



# Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July

## Transition Fund

In last Friday's Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB's newsletter there was information regarding the Transition Fund. This funding, which has come down nationally, is to be used for providing additional capacity to practices so that they can clear any backlog of work before they transition into a modern general practice access model, with an average of £13,500 available per practice. The LMC would always encourage practices to take up offers of funding and will be working with the Primary Care Teams at both Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB and NENC ICB to ensure that this opportunity for support has as much positive impact as possible.

## RAG Ratings – Lancashire and South Cumbria

Most staff working in General Practice will have noted that they are working beyond safe working limits during any given week. Hospital Trusts use a system called OPEL (Operations Pressure Escalation Levels) to measure the stress, demand and pressure a hospital is under, with Opel 4 representing the highest escalation level. Opel 4 is declared when a hospital is “unable to deliver comprehensive care” and patient safety is at risk.

Unfortunately, General Practice in Lancashire and South Cumbria do not have a universally recognised system to flag up when practices are under severe pressure. For us (the LMC and your local GP Leadership Teams) to have meaningful discussions with the ICB and local hospital trust leadership we need to have hard evidence and data to support our discussions.

The LMC has been collecting practice capacity RAG ratings scores from practices. This will only be beneficial IF/WHEN as many practices as possible engage with us on this. The system is specifically designed to take up as little of your time as possible. We are asking you to send through your RAG rating scores by using the below indicators:

**Green** – Practice has capacity available to deal with referrals, patients etc in a timely manner

**Amber** – Practice has limited capacity and may not be able to see everyone when they want to be seen

**Red** – Practice has no capacity and is not able to accept referrals or has run out of appointments

The data is presented anonymised and will not be traceable back to practices, so we urge all our practices to engage with the process, so we have some meaningful data to present our case to the commissioners.

Please also notify us if your practice has any changes to previously submitted ratings. To make it less onerous we are not requesting a daily status update, only a changed RAG score.

Please email all RAG ratings to [enquiries@nwlmc.org](mailto:enquiries@nwlmc.org)





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## Partnership Agreement Drafting Service

Since 2020, the LMC have partnered up with a specialist law firm to bring you a partnership agreement drafting service, led by a legally qualified team who specialise in partnership and contract law to ensure legal accuracy.

If you are interested in having an agreement drafted or if you have any questions about our bespoke agreements and what we can offer for you then please contact [Abigail Askew](#) or call 01772 863806. Having an up-to-date partnership agreement in place protects you as an individual and your practice, identifying responsibilities and obligations of partners at a practice. It is a vitally important document which should be agreed in advance with any incoming partner.

## Workplace Bullying Event

This event will be run by Dr Adam Harrison and is available to ALL staff. Please find below details:

Topics: The effective of workplace bullying on employees' wellness and wellbeing and how to prevent and address workplace bullying?

Date: Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Time: 1pm – 3pm

Venue: via Zoom

Price - £30pp

If you would like to book a place, please contact [Rebecca](#) or visit our website [here](#) for more details.

## NEW Cumbria Soapbox

NEW Cumbria LMC are planning a Soapbox Event. This will be an opportunity for all GPs and Practice Managers to raise anything with your LMC, meet your representatives, hear about the services we can provide but most importantly, we would like to hear from you and how we can support you! The event will be online and will last one hour. If you'd like to know more about what your LMC can provide for you and support you with, please drop in. **There is no requirement to stay for the full hour.**

Further details of the date and how to join will follow in a future brieflet. In the meantime, please forward any questions to [Toni](#).

## LMC pages and guidance for practices

- ❖ See your LMC GP representatives [here](#)
- ❖ See our LMC support services [here](#).
- ❖ See upcoming LMC and non LMC training events: [Training & Events](#)
- ❖ Follow us on Twitter: [@nwlmc](#)
- ❖ Contact us for advice and guidance on all things General Practice: [enquiries@nwlmc.org](mailto:enquiries@nwlmc.org)

