

# West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Glossop, Oldham, & Tameside

## APRIL 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

## West Pennine LMC meeting – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024

The committee met on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at the meeting rooms of Go to Doc Healthcare Ltd in Denton. The result of the recent GP referendum was flagged by Dr Alan Dow, BMA -GP Committee representative. More than 19,000 GPs and GP Registrars took part in the BMA's referendum, with 99.2% voting 'No' to the imposed 2024/5 contract.

Dr Alan Dow noted that secondary care providers continue to inappropriately transfer work to GPs, a recent example of which is being asked to order a repeat CxR for a patient, something which clearly could – and should - have been done in the secondary care setting. Dr Dow also revisited the series of several inappropriate prescribing requests for a young mental health patient from Pennine Care Foundation Trust. GPs should not be prescribing antidepressants for those <18y who should be under specialist care. The committee reaffirmed their agreement re GPs not prescribing of SSRIs for those <18Y

Dr Amir Hannan shared a Left shift funding paper with the committee members, which outlined how money is being spent in GM. The vast majority of the funding is directed towards secondary care, with primary care receiving relatively very little.

The committee was saddened to hear that our Practice Manager representative was violently threatened by a patient. Despite the fact that he alerted the GM Police to the real and immediate danger, the police did not attend the incident. The Association of GM LMCs will formally complain to the GMP, highlighting that in February 2024 alone there were 1,252,463 patient consultations in General Practices in Greater Manchester, and GPs and their teams are experts at assessing and managing risk and behaviours. As a rule, practice teams rarely call the police to report a crime or other incident and we are therefore very concerned to note that Greater Manchester Police did not support our practice when they requested help.

We have attached a copy of this letter, which was subsequently written.

## **GP contract referendum**

More than 19,000 GPs and GP Registrars took part in the BMA's referendum, with 99.2% voting 'no' to the imposed 2024/5 contract. The referendum results have armed the BMA's GP Committee with a very clear steer for action.

On 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Dr Katie Bramall Stainer, Chair of BMA - GP committee England sent the attached letter to NHS England, formally informing them that the BMA's GPCE is now in dispute with NHSE in relation to the 2024/25 General Medical Services contract for General Practice.

## **SOS GP**

This is a crucial time for the GP profession and as negotiations continue at a national level, LMCs have set up local "SOS GP" WhatsApp groups, with a view to quickly and efficiently cascading updates around this. We promise we won't bombard you with messages – it will be essential information only! If you are a GP living or working in Glossop, Oldham, or Tameside and haven't already joined the West Pennine WhatsApp group, please contact Jane by emailing her on [westpennine.lmc@nhs.net](mailto:westpennine.lmc@nhs.net)

## **Medical Examiner programme delayed to September 2024**

The statutory regulations relating to the Medical Examiners programme have now been delayed until September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Please see the following link for confirmation of this:

[https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fquestions-statements.parliament.uk%2Fwritten-statements%2Fdetail%2F2024-04-15%2FHCWS395%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2OU-WDmq6wSMohiHNewgAzSVb14DrQEGQlpECgDZZWISLLODw5buxZO2A\\_aem\\_AfvzhAGEvHq6esqU\\_KVMek1i48NGKyzC9vOMjv6OyHhjIIWDBFiA9VFjWQH0dfd0cJo&data=05%7C02%7Cwestpennine.lmc%40nhs.net%7C6abf3d103b3b47eccf0d08dc5dd88c02%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638488431836042311%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoicjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hBMAub%2B8eznVmqsNBV5FywFzQsOmuzg73yWHUNrUweE%3D&reserved=0](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fquestions-statements.parliament.uk%2Fwritten-statements%2Fdetail%2F2024-04-15%2FHCWS395%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2OU-WDmq6wSMohiHNewgAzSVb14DrQEGQlpECgDZZWISLLODw5buxZO2A_aem_AfvzhAGEvHq6esqU_KVMek1i48NGKyzC9vOMjv6OyHhjIIWDBFiA9VFjWQH0dfd0cJo&data=05%7C02%7Cwestpennine.lmc%40nhs.net%7C6abf3d103b3b47eccf0d08dc5dd88c02%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638488431836042311%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoicjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=hBMAub%2B8eznVmqsNBV5FywFzQsOmuzg73yWHUNrUweE%3D&reserved=0)

As you will be aware, the Medical Examiners are intended to give additional scrutiny to the reporting process for non-coronial deaths.

