

**Minutes of the meeting of the Pharmacy Practice Committee (PPC) held on Monday
6th May 2024 at 14:00 hrs via MS Teams**

The composition of the PPC at this meeting was:

Chair: Mr Martin Connor

Present: **Lay Members Appointed by NHS Lothian**

Mr Michael Ash

Ms Eleanor Blair

Mr Brian McGregor

1. NAP Chairman's Appeal decision on application by Mr Mohammed Yaseen Yousef.

1.1 The NAP Chairman ruled in the applicant's favour in terms of Grounds of Appeal 3 in relation to the consideration of the Pharmaceutical Care Services Plan and has remitted it back to the committee for reconsideration.

Although not allowing Grounds of Appeal 4,5 and 6 the NAP Chairman asked the committee to clarify these matters for the appellant for the sake of completeness. These relate to the completeness of the minutes:

- The applicant felt his summing up was not accurately reflected.
- The failure to disclose information gathered as part of the site visit.
- The notification of the service plan not being placed in social media sites as described.

2. Meeting of PPC Chair and Lay Members

2.1 The panel first discussed the matter of the Pharmaceutical Care Services Plan and agreed it was regrettable that it had not been acknowledged at the original hearing. The panel members all stated that they had referenced the plan in their pre-hearing considerations as this was part of their normal routine in preparing for a hearing.

2.2 A discussion then took place on the plan in relation to the applicant's proposed neighbourhood. The panel noted that the applicant made some good points about '20-minute neighbourhoods' but overall the panel felt that the plan did not point to any issues of inadequacy in the proposed neighbourhood.

Therefore, the panel believed that a discussion of the plan at the original hearing would not have changed the decision that the panel arrived at.

- 2.3 The panel then discussed the issues for clarification.
- 2.4 The panel noted that the applicant felt that the minute did not reflect his summing up although the general feeling of the panel was that the minute had reflected the applicant's main points. The point was also made that at the time of the private hearing which took place immediately after the public session, the public minute is not available to the committee so would have no bearing on the discussions. The deliberations in the private session are driven by the committee's own notes and reflections on the evidence they have heard that day.
- 2.5 The panel discussed the issue of site visits. The panel were unanimous in their view that site visits would not normally be the subject of a separate discussion during a hearing. All members agreed that site visits were used along with the submissions to the hearing to get a fuller picture of the needs of the area. In particular they were useful in assessing whether the neighbourhood described would be considered a neighbourhood under the statutory test; whether issues flagged in the CAR were obvious during visits and whether other issues were apparent which could affect adequacy. It was noted that several questions in the public hearing were because of observations during site visits.
- 2.6 The panel had received information from NHS Lothian that the mentions of social media in the minutes was indeed wrong. Although this is regrettable NHS Lothian also informed the panel that the website and newspaper insertions required by the regulations had been adhered to and had therefore fulfilled their statutory duty.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 **The committee concluded that after reconsideration of the Pharmaceutical Care Services Plan that there was no evidence provided to demonstrate any inadequacy of the existing pharmaceutical services to the defined Neighbourhood.**
- 3.2 Accordingly the decision of the committee was unanimous that the original decision to reject the application was correct.



Signed by the Chair

Date 6 May 2024