



Issue 7
December 2023

Welcome

The Christmas break (for some!) is almost upon us and as chair of the Greater Manchester Primary Care Provider Board, I wanted to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

If you can take a break, I hope you get the chance to spend time with your loved ones and manage to get some rest and recuperation.

Under normal circumstances, the next edition of Provider Update would be due out during the last week in December, so we have decided to take a pause in the hope that you won't be checking emails unless urgent!

Provider Update will be back in January, and until then please continue to check our social channels and the [PCB website](#) for news as it happens, including the [latest podcasts](#).

In the meantime, there's a couple of things I want to draw your attention to, namely the recent article in [Healthcare Leader](#) in which Tracey Vell and Rob Bellingham talk about how the PCB encourages and supports collaborative working within all disciplines of primary care and across the system as a whole.

There is ongoing system engagement and collaboration to ensure that primary care can innovate and develop its role now and in the future to support our patients and residents in GM, so it was good to see leaders acknowledge our important role.

There's also an interesting blog on [NHS Voices](#), featuring Dr Chris Nortcliff's work with the GM Digital First Primary Care programme.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate Ben Squires on his new appointment as Director of Primary Care at NHS GM.

Ben will provide leadership to the GM Primary Care team, alongside support to the wider GM system and the delivery of the Primary Care Blueprint.

Of course, the health needs of our residents don't stop at Christmas time which means many of you will be working and it can be a stressful time as a result.

This time of year can be challenging, for all sorts of reasons, but there is help available if you're struggling. The PCB is continuing to work on ensuring access to wellbeing offers for primary care colleagues, which you can find on the [health and wellbeing section](#) of our website. There are also campaigns to help support your patients, which are also available on our website.

Please take care, and we'll see you in 2024!

If you have any comments or suggestions about this update, please let us know by emailing: info.gmpcb@nhs.net

Thank you,

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