

# iN TOUCH



AN INTERACTIVE UPDATE FOR GPs  
WORKING IN LANARKSHIRE

 ISSUE NO. 3

As the Chief Officer for South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership ([www.slhscp.org.uk](http://www.slhscp.org.uk)), you may know that, under wider hosted services arrangements, the partnership holds the responsibility for primary care across the whole of Lanarkshire.

So, it is important for me to continue to engage and communicate more actively with GPs. iN TOUCH, a monthly, interactive e-newsletter, has been specially designed to enable that to happen.

The three concise sections below provide updates, news and, crucially, the platform to feedback, engage and have your questions answered, either offline or on this open forum.

I welcome any and all correspondence, be it questions, comments or updates you wish to share, so we can continue our dialogue.

Best wishes,



## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



If you have a question or point relating to any aspect of primary care in Lanarkshire, particularly questions which you feel the answers would be beneficial to the overall GP community, please [email](#) us providing your contact details. Questions and responses will be featured in the next edition. The deadline for question submission is five working days after publication. Please don't feel restricted by these timings, however, as we will publish responses to all questions submitted in subsequent editions. Please stipulate whether you would rather receive a direct, offline reply.

## NEWS LATEST

### GMS update

Work continues to implement GMS 2018 in Lanarkshire, following the recent agreement on the governance required to enable a structured programme

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approach to ensure effective delivery. Full details are in the [Primary Care Transformation & GMS 2018 Implementation Governance Paper](#).

The initial Primary Care Improvement Plan (PCIP) is now reaching completion and is progressing through the main bodies for agreement. This includes the GP sub-committee of the NHS Lanarkshire Area Medical Committee for clinical input and the Local Medical Committee (LMC), as the negotiating body. Sign-off will be via the Integrated Joint Boards of South and North HSCPs in cooperation and collaboration with NHS Lanarkshire Health Board followed by presentation to the Scottish Government by July 2018. This plan will be subject to six-monthly reviews. The work streams detailed in the governance paper above are now all meeting regularly, with multi-disciplinary attendance and input. The Primary Care Strategy Board continues to oversee all primary care transformation work, including implementation of the new contract.

## **Transforming Nursing, Midwifery and Health Professions' (NMaHP) Roles: pushing the boundaries to meet health and social care needs in Scotland**

The fifth in a series of brief papers on the Transforming Roles programme, which aims to update stakeholders on the professions' contribution to the wider transformational change agenda in health and social care in Scotland, has recently been published. ['Paper 5'](#) outlines the education and career development pathways model, which underpins the transformation of nursing roles - including practice nurses - and was developed during phase one of the programme.

The model's main purpose is to establish education and development pathways from registration through to advanced and consultant practice that align with and support changing service needs.

In addition to the model, a nationally consistent approach to advanced nurse

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practitioner education has been defined based on the role expectations identified by the Transforming Nursing Advanced Practice Group.

## **Phlebotomy pilot reduces waiting times**

A new trial process for the phlebotomy service in the Houldsworth Medical Centre, Wishaw has been in place since February this year as part of a Primary Care & Mental Health Transformation Programme test of change. The first few months of the test have proved very successful. The improved process, which introduced additional staff and saw the removal of the treatment room card for phlebotomy, has significantly reduced waiting times for phlebotomy from up to 14 days to now same-day appointments.

As well as faster test results for GPs and faster treatment for patients, the reduction in waiting times has also resulted in a reduction in the number of patients not attending appointments, helping to relieve some of the pressure on GP capacity.

Monitoring phlebotomy activity will continue at Houldsworth over the next few months with a view to assessing the resources required to make this a permanent improvement. Meanwhile, the wider treatment room activity at Houldsworth will be reviewed as part of the improvement journey, ultimately sharing the learning across Lanarkshire.

For more information, contact [Paul Campbell](#), Improvement Manager, on 01698 855601.

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## **SPOTLIGHT**

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## Speeding up GP recruitment



Four Lanarkshire practices took part in this year's BMA GP recruitment speed dating event, held on 25 May in Glasgow.

This year the event was part of the Royal College of General Practitioners AiT careers event 2018, which is aimed at supporting ST2 & ST3 doctors decide on the next step of their career.

As part of the PCMHTP, NHS Lanarkshire sponsored three tables at the event for Lanarkshire practices to attend in a bid to boost local recruitment efforts. Information packs were also provided for the 73 delegates and included a full list of current GP vacancies in Lanarkshire, along with contact details.

The vacancies are also listed on [www.thisislanarkshiregpjobs.org](http://www.thisislanarkshiregpjobs.org). To ensure your vacancy is included please ensure you update your data on Lanquip.

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