

Academy Medical Centre Patient Participation Group

Notes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th August 2022 at 5.30pm

Chairperson – Linda Spence

Notes – Anne Watt

1. Chairperson welcomed members to the meeting; Dr Denholm, Diane Meek and Ashley McGregor were in attendance from the practice staff. Linda Spence, Anne Watt, Muriel Fairley, Allan Barker, Libby Souter, Angela Turner.

Apologies – were received from Marion Fenwick.

2. Notes of meeting - Tuesday 10th May 2022 – were approved. (the meeting of 14th June was cancelled)

3. Matters arising - Youth Forum -no update due to school holidays.

Ninewells bus – ongoing. Angus council thought there was already a direct bus.

Unfortunately a shortage of bus drivers may make this difficult.

4. Finance report – the balance of account stands at £318.29p.

Discussion regarding necessity for a bank account. Decision to retain account meantime, with one of the staff members as additional signatory. Any change would need to be included in our terms of reference at the November meeting.

The PPG no longer pays for the wi-fi in the practice.

As there are many patients in financial need, there was a short discussion about using the money to supply food vouchers for patients (further discussion at next meeting). The practice usually sends patients to the food bank, which is only open 3 days a week. They do not have an emergency fund.

5. Service delivery and practice update – Dr Denholm intimated that the practice now consists of 2 partners, Dr Denholm and Dr Thomas, with approx. 2,600 patients each. Also Dr Twinn (associate) and 2 regular locums, Dr Rait and Dr Arthur. Still trying very hard to recruit staff as a quarter of doctors supplied by locums is untenable in the long term.

Access via pre-bookable appointments, and no long waiting times so far.

The practice is currently trying to recruit new nurse practitioners.

Healthcare practitioners are proving very successful at identifying problems and referring upwards.

Friockheim practice closed on 31st May. Academy Street have 90 new patients, mainly on the edge of our area. Their records have been transferred and summarized. Process has gone quite smoothly. We have 9,300 on our list and could take on more if we can recruit another GP.

The e-consult has terminated from beginning of July. Practice felt that it was less efficient.

Erin has left the practice to resume her previous career, and interviews have been held to replace her.

Angela Turner intimated that as a new patient of the practice she had found the electronic process of registering very easy and straightforward.

6. New and returning members -New member Angela Turner was officially welcomed to the PPG. She was a member of her previous PPG and wished to continue that commitment. Hopefully we can benefit from her experience. We also welcomed back Libby Souter who has been working with "Track and Trace" during the pandemic, and has now retired.

7. Health campaign calendar themes – September : Suicide prevention and blood pressure awareness.

8. Publicity – Rebecca is adding information to the website etc. The LGBT part of the web-site has been very much appreciated, and Allan is very happy for this to be replicated by other practices.

9. AOCB- None

10. Next meeting - Chair – Libby

Notes – Muriel

14 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 13th September 2022 at 5.30pm