



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 6th February

Message from your LMC CEO- Dr Adam Janjua

Dear Colleagues, there has been a lot going on over the past few weeks. Last week saw us (you are all part of the 'us') release [our report](#) on the terrible state of finances that our local practices find themselves in. If you haven't already read it, I would [urge you to give it a read](#). The report isn't just a set of pie charts and graphs – it goes through a compelling narrative of WHY we find ourselves in this financially uncertain period. The report makes for an easy read and is also patient friendly in its contents, so that you can easily share it with members of the public, such as your patients and your PPG. You can find [suggested wording to include on your social media on our website here](#). It's time that we started vocalising our issues and involving patients and the public in this battle to save General Practice.

Since the report launched a week ago, I have had several media (radio and print) interviews ([such as the BBC news, Lancs Telegraph, GP Online, Lancaster Guardian, The Gazette Blackpool, Lancashire Post, Burnley Express, Lancs live and The Westmoreland Gazette](#)) to try and increase the reach of the report and to start getting people to ask the question of why GP finances and GP access may be worse than we would want. I've had dentists, GP and PMs contact me with feedback about the report. A few members of the public have reached out too, saying that the report has made them realise that it isn't just secondary care that is under financial strain.

Unsurprisingly, no MP has been in touch with me to discuss the report thus far. Not even one. To guarantee the best possible outcome for their patients, one would have assumed that they would be eager to investigate the source of General Practice's financial crisis. The cynical side of me would say this: Labour appears content to let as much damage be done before the general election in order to secure a sweet victory, while the Conservatives appear to be in denial about the state that their 14-year political rule has left the NHS in. The only issue is that general practice is currently in decline and little support is being offered. There might not be any Practices left standing after the "games" are over.

You will have all heard about the derisory contract uplift offer of 1.9% being offered by NHSE for next years contract (We have included the Contract Update below in case you missed it). As well as being an offer completely detached from reality, it also shows the low regard with which our profession is currently viewed by those in power. Our report demonstrates that General Practice is currently 'owed' £35 /patient just to bridge the funding gap that has been created by a combination of a poor 5-year contract and inflation. So even a 19% uplift is not enough by my calculations.

With this in mind, as a profession we have two choices: either we accept whatever is offered without question, demeaning and devaluing ourselves, or - and this is my preference -we take a stand and declare, "No thanks, we've had enough." The latter option will allow us to show the people in charge that we are a united profession and we have had enough. To enable our unified and fed-up voices to have an outlet I would strongly urge you to [join the BMA today](#). I joined last week. It's the only way to make sure the power of our collective voices can be directed in the right direction. Thanks for reading.





Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

BMA GPC England Contract Update

The BMA GPC have spoken: the current 24-25 contract offer is inadequate and puts patients and staffing levels at risk. Please see the following 2 minute [video update](#) from the BMA GPC Chair, Dr Katie Bramall-Stainer, on their next steps and why GPs should join the BMA to ensure you have your say.

To be eligible to vote in the referendum, you need to be an NHS GP, practising in England, and a BMA member. You can join the BMA [here](#).

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](#)

Do you need to see your GP - Top Tips for Accessing your GP Practice Video

The LMC has created [the following video](#) which aims to answer common questions and provide top tips for patients when accessing their GP Practice.

Please use the video to share with your patients via social media and/ or in your Practice waiting rooms.

If there are other videos you would like us to create [please let us know](#). You can find other videos and [patient communications on our website](#).

LMC Vacancies

2 out of our 5 Committees have seats available for GP representation:

- Lancashire Coastal - 4 seats available
- North Cumbria - 2 seats available

We are keen to hear from GPs, including GP Registrars/ Trainees, who may wish to get involved to represent your constituents. Please let us know if you are interested in being a LMC member or would like to find out more.

Measles

Across the country, the NHS is seeing an increased risk of people getting measles, especially those who have not yet been vaccinated. In response, Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB have created this [link](#) for practices which details the signs and symptoms of measles and also provides further information for primary care. This website is being updated regularly to ensure practices can be updated on any new guidance.

General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

You can see the the last SitRep results below. Results can also be found [on our website](#).

The data helps us gather a true picture of the pressure's practices are under. When completing the GPAS form please ensure that you are inputting the correct numbers to avoid incorrect data.

[Please let us know](#) if you are a Practice Manager and do not receive the GPAS input emails.





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Rebuild General Practice – template letter to MPs

Rebuild General Practice is asking GPs to use its template letter to write to your local MP asking them to prioritise rebuilding general practice in their election roadmaps. Party manifestos are being written this spring, and a difference can be made by the profession speaking as one unified voice, to engage MPs, and local press. We must ensure that all major parties are motivated to prioritise the crisis in general practice and are committed to developing plans to do so following the election.

[Find all the materials you need to take part in this action here](#)


1. [Write to your MP](#)
2. Share the social media thread: <https://twitter.com/RebuildGP/status/1750131367575204082>
3. Write to your local newspaper editor to inform them of this action.
4. Encourage your colleagues to do the same by sharing your post and the materials with them.

NHSE GP Fellowship Scheme cessation

NHSE has announced that the NHSE GP Fellowships and Mentor schemes will end on 31 March 2024.

This is to remind and encourage those GPs who are within 24 months of having CCT'd on 31 March, and who have not yet taken advantage of the NHS GP Fellowship Scheme, to sign up for the programme in advance of the 31 March deadline. Those successful in securing a place ahead of the deadline will have funding secured for two years. Please get in touch with the Training Hub for details regarding how to register. Please share this information across your trainers and First 5 groups. Please also send any feedback on the programmes to info.gpc@bma.org.uk

LMC Peer Review & Personal Development Plan



PEER REVIEW & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

As a Practice Manager making time for your career development and aspirations is so important, but often overlooked. Here's an opportunity for you to fulfil your potential. We are lucky enough to have access to the expertise of 3 new Professional Associates to add to our already excellent list of experience and accomplished Practice Managers.

The programme is completely funded by the LMC, so if you would like to take advantage of:

- An opportunity to discuss your development with someone who understands the role of the Practice Manager and the environment in which they operate
- To feel safe to discuss career development needs and aspirations confidentially
- An opportunity to have quality time with a peer to develop your own personal development plan

Then please contact Toni.Parker@nwlmc.org.

