



## **NCL Primary Care Committee in Common – Thursday 20 December 2018**

**Questions from the public (received in advance of the meeting) Questions 1- 4 were sent in by Mr Richards.**

**Question 1:** I refer to item 4 of the minutes of the meeting held on 18/10/18 and the Action Log i.e. page 12 (of 13)/page 18 (of 104) with the recommendation to close number 2. I would ask that you do not close this item for the following reason(s) - the original question from the public was "Apart from the website(s) was the meeting publicised elsewhere?" Despite the assurance that the Committee papers were published in a variety of settings, the only known settings are the CCG websites. This ignores the point, made by the questioner, that many members of the public within NCL do not have unlimited access to their own computers, to check on meetings and relative papers and are therefore reliant on other means of accessing this information e.g. notices in newspapers. Although an offer was made to supply me with a copy of the papers, I believe that this should be offered to the public in general. Therefore I would suggest that further consideration should be given to the foregoing and for that reason number 2 should remain open.

*Answer:* The intention was to publicise all CCG and pan-CCG meetings as well as possible and in a consistent way across NCL. It was not always possible for CCGs to promote meetings in local newspapers due to budgetary constraints and availability of local papers in some boroughs. However, going forward, all 5 CCGs had agreed to ensure that joint NCL meetings were publicised clearly on the homepage of each of their websites. They had also agreed to promote the meetings on Twitter, through any local patient networks that they have, and with their local Healthwatch bodies for dissemination through their channels.

**Question 2:** Then I would like to ask a question in connection with item 9/9.1 of the minutes of 18 October 2018 on the Special Allocation Scheme: - Have the 3 premises been secured?

*Answer:* It was clarified that it was two premises had been secured and the business case was to be considered in Part II of the Committee in December 2019.

**Question 3:** Next I would like to ask a question about item 9 on today's agenda (20 December 2018) i.e. the verbal report on "Declaring practices surplus to requirement". Why isn't there a written report? I do accept that there can be verbal updates on previously discussed matters. Also I appreciate that it is a meeting of the NCL PCCC, but nonetheless it is held in public. How can the public ask questions (as per the agenda) when the public has no idea of what will be verbally reported later? To me it would seem that the public will only find out about the report & any discussion when the minutes are produced for the next meeting.

**Answer:** *Mr Piesse clarified that the item on the agenda was intended to share the process about as and when space previously occupied by practices became surplus to requirements (not practices themselves) – i.e. the item was not to consider actual instances, only the process.*

**Question 4: Finally I would like to ask a question about item 18 - PCCC Risk Register on the agenda of 20 December 2018. Why is Brexit not on the register e.g. I presume that any resulting disruption to the supply of medicines would be within the Committee's remit?**

**Answer:** *The immediate short-term risk from a no-deal Brexit will accrue from supply chain problems, and the Department of Health has been working nationally with pharmaceutical companies and others to alleviate this risk (rather than the CCGs). Guidance from NHS England is expected to be published by the end of December 2019 setting out local preparations required for the no-deal scenario. Local hospitals had already taken steps, in particular to reassure the relevant workforce by agreeing to pay registration fees required (£68) to help retention of these valuable team members.*