortunately unable to attend this year which is why is asked the LOC to support. It comes under his remit as LEHN to organise but his happy for the LOC to continue to support.• A discussion was held around asking the ICB for support for GOS practices for things like occupational health, translation services, IT Training to support delivery. DG advises the workforce meetings he attends are now recognising and engaging with all four pillars of primary care and not just GPs so continued attendance at these meetings is essential to ensure we can request a portion of funds when available. DB suggests GOS training for new optical staff members. TB enquires about NHS Pensions, GPs and Dentists are private companies that are entitled to them, why aren't optical practices. MBh advises that many years ago a small increase was applied to the GOS fee to compensate for the NHS pension.• Triaging referrals – MJ reports this came up recently on the chairs forum and there was debate around different RMCs, SPAs etc. There seems to be something different in every area with different acronyms meaning different things in different areas. The next thing on the commissioner's radar will be Tier 2 and how to deal with referrals. TMa has already lobbied with the commissioners that clinical triage would be the way forward. He reports K. Rimmer is unfortunately not at all convinced by this despite evidence presented. MJ wants to create a small working group to decide what a good system should look like. Something easy & safe that can be consistent across the ICB so that when these conversations come up soon, we know what we want



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	<p>and are ready to champion it. TB adds it is a primary care triage service not just optometry so needs to be suitable to triage GP referrals, people who present to A&E or ring 111 and redirect GRRs, CUES etc. MJ, JS, TB, DT, DG & TMa to form working group.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Secretary's Report Secretary's Report - July 2024</p> <p><i>Further discussion from the group:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JS asks for volunteers to help write content for the website relaunch. JS to share "tree", content to be sent to JS as Word doc – TMa, DT, AA & EO to help. • JS & MJ now accredited as WOPEC assessors – AA, TMa & DT wish to be accredited at next opportunity • JS asks for someone volunteer for vacant position of IG Lead – AA happy to do this. JS advises registration with the ICO has already been paid for this year. JS to send details to AA. • JS asks MBu to clarify how to find the IT security e-learning module on ELFH site. JS, MJ, EO & AA to complete ASAP. Committee agreed to make decision about whether the rest of the committee should do it just once or annually depending how useful/onerous it is to complete. • JS advises she is on annual leave for 3 weeks in August, should any important information need to out to the mailing list e.g. Tier 1 announcements during this time would anyone be available who is familiar with MailChimp to cover. DT, PH, MJ, DG happy to cover as needed. • A discussion was had around the potential conflict of interest in West Lancs with ISight receiving all cataract referrals for choice conversations and being a surgical provider. It was agreed NP as locality lead would raise the concern with K.Rimmer citing the other local providers so it is recorded and if no evidence arises in the meantime can be picked up during conversations in the future re Tier 2 pathways and services/SPAs. • JS reports there has been a handful of glaucoma patients told by LTHT to see their optician for an IOP check. JS asks AA to remind the Trust that this is not a service Primary Care Optometry can provide for free. The Trust would need to commission a pathway. • JS thanks MC for stepping into the role of locality lead for Central Lancs.



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6.	<p>Treasurer's Report Treasurer's Report July 24 – Redacted, available on request <i>Further discussion from the group:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No objections to EO finding an accountant to perform the 2024/25 audit. MB has made a recommendation.• The committee is all in favour of moving excess funds into a separate savings account. Proposed by DG, seconded by TB. EO to find an appropriate account. TB asks if this can be an ISA, EO confirms it will need to be a full access business savings account. Proposed by DG, seconded by TB.• EO asks if the committee is happy to continue with PAYE – no objections.• EO reminds everyone to register their licence plate for free parking on arrival – it costs Brockholes £10 to cancel a parking ticket.
7.	<p>Discussion of Reports Previously Circulated</p> <p><u>Primary Eyecare Services (PES)</u> Nothing to report on Tier 1 until winner of the tender is announced. A few more practices have signed up for the Easy Eyecare People with Learning Disabilities & Autism pathway, but more are still needed to justify the service to commissioners. DG reports he and TMa have arranged a meeting in July with Alvin ? who is the clinical advisor for learning disabilities & autism to discuss how he can help roll the service out to more practices and whether there is any funding available for the rollout. DB suggests someone could contact practices directly to talk to them about the benefits and demonstrate what is involved. TMa advises recently a few more practices have joined the service in MBay but Central Lancs is severely lacking and needs targeting. JS asks whether practices could be given a Bradford box on joining as a small incentive to ensure they have appropriate standardised kit available. It is decided to create a working group to drive signups to the service and prioritise it – DG, TMa, DB, TB, EO volunteer.</p> <p><u>Morecambe Bay Locality Report</u> TB has spoken to UHMB again about contract payments. Talks have stalled around community monitoring of stable glaucoma patients due to lack of trust funding.</p> <p><u>NHSE Optometric Advisor Report – July 24</u> MJ reminds all practices to complete their annual complaints report. TMa asks if there has been any feedback since the 2nd pair guidance document was issued. MJ is not aware of any and the process seems to be working well. JS advises the guidance is available here https://lmbloc.co.uk/practice-visit-protocol/</p> <p><u>LOCSU Report – July 24</u> JS advises both DB & SA are registered for the next LOCSU Induction Course. No further discussion from the group.</p>