Some practices in the West Pennine footprint have already been engaging with the Medical Examiner's office as they have rolled out their service on a pilot basis. We have attached updated guidance from the Oldham and the Tameside (For T&G) Medical Examiner offices. If you have any additional queries, the Lead Medical Examiner Officer for Tameside & Glossop is Lauren Cox: [Lauren.Cox@tgh.nhs.uk](mailto:Lauren.Cox@tgh.nhs.uk) and the Lead Medical Examiner Officer for Oldham is Joe Topping: [joe.topping@nca.nhs.uk](mailto:joe.topping@nca.nhs.uk)

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### **Generalist GP representative vacancy**

The West Pennine Local Medical Committee has a vacancy for a GP Generalist. If you feel you could be the voice of GPs, please do get in touch with Jane at [westpennine.lmc@nhs.net](mailto:westpennine.lmc@nhs.net)

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.

### **Practice Manager representative vacancies.**

We have vacancies for Practice Manager representatives from the Oldham and Glossop localities. If you feel you could be the voice of Practice Managers in your locality, please do get in touch with Jane at [westpennine.lmc@nhs.net](mailto:westpennine.lmc@nhs.net)

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.

### **Responding well to conflict - Training**

We are well that the public are increasingly aggravated and in General Practice, GPs and staff members are being subjected to more violent and aggressive behaviour than ever before. The GM GP Excellence team are delivering the following training session, which you may wish to attend or book your team members on to:

This webinar will explore the options of how to best support your staff when they experience conflict, including abuse from patients. This session will also cover the contractual requirements of how you can deal with abusive and violent patients.

#### **Available dates:**

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 12-1.30pm – [Click here to register](#)

### **Dysphagia Training**

Rosemount kindly sponsored our recent LMC meeting. Richard Mansfield from Rosemount has asked that we share the following information regarding forthcoming dysphagia training.

<https://www.rosemontpharma.com/dysphagia-cpd-modules/>

When completed Rosemont will provide certificates for 2hrs CPD points.

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### **CQC workshop – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

The postponed CQC workshop will now take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June from 1pm – 3pm (lunch available from 12.30pm) in the meeting room at Houghton Thornley Medical Centre, Thornley Street, Hyde, SK14 1JY.

Antonia Parker from Lancashire and Cumbria Consortium of LMCs will lead the workshop, which is aimed at GPs, Practice Managers and Practice Nurses, and will guide you through the requirements of the recently introduced Single Assessment Framework. Please do book your place by emailing Jane [westpennine.lmc@nhs.net](mailto:westpennine.lmc@nhs.net)

### **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](mailto:westpennine.lmc@nhs.net)

### **Retirement**

If any GPs are retiring from your practice are due to retire, please do let us know so we can acknowledge their service to General Practice. [westpennine.lmc@nhs.net](mailto: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](mailto:westpennine.lmc@nhs.net) if you wish to advertise a position at your practice.

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## **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 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024. If you require any support with this work, please do not hesitate to contact me:

[Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net](mailto:Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net)

### **Information sharing Gateway.**

As previously flagged, GDPR Article 30 dictates that all Data Controllers should have an up-to-date R.O.P.A. (Register of Processing Activities). The Information Sharing Gateway is a useful toolkit for tracking the data flows out of your practice.

[Home Page - Information Sharing Gateway](#)

### **For GP practices in Tameside**

A Medicines Optimisation in Care Homes (MOCH) data sharing agreement has recently been added to the Information Sharing Gateway. This project works across the interface of primary care, secondary care and with Greater Manchester ICB (Tameside) to carry out structured medication reviews with all care home patients, to reduce polypharmacy, medicines wastage and reduce medicines-related harm events (e.g. Falls, Adverse effects of medicines) and therefore admissions to secondary care.

If you haven't already done so, it would be much appreciated if you could please log onto the ISG to give Data Controller sign off for this project [Home Page - Information Sharing Gateway](#)

### **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](mailto:Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net)