

KLDC Minutes October 2022

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE KENT LOCAL DENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5TH OCTOBER AT 2022 AT 6.00 PM AT THE BRIDGEWOOD MANOR HOTEL, WALDESLADE WOODS ROAD, ME5 9AX AND VIRTUALLY ON “ZOOM”

Present: Drs Batistoni, Banvir, Bhatti, P Chopra, R Chopra, Davies, Elder, Hamill, Hartle, Hogan, Kolozsvari, Mauthe, Myint, Nugent, U Patel, Power, Raghava, Ramamoorthy, Sheridan, Unter, Winstone and Wood.

Special Guests: Drs Aditi Monkar and Jeyanthi John, Consultants (Dental) Public Health Care Team

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Dr Hogan welcomed members to the October meeting and thanked everyone for attending either in the room or virtually.

Apologies were received from Drs Lone, Shivji, Smith and Willis-Lake. Late apologies were received from Dr N Patel and Dr M Patel.

Dr Hogan thanked Aditi Mondkar and Jeyanthi John for attending the KLDC meeting and said that he might ask their opinion on some agenda items as the meeting progressed.

2. LAST MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 6TH JULY 2022 – At the Bridgewood Hotel and via “zoom”.

(a) Confirmation of Minutes [[Attached – Click here for July minutes](#)] – Dr Hogan explained that he and Dr Unter had previously gone through the minutes and made amendments. The minutes were approved. Agreed: Minutes and reports to be uploaded onto the KLDC website.

(b) Matters Arising:

→ Pg 1: Minutes to be uploaded onto the website – this has been done.

→ Pg 2: Dr Willis-Lake to contact Dentaid – this has been done.

→ Pg 3: Dr Unter to write to the Chair of the Conference (Dan Cook) expressing concerns over how the LDC Annual Conference which was funded by the NHS levies was having discussions on how to leave the NHS and go “private”. Dan Cook replied acknowledging our concerns. He stated that GDPC and Conference aim to give platforms to general dentists from NHS, private and mixed backgrounds. Our concerns will be raised at their next Agenda Committee meeting. [[Attached letter](#)]

→ Pg 3: Dr Unter was to invite Dr Aditi Mondkar to the October meeting – this was done and she was present this evening.

→ Pg 3: Dr Sheridan requested an extra tab for completed referrals in REGO – Dr Winstone said that this had been added and that other people had also requested this to be done.

→ Pg 4: Dr Hogan said that he would write to Kate Langford who had been appointed chief Medical Officer for Kent & Medway Integrated Care Board (ICB) to seek a meeting. A meeting had already occurred in August and there is a further meeting this coming Friday.

→ Pg 5: Drs Bhatti & Elder to give feedback on the Dental Trauma UK guidelines. It was agreed that we would add the link to the KLDC website.

→ Pg 5: Dr Bhatti to submit information in publishable format to Dr Unter for the new KDMSG in Canterbury. This has been done and Dr Bhatti thanked Dr Unter saying that he really appreciated all of his support.

3. NOTICE OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) “Zoom” ~ Dr Unter

4. SECRETARY

(a) Report (not reported elsewhere) – Dr Unter advised that as usual he would report on several items as they appear on the agenda.

Dr Unter requested that he draw to members attention the email that was circulated with regards to Commissioning of Mandatory Dental Services (MDS) for Kent and Medway. With effect from 1st July 2022 responsibility for Pharmacy, Optometry and Dental commissioning was delegated to six Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) within the South East Region. The NHSE SE dental commissioning team work as a hub to carry out the functions of the ICBs including supporting the procurement of Mandatory Dental Services (previously referred to as General Dental Services / GDS). Documents were sent for comment by Richard Woolterton who is the Head of Primary Care (KSS) SE Regional Lead for Dentistry. Dr Unter had sent members the documents which explained in some detail what in addition to previous commissioning has been included as part of this procurement/tendering process. He advised that NHSE have asked for feedback on the planned procurement of MDS in Kent and Sussex by the 7th October. The joint KSS SE Coast / Channel Group LDCs officers decided to circulate all their members in KSS in order to make colleagues fully aware of what is planned. To help get meaningful thoughts and make responses easier the joint LDCs have set up a Google Form to capture what the thoughts are on the offer from Principals and Primary Care dentists in the region with regard to feasibility of this procurement at the current time. Action: Dr Unter said that he would be very grateful if members would please have a look at the questionnaire and complete it either that evening or the following day so that it could be sent in by Friday. Dr Hartle has looked at the process from a business perspective but does not feel that it is viable in providing a good standard of care and that you need to think about patient safety and care. Dr Hogan advised that he will share their concerns with Kate Langford on Friday. Action: Jeyanthi John said that this information should be shared with KCC and would provide Dr Unter with a contact address.

Dr Unter advised that Dr Elder had brought to his attention the HSE “Hand-arm vibration at work” publication Dr Unter did contact the BDA and colleagues working in the salaried services but no one had heard of this. It was felt that this matter did not relate to dental instruments.

