



3rd April 2023

Dear Colleague

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

- GP Contract 2023/24
- Quality and Outcomes Framework Guidance for 23/24
- The Network Contract DES
- Recovery Plan for General Practice
- Wellbeing
- GPAS Update - Submission to National Dashboard
- GPC Virtual Roadshow for Kent & Medway: Contract Changes 23/24
- New to Partnership Payment Scheme (N2PP) – deadline for applications
- How to obtain a Tier 2 Sponsorship Licence
- Kent & Medway Medical School Senior Lecturer and Academic Lead for Year 5
- A message from Kent and Medway's Staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Service
- Primary Care National Workforce Reporting Service Webinar - 19th April 2023
- A Message from NHS Kent & Medway: GP Care Home Survey

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

- GP Contract Imposition
- Junior doctors' and GP trainees strike action (poster/leaflet and infographic attached)
- GP pressures
- General practice pay declaration: guidance
- Guidance on HRT Pre-Payment Certificate (PPC)
- Medical Examiners
- DWP Special Rules update
- Wellbeing

GP Contract 2023/24

The GPC update provides details of the steps they are taking to seek changes to the imposed contract for 23/24. In the meantime the contract changes are outlined here [NHS England » Changes to the GP Contract in 2023/24](#)

Quality and Outcomes Framework Guidance for 23/24

This provides the additional guidance on interpretation and verification of the QOF indicators for 23/24.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/quality-and-outcomes-framework-guidance-for-2023-24/>

The Network Contract DES

This has been issued on the 1st April 2023 <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/PRN00157-ncdes-contract-specification-2023-24-pcn-requirements-and-entitlements.pdf> and summary of the financials for 2023/24

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/network-contract-des-pcn-adjusted-populations-spreadsheet/>

For those that might be interested there is an opt-out opportunity for 30 days from the publication of the Network Contract DES (1.4.23).

Recovery Plan for General Practice

We understand 'The Delivery Plan for Recovering Access to Primary Care' is imminent.

Wellbeing

Did you know there is a Kent and Medway Wellbeing website which has universal offers for NHS staff [Wellbeing hub :: Kent & Medway ICS \(kmstaffwellbeinghub.uk\)](https://www.kentmedwaywellbeinghub.uk/)

We would like to highlight Talking Wellness [Support for health and care staff :: NHS Kent and Medway \(icb.nhs.uk\) talking wellness](https://www.talkingwellness.nhs.uk/) is a safe and confidential space for NHS and social care staff working across Kent and Medway. Staff can check in, see how they're feeling and understand what, if any, additional support they might need. The team of mental health professionals can provide a variety of psychological wellbeing help, support, and advice. The offer is open to all NHS staff.

In addition we also have our Wellbeing page [Kent LMC - GP and GP Staff Wellbeing](#)

GPAS Update - Submission to National Dashboard

Thank you to all practices that continue to provide a weekly a submission. The information you provide is providing is invaluable in evidencing the pressure general practice is operating under. From 30th March, the Kent GPAS report will be included into a National GPAS reporting dashboard and we will need to submit our Opel Status (GPAS state) into the national dashboard by 2pm every Thursday so we would ask that all practices **complete their GPAS submission by Wednesday of each week.**

Submissions continue to be **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 takes less than 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

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

GPC Virtual Roadshow for Kent & Medway: Contract Changes 23/24

GPC Virtual Roadshow Contract Changes 23/24 will be at 19.00 – 20.30 on Wednesday 26th April. Richard Van Mallearts, GPC Deputy Chair will be attending to discuss the current changes and proposed GPC responses [Click here to join the meeting](#)

New to Partnership Payment Scheme (N2PP) – deadline for applications

The N2PP scheme was introduced in July 2020 for an anticipated two years. In December 2021, NHS England extended the scheme into 2023.

GPs and other clinical staff intending to apply for the scheme need to have entered into an equity partnership **by 31 March 2023** to be able to submit an application by 30 June 2023. Find out more about the application process [online](#) or you can email england.newtopartnershipenquiries@nhs.net.

