

# INFORMATION PACK



## Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria Local Medical Committees

Celebrating Excellence in General Practice

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## WHAT IS AN LMC?

### **An independent body**

Represents the interests of general practice solely and acts as its advocate, remains independent from political constraints and the need to satisfy other interests

### **A Statutory Body**

Has rights and responsibilities defined in the NHS Acts & Regulations and serves as the local representative committee for all NHS GPs.

### **A Professional Body**

Promotes quality and maintains standards of professional practice through support and demonstration in collaboration with other professional and educational bodies.

### **A democratic body**

Elected by and comprising local GPs. LMCs have constitutions which prescribe the manner and frequency of elections and decision making based on democratic principles. All GPs who pay a levy contribution to the LMC have a right to vote.

Membership of the LMC and the consequent support it can offer is open to all doctors working in general practice, whether as principals in a GMS, PMS or APMS practice, salaried doctors, locums and other sessional doctors.

### **A representative body**

Listens, debates and responds to feedback and represents the majority view of its GPs to NHS England, CCGs and other national and local organisations

### **A Resource**

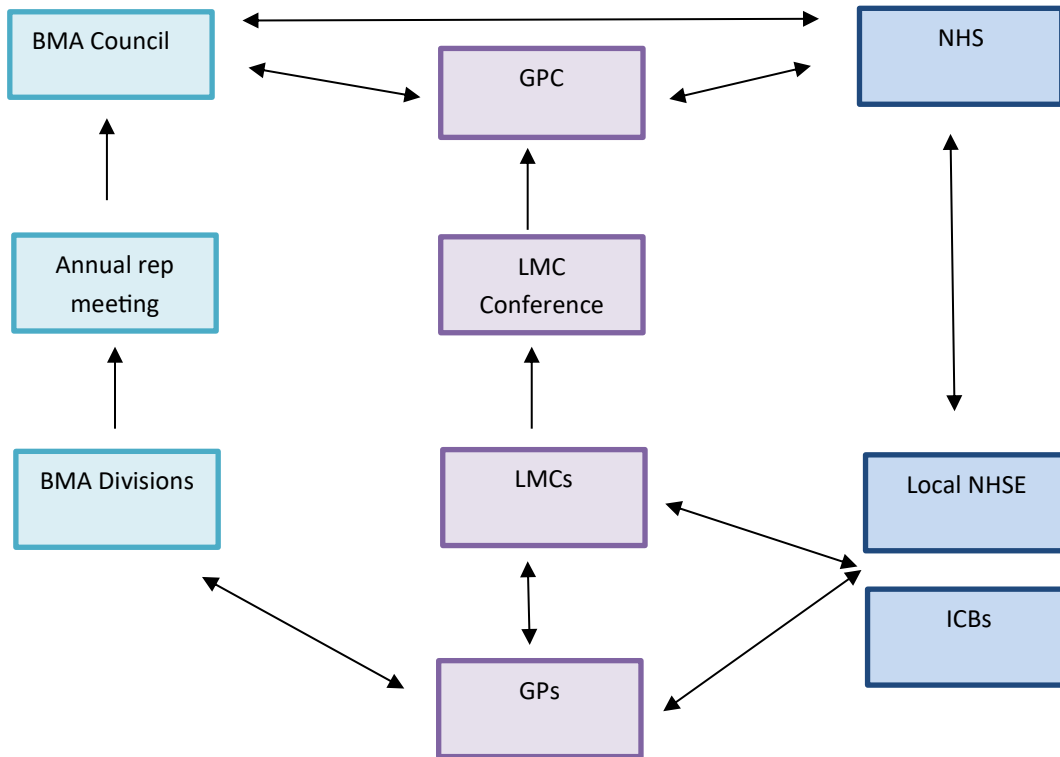
Provides advice and support for all GPs in all matters affecting their professional lives and activities.

## HISTORY OF LMCs

Following the introduction of the National Health Insurance Bill (which would later transform into the National Health Service) in 1911, the British Medical Association (BMA) successfully argued that local committees of 'panel doctors' should be given statutory recognition. The BMA suggested that 'there should adequate medical representation on Local Health Committees and statutory recognition of Local Medical Committees (LMCs)'. As a result, LMCs gained their statutory status and began functioning in their current format. The following year, the BMA established a national committee to represent the combined interests of the LMCs and this group later became the General Practitioners Committee (GPC).



## THE LMC & THE WIDER WORLD



## LMC CONFERENCES

- LMCs mandate the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) to act on behalf of general practitioners across the UK/England
- Conference enables the democratic debating of motions that then forms GPC policy
- The link to the medical profession's trade union (BMA) marks us out as unique as a representative body and is clearly different to GP federations/PCNs etc
- There is normally an annual UK and separate England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland LMC Conference with occasional Special Conferences.

## HOW IS THE LMC FUNDED?

All LMCS in England are funded by a statutory levy. This amount is collected from practices through CCGs and is based on an amount per patient. This money funds our LMC. It also funds the representative committees with representatives being paid per attendance and reimbursed travel expenses. In addition to the statutory levy, LMCs collect a national levy. This is a separate levy which is collected to fund the GPC, the GPDF and supports national negotiations regarding General Practice.



