

West Sussex Practice Managers Association

Supporting our Practice Manager colleagues across West Sussex

Good morning

First of all I would like to introduce myself – I am Liz Coulthard, patron of West Sussex Practice Managers Association.

I feel very privileged to be wheeled out again to open proceedings and I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all.

There are approximately 130 participants here today and I would like to express my gratitude to the presence of our chair, keynote speakers, committee, delegates, guests and exhibitors, so a busy environment.

We very much appreciate you taking time out for our conference when you are faced with such intense and complex workloads in your roles as practice managers.

This conference provides an invaluable opportunity to network and to make contact with other practices and our supporters.

Since our conference in June last year your committee have worked very carefully to spend the budget awarded to the association from the West Sussex clinical commissioning groups with the aim to provide a forum for supporting practice managers and ensuring provision of relevant training and education and this mission has definitely been accomplished and they are extremely grateful to the West Sussex CCGS for awarding a further budget for the coming year which is vital to the association continuing, so many thanks to our CCGS and to your committee.

Special thanks today to our sponsors, we truly value your support. We have 27 stands, a lot of new companies this year which will be of interest to you and I earnestly request that you visit their stands, they have travelled long distances to be with us and set up at 7.30am this morning, so they very much deserve that hello from you.

Now it is that time when I pass over to our chair of the day, Dr Simon Dean. He is a GP and clinical director with the Horsham & Mid-Sussex CCG where he has responsibility for GP engagement and patient and public engagement. He was a partner at Park Surgery, Horsham until 6 months ago but has left to spend more time with his CCG.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming our chair, Dr Simon Dean.