

# **SHEFFIELD LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE**

# **NEWSFLASH**

## **IMPROVING QUALITY IN PRIMARY CARE GOVERNANCE STOCK-TAKE**

A number of practices have contacted the LMC office with regard to a letter received from David Black, Medical Director, South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw (SY&B) Area Team (dated 24 June 2013), requesting that practices complete and submit a governance stock-take.

We were made aware of the Area Team's intention of sending out this request on 14 June 2013. We had concerns with regard to the purpose of this process and, along with the other LMCs in SY&B, we made the Area Team aware that it was our opinion that this is simply duplication of information which should already be available to Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), Area Teams or the Care Quality Commission (CQC). We also highlighted that there is no contractual obligation for practices to complete the stock-take.

At a meeting of SY&B LMCs and Area Team representatives on 20 June 2013, David Black reassured the LMCs that:

- this exercise was supposed to be an aid to assist practices in achieving compliance;
- this would not be used as a way of monitoring standards on the clinical dashboard;
- this was a one-off stock-take of the situation in South Yorkshire;
- some aspects of the stock-take relate to non-contractual issues;
- where practices have concerns with regard to non compliance the Area Team would provide assistance and education.