



This timeline highlights the key contractual elements of the first nine months of the PCN DES, running from 1 July 2019 until April 2020, and should be read in conjunction with the other Londonwide LMCs "[Keep it Simple](#)" guides, the contract and associated documents.

**30 June 2019**

- The completed network agreement should be signed by all PCN member GP practices, including the schedules. The PCNs must confirm to the commissioner that the fully completed network agreement has been signed by all PCN member GP practices. The completed agreement does not need to be submitted to the CCG.
- Note that the contract states: *There is no requirement for the network agreement to include collaboration between practices and other providers, but this will need to be developed over 19/20 and to be well developed by the beginning of 20/21 when the network agreement will need to be updated to reflect the new network contract specification.*

**30 June 2019**

- Data sharing arrangements and, if required, data processing agreements for PCNs must be in place, where required, to support delivery of Extended Hours Access services. A national data sharing agreement template and a national data processing template are currently being developed. In the absence of these nationally developed agreements, appropriate historic arrangements for extended hours access services could stand temporarily.

**1 July 2019**

- Network DES services go live in approved PCNs subject to network agreements and data sharing arrangements being in place. Practices should receive the £1.76 Network Participation Payment per weighted patient from this date and the nominated PCN payee should receive the £1.50 CCG allocation per patient per year for network services.

**1 July 2019**

- Clinical Directors' salary contributions from CCG to be paid monthly in arrears from July 2019, with the first payment on or by the end of July 2019.

**1 July 2019**

- Additional roles' reimbursement for Clinical Pharmacists and Social Prescribing Link Workers are claimable following the start of employment from July 2019; contribution from CCG to be paid monthly in arrears from July 2019, with the first payment on or by the end of July 2019. [See pages 15 and 16 of the Network Contract DES guidance.](#)

**1 July 2019**

- Extended Hours Access service goes live. PCNs will be required to deliver additional clinical sessions outside of core hours to all registered patients within the PCN. This equates to a minimum of 30 minutes per 1,000 registered patients per week in continuous periods of at least 30 minutes on a regular basis in full each week.



- A reasonable number of these appointments are to be face-to-face with the rest provided by telephone, video or online consultations. PCNs will be eligible for payment of £1.45 per registered patient for delivering this aspect of the Network Contract DES. For the formula used to calculate this, plus additional guidance, see [page 25 of the contract specification](#).

### 30 September 2019

- Deadline for transferring staff from the *Clinical Pharmacist in General Practice Scheme* or the *Medicines Optimisation in Care Homes Scheme* to the Additional Roles under the Network Contract DES scheme (this may extend to March 2020 for pharmacists employed under the *Medicines Optimisation in Care Homes Scheme*). For further guidance see [page 18 of the contract specification](#) and in the [Network Contract DES Guidance](#).

### April 2020

- National Network Services start under the 2020/21 Network Contract DES. Practices will need to update their network agreement based on the new DES specification. The specifications that are expected to appear in 2020/21 are for *Structured Medicines Review and Optimisation and Enhanced Health in Care Homes*. These are for agreement by the national negotiators at the GPC. Whilst they are not a contractual requirement for 2019/20, PCNs are encouraged to prepare for compliance with these specifications using the guidance in the contract: “Investment and evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement The NHS Long Term Plan”. For further details see [section 6 of document](#).
- It is expected that the Network Contract DES will be updated annually until at least 31 March 2024, during which CCGs are required to provide the £1.50 per registered patient to PCNs.
- CCGs cannot vary the National DES, although they can develop local Supplementary Service Specifications in agreement with PCNs and LMCs, as [referenced in section 4.2](#) of: “Investment and evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement The NHS Long Term Plan”. Speak to your LMC if your CCG demands additional requirements of your PCN.

### Additional 2019/20 monitoring requirements

1. In line with existing requirements for practices, PCNs must report new workforce employed via the Network Contract DES through NHS Digital’s National Workforce Reporting System.
2. Member practices will be required to manually input data into CQRS in relation to management accounts. [Further details in section 6 of contract specification](#).
3. Referrals to Social Prescribing Link Workers and activity relating to clinical pharmacists’ consultations will be required to be recorded within GP clinical systems using the new national SNOMED codes. [Further details in section 6 of contract specification](#).

### Contractual requirements beyond April 2020

- Whilst data collection, sharing and aggregation across the member practices is not yet a contractual requirement for 2019/20, it is advised that consideration and preparatory work begins as soon as possible in anticipation of measures which could be introduced from April 2020. This is detailed [on page 15 of the contract specification](#).

**Further contractual timelines and deadlines beyond April 2020 will be outlined in future guidance.**