**Monday 07 April 2025**

19:00 – 22:00

Online, Zoom

**M I N U T E S**

In attendance: Jeremy Williams, Andrea, Anwen Hooson, Benjamin Lewis, Dan Naylor, Darren, Darren S, Emily, Eve Mackley, Gareth Rhun, Gwen Owen, Ian Douglas, Klevin, Lara, Marco, Mohammad Owaise Sharif, Mostafa Hassaan, Taha Mirza, Tracey Taylor, Selwyn, Lucy Thomas, Mayura Pally, Sandra Sandham, Pynadath George, Annie, Ravi, Niall [26]

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| **Agenda Item** | **Individual** | **Attachments/**  **Supporting Information** |
| **1.1 Welcome and Apologies** | **JW** | Pam |
| **1.2 Minutes of Previous Meeting** | **JW** | Approved as accurate.  No reply to BDA open letter to Jeremy Miles as far as we are aware. |
| **For Discussion and Matters Arising** | | |
| 2.1 Contractual matters- Uplift *(inc. conditions)*- Contract variation 2526*(inc. DAP and interchangeability of metrics)*- New contract 2627- Supporting collaboration between LDC members | **All** | Regarding proposed actions from last minutes – revolve around 1) sharing (anonymously) progress throughout the year and 2) LDC-led collaboratives. The main question is, is there an appetite for this?  ACTION: MS to email NHS contract holders who have previously engaged asking to open discussions about anonymous progress check-in form.  Regarding CV, some expressed frustration re: mid-year increases – appears unnecessarily ‘controlling’ given the contract is 12 months, not 2x 6 months.  Regarding CV, significant variation in the way practices are addressing metrics – some moving away from taking NP/NUP from the HB (inc. DAP); some taking all their target from these sources as they are ‘guaranteed’.  Points to clarify inc. how many appointment(s) should be offered if a patient FTAs initial? Do all appointment(s) count towards practice metrics?  ACTION: MS to clarify at next LDC/PC meeting.  UPDATE: Clarified that local DNA policy (i.e. >1 appointment offered applies) – notes emailed to committee 10 Apr 25.    Consultation open. There will be no other documents released that are easier to read for general public.  Some practices are encouraging patients to read and respond.  Issues identified to date:   * Low risk patients ‘discharged’ to the DAP – seems to be driving these patients towards private access, esp. if rest of family still has a place at the practice. There is no guarantee that these low-risk patients will be seen in 18 months if they did choose to go to the DAP, very unlikely in fact – could be 2, 3, 4, 5 years. Further, what happens to patient’s radiographs that the existing treating Dentist will be very familiar with? * Much more detail/clarification required regarding payments for each treatment ‘package’. * Much more admin which is now beyond what is acceptable – costs left to practice owners. * The care ‘packages’ will be very difficult to explain to patients – this will be very time consuming. Will the complexity also put young Dentists off entering into the system? * Concern re: lack of coverage of this in the media – patients are unaware of the implications. ACTION: LDC to contact Llais re: 1) the way the document has been worded for the general public to read and digest; 2) the lack of promotion/awareness amongst the general public. <https://www.llaiswales.org/>   UPDATE: Managed to get in touch with Llais, met with them with Christie Owen from BDA on Friday 23rd May – Mike to feed-back at next LDC meeting.   * There needs to be a period (2 years?) that is sanction free. We have no idea if/how this will work in practice. |
| 2.2 HB Matters Outstanding:- Procurement- Rachael Page’s ‘Deep Dive’- Need overarching clinical leadership- Restorative consultant | **JW** | Response has been just (this evening) received but many points not addressed or seemingly misunderstood by Rachael.  ACTION: JW/MS to seek clarification on Thursday at LDC/PC forum.  UPDATE: Clarified and notes emailed to committee 10 Apr 25.  In addition to the contents of the letter, Rachael wants to start collaboratives and clusters in dentistry. She feels that this can be funded, and Jeremy has also suggested that ‘payment’ could also be a reduction of metrics, either/or depending on clinician preference.  It was raised that it is always better to engage early so that we can influence direction.  