

**SCG PCN PPG MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 1.30pm**

**Present:**

The Ridgeway Surgery PPG:

Cicely Thomas – Ridgeway PPG Chair  
Karen Evans  
Anne Wakefield  
Ian Campbell  
Joy Powell  
Ella Thompson – Practice/Business Manager

Northway Medical Centre PPG:

Anne Whitham- Northway PPG Chair  
Harvey Woolfe  
Russell Gardner – Practice Manager Northway and Lower Gornal

Lower Gornal Medical Practice PPG:

Chris Bate  
David Gill

Coseley Medical Practice PPG:

Peter Norton

Castle Meadows Surgery PPG:

Pamela Dugmore

**Not represented:**

The Greens Health Centre PPG  
Woodsetton Medical Practice PPG  
Bath Street Medical Centre PPG

**Apologies:**

Wendy Rigby – Ridgeway PPG  
Ashleigh Dodd – Secretary, Ridgeway

**Speakers:**

Emma Sharma – Digital Inequalities Lead – BCICB  
Laura Martin - Dudley Stroke Association  
Pippa Boulton – Information Governance Manager – BCICB

**Minutes taken by:** Ella Thompson, please note the meeting was predominantly given over to Speakers and the slides will be circulated with these minutes.

**1. Present and Apologies**

Noted as above

**2. Minutes of last PPG/PCN meeting**

Everyone confirmed they were happy with the minutes from previous meeting.

Joy Powell noted that her Apologies were given in advance of the meeting and therefore need to be noted.

### **3. Emma Sharma – Digital Inequalities Lead – BCICB**

See slides.

Agreed that all practices should consider setting up another NHS App day, whereby patients are booked to see an ICB IT Facilitator and helped to set up their NHS App access if they are struggling with this.

Emma also noted that British Sign Language introduction training is available to practices and the ICB will be advising practices about sessions when available book.

It was agreed to invite Emma to a future PCN PPG meeting to give a more detailed presentation.

**All PPGs are encouraged to review Emma's slides at their next PPG meetings and feedback any comments.**

### **4. Laura Martin - Dudley Stroke Association**

See slides

Laura noted that the DSA had been an independent charity since 1987 and became registered in 2003.

She noted that atrial fibrillation is a cause of strokes and is often undetected, she recommends everyone tests their own pulse to check the rhythm is stable. If more people were aware of AF this could reduce strokes by 66%.

Once a stroke patient is discharged from hospital the DSA visit them 4 times throughout the following 12 months (or more if needed).

Their service offer support in terms of rehab Monday-Friday, such as a crafts group, allotment group etc. They also offer online support sessions.

### **5. Pippa Boulton – Information Governance Manager – BCICB**

Pippa did not use slides for her presentation, but did provide slides from November 2022. However she notes that she believes that they are refreshing all the current documentation and information so there may be more coming out in the future, such as the ability to "read/write" to the Shared Care Record such as [ReSPECT](#) forms.

Link for further information:

<https://blackcountryics.org.uk/our-purpose/our-work/digital-technologies/one-health-and-care>

Pippa noted in the particular the following sections:

## What is a Shared Care Record?

An NHS shared care record is a way of bringing together all your separate records from the different organisations involved in your health and care. It allows health and social care professionals directly involved in your care to view relevant information about you which is held by other parts of the NHS and social care.

This means you only have to tell your story once, and our local health and care professionals have instant access to all the information they need to treat you in the fastest, safest and most effective way

## How does this benefit me?

The benefits to you include:

- not having to repeat your details every time you need care.
- better and potentially faster treatment as the professionals caring for you will be able to quickly see your records.
- not having to explain your social care support to health professionals.
- clinicians being able to see what medications you're taking, what you've taken in the past, and if you have any allergies – making your treatment safer.

## Can I say no to this?

Yes – you have the right to object at any time. We don't recommend this, as it could affect your care in the long term if information is not easily available when needed, for example if you are admitted to a hospital emergency department and are too unwell to answer questions about things like your allergies and medications.

Objecting will mean the services giving you care will be unable to view your records from other services.

However, the decision is entirely yours. If you do want to object, visit [your data, your rights](#).

[Go to Frequently Asked Questions](#) for any further queries.

Of note – access to records is strictly restricted to people involved in health and social care only, not DWP, pensions agencies or insurance companies etc.

ET notes that if the patients object to the Shared Care Record then a GP has to decide if it is in their best interests not to have their record shared and, only then, can a code be added to prevent sharing.

## **6. Ian Campbell - Newsletter**

Ian confirmed the PCN PPG Newsletter is now ready to be sent out – ET to email to all Practice Managers to send out.

## **7. Comments from Dr Girish**

Nil to report

## **8. Health and Wellbeing Event**

The Sedgley event is being organised by Julie Austin from Dudley Council and will take place on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March at St Andrews Church hall. SCG

**Thank you to everyone for attending.**

### **Important Future Dates:**

**PCN PPG – all at 1.30pm, Northway Medical Practice**

15<sup>th</sup> April

8<sup>th</sup> July

7<sup>th</sup> October

6 Jan 2026