

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham, Tameside and Glossop

February 2023 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Andrew Vance, Vice Chair

LMC meeting – Tuesday 14th February 2023

The committee met on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7pm. It was their first Face to face meeting since the Covid pandemic and committee members enjoyed the opportunity to see each other in person again.

Dr Alan Dow flagged the fact that in some localities GP Practices are wary to share data indicating that they are working beyond capacity, since it could result in a CQC visit and not support. Dr Dow suggested the submission of anonymised data might be a good way of alerting NHSE to the extent of how overstretched some practices currently are. Secondary care has a very clear reporting system and as such, hospitals are very efficient in requesting additional support/ resources. Dr Amir Hannan is the Chair of the Association of Greater Manchester LMCs, as well as West Pennine LMC, and he updated the committee on the fact that the Association is striving to be a stronger voice in the new NHS architecture; a lot of decisions are now made at GM level, and it is therefore paramount that the voice of Grassroot GPs is heard. Dr Jawad Haq, Tameside trainee GP representative shared his concern about the fact that GPs are being asked to conduct extensive physical health checks, in order to support the eating disorder service. It was agreed that this should be flagged at GM level. Dr Alan Dow went on to raise his concern that Tameside Hospital has announced that they are no longer conducting MRI scans for GPs.

Tameside Practice Manager representative vacancy

We have a vacancy on the committee for a Practice Manager representative working in Tameside. If you feel you could be the voice of Practice Management, please do get in touch via the LMC office email address: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

West Pennine LMC meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month at 7pm. A meeting attendance fee is offered to committee representatives.

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BMA - 2023/24 GP contract update webinars

You will be aware that the government proposals for the 2023/24 GP contract were rejected by the GP Committee of the BMA.

The BMA have organised five webinars to ensure that every GP has an opportunity to hear about this year's contract changes, ask questions, and share their feedback. The GPCE officers will deliver the same presentation at each webinar, meaning that attendees need only attend the event most convenient to them.

Further details and registration will be available via the [BMA's Events page](#) in due course, and we will share the registration links in the March LMC update. The planned dates and times are:

Tuesday 21st March 19.00-20.30

Wednesday 22nd March 12.30-14.00

Wednesday 29th March 19.00-20.30

Thursday 30th March 12.30-14.00

Thursday 30th March 19.00-20.30

The presentation will be delivered first, with questions answered afterwards, so that those who cannot stay for the full 90 minutes will still have the key information.

LMC Walk – Sunday 26th February 2023 at 10.30am

We would be delighted if you could join the West Pennine Local Medical Committee for a walk around the Castleshaw Valley, a beauty spot in Saddleworth, just above the village of Delph. This is your opportunity to raise any issues in person with the LMC Officers and the GM BMA GP Committee representative, or to just enjoy being in the great outdoors.

We will meet at 10.30am on Sunday 26th February in the Roman Fort visitors' car park, just off Waterworks Road, Delph, OL3 5LZ. We'll then set off for an approximately 1.5 hours long walk, around the reservoir and surrounding countryside. Please be aware the planned route is accessible for all abilities and fitness levels.

Family members and dogs on leads are most welcome, and it would be appreciated if you could please confirm if you are able to join us, so we know to meet you in the car park: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net or mobile: 07951 530 417

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Data Protection Office Update



Jane Hill, GP Practice appointed Data Protection Officer

ICO fines

The Information Commissioner's Office have recently confirmed that, for the next two years at least, they will not issue fines to public authorities. Instead, they would choose to use corrective measures. Please see the following letter, which confirms this:

[Open letter from UK Information Commissioner John Edwards to public authorities | ICO](#)

Of course, GP Practices should continue to ensure they are complying with the Data Protection legislation and where appropriate, advise the ICO if there has been a data breach.

Reminder re breach reporting

If a data breach occurs at your practice, you will need to report the incident at the earliest opportunity and certainly within 72 hours, initially via the [Data Security and Protection Toolkit \(dsptoolkit.nhs.uk\)](https://dsptoolkit.nhs.uk). There is a "Report an Incident" tab at the top of the homepage and by completing this section, you will then be advised whether you need to escalate the breach to the Information Commissioner's Office, who, if need be, can be contacted on 0303 123 1113.

As dictated by GDPR Article 34, "*When the personal data breach is likely to result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of natural persons, the controller shall communicate the personal data breach to the data subject without undue delay.*"

Please remember that the majority of data breaches occur due to human error and for that reason, there will always be data breaches! It would be very unusual for a practice not to have reported an incident via the DSPT in any one year.

If there is a data breach and you wish to discuss it with me, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07951 530 417 or Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net