

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham, Tameside and Glossop

JANUARY 2023 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Andrew Vance, Vice Chair

LMC meeting – Tuesday 10th January 2023

The committee met on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7pm via Teams. LMC Representatives discussed the current pressures, which are being felt by GPs, as well as NHS colleagues across the system. We have attached a poster outlining Tameside's Urgent care pathways, which you may find useful. Back in December, the Association of GM LMCs contacted Mark Fisher, GM ICB Chief Executive, requesting a pause of QOF and IIF, to allow practice staff to concentrate on the immediate significant urgent workload. Frustratingly, Mark Fisher's response indicated that this decision needs to be made by NHS England, who are currently not willing to support practices in this way. Dr Andrew Vance, LMC Vice Chair, reported that in the Oldham locality, working closely with pharmacies has been very beneficial. Dr Alan Dow added that close links with pharmacy colleagues is a real positive and added that West Pennine LMC and West Pennine LPC work well together and will continue to do so.

A letter sent to PCNs in Oldham had worried practices that Population Health management work may not be properly remunerated by Oldham Place. The LMC will certainly be looking into this matter, on behalf of the Oldham member practices.

Dr Alan Dow had been asked to discuss the possibility of all Tameside and Glossop practices moving to the direct ordering of prescriptions by practice and not via pharmacies. The committee agreed that ordering via Pharmacies isn't perhaps the best process, as it takes the control away from patients and practices and introduces another link in the chain whereby the pharmacy could be unaware of medication recently stopped or started. In order to investigate this matter further, it would be much appreciated if you could complete the 10 second survey below if you are a GP/ PM in Tameside or Glossop. This will provide us with a snapshot of opinion. Thank you.

The committee also discussed the issue of GPs being asked to provide after care for patients who choose to have bariatric band surgery overseas. It was agreed that Humberside LMC's FAQs is a good document to refer to and, with Humberside LMC's permission, we have attached this guidance document for ease of reference. You can also find this and other guidance documents on our website: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

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10 seconds SURVEY for practices in Tameside & Glossop re Direct ordering of prescriptions

It would be much appreciated if you could please complete the following quick-fire survey (10 seconds max!), which will help us collate a snapshot of opinion:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GWT33QD>

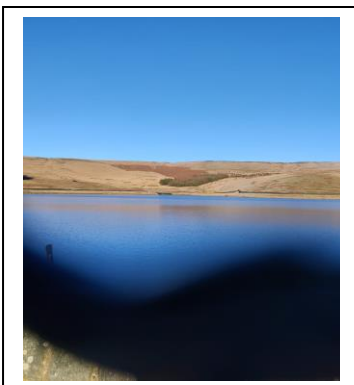
Reminder re Freedom to West Pennine LMC Freedom to Speak up Guardian service

As previously flagged, having a “Freedom to Speak Up Guardian” is a requirement for practices, as dictated by the CQC. As a further way of supporting practices, we now provide a Freedom to Speak up Guardian service, led by Sue Gilks who has completed the National Guardian Office training. Sue worked as a Practice Manager for many years and has a lot of experience of dealing with issues at Practice level. Sue can be contacted on 07837 129 601 or at sue.gilks1@nhs.net While you may not need to use the service, you may wish to advise the CQC that this service can be used, if required.

Please find the attached policy and poster, which you may wish to share with you staff. Further information can also be found on our website www.westpenninelmc.org.uk

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 beautiful and interesting 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.



Blue sky not guaranteed! - We will be walking whatever the weather! Please wear appropriate clothing and please bring a drink and snack/ packed lunch. Family members 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

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Welcome to Castleshaw Valley



This area is covered in sheepwalks, the map shows the four heritage trails and the quest.

Whether you're interested in wildlife, ancient history, our industrial heritage past & present, or just a simple stroll through the countryside, Castleshaw Valley has it all on your doorstep!

Why is this area so special?

More than 7 million people live in or around the South Pennine uplands yet the landscape, built on foundations of gritstone and peat, can still feel remote, wild and exhilarating. Much of this area is designated as a Special Protection Area because of the populations of endangered ground-nesting birds such as Short-eared Owl, Merlin, Curlew and our very own Pennine finch, the Twite.

