

## PLT FAQ

Q: What is CHEC?

A: A not-for-profit social enterprise registered as a company limited by guarantee with Company's House. Company registration number 5097239

Q: What does this actually mean?

A: The government's official definition of social enterprise, contained within its 'Strategy for Success' document published in 2002 states that: "A social enterprise is a business with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are principally reinvested for that purpose in the business or in the community, rather than being driven by the need to maximise profit for shareholders and owners."

Q: What does CHEC do?

A: CHEC uses education to support the development of people in primary healthcare to improve services for patients. We offer courses and events designed to meet your learning needs. We have been meeting primary care's educational needs in the East Midlands since 2004.

Q: Who work within CHEC?

A: There are 3 directors:  
Professor Mike Pringle, Company Chairman & Education Director  
Ms Julie Reid, Company Secretary  
Dr Lisa Terrill, GP

There are 3 permanent members of staff:

Mrs Jacqui Smith, Manager  
Ms Rosie Aird, Events Coordinator  
Ms Judith Baron, Administrator

There are 2 Consultants:

Mrs Diana Kirk, Practice Management Consultant  
Dr Rashbal Ghattoara, GP Education (Appraisal)

Q: What are the terms of the PLT contract?

A: CHEC were awarded a 2-year contract by Nottinghamshire County tPCT to manage the delivery of PLT across the county. The contract commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007 and completes on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

Q: What is the funding used for?

A: The funding principally covers salaries, overheads and monitoring within CHEC for delivery of the PLT contract – it does not cover the cost of the events (except for a small contribution to the five non-clinical events).

Q: Why use pharmaceutical sponsorship?

A: As mentioned previously other than a small contribution to non-clinical events no funding is available. Although costs vary between clusters depending on venue, speakers, equipment and catering, the average cost for a clinical event is £3500. The average cost for a non-clinical event is £5000. Sponsors are charged £500 per stand to attend the clinical events but this also has to subsidise the non-clinical events for which there is limited or no sponsorship. A maximum of 9 sponsors would be used. (Please refer to CHEC's Code of Practice for sponsors)

Q: How are venues determined?

A: Venues are sourced based on cluster recommendations. In the quest to deliver high quality education with choice of topics, CHEC source venues based on the following principles:

- Central to the cluster where possible
- 4 star or less with no leisure connections (against ABPI rules for sponsors)
- Large room available to accommodate numbers required
- Multiple breakout rooms available
- Good car parking
- Separate room for sponsors (cannot be in a foyer where general public circulate)
- Reasonable buffet menu

Q: How are topics determined?

A: Initially each cluster lead was asked to provide a list of top 10 topics to inform the programme. For the majority, a topic was selected from this list for the 1<sup>st</sup> event, plus, in addition, an overview of the Mental Capacity Act was included to assist practices in meeting their obligations for all staff members to access this mandatory training. In some circumstances speakers were not available at short notice and a substitute topic chosen usually following an e-mail to practices requesting alternatives.

Subsequently topics have been discussed at each event to inform future programme. Joint cluster events will focus more on national policy changes/initiatives and PCT Directors are also invited to give you the opportunity to ask questions.

Q: Will we have the opportunity to influence the timetable for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year?

A: Yes, a period of consultation will commence in January 2008. The reverse side of the evaluation sheet in delegate packs will have a series of questions to gauge your views on the future programme. You will be asked your opinion on everything from venues, topics, use of sponsors etc.

Q: Can the joint events be on Thursdays not Wednesdays for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Year?

A: This request will be taken into account during the consultation period.