

YORLMC News

For practices in North Yorkshire & York and Bradford & Airedale

Message from Dr Brian McGregor

Dear colleagues

GP contract – find out more

Thanks to everyone who attended one of the YORLMC contract roadshows, held on 6, 7 and 11 March. For those who couldn't be there, you can see a [video of my presentation here](#) and if you would like a copy of the slides from the roadshows, please email YORLMC on info@yorlmc.co.uk

GPC England is organising a series of webinars at which you can find out more about the contract – please see page 2 of this newsletter for more details.

There will be chance to bring your questions about the contract to my next Q&A session too. This will take place on Thursday 28 March, 7-8pm on Zoom. All GPs and practice staff are invited to attend and you can [book your place here](#).

YORLMC will set up a WhatsApp group for all GPs. This will be a broadcast group sharing the latest news on the contract and other matters. Please keep an eye on your emails for an invitation to join.

Best wishes

Brian

Dr Brian McGregor, YORLMC Medical Secretary

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Dr Brian McGregor

13 March 2024

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2024/25 GP contract referendum

Join a GPCE webinar to find out more

GPC England has rejected the 2024/25 GP contract changes. The contract has now been put to BMA GP members in a referendum. The referendum cannot prevent the Government from choosing to impose their changes to the contract, but it will send a strong signal as to how the profession feels about the contract, a potential third successive contractual imposition by Government and where we collectively go next.

Find out more about the current contract changes [here](#).

You can watch GPC England Chair Dr Katie Bramall-Stainer discussing the GP referendum here: [GPC England contract referendum - YouTube](#)

To ensure you can feel fully informed before you vote, GPCE is holding a series of webinars and as GPCE receives feedback, it will add FAQs to the webpage at www.bma.org.uk/gpcontract, which you can read and reflect on with your practice colleagues.

What to expect:

- A presentation from GPC England Officers outlining the context of the 2024/25 contract and what it means both for your practice, and you as a GP. A summary of next steps and the choice BMA GP members will need to make in the referendum
- A roadmap of what the months ahead may look like
- The opportunity to have your questions answered – please send your questions in advance to gpreferendum@bma.org.uk

Please see the panel to right for details of the webinars.

These webinars will NOT be recorded, so please attend your regional slot, or a national catch-up session. If you can't attend the Yorkshire & Humber or national catch-up, please do attend one of the other sessions instead. The referendum opened on 7 March and closes midday Wednesday 27 March. BMA members should have received an email with a unique voting link. How you vote will determine our next steps as a profession.

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Webinar dates, times and Microsoft Teams joining links:

South East Coast: Wednesday
13th March - 19.30 - 21.00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

North East: Wednesday 13th
March - 19.30 - 21.00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

North West: Thursday 14th
March - 12.30 - 14.00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

West Midlands: Tuesday 19th
March - 19.30 - 21.00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

South Central: Wednesday 20th
March - 12.30 - 14.00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

South West: Wednesday 20th
March - 12.30 - 14.00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

Yorkshire & Humber: Wednesday 20th March - 19:30 – 21:00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

East of England: Wednesday
20th March - 19:30 – 21:00

[Microsoft Teams link](#)

National Catch-Up: Thursday
21st March

12.30 - 14.00 [Microsoft Teams link](#)

19.30 - 21.00 [Microsoft Teams link](#)



GP workforce: January 2024

There are 48 more fully qualified, full-time equivalent GPs in January 2024 than in December 2023, marking seven months of sustained increases. However, there is the equivalent of 1,830 fewer fully qualified full time GPs than September 2015. During this time, there has been a rise in the number of patients registered at practices, with January 2024 seeing another record -breaking rise. GPs are now responsible for 18% more patients than in 2015, creating ever mounting workload pressures.

