

V2.2-JMU

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE KENT LOCAL DENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY
11th JANUARY AT 2023 AT 6.00 PM AT THE BRIDGEWOOD MANOR HOTEL,
WALDESLADE WOODS ROAD, ME5 9AX AND VIRTUALLY ON “ZOOM”**

Present: Drs Batistoni, Bhatti^(Z), P Chopra^(Z), R Chopra, Davies^(Z), Elder^(Z), Hamill^(Z), Hartle^(Z), Hogan, Kolozsvari^(Z), Lone, Mauthe^(Z), Momin^(Z), Myint^(Z), Nugent, A Patel^(Z), M Patel^(Z), N Patel, U Patel^(Z), V Patel^(Z), Power^(Z), Ramamoorthy, Smith, Unter, Winstone, Willis-Lake^(Z) and Wood

Guest: Maliha Suleman^(Z)

^(Z) Indicates attended meeting virtually

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Dr Hogan welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2023 and wished members a very Happy New Year. He extended a warm welcome to Dr Maliha Suleman (DCT1 & associate in Gillingham) as a guest attending this evening on “Zoom”.

He pointed out that at tonight’s meeting there were only 11 members attending in person and last time there were 12. [Item 3(a) refers].

Apologies: were received from Dr Shivji.

2. LAST MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 5TH OCTOBER 2022 – At the Bridgewood Hotel and via “Zoom”.

(a) Confirmation of Minutes – there were no amendments to the minutes, therefore the minutes were approved. **Action:** The Minutes to be uploaded onto the KLDC website.

(b) Matters Arising:

- Pg 2: Dr Unter had circulated a questionnaire to members with regarding the procurement process being currently undertaken by NHSE SE in Kent and Sussex. Dr Unter said that he was grateful to any members who had responded to this. [Item 7(a) Procurement Paper refers].
- Pg 2: Jeyanthi John advised that information should be shared with the KCC and said that she would provide Dr Unter with a contact address. Unfortunately no address had been supplied. However, Dr Unter felt that the response to the procurement document written by W Sussex & Kent LDCs (generated after the last meeting) would need explanatory context before being circulated more widely.
- Pg 2: Urgent Care – this was going to be discussed with Kate Langford when she met with Dr Hogan, however anticipated further information had not been available when they met. Kate Langford said that she was aware of the problems and that this would be fed back to Louise Matthews.
- Pg 3 – Oral Surgery MCN – Dr Unter advised that despite being recently appointed to Consultant, Dr Muneer was entitled and wished to remain a member of the KLDC. He was willing to continue to feedback information regarding the OS MCN [Report Under Item 8(a)(ii) (f)].
- Pg 4 – Salaried Services – Dr Davies made this information available to Dr Unter which had been taken to the meeting between the KLDC and the K&M ICB. The KLDC has been asked to arrange a meeting between the LDC, salaried services and hospital services with a view to a joint approach to the ICB.
- Pg 4 – Dr Batistoni commented that there was no relationship for joint clinical care between GPs/dentists – Dr Hogan has already discussed this with Kate Langford.

3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Future Meetings – Dr Wood

(b) A few words – Dr Hogan.

4. SECRETARY

(a) Correspondence - (not reported elsewhere) – Dr Unter advised that he had received the usual few bits of correspondence and that he would report items as they appear on the agenda.

(b) Report of Meetings - (not reported elsewhere) – Dr Unter advised that he would report any additional items as they appear on the agenda.

(c) Annual Conference - Dr Unter gave notice that the Annual Conference was to be held in Harrogate this year on the 8th and 9th June 2023. He asked members to think about whether they would like to attend. **Action:** This will be discussed at the next meeting (AGM). He also mentioned that with the upcoming elections there may be some new colleagues elected and wishing to attend.

- (d) Notice of AGM, Draft Annual Report and Biennial Elections ~ [Attached reports x 3 \(Report 1 Letter to all GDPs\) – Report 2 Membership of KLDC – Report 3 Nomination Form \)](#)

Dr Unter advised that ½ the committee will come to the end of their 4 year Term of Office shortly. There were a couple of extra vacancies with Drs Judy Barham and Connie Sheridan retiring from the committee recently. He advised that 653 Nomination forms had been posted that morning. He asked that if any members at the end of their 4 year term wished to seek re-election, could they make sure that they returned their forms no later than 3rd February. Re-nomination was not automatic! The KLDC Clerk Tracy Moynes was acting as Returning Officer.

Dr Unter thanked committee members who had represented their constituents for the last four years.

