



14 December 2023

To All General Practitioners and Practice Managers, Leicestershire, Leicester, and Rutland

Dear Colleagues

LLRLMC NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023

Welcome to our December Newsletter which includes feedback from our LMC Board meeting held on 13 December 2023, and other current issues. There are links to three surveys. Although I appreciate that this is a busy time, it is important that the view of general practice is in the forefront in the GP contract for 2024/25, and for the new contract proposed from 2025/26.

Topics in this newsletter:

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As always if you have any comments, questions, or suggestions please [contact the LMC](#)

LMC MEETING DECEMBER 2023

As usual the 'weightier' agenda items are discussed individually below.

Richard Mitchell (Chief Executive Officer UHL) attended the meeting. We raised with him various issues which he will take back, including a suggestion of a database of direct phone numbers for clinical staff (consultants, registrars etc) made available to GPs.

Richard is keen to continue to develop a close relationship with the LMC which will benefit the hospital, GPs, and our mutual patients.

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UNDERFUNDED SERVICES/NOTICE TO QUIT

Following our work on this and the offer to act to hold Notices to Quit on behalf of practices, so far, we have received notices from most practices whose combined registered population is 855,629 representing 71% of the total LLR registered population.

The three services that we are recommending practices consider giving notice not to provide from 1st April 2024 are:

- Phlebotomy
- Minor Surgery
- Wound care

If your practice has still not decided there is still time to be included in this process. Please [contact the LMC](#). The LMC held a very well attended webinar, which can be listened to [here](#).

We continue in productive discussions with the ICB and hope that we will be able to reach agreement on these issues very soon.

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DESTROYING LLOYD GEORGE ENVELOPES/LEGACY MANUAL RECORDS

Practices have been digitising records for many years, although the legacy manual record (Lloyd George envelope) has had to be kept.

After many years deliberation, the DHSC has now agreed that it is appropriate and lawful for the manual record to be destroyed, once digitised. The statement can be read [here](#). Please note that if shredding the manual record, the company doing this should provide you with a certificate of destruction.

More information regarding digitisation of records can be found [here](#), and more detailed information including a FAQs can be [read here](#) (FutureNHS login required).

The long-term plan is for a national scheme to bulk digitise and shred the legacy manual records. If a practice needs to do this more quickly, then the guidance is that this should be funded locally via the ICB.

In the interim, practices could consider:

- 1) Not creating a Lloyd George envelop for new babies or patients who are registering with an NHS practice for the first time.
- 2) Scanning and shredding legacy manual records where there is minimal content.

Please note that in the exceptional circumstance when the GP2GP transfer of a record has failed, the previous GP is required to printout the complete record and forward to the practice the patient has now registered with.

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DHSC/GOVERNMENT SURVEY ABOUT QOF AND IIF

The government has started a survey around the future of incentive schemes in general practice (QOF and IIF). The survey closes on 7 March 2024. Please encourage all GPs, PMs, Practice Nurses, Pharmacists, and all other members of your practice staff to respond to ensure that practices' views are the majority.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/role-of-incentive-schemes-in-general-practice/role-of-incentive-schemes-in-general-practice>

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GPC SURVEY OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

The General Practitioners Committee of the BMA a new GP contract from 2025/26. It does take 10-20 minutes to complete, so set yourself up with a cuppa tea and a hobnob before starting, but it is important that the BMA knows the views of a wide range of GPs. To complete use the QR code below or [click here](#).

The GPC want to hear from all qualified GPs in England, including GP registrars at ST3 and above, and including non-BMA members. Please share amongst your colleagues and groups to ensure the response is as large as possible.



**GENERAL PRACTICE IN ENGLAND
IS AT A WATERSHED MOMENT.
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE WHAT
YOU THINK ABOUT HOW GPs WORK AND
HOW WE DELIVER PATIENT CARE.**

FUTURE OF GENERAL PRACTICE

GPC England is surveying ALL GPs to determine a united vision rooted in common ground with our patients, and common sense with our commissioners.

This is your opportunity to shape our vision. We need to hear your thoughts on your current contract and what you want to see from it in the future. Your input will play an important role in shaping the future of general practice.



Please scan the QR code to have your say



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GPC SURVEY OF PRACTICE MANAGERS.

With the 2024/25 negotiations ongoing – the GPC are asking all practice managers in England to complete the [GPC England's finance survey](#). This is your opportunity to demonstrate the increasing impact of inflation and rising costs on English GP practices over the past 12 months. It is vital for the GPC to hear about the challenges practices face with practice finances and what we all need to help support the service we provide.

