



# **“Today, the LMC has issued a report demonstrating that the root cause of the parlous state of general practice is due to a decade of underinvestment and poor government policies” says LLRLMC**

**Publication date: 24 April 2023**

## **Immediate Release**

Today the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Local Medical Committee (LLRLMC)(1) have issued a seminal report about the dire state of local general practice.

For the past few years LLRLMC have been highlighting the perilous state of general practice, and that without a change there will not be a universal NHS general practice service within the next decade. The response has been incredulity from some and a tone-deaf government and other senior politicians who refuse to accept the truth and continue to scapegoat GPs.

Today we issue a report giving the undeniable facts about general practice in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland which are created from the NHS and government’s own information.

The findings are shocking. To provide a safe, efficient service 56 GPs per 100,000 population are needed but the reality in LLR, is that we now only have 41 (down from 42 in only the past one year). We need 175 additional GPs. In effect 315,000 people in LLR do not have access to a safe general practice service. This represents 1 in 4 of the population.

General practice is the only part of the NHS which has delivered consistently more appointments than compared to before the pandemic. They are higher than ever and up 7.7%. Every day in LLR there are now 18,900 appointments in general practices. General practice continues to provide the vast majority of healthcare in the NHS – often quoted as 90%.

Today LLRLMC has provided every general practice with posters to tell their patients the facts. The public deserve to know that practices are working harder than ever but the reason why they cannot get appointments is due to a decade of poor government policies and lack of support for the NHS.

Dr Grant Ingrams (GP, Managing Partner at Oakmeadow Surgery, Glenfield, and Executive Chair of LLRLMC) said “I commend everyone to read our report. GPs used to be proud of the service general practice provided. Too often GPs are now ashamed that, due to political dogma, we are unable to provide the service our patients need and deserve. I am shocked that in Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland in effect 1 in 4 people do not have access to a safe GP service.”

“I am proud of my general practice colleagues who continue to provide a high-quality service to patients despite the impossible task they are given to do. GP colleagues continue to go the extra mile providing an increased number of general practice appointments despite fewer and fewer GPs.”

“I am appalled that the only response of this government is to impose a revised contract which is impossible for most practices to deliver and will take more GPs away from providing the services their patients need.”

“Next month the LLRLMC is hosting a summit of local MPs, local authorities, and decision makers in the NHS to discuss our findings and work with us to identify possible solutions. We hope the public will ensure their elected representatives attend as it could be the last chance saloon for a universal NHS general practice service in LLR.”

Dr Ingrams concluded “Due to a decade of disinvestment, and being inappropriately pilloried by parts of the media, general practice in LLR is in a crisis. The report we have issued today demonstrates that the root cause is not due to GPs but due to underinvestment and ill-conceived government policies.”

Ends

**Further Information:**

Dr Grant Ingrams, LLRLMC Executive Chair and Press Officer 07973 630838,  
grant.ingrams@llrlmc.co.uk

#### Notes to Editors:

- 1) The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Local Medical Committee is an elected representative body with a statutory function to represent NHS GPs in this area.
- 2) Data provided by NHS Digital
- 3) Report attached. Posters and other media available on request.

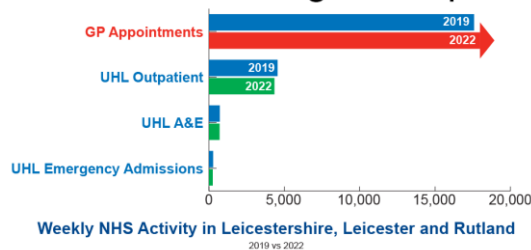
### 1 in 4 people do not have safe access to a GP

in Leicestershire, Leicester, and Rutland

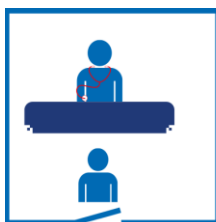


We need your support. Please be patient

### The vast majority of NHS healthcare starts and finishes in general practice



We need your support. Please be patient



There are now **less than 41 GPs per 100,000 people** in Leicestershire, Leicester, and Rutland.

The ratio to provide a safe service is **56 per 100,000 people.**



We need your support. Please be patient