

**Sonning Common Health Centre**  
**Patient Participation Group Meeting Minutes**  
16th May 2023

- 1 Present. Dr. Ralph Drury, Katie Williams, Sue Abbott, Vicky Mynott, Marlina O'Donnell, Margaret Woodward, David Whitehead, Jeni Wood.
- 2 Apologies for absence - nil
- 3 Minutes from the previous meeting 7th Feb 2023 confirmed.
- 4 Update from Surgery -  
It is a very busy time at the Surgery. Two new salaried Doctors will join the team, starting in August -Thomas Rockell and Peter Menear; both fully qualified and enthusiastic.  
New Partner : Michael Weeks has now become a Partner of the practice.  
Abi Taylor has returned from her working trip to St Helena but will only be with us until the end of July 2023. Dr Taylor reports that St Helena is noy very well supported by medics, there is only 1 Surgeon on the island. For a really dangerous medical problem patients are flown out to the mainland.  
New nurse – Annabel – who specialises in Diabetes – has settled in well to her new role.  
Mo the receptionists is very good but going to start a new job in June ; a new person is ready to join SCHC in that capacity.  
Pharmacists: Murray, the lead Pharmacist has left and gone to Ireland. Ransha is on maternity leave and has had her baby; she is due to return in September. So currently we only have one clinical pharmacist.  
No changes to dispensary staff.  
Final Covid vaccinations will be carried out at a Clinic to be held June 20th including “Walk-ins”.  
Flu vaccinations will be offered (maybe Covid as well) in the Autumn.  
The first contact physiotherapist role is being carried out by Physiologic who are diagnosing and triaging but not treating patients.  
Hospital delays: 50% of new Drs did strike which meant a lot of cancellations for hospital treatments.  
CAMHS and ADHD waiting lists are more than one year and can be up to 3 years for less urgent referrals.

## 5 Prescriptions and volunteer delivery

Jeni raised the point of FISH volunteer drivers collecting prescriptions and wondered whether the PPG may be able to help with this too.

**Action - David who volunteers for FISH says that they already do this in some capacity and he will find out more from FISH.**

## 6 Day Lewis Pharmacy

David raised an issue that had been brought to his attention by a patient who had inquired whether there was any possibility of Day Lewis Pharmacy providing two months worth of medication at a time instead of one. Day- Lewis Pharmacies has 620 Pharmacies nationally using Locums currently in Sonning Common which is causing delays and longer waiting times.

Dr Drury reported that the team have discussed the practicalities and, although two months worth of medication in one prescription isn't ruled out, there are some issues.

The NHS doesn't dictate, but does encourage, monthly prescribing to give better control because of historic challenges of waste for example if a patient's needs change, or a patient moves out of the area and signs onto a new practice, goes into hospital or worst case, passes away. There is also a challenge that Day Lewis receives a small fee for each prescription they handle and 2 monthly prescriptions would therefore impact their revenues.

The PPG, Dr Drury and the health centre management team all agreed that a village pharmacy is huge benefit for the community and recognising this it was decided that David and Vicky will be tasked with contacting the Day Lewis executive team and our local MP to emphasise our support and the importance of a successful business and to try and understand why they have been having issues.

There is an alternative for patient's with mobility challenges and that is to have subscriptions fulfilled by an online pharmacy providing postal deliveries. Not sure of costings of this option and whether this would impact on local pharmacies' revenue. Any patient chasing this option would need to let the health centre know so that prescriptions could be redirected.

**Action -Ralph agreed to take the discussion to the team and get back to us in the next meeting regarding two months worth of medication in one prescription.**

Day Lewis Pharmacies has 620 Pharmacies nationally using Locums currently as some permanent staff have left. Day Lewis Pharmacies has 620 Pharmacies nationally.

If a patient has seen a private GP or consultant the NHS Drs are not obliged to dispense prescriptions .

**Action - David and Vicky agreed to contact Day Lewis Pharmacies to voice concerns over the problems occurring within our local pharmacy and to show our support for the pharmacy to provide an ongoing service for the future. It was agreed that we also let our local MP - John Howell know about the issues that are arising.**

## 7 Survey results and comparison to local surgeries

Nick Smith looks at all the statistics for the surgery surveys and fed back to the practice about it and compared the results as a PCN. The surgery would like the PPG to be involved in looking at the surveys.

Any complaints are dealt with with the HC team.

## 8 Events -

The Cardiology talk from Dr Spyrou was well attended and gratefully received. Dr Spyrou has asked for a link to the recording so he can put it up on his website. It was agreed that the questions from the end of the talk would be edited out to maintain GDPR.

It was also suggested that for future talks all participants are asked to remove their name from their screen so no names are visible on the recordings.

Arthritis and Rheumatism talk to be held tomorrow evening with Dr Antoni Chan.

First Aid Training was discussed in the last meeting and Vicky has been in contact with Chris Brook - Community First Responder (CFR) - who has said that Adam, herself and other CFRs would be happy to run two sessions in one day. Each session would be for 16-20 people depending on the number of trainers available to attend. The PPG would manage attendees and waiting lists.

**Action - It was agreed that this should be run in the Autumn and Vicky will liaise with Chris to organise the event.**

Discussion took place on whether Talks given by Professionals should be taken off the Website in case the content is out of Date; the matter was not agreed – decision: to keep all the Talks on the Website for now unless anyone ( Patients or Medics) object.

**Action - to put on the website that the content is correct as of the date the health talk took place.**

9 Market Research update - Marlana and Jeni -Market Research is to be carried out at the Surgery (possibly in a section of the Waiting Area) by Marlana + Jeni who hope to meet shortly to discuss the questionnaire already outlined by Marlana.

10 PCN, Healthwatch and South Oxfordshire PPG Alliance updates  
PPG – South Oxfordshire - Emma Teasedale has left – some communication via email regarding open forums and Webinars.

Podcasts available from Health Watch Oxfordshire called - Are you Listening?

11 Any other business.

12 Date and time of next meeting. Tuesday 26th Sept 2pm at the Surgery.