5. TREASURER

- (a) Report ~ [Attached Report](#) – Dr Hogan advised that currently there were no payments to be made. The monthly income from the statutory levy continues to be paid by the NHS BSA. Dr Winstone advised that Dr Unter had previously emailed the British Dental Guild asking if we could review their accounts. He said that he has now received a reply from Keith Percival to say that he will arrange for the Treasurer to send these through. It was felt that it was important to know the exact amount of funding that they were holding.

- (b) Statutory Levy – It was agreed that we make the same donations as the previous year:-

British Dental Guild – It was **proposed** that we donate £15,000 by Dr Unter and **seconded** by Dr Wood. Payment would be with-held until suitable accounts from the Guild had been provided.

Dentists Health Support – It was **proposed** that we donate £12,000 by Dr Hogan and **seconded** by Dr Wood.

BDA Benevolent Fund – It was **proposed** that we donate £2,000 by Dr Wood and **seconded** by Dr Nugent.

Action: It was agreed that an Auditor would be appointed to review the KLDC books since this had not been done previously. Fiduciary duty now made this necessary. Dr Hogan/Winstone felt that Dr Ken Hymas would be a suitable candidate for this job and it was agreed that a payment of one session of guild rate would be appropriate.

Dr Winstone asked members to make sure that they emailed their claim forms through and to remember to put their names on the forms.

6. BDA OFFICIALS DAY – [Attached Report](#) (Friday 2nd December 2022)

The meeting was organised by the BDA as an online event and was attended by Drs Batistoni, Hogan, Unter and Winstone. Dr Hogan advised that he attended a workshop on PASS. Reports had also been submitted by Drs Winstone and Unter on their workshop attendance(s). Dr Batistoni added that it was a very useful day.

7. KENT & MEDWAY INTEGRATED CARE BOARD (ICB) ~ [Attached Report 1 ICB](#) – [Attached Report 2 Meeting with Kate Langford](#)

Drs Hogan and Unter met with Dr Souk Singh Director of Primary Care for the newly established K&M ICB. They were also meant to meet with Louise Matthews but unfortunately she was ill and unable to attend. The purpose of the meeting was to look at various matters that were presented by the KLDC (see report). Hopefully further meetings will occur and a good working relationship with our ICB will develop.

8. NHS ENGLAND MATTERS

- (a) NHS England SE (NHSE) – [Attached Report](#) - Dr Unter advised that the data kindly provided by colleagues has been shared and inserted into the response to the Kent & Sussex procurement document but as yet there has not been official acknowledgment. At the LDC Liaison meeting Annie Godden said that she had seen the joint response and apologised on behalf of Richard Woolterton they had not yet responded. A number of points were apparently taken on board. They are grateful to those who took part in the Questionnaire.

- (i) Unscheduled Care Recommissioning Steering Group – Dr Hogan advised that there had not been a meeting for about 6 months and that it had been put on hold. Dr Hogan has written to Mark Ridgeway about the draft commissioning guidelines including remote prescribing of antibiotics. [Definitive guidelines have now been published which includes remote prescribing of antibiotics].

- (ii) (a) Kent Local Dental Network (LDN) ~ [Attached Report](#) – A meeting took place on 19th October

2022, shortly after the last KLDC meeting. There is a meeting next week which will be reported on at the next KLDC meeting.

(b) Orthodontic MCN & Orthodontics – there is no report as Dr Sheridan has left the committee. Dr Unter will hopefully get some feedback at next week's KSS LDN meeting.

(c) Oral Health Improvement MCN – Dr Unter had attended as deputy for Dr Woods. He advised that 11 people attended the meeting and discussions took place around numerous matters including the homeless and Terms of Reference for the OHI MCN. They also talked about the ICBs and what they were up to. He felt that it was a good committee full of enthusiasm. He thanked Sarah and June for their input.

(d) Restorative MCN – Dr Wood advised that there had not been a meeting and therefore there was nothing to report.

(e) Routine Dental Care MCN ~ [Attached Report](#) – Dr Smith's report of a meeting on 23/11/2022 was attached. There were no further comments.

(f) Routine Care; Oral Surgery & Special Care MCNs ~ [Attached Report](#) – Dr Muneer's report was attached. A question was raised regarding post-operative complications and who was responsible for the post-operative care. Of particular concern were cases which were referred by IMOS from private practices and these patients not having a further private follow up should there be a complication due to the possible cost of accessing private care. This was something which NHSE and the MCN chair would look at. Dr Winstone will also have some input into this.