There are currently a few spaces left on the programme, Pathway to Partnership to support you on Leadership, Strategy and Operations with implementation in your practice.

Full information can be found here - <https://qualitasconsortium.uk/pathway-to-partnership/>

How to obtain a Tier 2 Sponsorship Licence

Obtaining a Tier 2 Sponsorship Licence is a route for employing non-European Economic Area (non-EEA) clinicians wanting to work in the UK. However, quite understandably, the bureaucracy involved can be somewhat off putting. Fortunately, Sharon Lee, Senior Primary Care Workforce Programme Lead for Kent and Medway ICB, is available to provide guidance on how to navigate the process. If you are considering obtaining a Tier 2 Sponsorship Licence then contact Sharon via sharonlee2@nhs.net.

Sharon has helped many practices to obtain a Tier 2 licence. Recently she helped Grovehurst Surgery (Sittingbourne) to secure the Licence, and Nicola Reeves, Grovehurst's Practice Manager, had the following to say:

"This will make a huge difference to our practice as we already have a doctor who we will be employing and without the Tier2 sponsorship i.e. Certificate of Sponsorship (COS) this would have not been possible."

"I would encourage all practices to apply for Tier2 sponsorship which will help with the recruitment crisis we have in primary care moreover we can claim for the cost of the application from the ICB."

"A big thank you to you Sharon for sending the Tier2 guidance. I am not sure we would have been successful without this."

A Message from Kent & Medway Medical School: Senior Lecturer and Academic Lead for Year 5

KMMS have an exciting opportunity for a Senior Lecturer and Academic Lead for the Head of Year 5, the final Year of their programme. The advert for this post can be found here: <https://jobs.kent.ac.uk/vacancy.aspx?ref=KMMS-165-23>

The closing date for applications is Sunday 16th April.
Interviews are expected to be held on Tuesday 2nd May.

To learn further about the role and submit an application please use the link provided above.
An ASAP start date is anticipated for the successful candidate and interested candidates should ensure that they have the support of their Clinical and Medical Directors for a prompt change to their job plan when applying.

For any questions regarding the above post please contact dean@kmms.ac.uk
Current opportunities at KMMS can be viewed here: <https://kmms.ac.uk/kmms-careers-jobs/>

A message from Kent and Medway's Staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Service

Following the success of *talking wellness* online training sessions in February we have some more training opportunities in March and April available for staff to attend, and have added an additional date on Tuesday 2nd May. Join talking wellness for one of our online training sessions to learn more about the importance of mental health wellbeing. To book a place please click the link: <https://bookwhen.com/kentandmedway>

A Message from NHS Digital: Primary Care National Workforce Reporting Service Webinar - 19th April 2023

We are running another webinar on the completion of NWRS on 19th April 2023 2-3pm. There will be an overview of the system together with details of how to update and complete information in the system. This part of the webinar will be recorded and updated in our [NHS futures page](#)

If you want to join the webinar, please use this link [Click here to join the meeting](#)

A Message from NHS Kent & Medway: GP Care Home Survey

As part of ongoing evaluations of the Care Home Local Enhanced Service (LES), the Ageing Well team at the ICB ask for your help to further evaluate and improve the LES provided to our Care Homes across Kent and Medway. We kindly ask that all GPs, Clinical Directors and practice staff who support any of the aligned care homes complete the survey below.

GP Care Home DES/LES survey

Thank you to those who have already taken the time to respond to the survey, it is greatly appreciated.

To ensure all views are captured the LMC have negotiated an extension until to Tuesday 11th April to allow additional time for feedback to be submitted. Your views are very important to the ICB.

Once the survey has closed, we'll be analysing the results and will produce a report with the outcomes of your feedback and will further engage with yourselves, the LMC and those who engage with the Care homes, along with Care Home feedback to ensure we improve the outcomes for the population of Kent and Medway living in care homes.

Kind regards
Kent Local Medical Committee