**Lisa Baker – March Update**

ERYCCG – Things are moving at quite a pace in the East Riding, We have been busy ironing out the new contact with commissioners and will soon have the subcontracts ready for signing. I have been working with Zoe and Jane looking at the finer detail of optomanager to ensure that it accurately reflects our current pathways and look forward to being able to publish this on the website for everyone to have a look at. Our launch went really well on the 24th and we are very grateful for EYLOC for funding this event. There was a good turnout of contactors and some excellent questions raised. The website continues to be updated on a very regular basis and all correspondence and questions raised are available on there. <http://www.primary-eyecare-north-yorkshire-and-humber.org/>

The first of the refresher evenings went well and enabled new performers to be feel supported in providing the CORRS Service, many thanks to Greg Bailey and Jane Gray for facilitating this.

We are still awaiting confirmation of the changes which are currently being made to Quality in Optometry level 2, we will be seeking an undertaking from each contactor that they will complete this as soon as it is available but this should not prevent the delivery of the new contract. As soon as I have confirmation that this work has been completed I will write out to contractors and let them know they can get started. The changes have been made to bring the level 2 into line with the NHS standard contract.

Webstar Health – our IT subcontractor has contacted all practices intending to provide the CORRS scheme and asked for information to ensure that we can have all practices on the system in readiness for the new IT system to be started. If you haven’t returned your details please do so, as this will prevent any delay in the delivery of the service.

There has been a slight hold up with the subcontracts, these cannot be prepared until the contact with the company is signed off, but we feel it is important for us to have clarity as a company that the contact is explicit and understandable to all and so we are just waiting for one final amendment to be incorporated into it.

In this interim period the commissioners at ERY have asked us to continue to provide the service as is until the transition to the new IT platform.

We are hoping that in the next week the subcontracts will be completed and issued to each provider electronically, these can be signed online and submitted back to webstar health. Each provider will receive instructions as to how to sign the contract and as always you will be supported through the process.

Hull CCG – We had confirmation from Hull CCG that they had a total of 7 providers wishing to deliver the CORRS service for them unfortunately this only equates to 4 practices in Hull and large gaps in provision across other areas. EYLOC will be advising optometrists of the process if patients present at non contracted providers.

North Lincs CCG – I have not received any notification of developments within the North Lincs area however the Local Eye Health Network understand that they will be commissioning a CORRS scheme using the same specification as East Riding of Yorkshire, I will update as soon as I have clarification. I understand that the IOP scheme will also be carried over. I would be interested to know if anyone has had sight of these contracts.

The LEHN is also working with the pharmacy LPN chair to reinstate the free prescription service which was previously available to optometrists under the old service

NE lincs CCG – Mr Kotta the clinical lead for this area has now been replaced by Mr Rajan Bhojwani as clinical lead for NLAG. I understand that “Bonnie” is an advocate for optometry and hopefully this will mean that progress can be made in the locality. Sarah Dawson has been questioning the PEARS type schemes and so hopefully things will be moving in the right direction.

Hambleton and Richmondshire – I have once again sent an email asking them to share their commissioning intentions with us, they want the scheme to continue but haven’t come back to explain how this will be mobilised. I had an email on the 31st March stating that they will be rolling over the current contract although couldn’t give me the exact timescale and hope to be looking to commission via the single provider company model in the near future. I also understand that payments over due have been paid to providers and all should have received payment now. If this is not the case please let me know.

Scarborough CCG – have had several meetings with them now regarding the continuation and development of Primary eyecare in the area, they are keen to work with us which is great news.

A meeting last week with the CCG and Acute trust explored other potential opportunities to look at developing the scheme further by including post cataract follow ups. I am working with their senior commissioning manager to work this up.

Harrogate CCG– Harrogate also intend to roll over the contract and as Hambleton and Richmondshire they haven’t been able to give us a precise timescale for this, once again this was relayed by email on the 31st March 2014.

Vale of York CCG – Again I have had a successful meeting with the senior commissioning manager and procurement manager at York. They are keen to work with us as a single provider company and are working up the specifications to share with us. Having met with York their initial intention was to provider a waiver for tender and recommission the service via the company, however because the new service will not be “like for like” this can’t happen and so they have decided to roll over the contract as is for 6 months and then put an AQP out for interested parties to bid for.

Overdue payments in North Yorkshire (not Hambleton & Richmondshire) I have a meeting with the Choice office on the 2nd April 2014 to work through a plan to be able to ensure payments of overdue accounts, we need to develop a protocol to ensure firstly that payments are made and secondly that optometrists are able to reconcile these against the patients seen. I will update every one of the process as soon as possible.

To conclude it has been a pretty busy month but it has given me the opportunity to meet with many of the providers and put faces to names. Thank you for your support and hospitality.