- In January 2024, the NHS had the equivalent of 27,534 fully qualified full-time GPs. This is an increase (48 FTE) from the previous month. January 2024 marks seven months of, albeit small, increases in full-time equivalent fully qualified GPs, with an additional 382 fully qualified GPs joining the workforce during this time.
- However, the NHS been losing *fully qualified* GPs at an alarming rate since 2015, with GP partners making up a substantial part of this shortfall (when this data set began). There is now the equivalent of 1,830 *fewer* fully qualified full time GPs than in September 2015.
- The GP Partner workforce in particular has been shrinking since 2015. There were 16,579 FTE GP partners in January 2023 but 16,176 in January 2024: a total loss of 403 FTE GP partners in the past 12 months alone.
- The number of GP practices in England has decreased by 106 over the past year – reflecting a long-term trend of closures and mergers.
- This fall in both staff numbers and GP practice coincides with a rise in patients: as of January 2024, there was another record-high of 63.15 million patients registered with practices in England – an average of 10,005 patients registered per practice.
- As a result, each full-time equivalent GP is now responsible for an average of 2,294 patients. This is an increase of 356 patients per GP, or 18%, since 2015, creating an ever-mounting workload in general practice.

You can read more on the [BMA website](#).

HRT guidance updates

An updated HRT PPC guidance document has been published by DHSC. This is to reflect changes to the definition of products in scope of the HRT PPC, following the launch of new products onto the market, and an agreed process for managing discontinuations.

The latest version can be found here: [HRT PPC guidance | NHSBSA](#).

Preparing for the Spring 2024 COVID-19 vaccination campaign

Preparations are underway for the Spring 2024 COVID-19 vaccination campaign, following the achievements of the 2023 Autumn campaigns.

The NHS is focusing on delivering a seasonal COVID-19 vaccine dose, aligning with government recommendations. Eligible cohorts include adults aged 75 and over, care home residents, and immunosuppressed individuals.

Efforts are being made to ensure equity in access and address variations in uptake. Funding and contract arrangements are extended to support vaccination activities, with plans for supply and delivery to be finalised soon.

The commitment of healthcare professionals is crucial for the campaign's success. Read more [here](#).



Expressions of Interest - New-to-Practice Nursing VTS Programme - Deadline 31st March

For practices in North Yorkshire & York

NHSE has recently announced changes to the national fellowship funding, which funds this programme in our region. The deadline for accessing this current funding is 31st March, and so in order to secure places on this programme Humber & North Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce and Training Hub needs to confirm expected numbers by this deadline.

Please find attached at [Appendix 1](#) a flyer with details about the programme.

If you think your practice/PCN are going to want places on this year's cohort, **please express interest here before 31st March**, to secure funding: <https://forms.office.com/r/VRif6zr5Ae>

Please include individuals you have already recruited, and any you plan to recruit in time to join the cohort, likely to start in September.

Please get in touch on training@haxbygroup.co.uk if you have any queries.

Funded support/development for qualified ACPs and PAs: Advanced Practice Forward

For practices in North Yorkshire & York

The Humber & North Yorkshire (HNY) Primary Care Workforce and Training Hub are delighted to announce availability of a new support scheme open to all qualified ACPs and PAs beyond preceptorship. Full details and registration link can be found in the flyer at [Appendix 2](#).

[Advanced Practice Forward](#)

aims to offer ongoing support for ACPs and PAs further into their career, beyond the trainee and preceptorship period. The offer includes:

- Monthly teaching sessions on clinical hot topics
- Annual 1-1 mentoring session
- Virtual peer-group community of practice

Please share with any of your ACP and PA colleagues who may be interested.

Also, just a quick reminder, funding and support for Trainee ACPs and new PA preceptorships is also still available, and the application windows are still open. You can find information and application details in the links below:

[Trainee ACP Funding & Support \(ACP Ready\)](#)

[PA Preceptorship Funding & Support \(PA Ready\)](#)

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch on training@haxbygroup.co.uk

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GP Fellowship Expressions of Interest - Newly Qualified GP CATALYST Programme - Deadline 31st March

For practices in North Yorkshire & York

Please share with all your recently qualified or soon-to-qualify GP colleagues

You may be aware that NHSE have recently announced upcoming changes to the national fellowship funding, which funds the GP CATALYST programme for newly qualified GPs in our region.

