

Tower Hamlets LMC News Update – May 2021

Chair: Dr Jackie Applebee Vice Chair: Dr Naureen Bhatti

1. Welcome

Londonwide LMCs election process is now open and we thought we'd let you know what we have been working on in Tower Hamlets LMC.

2. ICS Development and local engagement

Following the vote to establish a single NEL CCG, in line with national requirements, and subject to legislation, the single NEL CCG will become the NEL Integrated Care System from April 2022. The ICS will include a NEL Health and Care Partnership, with an ICS NHS Body; there will be place based systems (BHR, TNW, City & Hackney) where in line with NEL's commitment most of the decision making will take place.

In line with national guidance, and NEL commitments we are working with NEL and borough teams to ensure that there is appropriate governance, decision making and engagement across all NEL boroughs, both at individual borough level, as part of the BHR, TNW and City and Hackney 'sub-systems', and at NEL level, with strong GP representation and involvement at all levels.

3. Unified GP Voice in Tower Hamlets

A strong and unified GP voice is crucial as new systems and structure develop, in support of which we are working with PCN CDs and GP Federations to ensure that at all levels there is a strong, cohesive GP provider voice which reflects local needs and priorities.

We will keep you informed as these discussions progress.

4. Restart of Local Incentive/ Enhanced schemes

We recognise how hard practices have been working during the pandemic with attention diverted to handle Covid patients and deliver vaccines. Tower Hamlets LMC is working collaboratively with NEL CCG and commissioning teams have secured further income protection for Q1 and we are in discussions on returning to normal services, while keeping practices and patient safe and ensuring payments are aligned with ongoing restrictions.

5. Weekend e-Consults and online access

Details on weekend e-Consults and online access can be found on the Londonwide LMC website. Click [here](#) for more information.

6. Primary/ secondary care interface work

As GP's we recognise that well-organised care across the interface between general practice and secondary care providers is essential to ensure that our patients receive optimal patient care, with minimal delays and that practices are not overwhelmed by inappropriate transfer of workload.

Tower Hamlets LMC members, with Londonwide LMCs support continue to actively liaise with your local hospital trusts to improve the interface.

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Tower Hamlets LMC members

Dr Jackie Applebee (Chair)
Dr Naomi Beer
Dr Naureen Bhatti (Vice Chair)
Dr Gemma Eyres
Dr Archana Spahn
Dr Emma Radcliffe
Dr Selvaseelan Selvarajah
Dr Archana Spahn
Dr Nirupam Talukder
Dr Sabir Zaman
Dr Jayalakshmi Aiyengar
Beverly Fernando, Practice Manager

To get in touch with your representative or to raise any matters with the LMC contact Wendy Walker (wendy.walker@lmc.org.uk) or telephone 020 3818 6262.

GP Support

The GP Support Team are here to provide advice and support to any practice or individual GP.

To raise any confidential matters regarding your practice contact GPSupport@lmc.org.uk or visit their page on our [website](#) for further contact details.

7. Locally Commissioned Services/Local Incentive Scheme equalisation across north east London

The LMC is aware of the disparity in availability of Locally commissioned Services/Local Incentive Schemes across the boroughs within NEL. This variation impacts on patient care, and also on funding for General Practice. There is full appreciation that within the boroughs with increased enhanced services, GPs are undertaking additional work to obtain the funding attached.

Across NEL, City & Hackney borough has the highest level of investment in LCS. As an LMC, we are actively supporting the CCG principle to level up services and funding across North East London with the agreement that funding will not be reduced in any area.

8. Londonwide LMC

Following the publication of the NHSE letter BO497 on 13 May 2021, Dr Michelle Drage, CEO of Londonwide LMCs, has been actively supporting General Practice. In addition to sending out a series of factual and reassuring letters to all London GP's, Dr Drage continues to fearlessly champion the interests of General Practice through powerful media statements.

Click [here](#) to read Dr Drage's full statement.

9. Message from Tower Hamlets Chair

Tower Hamlets LMC are proud of our record of standing up for practices. We are about to hold elections and would love to encourage new people to join us. I have been LMC Chair for about five years. It has been a privilege and I hope to continue for a short while longer.

As an LMC we have also:

- Been involved a few years ago in the successful Save Our Surgeries campaign against the abolition of MPIG
- Taken up issues on behalf of General Practice with the CCG and Secondary Care, acting as a critical friend.
- Supported individual practices with their unique issues.
- Worked collaboratively with other stake holders to shape the Tower Hamlets to the COVID 19 pandemic.
- Coordinated solidarity with refugees in the Calais Jungle and Black Lives Matter campaign.
- Ensured that the £1.50 per patient to set up PCNs was not "lost" to practices through being seen as duplication of network management funds.

If you think you would like to be part of this we would love to hear from you.

Nominations to sit on the borough LMC are currently sought from every London GP, whether a partner, employed, locum or trainee GP.

You can complete your Nomination form to by visiting www.cesvotes.com/londonwidelmcs

The deadline for submission of nomination forms to join Tower Hamlets LMC has been extended to **5:00 pm on Tuesday 1 June 2021**.

LEAD Events

Londonwide Enterprise Ltd (LEL) was set up to provide affordable, high quality training and educational events for practice teams.

The Learning Education and Development (LEAD) team is always keen to hear what training is really needed on the ground – get in touch with any ideas by emailing lead@lmc.org.uk

Upcoming Events:

Best Practice Webinar: Overcoming fear and enabling patient access in time of Covid
1:00 1:45pm – Wednesday 23 June 2021

UK LMC Conference – 11 & 12 May

Information and updates from the UK LMC Conference on 11 and 12 May is now available. Click [here](#) for details.

Contact us

Tower Hamlets Local Medical Committee, Londonwide LMCs, Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, LONDON WC1H, 9HX. www.lmc.org.uk

The next LMC meeting takes place on Tuesday 8 June 2021.

Tower Hamlets LMC Team

Dr Jackie Applebee – Tower Hamlets LMC, Chair

Dr Naureen Bhatti – Tower Hamlets LMC, Vice Chair

[Dr Elliott Singer](#) - Medical Director

[Greg Cairns](#) - Director of Primary Care Strategy

[Shabnam Quraishi](#) – Associate Medical Director

[Wendy Walker](#) - Committee Liaison Executive

Dates of Future 2021 Meetings:

Tuesday 13 July 2021

Tuesday 10 August 2021

Future meetings TBA

Disclaimer: This publication is written for healthcare professionals in Tower Hamlets and information may not be appropriate for use elsewhere. Editorial comments do not necessarily represent the views of the LMC.