

SEASCALE AND BOOTLE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING ON 3 DECEMBER 2020

Attendees:

Practice Staff: Dr Eve Miles, Collette Smith Practice Manager

PPG: Eileen Turner, David Niven, Neil Robson, Viv Stucke, David Faulkner, Phillip Gregory, Carole Gregory, Keith Hitchen, Liz Clegg, Benita Livesey

Apologies: Ann Wallen, Sally Steele

	ITEM	ACTION	STATUS
1	Eileen welcomed Dr Miles and thanked her for attending the meeting at such a busy time. Her input was very welcome		
2	<p>Pressures on staffing and workload</p> <p>Dr Miles said that Drs Sowton and Blyth had left and Dr Ironside has joined as a locum until summer 2021. Staff are under considerable pressure, some isolating because of COVID, and with increases in workload from NHS England. Patients who had delayed contacting the surgery during lockdown have come forward in the last three months but were more poorly and needing more treatment. Dr Miles considered staff were constantly working at 150%. As a Clinical Director for Copeland PCN she had been in contact with other PCN's who had also registered increased patient contact, Carlisle Healthcare reporting a 50% increase.</p> <p>Neil asked if the PPG could help in any way. Dr Miles did not think members could help with vaccinations but could research what other PPGs do throughout England to support their practice. Eileen said the Cumbria PPG Forum meetings were a useful exchange of ideas but had not happened this year</p>	Eileen to research PPGs to contact to see what we can learn from them <i>(this could be suitable for a small group to work on in future. Volunteers welcome)</i>	
3	<p>Changes to services at Bootle</p> <p>The changes were driven by staff shortages but Dr Miles stressed that patients could still be seen face-to-face when necessary. It was noted that this would be at Seascale and Liz Clegg said not everyone from Bootle could get there easily. She could help with transport issues but they needed to be factored into plans, for instance vaccination programmes.</p> <p>David Faulkner wanted information to be emailed or taken to Bootle village stores for posting. He volunteered to draft notices</p> <p>Eileen said that sending information on service changes</p>	<p>Dr Miles and Collette to bear transport issues in mind when planning practice changes.</p> <p>Liz to lead on transport for the PPG</p> <p>David Faulkner to draft notices for Bootle. He will also contact the new shop owners when</p>	

	out with prescriptions had been a good idea and perhaps could be extended	they arrive.	
4	<p>Update on flu vaccinations</p> <p>Some practices had innovative solutions to delivering vaccines to villages. Eileen had contacted Castlegate surgery at Cockermouth who had been lent a mobile exhibition unit and new tractor by Lloyd Motors. Viv said the NHS Melissa bus had supported vaccinations at Shap. Collette said there had considered using a vehicle to go to villages but needed IT connection for patient records.</p> <p>The group should discuss this before planning next vaccine programme.</p>	<p>Eileen to check on Castlegate's experience of going out to villages.</p> <p>Dr Miles to find more about Melissa bus and how they overcame IT connection difficulties.</p> <p>David Niven to bring to agenda in summer 2021</p>	
5	<p>Practice involvement in Covid 19 vaccination programme</p> <p>Dr Miles explained that Government instructions were not yet clear. Handling and storage constraints for the Pfizer vaccine mean that a single site in Copeland will have to deliver it. At present it looks like that will be at West Cumberland Hospital for front line NHS staff. The Astra Zeneca vaccine, if and when approved, will be easier to deliver to the wider population, although staffing will be problematic. Transport issues again arose and Liz offered support.</p> <p>Members were keen to get out accurate information when it is there. In the meantime Viv asked if Dr Miles was happy for PPG members to verbally let people know what had been said – in essence that we will need to be patient.</p>	<p>Collette to let Liz know who to work with on vaccination team.</p>	
7	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Keith Hitchins described the on-line Dementia 'café' which he has just started. Members congratulated him on the initiative.</p> <p>Some members prefer Zoom to MS Teams and it was thought that the NHS now approve it's use.</p> <p>Neil explained a loop system for people who had hearing difficulties when using on-line meetings.</p> <p>David Niven asked if members still wanted to receive Cumbria Covid emails. They confirmed that they did.</p>	<p>Collette to check if we can use Zoom</p> <p>Neil to circulate information to members</p>	
8	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 4 February 18.30 (provisional)</p> <p>We would normally meet in March but members agreed to arrange an earlier date. If there is no urgent business this will revert to 4 March</p>		