

Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 12th August 2025

General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

You can see the latest SitRep results on our website.

As we approach the busy summer holiday period, we're seeing a significant increase in annual leave across practices. We understand this is a much needed time for rest, however, it's important to ensure your practice continues to submit your weekly GPAS data. During this time, gaps in reporting make it harder for us to present a full and accurate picture of pressure across the system. This limits our ability to advocate effectively on your behalf and push for the support General Practice needs.

Please ensure that someone in your team is covering the responsibility for submitting GPAS data while colleagues are away. If you need to add an alternative contact to the GPAS distribution list, please do email us at enquiries@nwlmcs.org. Submission links are sent out every Tuesday and Wednesday.

Friday Reflections: No one else is coming - It's on us now

Please see <u>attached letter</u> from Dr Adam Janjua, LMC Chief Executive, which was circulated Friday 8th August.

Scabies Outbreaks in Care Homes – LMC Position

The LMC would like to remind practices that managing scabies outbreaks in care homes is not part of core General Practice work. Without the appropriate funding or commissioned services, practices should not be expected to undertake this task.

Following specific concerns in the Lancs & South Cumbria area, we communicated our position to the ICB and are currently awaiting their formal response. At the end of last year, they indicated their intention to commission and procure a service to manage scabies outbreaks at scale. However, we have not received any further communication on this matter since then. Given the urgent need for clarity and support for both practices and care homes, the LMC is actively pressing Lancs & South Cumbria ICB for a workable solution as soon as possible. We will update practices as soon as we have further information.

Mounjaro (Tirzepatide) - Practice resources

In recent weeks we have shared communications and posters with practices to support you in relation to the ongoing queries we know you are facing from patients regarding access to the above medication. We continue to push for updates on local commissioning intentions and in the meantime know that many patients are becoming increasingly frustrated. We also appreciate that the public may be misinformed on the topic of eligibility. We are aware that MPs and media outlets have been engaged by individuals and that complaints are on the rise. We are here to support any practice facing such scrutiny so please do not hesitate to alert us to any MP or media attention you are receiving. Similarly, we will work with you to ensure commissioners follow up on complaints inappropriately directed to providers who are not commissioned to prescribe this medication. We have produced some further tools to support local practices:

Patient enquiry Q&A

Media FAO





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NHS prescribing of Tirzepatide (Mounjaro®) for weight management

From 23 June 2025, tirzepatide was made available in primary care and community settings for eligible patients. Some hospital teams are advising patients to contact their GP for this treatment. NHS England has sent <u>a letter</u> to all Trusts, emphasising the importance of being aware of local arrangements rather than directing patients to GPs for prescribing. Please see the NHS England letter for full details:

NHS England letter

Annex 1

New LMC HR Events

Following valuable feedback gathered from a recent survey sent to all practices, we are excited to launch 5 brand new HR training events designed specifically around the topics you told us matter most.

This series of practical and informative online training sessions will support your practice in navigating key areas of people management. Whether you're looking to stay on top of the latest employment law changes, manage workplace issues with greater confidence, or strengthen your recruitment and retention strategies, the events offer targeted guidance to help you.

All events will be taking place online and cost £35 per person, per event to attend.

Please find below events:

- Employment Law Changes
- Managing Discipline and Grievances in the Workplace
- Managing Recruitment Processes
- Ensuring Best Practice in Employment
- Managing Sickness Absences in the Workplace

The sessions are ideal for practice managers, team leaders, and anyone involved in staff management or looking to progress.

If you would like to book a place on any of the events, please email Rebecca.Noblett@nwlmcs.org.

Wellbeing Resources

A variety of wellbeing and support services are available, and we encourage anyone feeling under pressure to reach out.

On our website, you'll find resources for mental health, counselling, financial advice, and peer support services and groups.

One of our key offers is the <u>Support & Development Service</u> - a free, confidential, and independent pastoral service for all GPs and Practice Management Teams across Lancashire and Cumbria, delivered by experienced GPs and Practice Managers.

We've also created a <u>Top Tips poster</u> — to help you and your colleagues look after your wellbeing.





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Improving Health Data Use in Lancashire

Jo Knight from Lancaster University is leading work on the Lancashire and South Cumbria Secure Data Environment, a new NHS-backed platform enabling secure, ethical use of health data to improve care. With a focus on engaging GP practices and the public, the team is working to ensure transparency, trust, and real local benefit.

See attached slides for more information.

Lancashire Cybercrime & Fraud Conference - Invitation

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, in partnership with Lancashire Constabulary and the Lancashire Partnership Against Crime (LANPAC), is hosting a free conference on Wednesday 15th October 2025 at Crow Wood Hotel and Spa, Burnley, focused on tackling the growing threats of cybercrime and fraud across the county.

GPs, practice teams, and safeguarding leads are encouraged to attend. Keynote speakers include Georgia Harrison MBE, campaigner for online safety and survivor of image-based abuse, and Tony Sales, a former fraudster turned leading expert in fraud prevention.

The event supports the Commissioner's priorities around education, prevention, and stronger partnerships. It welcomes professionals from health, social care, education, housing, and other community-facing services who play a vital role in helping to share these key messages and strengthen local resilience.

To register for free and learn more, visit <u>Lancashire's Cybercrime and Fraud Conference</u>. For further enquiries, please contact <u>Eleanor.Adshead@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk</u>

Help Shape How NHS Property Services Works with General Practice

NHS Property Services is carrying out a national insight project to better understand the experiences, needs, and priorities of GPs at every stage of their career, from newly qualified through to senior partners.

The aim is to ensure NHSPS can better align its services, support, and communication with the realities of general practice today. By speaking directly with GPs, they hope to build a clearer picture of how career stages, practice models, and property needs are evolving.

NHSPS are inviting GPs to take part in a short, confidential 45-minute conversation to share reflections. Your input will help inform how NHSPS works with practices in the future and shape improvements that reflect the diversity of GP experiences.

If you're happy to be involved, please contact monique.pace@property.nhs.uk to arrange a convenient time.

