

## Christmas 2015 Newsletter

### The LMC has a new website

We are pleased to announce that we have a new website. It still uses the original domain [www.llrlmc.co.uk](http://www.llrlmc.co.uk) but its content and layout have been completely refreshed and updated. We have been aware for some time that our website was due for an overhaul, and our office team have been working hard behind the scenes to pull it together.

We will continue to upload relevant content and guidance, as well as making our newsletters accessible to members via the site. Plans for further development in the future include listing of job vacancies and booking of LMC events through the site.

We'd love to hear your feedback about the site - drop us a line at [enquiries@llrlmc.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@llrlmc.co.uk) or tweet us on @LLRLMC.



### Struggling Practice Fund

At long last NHS England has published guidance to commissioners as to how practices can access the Struggling Practice

Fund: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/letter-support-vulnerable-gps-final-finance.pdf>

There is £812,509 earmarked for the entire Central Midlands region, with practices needing to meet specific criteria to access funding. The LMC will be working closely with the three CCGs and NHS England to ensure our practices are able to benefit from this funding.



### LMC Special Conference - 30 January 2016

The General Practitioners Committee has agreed to hold a special conference for Local Medical Committees on 30 January, to decide what actions are needed to ensure GPs can continue to deliver a safe and sustainable service. This was voted for overwhelmingly following calls from LMCs across the country, including your LMC here in LLR, as a vital opportunity to draw attention at the highest level of the crisis General Practice finds itself in.

We are sending 6 GP representatives from the Committee. We hope this conference receives the national media attention it deserves - LMCs from across the country will be calling for serious actions to address the neglect and underfunding of general practice.

## Request from the General Practitioners Committee for practices to respond to survey on GP workload pressures:

*"Dear colleague*

*Following sustained lobbying by the BMA General Practitioners Committee (GPC), the unprecedented pressures faced by GP practices are at last being recognised by politicians, policy makers and the media.*

*As part of a range of activities, we are looking at new ways to illustrate some of the current issues. This will include an online map to be published on the BMA website, highlighting areas of England, Scotland and Wales where practices are struggling with workload, recruitment, retention and financial viability. The map will help to show the current state of general practice and quantify the scale of the problems faced.*

*We are therefore asking practices to complete a short online survey that will take less than two minutes to complete, via this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KSZJN37>*

*Practices are also asked to provide their post code and the name of their CCG or Health Board so that responses can be mapped across CCG/Health Board areas and parliamentary constituencies. Please note that no individual practices will be identified.*

*We are seeking **one** response per practice, and will need to receive all responses by **Wednesday 23 December.***

*Thank you for your participation.*

*Best wishes, Beth McCarron"*



## Updated GMS and PMS Regulations have been published

GMS:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/1862/contents/made>

PMS:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/1879/contents/made>

Remember the LMC can provide specific advice about contracts and regulations.

### Contacting the LMC

Please email [enquiries@llrlmc.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@llrlmc.co.uk) to ensure we respond as promptly as possible to enquiries. This email is monitored daily.

### 2016 and beyond...

Thank you to all of you who have responded to surveys, attended meetings and workshops and to all who have sent messages of support and positive feedback throughout 2015. All of us at the LMC team always feel welcome and enjoy kind hospitality when we visit practices or attend meetings to support you. The fortitude and resilience of you and your colleagues, practice managers, practice nurses, HCAs and admin staff as you care for your patients and carers is nothing short of remarkable.

Please remember the LMC is here for you - we will continue to work tirelessly to look out for and to look after you and your team. Very best wishes for the holiday season and for a better 2016 - we will battle to get the pendulum to start to swing back and for common sense to once again prevail.



Dr Chris Hewitt