(b) Report of Meetings (not reported elsewhere) - Dr Unter advised that meetings would be reported as they appear on the agenda.

5. TREASURER

(a) Report – Dr Winstone advised that all was quiet at the moment and that the budgets were completed and all the payments up to date.

(b) Statutory Levy – Dr Winstone advised that they would need to discuss future donations at the January Meeting.

6. KENT & MEDWAY INTEGRATED CARE BOARD (ICB) ~ [[Attached Report](#)]

Dr Unter had included in the papers a brief introduction to explain the formation of the new ICBs. Drs Hogan and Unter are scheduled (Item 2(b) also refers) to have a second meeting on

Friday with Kate Langford the Medical Director of the Kent ICB. Kate has stipulated that she would like to meet regularly so that she can understand the [dental] contract and what can be done with issues such as inappropriate prescribing. Louise Matthews, Deputy Director of Primary Care POD (Pharmacy, Optometry and Dentistry) has also contacted Dr Hogan with a view to having a meeting.

7. NHS ENGLAND MATTERS

(a) NHS ENGLAND SE - Dr Hogan said that he and Dr N Patel went to see The Rt Hon Damian Green, MP for Ashford. He advised that MPs are receiving complaints from constituents who are unable to access dental care. He had to tell him that there is no legal requirement for dentists to see patients under the NHS. Dr Hogan also advised that he did an interview for the BBC radio Kent. He received the call in the morning and did the interview a couple of hours later. He said that he was tired of avoiding the reason for access issues and he advised them that ultimately there was a shortage of funding and dentists offering NHS Care.

(i) Unscheduled Care Recommissioning Steering Group – It was reported that there had been no meeting since the last KLDC meeting and that they are constantly being cancelled.

Patients are struggling to get urgent care and there will be no further progress until a review has been carried out. Action: This is to be discussed with Kate Langford.

(ii) (a) Kent Local Dental Network (LDN) – Dr Unter reported that the last meeting was the 22nd June and that this was reported in the July KLDC meeting. The next meeting is the 19th October 2022.

(b) Orthodontic MCN & Orthodontics ~ Dr Sheridan reported that the last meeting was cancelled with less than 24 hours' notice and that this was a waste of clinical time. No further dates have been suggested. A permanent Chair for the MCN is still being sought.

Dr Hogan informed members that this was to be Dr Sheridan's last meeting as she was due to retire at Christmas. He thanked her on behalf of the Committee for all her hard work and wished her all the best for the future. Dr Hogan advised that they were looking for a new orthodontic representative and that they might be able to source a new representative in April after the biennial elections.

(c) Oral Health Improvement MCN ~ [[Attached Report](#)] – Dr Unter has attended the last meeting as deputy.

(d) Restorative MCN ~ [[Attached Report](#)] – Dr Wood advised that there was another meeting in a couple of weeks on DERS and Brian Miller (Chair) requested feedback on what practitioners would like improved.

(e) Routine Dental Care MCN ~ [[Attached Report](#)] – Dr Smith had sent her apologies for tonight's meeting.

(f) Urgent Care; Oral Surgery & Special Care MCNs – Dr Unter advised that he had nothing to report. Dr Elder said that he wanted to congratulate Dr Muneer Patel on his new position as Consultant in Oral Surgery at Kings College Hospital and said that he may be resigning from the KLDC. Action: Dr Unter to contact Dr M Patel

(g) KSS Antimicrobial Prescribing Network (KSSPN) – Dr Hogan advised that the NICE guidance changed in July of this year and that GPs can now prescribe antibiotics for diabetic patients (only) with dental issues. He also added that he was involved in a project with Portsmouth University to improve antibiotic use and would keep members informed of any developments.

(iii) Dental Electronic Referral Service (DERS) – Dr Winstone advised that the 11 page document on routine care was now being sent to Alison Cross. This would outline what changes were to be made.

(iv) KSS performance Advisory Group (PAG) – Dr Unter advised that he had not done any PAGs but had one in a couple of weeks. Cases were now handled more effectively by NHSE

case workers resulting in only more serious matters having to go to PAG.

(v) KSS Performers List Decision Panel (PLDP) - Dr Hogan did not have anything to report on PLDP.

(vi) LDC Liaison Group ~ [[Attached Report](#)] – Dr Unter drew attention to the information regarding contract terminations and shortfall / clawback in his report. He noted that recent Kent terminations had resulted in approximately 37,000 UDAs being returned. The dental budget for this was at risk of being lost from patient dental care in Kent. He felt that it was inevitable that contract terminations in the current climate will only increase.

(vii) SE Coast LDCs (Channel Group) – Drs Hogan/Unter had attended the first F2F Channel meeting last night in two years. There had been wide ranging general discussion regarding concerns in KSS. An explanation of the current process to recruit staff from abroad showed this to be slow, complex and expensive.

(b) DentaLine ~ [[Attached Report](#)] - Dr Davies added to her report that they are not getting sufficient applicants but that they had a huge rota.

(c) Dental Practice Reports – Dr Hamill advised that she had been very busy with complaints. She had been involved in an investigation and as soon as this was finished she started another one.

