

# Communique

The newsletter of the GPDF  
Issue 9 | February 2021



## Integrated Care Systems: NHS England

Many of you will be aware of the recent NHS consultation on Integrated Care Systems in England and the recent White Paper. Following approaches from several LMCs, GPDF submitted a detailed response to the NHS England consultation and these can be found in the information section within the library on the GPDF [website](#).

There is no doubt that the landscape of primary care and GP services continues to evolve, and we are committed to ensuring that the voice of LMCs will be heard.

## COVID-19 Vaccine programme:

In support of concerned LMCs GPDF sought legal advice on the merits of any potential legal challenge to the decision of the UK Government to change its guidance on the Covid-19 vaccination programme. A summary of that advice is available on our website and is a generic summary for LMCs to assist their constituent GPs. It is no substitute for fact specific advice. We hope you find it helpful; you are free to use the Advice Note as you see fit but must ensure that it is only used as a whole. Please find link to the advice note [here](#).

## Support from GPDF re Legal case

The GPDF was approached by an LMC seeking support for one of its GPs who was being asked to repay a very significant sum paid during a period of suspension as the NHS had reinterpreted the Secretary of State's suspension. We were pleased to be able to support the case as a matter of principle.

Whilst the GPDF does not routinely support legal cases, those establishing a matter of principle will be funded where this is of benefit to the GP community in general, or to a significant group of GPs.

## 2021 Quota level – reduction maintained.

At its meeting in early December the Board of GPDF agreed to keep the quota for 2021 at the reduced rate of 3 pence per registered patient. This maintains the reduction of 25% from the planned 4 pence per registered patient that we were able to effect in 2020 to support LMCs with the additional demands of the response to the Covid pandemic. This delivers a 50% reduction in the payments for each LMC since 2017.

In line with the clear wishes of LMCs this means that more money, annually almost £2m, stays with LMCs for them to use locally or return to contributors. If you have any questions about payment, please let us know at [mail@gpdf.org.uk](mailto:mail@gpdf.org.uk).

The Directors of the GPDF continue to be very focussed on providing the absolute best value and support we can deliver to LMCs, GPs and general practice.

## GPDF Remuneration Committee – input from LMCs.

The committee, which is independent of the GPDF Board, is chaired by Joel Griffin, Reward Director, at Rolls-Royce plc, and 2 representatives from LMCs, Simon Barrett, N&NE Lincs LMC and Dr. David Humphreys, Wigan LMC. Recently this committee invited LMCs to contribute to a confidential benchmarking exercise to gather information related to structure and payments within the LMC community.

The exercise was managed on an 'arms-length' basis and the committee have not receive details for individual LMCs, but rather aggregated and anonymous information.

The committee would like to thank all those LMC who have contributed to this request for information. A copy of the aggregated / anonymous information will be provided to those LMC who participated.

## Dates for your Diary

- LMC Secretaries Conference 2021 – virtual – 4th March
- UK LMC Conference 2021 – virtual - 12/13th May
- Wales LMC Conference – 20th November (format tba)
- England LMC Conference – 26th November (format tba)
- Scotland LMC Conference – 2nd/3rd December (2nd only if needed – format tba)

**The Annual General Meeting of the GPDF will be held on 10th September 2021, with the format to be advised.**

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## Election of GPDF Directors

There will be an election of Directors to the GPDF Board in September 2021. The current Board would like to encourage a diverse range of candidates to stand for election and details regarding the role and responsibilities can be found on the GPDF [website](#). If you would like an informal discussion about standing for election please contact the Chair, Dougy Moederle-Lumb ([chair@gpdf.org.uk](mailto:chair@gpdf.org.uk)) or the Company Secretary, Hugh Christie ([cosec@gpdf.org.uk](mailto:cosec@gpdf.org.uk))

## A conversation with the GPDF Board

The Board of GPDF are very keen to engage closely with LMCs to ensure open and informed two-way communication. The planned sessions will be an opportunity for individuals within LMCs to have a direct discussion with the management team and Board members from GPDF. Each session will last no longer than 1.5 hours, with the agenda/topics for discussion set by the participants. The sessions will be kept small to ensure those attending can fully participate and will consist of 5 individuals from different LMCs, the GPDF management team (3 individuals) and 2 Board members (one elected/one independent). Initially 6 sessions have been set up with the plan to have further sessions at a later date.

The sessions will take place on: -

- Tuesday 16th March: 12.45
- Wednesday 24th March: 08.30
- Tuesday 30th March: 12.45
- Thursday 8th April: 08.30
- Thursday 15th April: 17.00
- Tuesday 20th April: 08.30

**Note:** no more than one person per LMC will be included within the same session, but the same LMC can attend more than one session if desired. Once participation is confirmed attenders will be asked to submit topics, issues or questions in advance to enable any preparations that may be required. Individuals will be asked to introduce their own topics, issues or questions. Details of how to register for these sessions have been sent via email to individuals on the GPDF contact database, and you can also register by clicking the link below. The Directors look forward to continuing engagement with LMCs in the coming months. Link available [here](#).

## Continued Refusal to Pay Quota by a small number of LMC

LMC payment of Quotas – as at end December 2020 the following LMCs have unpaid quotas for 2018, 2019 and in some cases prior years, in addition to 2020. At present they refuse to pay the quota.

**Please note:** Where LMCs do not pay their full quota an additional financial burden is placed on the GPDF and on all other LMCs in order to meet the needs of National Representation, including Conferences.

LMC	Balance outstanding at end December 2020	Percentage amount owed relative to 2020 quota
Bolton	£60 859.46	700%
Manchester	£105 894.70	596%
Rochdale & Bury	£71 857.60	584%
Total	£238 611.76	-

**Sign up to our 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 form [here](#).

## 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](mailto:chair@gpdf.org.uk)

### GPDF Policy

GPDF policy regarding the annual quota, payments of various kinds and any matter related to requests for legal support.

John Canning: Director of Operations  
[doo@gpdf.org.uk](mailto:doo@gpdf.org.uk)

### GPDF Membership

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

Hugh Christie: Company Secretary  
[cosec@gpdf.org.uk](mailto:cosec@gpdf.org.uk)

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