

Academy Medical Centre Patient Participation Group

Notes of zoom meeting held on Tuesday 8th March, 2022 at 5.30pm

Chairperson – Linda Spence

Note taker – Anne Watt

1. Linda welcomed members to the meeting – Diane Meek, Ashley McGregor, and Dr. McCallum were in attendance from the practice staff. Apologies from Libby Souter.

2. Notes of meeting held on 8th February 2022 previously circulated were approved.

3. Matters arising from the notes, not on the agenda - none

4. Finance report - Balance of account £318.18.

5. Service delivery and practice update -

- a) With reference to staff well being, the Health Board has approached the practice regarding e-bikes, for example for commuting.
- b) The practice staff have very quickly made a collection of clothing, sleeping bags (but not food) for Ukraine. It was planned to add this to the collection organized locally by Forfar Rotary, but they have been overwhelmed by donations. Howdens were also collecting so that route was used. Thanks are due to all staff for their excellent response.
- c) Dr McCallum announced that she will be retiring on 7th April. She stated that she will be very sad to go, but she will still support the practice, be able to “fill in” and will be doing “on call”. The group expressed their thanks for all she had done for the practice, and wished her well in her retirement.

6. Carnoustie, Monifieth and Montrose PPGs action against planning applications and service delivery to patients. -

Carnoustie PPG have raised their concerns with Angus council regarding planning applications for new build housing, and the ability of their practice to cope with an influx of new patients. Similar concerns from Monifieth as there is only one GP practice in these two areas.

Our practice was contacted late last year regarding planning for 245 new houses. This was discussed at a recent cluster meeting and concerns fed back to Angus Council. No reply from council so far.

Local concerns :-

Ravenswood – list closed to new patients.

Lour Road – inundated with new patients.

Staffing shortages – number of staff fairly static but less whole-time equivalents.

Intensive administration to transfer new patients.

It was agreed Marion would contact Carnoustie PPG to inform them of our support.

7. Health Campaign Calendar -

No Smoking, Kidney Disease and Ovarian Cancer this month.

8. Youth Forum update -

Meetings have been held, but Ashley reported that it is still very difficult to access school pupils at Forfar Academy as the school has other priorities and challenges. Progress therefore very difficult. Arbroath Academy are doing very well, and may be able to do a pilot scheme. It may be necessary to use the Social Care route, via carers and clients in care.

9. Publicity and practice website -

Both kept up to date, and thanks go to Rebecca for her ideas. The web site is very important, as it would be one of the first things a prospective member of staff would look at when considering an application.

The e-consult route is another route of access which is gaining momentum.

Replies are very quick.

10 Chair and note taker for next meeting -

Chair -Marion Fenwick

Notes- Linda Spence

11 AOCB – none**12 Date of next meeting Tuesday 12th April, 2022 at 5.30pm**