

Communique

The newsletter of the GPDF

October 2021



Elections to the GPDF Board

There were elections to the GPDF Board at the AGM in September with the following results:-

- **Dr Dougy Moederle-Lumb** (Nominee for North Yorkshire LMC) was re-elected for a 3-year term and was re-elected Chair by the Board.
- **Dr Colin Kelman** (Nominee for Salford and Trafford LMC) was re-elected for a 3-year term.
- **Dr Zoe Norris** (Nominee for Humberside LMC) was elected for a 3-year term.
- **Dr Gurmit Mahay** (Nominee for Wolverhampton LMC) was re-elected and will serve the remaining 2-years of the term which became vacant on the retirement of Dr Paul Roblin.



Dr Dougy Moederle-Lumb



Dr Colin Kelman



Dr Zoe Norris



Dr Gurmit Mahay

The AGM in September 2021

This was held online on 10 September, attended by 22 members in addition to the Board and advisors.

The Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 are available on the GPDF website and can be [accessed here](#).

A number of questions were asked, and a full list of these together with the answers provided by the Board have been posted to the GPDF website.

Review of representation

In May of this year the UK Conference of LMC passed a motion requesting that the GPDF commission a thorough review of representation. Work on the review has started and a series of initial consultations has taken place to inform the structure and terms of reference for the review. This is an extremely important project and the Board of GPDF is determined that this will be broad, comprehensive and encompass all appropriate stakeholders and areas of general practice. Further updates will be provided in the coming months.

Engagement & Discussions

Thanks to all those who participated in the recent discussion session which was chaired by Katie Bramall-Stainer. This was very useful in giving the GPDF a clearer understanding of the views and opinions on a range of current and longer-term issues which are important to LMCs.

Communication was identified as an immediate and urgent issue which is being further developed and more information will be available in the coming weeks.

The evolving LMC 'landscape'

A series of workshops will be held in November intended to stimulate discussion and debate on the impact of ICSs on LMCs, based on a study which has been commissioned by the GPDF.

The sessions will be led by the highly experienced management consultant Dennis Sherwood, who will present his pictorial representation of what the future healthcare 'landscape' might look like from the perspective of an LMC. The aim is to help LMCs 'navigate the future' by the most positive, constructive and effective 'route'.

Places are limited to one per LMC and 8 attendees per session to ensure there will be the opportunity for discussion amongst those attending. This is likely to be of interest to the senior officers of an LMC such as the Chair, Secretary or CEO.

If you are interested in attending, you can access further information on the dates and times of the workshops [here](#)

Communique

The newsletter of the GPDF

May 2021



Why does GPDF conduct reviews, engage in consultation, and conduct research surveys?

The GPDF is committed to policy decisions and implementation based on sound evidence. We gather this evidence in several ways:

- Commissioning surveys, market research or consultancy.
- Commissioning experienced independent research and consultation professionals.
- Convening groups of individuals who have knowledge in a particular subject or have experience of a particular issue to help develop and discuss proposals and findings.

The health sector in Great Britain is in constant evolution, with changes in structure, investment, focus and prioritisation. With regard to general practice there are multiple stakeholders including the NHS (England, Scotland, Wales), Governments (UK, Scotland, Wales), BMA/GPCs (UK, England, Scotland, Wales), GPDF, LMCs, RCGP, and multiple federations and associations, all of which have their own objectives and agendas.

It is to be expected that objectives and agendas will not necessarily align and, therefore, discussion, debate and argument are common in order to seek to inform and influence. Central to this process is evidence to support and justify the position being taken or the argument being made.

In our view, it is essential that the evidence used is: -

- Independent of vested interests
- Rigorous, impartial, and reliable
- Generates new ideas and innovation
- Provides challenge to norms and preconceptions
- Normally based on theory or contributes to the development of theory
- Develops new knowledge and understanding
- Is subject to scrupulous scrutiny and review
- Value for money

There are always challenges when conducting consultation and research when engaging with general practice. Some of those key challenges include the timescale necessary for appropriately

robust and considered research, and the willingness and commitment from stakeholders and GPs to take part.

None of the issues are insurmountable, and because important research questions often arise from practical problems, it is crucially important that researchers/consultants and the profession work together, for the benefit of the profession, to ensure that the research is relevant, and therefore to maximise its usefulness.

Such co-operation allows the research conclusions to be disseminated to a wide audience, for follow up discussions, and for well-designed and effective change to take place for the benefit of the profession and wider society.

Dates for your Diary

- Wales LMC Conference – please note this has been postponed to March 2022
- England LMC Conference – 26th November (virtual)
- Scotland LMC Conference – 2nd/3rd December (virtual)

The Annual General Meeting of the GPDF next year will be held on 9 September 2022, with the format to be advised.

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 (link) or email marion@jlr.co.uk to be added to the GPDF contact database.

'What does the GPDF actually do for LMCs and general practice?'

To help LMCs answer this question if asked, we have produced a concise leaflet which can be shared with GPs and other stakeholders.

This can be downloaded from the GPDF website [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

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

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

Hugh Christie: *Company Secretary*
cosec@gpdf.org.uk

Visit our website

For more information of the activity of GPDF and to access our information and advice library visit our website
www.gpdf.org.uk