

Academy Medical Centre Patient Participation Group

Notes of zoom meeting held on Tuesday, 12th April, 2022 at 5.30pm

Chairperson – Marion Fenwick

Note taker – Linda Spence

1. Welcome – Chairperson Marion welcomed members to the meeting. Diane Meek and Ashley McGregor were in attendance from the practice staff.

Apologies – were received from Libby Souter, Ann Watt, and Muriel Fairley.

2. Notes of meeting held on 8th March 2022 – were read and approved.

3. Matters arising from the notes, not on the agenda – PPG action against planning applications – Carnoustie PPG are happy that we are supporting them in their concerns regarding the amount of new housing being planned without the provision of health, education and leisure facilities. Their Chairperson is writing to the First Minister with a copy to the Health Secretary.

4. Finance report – the balance of account is £318. 18p

5. Service delivery and practice update – Diane reported that Dr. MacCallum has now retired as Senior Partner from the practice, but will help out when necessary. The practice is still hoping to recruit an additional GP but in the meantime Dr. Denholm has taken on the partnership along with Dr. Thomas and Dr. Twinn is a salaried GP. Dr. MacCallums' patient list will be redistributed to ensure continuity of service until an additional GP is found. Holiday vaccinations will no longer be carried out by the practice; these will be administered by vaccinations clinics or pharmacies. Much work is being done with regard to staff wellbeing. Two members of staff are wellbeing champions, and are arranging various events like a staff walking challenge and reminding staff to do certain things to help them cope and to relieve stress. In addition Ashley attends weekly Community Mental Health team meetings and finds it useful noting how the teams work and can refer patients for Enhanced Community Support (ECS) to provide extra help to patients who are reaching a crises point.

6. Bus service to Ninewells Hospital – The issue was raised that there is no bus service from Kirriemuir and Forfar that runs directly to Ninewells Hospital. Patients and staff from these areas have to change buses in central Dundee. It was pointed out that patients from Arbroath, Carnoustie, Monifieth and Broughty Ferry have the advantage of bus service number 73, which is a direct service to Ninewells Hospital. Ninewells staff and patients are being encouraged to use public transport in order to relieve pressure on parking and to benefit the environment, however staff and patients from our area find it a hassle having to change buses as well as the cost of two bus fares which can be very expensive for those on a low income and under pension age. It was agreed that the PPG on behalf of our patients would raise this issue with Angus Council, and its Councillors .

7. Health campaign calendar 2022 – April is mental health and stress awareness month as well as bowel cancer awareness, all updated on website.

8. Youth forum update – nothing to report

9. Publicity and practice website – members would be interested to know how many 'hits' there are on the practice web site.

10 Chair and note taker for next meeting – Chairperson Allan Barker, note taker Muriel Fairley.

11 Date of next meeting Tuesday 10th May, 2022 at 5.30pm