**SGPC/SLMC Update – Feb 2020**



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# SGPC Update:

## SGPC Meeting – 23 January 2020

### SGPC Meeting 23 January 2020

The first meeting of the new year was held on 23 January 2020, at BMA Scotland offices. The committee received updates on contract implementation and negotiations including: premises sustainability loans FAQ and letter of comfort, the remote and rural working group report and rural flexibility options appraisal, data collection for phase 2, the MDT survey results, various letters from the Scottish Government relating the GMS National Oversight Group, the SLMC Conference motions.

In addition, there were general updates on information management and technology, sessional GP issues, GP training and various reports from external groups such as the Primary Care Prescribing/Dispensing Pathway.

An update was also provided by Dr Alan Robertson on pensions, a GP IT presentation was received from Jonathan Cameron as the deputy director for digital health and care at the Scottish Government and discussed the Daphne Romney Report into allegations of sexism and sexual harassment at the BMA.

## Negotiating issues and contracts

### GP premises sustainability loan

Practices who applied have now begun to receive their individual loan offers but should take legal advice before deciding whether to access the loan.

BMA Scotland has developed GP premises sustainability loan agreement guidance / FAQ, which will be available online on the BMA website by next week. A letter of comfort letter was also provided by Aidan Grisewood to the SGPC negotiators detailing what has been agreed on various aspects of the GP premises sustainability and their position such as the option to purchase, rent and rent reimbursement under premises directions, Land and Buildings Transactions Tax arrangements, standard of repair under leaseback arrangements, and guidance on break rights.

### Remote and Rural Working Group

On 16 January 2020 [Shaping the Future Together: remote and rural working group report](https://www.gov.scot/publications/shaping-future-together-report-remote-rural-general-practice-working-group/) was published. The report describes the group’s first year of work, describes the programme of engagement with rural communities that was carried out, considers the pace of progress in implementing the GP contract, and sets out recommendations designed to support the ongoing process of implementing the contract as well as support future developments in rural General Practice and Primary Care. Patricia Moultrie our deputy chair has produced a [blog](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2020/01/22/listening-to-remote-and-rural/) in response to the report which highlights the fundamental importance of recommendations 1 and 2 to remote and rural GPs.

### PCIP Letter from the Chair of National GMS Oversight Group

The Chair of the National GMS Oversight Group, Elinor Mitchell sent a letter on 28 November 2019 to HSCPs requesting that they carry out an assessment of their PCIP 2s and whether they are intended to deliver on the six service areas outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding in full or whether they describe what can be done with available resources. If areas have based their PCIPs on the latter approach, the letter also asks them to identify what they need to be able to fulfil the Memorandum of Understanding commitments in full.

## Workforce

### Workforce and Expenses Data Collection

In November SGPC sent a letter to LMC secretaries regarding the workforce and expenses data collection exercise that is underway to inform the modelling of secured GP earnings and expenses in Phase 2 and general practice workforce planning. A follow-up letter was distributed on 15 January 2020.

A reminder that while the final submission can only be made once and will require the expenses figures prepared by practice accountants, the information required for the workforce sections of the tool can be entered in advance of this and SGPC would encourage practices to ensure you have set aside enough time to input this information. The submitted data (earnings, expenses, hours/sessions) is essential to inform the negotiation of phase 2. Personal data will be held securely by NSS and only provided to the negotiating parties in aggregated form. Individuals’ data provided solely for purposes of negotiation will subsequently be deleted upon completion of negotiations.

### Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Practice Survey Results

In Autumn 2019 we asked for LMC medical secretaries help in encouraging practices to take part in a survey of what services they have seen implemented to date as part of the contract Memorandum of Understanding. Thanks to your help, we received 628 responses to the survey. A breakdown of the results by board area was shared with LMC secretaries on 3 January 2020 and show a variable picture of delivery across the country and between different services, with progress in vaccinations and CTACs particularly disappointing.

## Information Management and Technology

### Scottish Joint GP IT Group

The seventh meeting of the Scottish Joint GP IT Group is scheduled for 5 February which will discuss SNOMED CT and GP IT Re-Provisioning, the information sharing agreement implementation and primary care IT infrastructure and eHealth passed motions for the Scottish LMC Conference in 2019. The remit of the group is to support a coordinated strategic approach to GP information management and communications technologies projects within the NHS.

### Information Sharing Agreement

The Joint Controller and Information Sharing Agreement for Health Boards and GP contractors [circular](https://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/pca/PCA2019(M)15.pdf) and Information Sharing Agreement (‘ISA’) was published on 27 November 2019, which was developed and agreed by the Scottish Government, SGPC BMA and representatives of Health Boards with technical input from Scottish Clinical Information Management in Practice (SCIMP), and NHS National Services Scotland. Implementation of the ISA should be underway between GP contractors and health boards. The document produced nationally needs to be adapted to local circumstances by health boards and GP subcommittees before practices decide whether to sign it. We would welcome sharing of any examples of implementation of the ISA via response to [**info.gpscotland@bma.org.uk**](mailto:info.gpscotland@bma.org.uk) or via your LMC medical secretaries.

### NHS.Scot Transition

The co-chairs of the Scottish Joint GP IT Group met with Russell Fleming, David Wilson and Steve Woods on the nhs.scot account migration and Office365 transition work of the Technical Advisory Group. The intention is that all NHS.net email addresses in Scotland will become NHS.scot addresses by September 2020. We have been reassured that no emails will be deleted instead there will be a process of archiving and procedures to follow for the accessing of historical emails and data.

