

Lyme Bay medical Centre PPG meeting

Tuesday 8 September 4pm

Attendees: Samantha Pennington, Hazel Pennington, Joan Cool, David Hardman, Sally Holman, Andrew Kaye, Jim Volkman, Nicholas Daw
Elise Ripley Locality Engagement Lead, facilitated the meeting
Dr Forbes Watson, welcomed members and set the context
Sarah Hill, Practice Manager
Sally Cable Nurse Practitioner

Introductions

Forbes welcomed everyone to the meeting, Elise introduced herself and gave some information about her background and role in the locality supporting PPG group development. Members of the group introduced themselves and gave some details of their experience and interests.

What is a PPG

Elise explained the role of PPGs and talked about the work of The National Association for Patient Participation (NAPP) and the support that provide to patient groups. She went on to explain the local picture and how the 7 local practices are developing their patient groups.

Elise talked about the key drivers for setting up patient groups including the government commitment to placing patients at the heart of decision making about both their treatment and the design and delivery of local health services.

Elise acknowledged that it is not easy for practices to establish groups, the pressures on primary care are ever increasing and the national shortage of doctors coming to work in general practice together with an ageing population makes it meet the challenge of continuing to deliver high quality patient care. In Dorset it is acknowledged that we have for the most part high quality services that most people are satisfied with, this is underpinned by evidence from The Friends and Family test and other surveys.

Why set up a PPG

NAPP suggests that PPGs enhance communication between patients and services and that that they in addition they can also:
can act as critical friends,
gather insight about services
be ambassadors for the surgery
connect to the local community
support health promotion initiatives
suggest service improvements and support their implementation
review the results of the Friends and Family test

Elise gave some context for the value off PPGs for Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) including the Clinical Services Review (CSR) and how the PPG can play a significant role in the consultation process; she urged members to consider joining the CCG health Involvement Network (HIN) to ensure that they were well connected to work of the CCG and all the engagement opportunities being offered. In addition she explained the role of HealthWatch.

Next steps

The members were very keen to meet again in a month and agreed to meet on October 13th at 3pm. Elise encouraged them to consider taking on roles within the PPG, there would need to be a chair or leader for the group and somebody to note any actions, Elise acknowledged that it is

difficult to have formal roles and often individuals are reluctant to become minute takers but that it is important to have a record of meetings and agreed decisions/actions.