

Local Dental Network (LDN) – Shropshire and Staffordshire

Wed 19th January 2022, 6 pm,

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees

Nadeem (Tony) Ahmed	(NA)	Chair Local Dental Network -Shropshire and Staffordshire
Andrew Dickinson	(AD)	Postgraduate dental dean – Midlands and East
Richard Beck	(RB)	Community Dental Services member
Hollie Travis	(HT)	GDP Member
Kate Taylor-Weetman	(KTW)	Consultant in dental public health
Kaushik Paul	(KP)	GDP Member
Adam Morby	(AM)	LDC Member
Frank Hollinshead	(FH)	General Dental Practice Advisor
Darrell Jackson	(DJ)	Primary Care Lead, NHSE North Midlands
Philip Barton	(PB)	Primary Care Orthodontics Member
Oliver Bowyer	(OB)	Secondary care orthodontics member
Carol Hewitt	(CH)	Patient representative, Health Watch- Staffordshire
Tom Seager	(TS)	Community Dental Services member
John Scholey	(JS)	Secondary care orthodontics member
Stephen Brindley	(SB)	Secondary care restorative dentistry member
Helen Griffiths	(HG)	DCP Member
Hassan-Ali Ismail	(HAI)	Clinical Fellow
Louise Mangnall	(LM)	Secondary care orthodontics member
Sharonjeet Uppal	(SU)	Trainee in Dental Public Health
Sophia Leese	(SL)	Patient representative, Healthwatch Stoke
Sania Ahmed	(SA)	Admin support

Agenda Item		Actions
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies - Apologies - Amanda Long David Newsum Laura Johnson	

	<p>Introductions – Sophia Leese – Healthwatch Stoke, standing in for Laura Johnson Adam Morby – New regional chief dentist for Midlands Sharonjeet Uppal – trainee in dental public health</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of previous meeting 13.10.2021 -</p> <p>Minutes agreed as accurate.</p>	
3.	<p>Action Log from Previous Meeting 13.10.2021 –</p> <p>07072021/6 Development of guidance on reporting serious incidents in dentistry. - FH currently working on this - Hopefully by April will have something to report.</p> <p>13102021/1 RB, and TS to provide data so that HAI can produce a report on the oral health management of Afghan Migrants. –NA to discuss with HAI to analyse data and trends. - Covered later in agenda</p> <p>13102021/2 NA/LS to come up with ways of moving forward with a mental health wellness in dentistry framework locally within Shropshire and Staffordshire. - Covered later in agenda</p> <p>13102021/3 Update on peer review toolkit and refresh - Covered later in agenda</p>	
4.	<p>MCN – updates – work plans, reports of meetings, future meetings, New regional Chief dentist</p> <p>Paediatric MCN - Had meeting on 13th Jan. There is a Midlands-wide program to have a toolkit to manage looked after children.</p> <p>Development of a 6s referral pathway – a lot of background work done, issue of funding, almost there but not completed yet. Will be funded by NHSE. Some referrals were going to primary care providers so need to make sure these go to secondary care.</p> <p>HT – website currently going through governance checks, still needs work but ready to publish.</p> <p>Special care dentistry MCN – meeting on 24th January, CPD session on dental anxiety as well as core meeting. Adult GA sessions in Shropshire are being hit by winter pressures and increased COVID admissions.</p> <p>Orthodontics MCN – meeting on 20th January, will be a CPD session as well.</p>	NA

