

LMC Elections and Membership – Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Local Medical Committee?

A Local Medical Committee (LMC) is the representative professional organisation elected by GPs to represent all NHS GPs and practice teams on issues of local interest to General Practice. An LMC is an independent body with statutory functions and is constituted under the NHS Act. It is not a trade union.

Each LMC is the professional, local voice for all NHS GPs and their practices. Our aim is to inform, support and empower GPs and to support practices to thrive, despite the difficult environment.

What are the benefits of being an LMC member?

There are many personal and professional benefits to being on the Committee. Above all, it is an opportunity to champion General Practice.

Other benefits include:

- Continued learning and supporting information for your appraisal portfolio – the LMC provides an annual scope of practice letter on request
- Opportunity to attend and speak at the England and UK LMC Conferences
- Ability to pursue an area of interest by influencing pathways, guidelines and protocols
- Meeting a wider range of colleagues and benefitting from their knowledge and experience
- Influencing the local primary care agenda – get your issues heard, discussed and progressed with other providers and commissioners
- Feeling part of an active and influential GP community
- Staying well-informed – know about and understand national, regional and local policies and how they will affect you and your practice
- Access to information that will help you plan for the future and run your practice more effectively

Am I eligible to stand for election to the LMC?

You need to be a GP working in the LMC constituency in which you wish to stand. LMC constituencies mirror the boundaries of the Primary Care Networks operating in the Humber area. You must be registered on the Medical Performers List at the time the election process commences.

Can I stand if I'm a sessional GP?

Yes, GPs of any contractual status (sessional, salaried, locum, partner etc) can stand provided they are on the performers list and working in the Humber area.

Can I stand if I'm not a GP?

No, you must be a GP to stand for election. There are observer places on the committee for practice managers and these will be filled by a separate process which the LMC will publicise.

What if I work in more than one PCN constituency?

If you are a GP working in more than one constituency, you should stand in the constituency area where you do the majority of your work. If you work equal amounts of time in two constituencies, you may choose which one you wish to stand in.

Can I stand in more than one constituency?

No, you can only stand in one constituency.

Why do the LMC constituencies follow the PCN boundaries?

This is to ensure the LMC is better able to represent general practice in the Humber area.

Do I have to be involved in running the PCN in the constituency I will be standing in?

No, you don't have to have a role in running the PCN.

If I'm the Clinical Director of a PCN will I automatically get a place on the LMC committee?

No, if you want to be on the LMC committee you need to stand for election.

How many seats are there for each constituency?

See Appendix B.

How are the number of seats per constituency decided?

It's decided in relation to the patient list sizes in each PCN, so constituencies where the PCN has a larger patient population will have more seats. No constituency has fewer than one seat or more than three seats.

What are LMC members expected to do and what is the time commitment of being an LMC member?

As an LMC member you would be expected to:

- Attend LMC Meetings which are held 10 times a year. Meetings are a combination of virtual and face to face and are scheduled for the first Tuesday evening of each month from 7pm to 9pm apart from the one-two months per year when there is no meeting. Meetings do not take place in January and August. Face to face meetings take place at a venue in Cottingham and food is served prior to these meetings from 6.30pm. This provides an opportunity to catch up informally with LMC colleagues.
- Represent the views of GPs. LMC members are expected to listen to and seek the views of the GPs and practice teams in their constituency and bring them to the attention of the LMC.
- Provide comments on papers between meetings. From time to time, LMC members will be sent emails by the Secretariat asking for their views and comments on particular issues.

Members also have the opportunity to become involved with specific areas of LMC work. This is likely to involve attending meetings on behalf of the LMC and providing a report back to the LMC. (Executive roles and additional work of this nature is remunerated.)

More detail can be found in the Appendix A Role and Responsibilities. The time commitment for members is in the region of 30 hours per year. This would increase if you wanted to take on additional remunerated activities on behalf of the LMC.

The agenda and papers for LMC meetings are sent to members a week before the meeting. Members are expected to have read the papers before the meeting so that they can contribute effectively.

Is LMC Membership Remunerated?

There is no payment for attending normal LMC meetings except for the Chair who receives an Honorarium. However, we do reimburse travel expenses.

Any work carried out by LMC members outside of normal LMC meetings, e.g., attendance at external meetings on behalf of the LMC, is remunerated.

Do I need any specific skills or experience to be an effective LMC member?

You will already have an understanding of how the NHS and primary care work, and this is the main criteria. It is your experience as a practising GP that is valuable to the Committee. You will need a willingness to get involved and a commitment to attending meetings regularly.

How do I stand for election?

You need to complete the online nomination form available on the LMC website. The form asks for brief personal details including your GMC number (required to confirm eligibility to stand). You are also asked to complete a short personal statement.

You need to be nominated by another GP from the same constituency as you. The form asks for their name and email address for us to contact them to verify the nomination – so please check with the person nominating you before submitting the form.

Who can vote in the election?

All GPs working in the areas of East Riding of Yorkshire, Hull, North East Lincolnshire, and North Lincolnshire are eligible to vote, regardless of their contractual status.

