



Luson Surgery

Patient Participation Group

Meeting Notes Wed 7th June 2017 – 6.00pm

Attendees:

Marjorie Stockley, Michael Clarke, Glyn Meredith, Dr Theresa Foxtan, Martin Ellacott

Apologies:

Jenny Roncaglia

Notes from meeting on 15th February 2016 accepted with no amendments required.

Topics from the last meeting

Change of GP partner

Dr Theresa Foxtan officially took over from Dr Janes from 1st April and came to the meeting to introduce herself.

Theresa qualified at Glasgow University in 1980 after which she worked as a hospital doctor in various roles, but decided on a change of direction to become a GP and finished her training in 2005.

She worked as a locum, also providing long term maternity covering a number of practices in the Taunton area, including Luson. She was invited to become a partner at Tudor Lodge Surgery in Weston-Super-Mare in 2014, but left in 2016 to work more locally as she lives near Wellington. Most recently she has been working at Lister House Wiveliscombe, but took up the opportunity of a partnership at Luson Surgery, where she was already known due to her locum work at the practice.

Theresa is an experienced GP, who has a special interest in Dermatology, and also undertakes the role of GP Appraiser for a number of GPs in Somerset.

New Nurse

As mentioned at the last meeting, we have now been joined by Amanda Jordan. Amanda is an experienced practice nurse, who has fitted in quickly, and is proving a real asset to the practice. She will shortly start studying for her Diabetes Nurse Diploma, which will provide us with more cover in this area.

Nurse Practitioner

The arrival of Amanda provided the opportunity for Sarah Merry, our Lead Nurse to commence her Nurse Practitioner sessions. Sarah spends Monday and Friday morning dealing with minor illnesses. She is currently going through her final exams to qualify as a Nurse Prescriber, and we hope she will be in a position to start prescribing from September.

Improved Access

This service will ultimately provide the availability for patients to see a GP between 8am-8pm Mon-Fri, with the requirement for weekend hours dependent upon patient demand.

The service will be provided for the whole of Taunton Deane, with a GP available until 8pm at a practice in the area to provide pre-booked appointments on each week day. No telephone service will be offered, and the surgery doors only opened to those with pre-booked appointments. This will not replace the Out of Hours service, who will still deal with phone calls and visit requests from 6.30pm-8.00am.

The rota of practices opening on each day was shared with the meeting. Lusson will open on Monday and Thursday evenings, with the GPs doing the sessions in rotation.

Our computer system has been upgraded to allow GPs (and only the GP) at other practices to view the patient's complete GP record, with the patient's explicit consent, where a pre-booked appointment has been made with them. This will allow the GP to work safely and comply with their insurance arrangements.

At the moment practices are only able to see their own patients, as Lister House in Wiveliscombe are on a different computer system, and so access to their notes is an issue. This will be resolved by September, when the service will be launched fully.

New Topics

National GP Survey January 2017 results

These results were not available in time for the meeting, but are expected in July, and will be discussed next time.

A Primary Care Plan for Somerset – Presentation by Somerset CCG

Copies of the presentation slides were circulated before the meeting.

Much of the aspirations are derived from the Somerset Transformation and Sustainability Plan discussed at the last meeting.

With a background of reducing GP numbers and an increase in demand for face to face consultations of 13% in the last 5 years, the plans aim to implement changes to care pathways to sustain the local health service within the budget restraints.

The aim is to provide timely access and for patients to receive joined-up care across the whole health system, whilst retaining continuity of care.

Practices are looking at innovative solutions to meeting demand, with some using Paramedics to deal with acute problems and home visiting, Pharmacists within practice teams to undertake medication reviews, and Wellbeing Advisers or Health Coaches to help patients to manage their own health, as best they can before making use of healthcare services.

Whilst we are too small to be able to engage either a Paramedic or Pharmacist, our Wellbeing Adviser has proved to be a very popular service, helping patients bridge some of the gap in social care, and linking them up with appropriate voluntary services which can often help.

Many of the new initiatives where partial funding is available require groups of practices with patient list sizes of 30,000+ to bid for funding, and one wonders whether this is part of an agenda to encourage practices to merge. The partners at Lusson are committed to providing their 'small & friendly' service for as long as possible.

AOB

Somerset County Council Car Scheme

SCC have asked whether PPGs might be interested in running patient transport schemes to get patients to practices. They are looking for volunteers, and will provide some support, but stress that any scheme has to be self-funding. Blackdown Practice in Hemyock has run a successful scheme for some years through a dedicated group of volunteers. Whilst there would be obstacles to overcome, not least finding volunteers, Marjorie was enthusiastic about the idea, and if further workshops are arranged might consider attending.

Meeting with Rebecca Pow MP

Wellington Medical Centre PPG has arranged a meeting with the newly re-elected MP to discuss health related matters at 2.15pm on Friday 16th June at WMC. All members are invited, but Rebecca Pow has asked for any questions in advance, which can be submitted via Martin. Michael has indicated he would like to attend.

PPG Chair meetings

Somerset CCG have organised a get together for PPG Chairs at 2.00pm on Monday 10th July at Wynford House, Yeovil. Any member is welcome to attend, but should let me know in advance. The plan is to run a future meeting in Taunton Deane at a later date.

Date for next meeting was agreed as 4th October 2017 at 6pm.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

8th June 2017
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