	<p>JS: Re-audit of canine referrals to be discussed, wanted to start new pathway to encourage early referral which was supposed to start March 2020. Seeing approx. 3 canine referrals a month at Stafford, pre-COVID this was 9 per month. Not necessarily due to patient numbers but type of patients coming in. Is there an unmet need?</p> <p>There is an issue with referrals and general dentists not seeing their referrals – children are being missed</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Restoration and recovery – Q4 letter from CDO, staffing and isolation issues, New IPC guidance</p> <p>Q4 letter – included additional requirements around UDA and UOA delivery – issues around rise of Omicron around same time with staff isolations. Clinics being cancelled.</p> <p>DJ: temporary exceptional circumstances arrangements - for a defined period from 1st December 2021 to 31st March 2022, where there are COVID related staff absences in primary care, there is a process via the NHSBSA to recredit lost activity back to the contract prior to year end.</p> <p>BDA has put letter together around issues with staffing and how vaccines are now a requirement for condition of employment.</p> <p>AM: BBC Midlands Today: publishing a piece highlighting how there is a reduction in dentists in Stoke on Trent – contradictory as there has been a slight increase in performers list in region.</p> <p>PB: not against having mandatory vaccines from 1st April however is concerned about loss of NHS staff as a result of these measure and could have an impact on primary and 2nd care. – concerns over rumours of government U-turn on vaccination mandate.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Afghan refugee programme – Hassan- Ali Ismail</p> <p>20,000 people evacuated from Afghanistan in 2021</p> <p>Phase 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 176 refugees in Staffordshire - Required domiciliary service which was set up to provide oral health assessments <p>Phase 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing urgent access to patients who need the care <p>Looking at data from initial oral health screenings: 4 sessions carried out by one dentist between 5th Oct-7th Dec 2021, 165 evacuees assessed in Staffordshire</p> <p>Findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not much of a gender difference in patients - 10 patients did not provide DOB - Oldest patient was 72 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youngest patient was 2 months - Mean patient age was 22.9 - 61% of patients were adults (over 16) - Languages spoken: Pashto, Dari, low percentage 12% speaking English - Majority of patients in permanent dentition - Level of oral hygiene good overall in majority of patients - 24% had advanced restorative prostheses including crowns, implants, bridges and dentures. - 2% (4 patients) wore orthodontic appliances - Mean DMFT score: 3.87 - Mean DMFT score in children: 2.46 - DMFT scores much higher compared to rest of England - Majority did not complain of pain/discomfort in oral cavity - 5% had intra-oral abscess - 8% of patients seen defined as urgent care - 12 patients recorded DOB as 01/01/YYYY - 1 DOB same as date of assessment and DMFT score of 11 - Almost 1 in 4 require maintenance of advanced prostheses – need for general routine care <p>There is a high treatment need and experience, high DMFT in children.</p> <p>RB: Language interpreters were available for urgent care. In terms of routine care, these patients will have to join everyone else.</p> <p>KTW/NA: deprived groups such as refugees need to get priority not just in dentistry but in healthcare in general.</p> <p>CH: there is also a deprivation of basic dental care that people are struggling with.</p> <p>HAI to discuss with RB and KTW how to improve the data and make it more robust and presentable.</p>	HAI/RB/KTW
7.	<p>Peer review update – Hassan-Ali Ismail</p> <p>Current peer review resources online: HEE West Midlands peer review guidance document (2015) South Staffordshire LDC website – peer review toolkit (2018) Wales HEIW peer review toolkit BDA guidance document (2012) General Optical Council (GOC) have some peer review resources (2012)</p> <p>Only other LDC that formally supports peer review is West Sussex.</p>	

Wales and Scotland also have systems in place to support peer review.

Shropshire and Staffordshire toolkit: available on LDC South Staffordshire website, CQC website and LDN app.

GDC looking at future development of lifelong learning – looking at CPD model, there are different CPD practices which include peer learning

What could be developed on current toolkit?

- Design of toolkit
- Agenda template
- Producing specific agenda templates on various topics such as oral surgery, orthodontics, special care as well as non-clinical subjects
- Offer training workshops for facilitators of peer review meetings
- Guidance on how to run virtual groups

Currently 9 existing groups in Staffordshire and Shropshire

- Bupa Burton-on-trent
- Stoke dental peers
- South staffs dental study group/Staffs and surrounds
- Telford/Smileworks Church Road
- Oswestry
- GDP orthodontic referral interface 1
- Malinslee
- Oral surgery and orthodontic MCNs

There are 201 practices in Shropshire and Staffordshire so more can be done to promote peer review groups

Since COVID, all groups ceased face-to-face meetings – one group continued virtually and is still active

Conclusions from 1:1 interview with dental practice adviser –

- Peer review was not attractive to foundation and foreign dentists
- Facilitators should be trained via training from LDN
- More inter-practice participation is needed
- Creating ‘off the shelf’ meeting agendas with specific clinical and non-clinical items

8.	<p>Mental health wellness in dentistry framework – update</p> <p>Want to add on implementation of framework to 2022 workstream across Shropshire and Staffordshire.</p> <p>Trying to put together a toolkit bespoke to Shropshire and Staffordshire – including training and champions. This is in early stages but hopeful to move forward within next few weeks. Leonie Seager to update.</p>	LS
9.	<p>Work plan 2022–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration and recovery of dental services following the Covid19 pandemic <p>Already covered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving oral health – Starting well, reducing sugar in diet, CWF <p>Commissioning of services around children and paediatric dentistry.</p> <p>CWF: There is still work going on. The Health and Social Care bill is going through parliament which includes water fluoridation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerable adults – Care to smile, care homes, dementia training, domestic abuse training <p>KTW: work being done around domestic abuse in Stoke and North Staffs – developing training evaluation linking with Liverpool University. Hoping to extend the training to Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin</p> <p>Working closely with local authorities on oral health improvement</p> <p>Care home: potential for linking dental teams and practices with care homes and primary care networks to provide dental advice – KTW wants to talk with a few interested parties and undertake a small pilot in Shropshire to see what this could look like</p> <p>Domestic violence - Discussions around looking at deprived groups and trying to develop some specific workstreams and commission some specific activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning better services – primary care oral surgery, reducing orthodontic waiting lists, funding to see irregular attenders, reducing inequalities by recommissioning all dental clawback money back into other dental services <p>Weekend Access Service extended – good coverage around area. Commissioning 5403 additional clinical sessions across the region</p>	

