



Norfolk & Waveney Local Medical Committee

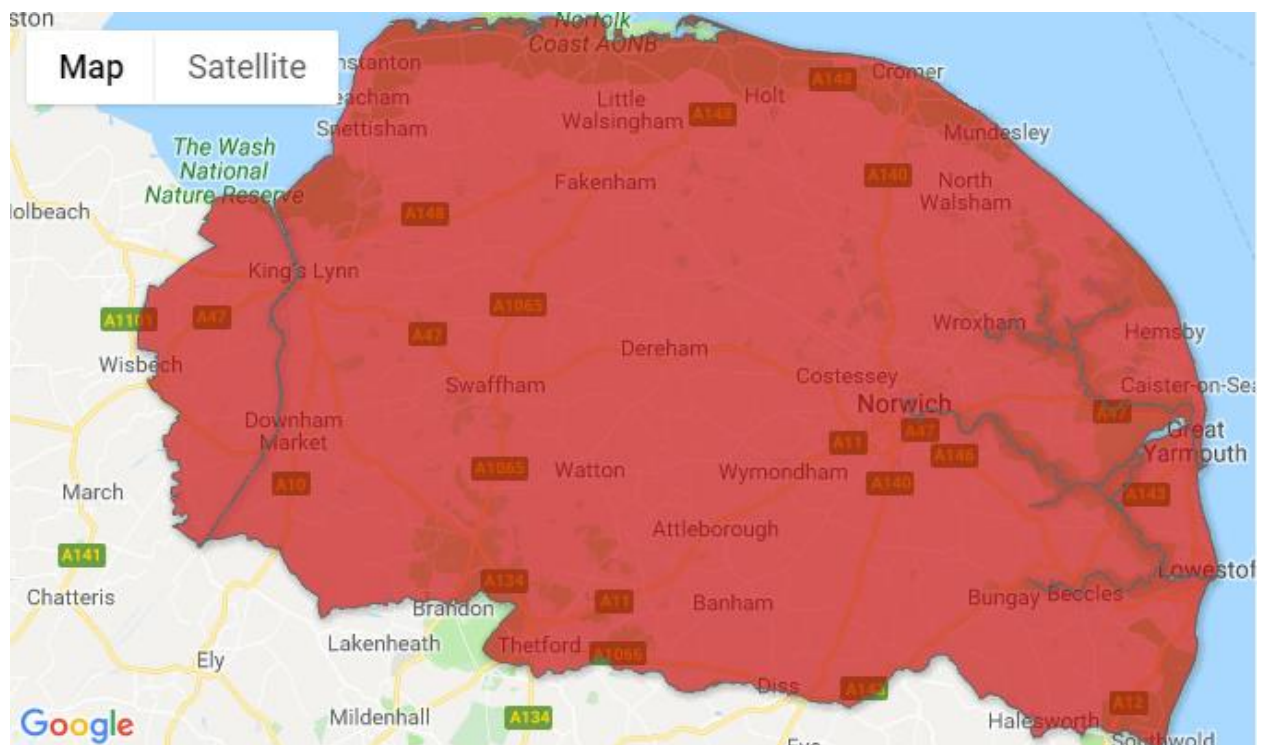
Representing all GPs in Norfolk, Gt Yarmouth & Waveney

About Us

Local Medical Committees (LMCs) are the only elected, representative organisation that provides advice and information to General Practitioners (GPs) and as such plays a major role in supporting GPs in their provision of primary care. As independent bodies with statutory functions, recognised by NHS England, they occupy a unique position of influence within the NHS.

Our area

The Norfolk and Waveney LMC is the local representative committee of NHS General Practitioners working within a Norfolk and Waveney practices and the geographical area we cover is shown on the map below.



Our Committee

The Committee represents over 850 GPs working in over 100 practices with a patient population of over 1 million. The Committee is elected from and by GPs every 3 years in constituencies that are designed for fair the representation of views from across Norfolk and Waveney and those from different GP statuses e.g. partners, salaried and locums. The Committee also co-opts General Practice Specialist Training Scheme (GPSTS) representatives from each of the local schemes and is able to co-opt GPs with specialist expertise if required.

Committee members have clearly defined [Roles and Responsibilities](#) and the current Committee membership is available [here](#). The Committee is governed by the [Constitution](#) and its [appendices](#) which are recognised by NHS England.

The Committee currently meets in full on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (excluding August and December). Meetings are currently held at Hethel Engineering Centre between 5 and 7pm. Minutes of meetings are circulated to all constituents.

Our Executive

The Committee is supported by a small Executive based in Wymondham. The current officers are:

Dr Ian Hume, Medical Director is employed until the end of August.

Ms Mel Benfell and Mrs Naomi Woodhouse jointly support the LMC as Directors of General Practice Contracting and Liaison.

Mrs Jessica Dawson is the LMC's Support Officer.

Our Functions:

The many functions and duties of the LMC that derive from its statutory recognition may be broadly subdivided into two groupings i.e. those concerned with:-

- (1) The administration of the GMS contract (and PMS and APMS on agreement of the contract holder)
- (2) The representation of general practitioners as a whole.

Additional functions have been established by local 'custom and practice'. These include the handling of ethical problems and the representation of GPs in relation to bodies and organisations outside the NHS and maintaining the standing of general practice in the media and among the public generally.

A large part of our role is to provide guidance and advice to practices on a wide range of topics. We also have a role in providing pastoral support to GPs and Practice Managers and attend Performance meetings if required. We often organise training events and we are a member of the LMCs Buying Group, which was set up to help practices save money on products and services from approved suppliers. We also produce a Locum List for practices which informs them of locum availability in the area.

To enable us to provide the wide range of roles that we perform we work with a wide range of organisations as shown on the diagram in Appendix A.

Our Communications

We produce a monthly flyer that is emailed to all GPs and Practice Managers in Norfolk and Waveney. The flyer contains pertinent information that is relevant to GP practices. It also forwards on useful pieces of information from other organisations i.e. the GPC and the Norfolk & Waveney Training Hub.

Our [website](#) is often the first point of contact for many practices and GPs looking to move into the area and our constituent practices are able to post their vacancies on the website free of charge. The website includes a member's area which contains a wealth of information and guidance.

How we are funded

LMCs are independent organisations funded through a levy collected from practices in their area. Our levy is based on the number of patients registered with practices. The levy collected per patient is determined by the Committee and reviewed annually. The levy funds the Executive office as well as the Committee. In addition GPs are asked to contribute to the voluntary levy which is used to finance the LMC's contribution towards the funding of the General Practitioner Committee (GPC).

The GPC is the national committee involved in negotiating the General Practice contract nationally. LMCs have close links with the GPC and Executive officers and Committee members attend the English Conference of LMCs and the UK Conference of LMCs annually. These conferences are the mechanism by which LMCs send representatives to propose motions to influence GPC's national negotiations. The GPC also has a regional representative who facilitates LMCs feedback and views on local issues being reflected and considered within negotiations.

Appendix A

