

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Unconfirmed Minutes of Meeting held at the Surgery on 19 March 2024 at 6:00pm

Present

Margaret Broadhurst, Chair (MB)

Karen Wright, Treasurer (KW)

Diana Edmonds (DE)

Anne Moore (AM)

Davina Smith (DS)

Natasha Ritchie, Practice Manager (NR)

Ella Scrymgeour, Locality Link for Purbeck, Public Health Dorset

		Action
1.	Welcome and introductions Margaret welcomed everyone to the meeting - including Ella Scrymgeour, Locality Link for Purbeck, Public Health Dorset.	
2.	Apologies Apologies were received from Sally Fazekas (SF), Peter Smith (PS) and Gill Foott, Engagement and Development Coordinator (PPGs), NHS Dorset (GF).	
3.	Presentation by Ella Scrymgeour, Locality Link for Purbeck, Public Health Dorset Margaret welcomed Ella to the meeting - they had first met at the last meeting of the Wellbeing Swanage Advisory Committee in January. Ella began by explaining the role of Public Health Dorset and describing both the services it provides directly and those it commissions. Public Health refers to all organised measures to prevent disease, promote health and prolong life among the population as a whole. Public Health became the responsibility of local authorities in 2013 (previously, it was an NHS responsibility). In Dorset, Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP) Council created a shared service, overseen by a Joint Public Health Board. Public Health is funded through the ring-fenced Public Health Grant, which is allocated to local authorities by central government - this will increase by 2% in 2024/25, representing the ninth consecutive year of real-terms cuts in local public health funding. The work of Public Health Dorset is organised into four key areas <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health Improvement - promoting healthy behaviours to help people improve their wellbeing, focusing on making the biggest difference to those with the greatest need; this includes the provision of Livewell Dorset and the commissioning of the Healthy Child Programme, Sexual Health Services, Drugs and Alcohol Services and the NHS Health Checks Programme• Health Protection - keeping people safe from infectious diseases and other health hazards (Public Health Dorset has an assurance role, as health protection services are provided by the UK Health Security Agency)	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthcare Public Health - using public health expertise and influence across the Dorset Integrated Care System to improve access to and outcomes from health and care services, and to reduce health inequalities • Healthy Places - ensuring our built and natural environments support the population of Dorset to live healthy lives. <p>As well as collaborating with partner organisations across the Dorset Integrated Care System, Public Health Dorset also has a team of locality workers, who engage with Primary Care Networks, voluntary organisations and communities at a local level.</p> <p>Ella has been the Locality Link for Purbeck since Oct 2023 and works for Public Health Dorset two days / week. She has been engaging with the Purbeck Primary Care Network (PCN), as well as the GP Practices and PPGs in Purbeck. She has also been supporting Wellbeing Swanage and the development of the Swanage Youth Strategy.</p> <p>She also attends meetings of the Purbeck Local Alliance Group (LAG), which brings together providers of Children's Services with the local community to help shape the services and support available in Purbeck for children and their families. It was noted that a Family Hub has already opened in Wareham, and that one is also planned for Swanage at the Chapel Lane site - Dorset Council is one of 12 local authorities delivering the Department for Education's Family Hub Transformation Programme.</p> <p>More information about Public Health Dorset can be found at: https://www.publichealthdorset.org.uk.</p> <p>Margaret thanked Ella very much for attending the meeting. Ella decided to stay for the rest of the meeting.</p>	
4.	<p>Minutes of Meeting held on 16 January 2024</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2024 were approved. The approved version would now be added to the PPG page on the Practice website.</p>	MB/NR
5.	<p>Matters arising not covered elsewhere on Agenda</p> <p>5.1 Setting up a Carers Support Group in Swanage</p> <p>Margaret met with Lizzie Eden, Carers Engagement Facilitator for GP Practices at NHS Dorset, on 26 February. Lizzie is keen that a monthly Carers Support Group is set up in Swanage, similar to the one that has already been set up in Wareham (Lizzie lives in Swanage). Prior to the meeting, Margaret had found out that a group called All Things Bright and Beautiful is already providing support to some carers - and that Dementia Friendly Purbeck also provides support to those living with dementia and their carers. Lizzie had also met with Sandra Rhead, who used to run a Carers Group in Swanage (Sandra used to be a PPG member), but this group no longer meets.</p> <p>Margaret wondered whether the new Centre proposed for the Chapel Lane site might be a good place to hold the group and agreed to raise this at the next meeting of the Wellbeing Swanage Advisory Committee. Ella reminded everyone that a room at Swanage Hospital is also currently available free of charge. Carers Support Dorset (CSD) is funding the Wareham Group. Lizzie had agreed to approach CSD to see if funding might also be available for a group in Swanage.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Sonia Harris, the new Carers Lead at the Practice, is validating the Practice's Carers Register. Margaret had also agreed to help promote awareness of the benefits of registering as a Carer when the PPG next hosts a stand in the Surgery - Lizzie had given her a pad of Carer Identification and Information Forms.</p>	MB