(g) KSS Antimicrobial Prescribing Network (KSSAPN) ~ [Attached Report](#) - Dr Hogan's report was attached. He added that Co-Amoxiclav is one of the major reasons for patients contracting C-Diff and that patients who take PPIs have double the risk of contracting C-Diff. Dr Hogan felt it would be interesting to collect data to find out who is prescribing from community pharmacists but unfortunately they would expect to be remunerated to collate this data.

(iii) Dental Electronic Referral Service (DERS) – Dr Winstone attended an evening meeting. Alison Cross had asked for feedback in order to make programme changes which he said were happening all the time. He asked if anyone was having any pathway issues to let him know. Dr Unter advised members that apparently unspent clawback money had been used to fund some of the requested software changes to DERS. At least this was not money disappearing from dentistry completely down the ICB finance "black hole".

(iv) KSS Performance Advisory Group (PAG) – Dr Unter advised that he had not had any cases for a while but has 3 tomorrow.

(v) KSS Performers List Decision Panel (PLDP) – Dr Hogan said that he had not attended any meetings. Terms of Reference are being standardised nationally.

(vi) LDC Liaison Group ~ [Attached Report](#) – Dr Unter's report was attached from a two hour meeting he and Dr Hogan attended on the 11th October along with all the other LDCs in the NHSE SE region. He said that it was one of the only times that they get to interact with commissioners and representatives from ICBs and PODs as well as fellow LDC colleagues. Some of the topics discussed were procurement updates and focus groups. Generally there has been an increase in access sessions in all areas but some practices have been rejecting their existing contracts. LDC members stated that colleagues are leaving the NHS because they do not feel that the NHS is sustainable due to pay levels and workforce issues and are transferring to private practice which they feel is the only sustainable way forward. It was felt that it was important to capture why practices are leaving the NHS and to help support those that remain in the NHS system. NHSE SE admitted that they did not ask why contracts were handed back!

(vii) SE Coast LDCs (Channel Group) - Next Meeting 7th Feb 2023 – This will be reported on at the April Meeting. This is a smaller group covering Kent, Surrey and Sussex only.

(b) DentaLine ~ [Attached Report](#) – Dr Davies added that they were recruiting and holding interviews next Tuesday at 6.00 pm and that if anyone was interested in joining the DentaLine team to email her. Over the Christmas weekend they cared for 222 patients. She added that they received positive feedback from both grateful patients that had been seen in person and those on telephone (triage) calls.

(c) Dental Practice Advisors – Reports:

- Dr Hamill advised that she had been involved in the usual regular complaints and busy with some procurement evaluations. She has reviewed plans for new or relocated practices and has a practice visit scheduled for a new practice in Sheppey. She would also be attending PAG the following day where there were 3 cases scheduled.

- Dr Winstone said that he was involved in NHSE SE and supporting new dentists in the performance process, also in a complaint review with some GDC concerns and with professional standards case assessments. He attends senior leadership team meetings, deals with queries from practices and NHSE SE staff, various committees including LDC and MCN and the quarterly DCA co-ordination meetings. He also attends various national meetings by the NHSE central team and OCDO.
- Dr Shivji was unable to attend tonight's meeting but Dr Winstone said that he had been involved in evaluation bids and support for new dentists in Hants, Bucks and IoW. He triaged restorative and endodontic referrals for Hants/IoW, reviewed applications for the performers list, complaints reviews, evaluation of bids for MDS and reviewed plans for new and relocating practices.

9. PASS

<https://kldc.org.uk/information/kent-practitioner-advice-support-service-pass>

There were no current cases to report on. Dr Batistoni felt that we needed to make people more aware of PASS and that if it was well publicised, we may get more cases. Dr Unter commented that it is meant to be a self-referral service and that Professional Standards often signposted dentists under investigation to PASS. The LDC website shows the route for colleagues to understand what PASS offers and how to access it.

10. HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Dr Elder said that he did not have anything much to report. He said that they were looking at the possibility of patients living in Kent being treated in Kent. Nick Goodger has some ideas as well as Sarah and June. There are a number of contracts outside of Kent and some patients are having to travel from Margate and Dover. The new commissioners are happy to meet for discussion.(Item 2(b) also refers)

11. SALARED DENTAL SERVICES

- East Kent – Dr Willis-Lake apologised for not submitting a report. She said that their GA list was now very long and static. A few slots have been made available in London so that patients who have been waiting a long time are travelling to London via a complimentary taxi from Margate and Ramsgate. The list is now over 52 weeks. She said that the new groups of foundation trainees have started. She has taken on a foundation therapist who has passed her exam but is not competent to perform anything including removal of an occlusal. She does not feel the therapist is ready for clinics and she is concerned that if this is the level of therapists coming through they may end up giving up and becoming hygienists.
- West Kent ~ [Attached Report](#) – Dr Davies added to her report that they were finding recruitment for nurses challenging. (A discussion took place which noted that nurses have their training paid for along with sick pay, uniform, pension and CPD). She also said that they were having issues with GA access.

