**Meeting with Dr Fionna Moore (FM) – CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**June 18th 2015 DRAFT**

**Attendance: Margaret Luce, Leslie Robertson, Kathy West, Malcolm Alexander, Joseph Healy, Angela Cross Durrant.**

**Key Points**

1. **Assault in Peckham – death of baby.**

Media stories suggested that LAS had failed to attend. Following long delay, police cancelled request to LAS. Will be fully instigated in Serious Incident process. FM will feed back outcome to Forum.

1. **Paramedic Qualifications**

The review of the exam governance has demonstrated some serious errors in the system, e.g. reuse of the same exam papers for 10 years. Some paramedics had marks below the pass level and will need to take part in a rolling refresher programme to ensure their qualification was genuine. The HCPC (Health Care Professions Council) is involved. The exam manager Pearson’s has had their contract terminated. A meeting of the Academy will take place on July 2nd to review progress.

1. **Community First Responder (CFR)**

We discussed the role of community responders in attending to cat C1 and C2 calls. The LAS wants CFRs to only attend Cat A calls and provide CPR before paramedics arrive. Fionna said that LAS ‘ring back’ system reassures C1 and C2 patient by giving them advice probable arrival time for ambulance. If the patient deteriorates they can be reprioritised and seen more quickly. We emphasized the longs for patients categorised as C1 and C2 many of whom are elderly and frail and may have fallen.

1. **Mental Health Training –**

We expressed concern about the restraint techniques used in the Safety in Mind video. Fionna said that the positive message in the video was the intersectoral collaboration in the interests of the patients. Other points raised by Fionna were:

* Mental health training is a priority and there is still a way to go to ensure that all staff are adequately trained. 65% of staff are adequately trained.
* The LAS Clinical Hub now has 3 mental health nurses and 3 more will be employed.
* The mental health charity – Hear Us – are actively involved in the face to face training of paramedics.
* MH concordant seeks to ensure that s136 patient are taken to a place of safety within 30 minutes.
* A restraint policy is going to the LAS – Executive Management Team to be finalised. Paramedics are not trained in restraint.
* We requested a copy of the Restraint Policy for review by the Forum.
* The Mental Health Committee of the LAS will develop and action plan for the care of people with mental health problems and this will involve service users.

**Staff Recruitment**

* Paramedic recruitment needs to increase to about 500 each year (from 150/yr). 225 have applied in 2015. Getting C licenses is a strumbling block for some who are coming to the UK.
* The Peake report called for all paramedics to quality through a 3 year BSc degree
* More funding is required from Commissioners for more university places.
* LAS is recruiting from Australia and New Zealand, whilst other AS are recruiting from Poland and Bulgaria.
* Full recruitment is expected by March 31st 2016.
* Many more employers