

LMC E-BULLETIN

SOMERSET LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

LMC COUNTY MEETING MAY—SUMMARY

ATOS Origins Additional Investigations Service

The start of the multi-site service providing imaging and physiological investigations across the west country has been delayed whilst further discussions take place between the provider and the DH. No new date has yet been announced.

Single Use Instruments

The LMC will be reviewing the position with practices in 3 months time to see whether it is worth setting up a purchasing consortium for Somerset.

Out of Hours Work

The LMC negotiators will be meeting with South West Ambulance to discuss terms and conditions and payment rates for out of hours work. Please contact us at lmcoffice@somerset.nhs.uk if there are particular items that you would like to have raised.

Racist Behaviour Towards Clinical Staff

We have been told of some examples of racist behaviour by patients towards doctors from ethnic minorities. The LMC strongly supports a zero tolerance policy towards such conduct. Please let us know if you or a colleague has been subject to deliberate racism so that we can identify how widespread it is, and organise whatever support would be helpful for clinicians subjected to it.

Premises Development

The PCT is in the process of consolidating the four lists of premises development plans from the old localities and will be producing a priority list, starting with those developments

which have already been signed off in writing. However, there is now no designated central budget allocation for premises so developments with other spending priorities. The LMC is asking two members (one GP and one PM) from practices with no premises problems to discuss priorities with the PCT.

Shared Payment Services

The LMC has conveyed to the PCT practices' dissatisfaction with the information accompanying payments from Shared Services. Payments are not properly identified, different sums are run together and total do not add up. We have emphasised that this sort of thing does nothing for the standing of the PCT, especially amongst practice managers.

Smoking Cessation LES

The PCT are proposing an LES based on the number of "quitters" counted at 4 weeks and 52 weeks. The LMC view is that this does not reflect the work practices do with smokers, and in particular the effort we make to concentrate of those at greatest health risk. We will continue to press for an LES based on the number of patients counselled and treated, and not on those who claim to have stopped smoking when questioned later.

Medical Performers List

The DH is presently consulting as to whether the list of doctors able to work as GPs should continue to be held locally by PCTs, or be transferred to a single national database. Please let us know if you have a view as the LMC will be writing to the PCT about this towards the end of the months

Meetings

Somerset Partnership	Thurs 24 May	LMC County Meeting	Thurs 7 June
Somerset Coast PMs	Fri 25 May	LMCs Conference	Thurs 14 & 15 June
T&S Trust	Wed 30 May	Somerset Coast PMs	Tuesday 19 June
County Executive Group	Mon 4 June	County PMs	Weds 27 June
Mendip PMs	Thurs 7 June		