

Good Morning!

Spring is finally here in South Wales and this means that the Cox family have been out on our bikes exploring the countryside, with plenty of time to contemplate recent developments in our GP community such as a [contract for 2024-25 in Wales](#), [a contract agreement for 2025-26 in England](#) and an [acknowledgement that the 2018 Scottish contract has “simply failed to deliver”](#).

During these challenging times it is even more crucial that our community works together and so I wanted to highlight some of the ways in which GPDF supports our profession:

Deed of Grant:

Currently the BMA does not recompense or compensate attenders at committee and other meetings, for the first 24 meetings. Given the status of GPs as independent contractors or employees in small organisations, the BMA arrangement is a significant barrier for GPs to become involved in representational activity. Therefore, GPDF currently provides a grant to BMA to remove any disincentive and to encourage GP engagement in representation activity. If there are requirements which do not fall within the Deed of Grant, GPCs can apply for additional funding using our [application form](#) which aims to apply an equitable, consistent, objective and transparent process, ensuring that we deliver value for money on any expenditure. Examples of requests include funding the GPCE Policy Leads (£127,000) and extra GPCE meetings, such as the recent £61,000 to enable discussions around national contract negotiations and collective action. Our [application guide](#) details what factors the board considers when reviewing applications to ensure GPCs' wants are balanced with those of our LMC members.

Conferences:

There are four policy making LMC conferences a year (UK, England, Scotland and Wales) all of which are important sessions to enable LMC delegates to come together to debate issues of importance to general practice. The output of these conferences then feed into each of the General Practice Committees (UK, England, Scotland and Wales). A further conference for LMC Secretaries is held each year to facilitate mutual development and joint working for LMCs and the GPC. GPDF not only pays for the venue to hold each conference, it also funds travel and accommodation expenses for representatives from LMCs according to set limits.

Funding Projects:

GPDF has an annual fund of £200,000 to support the development and/or increase the effectiveness of LMCs. This is a fund for 'projects' over and above what might be considered to be 'normal LMC business' which deal with Issues of widespread importance or benefit to LMCs, where the results, outcomes, findings or experiences are transferable across a number of LMCs. Information on how to apply for this funding, including emergency bids, can be found in our [application guide](#) and our application form is available [here](#).

[Funding legal cases:](#)

I have [recently talked about](#) how GPDF funds key legal cases of political or legal importance such as the [successful appeal of a GP partner who was issued with contract termination notices for refusing to cooperate with the local PCN](#). Our [application guide](#) provides further information and please do [reach out](#) to discuss if you are thinking about filling out an [application form](#).

And finally...

Our EGM at 9am on 6th March is fast approaching, please [reach out to us](#) if you have not received information on how to join or how to appoint a proxy as the deadline is **9am on 4 March 2025**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Cox', with a large, stylized initial 'P'.

Dr Phil Cox

GPDF Chair