## Pensions

### Pensions

On 16 December 2019, a letter was sent out by [Scottish Government on the Application of the NHS Scotland Staff Pension Policy on Recycling Employers Contributions 2019-20 to General Practice](https://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/publications/DC20191216pension.pdf). The letter confirms the eligibility of GPs who are salaried employees of health boards to participate in the scheme allowing employers superannuation contributions to be recycled if an individual expects to incur an Annual Allowance tax charge.

Further information on pensions is available on the following blogs on 17 December 2019 –[Scottish doctors must have access to all options to mitigate punitive pension tax charges](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/12/17/scottish-doctors-must-have-access-to-all-options-to-mitigate-punitive-pension-tax-charges/) and 12 December 2019 - [Pensions where we currently stand in Scotland](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/12/05/pensions-where-we-currently-stand-in-scotland/)

## Daphne Romney Report

### Romney Report

In April 2019 the BMA commissioned a [fully independent review](https://www.bma.org.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/independent-investigation-into-sexism-and-sexual-harassment-at-the-bma) into concerns raised by BMA members who had been subject to sexist behaviour and sexual harassment. The review was led by Daphne Romney QC who was also asked to make recommendations to address gender bias and harassment in the BMA drawing on examples of best practice. The BMA has published the findings and recommendations of the review on the [BMA website](https://www.bma.org.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/independent-investigation-into-sexism-and-sexual-harassment-at-the-bma) alongside a message to members from Chaand Nagpaul, BMA Council Chair.

A Scottish Romney Implementation Group has been set up, equally populated between Scottish Council members and staff to consider how the recommendations would work in Scotland. Scottish Branch of Practices, including SGPC, will consider their own approaches in due course once that group makes recommendations.

# LMC Update:

### LMC Conference 2019

The Scottish Local Medical Committee Conference 2019 was held at the Golden Jubilee National Hotel on 29 November 2019. The conference discussed and heard various motions on eHealth, contracts and negotiations, and premises. The conference also heard a [speech from SGPC chair](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/11/29/andrew-buist-slmc-19-speech/), Andrew Buist and from the cabinet secretary for health and sport, Ms Jeane Freeman MSP, with an opportunity for negotiators questions from the conference floor. The SGPC negotiators have written to Scottish Government Aidan Grisewood, deputy director and head of primary care, seeking progress on a number of the motions raised at conference. The next SLMC Conference will be held on 3-4 December 2020, with a provisional date held for a Special Conference. Papers and a webcast of the Scottish LMC Conference 2019 is [available online](https://beta.bma.org.uk/what-we-do/local-medical-committees).

### LMC and GP Subcommittee Board Visits

The SGPC Negotiating team are keen to engage with LMCs and see the progress of implementation first hand. The chair, Andrew Buist has arranged to visit Western Isles in the week of 6 April 2020, and the deputy chair, Patricia Moultrie is planning to visit both Shetland and Orkney LMC in the near future. If your LMC is also interested in a visit from our team, please do get in contact with us at [info.gpscotland@bma.org.uk](mailto:info.gpscotland@bma.org.uk). We would welcome the chance to arrange a visit to your area.

## Contact us and follow our work

### Our SGPC negotiating Team:

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| **LMCs are reminded they can contact Andrea Ma, SGPC secretariat for more details (**[ama@bma.org.uk](mailto:ama@bma.org.uk)**).**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  | C:\Users\patricia\Pictures\.jpg | | ***Dr Andrew Cowie***  ***Deputy Chair, SGPC*** | ***Dr Andrew Buist***  ***Chair, SGPC*** | ***Dr Patricia Moultrie***  ***Deputy Chair, SGPC*** |   **Any emails for the SGPC negotiating team should be submitted to** [info.gpscotland@bma.org.uk](mailto:info.gpscotland@bma.org.uk) **Your ideas about achievable measures to reduce pressure on general practice are always welcome.  We can’t respond to every email, but all emails are read and considered by the team.** |

### Blogs from our negotiating team:

* [Funding to encourage more student training](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/10/30/funding-to-encourage-more-student-training/) – 30 October 2019
* [Implementing the GP contract – The challenges we face](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/11/08/implementing-the-gp-contract-the-challenges-we-face/) – 8 November 2019
* [Renewed focus and drive needed to transform GP services across Scotland](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/11/18/renewed-focus-and-drive-needed-to-transform-gp-services-across-scotland/) – 18 November 2019
* [SLMC look ahead](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/11/26/slmc-look-ahead/) – 26 November 2019
* [Andrew Buist SLMC '19 speech](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/11/29/andrew-buist-slmc-19-speech/) – 29 November 2019
* [Reflecting on the year that was](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/12/21/reflecting-on-the-year-that-was/) – 21 December 2019
* [Christmas care](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2019/12/24/christmas-care/) – 24 December 2019
* [Recognising and supporting out of hours GP services in Scotland](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2020/01/03/665/) – 3 January 2020
* [Listening to remote and rural…](https://bmascotland.home.blog/2020/01/22/listening-to-remote-and-rural/) - 22 January 2020

### Follow the work of the BMA online:

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| Blog:  <https://bmascotland.home.blog/> | [cid:image002.jpg@01D51089.B3F46540](https://twitter.com/BMAScotland)Twitter: [**@BMAScotland**](https://twitter.com/BMAScotland)  <https://twitter.com/BMAScotland> |
| [cid:image001.jpg@01D51089.B3F46540](https://www.facebook.com/bmascotland)Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bmascotland> | [cid:image003.jpg@01D51089.B3F46540](https://www.instagram.com/bmascotland)Instagram:  <https://www.instagram.com/bmascotland> |