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	<p><u>Local Eye Health Network (LEHN) Update (TMa)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Big Conversation - There are people within the ICB who are keen to engage with optics and not just GPs. They realise there are currently many challenges in across primary care. The Big Conversation is about the ICB engaging with all primary care contractors to discuss what needs to be done to work together better. They recognise that there is a lot of frustration over GOS fees, but the ICB has no control over this. That aside, the ICB want to understand what can be done to benefit our profession and patients. Online meetings will be sent out soon to all contractors and TMa encourages the LOC to engage. These opportunities do not come around very often. • Care Home Development - Emma O’Kane (Clinical Lead for Regulated Care) is working on various workstreams to try and improve care provided in care homes (not just optics). TMa & Angie Ashworth have created an advice sheet for care home managers. The hope is this will help highlight what they should expect from optical service providers and that the patient has the right to choose their own provider. TMa advises he will be sharing the document with the LOC to be reviewed before it is distributed. It was decided this would be good to share with all practices as they also receive enquiries about domiciliary eyecare. JS to include, if possible, a list of contractors on the website and the advice document when available. DG advises the NHS domiciliary contract is too inflexible. 48hrs notice must be given to provide the service, this stops independent practices filling in gaps left by cancellations. MBh will feed this back to LOCSU but advises if this clause was removed the service would be open to abuse and is there to protect the public. • Skin access hubs – currently if a practitioner is concerned about a skin lesion on e.g. a patient's ear or neck when fitting glasses, they would do a referral to the GP for investigation. There are now skin access hubs which GP receptionists are sign posting to. The patient has the lesion photographed, AI analyses it and decides next steps. It has received high praise from GPs. TMa advises the 2 hubs are near Chorley and could be useful for local clinicians to utilise rather than having to write lengthy GP referrals.
8.	<p><u>Tier 1 – LOC Plan/Support/Mobilisation</u></p> <p>A discussion was held around what the mobilisation should look like when the contract winner is announced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locality leads to work closely with their practices contacting them by phone as was done with the launch of eERS. Some practices will need more support than others. Leads will need support from other LOC members to achieve this. To focus support on the areas facing the biggest change to services. • Potentially hold separate area virtual events to answer queries and support. • Comms to the public and GP surgeries to raise awareness of new pathways – send details to LMC & LPC to distribute to their mailing lists.



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9.	<p><u>Tier 2 - What should tier 2 referral filtering look like/SPA's?</u> Discussed earlier in the meeting.</p>
10.	<p>AOB <u>Paediatric mentoring / CPD / Managed Clinical Network – DB</u></p> <p>DB is no longer working at Blackpool Hospital but will carry on collaborating with Conrad Beacham (Lead Orthoptist). The hope is to put on a learning event for a group of local optometrists who are keen to develop in paediatrics with regular quarterly meetings to discuss cases with an orthoptist to upskill everyone. SB sent the invite out and 5 practitioners attended the evening event at the Trust. Another practice has reached out to request a practice event. DB is also planning to talk to the LOS at one of their events. DB has come up against several barriers due to the nature of the GOS contract. This has highlighted that a commissioned paediatric pathway is needed for GPs and the trust to signpost to practices who are happy to see children. TB discussed with Conrad recently starting off with the Integrated Children's pathway and then look to commission the failed school screening pathway.</p> <p><u>Workforce survey results discussion – DG</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There has been some interest and movement over recent months. Positive steps are being made with now time to speak up & contribute at these meetings and less GP focused. Continue to attend to be a voice at the table.



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11.

