

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Glossop, Oldham, & Tameside

JUNE 2024 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Andrew Vance, Vice Chair



Jane Hill, LMC Liaison Officer/
GP Practice Data Protection Officer

LMC meeting – Tuesday 11th June 2024

The committee met on Tuesday 11th June at 7pm at the Offices of GTD Healthcare in Denton. Dr Alan Dow - LMC Secretary & GM GPC representative and Dr Amir Hannan - LMC chair shared details of the proposed phase 1 of Industrial Action, which will let practices take action and send a clear message to NHS England, without breaching the GP contract. Further details are outlined below. Dr Joel Chatterjee shared feedback from the recent BMA-LMC UK conference which he attended. He flagged that many of the problems affecting GP practices in England are being experienced across the four nations. GP retention is one of these challenges and where it was mainly GPs in the 50+ age bracket choosing to leave the profession, it is now GPs age 30+. Dr Amir Hannan flagged that there are continuing issues with the pathology department at Tameside ICFT, and practices have been receiving duplicate and triplicate results, causing additional workload pressures.

GP contractor / partner ballot in preparation for Industrial Action

The ballot opened on Monday 17th June and closes on Monday 29th July ahead of action commencing from Thursday 1st August; you must be a BMA member to vote. The BMA is offering 3 months FREE Membership from 17th June 2024.

Please login to bma.org.uk to make sure your personal details, job roles, place of work and best contact email are correct and look out for an email from Civica as bma@cesvotes.com which will allow you to vote.

If you experience any issues, please email gpcontract@bma.org.uk for support.

Cont'd

Dr Katie Bramall Stainer, the BMA's GP Committee Chair, has recently shared the following update about the ballot:

<https://youtu.be/rWCrRQdWyBc>

If the ballot is successful, the GPC will be inviting GP contractors/partner BMA members to determine the actions they will be willing to take. They should enact these actions across the whole practice team, working with their practice managers. LMCs will also be vital in supporting practices and advising on the locally commissioned services and ICB asks which are not supporting the sustainability of local GP practices. Each of these actions is outlined in the GP practice survival toolkit, which can be found here: [Protect your patients, protect your GP practice \(bma.org.uk\)](#)

Proposed Industrial action – Phase one to commence on August 1st, 2024

As outlined at the recent GPC Northwest roadshow event in Warrington, Phase One of the GP Industrial action is to commence on August 1st, 2024. Phase one includes a list of possible options outlined in the GP Practice Survival Toolkit. None of these options would cause you to breach your contract but it is recognised that not all options would be appropriate for every practice / locality, and you should therefore consider the list as an “a la carte menu”. [Protect your patients, protect your GP practice \(bma.org.uk\)](#)

BMA public facing information campaign for patients to support Industrial action.

To support the forthcoming Industrial action, the BMA's GP committee have developed A4 posters and A5 leaflets to be shared with patients. Please visit this webpage for more information: www.bma.org.uk/GPsOnYourSide



Cont'd

Medical Examiner programme delayed to September 2024

The BMA continues to engage with stakeholders on the implementation of the Medical Examiner system in England, which is currently scheduled for 9th September 2024. The Statutory Instruments and timeline of the ME implementation can be found [here](#) with the relevant legislation found [here](#).

BMA Contract guidance

Last week we shared the BMA's recently published contract guidance. We have attached this guidance for ease of reference. This information can also be found on our website www.westpenninelmc.org

Oldham Generalist Representative vacancy

We currently have a vacancy on the committee for an Oldham based Generalist Representative. If you feel you could be the voice of GP colleagues in the Oldham locality, please do get in touch with Jane at westpennine.lmc@nhs.net by Monday 1st July 2024.

LMC meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month (apart from August) at 7pm. Four meetings per year are in person and the rest are via MS Teams. LMC representatives are offered a meeting attendance fee.

CQC support

The West Pennine LMC are very aware of how stressful the CQC inspection process can be for Practice staff, both before and after an inspection. We can offer support by coming out to your practice building and reviewing your policies, and protocols with you. If you feel this would be of benefit to your practice team, please do not hesitate to contact us at westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

Recruitment adverts

The West Pennine LMC is happy to share any GP practice recruitment adverts via the LMC's website. Please contact Jane at westpennine.lmc@nhs.net if you wish to advertise a position at your practice.

Cont'd

Data Protection Office Update

Data Security & Protection Toolkit annual return

[Log In \(dsptoolkit.nhs.uk\)](https://dsptoolkit.nhs.uk)

Please be aware that the deadline for submitting practice's mandatory annual toolkit return is 30th June 2024. If you require any support with this work, please do not hesitate to contact me: Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net or Mobile: 07951 530 417

Accelerated Access to GP-held patient records – update.

Following engagement with the ICO and NHSE, the BMA maintains the position outlined by the Information Commissioner. While the direction to provide prospective record access to patients is legal, mitigations outlined by practices in DPIAs submitted to the ICO should also be implemented to ensure that processing is compliant with the requirement of the Data Protection Act.

Where practices are facing pressure from ICBs to move ahead with prospective automatic access and have produced a DPIA, they should cite the ICOs response and continue in line with their DPIA.

Read more [here](#)

UK Caldicott Guardian Council training

The UK Caldicott Guardian Council have several training events for Caldicott Guardians in 2024. Please see the following link for further information:

[Events – UKCGC](#)

Data Protection training

In 2024, I continue to deliver Data Protection training sessions for GP practice teams. If you think your team would benefit from a short F2F session, I am very happy to come out to your practice to support you with this. Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net