	<p>It was noted that Lizzie had agreed to attend the next PPG meeting on 14 May, when the proposed group will be discussed further. Margaret suggested that it would be a good idea if Sonia could also join us and Natasha agreed to follow this up with her.</p> <p>5.2 Carers Fair, Carey Hall, Wareham on 12 June 2024</p> <p>The PPG will be hosting a stand at this event, which is being organised by the Carers Leads for the GP Practices in Purbeck.</p> <p>5.3 Calendar of Health Promotion Campaigns for Purbeck</p> <p>Ella reported that she is still hoping to develop a Calendar of Health Promotion Campaigns for the Purbeck PCN, working with the PCN, the GP Practices and the PPGs. She had discussed this proposal with Anna Darling, the PCN's Clinical Director, as well as the PPG Chairs, but no definite decision to go ahead had yet been taken.</p> <p>5.4 Wellbeing Swanage</p> <p>The Wellbeing Swanage Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for 5 March had been postponed until after the transfer of responsibility for the Chapel Lane Community Buildings had been completed. [We subsequently learnt that this had happened on 18 March; a Community Open Day is planned for Saturday 11 May 2024 - see: https://www.swanage.news/new-focus-for-swanages-children-centre-and-day-centre/.]</p> <p>5.5 Exploring the possibility of producing podcasts</p> <p>Margaret agreed to send Natasha the link to the podcasts produced by the Mount Road Practice PPG - she had intended to discuss this issue with Natasha when they met on 13 February (see: https://www.kidsgrovegpsppg.co.uk/ppg-podcasts).</p> <p>5.6 Proposed Health Awareness Event</p> <p>The PPG is still interested in exploring the possibility of organising such an event in Swanage, although it was acknowledged that it would involve quite a lot of work for PPG members - and that PPG members are going to be quite busy over the next few months with the Patient Survey in April and PPG Awareness Week in June, as well as potentially setting up a Carers Support Group.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Sandford Surgery PPG was planning to hold a Health and Wellbeing Event on 6 April - Margaret agreed to circulate details to PPG members. It was agreed to wait and see how this event goes and then consider organising a similar event in Swanage in the Autumn.</p> <p>5.7 PPG Privacy Notice</p> <p>This has now been included on the PPG page on the Practice website.</p>	<p>NR</p> <p>All</p> <p>MB</p> <p>MB</p>
6.	<p>Surgery Report</p> <p>Natasha gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving to Month of Birth Recall for Annual Reviews <p>From April 2024, the Practice is moving patients' recall dates for long term condition annual reviews (eg Diabetes and Asthma), medication reviews and annual blood tests so they are in line with their Month of Birth. This means that, this year, patients might be asked to attend for a review a bit earlier or a bit later than previously to bring their reviews in line with their month of birth.</p>	

- The GP Contract and level of funding for General Practice in 2024/25**

Natasha described the changes to the GP contract announced by NHS England (see <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/arrangements-for-the-gp-contract-in-2024-25/>) and the level of funding available for General Practice in 2024/25 (which includes a 2% pay increase for GPs and practice staff salaries, a real-terms cut) - and the implications for the Practice and the Purbeck Primary Care Network (PCN). It is going to be a very challenging time for General Practice - across the country. It was noted that the BMA was undertaking a referendum on the GP Contract. [It was announced on 28 March that GPs across England had overwhelmingly voted to reject the changes to the 2024/25 GP contract.]
- Physician Associates (PAs)**

There had been a lot of discussion about this issue in the previous few weeks, following the passing of legislation by Parliament on 26 February 2024 to make the General Medical Council (GMC) responsible for regulating PAs. Sarah had drawn Margaret's attention to a piece put together by the Keep our NHS Public (see: <https://keepournhspublic.com/are-physician-associates-a-threat-to-nhs-general-practice/>). The British Medical Association (BMA) issued national guidance on the role and responsibilities of PAs on 7 March (see: <https://www.bma.org.uk/bma-media-centre/bma-sets-out-first-national-guidance-for-the-role-and-responsibilities-of-physician-associates-in-major-intervention-for-patient-safety>), the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) issued a strengthened Position Statement on 8 March (see: <https://www.rcgp.org.uk/News/Red-lines-Physician-Associates-general-practice>) and the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) held an extraordinary general meeting about this issue on 13 March. [The GMC has since launched a consultation on how it should regulate PAs, which will come into effect from 1 December; and, on 27 March, NHS England issued guidance on PAs working in General Practice (see: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/ensuring-safe-and-effective-integration-of-physician-associates-into-general-practice-teams-through-good-practice/>)]

Natasha reassured PPG members that the work undertaken by the PA employed by the Practice, who is also a Registered Nurse, is always supervised by a GP and that she has regular debriefings with her Supervising GP (Dr Qureshi). She is not currently able to prescribe, but is considering undertaking further training to enable her to become a prescriber.
- Pharmacy First**

Pharmacy First had launched on 31 January. Patients can now get prescription-only treatment for the following seven common conditions at their local pharmacy without needing to see a GP.

