



20<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Colleague

Welcome to this week's edition of the LMC Express. The local updates for this week include:

- Digital Technologies Survey: messaging, online and video consultations Understanding the future requirements of GP Practices
- Message from the Kent & Medway Primary Care Training Hub: GP Recruitment Workshop 8th March - book now to avoid disappointment!
- New to Practice - Advice on Premises Webinar, Wednesday 1 March 2023, 12.30-2.00pm
- GPAS Weekly SitRep

This week we also have the **national update from the BMA** and we draw your attention to the following important announcements therein:

- GP contract meeting with Minister O'Brien
- 2023/24 GP contract update webinars
- Junior doctors' ballot on strike action and guidance for GP trainees
- Working with Torture Survivors - an e-learning course for healthcare professionals
- Claiming for Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- Wellbeing

### **Digital Technologies Survey: messaging, online and video consultations Understanding the future requirements of GP Practices**

We are encouraging readers to participate in this important survey regarding the Digital Technologies deployed in general practice. This will inform the ICB's procurement for digital services.

Message from ICB:

*Dear Practice Staff,*

*NHS Kent and Medway wish to hear from all GP Practice staff as to their future requirements of digital technologies including messaging, online and video consultations.*

**Digital Technologies Survey: messaging, online and video consultations Understanding the future requirements of GP Practices ([smartsurvey.co.uk](https://smartsurvey.co.uk))**

*The purpose of this survey is to understand how the features and functions of current digital technologies meet your requirements and your future needs, to support patients using digital technologies over the next 3 years. There are four sections to this survey focusing on each technology and free text section to provide comments.*

*If you have any queries please contact: [kmicb.digital@nhs.net](mailto:kmicb.digital@nhs.net)*

***\*\*Please complete this by Wednesday 28 February 2023\*\****

## Message from the Kent & Medway Primary Care Training Hub: GP Recruitment Workshop 8th March - book now to avoid disappointment!

We are pleased to invite you to a General Practice Recruitment Workshop on 8<sup>th</sup> March at Ashford International Hotel and to include the planned agenda.

We will hear from several colleagues both local and from other parts of the country who spend time thinking through the challenges of attracting and recruiting staff to general practice. These formal presentations will, however, only form part of what we wish to achieve from the day. We are keen to hear your views and for everyone to share their successes and failures in this area. We need to co-create some practical solutions together if we are to have a realistic chance of bringing the approximately 150 GPs into Kent & Medway to provide the care that our registered patients need and deserve.

The invite is open to anyone within your practice or PCN who is involved in recruiting GPs or other general practice staff. An agenda is attached for further information. The more people who come the more ideas we have to share with each other so please do sign up on Eventbrite and join us on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/recruitment-in-primary-care-tickets-541117867107>

## New to Practice - Advice on Premises Webinar, Wednesday 1 March 2023, 12.30-2.00pm

For those who are new to management roles in GP Practices, we have arranged a webinar with Edwina Farrell, James Gransby and Rosemary Jones who will give a guided tour of the important information you need to manage funding and development of premises and issues concerning Partnership Agreements, Deeds of Trust and Tax.

An introduction to Edwina, James and Rosemary can be found below:

*Edwina Farrell is a nationally renowned Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 Ranked GP advisor and head of primary care at Weightmans LLP. She specialises in Gp premises and partnership matters. She has worked with Kent practices and across the country to help GPs in freehold and leasehold transactions, developments and property dispute matters. In addition she works with practices in connection with commercial matters such as partnership deeds, mergers, contracts advice primary care network matters and some practice disputes. She regularly speaks at GP themed conferences and is a frequent contributor to medical practitioner publications.*

*James spends his entire time working with doctors and GP practices, both at the coal face and writing for national publications on topical matters affecting GPs and speaking at seminars on topical issues. James has worked in this sector for over two decades and also holds the role of Vice Chair of AISMA (The Association of Independent Specialist Medical Accountants) whose members act for almost half of all GPs in the country. He is also a committee member of the Primary Care Premises Forum. James is able to give specialist advice to doctors and their practices on financial matters including tax planning, pensions tax and practice mergers, to name a few. James has also performed advisory work in areas such as premises developments, new models of care (particularly Primary Care Networks), succession planning and GPs entering partnership.*

*Rosemary Jones is a Director of Invicta Chartered Surveyors, based in Kent and is a Chartered Surveyor with more than 30 years' experience. Her work is almost exclusively within the NHS and predominantly for GP Practices. Her day-to-day work includes; Premises developments and improvement; Current Market Rent Reviews; Monitoring Surveyor; Lease Rent Reviews; Lease Renewals; Valuations for partnership agreements;*

*Service charges. She is an Independent Expert and Arbitrator on the RICS Specialist Healthcare Panels for Dispute Resolution and an Advisor to the NHS Resolution.*

Please [register your place to attend this free webinar here](#) and please do forward to others in your practice that you think would benefit from joining us.

### **GPAS Weekly SitRep**

GPAS was implemented to allow General Practice to report the state of resilience across Kent & Medway so that system leaders can understand the pressures being experienced and compare them to those in the rest of Primary and Secondary Care.

Every week Practices submit their assessment of their current state into a central database using data from an EMIS report. Submissions are **completely anonymised**; the LMC is not able to identify individual practices from the submissions. The only data that is shared with either the ICB or other stakeholders is aggregated at HCP or Kent and Medway level.

The more practices that take part in GPAS, the more robust the evidence will be. Collecting this data is assisting the LMC in illustrating practice pressures.

The report only take 5 minutes to complete each week. We would encourage every practice to submit a report on weekly basis and to provide comments and feedback. The LMC is able to assist with getting practices started on reporting. Information can be found on our website at [Kent LMC - General Practice Alert State \(GPAS\)](#) or please email the LMC at [info@kentlmc.org](mailto:info@kentlmc.org)

[To view the latest GPAS SitRep please click here](#)

Kind regards  
Kent Local Medical Committee