**SLMC Update - March 2018**

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# Negotiating issues and contracts

## Contract Poll

At the 18 January SGPC meeting, the committee voted that the new Scottish GMS contract should be implemented. The contract poll results, with breakdown by GP type, were shared to inform the committee before it made its decision. The committee was also provided with information related to the SLMC Special Conference held on 1 December, and information on the communication, consultation and engagement made with GPs in the run-up to the contract. There was a motion requesting a geographical breakdown of the contract poll result which was discussed and rejected by SGPC.

Information on the new contract, including the contract framework document and premises code of practice can be found on the BMA website: [www.bma.org.uk/gpcontractscotland](http://www.bma.org.uk/gpcontractscotland). The website will be updated shortly with information and guidance for the implementation of the contract.

## Update on Negotiations

Meetings between SGPC and Scottish Government are ongoing with a focus on implementation of the contract from 1 April 2018.

An Out of Hours Short Life Working Group has been established by Scottish Government to develop the OOH enhanced service. The Scottish Government have agreed to set up a Remote and Rural Short Life Working Group to support the implementation of the new contract in these areas as part of the negotiating process.

## Regulations

The contract Regulations were signed off by the Cabinet Secretary on 14 February 2018 and laid in Parliament on 19 February 2018and willcome into force on 1 April 2018. The GMS regulation and PMS regulations for the GMS Contract can be found in the following links respectively:<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2018/66/contents/made> and<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2018/67/contents/made>

## DDRB

The BMA and Scottish Government have submitted their DDRB Evidence. The BMA submitted DDRB Evidence which recommended an uplift to the pay of all doctors across the UK in line with RPI + £800 or 2% (whichever is greater). Further details can be found here: <https://www.bma.org.uk/collective-voice/influence/key-negotiations/doctors-pay/annual-pay-review-from-the-ddrb>

Scottish Government have announced that the Scottish Government public sector pay policy is 3% for those earning less than £36,500, 2% for those earning greater than £36,500 and £80,000, and £1,600 for those earning more an £80,000. The Scottish Government is currently seeking the DDRB’s recommendation in respect of GP pay and contractual uplift. Further information can be found in the following links: [Evidence from the Scottish Government team to the DDRB 2018-19](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Health/NHS-Workforce/Policy/Pay-Conditions/SGtoDDRB2018-19) and [Remit letter from the Scottish Government team to the DDRB 2018-19](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Health/NHS-Workforce/Policy/Pay-Conditions/RemitSGtoDDRB2018-19)

An oral evidence session is scheduled for 9 April 2018 where Peter Bennie (Scottish Council chair) will represent BMA Scotland. The report is due to be published end of May 2018.

# Workforce

## National Workforce Plan

The Scottish Government’s *National Health and Social Care Workforce Plan: Part 3 Primary Care* set out plans for the development and training of GPs and the wider primary care multi-disciplinary team. The plan is due to be published in March 2018.

## National Workforce Survey

The Scottish Government’s 2017 workforce survey was issued to practices in August and requested information on the GPs, nurses, health care staff and other staff in post as at 31 August 2017. The original closing date for the survey was 30 September but was extended to 31 October 2017 to allow more practices time to respond. More information on the survey is provided in a letter from Shirley Rogers, Director of Health Workforce in the Scottish Government: <http://www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk/dl/DL(2017)18.pdf>. The results of the survey were published on 6 March 2018. Details can be found here: <https://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/General-Practice/Publications/2018-03-06/2018-03-06-PCWS2017-Report.pdf> . There was a high participation rate in the survey and the SGPC chair expresses his thanks to LMCs for encouraging participation.

# Information Management and Technology

## IT Update

IT groups are progressing steadily on various areas of work.

The group focused on Primary Care Digital are currently working on the impact of money invested in IT and using a quantitative and focused review to measure this, there was concern to the different stages of boards’ progress, the plan is to implement another background survey of the current position of work.

The Digital Health and Care Strategy will be published early 2018 once approved by Scottish Government.

There is a concern that the current data controller status of GPs does not cover all issues raised in General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The information sharing short life working group is working on data sharing agreements, and establishing Joint Data Controller status for GPs and their Health Boards, to protect GPs from data breaches once they have shared information with their Board for improved patient care. Once clarity is provided about what areas must be covered, the intention is to ask that ECS be included in the agreement. The safe continuation of ECS remains dependent on developing agreed Data Sharing Agreements. An ECS Change Advisory Board will be established to decide what information is included in the ECS.

The BMA is providing UK guidance on GDPR which was published in March 2018. Details can be found here: <https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/ethics/confidentiality-and-health-records/gps-as-data-controllers>

# For information

## Scottish Ambulance Service

At March 2017 SGPC meeting several issues were raised relating to the Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS). Guidance has since issued at October 2017 SGPC meeting from the Scottish Ambulance Service advising its staff that GP practices should not be designated a ‘place of safety’ and that this phrase should no longer be used.

## GP Trainee

The North of Scotland are working on a GP trainee award to encourage excellence in GP training with an aim to improve morale and have a positive effect on recruitment and retention.

In Grampian a single lead employer pilot is underway; with GP trainees who started their training in August 2017 being employed by NES in both their GP practice and hospital placements. It is likely that this pilot will be rolled out across Scotland over the next few years – with the trainee contracts being agreed with the BMA. We will keep you up to date as the pilot progresses.

## SLMC Conference

The SLMC Conference was held on 1 December 2017 to discuss the proposed new contract for GPs in Scotland with four themed debates on sustainable funding, reducing risks, reducing workload and how attractive general practice is as a career. The webcast is viewable here: <https://bma.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/319330>

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| **LMCs are reminded they can contact Andrea Ma in SGPC secretariat for more information on any of these issues (**[ama@bma.org.uk](mailto:ama@bma.org.uk)**).**  **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.** |