

SHROPSHIRE LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE

2017/18 The Year in Summary

Healthcare landscape

Welcome to your copy of the Shropshire LPC 2017/18 Annual Report. I would once again like to place on record my thanks to all those members who have served on the LPC during the last 12 months, particularly Secretary Lindsey Fairbrother and Treasurer Jane Davies.

The year has again been very challenging and the work of the LPC has been to try to support contractors through this difficult time. We have continued to meet and maintain relationships with service commissioners Public Health, Help2change, Shropshire CCG, Telford & Wrekin CCG, NHSE North Midlands and other key stakeholders to try to influence and promote the value of community pharmacy and to ensure a high profile in the local community.

We have continued to work with NHSE North Midlands particularly Andy Pickard as the Professional Pharmacy Lead and Mani Hussain Chair of the Local Professional Network. Through these links funding has been secured from NHSE North Midlands for training and from Health Education England via the LPN funding to support the Shropshire Telford & Wrekin (STP) Sustainability Transformation Plan to upskill the pharmacy workforce to support transformational change.

Work continues alongside our neighbouring LPCs South Staffs, North Staffs and Stoke. The LPCs received joint funding to pilot the Pharmacy First Extended Care Service. The pilot commenced in November 2017 and was to allow pharmacists to carry out a more detailed examination of patients with ENT problems and children under 2 years with conjunctivitis. This was implemented across 10 pharmacies. The service is now being assessed to measure the outcomes for patients and how it has supported the health economy to manage the demand for GP and OOH appointments.

Pharmacy First Common Ailments, Emergency Supply, UTI and Impetigo continue to be commissioned for 2017/18 but Common Ailments has now been decommissioned with effect from 1st September 2018.

The LPC itself successfully bid for an education grant from Pfizer, and together with support from Shropshire Council Public Health and the West Midlands Health Academic Network, will be launching an atrial fibrillation screening service to be conducted on over 65 year olds attending for their 2018 flu jab. Twelve pharmacies have signed up to provide the scheme and it is hoped that another five will participate following a further training session.

Pharmacies continue to deliver smoking cessation, emergency contraception, supervised consumption, needle exchange and the Primary Eye Care Assessment Referral Service.

Your LPC also has representatives who attend Shropshire STP meetings, the Overview and Scrutiny meetings of Central Health Solutions the new provider company, Regional and National PSCN events.

Lynne Deavin

LPC Chair & Service Development Officer

Regulatory

With the uncertain financial future for many pharmacies, contracting, whether new applications or relocation has been very quiet in the year April 2017 to 2018. However, it is now more than five years since the last rurality review and a recent contract application has lead to rurality review in one location. The LPC will now be seeking review of the whole region looking at controlled areas, and reserved locations in particular, in order to determine whether the classification is still valid.

After the first submissions of quality payments, contractors had to submit again for April 2018. Some concerns have been raised over NHS Choices updates with NHSBSA challenging quality payment submissions in some areas. The LPC contacted PSNC with its concerns, in particular that no appeals process was in place if contractors were challenged. We are pleased to announce that PSNC discussions have now lead to an appeals procedure and contractors in this position are urged to look at PSNC advice on their website.

Lindsey Fairbrother continues to support the LPC as Secretary and lead for regulatory issues including responding to contract applications and regulations and communicating with national and local bodies.

Finance

Shropshire LPC is funded by the contractors with a Statutory Levy of 1p per £100 which is deducted from the NHS payments.

Although we are permitted to request a deduction of up to 10p per £100 we carefully managed our budget so that is not required.

If we have a surplus, money can be returned to the contractors in the form of a Levy Holiday as we did for 3 months last year.

How do we spend your cash?

A large proportion, 45%, of our income goes directly to the PSNC to fund national contract negotiations.

We have 8 to 9 half day meetings per year and contractors are welcome to join us. We try to make the AGM more social with a training slot and supper. This is usually well attended by contractors and their teams.

The members give up their own time to attend the meetings, so we cover their locum and travel expenses.

As most of us work full time we buy in the services of a Secretary and a Service Development Officer. They are able to meet with Local Authorities, CCG Commissioners, and

NHS England North Midlands to promote pharmacy and the skills of pharmacists and their teams.

They negotiate for paid services for our populations, such as EHC, UTI treatments etc. and now the exciting new AF detection service.

They have also been successful at getting sponsorship which we use to offer training evenings to our contractors.

We have also lent money to CHSLTD as a provider arm to develop and negotiate services regionally as many authorities wish to deal with only one negotiator.

Shropshire LPC is the only LPC that funds a prescription collection service.