



Derby & Derbyshire LMC,
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Tuesday, 04 June 2019

To PCN Clinical Directors

We understand that Clive Newman, Director of Primary Care Development has written to the PCN Clinical Directors following the panel meeting on Wednesday 29th May 2019, where it was agreed that the CCG would approve the proposed 15 PCNs across Derbyshire. The successful achievement of 100% practice coverage is testament to the hard work and collaborative approach that all stakeholders have taken and should not be underestimated.

At the panel meeting, where the LMC was represented in an advisory but non-voting capacity, it was agreed that there would be an expectation on the emergent PCNs to continue to work collaboratively with other providers in their area and Clive's letter captured the spirit of these expectations. In principle, these expectations are simply a declaration of the intent behind PCNs and closer working within communities, which will require engagement, negotiation and agreement between the various parties.

However, the Network Directed Enhanced Service Contract Specification 2019/20 from April 2019 states in para 4.2: "The Network Contract DES specification must not be varied locally and commissioners are not able to increase or reduce the basic requirements nor reduce the national funding pursuant to this Network Contract DES specification". It is therefore the view of the LMC that the requirement from the CCG,

"To address these, we are proposing a set of conditions (attached) that we are asking all PCNs to sign up to, with a focus on those whose boundaries are not optimally aligned. I would appreciate it if you could formally respond agreeing to these conditions as soon as possible and by Thursday 6th June."

contravenes the Network Contract DES Specification and PCNs may choose whether they wish to formally respond agreeing to these conditions. We have consulted with GPC nationally and they agree with the LMC position.

Since there is a consensus that the expectations are reasonable the PCNs may choose to use the following wording in their response to the CCG:

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 30th May 2019 and thank you for notifying us of the approval of the CCG to the proposed (xxxxxx) PCN.

While we are fully supportive of the expectations that are laid down in the associated document "Primary Care Networks in Derbyshire: CCG and STP local conditions" we are concerned that the imposition of formal conditions is contrary to para 4.2 in the "Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service Contract specification 2019/20, April 2019" which states: "The Network Contract DES specification must not be varied locally and commissioners are not able to increase or reduce the basic requirements nor reduce the national funding pursuant to this Network Contract DES specification".





We are therefore unable to “formally respond agreeing to these conditions as soon as possible and by Thursday 6th June” but can assure you and the other partners within the STP that we will work towards the expectations enshrined in the CCG document: “The aim for all PCNs is to ensure that they not only thrive as networks of practices but successfully work with other community based providers to provide integrated care to the local community”.

If you have any queries, please contact the LMC Office on 01332 210008 or at ddlmc.office@nhs.net.

Yours sincerely,

K Markus

P Williams

Dr Kath Markus Chief Executive	Dr Peter Williams Chair of DDLMC
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