

**To: All Practices in Surrey and Sussex LMCs**

22 February 2019

Dear Colleagues

## **GP Contract Agreement 2019: Update - Practice Funding Settlement**

Uniquely, this year's Contract Agreement represents a five-year deal. Under this settlement core practice contract funding will rise as below:

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Cumulative Increase	£109m	£296m	£525m	£741m	£978m
% annual increase	1.4%	2.3%	2.8%	2.5%	2.7%

This settlement covers:

- A 'one-off' adjustment to Global Sum to secure the State-backed Indemnity Scheme
- The 1% uplift deferred from the 2018/19 Contract Agreement, payable within the Network Participation Payment, alongside Global Sum, as part of the Network Contract DES reimbursement
- Extended Hours DES/111 practice appointments Global Sum uplift consequent on the transfer to Primary Care Networks of the responsibility for this DES (£30 million)
- Subject Access Requests related Global Sum uplift. (£20 million)

The Global Sum for 2019/20 will rise to £89.88 from the current (2018/19) £88.96, with the OOHs deduction falling to 4.82% (£4.33) from the current 4.87%.

In addition, practices will be paid £1.76 per weighted patient annually as the Network Participation Payment, in instalments, once they have signed up to the (Primary Care) Network Contract DES.

There will be a further indemnity inflation adjustment payable to reflect the average inflationary increase in indemnity costs for General Practice in 2018/19 which has been lower than the previous two years; this will be the final such payment to be made following introduction of the State-backed Indemnity Scheme this April.

Practices will also benefit from the equalisation of Immunisation payments at £10.06, and the MMR catch-up programme payment.

Finally, the Government has committed to reimbursing the 6.3% increase in NHS employers' superannuation costs, and further details of this will follow.

Local Medical Committees for  
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As a consequence of the Contract Agreement, the DDRB (Doctors and Dentists Pay Review Body) will not be asked to make recommendations on GP Contractor income for the next five years, and exceptionally not for salaried GPs for 2019/20; the DDRB will continue to make recommendations for GP trainees, trainers, and appraisers, and for salaried GPs from 2020/21 onwards.

In the context of this year's Contract Agreement, GPC England is recommending practice staff receive an increase of 2% in 2019/20. However, the absolute sums involved for each staff member do depend on the current arrangement for indemnity costs within practices, since the costs of clinical negligence cover will no longer be the responsibility of the individual working at the practice, and therefore, in some cases, current reimbursement arrangements are likely to change.

Colleagues will also note that the GMS MPIG transition, and the phasing out of the Seniority pool, will finish in financial year 2020/21, although adjustments for seniority pay may be made in arrears for some years later. Both sums are being recycled into Global Sum.

These sums represent practice payments and are separate to the investments being made in the (Primary Care) Network Contract DES (please see separate LMC update) which are designed to reduce practice workload and expand the additional workforce able to provide patient care within General Practice.

Colleagues will also note the recurrent expense of clinical negligence payments will be a thing of the past (except in relation to any claims-based indemnity "run off" costs).

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JP', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Dr Julius Parker**  
Chief Executive