ACTION: JW/MS to ask for specifics from Rachael at LDC/PC forum.  UPDATE: Clarified and notes emailed to committee 10 Apr 25 – internal HB discussions to start re: who this can be funded for dentistry. Rachael to feed-back to LDC in July.  Re: procurement, it has been acknowledged that mistakes were made, and the process took far too long. Hoping for another procurement exercise later in the year.  Note from Sandra, Rachael has been appointed to Pete’s position on an interim basis; unsure if/when Pete will be back in post.  Ben Lewis provided an update re: Restorative consultant. Some weekend sessions being done on a locum basis by Karun to cover some patients who are in active treatment, not seeing new patients/referrals. Unfortunately, inaccuracies in how many of these patients there are. Given Karun is present (ad hoc, 1 day/month), why not have a staff-grade/associate specialist present?  Recently raised that the FDS referral pathway is open despite no functioning restorative service. We need a way of measuring need without dentists having to send referrals to a team that they know does not exist.  ACTION: MS/JW to raise with HB at LDC/PC forum.  UPDATE: Clarified and notes emailed to committee 10 Apr 25. Rachael aware no way currently of measuring need and Paul Brocklehurst offered to help with figures based on population compared with other regions.  Ben suggests that there may be a lack of appreciation that the LDC is a statutory body. We do have the political landscape in our favour to push this at the moment. |
| 2.3 Support for the LDC moving forwards:- Chair/Vice Chair succession- Young Dentist/DCP rep.- In-person LDC meetings- LDC Annual Conference (Gateshead, 5-6th June)- Committee members up for re-election | **JW/MS** | ACTION: MS to email out to see if interest in becoming a vice chair and/or committee member and, if not, how we proceed going forwards.  ACTION: MS to email out re: if anybody would like to attend LDC annual conference (note this is funded).  George kindly offered to do a F2F oral surgery session as part of an LDC meeting. Niall/Lara kindly offered DAB as a venue.  ACTION: MS to organise next F2F meeting.  ACTION: MS to check LDC constitution and email those up for re-election.  If anybody in attendance/reading these minutes would like to join the LDC committee, please email sec.nwldc@gmail.com |
| **Updates – Chairman’s/Orthodontics Correspondence to be uploaded to Website.** | | |
| **3.1 Treasurer’s Report** | **AH** | £51,065.73 in the account.  Accounts going to the accountant in the coming weeks.  Do we stop payments and make donations?  Where can we put this money to good use? Study clubs?  Do we need to reduce levy? (Prefer the above if possible).  ACTION: When we have accounts back (should be by next meeting), include this as a specific Agenda item. |
| **3.2 Orthodontics** | **BL** | MCN last week – increase in contracts (from GDS money) have been awarded but specifics cannot be discussed yet.  Owaise has taken up a role in Manchester and has therefore handed in notice in YGC, soon to be going out to advert for another consultant (split between YGC and another site).  Waiting lists currently range from 1.5-4 years. |
| **3.5 Oral Surgery** |  | Two tier 2 contracts have been awarded, one in Anglesey, the other being DAB – hoping to get access to a list within a month. Will still have private access for those who do not want to wait on the NHS list. |
| **3.6 GDPC/WGDPC** | **JW/RJ** | Updates to follow following meetings around the new consultation process. |
| **3.8 Dental Advisors – inc. DPA/QAVP** | **ID/KF** | Still only 2 DAPs (Doug, Klev) – workload is unsustainable, and we risk both leaving unless this is addressed.  The LDC have raised the concern with the HB. No updates to date. |
| **3.9 OHSG (Primary Dental Care Operational Liaison Meeting)** | **JW/MS** | JW delivered update following OHSG meeting 6th Mar 25.  Next meeting 26th Jun 25. |
| **Any Other Business?**  Dan Naylor – VAT on private dentistry? Something to look out for – no one aware of any changes in this regard at this stage. | | |
| **Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting** | |  |
| **Monday 9th June 2025 19:00-21:00** | | **TBC** |
| **Monday 8th September 2025 19:00-22:00** | | **Zoom** |
| **Monday 8th December 2025 19:00-22:00** | | **Zoom** |