



West Pennine

Local Medical Committee

Representing and supporting GPs in
Glossop, Oldham & Tameside

August 2025 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary/
GM GPC Representative



Dr Mark Wilshire- Vice Chair



Jane Hill, LMC Liaison Officer/
GP Practice Data Protection Officer

Next LMC meeting – September 9th 2025

As in past years, the West Pennine LMC don't have a formal committee meeting in August. However, the LMC continues to be extremely busy over the summer, supporting GPs across Glossop, Oldham and Tameside with a wide range of issues and challenges. We are also busy helping GPs navigate the emerging new NHS architecture, which is set to be stood up in response to the recently published 10-year plan. The proposal of neighbourhood health services may be served by the locality's PCNs working together in some areas.

NHS 10 Year plan summary

The BMA has produced an initial [summary of the plan](#), with more detailed analysis to follow.

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What the 10 Year Health Plan states as some priority issues in General Practice:

- Reaffirming the commitment to bring back the family doctor and end the '8am scramble' for appointments
- Broad aim to train thousands more GPs and to shift the emphasis of overall NHS recruitment into primary care.
- The traditional partnership model will be retained where it is working well - but also seeks to set alternative 'neighbourhood health' models, delivering at-scale services over larger areas.
- Reform of the Carr-Hill alongside wider shifts in funding, to areas with disproportionate economic and health challenges.
- With the intent to free up GP capacity, the recommendations of the 'Red Tape Challenge' will be implemented, and technology like ambient 'AI Scribe' voice technology will be deployed.

GM GP Excellence NHS 10-year plan webinar

The GM GP Excellence team is delivering a 90-minute session on Wednesday 3rd September at 1pm with the aim of offering valuable insights into the NHS 10-year plan, helping you to understand its implications for your practice, both in the short term and over the coming decade. The webinar will be led by Luan Stewart, an experienced Practice Manager with over 15 years' experience in general practice and Primary Care Network (PCN) management. [Click here to register](#)

MIND THE GAP national & local campaign

The BMA - GPC England's national dispute with Government is currently paused, following the acceptance of the 2025/26 contract agreement, with the promise to deliver a new contract within the life of this parliament. However, the national "Mind the Gap" campaign has now superseded GP Collective Action – with the aim of enhancing patient care and safety by identifying and resolving ongoing commissioning gaps and inappropriate workload transfer. This aligns with similar actions both nationally and across Greater Manchester, and reflects ongoing concerns raised in the Primary-Secondary Care Interface Group.

MIND THE GAP in Oldham

As you will be aware the Mind the Gap campaign is set to commence in Oldham **on 1st September 2025**. The national "Mind the Gap" campaign has superseded GP Collective Action – with the aim of enhancing patient care and safety by identifying and resolving ongoing commissioning gaps and inappropriate workload transfer.

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On August 6th, we again wrote to the Northern Care Alliance, reminding them of the top three priorities, as identified by GPs in Oldham:

1. Declining new unfunded or insufficiently funded Shared Care Agreements
2. Declining repeat investigations by hospitals or other services within 4 weeks of request.
3. Declining routine prescription requests from District Nurses

We have attached a copy of the letter for your information. We have also attached a workload rejection template letter, which you can add your letterhead to and use to simply return the inappropriate request. Please do share this information with all relevant team members at your practice.

If you are concerned about the risk to your patient that delays may cause, please do action the request but still return the form to highlight it was an inappropriate request from the NCA/ other secondary care provider.

In order to communicate a clear message to the NCA and other secondary care providers, it is imperative that GPs in Oldham are united and consistent in this campaign. We are aiming for safe and quality patient care, as well as a complete, much needed reset for the GP profession.

MIND THE GAP in Tameside and in Glossop

In Glossop & Tameside the Mind the Gap campaign commenced on July 1st, 2025, with practices rejecting uncommissioned, non-contractual work, sending a clear message that General Practice will no longer fill commissioning gaps. Patient care and safety is at the heart of this campaign. We wrote to you on July 18th, 2025, with an update and a reminder to the secondary care providers that when we gave them 3 months' notice of the campaign, it was not a negotiation – it was a notification. We have attached a copy of the letter for ease of reference. After one of the subsequent interface meetings, which we continue to hold with T&GICFT, the Trust disseminated a synopsis to all Practices – it did not correctly reflect our position and our reply to that is also attached.

It is imperative that GPs in Tameside & Glossop are united and consistent in this campaign. We are aiming for safe and quality patient care, as well as a complete, much needed reset for the GP profession. Sometimes, however, it is possible that the Foundation Trust will disagree that a pushback is inappropriate. They have a team to consider this, via the email submission address pcscig@tgh.nhs.uk but sometimes a clinical conversation would be best and if the Medical Director Dr Dilraj Sandher, does want to speak to a practice, then please arrange a clinical conversation involving the appropriate GP.