## ABOUT US

The Consortium of Lancashire and Cumbria Local Medical Committees operate by government statute and is the representative body for GPs and their Practices. We are the professional voice for all GPs representing, advising, and supporting them and practice staff.

The LMC is engaged in ongoing discussions and negotiations with the Area Teams of NHSE/I, CCGs and local authorities on the development and interpretation of contractual issues, major policies and strategies affecting general practice. The LMC actively supports individual GPs regarding their remuneration, helping deal with complaints, premises and partnership issues and any disputes between the GP and the Area Teams or the CCG.

LMCs work closely with the General Practitioners Committee of the British Medical Association which is the national body representing the interests of general practice, conducting national negotiations regarding GP contractual issues.

Whenever appropriate the LMCs will define and support the profession's viewpoints where this reflects good medical practice and is in the best interest of patient care on all matters affecting the delivery of medical services.

The representative role of LMCs extends to all matters concerning GPs, whether as providers or commissioners of services and in their individual professional role.

As we are a consortium, we cover 5 LMCs making us one of the biggest in the UK:

1. Lancashire Coastal LMC
2. Lancashire Pennine LMC
3. Central Lancashire LMC
4. Morecambe Bay LMC
5. Cumbria LMC

To see your GP committee representatives, please visit our [website](#).



## OUR SERVICES

Every LMC across the UK is different and being one of the biggest LMCs means we can offer more services.

We offer support in all things General Practice such as the following:

- Advice & guidance
- Complaints
- CQC Inspections
- Premises
- GP Remuneration
- GP Contracts
- Partnership Affairs
- GP Performance
- Resilience
- QOF
- Income
- Enhanced Services

We also provide additional services including:

- Practice Managers – Support & Development Service
- Training & Events
- GP Support – Support & Development Service
- Website practice vacancies adverts
- HR Service
- Sessional GP Support
- Partnership agreement drafting service
- NHSE GP Resilience Programme





## The Support & Development Service – Practice Staff

In February 2018 the LMC was successful in its bid to NHS England to develop a programme of Formative Peer Review and Professional Development Planning for Practice Managers. This was previously called the Horizon Programme. Since then, the programme has expanded to include Assistant PMs and Admin Team Leaders. The programme offers:

- Face to Face Formative Peer Reviews & Professional Development Planning
- Peer Network Meetings
- Coaching & Mentoring
- Peer Support Service (Buddying)

For more information, please contact our programme manager: [Toni.phillips@nwlmc.org](mailto:Toni.phillips@nwlmc.org) or visit our [website](#).

## The Support & Development Service - GP Support

This is a free confidential independent peer support service offered to all GPs in Lancashire & Cumbria. It provides support to all GPs who are experiencing problems such as stress, career or partnership issues, addiction, or general unhappiness/burn-out. It is also open to all GPs who want general career advice. Mentoring is given by GPs in Lancashire & Cumbria on a confidential 1:1 basis.

Please contact [Maria.mulberry@nwlmc.org](mailto:Maria.mulberry@nwlmc.org) for more information and/ or if you would like a mentor.

You can also visit our [website](#) where you can fill out the 'phone a friend' form.

## 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 provided to any incoming partner.

The LMC offers a drafting agreement service partnered with a specialist law firm who specialise in partnership and contract law ensuring legal accuracy.

Having an agreement is more important than ever and with that being said, if you are interested in getting one of our bespoke agreements drafted then please contact [abigail.askew@nwlmc.org](mailto:abigail.askew@nwlmc.org) or visit our [website](#) for more information.

## NHSE GP Resilience Programme

The GP Resilience Programme supports practices and PCNs in providing diagnostic services and delivering bespoke support packages to help them become more resilient and sustainable. Please visit our [website](#) or [get in touch](#) for more information on how we can help you access funds and make a real difference in dealing with the pressures you are experiencing.



## Training & Events

The LMC Training portfolio has been growing and developing since its inception in 2015. Our sessions are delivered by highly skilled and experienced trainers, who are specialists in their fields, and we have consistently received excellent feedback. Our training was originally tailored for Practice Nurses and Managers but now extends to other practice staff, including administrators and receptionists.

For more information and to see what training we provide please see [LMC Training and Events on our website](#).

Or contact our Events & Administrative Officer: [Rebecca.noblett@nwlmc.org](mailto:Rebecca.noblett@nwlmc.org)

## LMC HR Service

The LMC offers free HR advice provided via email, phone and/ or face to face. Advice is provided by an experienced HR team supported by a specialist legal firm. HR support ranges from, but is not limited to:

- TUPE/ Mergers
- Discipline
- Grievance
- Sickness management
- Performance / Capability
- Organisational change
- Employment Contract templates
- Policy templates
- HR training events

We also offer a yearly employment indemnity insurance cover, hosted by AXA.

For further information visit our [website](#), contact [stevie.simpkin@nwlmc.org](mailto:stevie.simpkin@nwlmc.org) or arrange for us to meet to you!

