

What we can do for you

**Mission Statement**

**To influence the development of primary care across Tees, and nationally, through the representation of and advice and support to ALL Tees GPs to ensure the best possible outcomes for GPs and patients and;**

**To promote development, improve quality and safeguard the qualities of primary care to ensure excellence in patient care with the resources available.**

**What we do**

* Negotiate and work co-operatively with NHS England, CCGs, Local Authorities (Public Health) and local organisations, including federations, on behalf of practices on issues that impact on general practice
* Provide personal, professional support for all individual GPs and/or practices through periods of difficulty e.g. partnership agreements, performance and contractual problems
* Provide information, guidance and advice on local and national matters impacting on general practice including health policies, contracts, employment, ethical and business matters but excluding legal, financial or taxation advice. This list is not exhaustive. Many constituents contact us on an ad hoc basis upon which we offer support and/or further contacts
* Work with and advise NHS England, CCG, federations and Local Authority staff on any of the above in relation to general practice
* Ensure local GP opinions are heard and respected nationally to influence national negotiations and policy and that their interests are represented in political and other settings in positions of influence
* Fulfil statutory obligations including considering complaints and reporting findings, resolving disputes between NHS England, CCG(s) and practice(s) and making arrangements for a medical examination of a practitioner when there are concerns raised and reporting to NHS England their capability to carry out their role
* Supporting GPs in NHS England performance procedures
* Mediating between GP and/or practice and/or NHS England, CCG(s) and/or Local Authorities
* Act as a conduit for information to general practice
* Cut through weighty documents and conflicting or numerous sources of advice, policies and papers to provide personalised, pertinent and concise advice to aid decision making
* Defend the profession’s views whilst working to protect the interests of patients and practices
* Support career development and recruitment into Tees general practice
* Support the development of general practice to respond to the changing NHS – including the development of federations
* Represent the general practice view at/through Scrutiny Committee and HealthWatch



**Aims and Objectives**

* **Promote and safeguard excellence in patient care**
* **Improve quality**
* **Promote development**
* **Provide pertinent, practical, professional and personal advice that GPs/practices/federations/NHS England/CCG/Local Authority need, when they need it through concise, easy to understand information and partnership working to aid and support decision making**
* **Uphold principles of openness, fairness, equality, partnership working, confidentiality, professionalism and respect**
* **Ensure representation of all NHS GPs through partnership working, support and advice**
* **Ensure we remain the established, respected and consulted local representative body for all NHS GPs in the changing primary care sector**
* **Safeguard general practice in a challenging environment to ensure it remains the safe and sustainable central plank of the NHS system.**

**How we do it**

Through:

* Training, education and networking events for constituents
* Regular LMC Board meetings
* Regular meetings with NHS England, CCGs, Local Authorities and other local and regional organisations including other LMCs and federations
* Representation on national committees
* Practice/GP meetings
* LMC website
* Weekly update bulletins including recruitment updates

And by:

* Providing personal, 1 to 1 support and direct response to ad hoc questions
* Retaining independence to observe formal hearings to ensure procedure is adhered to
* Ensuring the secretariat provide a central point of contact and source of information
* Timely and efficient communication of urgent and important matters via email or telephone

**Working with NHS England, CCGs and Local Authorities**

We work in co-operation with all commissioners of primary care (most notably those listed above) and commissioners consult the LMC (at the earliest opportunity and preferably in the planning stages) on:

* Planning and provision of primary medical services and external factors that may impact on this e.g. procurement, community services, out of hours agreements, budgets, restructures
* Enhanced services – development and implementation
* Contracts, contract reviews and variations
* Quality standards and/or concerns regarding premises, GPs practices
* GP appraisals
* Quality and Outcome reviews and any issues/concerns regarding accuracy of recording
* Policy developments
* Budgets and funding in relation to primary care
* Vacancies, GP and practice movements, splits, mergers relocations etc

