



DEVON LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

GATEKEEPERS OF EYE CARE



Chairman's Introduction

Last week we had a great Devon LOC AGM which was encouraging to look back at the last 12 months but also good to look forward to the work of the LOC for the coming year. In the last 12 months we have seen new services commence across Devon with uplifts in fees for existing community optometry services, along with being shortlisted for LOC of the Year in the National AOP Awards.

I would like to thank all the Committee for their hard work over the past 12 months. The input of the committee has been crucial in the progress and decisions we have made. I would particularly like to thank Louise Frost and Jacqueline Sandford who have been instrumental in the decisions of the LOC over many years and have stood down from the LOC this year. I have the great pleasure in welcoming new members to the committee. I would like to welcome Nicola Burke and Josie Forte onto the committee. I look forward to working with Nicola, Josie and the rest of the committee to further develop Community Optometry Services across Devon.

May I also remind you of our [Devon LOC website](#) which has recently been launched. We hope the website will become your first port of call to access important local optical information.

Remember we are the Gatekeepers of Eyecare and the LOC are working hard on your behalf.

Charles Bill

Chairman, Devon LOC

PRIMARY EYECARE DEVON LTD

At the Devon LOC AGM we raised the Devon LOC Company—Primary Eyecare Devon Ltd.

The Devon Local Optical Committee has set in place Primary Eyecare Devon Ltd (PED) which is a fully functioning and accredited provider company, capable of bidding for contracts for the delivery of eyecare services across Devon.

PED is set up as a contracting vehicle for the network of local optical practices to be able to bid for and deliver services as a single provider.



We are currently in the process of negotiating with the two CCGs on additional eyecare services across the area. Using PED will both secure a fair fee for the service to practices and secure community eyecare services in Optometric Practice for the future.

For further information on PED click [here](#) to view our website.

DEVON LOC—NEW WEBSITE

We hope the Devon LOC website will become your first port of call to access local optical information.

The website includes all the information you would expect regarding the LOC and how it works PLUS:

- **News:** All the latest news affecting the LOC and the optical sector
- **Useful Links** to all relevant professional bodies (LOCSU, NHS, GOC, ABDO, AOP, etc.)
- **Useful information:** Lots of useful local information to refer to & download (referral proformas, Local GP details, NHS documents, best practice for referrals, NHS mail, commissioning policies, etc.)
- **Advertisements:** Use this to advertise for staff, to sell/buy equipment, or advertise services.
- **Training:** All available training available locally/regionally is listed.
- **Blog:** Up to date info affecting the optical sector.

We are always grateful for feedback & suggestions and information you may want added e.g. training/ CET events. Please contact Jonathan Drew with any thoughts or suggestions.

To view the website click [here](#)



ACTION FOR BLIND PEOPLE EARLY REACH

Employment Technology Money
Leisure Travel Home

96% of people who experience sight loss keep some of their sight.

If your vision can't be corrected by glasses alone, Action has lots of top tips: from advice on phones and magnifiers to emotional support and financial guidance.

Top tip
Stay independent with community travel support.



To find out more, give us a call on 01392 458060 or go to: Actn.it/exeterteam

We're here  **Action for blind people**
Part of RNIB Group

Registered Charity Number: 200212 (England and Wales)
10040322 (Scotland) 162796 (Northern Ireland)

People experiencing sight loss say they need information. Results of a recent study shows that nearly 90 per cent of people felt that they would have benefitted from receiving information before being fully diagnosed with an eye condition.

Action for Blind People, working in partnership with RNIB and other organisations, aims to ensure that by 2019 no-one diagnosed with sight loss will go through the process alone.

Action has designed a set of 'lifestyle' themed postcards and posters for opticians and GPs surgeries to inform people about services and guidance available to them.

If you would like to receive a stock of postcards and posters please contact Stephen Weymouth from Action for Blind People on stephen.weymouth@actionforblindpeople.org.uk containing your postal address.



For further information and an example poster please see the [LOC website](#).

Action for blind people
Part of **RNIB** Group



WOPEC is self taught training on the following areas: Cataract, Glaucoma, PEARS, Low Vision, Learning Disabilities.

To get your unique code for course access and instructions please email Jonathan Drew (jdrew@devonloc.co.uk) stating which codes you would like.

WOPEC now has fully online course and a YouTube Channel—click [here](#) to view more information on our website

The fifth National Eye Health Week (NEHW) will take place on 22 – 28 September 2014. Once again, eye care charities, organisations and health professionals from across the UK are joining together



NATIONAL EYE HEALTH WEEK
MONDAY 22 - SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2014
YOUR VISION MATTERS

to promote the importance of eye health and the need for regular sight tests for all.

For further information see the Devon LOC [website](#)

NHS EMAIL ADDRESSES

All Optician Practices across Devon can now have access to NHS Mail for referring patients to secondary care.

To apply for access to an nhs.net email account see the NHS Mail Protocol on the Devon LOC website—click [here](#)



TORBAY CATARACT STUDY

This study aims to test whether it is safe to abandon routine clinic follow-up. See full report on our [website](#)

BABO TASTER SESSION (SWEET)

SWEET is organising a CET (1 CET point) event on 18th July at The Exeter Court Hotel from BABO (British Association of Behavioural Optometry). For further details see our [website](#)

Devon Local Optical Committee

Deer Park Business Centre, Haldon Hill, Kennford, Exeter, EX6 7XX

T: 01392 834026 @: www.devonloc.co.uk



Scan to view
Website (QR)

BOOKING OPEN FOR NOC 2014

The NOC this year will take place on 23rd and 24th October 2014. For more details and to book a place at the conference click [here](#)

EYE CANCER PROTOCOL

The Royal College of Ophthalmologists and the College of Optometrists are supporting an initiative from The Childhood Eye Cancer Trust (CHECT) to help cut delays in diagnosis of childhood eye cancer. Click [here](#) for more information

Chair: Charles Bill (chair@devonloc.co.uk)

Vice Chair: Peter Noakes (vicechair@devonloc.co.uk)

Secretary: Fiona Hiscox (secretary@devonloc.co.uk)

Treasurer: Daniel Tabb (treasurer@devonloc.co.uk)

Committee Members:

Paul Bradford, Nicola Burke, Mark Bushby, Josie Forte, Max Halford, Eiohn Hayes, Ian Holten, and Nicki Pullen

Business Manager: Jonathan Drew (jdrew@devonloc.co.uk)