

## Welcome

As we approach the end of the year, everyone is so busy and working flat out – but also achieving great things in the shadow of much uncertainty.

The ongoing NHS reforms are having a significant impact on staff, and we are very mindful of how these changes are affecting our local ICB teams. We will continue to work with and support them in any way we can.

In our role as the collaborative voice of primary care, we continue to engage with NHS GM (the ICB) and wider partners, providing input on several matters that affect providers.

Recently, we provided feedback on the ICB's [draft operating model](#) that aligns with the [NHS strategic commissioning framework](#), released earlier this month.

I also represented the PCB at the Alternative Provider Collaborative Convention. I was invited to take part in a [panel discussion](#) about unlocking investment for social good, along with Edna Robinson, Executive Chair of the [Alternative Provider Collaborative](#), and other system leaders.

And, we continue to champion the inclusion of all primary care disciplines in the co-production and delivery of future models of care as part of the [GM Live Well](#) programme and the [National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme](#) (NNHIP).

In this bulletin, you will find an update on Live Well which features an invitation for primary care to learn about the new 'hallmarks' of the programme, along with the launch of a new podcast series which highlights some of the work being done in communities.

We'll be providing an update on the Live Well engagement we did with providers over the summer to the next Integrated Care Partnership strategy board.

The PCB has also been working on how we see our position within the [Greater Manchester Strategy 2025-2035](#). We have produced a document that has been sent to our sub-boards for community pharmacy, dentistry, general practice and optometry, for sharing with primary care providers.

The document contains feedback obtained from the Primary Care Summit we held in October. Both reports are included in this bulletin, and you can read what people at the summit thought about the NHS 10-year Health Plan and neighbourhood working.

Don't forget to check our [website](#), [X](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for all the latest PCB news and offers. If you have any comments or suggestions about this update, please let us know by emailing: [info.gmpcb@nhs.net](mailto:info.gmpcb@nhs.net)

Thank you,

**Luvjit Kandula**

**Chair, Greater Manchester Primary Care Provider Board**

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## PCB news

### Care Quality Commission webinars snapped up

Hundreds of colleagues working in general practice are taking advantage of our free [CQC Readiness Programme](#), which started this month.

The programme consists of four modules between now and June 2026, focused on how 'practice culture' can make the difference between a 'Good' and 'Outstanding' CQC rating.

### Your thoughts captured from primary care summit

A range of hopes and concerns have been captured from delegates attending the Greater Manchester Primary Care Summit, on 8 October.

[Feedback](#) from table-top discussions about the NHS 10-Year Health Plan and neighbourhood working feature in a [wider report](#) on how the PCB and providers will play a central role in delivering the [Greater Manchester Strategy 2025-2035](#).

### PAQS webinar for dental providers

A [webinar for dental providers](#) will focus on how to communicate effectively about the Patient Access Quality Scheme (PAQS).

The session, on Tuesday 9 December via MS Teams, will include real-life examples to help your front-line teams explain the scheme to patients and system colleagues.

### 2026 dates released for wellbeing leadership programme

Join the growing movement that aims to make 'being well' at work a 'must' rather than a 'nice to have'.

This free programme is designed for all disciplines of primary care. [New dates for 2026](#) are now available.

### Research event for GP practices from deprived areas

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) is inviting GP practices from deprived areas to join them at a collaboration event on 22 January.

[Register](#) for your chance to learn more about clinical research, meet like-minded colleagues and work directly with researchers on ways to increase uptake from patients.

### Podcasts shine a light on health matters

The PCB's Chief Clinical Information Officer, Dr Chris Nortcliff, talks all things digital in a recent [podcast from Primary Care Knowledge Boost](#) (PCKB).

Chris explains how he works across community pharmacy, dentistry, general practice and optometry, and the importance of digital inclusion. There's also an episode on [Managing heart failure and CKD in primary care](#), which looks into the complexity of having multiple health issues.

### **Learn more about the Live Well model**

A set of 'hallmarks' or principles have been published to help people understand how the Greater Manchester Live Well model is operating.

Primary care providers are [invited to get involved](#) by reading the Live Well Hallmarks.

The Live Well team has also launched a podcast series, which showcases some of the fantastic work already taking place in our communities.

You can [read more](#) via the Live Well bulletin and [listen to episodes](#) wherever you get your podcasts.

### **How optometrists are saving lives with hypertension pilot**

The NHS Hypertension pilot, delivered by Primary Eye Services (PES) in partnership with Local Optical Committees (LOCs) and NHS GM, has [featured in Optometry Today](#).

Julia Maiden, from Greater Manchester Optometry Provider Board and Chair of Ashton, Leigh and Wigan LOC, [explains more in a short video](#).

### **Digital drop-in for optometrists**

Optometry contractors and performers are invited to an informal drop-in session with [Usman Rasul, the Digital Facilitator](#) for Optometry Excellence.

Supporting practices with digital referral tools and improving integration with secondary care forms part of the Optometry Excellence programme, which is overseen by Greater Manchester Optometry Provider Board (OPB).

The digital drop-in takes place from [7pm on Wednesday, 10 December via MS Teams](#).

### **New immunisation schedule explained in workshop**

Greater Manchester Screening and Immunisation Team is inviting healthcare professionals involved in childhood immunisations to attend a [workshop](#) to learn more about changes coming into effect on 1 January, 2026.

### **Compassionate and inclusive culture training**

Are you interested in starting the new year by learning how to nurture a compassionate and inclusive NHS culture?

The [NHS England course](#) starts in January and is open to primary care colleagues from all four disciplines.

### **Partnership updates**

Get up to date with what's happening across the health and care system with Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership's [November stakeholder bulletin](#).

NHS GM has published the findings of its [Fit for the Future](#) engagement, which asked people how they could ensure NHS services worked well for everyone.

### **Campaigns**

The NHS GM [winter vaccination campaign](#) continues, with a focus on older adults and people with long-term conditions.

[Greater Manchester Care Record](#) (GMCR) continues to promote its public data sharing campaign with targeted adverts across Facebook and Instagram. This is aimed at raising awareness of GMCR and its benefits for improving care.

The [North West Coast Clinical Network](#) has produced [a series of videos](#) which explain cardiac health, in other languages. There's also [supporting materials](#) to help you promote the videos to patients.

### Events page

Check our [events page](#) for a range of webinars, conferences and training offers relevant to the primary care workforce.

December features a [Responding Well To Conflict webinar](#) for managers wishing to support their teams, [Why Weight to Talk training](#) for primary care, and a lunch and learn [webinar on breast cancer](#).

The calendar can be altered to view week by week, by month or in list form (agenda) according to your preference by using the tabs.

## Find out more...



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Integrated Care Partnership

