



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 29th August

Partnership agreement drafting service

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.

The LMC partner 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.

23/24 pay award guidance

The [Government has announced its response to the DDRB recommendations for doctors' pay in England](#) outlining a 6% uplift for salaried GPs and all practice (non-ARRS) staff.

Due to GP Contractors being in the fifth and final year of a multiyear agreement, there was no recommendation made by the DDRB in relation to GP partners.

BMA GPC continues to liaise with NHSE and DHSC to establish specific details about how the DDRB 6% uplift will be calculated and funded to practices. As soon as we receive further information, we will share it with practices.

Until then, practices can explain to staff that the money is not yet in your accounts and that the BMA GPC are in discussions with government to clarify how the funding will be passed to practices to support this.

It is the LMCs position to strongly suggest that practices do not action the pay uplift until the government has confirmed specific details on who is covered and how they plan on making the additional funding available to practices.

Parliamentary activity

Dr Bramall-Stainer, BMA GPC chair, [wrote to](#) the Prime Minister and Health Secretary, raising key concerns and calling for an urgent meeting to discuss the future of general practice. She [wrote](#) to the Minister responsible for vaccines, and the primary care Minister, calling on them to ensure that the flu vaccine programme goes ahead in September as planned. She also called for joint working with NHSE to address the announced cut in funding for the delivery of COVID-19 immunisations, which may prevent GPs and practices from being able to continue to offer these crucial vaccines.

Cancer referrals

In an interview with The [Telegraph](#), the Health Secretary covered how patients could 'skip' seeing a GP to speed up cancer checks. You can [read Dr Bramall- Stainer's response to this here](#).

Safe working in general practice

We urge practices to continue to use our [managing extreme workload guidance](#) which covers what practices can do within your contract to try and safely manage patient care.





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New look resource hub to support online registration service

A new-look [resource hub](#) to support practices wanting to find out more about the Register with a GP surgery service, including video content, has been launched. You can register for a [September webinar](#) where you can hear from colleagues already using the service.

Reminder: For recently CCTed GP trainees to check that they get their back pay

If you have recently completed your CCT as a GP trainee from a training programme in England, then you are likely to be owed backdated pay. Junior doctors, including GP trainees, will be receive a 6% pay rise, plus a consolidated bonus of £1,250 to be added to their salary. The updated pay scales have been published in the recent [pay circular by NHS Employers](#). Junior doctors' salaries should be uplifted in the September pay round, with this being additionally backdated to April 2023.

For those who have completed their CCT, your previous Trust should keep the bank details that you provided on file for at least three months after you have finished your time with them. You should make sure that the Trust who was your employer has correct and up-to-date details. This will ensure you can receive the backdated payment. After the September pay date for your previous employer has passed, you should check that you have received the correct backpay. If you have not, please contact your previous employer directly.

Relaunch of Return to Practice Programme

NHSE have relaunched the GP Return to Practice (RtP) Programme, implementing recommendations from the NHSE/HEE review of the programme that was completed earlier this year alongside the BMA and RCGP. Full details of the programme can be found [here on the Health Education England website](#).

Preparing for balloting on industrial action

In April, the BMA GPC voted to prepare to ballot GPs on industrial action if the Government does not agree to improve the contract drastically in forthcoming negotiations.

If you are a BMA member, make sure your details are up to date to ensure your vote counts. Update your member details on www.bma.org.uk/my-bma or [join as a member](#) today.

Wellbeing resources

We encourage practices to continue to focus on their own team's wellbeing and take time to meet to reflect on their wellbeing and what they can do to protect it. This will meet the requirements of the QOF targets in the GP contract to do your [quality improvement project on staff wellbeing](#). The BMA have produced a [document](#) which includes some tangible recommendations and tools for improving workload and safe working.

A range of wellbeing and support services are available. Please see [our website for more information](#).

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](#)s
- ❖ Contact us for advice and guidance on all things General Practice: enquiries@nwlmc.org