 - Sinusitis (for patients aged 12 years and over only)
 - Sore throat (aged 5+)
 - Earache (aged 1 year-17)
 - Infected insect bite (aged 1 year+)
 - Impetigo (aged 18 years+)
 - Shingles (aged 18 years+)
 - Uncomplicated urinary tract infections (women aged 16 to 64)

	<p>People feeling unwell with any of these conditions can go to their local Pharmacy and ask for a private consultation with the pharmacist. They may also be referred by the Practice or by NHS111. Both the Boots and Well pharmacies in Swanage are participating in this new scheme.</p> <p>For more information, see: https://www.healthwatch.co.uk/advice-and-information/2024-02-12/what-can-pharmacy-first-scheme-do-me). The Patients Association has also held an Informative webinar on this topic - see: https://www.patients-association.org.uk/introducing-the-pharmacy-first-service.</p> <p>Margaret had included this issue in her updates for the March editions of the Swanage Area Forum Community Newsletter and the Studland Parish News. She had also included information about NHS Dorset's Medication Waste Campaign - more information, see: https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/help-reduce-medication-waste-and-support-the-nhs-in-dorset/.</p>	
7.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Karen confirmed that there is £547.85 in the PPG's Bank Account and £42.83 in petty cash - giving a total of £590.68.</p>	
8.	<p>Repeat Patient Survey to be undertaken by the PPG</p> <p>Margaret had met with Natasha to discuss the issues to be covered in this year's Survey and drew everyone's attention to the latest version of the Survey Questionnaire. Additional questions have been included about what other services patients have accessed before booking a GP appointment, their use of online services, the Practice Website and whether they think they would use a Health Kiosk if one was installed.</p> <p>All agreed to send their comments / suggested amendments to the questionnaire to Margaret. It was agreed to undertake the Survey in April - Margaret agreed to canvas opinion from all PPG members regarding the best week to undertake the Survey.</p>	All MB
9.	<p>Update from Gill Foott, Engagement and Development Coordinator (PPGs)</p> <p>Gill Foott had requested that PPG members' attention be drawn to the items covered in her latest weekly update (Gill sends an update to PPGs every week):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information about the sharing of information recorded in patient records - see: https://ourdorset.org.uk/about/information/ • Survey on NHS Dorset approach to working in partnership with communities - see: MS Form - Working with partnership with people and communities in Dorset • Planned improvements to Dentistry in Dorset - see: https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/dentistry-in-dorset/ • Shaping the future of digital health - joining Dorset's Digital Public Engagement Group (DPEG) • Swap 2 Stop - a new initiative launched by Public Health Dorset to support people to quit smoking • Health inequalities workshop on 29 April 2024 	
10.	<p>PPG Awareness Week - 3-9 June 2024</p> <p>All agreed it would be a good idea for the PPG to host a stand in the Reception area at the practice during this year's PPG Awareness Week, as we did last year.</p>	All

11.	Practice Website - Review of areas/issues highlighted by the PPG The areas/issues of community interest highlighted by the PPG on the Practice website were reviewed, as the PPG does at every meeting - currently, they include: the Cost of Living Crisis, the PPG, Wellbeing Swanage and Mental Health. It was agreed to make no further changes at the moment - although it was felt that Carer Information should be reinstated ahead of Carers Week in June.	
12.	Feedback from other meetings attended by PPG members 12.1 Youth Strategy for Swanage - workshop held on 23 January A second workshop to discuss the development to be with strategy for Swanage had been held 23 January, following which separate meetings with those who had not been able to attend had also been held. A report of the workshop was expected soon. 12.2 Access for Health and Care in Purbeck - meeting held on 26 Jan 2024 Margaret drew members' attention to the Minutes of this meeting, circulated with the papers for the meeting. 12.3 Healthy Ageing in Neighbourhoods Workshop - 20 Feb 2024 Margaret remembers attention to the slides, presented at this workshop, circulated with the papers for the meeting. 12.4 Purbeck PPG Chairs meeting held on 5 March 2024 Margaret drew members' attention to the draft Notes of this meeting, circulated with the papers for the meeting. 12.5 Patients Association webinars on changes in Primary Care Margaret strongly recommended these webinars to PPG members - topics have included: the role of the Reception Team, the role of the wider General Practice Team, Pharmacy First and Digital Access. Recordings are available on their website at: https://www.patients-association.org.uk . 12.6 Other meetings attended by PPG members None	
14.	Speakers at future PPG meetings Lizzie Eden, Carers Engagement Facilitator for GP Practices at NHS Dorset will be joining us in May to talk about the setting up of a Carers Support Group. Ellie Suthers, Senior Staff Nurse, Lewis Manning will be joining us in July to talk about the opening of the new Day Hospice at Swanage Cricket Club on 19 April.	
15.	Any other urgent business Margaret reported that she was Including updates on Childhood Immunisation and Breast Screening in the April editions of the Swanage Area Forum Community Newsletter and the Studland Parish News.	
16.	Proposed dates of future meetings 14 May 2024 9 July 2024 17 September 2024 19 November 2024	

Margaret Broadhurst, Chair