

Report of the Committee for April 2016 to March 2017

Makeup of the Lincolnshire LPC Committee

The current LPC committee was formed in April 2014 and is in its third year of a four-year term. Lincolnshire LPC remained with a model for constitution of membership to be proportional to the numbers of contracts in the area of the LPC held by Company Chemists Association (CCA members), Association of Independent Multiple Pharmacies (AIMP) and Independent Contractors with LPC places for 15 members.

Based on contracts held on 31st November 2013 the constitution of Lincolnshire LPC comprises 7 CCA members, 5 AIMP members and 3 Independent Contractors.

The LPC Executive Committee consists of officers of the committee, and are;

LPC Chair:	Paul Jenks
LPC Vice Chair:	Alastair Farquhar
LPC Treasurer:	Chris Kenny

The LPC also has two employees, who are not members of the LPC Committee

LPC Chief Officer:	Steve Mosley
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LPC Administrative Assistant:	Hazel Sisson
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Committee Members

CCA

Paul Jenks, Les Guiblin, Jon Norman, Christine Bass, Enrico Pignotti, Gaetano Bellia, Zoe Starbuck

AIMP

Alastair Farquhar, Nick Carney Penny Mosley, John McKerracher (left during the year), Chris Kenny (became an AIMP representative during the year) Marc Brooks

Independent Contractors

Ramesh Gohil, Chris Kenny (became AIMP representative during the year), Chirag Ahir (joined during 2017) & Blazej Jasnowski

Meeting Arrangements

- As in previous years, Lincolnshire LPC continued with the beneficial arrangements of bi-monthly daytime meetings, alternating with additional evening meetings where necessary to enable the committee to effectively support the changing local healthcare agenda.

Finance Matters

- The LPC finances remained sound throughout 2016-17 as is reflected in the Treasurer's report. Whilst aiming to maintain a suitable working capital balance, and retaining an appropriate balance in alignment with strategic plans to enhance the profile of community pharmacy in Lincolnshire. These included the commencement of work to rebrand Lincolnshire LPC to Community Pharmacy Lincolnshire, and poster and advertising campaign to raise the profile of community pharmacy within the county. Nonetheless, there was due regard for the challenges that would be faced by contractors as a direct result of the imposition of a pharmacy contractual framework which represented significant cuts to funding.
- The LPC continued to take a fixed levy to deliver value for contractors and enable effective and agile financial planning for current and future strategies.

Engagement

2016-17 allowed the LPC to continue to develop strong relationships for the advantage of pharmacy contractors in the county. However, the changes to the healthcare landscape observed in previous years accelerated, presenting both opportunities and challenges, as community pharmacy focused on working with reduced funding and a new Quality Payments framework.

Members, Officers and employees of the LPC Committee continue to represent Lincolnshire community pharmacy contractors, with places on groups such as the Lincolnshire Prescribing And Clinical Effectiveness Forum (PACEF), the East Midlands Clinical Senate, The Lincolnshire Anticipatory Prescribing Group, the PSNC Rural Working Group, and the national Community Pharmacy Competency Group, as well as beginning to develop the relationships necessary for managing the changing commissioner landscape, as STPs began their initial work.

Once again, during the 2016-17 financial year the LPC continued its close working with Public Health, and all commissioned public health services continued in the county

The committee have also continued to further working relationships with **Clinical Commissioning Groups**, continuing dialogue relating to repeat prescription services, electronic prescriptions and repeat dispensing throughout the county.

Unfortunately, during this year, and as a result of the resignation of its chair, the **Local Professional Network** for pharmacy, remained inactive, However the LPC committee continued to challenge NHS England in the locality, highlighting the important role that this network should play. We also challenged the local NHS England team to return to a formalised approach to its dialogue with the LPC, and regular meetings commenced to ensure that issues, concerns and opportunities are discussed in a timely manner.

Pharmacy Applications

As in previous years, the LPC committee continued to respond to pharmacy applications, providing appropriate responses based upon the views of contractors.

Pharmacy Local Services

- The LPC carried on its work with public health commissioners to ensure that services continued to be delivered to the standards demanded by community pharmacy contractors for service users. This included work with Addaction, and discussion relating to the changes in recommendations for emergency hormonal contraception with the sexual health teams county.
- The Emergency Supply Scheme and Minor Ailments (responding to symptoms) schemes continued during the entire of the 2016-17 period, building on the success of these services in supporting winter pressures in 2015. However, the finite funds for these services were unlikely to last beyond the end of the financial year, and therefore work began to explore options for localised commissioning.

Quality Payments

As the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework was imposed on community pharmacy contractors, the Department of Health also introduced a Quality Payments framework. The LPC began work to support Community Pharmacy contractors with these

Summary

2016-17 was another busy year for the LPC committee, and we recognised that change, and its increasing pace, was now inevitable for all healthcare providers, and that this would mean greater challenges for contractors, and the committee representing them.

We continued to devote time and effort to ensuring that pharmacy contractors in Lincolnshire could continue to deliver services to their patients, and to look critically at the services currently being commissioned with a view to ensuring that these were safe, effective and adequately funded.

However, we also looked to the future of community pharmacy in Lincolnshire, responding to challenges concerning **the imposition of a community pharmacy contractual framework that represented significant funding cuts** for this financial year and the next.

I would again like to take this opportunity to formally thank the members of the LPC committee for their hard work and devotion during the year. I would also like to extend this to Alastair Farquhar, Vice Chair, Steve Mosely, Chief Officer, Chris Kenny, our treasurer and to Hazel Sisson, our Administrative Assistant.

*Paul Jenks
LPC Chair
January 2018*