

SOMERSET LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

During the year the following persons served on the Committee:

Andrew Downing; Hazel Elliott; Andrew Harker; Dilawar Hussain; Neil Kyle; Garwyn Morris; Fiona Norman; Ryan Smyth; Foivos Valagiannopoulos; Emma Jane Waller; Peter Whitaker; Gary Winter and Ramesh Yadav.

Nigel Woollcombe-Adams acted as Secretary for the period in question, with Michael Lennox holding the role of Chief Officer. Andrew Downing acted as Chairman and Emma Waller Vice Chairman. Fiona Norman held the post of Treasurer for part of the year, when the role was taken over by a Finance and Governance Sub Committee consisting of Foivos Valagiannopoulos, Peter Whitaker and Mary Pennington. An Executive Committee agreed and set agendas and dealt with matters arising between full Committee meetings – the members of the Executive during the year were Andrew Downing, Yvonne Lamb, Michael Lennox, Fiona Norman, Mary Pennington, Emma Waller and Nigel Woollcombe-Adams. Full Committee meetings took place at Ash House Hotel, Ash, Near Martock, as well as Seavington Village Hall and the Hankridge Arms Taunton.

LPC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

During the course of the year the Committee held 7 monthly meetings and 6 Executive meetings. Our committee cycle continued to alternate on a monthly basis between whole day meetings of the full Committee, and evening meetings of the Executive. We continued on this basis as agreed last year whilst always being prepared to allow for a degree of flexibility when needed. The Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to continue with eleven members thus maintaining a lean and cost effective body. Once again, no levy increase was felt necessary.

During the course of the year we were pleased to welcome the following guests to our meetings:

Ann Cole (CPPE), Andy Hill (CCG Head of Primary Care Development Services), and Raj Singh (Village Agents Network)

OTHER MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

It should also be noted that the Secretary continued to attend all meetings of the Somerset HWB, in his capacity as a District Council member.

The Secretary attended three advisory meetings with SCC in connection with Somerset PNA, and a further meeting with South West LPC's about Provider Companies. The Chairman and Chief Officer, together with Emma Waller, attended the annual PSNC Conference. (The Chief Officer's activities will form part of his separate report.)

In addition to the above the Engagement Officer and certain Members attended meetings/events on behalf of the LPC.

The Chairman and other Officers attended meetings with Devon LPC on an ad hoc basis.

PHARMACY APPLICATIONS

During the year applications received from Universal Pharmacy in Coleford and Magna Health Care in Woolavington were granted, but the application from Scripts Direct in Woolavington which had been granted previously was overturned on appeal.

COMMITTEE ISSUES

During the year Members discussed the setting up of a Provider Company, and the Chief Officer and Secretary worked up a specimen set of rules and articles along the lines of the West Midlands model which had proved acceptable to the Multiples. As an interim measure Avon Healthcare Services hosted the Somerset Minor Ailments Service cuts.

The Committee kept their Strategy up to date, agreed a fee for Needle Exchange, as well as organising two Contractor Engagement events, a Healthy Living Pharmacy Event together with a Public Health Day. The training engagement events were arranged in conjunction with Ann Cole. The renewal of the Pharmacy Flu Vaccination Scheme was also adopted.

Twenty Pharmacies signed up to NUMSAS in the course of the year, and Emma Waller worked on a Patient Safety Project. The "Walk in My Shoes" promoting joint working with GPs was pursued, and well received in three locations during the year.