

# **“The government’s cynical sub inflationary offer in funding for general practices will mean further reduction in services for our patients.” says LLRLMC**

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## **Immediate Release**

The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Local Medical Committee (LLRLMC)(1) are shocked to hear that the government plan to further reduce general practice services for patients from next year.

The LMC have previously highlighted that it would take a 52% increase to restore funding to provide patient services to the same level in 2006. Last month independent research by the Liberal Democrat party found that funding for GP practices had been slashed by £350million over the past four years – a real term reduction of 7%(2).



Practices have been hoping that this downward trend would be reversed, but in a cynical twist the government is offering a sub inflationary 1.9% increase for 2024-25. This will result in further cuts, worsening services for patients, more GPs leaving the profession, and more practices closing.

Dr Grant Ingrams (GP Partner at Oakmeadow Surgery and Chair of the LLRLMC) said “Currently every day GPs are working harder than ever, but in the knowledge that they are unable to provide the services that our patients need and deserve.”

“Quite rightly patients are frustrated and angry, but they need to understand that this is the fault of deliberate underfunding by the government which will get worse next year.”

“GPs and their teams are worn out and unable to give any more. I have seen the heroic efforts by my colleagues who are now delivering 20% more appointments with significantly reduced funding and a reducing number of fully trained GPs. GPs often work unsustainable, unsafe hours to try and help their patients.”

“Local GPs are already looking after between 300 and 700 more patients each, and it is not surprising that patient care is suffering.”



Dr Ingrams concluded “Unless the government provides realistic investment in general practices now, more practices will close, more GPs will leave, and patient care will suffer.”

Ends

#### Further Information:

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#### 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. First established in 1911, they currently work under the NHS Act 2006.
- 2) [Liberal Democrats uncover fall in funding for GP practices \(libdemvoice.org\)](https://libdemvoice.org/)

- 3) [GP patients likely to suffer unless Government improves inadequate GP contract offer, warns BMA - BMA media centre - BMA](#)