You will need your practice's set of GP accounts for 2021/22 and 2022/23, as well as expenditure data for the months of October 2022 and October 2023 together with information on how many staff the practice employs. The [survey](#) should take 20-30 minutes to complete and closes midnight, 3 January 2024. Please send any other feedback to gpsurvey@bma.org.uk

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REQUESTS FROM UKHSA

From time-to-time practices will be asked by UKHSA to assist in vaccinations, investigations or prescribing prescriptions for families or residents in a hostel or home. These are not included in the GP core contract.

Some services are commissioned from DHU, but otherwise the ICB will pay a practice on a one-off basis.

If you receive a request, please contact the ICB as soon as possible, and they will either arrange DHU to provide the service or discuss with your practice about funding you to do it.

If the request is urgent, please do not wait for a reply from the ICB who have undertaken that in this situation that will fund the service in retrospect.

Any queries please [contact the LMC](#).

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OLIVER MCGOWAN TRAINING.

The LMC continues to receive queries regarding this training. It is mandatory for all CQC registered organisations to ensure that staff undergo appropriate training on Learning Disability and Autism.

It is not mandatory to require staff to undergo the specific Oliver McGowan Training package, but if not, CQC will expect to see evidence that staff have completed an equivalent training package.

There are 2 tiers. GPs and other clinical staff will need to complete Tier 2 training, which includes both online training and a full-day face-to-face training. The online training is available via [eLearning for healthcare](#).

The LMC is concerned regarding the impact this training will have on GP appointments and patient access. We estimate this training will result in the loss of 22,000 GP appointments in LLR, as well as appointments for other Health Care Professionals.

The ICB have advised that they are looking at providing their own version of the face-to-face training which will be delivered through the Protected Learning Time (PLT) sessions. If you have already booked for the training, we recommend that you go ahead with it, but otherwise suggest waiting for the local training. The ICB have reassured that the training will meet the legal (and CQC) requirements.

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HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM THE LMC.

All but three practices in LLR have taken up the LMC's offer to pay to subcontract from 4pm to 6.30pm on the two Fridays during the holiday period.

Unfortunately, the first number DHU provided was incorrect for the sub-contracting arrangement, please ensure that your practice will use the correct number: 0300 323 0671.

We hope that your staff appreciate this seasonal present from the LMC, but request that you ensure to let your patients know and that you are up to date with repeat medications etc to reduce pressure on out of hours services and ED.

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MEDICAL EXAMINER SERVICE.

After years of promises and planning it seems that it will definitely become compulsory to refer all deaths to the Medical Examiner Service (unless reported to the coroner) from 1 April 2024, and the draft legislation has been published.

Details of the ME service can be found [here](#).

There are three pieces of draft legislation which will come into force April 2024:

- [Medical examiners in England: draft regulations - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Medical certificate of cause of death: draft regulations - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Additional functions of the national medical examiner: draft regulations - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

These are all currently in draft form and anyone can submit comments until 12 January 2024 via [email](#).

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NEW MEMES.

Please see these new memes that you can use in social media, any practice correspondence etc. Please let the LMC know if you have suggestions for any other memes or posters.

Fully Qualified GPs
*Since 2016 there are 25 fewer GPs in
East Leicestershire and Rutland*

Every GP in your area now looks
after 433 more patients*

*No wonder you can't get an
appointment*



Produced by
**LOCAL LEICESTERSHIRE
MEDICAL LEICESTER
COMMITTEE RUTLAND**
to support local General Practices

*On average in October 2023
Source: House of Commons Library

Fully Qualified GPs
*Since 2016 there are 14 fewer GPs in
West Leicestershire*

Every GP in your area now looks
after 324 more patients*

*No wonder you can't get an
appointment*



Produced by
**LOCAL LEICESTERSHIRE
MEDICAL LEICESTER
COMMITTEE RUTLAND**
to support local General Practices

*On average in October 2023
Source: House of Commons Library

Fully Qualified GPs
*Since 2016 there are 30 fewer GPs in
Leicester City*

Every GP in your area now looks
after 720 more patients*

*No wonder you can't get an
appointment*



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*On average in October 2023
Source: House of Commons Library

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AGM – THIS MAY HURT?

KEEP THIS DATE FREE

We are already planning our next LLR LMC AGM

Date: **21st March 2024**

Time: **6.30pm**

Venue: **Hilton Leicester Hotel, 21 Junction Approach, Blaby, LE19 1WQ**

This year we have a very special guest, who is a former doctor and current writer. If you would like to reserve a place, [please let us know](#). Spaces will be limited due to capacity of venue.

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As we come to the end of another year and look back at the past 12 months, GPs, PMs, and their teams should be proud that despite decreasing funding, and increasing workload, you have proved to be the most productive part of the NHS providing high quality services to your patients against all odds. Please give your team a (virtual) pat on the back!

Thank
You

Please look after yourselves and your teams and remember the LMC is here to support and guide you.

Yours faithfully



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