12. GENERAL DENTAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE – REPORT OF KENT REPRESENTATIVE(S)

<https://www.kldc.org.uk/gdpc-reports>

As usual all the reports are available on the website (via the above link). Dr Hartle added that the younger cohorts coming through really love mentoring and that it was important that we looked at how this was handled. She felt that the PASS scheme may need to be updated. She advised that we are losing new dentists and that she had one who had completed their first year and then left to work in a clothes store. It was agreed that there is a difference between giving mentoring support for clinical matters and mentoring support for issues affecting the ability to practice safely and within the GDC and NHS rules and regulations. It was felt that this was a discussion for a future meeting. Dr Wood added she felt that nothing moves on! The next GDPC meeting will be on the 5th February which will be face to face.

13. LMC REPORT

- LMC Report ~ [Attached Report](#) – Dr Hogan advised that he attended a meeting on 17th November on behalf of Dr Winstone. Elections for the LMC are coming up and Liz Mears quoted (*tongue in cheek*) "That no member coming to the end of their term of office can leave the LMC without finding a replacement".
- LMC/LDC/LPC Meeting ~ [Attached Report](#) – This group meets twice a year for 2 hours and the next meeting is in May2023. It was felt that it was a very informative and useful meeting.

14. KLDC WEBSITE

[\[https://kldc.org.uk\]](https://kldc.org.uk)

The July Minutes have been uploaded onto the KLDC website. There is detailed information on the PASS system. PAG often signposts dentists to PASS. It was felt that PASS issues were not always clinical matters and frequently just chatting with the Chair or Secretary often stops problems or concerns progressing any further. (Item 9 also refers)

15. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- (a) Dental Foundation Training – Dr Mauthe advised that they were recruiting for trainers in February and that if anyone was interested to have a look. He also said that there were mergers coming in March but that nothing is known about them as yet. He mentioned in response to Dr Willis-Lake's therapist who lacked competency, that most of the others coming through have been pretty good and that everyone has had problems due to Covid.
- (b) Kent Dental Mentorship & Study Group – Dr Bhatti thanked the LDC for their support and for having a link on the KLDC website. He discussed a meeting with speaker Len de Cruz which took place on the 22nd of November attended by 61 delegates. There was very good feedback from the meeting and he said that it was nice to see so many members from the KLDC. The next meeting is on the 25th January. Gavin Power and Ricci Kane will be discussing Ortho in general practice. He added that it is early days but the group is going well. Dr Hogan thanked Dr Bhatti & colleagues involved in this new support group.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Dr Wood – Future Meetings – Dr Wood discussed virtual meetings / versus members being present in the room / versus a mixed approach meeting using the "Owl" system. She commented that the equipment and IT is not easy to set up and with a change of chair it may make things difficult. It may be that members only attend the AGM in person once a year?
Action: Members were requested to have a think about what they would like to do going forward and this will be an agenda item for the April Meeting. It was likely the July meeting would be F2F only.
- (b) Dr Hogan - A Few Words – Dr Hogan announced that this was his last meeting as Chair of the LDC. He said that he had served for 22 years as Chair and was on the committee 5 years prior to being the Chair. He stated that he was really passionate about dentistry and had thoroughly enjoyed his time but felt that it was a good time to stand down and become a back bencher. He thanked Dr Unter as Secretary and said that it had been a pleasure to work with him. He also thanked Dr Winstone for all his time and effort as a Treasurer and Dental Foundation trainer. Both Dr Unter and Dr Winstone thanked Dr Hogan for his kind words and his leadership of the KLDC on behalf of committee members. A presentation of gifts took place.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND DAY

Change of Meeting date from Wednesday 5th April 2023 to Thursday 13th April 2023 – Bridgewood Manor Hotel, Walderslade Woods Road, ME5 9AX & virtually via "Zoom".
{Easter Sunday is Sunday 9th April 2023}

FUTURE DATES : Wednesday, 5th July 2023 and
 Wednesday, 4th October 2023

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

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