**Date:** 25 July 2019

**Venue:**  St George’s Medical Practice (SGMP) – staff room

**Attendees**

Liz Stewart (LS) - Chair Grahame Levett (GL)

Serena Rana-Rahman (SR) Jane Sinski (JS)

Frank Mills (FM) Marjorie Dunn (MD)

**Apologies**

Andy Jones (AJ) Val Johnston (VJ)

**Agenda used**

* Roll call / apologies
* Review minutes & any matters from previous meeting – All
* Repeat Prescription Ordering Systems (RPOS) – ES
* Primary Care Network (PCN) including advert for lay member - ES
* Feedback from Darlington Community Council – GL
* Arrange next PPG meeting & assign actions - All
* AOB

**Summary**

**Previous Minutes - National Diabetes Prevention Programme** – Patients with a ‘borderline’ HbA1c reading (picked up on health check at surgery) are offered the opportunity to enrol on this programme. GL shared his very positive experience of this. Final piece of feedback - GL expressed it felt as though the programme did not tie up very well at the end.

**Repeat Prescription Ordering System (RPOS**) – In an attempt to combat waste and improve patient safety, this CCG initiative will come into effect in September 2019. Pharmacies will no longer be able to order medicines on behalf of patients (there will be exceptions to this such as frail and housebound patients). Patients will be encouraged to use on-line systems or email. There is also the paper request slip which can be handed in to the surgery. This is the only change – once the medication has been ordered it can still be sent to the usual pharmacy for dispensing.

**Primary Care Networks (PCNs)** – From 1 July 2019 St George’s Medical Practice became part of Darlington Primary Care Network (PCN). The PCN is made up of the 11 member practices in the Darlington locality. The PCN will work to provide coordinated care for the 106000 patients we serve. It is hoped by working together we can improve access and be more proactive in providing the services which matter to the local population.

There is currently an advertisement on the Federation’s website for a non-executive lay person. This was discussed with the member s of the PPG but is also open to any applicant. Closing date is 23 August 2019 - <https://primaryhealthcaredarlington.co.uk/job-vacancies/>

**Feedback from Community Council** – GL attends bi-monthly meetings.

* Uptake of eConsultations was discussed again. The uptake at St George’s is steadily improving.
* Kooth – online support service for young people aged 11 to 18 was discussed.
* Darlington CCG is exploring the possibility of joining with South Tees and Hartlepool and Stockton CCG to form a single Tees Valley CCG. Consultation process is underway.

**Next PPG meeting** – Date to be arranged in Nov/Dec 2019.

**AOB** – ES explained Dr Ramos would be stepping down as a Partner in April 2020 with a view to leaving the practice at some point next year. The practice is currently advertising for a replacement. All present at the meeting were sorry to see her go. Also, long serving member of staff   
Robina Millard will be leaving the practice in August 2019 after 25 years’ service. Again, the group were sorry to hear this and all wished Robina well.

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