Wellbeing resources for GPs

A range of wellbeing and support services are available to GPs, and we encourage anybody who is feeling under strain to seek support, such as the BMA's [counselling and peer support services](#), [NHS practitioner health service](#) and non-medical support services such as [Samaritans](#). The organisation [Doctors in Distress](#) also provides mental health support for health workers in the UK. The [Cameron Fund](#) supports GPs and their families in times of financial need and the [RCGP](#) also has information on GP wellbeing support.

The BMA's GP Committee have produced a [poster with 10 top tips](#) to help support the wellbeing of you and your colleagues Visit the BMA's [wellbeing support services page](#) or call [0330 123 1245](tel:03301231245) for wellbeing support.

Your LMC is of course here to support and represent you and you are very welcome to use the LMC as your first port of call: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

Save the date!

The West Pennine LMC AGM is set to take place on Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 6.30pm at the Village Hotel, Ashton Under Lyne, OL7 0PG. As in past years, it's a great opportunity to take stock of where we are up to in "GP-Land" and celebrate success stories. All GPs and Practice Managers are very welcome, and it would be great to see you there!

GP of Note Awards

As in past years, at the AGM we will be recognising outstanding contributions to General Practice in the West Pennine area with GP of Note awards. If you would like to nominate a GP colleague for this award, please do contact the LMC office via westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

Secondary Care provider of note award

At this year's AGM, we are also going to recognise any outstanding secondary care providers working in the West Pennine locality. If there is an individual who has, for whatever reason, gone above and beyond, please do let us know: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

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Data Protection Office Update

GM Care Record – IG documentation consultation

I have reviewed the updated GM Care Record Information Governance documentation, attached for ease of reference. I feel strongly that there should be a clear opt out process for patients who do not want their data to be fed into the GM Care Record repository. The documentation cited a phone number, with option 8 being available for opting out of the GMCR. In fact, when I phoned the number, option 8 wasn't available! I have requested that this is addressed. I have also suggested that the GMCR Leads should engage with the Practice Managers at their GM forum, since managers are well placed to cascade information regarding the opt out process to the relevant practice team members and patients.

Open Safely Data Provision Notice

You should have received a DPN (Data Provision Notice) for Open Safely. This is a national initiative, which will allow expansion to non-COVID19 analyses. Please note By law practices have to comply with the Data Provision Notice, however the data will not be able to be accessed until the GP Data Controller has signalled approval. Please be assured that OpenSAFELY has the full support of the BMA - GP Committee Digital Leads, as well as the support of the RCGP. The software to allow an opt-in function for EMIS was rolled out last month. The functionality for SystemOne is already there. I have attached the associated DPIA (Data Protection Impact Assessment) for your records and you should please add Open Safely to your privacy notice.

ROPA – Register of Processing Activities

In order to be compliant with the Data Protection legislation, all Data Controllers should have an up-to-date R.O.P.A. (Register of Processing Activities), as dictated by GDPR Article 30. If you need any support with your ROPA, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am happy to come out to your practice to support you with this piece of work if required.

Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net

DCB0160

Please also be mindful that as GP Data Controller, you should be adhering to DCB01060 –a mandatory Clinical Safety Standard for public healthcare organisations who are purchasing and deploying any healthcare technology. Compliance with this safety standard is an element that CQC assesses practices on. Ultimately the DCB0160 is the practice's responsibility, even if done at scale; many ICBs do not have Clinical Safety Officers in place. [NHS England » Digital clinical safety assurance](#)

Caldicott Guardian training

The UK Caldicott Guardian Council is delivering a series of training course for Caldicott Guardians, or someone performing the Caldicott function for your organisation. Please use the following links to book onto a course:

Virtual evening classes

Join Helen Dyer, an experienced Caldicott Guardian trainer and vice-chair of the UKCGC, **for free evening classes** focused on the complex challenges Caldicott Guardians face in health and social care. Through real-life case studies, explore challenging scenarios and requests often encountered in this role.

These sessions are available for booking via Eventbrite and are open exclusively to Caldicott Guardians and those performing the Caldicott function in their organisation.

Networking for Caldicott Guardians

 **Wednesday, 3 September 2025** |  17:30

Information Sharing Considerations: A Legal Framework

 **Wednesday, 1 October 2025** |  17:30

Caldicott Guardians and DPIAs

 **Thursday, 6 November 2025** |  17:30

Information Sharing Considerations: Safeguarding

 **Tuesday, 2 December 2025** |  17:30

Caldicott Guardian Breakfast clubs

This is a free monthly breakfast club for Caldicott Guardians held on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 08:00 to 09:00. It is held virtually via MS Teams and can include relevant news updates, opportunity to network with other Caldicott Guardians, case studies and the chance to ask questions you may be facing as a Caldicott Guardian. Those wishing to attend should contact the breakfast club chair, Helen Dyer at helen.dyer10@nhs.net

If you require any further information about any of the above, or if you require any support with General Practice/ Data Protection concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us via the LMC office: westpennine.lmc@nhs.net or at jane.hilldpo@nhs.net