

Leyburn Medical Practice PPG

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at the Practice at 16.30 on Tues 9 July 2023

Attendance – Alison Binks, Nigel Watson, Sue Medley (Chair), Denise Houghton, Eva Stone, June Stancombe, David Bolam, Geoff Linehan and Judy Metcalfe.

Apologies – None.

Declarations – None.

Minutes of last meeting – Approved.

Correspondence/Meetings – None to report.

Presentations

Gill Schofield (Mental Health Nurse) – Gill is the first contact mental health practitioner, available two days a week at Leyburn, for patients 18 years old and above with mild and moderate anxiety. She also refers patients to other services. She began at Leyburn in December 2022. Patients can be referred to her by GPs or they can self-refer. She is very busy and appointments are booked up two weeks in advance. There is, she said, an increase in anxiety post-Covid.

Dr Jack Hobbs (Registrar) – Jack is coming to the end of his six months with the practice. He described the pathway to becoming a GP, including medical school, foundation training and the GP training programme. The latter is a three-year programme, with one year spent in hospital, and two years, broken up into 6 month placements, with GP practices. He was sceptical about the effectiveness of reducing the length of training, noting that current medical students do not receive sufficient supervision because of a lack of resources. He has enjoyed working at the Leyburn practice and was full of praise for the Leyburn team. His days are full, there are never enough appointments, but the Leyburn team manages this well, compared with other practices. He contrasted the lack of resources and limited information available to GPs compared with seeing patients in hospital. He noted how many patients are prefer telephone triage. He foresaw no letting up on the pressure on primary care and GPs in the near future.

General Matters

Covid boosters - The spring boosters had been delivered to Thornborough Gardens and Kirkwood residents, the housebound and to those identified as unable to travel. A winter booster programme was being proposed for the same cohort eligible for flu jabs but any Covid vaccination would be separate from the flu vaccination.

Monitoring practice performance

People - Dr Rachael Tibbets, whose husband was one of the current Registrars, has been appointed to replace Dr Brown and will begin work in June. Dr Matt Ansell, a newly

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qualified GP, with a specialist interest in dermatology, has been appointed to replace Dr Jamieson, who is leaving at the end of June, and will start work in September.

Demand for appointments remains high. Alison Binks noted that practices will be monitored by CQC on the percentage of appointments offered within two weeks from the end of July. The target is 85-90% and early indications suggest the practice is achieving around 81%.

Friends and Family – The practice receives around 200 responses every month on average and 95-96% of these are good/very good.

Raising awareness

Website – still no progress.

AGM – It was suggested Dr Laybourne and Dr Dave Tibbets might make presentations. It will be held on Thurs 7 Sept at 7pm. It will be promoted via text messages, email, posters and contact with parish councils.

PPG Awareness Week (31 May-5 June) – The PPG input had made little impact. While some patients had taken leaflets etc, this had not resulted in any increased interest in taking an active role through the committee.

Next meeting – Will be held on 27 Sept at 4.30pm.

(Postscript, Jack Hobbs might be available to talk at the AGM)