



Communique

The newsletter of the GPDF

Issue 3 | November 2019

£1 million returned to LMCs

In October 2019 the GPDF Board announced a rebate of the 2019 quota of just under £1M to be made to LMCs that have paid the 2019 Quota in full by an agreed date.

This has been offered as a cash rebate for those who have paid in full or it can be offset against the 2020 Quota. LMCs which are paying in instalments have been credited with the rebate and may therefore reduce future payments.

For those LMCs that are not paid up in full but have an agreed arrangement to remit quota payments from 2018 or before, GPDF will offset any rebate against their unremitted balances. In other circumstances, the rebate will not apply. All LMC have been advised in writing that GPDF is planning to fulfil this previous commitment to return monies to LMCs.

Agreement with the BMA for the funding of National Representation

We are pleased to confirm that GPDF reached agreement with the BMA in relation to GPC grant funding for the 2019-20 session year.

The GPDF and the BMA have agreed that the GPDF will provide the BMA with grant funding of £1.375m for the session year ending June 2020.

This is the same amount of grant as 2018/19 in order to support the representational work of GPC, including its committees in England, Scotland and Wales, and the

payments to its members and executive, on substantially the same terms as the previous grant.

The GPDF and the BMA are committed to work together to explore a longer-term funding agreement for the benefit of general practice.



Joint review of National Representation

There have been very positive, early discussions on a proposed Review of National Representation being conducted jointly by GPDF, BMA and GPC.

This project is currently being scoped and once finalised details of the planned activity will be communicated to LMCs. We are well aware that National Representation of every area of General Practice is of paramount importance, and this review is not intended to focus on

'cost cutting' but rather it will seek to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of future representation.

More details on the review will follow in due course.



PCN Email Advice Line

GPDF provided a series of documents and templates related to Primary Care Networks prepared by their legal advisors. These can be found on the Library section of the GPDF website.

An email address for LMCs to send queries relating to the set-up/operation of PCNs has been established **PCNenquiries@Penningtons.co.uk** this will be available to LMCs until the end of March 2020.

If you are a GP or Clinical Director who has a question, please contact your LMC. Where appropriate, LMCs should collate queries and forward them to the email address above. Rather than responding to each email, the FAQ document based on the queries received to date will be updated as and when further queries are received. An automatic reply from the PCN email address will confirm this.

The FAQ document is located in the Library section of the GPDF website ([more info here](#))

Visit our website
www.gpdf.org.uk
for updates & information

Annual General Meeting



The GPDF AGM was held in early September in Glasgow, as part of the Board decision to rotate the meeting across England, Scotland and Wales. The full Report and Financial Statements can be downloaded from the website ([more info here](#)).

In addition, a number of questions were asked at the meeting and a summary of the questions and answers are also on the website and can be found here ([more info here](#)).

Details of the responsibilities of GPDF Directors

Details of the responsibilities of GPDF Directors, together with information on the payments they receive have been set out in a short document available on the website ([more info here](#)).

This includes their responsibilities under the Companies Act 2006 and confirms that they are officers of the GPDF. The purpose of publishing these details now is to encourage more people to consider standing for election in September 2020 and in the future. The majority of Directors will continue to be elected by the members, the Nominees of LMCs and, to avoid any misunderstanding, LMC Nominees need not be medically qualified.





Updating the Articles of Association

Work is underway to update the GPDF's Articles of Association. To make this legal document easier to read it is being written in plain English. Inter alia, changes are planned to adjust the composition of the Board and to ensure that were the Company ever to be wound up, funds would be returned to LMCs.

Once the document is completed it will be circulated to the Members of the Company, in other words the Nominees of LMCs, who will have the responsibility to approve the changes recommended by the Board, and this will require a vote of 75% in favour.



Workshop sessions

Informing and influencing GPDF activity

A huge thank you to the people from LMCs from Grampian to Cornwall who took part in the workshop sessions in London, Manchester and Glasgow. These sessions are enormously valuable in helping the GPDF Board understand the range of views and opinions held by LMCs and are assisting to set the agenda for GPDF activity.

While there is recognition generally of the progress made by GPDF in the last 12 months, there remains a number of important issues to be addressed. A full report from the 2019 workshops (and also the 2018 workshops) will be available on the GPDF website in December.

GPDF Contact database

We are always trying to ensure we reach as many people within LMCs as possible with information and news, and to invite them to participate in consultations. If you would like to be kept up to date and are not already on the database, please access the registration form for future communication ([more info here](#))



Non-Payment of Quota by a small number of LMCs

At 30 September 2019 the following LMCs had unpaid quotas for 2018 and in some cases prior years, in addition to 2019. At present they decline to pay the quota.

LMC	2019 Quota	Balance outstanding at 30 September 2019	Percentage of amount owed relative to 2019 levy
Bolton	£16,000	£56,259	352%
Dyfed Powys	£29,300	£72,900	249%
Manchester	£38,300	£98,019	256%
Rochdale & Bury	£22,700	£65,457	288%
Total	£106,300	£292,635	-

In relation to the 2019 quota, all other LMCs have either made payment in full, in part (with discussion) or are paying regular amounts by standing order.

Please note: Where LMCs do not pay their quota for the current year an additional burden is placed on the GPDF and its ability to meet the needs of National Representation and the Conferences.

LMC Development Grant Scheme

The purpose of this fund is to support the development and/or increase the effectiveness of LMCs (and therefore contribute to the effective support by LMCs to General Practice and GPs).

This is a fund for 'projects' over and above what might be considered to be 'normal LMC business' and it is not intended to fund recurring expenditure; the scheme is focussed on providing Grants (not Loans or Investments) to LMCs.

There were 6 applications for funding in the first wave, which were reviewed and scored by a panel of peers from LMCs, before being considered by the GPDF Board. Unfortunately, none of these applications were thought to meet the key criteria in that they were for activity which is funded by other LMCs as 'normal business' or they did not have the potential to have a broad benefit to a wider number of LMCs.

The next deadline for applications is January (for award in March), and full details of the criteria and the process is contained on the website ([more info](#)).

Contact us

GPDF engagement

For any matter regarding the role/remit of GPDF or engagement of GPDF with other organisations.

Dougy Moederle-Lumb: Chair of GPDF

Chair@gpdf.org.uk

GPDF policy regarding honoraria payments or expenses payment

For any matter related to GPDF policy regarding honoraria or expenses payment, and issues related to requests for legal support.

John Canning: Director of Operations

doo@gpdf.org.uk

GPDF Membership

For any matter related to GPDF Membership, Articles of Association or Governance structure.

Hugh Christie: Company Secretary

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