DEC 2014

Present: AT, LP, BE, LH

Foul weather so many apologies received after event.

Overview of year:- noting that some progress had been made in terms of service delivery – overview of Alcohol Support Worker.

Perennial problem of patients wasting appointments by booking and not turning up has shown no improvement though the practice continues to remove worst offenders. Noted that the practice manager often gets abusive phone calls from those removed who can pick up the phone to be abusive but not to cancel their appointments in a timely manner.

Main discussion related to visit re funding which the practice had in the week prior to PRG meeting. The practice along with many others will lose substantial funding and the question was which services are to be curtailed to live within budget and deliver most useful services to patients.

The additional services provided were discussed at some length as both are deemed to be important to meet local need.

The sexual health and contraception services were deemed slightly more immediate in their impact as it was recognised that with cuts elsewhere in area there was little other scope for patients to access similar/alternative services and there is no alternative private provision. The longer term implications for unwanted children and the limited provision of abortion services in Leeds, led to the conclusion that contraception must be maintained as a service. The nature and possible implications for the wider community in terms of sexual health provision were also considered important to preserve as far and as long as possible.

Weight management although popular with patients and the government machinery was seen as less immediate in its effects although in longer term its effects will be potentially serious. It was noted that there are other sources of advice/ support re weight loss in the wider community from Weight watchers to Ministry of food added to which individuals can more readily affect their own weight.

Tea and coffee plus mince pies having been earned by all present; were enjoyed.