Here in Castleshaw Valley, water flows down numerous streams into the reservoir off the surrounding peat moorland. Wild fires and industrial pollution have left areas of bare and eroding peat. During heavy rainfall the peat washes down into the reservoirs, causing the brown colouration of the water which increases the cost of cleaning the water.

United Utilities has been working in partnership with government bodies, conservation groups and landowners to repair the moorland habitat, this both helps to increase wildlife populations and improve water quality.

Who built the reservoirs

The two reservoirs in Castleshaw Valley were constructed by Oldham Corporation Waterworks between May 1887 and September 1891. The upper reservoir can hold one thousand and eighty-seven million litres of water while the lower reservoir only holds six hundred and twenty-three million litres. These two reservoirs are now run and operated by United Utilities and form an important part of Oldham's drinking water supplies.

Out and about!

Castleshaw Valley has a long and varied history, more information on the history can be found on the panels around the valley or by scanning the QR code on this panel.

Also, as part of the Watershed Landscape Project a number of heritage trail guides have been created so you can find out about the people who once lived here, how they made a living and how they shaped Castleshaw Valley over the centuries. To download the trail guides and Grott the Evil Toad kid's quest, go to <http://www.watershedlandscape.co.uk>



Take moor care!

Please take care when walking in the uplands. The weather can change quickly, so ensure you have suitable footwear, clothing, a map and food and drink. Whilst exploring the landscape always follow the Countryside and Moorland Visitors Code.



Swimming in reservoirs is not allowed as it is extremely dangerous - strong currents, deep cold water, steep sides and hidden dangers can be fatal.

Wildfires are a major risk, please do not build campfires or use BBQ's. Please phone 999 to report any fires.



Keep dogs on short leads (no more than 2 metres) around livestock and during bird nesting season (April to July).

Please use the bin in the car park or take your litter home!



KEY

- Watershed Landscape Castleshaw Trail / Grott the Toad
- Castleshaw Valley Heritage Trail 1
- Castleshaw Valley Heritage Trail 2
- Castleshaw Valley Heritage Trail 3
- Pennine Bridleway
- Parking
- Roman Fort



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Data Protection Office Update



Jane Hill, GP Practice Appointed Data Protection Officer

Data Protection training

Having received requests for training from several practices, I am planning to deliver some Data Protection training sessions from February. It is of course a requirement for the NHS Digital Data Security & Protection Toolkit for GPs and practice staff to undertake annual Data Protection training: [Data Security and Protection Toolkit \(dsptoolkit.nhs.uk\)](https://dsptoolkit.nhs.uk)

There are online training sessions from a variety of providers available, but if you would prefer a short F2F session, I am very happy to come out to your practice building/ PCN meeting venue to support you with this.

I will get in touch with PCN managers in due course, or if you want to contact me, please do so via jane.hilldpo@nhs.net or westpennine.lmc@nhs.net or mobile 07951 530 417

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.

Access to patient records via NHS App

As you will be aware, enabling access en-masse to prospective health data held in GP records has been postponed for the majority of GP practices. Talks continue between the BMA, NHS England and the system suppliers, and hopefully a way forward which addresses all associated risks will be established.

On behalf of NHS England, EMIS have recently circulated dates for forthcoming support webinars, which you may find useful:

Thursday 19th January	13:00	Click here to register	30 mins
Thursday 26th January	13:00	Click here to register	30 mins
Thursday 2nd February	13:00	Click here to register	30 mins
Thursday 9th February	13:00	Click here to register	30 mins
Thursday 16th February	13:00	Click here to register	30 mins
Thursday 23rd February	13:00	Click here to register	30 mins

You may wish to contact NHS England about this programme of work via their dedicated email address: england.nhseimplementation@nhs.net and I am of course happy to discuss any queries/concerns you have: jane.hilldpo@nhs.net

If you require any further information about any of the above, or any other concerns you may have, please do not hesitate to contact me so via jane.hilldpo@nhs.net or westpennine.lmc@nhs.net or mobile 07951 530 417