

GP contracts: updated expectations and contracting issues

On 9 July NHS England and NHS Improvement issued a letter to primary medical contractors and commissioners updating them on service expectations and contracting issues.

14 July 2020

Please note: the information contained in this legal update is correct as of the original date of publication

On 9 July NHS England and NHS Improvement issued a letter to primary medical contractors and commissioners updating them on service expectations and contracting issues.

The 11-page letter addresses many important areas, some of which are highlighted below:

- the approach to the resumption of services paused during the height of Covid-19, and the need to sustain transformations in ways of working;
- encouragement to access Primary Care Network Directed Enhanced Service (PCN DES) workforce funding, and for systems to implement GP recruitment and retention initiatives;
- a "Bureaucracy Review" of general practice, looking at freeing-up time for patient care;
- changes in the 20/21 QOF arrangements to reflect revised priorities due to Covid-19;
- potential flexibilities in the event of local Covid-19 outbreaks;
- updates on income protection arrangements;
- plans to issue further details on the Covid Support Fund.

The full text of the letter can be found [here](#), the primary care guidance is available [here](#).

If you would like to discuss how this letter might affect your PCN, or the services you commission, please contact [Jonathan Hayden](#).

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