



# DEVON LOCAL OPTICAL COMMITTEE

GATEKEEPERS OF EYE CARE



## Chairman's Introduction

In Devon, we are meeting great financial challenges with New Devon CCG in the "success regime". To see more information on the success regime click [here](#).

We constantly are trying to push eyes up the agenda and sometimes this feels like we are pushing against a shut door. So I do understand the frustration that making change happen seems to be an impossible task.

However, change is possible and we only need to look at our colleagues across the country and locally within our own region to see eye care services commissioned. These services are all starting to provide data which shows that optometric practices are the right place for these services to be provided. Gathering this data from across the country is key to pushing open these doors. Armed with this information we can prove that patients can be seen at the right place, at the right time for them and at the right price..... The Optometric Practice.

Charles Bill,  
Chairman

## CLINICAL COUNCIL FOR EYE HEALTH COMMISSIONING

### CLINICAL COUNCIL FOR EYE HEALTH COMMISSIONING

The Clinical Council for Eye Health Commissioning (CCEHC) acts as the national clinical voice for eye health in England, advising commissioners, providers, clinicians and policy-makers in health, social care and public health on all matters related to improving the eye health of their populations.



The CCEHC is currently chaired by David Parkins, President of the College of Optometrists.

This month the CCEHC has sent letters and supporting documents to all Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), NHS England, Public Health, Ophthalmology Departments, and Local Eye Health Networks.

The CCEHC has sent a framework and are looking for CCGs to pilot the portfolio across England. They have also asked CCGs to include the indicators in future contracts with providers.

To see the information which has been sent to CCGs across England click [here](#)



[www.devonloc.co.uk](http://www.devonloc.co.uk)



The Devon LOC CET Study Day will take place this year at Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre in Buckfaskleigh.

The cost of the CET event is £60

Topics include: What's New in Visual Fields, Binocular Vision (In Primary & Secondary Care), Corneal/Anterior Segment Update, Myopia Control, plus an option between: Communication Workshop or Peer Review.

For booking form and more information click [here](#) (Optometrist, Therapeutic, DO and CLO points have been applied relevant to the topics)



## Optima Low Vision Services— Acceptance and exclusion criteria

Optima Low Vision Services are the NHS contractor providing direct low vision services to people of the South West of England.

Optima Low Vision Services Ltd is the premier distributor of low-vision aids in the UK.

Optima have recently had some clarification on those who are eligible to attend the low vision service in Devon (excluding Torbay and Southern / Plymouth) and what are the criteria:

All patients must have a visual impairment previously diagnosed by an Ophthalmologist, patients do not need to be registered as Visually Impaired or Severely Visually Impaired.

Patients referred must be resident in Devon or a patient of a Devon based GP.

All patients meeting the above criteria may be referred by an:

- Ophthalmologist
- GP
- Optometrist
- Rehabilitation Officer or Specialist Teacher

For more information contact: [nickc@optimalowvision.co.uk](mailto:nickc@optimalowvision.co.uk)

## CONTINUOUS EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND EVENTS



The next local CET session in Devon will be the AOP Peer Review Roadshow at the Gipsy Hill Hotel (Exeter) on 22nd September 2015. The event starts at 6.15pm with a buffet and networking followed by the Peer Review session at 7pm. The event will finish by 9pm.

For further information and booking details click [here](#)

For a list of forthcoming local and national CET Events and conferences see our website—click [here](#)

If there are any other events you are aware of and you would like to let your colleagues know please let Jonathan Drew know.



Don't forget that Devon LOC are active on Twitter—follow us to see LOC activities and national optical updates: @devonloc1

**Devon Local Optical Committee:** Representing, supporting and communicating with local contractors and performers to ensure, as gatekeepers of eyecare, effective delivery of Ophthalmic Services across the whole of Devon.

### **Devon Local Optical Committee**

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

T: 01392 834026 @: [www.devonloc.co.uk](http://www.devonloc.co.uk)



Scan to view  
Website (QR)



# Devon in Sight

Your local sight loss charity

## Relaunch of the Topsham Devon in Sight Resource Centre



Devon in Sight is a local charity providing a range of practical help and advice to people affected by sight loss, with the aim of promoting independence, well-being and choice.

With their celebration of 90 years, Devon in Sight held an event on 22nd July 2015 to officially re-launch their resource centre in Topsham. This was officially opened by Michael Caines MBE, Head Chef of Gidleigh Park in Devon.



It was also announced on the day that the Exeter Foundation (The Chiefs Charity for Supporting local community) has chosen Devon in Sight as one of its charities for the 2015/16 season

<http://devoninsight.org.uk/>

## **DEVON REFERRAL PROCESS AND CRITERIA**

One referral process is in place across Devon for referrals to the 4 main hospital sites (Plymouth Hospitals Trust, RD&E, North Devon District Hospital and Torbay Hospital)

All routine referrals are managed by the Devon Referral Support Services—part of NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group.

Just a reminder that all referral guidelines and forms are on our website: click [here](#)

The guidelines include urgent and emergency conditions and the policy for low value procedure.



## **NHS MAIL FOR PATIENT REFERRALS**

All practices across Devon are able to sign up to NHS Mail and use for all routine referrals through Devon Referral Support Services.

An example email address would be [practicename@nhs.net](mailto:practicename@nhs.net)

To see further information on this and the process to sign up for NHS Mail please click [here](#)

If you require any further information please contact Jonathan

**Local vacancies are on the Devon LOC website here:**  
<http://www.devonloc.co.uk/advertisements>

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

Vice Chair: Max Halford ([max@devonloc.co.uk](mailto:max@devonloc.co.uk))

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

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

### **Committee Members:**

Nicola Burke, Mark Bushby, Josie Forte, Eiohn Hayes, Ian Holten, Greg Mann, Peter Noakes and Nicki Pullen

**Business Manager: Jonathan Drew** ([jdrew@devonloc.co.uk](mailto:jdrew@devonloc.co.uk))