

Prudhoe Patient Participation Group Meeting: 30October2014

Present

Dr Ann Egan
Dr Helen Thornton
Eileen Asbury
Andy Gill
Alan Greenall Peter Kerry
Judy Price
Tony Reid
David Stewart [Haydon Bridge and Allen Banks Group]

Apologies

Tony Hockey
Sandra MacKinnon

Notes of Meeting

1 David Stewart was welcomed and introduced to the Group. He had been invited following contact at the Patient Locality Forum when he had expressed view, similar to those held by our group related to closer co-operation between groups. Haydon and Allen Banks Group was formed following the merger of two Practices and are finding their new identity.

2 Dr Thornton gave a presentation on the complexities of NHS Funding, making the Group aware of the way in which funds are allocated by the Department of Health, with Primary Care receiving only one third of the 20% given to NHS England, with 80% going to the CCG and the County Council. The information was extremely illuminating highlighting the difficulties faced by GP Practices in delivering both Core and Enhanced Services and the massive amount of work required to achieve this.

She went on to talk about Patient Confidentiality related to surveys on specific medical condition surveys and research. Concern was expressed about anonymity based upon information supplied by the NHS model and described the process carried out by Far Sight As possibly being more efficient and less time consuming to Practices.

3 It was noted that the direction signs to the PMG were in place and Andy was thanked for his efforts in bringing this about.

4 Dr Egan gave a brief outline of the recent CQC visit. A formal report will be delivered in December but in the meantime the process went well and generally complimentary. The recent Patient Forum had been well attended talked on funding and how PPG's are a critical friend of Primary Care. There appears to have been evidence of enthusiastic approach with very little in the way of ideas to provide such support. Locality meetings of PPG's will be held twice yearly to feed back ideas.

5 This led to a general discussion on co-operation between PPG's; how we might have an influence and address common Issues. The possibility of a facebook page had been raised by David Clegg, Sele Group, and this will be further investigated. David and Alan will continue to discuss closer co-operation between our Groups and share ideas and report to our Groups in the New Year.

6 David Stewart proposed a survey of friends and relations about changes they would like to be considered by Practices which might be addressed by the Group. It was agreed that the personal issues of a patient were not appropriate matters for the Group.

7 A plea was made for members of the Group to give feedback on the minutes after a period of reflection. These thoughts might then provide items for future agendas.

Date of next meeting: 22 January 2015