

# Worcestershire Local Medical Committee Ltd NEWSLETTER

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23rd May 2022

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### **LMC UK conference 2022**

The [2022 UK LMC Conference](#) took place last week . It was the first in-person UK LMC conference since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The conference was adeptly chaired by Katie Bramall-Stainer and her deputy Matt Mayer.

The conference was opened by Dr Phil White, chair of GPC UK, who congratulated the profession for all its hard work during the pandemic, including rolling out remote consultations and the vaccination programmes in record times. Dr White admonished the media and Westminster government for their unfounded attacks on general practice, particularly the false claim that GP practices had been closed during the pandemic. Furthermore, he congratulated the BMA and GPDF on the success of the rollout of the [Rebuild GP media campaign](#), intended to combat these false narratives and promote an urgent workforce strategy and safe workloads for GPs. Read the [GPC UK Chair's speech](#)

Of particular note, the conference voted through a motion calling on the national GPCs renegotiating the GMS contracts to include workload limits in order to protect patients and staff. With a dwindling, overstretched workforce, this motion gives our national committees the mandate to demand an end to endless unsafe demands on our GP services. Read the [BMA's safe working in general practice guidance](#).

The conference also urged the GPCs to negotiate a GP contract that incentivises continuity of care. In response, Dr Farah Jameel, GPC England Chair, said that “If continuity of care is to be rewarded and preserved, it will need to be measured and monitored and it will need new payment mechanisms. So we’ll need to spend some time thinking about these matters. We must reward continuity of care and it is right that we ask for it. We’ll need courage – from policymakers, from us and from parliamentarians.”

The resolutions will be published shortly on this page: [Local medical committees](#)

### **Rebuild General Practice: support the campaign**

The [Rebuild general practice campaign](#) continues to tackle the crisis facing general practice. The campaign has been building awareness of the key issues in the media, with the public and with politicians. We need your support to amplify the message and make the campaign a success.

You can follow and share content, news, and updates on the campaign [Twitter page](#)

### **Delayed contractual changes for deceased patient records**

NHSE/I have confirmed that the contractual changes for the management of deceased patient records have yet to take effect. This is due to required legislative and system changes remaining outstanding and means that practices should continue printing and sending the full records to PCSE until NHSE/I notifies the profession otherwise. PCSE will also retain the obligation to process AHRA requests it receives directly until that time.

### **Medical exemption service**

As of 12 May 2022 the domestic NHS COVID Pass is no longer available, and the medical exemptions service (119) will no longer accept new applications from people who want to use the domestic NHS COVID Pass to prove they cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons.

The 119 service will continue running at a minimal level until 11 July, only accepting queries to the call centre and processing outstanding applications via GP assessments into the Summary Care Record application (SCRa). GPs will be required to continue processing applications until 11 July to comply with the amendments to GP regulations. Previously granted exemptions will continue to show throughout in the NHS Covid Pass under “view my records” except where they have expired due to time-limited grounds.

The NHS COVID Pass for international travel will continue to be available as normal. More information about medical exemptions can be found on [gov.uk](#).

### **Navigating the GP sponsorship process webinar**

The BMA has partnered with legal firm Magrath Sheldrick, who oversees the BMA [immigration advice service](#), to develop a webinar on navigating the GP sponsorship process. The webinar is aimed at GP employers and offers practical tips on how to navigate the current sponsorship process to recruit non-UK nationals and addresses frequently asked questions on the process itself. The link to the webinar is enclosed: [www.magrath.co.uk/gp-practices-sponsor-licence-process/](http://www.magrath.co.uk/gp-practices-sponsor-licence-process/)

If you have any questions, or would like to share your experiences of navigating the sponsorship process, please contact Caroline Strickland, Senior Policy Advisor, International Affairs ([cstrickland@bma.org.uk](mailto:cstrickland@bma.org.uk)).

More information about certificate of sponsorship is available on the [BMA website](#)

### **Improvements to benefit eligibility at the end of life**

On Monday 4 April 2022, eligibility for the Special Rules changed. This means that individuals can make a fast-tracked claim to two working age benefits if they have an estimated 12 months or less to live. To support people accessing these benefits and to find out more about the **new** process and medical evidence form, [DWP have published this guidance](#).

## **WORCESTERSHIRE LMC LTD**

**All topical issues relating to local general practice are discussed at the monthly LMC meetings and those minutes can be read on the LMC Website.**

**Should you require further information on any issues raised at the LMC meetings please do not hesitate to contact the LMC representative for your area or practice.**

### **WORCESTERSHIRE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**CHAIRMAN:** Dr David Herold Riverside Surgery, Waterside, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 1JP Tel: 01386 444400 Email: [d.herold@nhs.net](mailto:d.herold@nhs.net)

**VICE CHAIRMAN:** Dr Matthew Davis, Bewdley Medical Centre, Dog Lane, Bewdley. Worcs, WR5 2AR Tel: 01299 402157 Email: [matthew.davis@nhs.net](mailto:matthew.davis@nhs.net)

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**EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT:** Mrs Sarah Bainbridge. Tel: 07501 937185 Email: [admin@hereflmc.co.uk](mailto:admin@hereflmc.co.uk)

### **Representatives:**

**Bromsgrove:** Dr David Pryke, Dr Kevin Hollier

**Malvern:** Dr Paul Bunyan, Dr Ravi Khehar

**Redditch: Dr Meeraj Shah, Dr Ian Haines**

**Worcester: Dr Fiona Martin, Dr Catriona Whyte, Dr Rebekah Twomey (Maternity Cover for Dr Raveena Benney) (EDI Rep)**

**Wychavon: Dr David Herold Dr James Rankin (Dispensing Rep) Dr Katy Gines**

**Wyre Forest: Dr Matthew Davis, Dr Sebastian Morton, Dr James Rayner**

**Co-opted Representatives: Dr Emma Penny (Out of Hours Rep)**

**Dr Roy Williams (CDs & IT)**

**Dr Leah Jones (First Five Rep)**

**Non-Principal Representative: Dr Stephanie Manton**

**Practice Manager Representatives: Meryl Foster, Helen Garfield**

**Registrar Representatives: Dr Esien Ukorebi**