



## What Does The NHS Long Term Plan Mean For Derbyshire General Practice?

### **A Summary of the NHS Long Term Plan and the GP Partnership Review. How Derby and Derbyshire LMC, through the GP Task Force, are helping to futureproof general practice.**

Everyone working in general practice is aware of the current environment; the threats, but also the many opportunities. One of the LMC's roles is to ensure that we understand this landscape and help support GP practice to navigate through changing times, emerging from the other side in a stronger position.

You will have recently seen our summary of the [2019-20 GP Contract Changes](#); in addition two recent publications will have implications for Derbyshire General Practice. This document summarises these two reports:

- 1) **The NHS Long Term Plan and**
- 2) **The GP Partnership Review**

We would like to thank Michael Wright, CEO of Nottingham LMC for his summary of the two reports and for allowing us to adapt his work. Michael's full document can be found [here](#).

### **The NHS Long Term Plan**

NHS England unveiled its Long Term Plan on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019, with the stated aim of making the NHS fit for the future. It is essential the NHS is seen to be achieving best value for patients out of every pound of taxpayers' investment. The summary below highlights the main elements affecting general practice:-

- Increased ring-fenced funding for primary and community care, worth at least an extra £4.5bn a year in real terms by 2023/4.
- Primary Care Networks will be developed. GP practices, as part of changes to their GP contract, will need to work together with community colleagues in MDTs, serving between 30,000 and 50,000 patients.
- A workforce implementation plan will be published later in 2019. There is recognition of the need to increase the GP workforce, as well as look to additional ways of deploying clinicians and other staff flexibly, therefore expanding the workforce.
- Further GP contract changes. Alterations to QOF will see the removal of less beneficial indicators and the addition of a quality improvement domain. Vaccinations & immunisations are under review and a premises review is pending.
- An acceleration in digital services for patients. This will include a commitment to enable all practices to offer video consultation, additional online booking and repeat prescription ordering. There will also be provision for NHS 111 to make direct bookings of GP appointments.
- Integrated Care Systems will be rolled out by April 2021, with the aim of delivering 'triple integration' of primary and specialist care, physical and mental health services, plus health with social care.
- The plan outlines that primary and community services will support people in the home, as well as enhanced support for those in care homes. There is particular focus on more preventative medicine.
- There is also some information about moving away from the counter-productive NHS Health and Social Care Act's competition and procurement rules.

## The GP Partnership Review

The GP Partnership Review was published on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 as an independent review into the partnership model of general practice. The aim was to produce recommendations that would revitalise and transform the model, to benefit all those who currently work in general practice, patients and the NHS.

There are seven clear recommendations emerging from the Review and they are outlined below:-

1. There are significant opportunities that should be taken forward to reduce the personal risk and unlimited liability currently associated with GP partnerships, by developing proposals to mitigate the personal risk linked with premises lease and ownership. Exploring LLPs and mutual holding contracts, with a request to support in full a state backed indemnity scheme.
2. The number of General Practitioners should be increased. There should be new options at each stage of a GP's career to retain the workforce. The process by which GPs are able to return to the UK practice after working abroad should be simplified. The current pension arrangements must be reviewed to address the impact on partnerships.
3. The capacity and range of healthcare professionals available to support patients in the community should be increased and funded through services embedded in partnership, with general practice.
4. Medical training should be refocused to increase the time spent in general practice, to develop a better understanding of the strengths and opportunities of primary care partnerships and how they fit into the wider health system.
5. Primary Care Networks (PCNS) should be established and operate in a way that makes constituent practices more sustainable and enables partners to address workload, ensuring safe working capacity, while continuing to support continuity of high quality, personalised and holistic care.
6. General practice must have a strong, consistent and fully representative voice at system level.
7. There are opportunities that should be taken to enable practices to use resources more efficiently, by ensuring access to both essential IT equipment and innovative digital services.

## What are we doing to help you?

Along with the work of the [LMC](#), the [GP Task Force Derbyshire \(GPTF\)](#) has been involved in various pieces of work, contributing to the future direction of general practice, as outlined by these reports.

We are currently leading a number of initiatives to provide wraparound support to practices (with support from NHSE, GPFV and HEE). The GPTF has a clear vision to help Derbyshire General Practice to become sustainable and resilient, along with helping practices to transform, grow and thrive.



The GP Task Force, Derbyshire (GPTF) is the delivery arm of Derby and Derbyshire LMC. We are working with key partners to deliver projects which provide **free wraparound support for all Derbyshire GPs, PMs and surgeries.**

### Current Projects

All projects support our 3 key organisational domains:

- **Workforce**
- **Workload**
- **Working at Scale**

### Supporting Practices

- Merger Support
- Recruitment Support
- Workload support
- Practice Diagnostics

In the past year we have supported 13 practices, 1 Primary Care Network, 2 Federations and a further 6 other practices have been offered support ranging from workforce issues, mergers, workload, recruitment and new ways of working.

Our Practice Diagnostic Tool is being finalised ready for roll out and will help you determine where additional resources and support should be deployed.

Interested in exploring different employment models e.g. GP Retainers, PAs, Tier 2 GPs? If yes, please contact us so we can help with job matching.

### Supporting You

- GP Aspire - flexible working
- 1-1 Support for GPs considering leaving general practice
- Championing general practice careers
- Practice Manager networking training and development

Our projects have so far supported:

- 17 GPs via GP-S mentoring
- 23 GPs via GP Aspire
- Completed 29 Career Change questionnaires
- Run monthly free networking and education sessions for sessional GPs.
- Run 4 PM Training sessions with excellent feedback
- Supported Practice Manager networking

### Testimonials

"It was great to have the chance to discuss what support was available and be listened to. I feel more confident about remaining in my job now"

*"I had no idea what career options were out there. Being able to chat through my options with the GP Aspire team was really appreciated".*

"The GPTF team have been supportive and attentive without being intrusive. I would highly recommend the GPTF team to another practice".

Could you benefit from GPTF support? Or would you like to help others by sharing your innovative work? If so contact us now.