

ELC LOC AGM Minutes

Wednesday 7th June 2023, 7pm

Room 201, Graduate Centre, Queen Mary University of London, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS

Attendees: Richard Edwards, Danielle Ellis, Charles Greenwood, Shagufta Khan, Imran Maljee, Usman Maljee, Tas Momin, Kate Rowley, Jayshree Vasani, Daniel Waller (Michelle Martins).

Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed all to the ELCI LOC AGM.

Apologies

David Hewlett and Leslie Sackwild

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes for the ELCI LOC AGM on 14th September 2022 were unanimously approved.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report is re-produced below:

First and foremost, the LOC would like to thank all members for their hard work over the last 12 months. The LOC continue to try and help local contractors and practitioners by sharing all relevant information, via the LOC mailing list and website, and answering all queries and calls received. We urge all members to contact the LOC if they need any assistance or support.

I would like to thank all committee members for their hard work over the last year. Details of the current committee can be found on the ELC LOC website. The committee continues to represent all areas within its membership: independents, multiples and locum practitioners, optometrists and dispensing opticians who provide general optical service (GOS) eyecare. The dates of future LOC meetings are publicised on the LOC website. Please let JCL Consulting know, in advance, if you would like to attend or if you would like to request a copy of the Minutes from the previous LOC meeting.

The LOC have met 5 times since last year's AGM and members have also been involved in various working groups across all three North-East London areas. The LOC also held an EGM on 30th March to discuss the absorption of Islington into the Barnet, Enfield, Camden & Haringey LOC so that the two LOCs mirrored the relevant Integrated Care Boards. This was unanimously agreed, and Islington now forms part of the North Central London LOC (formerly Barnet, Enfield, Camden & Haringey LOC).

There is a pilot starting soon in Hackney whereby practices will be providing blood pressure checks for the over 40s.

There has also been a cohort of students undertaking the IP qualification, funded by the HEE. Most are due to sit the exam or complete their placement soon. Local community services continue to be commissioned by the North-East

*Chairman: Usman Maljee: Vice-Chairman: Shagufta Khan: Treasurer: Kate Rowley
Admin Secretary: Charles Greenwood*

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London Integrated Care Board and more details will be shared in the upcoming report. We would like to assure you that the LOC and the PEC Directors continue to work tirelessly to ensure that practitioners get the best outcome possible.

I would like to thank Richard Edwards from the Optical Consumer Complaints Service (OCCS) for providing tonight's CPD Discussion: 'General Learning from Complaints'.

Thank you all for joining us for the AGM and CPD Event.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's gave her report, advising that it covers the financial year, April 2022 - March 2023. The income received by the LOC is generated by the statutory levy which currently stands at 1% although the LOC is looking to reduce this to 0.75% (with 0.5% going to LOCSU). The income generated in the last financial year totalled £92,048 with expenditure totalling £56,473. The latter included payments to LOCSU, logo redesign, practice support, MECS OSCEs, meetings and CPD speakers. It was then confirmed that she is in the process of completing the admin for moving the Islington funds to the NCL LOC. Lastly, the Treasurer reported that the committee will be reviewing the fees paid to their members as they have not been increased for many years.

Primary Eyecare (ELC) Ltd (PEC ELC) Report

The Administrative Secretary began by confirming which services are currently being provided by the LOC's single provider company, Primary Eyecare (ELC) Ltd. There is currently MECS in all four areas (City and Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest) along with cataract referral refinement in City & Hackney and Glaucoma Repeat Measures in City & Hackney and Tower Hamlets. Over the four areas, approximately 800-900 patients are seen per month and the onward referral rate is very low.

He continued by reporting that the company currently holds a three-month reserve, as per its policy. The last financial year showed a turnover of £513,000 with £431,000 being paid the practices. The current contracts are due to end in March 2024 and commissioners are currently exploring all options.

LOCSU Report: Danielle Ellis

Danielle thanked the committee for the invitation to attend the ELC LOC AGM. She began by explaining her role as Optical Lead at LOCSU and then outlined some of the activities LOCSU has been involved in over the last year. She then continued by explaining what LOCSU will be doing in the coming months including helping LOCs to set themselves up on PAYE, running webinars, podcasts and forums and supporting the new LOCSU Board.

Danielle then moved onto the challenges that lay ahead. These include electronic referrals and ensuring that GPs do not reject non-electronic referrals. She then moved onto development and training and confirmed that the NOC this year will be on 13/14th November.

The Chairman thanked Danielle for her report.

Any Other Business

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the ELCI LOC AGM.

Meeting closed: 7.20pm

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