

Jacey Practice PPG meeting 25th April 2018

12 members were present with apologies from another 3.

Guest speaker

There were a number of concerns/questions about the proposed formation of the Solihull Health Partnership and as the lead on the partnership for Jacey, Dr Patel was invited to discuss the proposals.

Solihull Healthcare Partnership will consist of 4 practices; Jacey, Grove Road, Haslucks, and Monkspath. The 4 practices all have/will have the same IT system which means that there will not be the need for high costs to merge the systems and between them they have 7 sites across south Solihull giving good coverage for 50,000+ patients.

There were 2 options being investigated for the Partnership. One being a full merger between the partners. This would leave one registration number between the practices and whilst there could be advantages at a later date, the practices felt that they were not ready for this at present. The other option recommended to them was for a Constituent Partnership whereby each practice is able to run its practice as it sees fit but is still able to join together to apply for larger contracts which would benefit the patients. The practices will also retain their own NHS registration numbers which means that if the merger does not work out as planned it will be much easier for Jacey to withdraw from the Partnership.

It is planned that the appointments system will remain unchanged with GPs and nurses will still be operating from the same locations but the practices will be taking advantage of learning from best practice.

Although the practices will all be using the same EMIS IT system if a patient needs to visit another partnership under the current arrangements this will double or treble the indemnity premiums which will not apply within the new partnership. It also means that instead of sending patients to hospital for certain tests it may be possible for patients to visit one of the practices where services may be run for example by the QE. This also means that the partnership can run more minor surgery and bid for services currently being covered by hospitals.

As far as the impact on staff is concerned the merger should give more opportunities for career advancement by enabling some to take on additional responsibilities. It will also be a more attractive environment for new GPs operating within a larger group.

The formation of the Partnership is still ongoing and will take several months to finalise but it is looking very positive.

PPG Network meeting

MC gave a report about the last meeting where a presentation was given by the Chair of Birmingham Local Pharmacy Committee (LPC), about *How Pharmacies can relieve pressure on GPs and A&E's*.

There was also a discussion about comparing GP practices and it was noted that practice comparison data (as rated by patients) is already available on <https://gp-patient.co.uk/>. When looking at this information Jacey Practice came out very favourably.

Coffee morning

KG gave a brief update to say that the next coffee morning will be on 9th June and posters will need to be prepared (MW) for display in the waiting rooms. MW is to contact the Stroke Association and the Carers Trust Solihull (formerly Solihull Carers Centre) to see if a representative can be on hand to answer any questions the patients may have.

Missed appointments

This is being monitored and suggestions have been passed to Dr Lad who is leading on this for Jacey. Further details will be given at a later meeting.

Family & Friends

This is being monitored and will be reported on at a later meeting when there is more time.

Date of next meeting

6:45pm on Wednesday 4th July at Jacey Practice Northbrook Road.