

Avon LOC AGM
Treasurer's Report
30/03/2022

I continued the treasurer's role from January 2021 to today.

My remit was to manage the incomes and expenses of the Avon LOC.
The figures in the accounts cover activity for the period 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021.

Avon LOC income for the period was £32,385, this was all from the statutory levy. The levy is deducted by NHS England as a percentage from the NHS GOS sight test fee prior to payment to GOS contractors. The Avon LOC proportion of the statutory levy remained at 0.6%.

The proportion of statutory levy paid to continue our membership of LOCSU (LOC Support Unit) remained at 0.5%.

Expenditure by Avon LOC was £11,142 which is less than previous years.

Compared to last year:

There was no National Optometric Conference in 2021.

Expenditure on our website was less.

Expenditure on CET was less because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year LOC work was carried out by individual committee members and our administration secretary Carolyn Hudd. Support from LOCSU (LOC Support Unit) was provided as part of our continued LOCSU membership.

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic the committee agreed to continue to keep their hourly rate at the reduced rate of £45 agreed in 2020.

This combined with meetings being online rather than face to face resulted in significantly lower expenditure than previous years. As a committee we continued to build and maintain strong relationships with all eyecare organisations working in our area.

Committee member attendance at LOC committee meetings is funded which is in line with the practices of other LOCs in England.

In my view the time costs invoiced by the committee members in the last year has been significantly less than they could have legitimately claimed.

The reduction in LOC expenditure has produced an increased surplus of LOC funds. I recommended to the committee that the Avon LOC proportion of the statutory levy (0.6%) should be suspended until such a time that it needs to be reintroduced. This action has been agreed and NHSE have been instructed to implement it.

The voluntary levy has traditionally been collected by NHSE, paid to the LOC who then pass it on in full to The Central Optical Fund <https://www.centralfund.org.uk/> This arrangement finished in 2021 and is replaced by direct payment of voluntary levy by NHSE to The Central Optical Fund.

I would like to thank Ruth Davies for auditing the accounts and recommend the AGM appoints her to audit next year's accounts.

I am happy to answer any questions you have either now or at any time throughout the year. I can be contacted by email at treasurer@avonloc.co.uk

Andrew Pinn