	<p>– aimed at increasing routine access</p> <p>Orthodontic providers invited to put forward interest in additional non recurrent activity – had a lot of interest</p> <p>Launch of children’s dentistry access scheme</p> <p>IMOS: procurement process concluded in Shropshire and Staffordshire, currently working through outcome letters to bidders. Once letters are out DJ will update.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">• Quality assurance – Peer review</p> <p>AD - Mentioned a Midland wide peer review, training and initiatives being set up.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>Reports from LDN members -</p> <p>AD: HEE to transition into NHS E&I by March 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trying to recover education and training from COVID, priority to those on official training programs - has not had much of an impact. Number of trainees getting conventional outcomes and leaving program or moving into another one has remained the same. - There has however been a late graduation from the University of Birmingham – people starting foundation programs in March - As people move through training programs, there is recruitment and applications are open for every training program – started recruiting foundation dentist trainers - Numbers in specialty are down for this September start – 1/3 of all specialty posts were offered to September 2021 start dates so there is a large but fresh cohort. - Dental education reform program: Midlands has been highlighted as an area of low specialty training numbers – there will be a redistribution of training funding. - Restoration of the dental workforce: PLVE still working and worked well throughout lockdown but there have been very few courses. Want to open up more classroom/face-to-face skills based courses - Still confusion over how many are still interested in courses. <p>OB: Want some funding surrounding oral surgery issues – running waiting lists where possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staffing issues causing problems especially with backlog with COVID. - Doing what we can <p>CH: Thanking everyone, meetings are extremely helpful and everyone has been working very hard to make things better.</p>	

SL: Had a lot of people struggling to find dentists, had a reduction recently. Advised to check website for updates and had positive feedback from dentists.

- Suggestion to find a way to notify patients that there are waiting lists so they're not calling around dentists.
- Something to be implemented where patients are informed ahead of being removed from register.
- NA: registration for dentistry removed a while ago. There is some misinformation amongst the public that needs resolving.

DJ: Numbers in Staffordshire and Shropshire for Weekend Access – 10 participation practices in Staffordshire who in total have been commissioned to provide 434 weekend sessions. 4 participating practices in Shropshire who are in total commissioned to provide 98 weekend sessions.

- Update on procurement – Oswestry procurement had talks for quite some time because of it being paused due to COVID. Plans to now proceed with this before the end of this financial year.
- Had some additional funding locally – successful in securing recurrent funding for the Shropshire community for health so the current for health improvement team.
- Money in Shropshire to commission a clinically led dental advice line – will be available from the next financial year

FH: Performers list and applications – initial hold up in foundation dentist applications due to Christmas break. Normal numbers applying for the performer list.

- Difficulty with the workforce – the numbers on the performer list don't necessarily reflect the workforce on the ground available for treatments
- Seeing a lot of people coming in who are from UK, being qualified abroad and coming back. From a HEE perspective, a different training program is required.
- Complaints – a lot where access is limited, these are not being processed as quickly due to staffing.

HT: Any way of linking schools with dental practices to promote dentistry and encourage work experience. NA to action for next meeting.

RB: Nicola Forest – senior project lead at ICS in Staffordshire for evacuees interested in dentistry as well as whole of NHS. NA to action.

HAI: wanted to put together some peer review meeting templates with the help from people with interests in certain areas such as oral surgery and orthodontics – to be part of toolkit

NA

	From a department point of view we are very much trying to keep afloat at present and see the core patient groups that the service was commissioned for but moving forward, would hope we could get more involved in regional issues when we have an increased workforce.	
11.	Any other business – NIL	
12.	Dates of future meetings - Wednesday 6th April 2022 Wednesday 6th July 2022 Wednesday 12th October 2022	

ACTION LOG

Reference	Action	Lead
19012022/1	Update on when the 6s referral pathway will be live on REGO. Need to speak to Nuala Woodman.	NA
19012022/2	HAI to discuss with RB and KTW how to improve the Afghan refugee data and make it more robust and presentable.	HAI/RB/KTW
19012022/3	Mental Health in dentistry framework	LS
19012022/4	Looking at promoting dentistry by linking older school children in schools with practices to gain work experience. Promoting NHS careers.	NA
19012022/5	Peer review toolkit update	HAI
19012022/6	Slot on next meeting agenda for HT to get feedback on website	HT