How is the voting organised?

You can vote for candidates in the Place* you work in or do the majority of your work in if you work in more than one Place. If you work equal amounts of time in two Places, you may choose which one to vote in. You can only vote in one Place. The election will be conducted via an online election platform and the instructions will state how many votes you can enter in each constituency.

(*i.e. Hull/East Riding of Yorkshire/North Lincolnshire/North East Lincolnshire)

What is the timeline for the election?

Nominations must be submitted by Friday 09 February 2024. Voting will be conducted online in February-March 2024 and the new committee will meet for the first time on Tuesday 09 April 2024.

January 2024

Please note that all of the above information is subject to periodic review.

LMC Committee Member - Role and Responsibilities

Title: LMC Committee Member

Accountable to: Represented GPs and practice teams, the LMC Chair, the LMC Committee and the Senior Management Team of the Humberside Group of Local Medical Committees Ltd

Preparation for Meetings

1. To read all relevant papers before a meeting and come prepared to discuss all agenda items.
2. To declare any conflicts of interest at the beginning of the meeting.

Attendance at Meetings

1. To regularly attend LMC meetings (Non-attendance at three successive LMC meetings without good reason may result in the member being asked to stand down.).
2. If appointed to any additional roles or groups on behalf of the LMC, to attend meetings as agreed and produce a written report for the LMC.

General Responsibilities

1. Members are elected by represented GPs¹ and are expected to:
 - Represent the views of GPs and practice teams
 - Be aware that, by their election, LMC members have a mandate to make decisions on behalf of their represented GPs
 - Listen to and seek the views of represented GPs and bring any issues or concerns to the attention of the LMC
 - Refer practices needing individual support to the Secretariat for confidential advice, and respect their confidentiality
 - Use emails as their main form of communication with the LMC and participate fully in email consultations or discussions.
2. To respond promptly to all relevant communications from the LMC.
3. To follow established LMC policy and to fairly represent the LMC's views to outside organisations. Any members who express a personal view, rather than LMC policy, should make this clear in any discussion they are involved with in an LMC capacity.
4. To ensure punctual arrival at meetings and to stay for the duration of the meeting.
5. To ensure that all communication devices are set to silent mode and any urgent calls are taken outside the meeting.
6. To keep themselves up to date with issues affecting primary care and take an interest in the local impact of these issues.
7. To be actively involved with promoting LMC policy with the CCGs, NHS England and local authorities.

¹ Represented GPs means all working GPs on the Performers List in the LMC area in question regardless of contractual or employment status.

8. To provide a short report in order to receive remuneration for attending any external meetings agreed with the Secretariat.
9. To assist with escalating represented GPs' concerns that are considered to need a national solution by providing topics for motions to be debated at the annual UK LMC Conference.
10. To work and behave in an inclusive and collaborative manner and to be respectful of their fellow Committee members, the Committee Chair and LMC staff, both at meetings and in all their communications in their capacity as LMC members.
11. To adhere to the minuted outcome (party line) of the meeting once it has been agreed, when acting in their LMC capacity.
12. To adhere to confidentiality where appropriate.
13. To complete the Register of Interests form in line with the policy of the Humberside Group of Local Medical Committees Ltd and advise the Secretariat of any changes in their interests.
14. To make their conflicts of interest clear by declaring any pecuniary or other interest in any matter under discussion.
15. If contacted by the media for an LMC perspective, LMC members should first contact the Secretariat for guidance and to discuss the request and their proposed response.
16. To abide by the Constitution of the LMC.
17. To advise the Secretariat immediately should you cease to be a registered medical practitioner (or registered ophthalmic practitioner) or be suspended from the GMC Medical Register or NHS England Performers List.
18. To participate in training and appraisal programmes as deemed necessary by the Senior Management Team.
19. To abide by the LMC's policies.
20. To sign the attendance register at each meeting in order that travel expenses can be correctly processed.

Appendix B

LMC constituencies and seat distribution

LMC Constituency	Patient List Size* (March 2023)	Persons to be elected
Bridlington PCN	41,355	2
Holderness PCN	34,207	1
Yorkshire and Wolds PCN	50,192	2
Beverley PCN	52,573	2
Harthill PCN	35,680	1
River and Wolds PCN	45,544	2
Cygnets PCN	51,543	2
Modality PCN	56,580	2
Medicas PCN	39,002	2
Symphonie PCN	39,851	2
Venn PCN	51,684	2
Haxby PCN	35,778	1
Marmot PCN	22,570	1
HASP PCN	24,342	1
Acclaim PCN	38,178	2

West Care Network	45,939	2
South Care Network	72,876	3
East Care Network	31,336	1
North Care Network	33,635	1
Apollo PCN	24,478	1
Panacea PCN	47,133	2
Freshney Pelham PCN	37,112	2
Meridian Health Group PCN	39,806	2
SLC Medical Group PCN	24,015	1

Ophthalmic Medical		1
--------------------	--	---

Practitioner		
Dental Practitioner		1
Community pharmacy Practitioner		1