



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 21st April 2026

The profession rejects the use of A&G to increase GP workload by Stealth

GPC England has confirmed that GP members have overwhelmingly [rejected the 2026/27 GP contract, with 99% voting against it](#). Urgent bilateral negotiations with Government are underway, dependent on pausing proposed changes to 'advice and refer' services and putting safeguards in place to prevent unsafe, unlimited same-day demand once practices reach capacity.

If these conditions are not met by 30 April, GPC England has made clear there will be a move to immediate collective action. Read more on the [BMA campaign page](#). [Read the news story here](#).

GPC England has also produced a 'Focus On' document with guidance and template letters for practices on Advice and Guidance (A&G) and Single Points of Access (SPoA), to support where systems are creating workload pressures or barriers to referral:

- [Access the full guidance on A&G and SPoA here](#).
- [Practice Template Letter: Referral Returned as Advice & Guidance](#)
- [Cover note for all referrals to be sent as an appendix or prefix to the referral letter and submitted to eRS](#)

While NHS England continues to promote A&G to reduce hospital referrals, GPC England emphasises that GPs retain the right to refer patients. ICBs are expected to implement SPoA models across key specialties by October 2026.

GPC England will provide further updates on next steps shortly.

School Based Vaccination Service data (Intrahealth - L&SC)

Last year, the LMC was made aware that practices in L&SC had received documents from Intrahealth (the school based vaccination service provider) containing vaccination data covering the period of Sept 2022–Jan 2025. Although initially sent as PDF files, from 1 Oct 2025 the intention was for CHIS to instead share the data in CSV format for batch uploading. However, we were alerted to data quality issues with the information some practices were receiving and also that using there may be issues using EMIS Batch Data Manager. Given the workload and patient safety concerns brought to our attention, we have been following this up with ICB Quality Team and NHSE colleagues over the past few months and want to be assured that the proposed solution to this issue does not burden practices with unacceptable risk. With this in mind, we want to seek further insight from practices who may not already have been in touch with us about this.

Please can you take a minute to complete [this survey](#) to help us quantify the scale of the issue across L&SC.

Additionally, we would advise any practice in L&SC that believes they are impacted by this incident to include it on their risk register as appropriate. Practices can note that their LMC has escalated the issue with ICB and NHSE locally within their mitigations and we will continue to update you when we have more information.





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Meningococcal Prophylaxis Requests – LMC Position & Recommended Response

The LMC circulated a [newsflash](#) to Practices in Lancashire & South Cumbria recently following reports of practices being asked to undertake unfunded work relating Meningococcal Prophylaxis Requests. Practices across the Consortium are advised not to initiate prescribing solely on the basis of requests from public health bodies or third parties, including in so-called “single incident” scenarios, without appropriate commissioning and resourcing.

Reminder to claim: Advice and Guidance Enhanced Service 2025/26

Given the pressures on general practice funding, the LMC would strongly encourage practices to review their A&G activity and ensure that all eligible A&G requests are captured and claimed, so that practices receive the maximum funding they are entitled to via the [Advice and Guidance Enhanced Service for 2025/26](#).

It is possible to claim retrospectively for activity undertaken from 1 April 2025, provided it meets the requirements set out in the national specification, and we are seeking confirmation of the date by which these retrospective claims should be made. To ensure your practice receives the funding available, we recommend taking the following steps as soon as possible:

- Review Advice and Guidance activity recorded in your clinical system
- Ensure appropriate coding has been used for eligible requests
- Submit claims via CQRS, including any retrospective activity not yet claimed

Imposed GP contract changes – guidance

Following the imposed contract changes on 1 April, GPC recommend that practices review and prepare for the implementation of the 2026/27 contract. Under [paragraph 57 of Schedule 3 of the GMS regulations](#) and under [paragraph 52 of Schedule 2 of the PMS agreement](#), practices must have at least 14 days’ notice before variations take effect. For more information, please view the BMA [GP Contract and campaign page](#) which contains the latest updates about the 26/27 contract changes and the dispute with Government, as well as links to guidance to help support you and your practices.

LMC HR: Employment Law Updates

The landscape for UK employment law is undergoing a significant shift following the passage of the Employment Rights Act 2025. Most major changes are being phased in between April 2026 and January 2027. Check out the immediate and upcoming changes via the following link - [Employment Law Updates | Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs](#)

LMC HR: Template HR Policies and Procedures Handbook

Check out our new template HR Policy and Procedures Handbook available to download via the following link - [HR Policies and Contract Templates | Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs](#)

If you need login details to access the above link and or if you wish to discuss any of the details, please contact the free LMC HR Service hr@nwlmc.org





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LMC Vacancies

Three of our five Committees currently have seats available for GP representation:

- Lancashire Coastal LMC: vacancies available
- Central Lancashire LMC: 2 vacancies available (1 for Greater Preston & 1 for Chorley & South Ribble)
- Lancashire Pennine LMC: 1 vacancy available (Rossendale)

We are keen to hear from GPs, including Sessional's, 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](#). [You can find your LMC representatives on our website here](#).

QRISK 2

NHS England have confirmed that QRISK2 will remain available in EMIS Web/SystemOne for at least the next year whilst work progresses on the integration of QRISK3.

CQC consultation – new assessment framework

CQC is proposing to introduce a new assessment framework for [primary and community care](#), replacing the existing generic framework for all health settings. More information is available on the [CQC website](#). GPCE will be responding to the proposals, but members can also [share their views](#) before 12 June.

Let's talk pancreatic cancer - free webinar for primary care professionals in Lancashire and South Cumbria

In partnership with [GatewayC](#), the cancer alliance are hosting a free webinar and Q&A session with pancreatic cancer experts **Mr Daren Subar**, Consultant General and Hepatopancreatico-biliary Surgeon, and **Vicki Stevenson-Hornby**, Pancreas and Hepatobiliary Specialist Nurse, alongside GatewayC GP Lead, **Dr Sarah Taylor**.

This free learning session is one of four webinars in a series with GatewayC – the leading earlier cancer diagnosis resource. Each session will be hosted by experienced GPs and feature secondary care specialists who will discuss prostate, lung, pancreatic, and liver cancer.

[Explore the full series.](#)

The live pancreatic cancer webinar on **Tuesday 19 May 2026, 12:30 – 13:15**, will provide guidance on:

- Symptoms that should trigger urgent investigation
- Managing new-onset painless jaundice
- The role and limitations of primary care investigations
- The importance of safety-netting

This webinar is designed for primary care professionals in Lancashire and South Cumbria. Live Q&A available. Can't make it? Register to watch on demand after the event has finished. [Secure your FREE place now](#)

