

To all practices in Surrey and Sussex LMCs

1st July 2020

Dear Colleagues

'New to Partnership' Scheme

I am writing to highlight to all colleagues the 'New to Partnership' Scheme being implemented by NHS England as part of the 2020/21 – 2023/24 GP Contract Agreement.

The LMC has received a significant number of enquiries about the Scheme, which I hope is encouraging, and I enclose both NHS England's guidance, FAQs, and an Application Form.

In summary, the Scheme is designed to incentivise GPs [and a list of registered other clinicians] to become GP practice partners [under the terms of the Partnership Act 1890]. The Scheme requires individuals who have not been GP practice partners before in England to commit to at least five years of partnership, working a minimum of two clinical sessions per week.

Successful applicants will receive:

- A sum of £20k [FTE, pro rata if working less than 37.5 hours per week]
- The £20k sum (pro-rata) is supplemented by a further 20% in on-costs to off-set in part tax and NI contributions
- There will be a training grant of £3k payable to colleagues to use to support the training they believe they need. This is not paid pro rata

Subject to Parliamentary approval, both the £20k and £3k payments will not be NHS Superannuable

- Payments will be made to practices under Section 96 arrangements
- There is a facility for colleagues whilst on the scheme to adjust their working hours, providing these remain above the eligibility floor of two clinical sessions per week. Maternity/Paternity Leave arrangements are also in place. However, colleagues can only be accepted into the scheme once.

Colleagues working under Retainer or Induction and Return arrangements are also eligible if they have not been a GP partner in England.

Initially the Scheme will run from 1st July 2020 to 21st March 2022, with applications open to all eligible candidates who were appointed as partners from 1st April 2020

Local Medical Committees for
Croydon, Kingston & Richmond, Surrey,
East Sussex and West Sussex

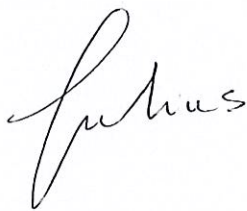
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I appreciate there is one significant element of the Scheme that has not yet been agreed, which is the eligibility of Practice Managers who are not qualifying clinicians, and I know this will be disappointing for those Practice Managers who might have wished to consider a Partnership under the Scheme and for current Partners who looked forward to such an opportunity. The LMC had hoped Practice Managers would be included at the commencement of the Scheme, and GPC is committed to negotiating with NHS England, now the Scheme has been launched, to vary it in future so this is possible

The accompanying details gives full information, including a financial predictor, and eligibility criteria. If colleagues have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact either NHS England on england.newtopartnershipenquiries@nhs.net or the LMC.

I am also pleased to advise colleagues that Surrey and Sussex and Wessex LMCs are hoping to establish a joint training offer to support all 'New to Partnership' colleagues on the Scheme within both LMC areas: we hope our individual and stakeholder partners expertise will combine to provide a valuable and rewarding training offer which will benefit both colleagues on the Scheme and the partnerships they join.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julius Parker', written in a cursive style.

Dr Julius Parker
Chief Executive