

Wendy Newsom BSc (Hons) MCOptom

I Graduated from Aston University in 1983

I spent the next 20 years in Community Optometry Practice, the majority of which was as a partner in a small independent group in Gloucestershire.

During this time I became interested in co-management of eye disease and took 8 post-graduate modules in Low Vision, Cataract, Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma, Research Statistics and 3 in Therapeutics.

In 1999 I moved to Cambridgeshire and in 2000 I joined Cambridgeshire LOC.

In 2002 I began my hospital optometry career at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital in Huntingdon.

In 2007 I was elected as Chair of Cambs LOC

At Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, I am the lead coordinator for our scheme with optometrists for community pre and post- op cataract assessment and direct referral.

I am the lead optometrist for the Cambridgeshire community optometrist based Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Scheme. This involves secondary and arbitration grading of over 4,000 sets of images per year, training of our community optometrist graders and QA and audit of the scheme.

I triage all the referral letters coming into the eye dept. and have worked closely with community optometrists and Cambridgeshire LOC to introduce an electronic referral form. This is sent directly to the eye dept. without the need to go via the GP.

I work as part of the glaucoma team, undertaking glaucoma clinics and assist in the running of our community optometrist glaucoma scheme called CHANGES

I undertake a weekly Low Vision clinic

I have been involved in the setting up of a, hospital based, optometrist led emergency eye care clinic and am in the process of looking into optometrist involvement in a dedicated AMD/ Lucentis clinic at Hinchingsbrooke.

I work closely with all Hinchingsbrooke ophthalmologists and have good links to Moorfields Eye Hospital through Bedford Eye dept.