



GUIDANCE FOR SHEFFIELD GPs

March 2023

Sheffield LMC joined the LMC Buying Group in January 2011 to deliver savings to practices without creating any additional work or inconvenience.

WHAT DOES THE BUYING GROUP OFFER?

Membership entitles practices to discounts on products and services provided by the Buying Group's suppliers. Membership is free and there is no obligation on practices to use all the suppliers. However, practices can save thousands of pounds a year just by switching to Buying Group suppliers. To view the pricing and discounts on offer you need to log in to the [Members section](#) of the Buying Group website.

ADDITIONAL BUYING GROUP SERVICES

The Buying Group offers a free cost analysis service that aims to show member practices how much money they could save just by swapping to buying group suppliers. They can also provide this service for groups of practices working together. For more information, contact the Buying Group on 0115 9796910 or email info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk.

The Buying Group also offers a free recruitment platform to advertise and apply for practice staff vacancies (clinical and non-clinical roles). This service gives practices a wider reach when they are looking to recruit new staff. You can also increase the visibility of your vacancy post with their featured vacancy package (small fee applies).

Access to the Community section, supplier offers and posting job vacancies are subject to completing a membership form. If your practice doesn't have website login details, you can [register](#) your practice for free.

FAQs

What is the purpose of the LMC Buying Group and how does it work?

The sole purpose of the Buying Group is to save its member practices money by negotiating discounts on goods and services which practices regularly purchase. The Buying Group team negotiate with suppliers, after which they identify 'approved' suppliers, who guarantee to give you significant discounts over what you would otherwise pay for their services, in return for the Buying Group's endorsement and help in making you aware of what they offer.

Does it cost us anything to be part of the group?

No. All practices paying the LMC statutory/administrative levy are automatically entitled to enrol as members. The Buying Group regard this as an added value service your LMC can offer you. Should any practice cease to pay their LMC levies, they will no longer be able to access the benefits this initiative will bring.

Is there any obligation to take up the deals offered?

No. Each practice is free to take up or decline any of the deals the Buying Group has negotiated. If you wish to take advantage of any of the offers in question, you will be given contact details and all communications take place between you and the individual supplier*.

Who are the Buying Group's approved suppliers?

A full list of suppliers is available on the Buying Group's [website](#).

Your Details

When a practice signs up for Buying Group membership, they will keep your basic contact details (practice address) on a secure database which is used for administration purposes (ie to identify which practices are eligible for supplier discounts). On the membership application form they also ask you how they can use your personal data (ie your email address) but, even if you do sign up to receive their emails, you can stop them at any time by clicking the unsubscribe button.

What if I am not happy with the quality of goods and services supplied?

Always let the Buying Group know if you encounter any problems getting what you want, and they will endeavour to sort it out.

Contact the Buying Group

Tel: 0115 979 6910

Email: info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk

Website: <https://www.lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk>

**The Buying Group accepts no liability for any contract willingly entered into by a practice with an approved supplier. Practices are advised to check that the terms of any contract with suppliers are not inconsistent with those the Buying Group has negotiated and are advised to inform the Buying Group team of any discrepancy. The Buying Group does not, however, accept any responsibility for any member practices' failure to check the terms of the relevant contract and the principle of caveat emptor (buyer beware) applies in all cases. Your rights as a consumer under the Consumer Protection Act are unaffected. With respect to any services to which the provisions of the Financial Services Act 2000 might apply practices are advised to seek independent financial advice as may be appropriate.*