

Burwash Report 2013/2014

This paper aims to provide shareholders with an overview of Burwash Medical Centre financial performance for 2013/14. This paper needs to be read in conjunction with the full accounts for Burwash Medical Centre for 28th May 2013 – 31st March 2014, which are included with the Annual General Meeting papers.

Introduction

In May 2013, some of the BICS Directors entered into partnership in the Burwash Road surgery, then renamed as Burwash Medical Centre. This new development was part of our strategy at BICS to support local General Practice; to demonstrate that developing a new model of delivery of general practice in the city was possible in a context of declining resources. Our mutual intention in delivering primary care services to the local community in Hangleton was to ensure the highest quality primary care services, with the best access and right skills to meet the patients' needs.

By supporting this practice, BICS was supporting a community that has been served by a single handed GP practice for many years, which had struggled as demand and quality standards have increased. This support required a one off investment of £100K and this was BICS' way of ensuring the resilience of General Practice for this community.

Income and Expenditure

The grant from BICS was used to offset the difference between the income that the practice was able to generate through its GMS contract and the expenditure required to:

1. make the practice safe
2. get it properly back on its feet / maximising its income
3. start to experiment with new models of service delivery

The first major change implemented was to move to 15 minute appointments – this was because very many people were presenting with multiple and complex needs. In addition, there were concerns regarding prescribing safety and every patient was given a medication review when they attended. Clinician costs included:

GP Locums	£62,160
Salaried GPs	£32,357
Nurse Practitioner	£26,524
Practice Nurse/HCA	£18,021
TOTAL	£139,062

(the practice was run entirely on locums for 2 months while we recruited salaried GPs)

Also, as part of the “making safe” process, the grant was also used to purchase vital clinical equipment such as an examination couch, defibrillator, pharmacy fridge and 2 diagnostic sets. Some basic IT/office equipment such as an office chair, printer and fax machine was also needed.

Clinical equipment	£4,905
IT/office equipment	£1,678
TOTAL	£6,583

Legal costs (at £13,663) were higher than expected. This was, in part due to the retiring Partner changing his mind about wanting to remain as landlord and as the owner of the practice building.

As the year progressed, it became clear that with a list of less than 2,000 patients, Burwash Road was not financially viable and would not be able to survive in its current form.

Portslade County Clinic

In August 2013, BICS was approached by the Partners at Portslade County Clinic (PCC) who had also become aware that small practices were likely to find it increasingly difficult to provide services and enable cost efficiencies in the current climate of general practice and wanted to explore making changes to their existing partnership. From September 2013, BICS started to provide PCC with a book keeping/pay roll service (charged at cost +15%). In December 2013, the PCC partnership changed to include 4 BICS Directors and Dr Fazila Baiyat. As with Burwash, the BICS Directors as Partners took no share of any profit generated. BICS’ share of profit from PCC 2013/14 was represented in the accounts as a “management charge” and paid to BICS.

Payroll services	£4,820
Share of profit/”management charge”	£15,086
TOTAL	£19,906

This payment is being used to partially reimburse BICS for the grant given to Burwash.

Benfield Valley Healthcare Hub

In April 2014, Burwash Medical Centre and Portslade County Clinic merged to become 1 practice, renamed Benfield Valley Healthcare Hub (BVHH). BICS and BVHH continue to have a close working relationship and BICS continues to provide payroll/book keeping services. In addition, any future share of profit from BVHH will be used to reimburse BICS over the next 4 years.