# GPDF



To:
Chairs and Secretaries of LMCs
Members of GPC (UK)
Members of the LMC UK Conference Agenda Committee
Members of the GP Registrars Committee
Members of the Sessional GPs Committee

6 December 2024

## Dear Colleagues,

Annual Conference of Representatives of Local Medical Committees 2025

I am delighted to invite you to the Annual Conference of Representatives of LMCs (UK) 2025 which is due to take place on **8 and 9 May** and will be held face to face in Glasgow at the SEC Centre at the Scottish Event Campus. I would appreciate it if you could circulate this information to your members as soon as possible, so they can start thinking about UK motions now. Information about submitting motions (including motions amending standing orders) to conference is attached (Appendix 2 and 3), which should be done via this link by 12 noon, on 17 February 2025.

#### **Motions**

All UK LMCs; GPC UK, the GPC Sessionals Committee, GPC Registrars Committee; and the Chairs of the Devolved Nations' LMC Conferences, are invited to submit motions for debate at this UK Conference. These motions will reflect your committee's priorities for debate and determine what new GPC UK policies it wishes to form, which may then ultimately influence or change wider BMA policy through the Annual Representatives' Meeting later in the year.

To make the process of submission and prioritisation for debate more straightforward, we are using a 'heading system' whereby LMCs select one of the suggested headings under which their motion falls. However, if you think any of your motions fall outside the subject areas, please submit them in the 'Other' category. The agenda committee will then review the motions for debate, as per the standing orders.

To avoid potential disappointment, please ensure that the motions you submit address <u>UK relevant issues</u>. Motions specific to a single nation are highly unlikely to be prioritised for debate. Hence, be careful about single-nation language used eg ICBs, Health Boards, NHS England, CQC etc.

# Registration - Members of conference

365 seats have been allocated for representatives allocated according to Standing Orders 3.2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, and the number of representatives to be appointed to attend by each LMC is listed in **Appendix 1**. We have decided to use the same numbers for representative allocations as last year, rather than seek up to date numbers from LMCs. This has been necessary due to time constraints and also the ongoing reforms to Conference, particularly regarding work to review the method of seat allocation, mandated by the 2024 conference as per Resolution TD2-7. We are aiming to introduce a proposal for such changes at the 2026 conference. In the meantime, if you have any queries or concerns about the allocation process, please email the secretariat at info.lmcconference@bma.org.uk.

Representatives shall be registered medical practitioners appointed at the absolute discretion of the appropriate LMC. LMCs may appoint a deputy for any of their representatives who are unable to attend. LMCs are asked to complete the registration form by the following link no later than 3 April 2025:

Please click here to access the registration website.

Please note that we cannot fulfil registration requests beyond the deadline even if hotel / trains etc have been booked. Instructions for how to complete the registration form are available in **Appendix 4**. If you are registering for more than one person, **please do not use a generic email address**. Each person must have their own email address.

Please note that this is a registered event and it is the LMC's responsibility to ensure that their LMC attendees have registered to attend conference; we ask all LMC offices to either register attendees on their behalf, or check they have registered well before the deadline, to avoid disappointment. Every registration will receive confirmation, so please ensure attendees receive this. We will not be accepting people turning up on the day. Please also remember to include your BMA membership number if you have one. This is important if you wish to vote in the conference elections.

#### **ARM 2025**

Elections will be held for the seats to attend the ARM 2025, there are a limited number of seats and LMC representatives, members of GPC UK, Agenda Committee, GP Registrars and Sessional GPs committee members will be eligible to stand for these seats. These elections will be conducted along with the other LMC UK conference elections. Further details will be provided nearer the time.

## Travel and accommodation – reimbursement of expenses

A letter from the GPDF Director of Operations, explaining the arrangements for the reimbursement of expenses, will follow in due course.

A large number of hotels are located close to the SEC. Attendees and LMCs can make their own arrangements or use any booking service that they wish. For convenience, Glasgow Convention Bureau is providing a booking service for nearby hotels with discounted rates available until 23 April 2025 (subject to availability). The link to this booking service will be provided in the confirmation email sent to attendees once they have registered.

The conference will be taking place in the Lomond Auditorium, with registration and exhibition/catering in Hall 1 and Hall 2.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided and for info we include the SEC campus site plan (Appendix 5).

## **Format of Conference**

While the structure of conference is still being finalised, I can tell you that conference will be a **two-day event** starting on the morning of **Thursday 8 May at 11am** and concluding **Friday 9 May 2024 at 4pm.** I look forward to sharing more details with you in due course.

Given the narrow window of opportunity for debate across the two days, (as well as the need to receive several additional reports in line with our standing orders) may I remind colleagues of the need for timely, relevant, and focused motions which are not specific to a single nation, and which will potentially be useful in addressing and setting UK wide policy.

Please use the headings to guide your motion themes which are shown in the motion guidance (**Appendix 3**). The national conference chairs can also submit motions from their national conferences to this the annual conference, and thus onto the ARM.

As you will recall from the 2023 and 2024 conferences, your Agenda Committee are committed to reforming the UK conference to make it truly four-nation, collaborative, fit for the future, and to create policy in the interests of GPs across all nations of the UK. To that end, we plan to bring a series of changes to standing orders to be voted on in line with the will of Conference from 2024, as well as updates on ongoing proposed changes.

We on the Agenda Committee, are always happy to receive suggestions from LMCs on ideas of how to format the Conference going forward. If you have any ideas about on how conference can be improved, please contact us with your suggestions by emailing <a href="mailto:info.lmcconference@bma.org.uk">info.lmcconference@bma.org.uk</a>.

### **Tone of Conference**

The Annual Conference is our unique opportunity to enable the collective, professional voice of LMCs, GPs, and their practice teams across the United Kingdom to be heard. It is also a wonderful chance to listen and learn from each other: to network, to influence, and share the successes we have had, and to counsel and warn others from potential challenges ahead. We hope to galvanise a sense of purpose and constructive challenge from you: the best and brightest leaders of our profession. Bring solutions, fresh perspectives, and challenging ideas for LMCs and GPC to take forward.

We fully appreciate the extraordinary pressures facing general practice currently across the UK Conference needs to rise to these challenges by focusing on how it wishes to instruct GPC UK to meet them with potential solutions, rather than focusing on the pressures themselves. Your Agenda Committee are keen to continue to shape and structure a conference that is forward-looking. Please consider this when submitting your motions — be strategic, constructive, and creative.

#### **Conference Dinner**

Finally, I am excited to share with you that we are planning a conference dinner to be held on the Thursday evening. The format of this event is set to be a seated formal meal, similar to last year's conference, in line with the overwhelmingly positive feedback we received following the dinner at Newport. Final details are being discussed with the venue, but we are hopeful that everyone who wishes to attend the dinner will be able to do so. Further details on booking for this event will follow in due course.

On behalf of your Agenda Committee, I look forward to receiving your motions and seeing you again in Glasgow on 8 and 9 May 2025.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Matt Mayer

Chair of the Annual Conference of Representatives of LMCs (UK)