## Sessional GPs

The LMC represents all GPs including salaried and locums. We are aware it can be an issue for locum GPs not being able to receive vital information which is normally distributed via emails to GP Practices. The LMC has a distribution list where we keep sessional GPs up to date with prescribing tips, alerts, clinical education events and newsletters.

We organise Sessional GP meetings which is a group of GPs who meet bi-monthly online and/ or in Preston from 19:00 – 21:00. Guest speakers are often arranged followed by a business meeting covering issues relevant to Sessional GPs including appraisal and revalidation. All Sessional GPs are welcome.

If you wish to attend any of the meetings, be added to our sessional GP distribution list or want to know more information, please visit our [website](#) or contact [maria.mulberry@nwlmc.org](mailto:maria.mulberry@nwlmc.org).





## MEET THE TEAM



**Peter Higgins** - Chief executive & Secretary to the five LMCs

My name is Peter Higgins and I have been the Chief Executive at the Consortium of LMCs since 2008. I have overseen the development of the LMCs to provide a more timely and relevant support offer to GPs and Practices during this period. We are always keen to hear your views as to how we should develop further.

My email address is: [peter.higgins@nwlmc.org](mailto:peter.higgins@nwlmc.org)



**Ross McDuff** - Executive Lead for Lancashire Pennine

My name is Ross and I joined the LMC at the end of 2019. I am the Executive Lead for Lancashire Pennine LMC.

My email address is: [ross.mcduff@nwlmc.org](mailto:ross.mcduff@nwlmc.org)



**Faye Tomlinson** - Executive Lead Lancashire Coastal

Hi, I am Faye. I am the Executive Lead for Lancashire Coastal LMC. I have responsibility for overseeing the budgets of our Consortium of LMCs and managing our training programme. I also work closely with Lancashire & South Cumbria ICS colleagues on current and ongoing primary care issues.

My email address is: [faye.tomlinson@nwlmc.org](mailto:faye.tomlinson@nwlmc.org)



**Stephen Toulmin** - Executive Lead Morecambe Bay

Hi. My name is Stephen and I have been working at the LMC for 9 years. I am the executive lead covering Morecambe Bay and have a supportive role for North Cumbria. My responsibilities include information governance, workforce planning, overseeing “quality contracts”, policy analysis, GPFV and transformation agenda.

My email address is: [stephen.toulmin@nwlmc.org](mailto:stephen.toulmin@nwlmc.org)





**Jessica Tomlinson** – Executive Lead for Central Lancashire

Hello, I am Jess – I joined the LMC in December 2013 and have been in various roles during my time here. I am the Executive Lead for Central Lancashire LMC and I also lead on supporting practices with complaints; including providing training to practice staff.



**Toni Parker** - Executive Lead for NEW Cumbria / Horizon Programme Manager

My name is Toni Phillips, I am The Executive Lead for NEW Cumbria and the Horizon Programme Manager at the LMC. I have been in this role since October 2019. The Horizon Programme offers support, development and networking meetings to Practice Managers, Assistants and Admin Teams. I also lead on CQC.

My email address is: [toni.parker@nwlmc.org](mailto:toni.parker@nwlmc.org)



**Mariah Mulberry** - Member Services Lead

Hi! My name is Mariah and I have been at the LMC since October 2017. I am the Member Services Lead covering Marketing & Communications, Projects & Programmes, and liaison for the Consortium.

My email address is: [maria.mulberry@nwlmc.org](mailto:maria.mulberry@nwlmc.org)



**Rebecca Noblett** - Events & Administrative Officer

My name is Rebecca and I have been at the LMC since June 2019. I am the Events and Administrative Officer for the LMC and the Horizon Programme. I coordinate and plan all training events including HR, Nurse training, Complaints and CQC Updates.

My email address is: [rebecca.noblett@nwlmc.org](mailto:rebecca.noblett@nwlmc.org)







**Stevie Simpkin** - HR Service Lead

My name is Stevie and I have been at the LMC since 2016. I am the HR Service Lead and CIPD level 5 qualified. I am responsible for planning, maintaining and developing the LMC HR Service to all GP Practices across the consortium footprint.

My email address is: [stevie.simpkin@nwlmc.org](mailto:stevie.simpkin@nwlmc.org)

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**Mikaela George** - LMC Support Officer

Hi, my name is Mikaela and I have recently started at the LMC. I provide administrative support for the 5 LMCs.

My email address is: [mikaela.george@nwlmc.org](mailto:mikaela.george@nwlmc.org)

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**Dr Jane Lothian** - Lead Officer at Northumberland LMC

Hello! My name is Jane. I am a retired GP and the lead officer at Northumberland LMC. We work in collaboration with Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs and offer medical advice and guidance to the team.

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**Abigail Askew** – Currently on Maternity Leave

Hi, my name is Abi and I have been at the LMC since 2016. I am the Executive Lead for Lancashire Pennine and my specialist areas are premises, partnership agreement drafting and queries around the regulations.

My email address is: [abigail.askew@nwlmc.org](mailto:abigail.askew@nwlmc.org)