Dates of Next Meetings

September – 18/09/24

October – 18/10/24 - Needs Analysis Working Group – Teams 10am

November - 13/11/24

Regional Optical Conference - 20/11/24 all day - tbc

January - 15/01/25 (virtual only if needed)

March - 12/3/25

April - 30/04/25 - AGM, CPD & election of officers

June - 25/06/24

Signed By: 

Michael Jackson (Chair)

Date: 18/09/2024



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Action & Decision Log

Date	Discussion	Action	Assigned to	Progress Update	Current Status
No 34 21/06/23	10. Fleetwood PCN	Talk to Tracey Harrison re frequency of PCN meetings and LOC expectations and draft MOU	MJ & SB	27/09/23 - No update, carry over to next meeting. 17/01/24 - MBh to provide MoU for office holder positions. MJ to use these to draft for Tracey's role 20/03/24 - MJ to make changes to Agreement and arrange meeting with Tracey to discuss – signed copy to be held on file by JS. 03/07/24 - MJ to keep trying to get in touch with her.	In Progress
No 40 27/09/23	10. AOB	PH and AA to plan events for NEHW 2024	AA & PH	17/01/24 - Ongoing – will report as plans are made. 20/03/24 - Final plan to be presented at July 24 meeting to be approved and actioned in plenty of time. 03/07/24 - PH to circulate national webinar to practices after 15th July.	In Progress
No 42 17/01/24	3. Chair's Report	MR to send PH piece to advertise pathway in newsletter, only to go out once EeRS confirmed so as not to cause confusion.	MR	20/03/24 - PH to remind MR 03/07/24 - Closed	CLOSED



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No 43 17/01/24	3. Chair's Report	MJ look into collaboration with AWL LOC for FB removal event south of the patch & maybe Pennine LOC also to help share the cost. Also to enquire re FB kits & confirm lead assessors' availability and process for committee becoming assessors.	MJ	20/03/24 - Dates have been pencilled in with Kev Liu & Wopec to do FB, MECS & Glauco in Lancaster – MJ to chase and confirm 03/07/24 - closed	CLOSED
No 44 17/01/24	3. Chair's Report	DT to speak to BVH and get definitive pathway e.g. list of conditions that must be rung first. MJ to do the same for UHMB	TB & DT	20/03/24 - DT advises Christine Baylis at the trust is doing work on this, transformation is coming but there is no definitive list yet. DT is trying to get involved in this process. MJ has no updates from UHMB on emergency referrals. 03/07/24 - TB & DT to work with BTH to improve emergency referral pathway.	In Progress
No 47 20/03/24	4. Chairs Report	Create a pack to be used at schools' careers events	EO, AA, DG	03/07/24 - Some progress made more to be done. To be picked up at next meeting.	
No 48 20/03/24	5. Secretary's Report	Small working group to draft response to constitution survey, committee to review	JS	03/07/24 - completed, closed	CLOSED



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		then JS to submit online prior to deadline			
No 49 20/03/24	7. OA Report	JS to add new safeguarding contact details to website	JS	03/07/24 - completed, closed	CLOSED
No 50 20/03/24	8. AOB	JS & MB to ask LOCSU for support getting Trusts to pay HESP fees timely.	MJ, JS, MBh	03/07/24 - Carry forward to next meeting.	
No 51 03/07/24	4. Chairs Report	Tier 2 working group – to include E.Lancs	MJ, JS, TB, DT, DG & TMa		
No 51 03/07/24	5. Secretary's Report	JS to send ICO information to AA and register change in details.	JS		
No 52 03/07/24	5. Secretary's Report	All committee members to do IT Security course on ELFH site and send certificate to JS	All		
No 53 03/07/24	5. Secretary's Report	NP to email K.Rimmer to raise concerns over coi with ISight choice conversations for cataract in West Lancs and ask practices to feedback any concerns to him.	NP		
No 54 03/07/24	5. Secretary's Report	AA to remind LTHT they cannot advise	AA		



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		glaucoma patients to see their optician for an IOP check.			
No 55 03/07/24	6. Treasurers Report	EO to set up a savings account for excess funds	EO		
No 56 03/07/24	7. Other Reports	Working group to be set up to prioritise increasing signups to Easy Eyecare Pathway especially in Central Lancs.	DG, TMa, DB, TB, EO		
No 57 03/07/24	10. AOB	DB to plan how much time per month he needs to spend on paed pathway/meetings etc to present to committee at Sept 24 meeting for funding approval. TMa to see if there is any ICB funding available as well.	DB/TMa		
No 58 03/07/24	10. AOB	Create Top Tips for Paediatric Examinations document for website (similar to the orthoptic one already posted)	DB & AA		