

Sheffield General Practice Provider Forum Update

Dear Colleagues,

Following the engagement with practices through our four locality councils and with PCN CDs and managers earlier this year we wanted to update you on the progress of the General Practice Provider forum. The group has now been established and membership has been agreed as follows:

Locality Representatives: (one for each locality + one deputy)

West Emma Reynolds and Tom Hewitt

North Leigh Sorsbie and Nicky Normington

Central Amir Afzal and Paul Wike

HASL Fleur Jones and Helen Lenthall

PCN Representatives

Tom Holdsworth

Sheruba Draviaraj

LMC Representatives

Alastair Bradley

Danielle McSeveney

PCS Representatives

Andy Hilton

Lynsey Hughes

The group have now had two meetings and begun to identify important issues and challenges for our attention over the coming months. Our early focus has been on establishing the governance and structure to support the forum and identifying early priorities that the group will tackle. The group's aim is to ensure that the general practice voice remains heard in the local system particularly at a time of significant flux with a new government calling for NHS reform and a backdrop of spiralling demand. Early areas of priority include understanding the system financial challenges and impact on general practice, Access to care and the ICBs plans around UEC and same day, collective action and the GP contract, community phlebotomy services and Practice call handling.

We committed to not increasing meeting and communication burden to already busy practices and so will continue to communicate through existing channels, PCS and LMC bulletins and Locality meetings, however it goes without saying that any of the members of the forum would be happy to be contacted if you wish to raise any issues or understand more about the forums work. The group's ability to present a consensus view from General Practices in Sheffield is predicated on our connectivity across the layers of scale and so practice engagement is vital. We also agreed that we would review membership and governance after 6 months to ensure that the forum adequately meets the needs of practices.

Kind regards

Sheffield GP providers forum