Dr Winstone advised that he had been doing much of the same but had also been involved in relocation plans, queries and case assessments. He had a meeting the previous day with the ICB medical Officers.

8. PASS – PRACTITIONER ADVICE AND SUPPORT SCHEME

Dr Hogan reported that they did not have any cases currently which was surprising considering there were over 700 dentists in Kent. Dr Unter felt that this could be because they were both very supportive to colleagues contacting the KLDC and quite efficient (if appropriate) at guiding people in the right direction if needed.

9. HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Dr Elder apologised that Dr Muneer Patel was not present but once again reiterated his congratulations on his new consultant post. He said that he was noticing an increase in the specialist services with high priority patients and asked if anyone had any ideas on how to signpost patients, to let him know. He discussed trauma guidelines and said that the best organisation to signpost these patients to was Dental trauma UK - <https://dentaltrauma.co.uk> . (Item 2(b) also refers).

10. SALARIED DENTAL SERVICES

(a) East Kent ~ [[Attached Report](#)] - Dr Willis-Lake had sent her apologies for the meeting.

(b) West Kent ~ [[Attached Report](#)] – Dr Davies added to her report that they are continuing to work through the volume of referrals but are experiencing difficulties obtaining specialist staff especially for younger children. She said that she would like to be able to speak with the ICB.

Action: Dr Davies will put together some information for Drs Hogan/Unter to take to their meeting on Friday with Dr Kate Langford.

It was also discussed what happens to patients who require access for urgent care (for example a patient who has a fat face). Dr Hogan said that they will raise the issues at their meeting on Friday and see if they can get Dr Langford to speak with Dr Davies directly. Aditi Monkar and Jeyanthi John will also put together some data, and feed back to the ICB. They suggested Louise Matthews would be a good contact.

11. GENERAL DENTAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE:REPORT OF KENT REPRESENTATIVE (S)

<https://www.kldc.org.uk/gdpc-reports> (see website)

Dr Hartle advised that she and Dr Wood have a meeting on Friday and that there will be more feedback after this. Dr Wood added that they cannot see anything changing and that there does not appear to be a lot of interest in a new contract.

12. LMC RPORT ~ [Attached Report] – Dr Hogan said that he attended this meeting as Dr Winstone

was unable to go. Dr Batistoni commented that she felt that dentists were having trouble communicating with GPs and felt there was not a mechanism in place. She said that there was no relationship for joint clinical care. Action: Dr Hogan said that he was not aware of this but would raise this with Kate Langford and at the LMC. He said that he would not be surprised if the LMC felt that the access to dental care was also a problem when he speaks with them at the next joint LDC/ LMC meeting. He felt that GPs were also under a lot of pressure as from the 1st of November it will become mandatory for all patient records to be made available online.

13. KLDC [<https://kldc.org.uk>]

Dr Unter advised that he had completed an update to the KLDC website. Some of the out of date Covid documentation has now been withdrawn. The information on the Kent Dental Mentorship & Study Group has been added along with course details for HEE & the joint KSS LDCs four free study evenings (Oct & Nov). There is also a new link on how to book your Covid vaccination as a priority healthcare worker.

14. EDUCATION & TRAINING

(a) Dental Foundation Training ~ [[Attached Report](#)] - Dr Mauthe advised that from September 2022 HEE LKSS are running 2 foundation training schemes in Kent - North Kent and East Kent. They had no shortages of applicants in the Kent, Surrey and Sussex area. HEE are always keen to hear from local practitioners of suggestions of courses they would like to see running at the new skills lab at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. Please send suggestions to Peter.Mauthe@hee.nhs.uk.

(b) Kent Dental Mentorship & Study Group (KDMSG) - Dr Bhatti advised that they had their first meeting on the 20th September and there were 45 attendees. He said that everyone was welcome and that their next meeting was on the 22nd November. There is a link on the website for an online form to register if you wish to attend. Unfortunately they did not get any FDs attending the first meeting. He thanked Dr Unter for putting the information onto the KLDC website and for all his support. There will be a Christmas celebration hosted by the EK BDA section on the 8th December and Eddie Crouch will be attending.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Zoom – Dr Unter said that he would be grateful for future KLDC meetings if members would let him know by the deadline if they will be attending in person or via “zoom”. He felt that F2F meetings were more convivial but understood the virtual option did allow more members to attend meetings. The hotel required a minimum of 20 people for catering. Today there were only 8 people present in the room despite only 12 members of the full membership of 33 indicated they were attending virtually.

Dr Hogan noted that the LMC have now dropped virtual meetings and are only meeting F2F.

Dr Hogan thanked guests Drs Aditi Monkar and Jeyanthi John for their attendance and said that they were welcome to return again if they so wished. He wished members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 11th January 2023 – Bridgewood Hotel, Walderslade
Wood Road, ME5 9AX & virtually via “zoom”.

FUTURE DATES:

Wednesday, 5th April 2023 (AGM)
Wednesday, 5th July 2023 &
Wednesday, 4th October 2033

Meeting closed at 7.47 pm.