



## GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our March 2023 newsletter.

### NHS GGC Practice/Sessional GP Mailings

We have raised concerns with the board about the changes to the practice/sessional GP mailings, which mean that items are no longer being emailed as attachments. We welcome the listing of items that have been added to Sharepoint but do think that the messages not being added as email attachments may lead to GPs and practice managers missing out on important matters. Sharepoint will likely act as a good repository but we think this should be an additional service. This matter has been raised with the board.

### Pension Changes

The LMC welcomes the changes to pension taxation that were announced in the Budget this week. The punitive taxation of both Annual Allowance and Lifetime Allowance have had significant impact on many GPs which have led to doctors taking earlier retirement or having to come out of the NHS Superannuation Scheme. Glasgow LMC members have spoken at Scottish and UK LMC Conferences over the last few years calling for changes and flexibilities to pensions that would allow more GPs to stay in clinical practice. However, we remain concerned about the details of the tax free cap on the Lump Sum and also the Tapering rules, and therefore will continue to support the BMA Pensions Committee with their work on these issues.

### GPs/Staff Leaving Practices

We would like to remind practices of the importance of informing the IT helpdesk of any GPs/staff who are leaving the practice so that IT can remove them from access to practices' systems and other platforms such as Office 365, Clinical Portal, SCI Gateway and SCCRS. This is important not only from a housekeeping point of view but also vital for information governance and data protection.

### Media

*The Herald* and *The Ferret* news outlets have this week been running a series of articles on general practice in Scotland at this time. We welcome this focus on the important work being undertaken by GPs and practices. Our Medical Director Dr Patricia Moultrie was quoted on the importance of working to “ensure that new practices are built and staffed in areas with high levels of residential construction in order to provide the public with the GP services they need and deserve”. You can read more [here](#).

### Email Mailing List

If any GPs would like to receive our communications direct to their own inbox, as well as their practice's, please do [let the office know](#).

### Wellbeing Resources

The cumulative stress of the pandemic, the workload pressures, and patient demand is undoubtedly affecting people's mental health. We know that practice leadership, and a

supportive and valuing culture in general practices is vital in maintaining the wellbeing of the practice team. These are some of the wellbeing resources available to GPs, PMs and practice staff-

National Wellbeing Hub- [www.promis.scot](http://www.promis.scot)

NHS GGC Occupational Health Service-

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/occupational-health/covid-19/>

[Covid-19 Staff Support Line](https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/occupational-health/covid-19/)- 0141 303 8968

The Workforce Specialist Service-

<https://www.practitionerhealth.nhs.uk/accessing-the-service-in-scotland>

BMA Wellbeing Resource-

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/your-wellbeing/wellbeing-support-services/sources-of-support-for-your-wellbeing>

[Working Health Services Scotland \(WHSS\) - Health and Well-being \(nhsinform.scot\)](https://www.nhs.uk/working-health-services-scotland)

**The Cameron Fund**

[The Cameron Fund | The GPs' Own Charity](https://www.thecameronfund.org.uk/)

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Maureen Byrne**  
Chair

**Dr John Ip**  
Medical Director

**Dr Patricia Moultrie**  
Medical Director

**Marco Florence**  
Policy Officer

**Elaine McLaren**  
Administration Officer