Any GPs in their first year of qualifying, and who will CCT before 31st March 2024 are still eligible to access this. Funding will also continue as per current arrangements for any fellows already enrolled and on the 2-year programme.

For any new GPs not already registered, the deadline for accessing this current funding is 31st March, to secure funding expressions of interest must be submitted by this deadline. The new cohort will likely start in September, and further information will be shared in due course.

Please express interest here before 31st March, to secure funding if you CCT before 31st March: <https://forms.office.com/r/eybUhQBQS0>

If you CCT after 31st March and would like to be kept up to date regarding the new funding offer, you can also register your interest on the same link above and the Humber and North Yorkshire Primary Care Workforce and Training Hub will keep you informed with any updates.

CATALYST – Programme Information

Catalyst is the HNY variation of the NHSE national GP fellowship offer. A 2-year programme delivered by Hull York Medical School at the University of Hull is available to all GPs within 12 months of qualifying.

The programme provides a weekly educational session and will help build the experience, skills and confidence that will support future careers in primary care medicine. A bursary is available to support release for 1 session per week. Educational sessions are currently on Wednesdays, one full day every two weeks (averaging 1 session per week).

[Visit the Catalyst website here](#)

[View the Catalyst handbook here](#)

Please get in touch on training@haxbygroup.co.uk or CatalystProject@hyms.ac.uk if you have any queries.

Pharmacy First

Practices might find the documents at [Appendix 3](#), [Appendix 4](#) and [Appendix 5](#) useful, particularly for reception staff, to use as a guide as to what conditions can be seen under Pharmacy first.

Visa Sponsorship Licence Renewals

The Home Office has [announced](#) that from 6 April 2024, employers that already hold a sponsorship licence will no longer be required to apply for a licence renewal after four years.

There is no action needed for employers. If a practice has a sponsorship licence that is due to expire on or after this date, the Home Office will automatically extend the expiry date on the licence by 10 years.

This will help reduce visa sponsorship related admin and costs for practices.



Professional Records Standards Body

The PRSB is aligning its standards to the new Pathology standard ([DAPB4101](#)) going through approval at the [DAPB](#) in March.

The current components used in PRSB standards were developed before the recent pathology standards. The PRSB need to ensure that test results and reports that clinicians receive can be shared digitally with their colleagues and can be incorporated into shared care records.

The PRSB are asking clinical informaticians with an interest in pathology to review PRSB standards in light of the new standards to ensure that they align.

To support this work, the PRSB are holding a webinar on **Thursday 21 March, 11am - 1pm**, to register click [here](#).

PRSB survey – GP activity data

The Professional Records & Standards Body (PRSB) are surveying GPs as part of a set of proposals to implement a standard set of SNOMED codes to capture consultation mode and GP activity data.

The [survey](#) closes on 15th March and seeks to garner views from practices on how day-to-day activity that takes place can best be defined and recorded.

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NIHR In-Practice Fellowship

The NIHR In-Practice Fellowship (IPF) initially offered academic training to fully qualified general practitioners, general dental practitioners, and community dentists, who are in NHS practice in England.

The eligibility for this scheme has been broadened in 2024 to cover all other health and care professionals working in a primary care setting, including (but not restricted to) nurses, midwives, pharmacists and health visitors.

This enhanced offer will enable a larger cohort of health and care professionals to access research training and development, to advance their academic research careers. [In-Practice Fellowship \(IPF\) Round 18 | NIHR](#)

York Medical Society

Please see the [York Medical Society website](#) for details of their forthcoming events.



YORLMC news

Contacting YORLMC

Please get in touch with YORLMC if there are any matters with which we can help. Our general email address is info@yorkmcltd.co.uk. Please remember that queries sent through to the Corporate Affairs Team should not contain any patient identifiable information and should be redacted before sharing.

Jobs page

YORLMC has a job page on our website at <https://www.yorkmcltd.co.uk/jobs>. Please visit this page to view current vacancies and details of GPs seeking work. NHS Practices in the YORLMC area seeking to fill GP and staff vacancies and GPs seeking work in the YORLMC area can place adverts on the job page free of charge. To place an advert please email info@yorkmcltd.co.uk



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