

# ROTHERHAM LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

## NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2010

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### **Future Shape of Rotherham NHS IT Services**

The LMC recently commented on these proposals, in which it is expected that most IT services will in future be provided by RFT. NHS Rotherham do not expect any noticeable changes to the way GP IT is supported and will set up a service level with RFT.

In the meantime, against a background of 45% cuts in management costs over three years, the LMC wish to hear from GPs who encounter any problems regarding the future provision of IT infrastructure or services within primary care.

### **NHS Appraisal Toolkit**

As reported previously, the Department of Health will be allowing their contract with SCHIN, the providers of the NHS Appraisal Toolkit, to expire at the end of October.

The DoH have clarified that up until 31 October 2010, users of the toolkit will be able to download their appraisal documentation from the system in Word (Forms 1-3) and PDF (Form 4) format. Following 31<sup>st</sup> October 2010 users of the toolkit will still be able to request their data from SCHIN, who will not levy a charge for users to receive their data, irrespective of which appraisal system they have adopted.

**However, we also understand that accessing the data will take longer after 31<sup>st</sup> October as users will need to prove their identity to access their information. We would**

**therefore advise users of the toolkit to download their appraisal documentation as soon as possible.**

The LMC Vice-Chairman has received over a hundred replies from GPs wishing to continue with the electronic system. NHS Rotherham has now been approached with a proposal to extend the use of the system to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 – after which the RCGP toolkit should be available (free to RCGP members). A decision is expected before the end of September.

### **NHS White Paper**

GPs are reminded there is still time to respond to the consultation. The NHS Medical Director will be contacting you shortly to collate a Rotherham-wide response.

The LMC Medical Secretary has recently issued a questionnaire to all GPs asking for your preferred arrangements regarding GP commissioning in Rotherham. Your replies will inform LMC debate on the shape of the local GP consortia.

In the meantime, the GPC continue to produce guidance papers, and on 10<sup>th</sup> September issued their fourth paper, GP Consortia Commissioning: Latest Observations. This is available to download at: -

[http://www.bma.org.uk/healthcare\\_policy/nhs\\_white\\_paper/index.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/healthcare_policy/nhs_white_paper/index.jsp)

## **New Vetting & Barring Scheme**

This guidance explains the steps that GPs need to take individually and as employers to ensure that they comply with the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

A copy can be downloaded here:-

[http://www.bma.org.uk/employmentandcontracts/doctors\\_performance/vettbarringscheme.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/employmentandcontracts/doctors_performance/vettbarringscheme.jsp)

## **BMA Yorkshire Regional Council**

The Yorkshire Regional Council (YRC) of the BMA is looking for members to serve as officers and to sit on its Executive

All papers and nomination forms are at: -

[http://www.bma.org.uk/representation/local\\_representation/regional\\_councils/yorkshireregionalcouncilmainwebpage.jsp](http://www.bma.org.uk/representation/local_representation/regional_councils/yorkshireregionalcouncilmainwebpage.jsp)

The elections will be held during the Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday 12 October 2010 at 6.30pm at Hadfield Hall, Normanton Golf Club, Stanley, Wakefield

## **National Cleanliness Specifications**

The National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) has now published guidance on cleanliness in the NHS for primary care providers, which is aimed at helping primary care providers set up simple, easy-to-follow processes to ensure that their premises are clean and safe.

Using these specifications is not mandatory, but may be a useful guide for providers and may help towards registration with the Care Quality Commission

(CQC) from April 2012.

The National specifications for cleanliness: primary medical and dental premises is available on the NPSA website:

<http://www.nrls.npsa.nhs.uk/resources/patient-safety-topics/environment/?entryid45=75241>

## **LMC Website**

We now have our own website on which we will make available our latest news, newsletters and relevant publications. The site location is:

[www.rotherhamlmc.org](http://www.rotherhamlmc.org)

## **Attendance at Meetings**

Constituents are reminded that they are always welcome to attend meetings of the LMC as observers.

Constituents wishing to have papers discussed by the Committee must ensure that the appropriate items are, at the latest, with the Secretary by the Friday, one clear week before the meeting.

The Committee meets on the second Monday of every month in the Board Room at Rotherham General Hospital

## **OFFICERS OF THE LMC**

**Chairman**  
**Dr Adrian Cole**  
**Tel: 0844 8151956**

**Vice Chairman**  
**Dr Chris Myers**  
**Tel: 0845 1240887**

**Medical Secretary**  
**Dr Neil Thorman**  
**Tel: 01909 770213**  
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**NEXT  
LMC MEETING**

**MONDAY  
11th OCTOBER**

**COMMENCING  
AT 7.30 PM**

## **LMC OFFICE: -**

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**Secretary & Treasurer**

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## **DISCLAIMER**

The content of this newsletter is confidential and intended solely for GPs and Practice Managers in Rotherham.

Rotherham LMC does not provide individual legal or financial advice but provides general guidance and support for the benefit of GPs and their practices in Rotherham.

## **WEBSITE:**

**[www.rotherhamlmc.org](http://www.rotherhamlmc.org)**