

To all colleagues Surrey & Sussex LMCs

9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Colleagues

### **Covid19 vaccination programme**

I appreciate that in terms of this subject colleagues may feel they will learn more from Pulse or from social media than from either the GPC or LMC.

Last Thursday GPC voted 67% in favour of a Covid vaccination DES offered by NHS England; full details of the DES are not yet available and roll out of the programme will depend on when such vaccines are available and the approval process for vaccine delivery being agreed. However, NHS England wished to have arrangements in place from 1<sup>st</sup> December, although it seems unlikely significant volume of vaccine, if any, will be available by that date.

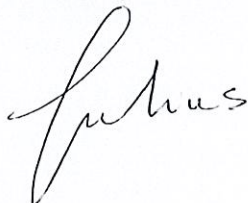
The outline DES anticipates that the vaccination programme will not be on an individual practice level, but require practices to collaborate with others, likely on a PCN footprint, to organise delivery of the programme via a single nominated site. However, the DES is to be taken up on a practice rather than PCN level, and is not part of the PCN DES

There are considerable uncertainties currently in relation to the vaccination process, including vaccine storage, delivery arrangements, patient consent required, potential immediate and later side-effects and administration requirements. It will be a two-injection vaccination, spaced approximately four weeks apart. As services are being delivered under a DES, indemnity will be through CNSGP.

The LMC will support colleagues who wish to sign up to this DES, and those who do not, since as a DES participation is voluntary.

I hope to be able to provide further details as soon as these are published by NHS England; colleagues should consider the terms of this DES carefully and not be rushed into making a decision; other mass vaccination planning arrangements are currently being developed by Public Health and Local Authority colleagues.

With best wishes



Dr Julius Parker  
**Chief Executive**

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