



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

11th September 2026

www.glasgowlmc.co.uk

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our September newsletter. Practices have faced a significant number of deadlines associated with the 2026–29 GP Funding Deal, including the Workforce Funding Q1 return, Non-Staff Expenses return and Energy Costs Q1 return. We recognise the additional administrative workload this has created and thank practices for the work involved in completing these returns.

****URGENT DEADLINE-11TH SEPTEMBER 2026****

FRAILITY DES

The paperwork for this year's Frailty DES was circulated to GP practices on 31st August by the GMS Contracts Team. Those practices wishing to opt in to the DES this year must complete the opt in form by **12 noon on Friday, 11th September 2026**.

****REGISTER NOW****

GP and Practice Manager Meeting / LMC AGM

We are holding a meeting for GPs and practice managers at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 23rd September at Hampden Park. We will provide a local Service & GP IT Update. Dr Iain Morrison, the Chair of SGPC, will also provide a national update. The LMC Annual General Meeting will follow the main meeting and is for GPs only. GPs and practice managers wishing to attend should register by emailing elaine.mclaren@glasgow-lmc.co.uk. Please include your practice code. Sessional GPs should confirm that they work in GGC.

GMS Uplift

We are awaiting the outcome of discussions between SGPC and the Scottish Government on the 2026/27 GMS uplift. We will update practices as soon as the final position is confirmed.

GP Walk in Centres

The Scottish Government has announced a substantial expansion of its GP Walk-in Centre programme, from the original national programme to 40 sites, including a further nine proposed for Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The LMC continues to have significant concerns about expansion of this model before there is robust evidence of its effectiveness, impact on existing services and value for money. In particular, we are concerned about the potential loss of continuity of care, duplication of existing general practice provision, and the opportunity cost of directing substantial additional funding towards parallel episodic services while core general practice remains under considerable pressure.

Similar concerns have been raised nationally by SGPC and RCGP Scotland. Similar walk-in centre models have previously been introduced and subsequently scaled back in England. We have made our position clear to NHS GGC and will continue to press for proper evaluation of the existing model before any further large scale expansion.

Scottish Government – Programme for Government and Health & Care Reform

The Scottish Government has published its Programme for Government, including proposals to reduce Scotland's 14 territorial Health Boards to two, alongside its Health and Care: Improving Flow Plan 2026–31.

These are potentially significant reforms for general practice, with implications for local accountability, GP representation, HSCP arrangements, service planning and implementation of the GMS Contract. The LMC is considering the proposals in detail and will ensure that the interests of GPs and practices in Greater Glasgow and Clyde are represented as the plans develop.

New BMA Scotland Guidance- Sustainable working in general practice

Scottish GP Committee (SGPC) has published [new guidance on sustainable working in general practice](#), recognising that GP workload extends far beyond the number of patients seen. The SGPC team has also published a [blog post](#) explaining the importance of the new guidance.

The guidance emphasises that results, prescribing, referrals, correspondence, supervision, practice management, governance and professional development are all legitimate GP work. Practices should aim to incorporate this often "invisible" workload into normal working patterns rather than relying on work spilling into lunch breaks, evenings, and days off.

SGPC recommends that practices consider moving away from thinking solely in traditional "sessions" towards the actual hours required to do the whole GP job. The guidance also reiterates the BMA safe working benchmark of up to 25 patient contacts per GP per day. This should be regarded as an upper workload benchmark, not a target. What is safe will depend on consultation complexity, the amount of indirect clinical work and the GP's wider responsibilities that day.

The new GP workforce investment should therefore not be viewed simply as a means of increasing appointment numbers. It provides practices with an opportunity to build safer and more sustainable working arrangements, including appropriate time for results, prescribing, correspondence, supervision, leadership, quality improvement and other essential indirect clinical work.

For GPs in Greater Glasgow and Clyde, this is particularly relevant given increasing clinical correspondence, prescribing and interface workload, supervision responsibilities and pressures associated with current Vision migrations. The LMC encourages practices to review the guidance at a partnership meeting and consider whether current appointment numbers, working hours and arrangements for indirect clinical workload are genuinely safe and sustainable.

SGPC Webinar

The BMA is holding an online webinar at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 30 September on its new Sustainable working in general practice guidance. The webinar is open to GPs and practice managers.

Further information and registration are available through the SGPC [blog](#), which also includes SGPC's initial response to the Scottish Government proposals to restructure Scotland's territorial Health Boards.

Contacting the LMC

Please use our online enquiry form at <https://www.glasgowlmc.co.uk/contact-us/>.

Do not send patient identifiable information, including names, dates of birth, addresses or CHI numbers, either in the form, emails or attachments.

Wellbeing Resources

Pressures from workload, finances and patient demand can affect the wellbeing of GPs and practice teams. A range of confidential wellbeing and financial support is available:-

National Wellbeing Hub- <https://wellbeinghub.scot/>

NHS GGC Occupational Health Service-
[Occupational Health - NHSGGC](#)

The Workforce Specialist Service-
[The Workforce Specialist Service \(WSS\) - National Wellbeing Hub](#)

BMA Wellbeing Resource-
<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/your-wellbeing/wellbeing-support-services/sources-of-support-for-your-wellbeing>

Working Health Services Scotland
[Working Health Services Scotland \(WHSS\) - Health and Well-being \(nhsinform.scot\)](#)

The Cameron Fund
[The Cameron Fund | The GPs' Own Charity](#)

Royal Medical Benevolent Fund
[Royal Medical Benevolent Fund - Help for Doctors in Need \(rmbf.org\)](#)

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mark Fawcett
Chair

Dr John Ip
Medical Director

Dr Austin Nichol
Medical Director

Marco Florence
Policy Officer

Elaine McLaren
Administration Officer