

THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY PHARMACY Primary Care Networks & neighbourhood working in Greater Manchester

What is a Primary Care Network

- **Primary Care Networks (PCNs)** will bring health & care professionals together to provide joined-up primary and community-based care in line with the **NHS Long Term Plan**. **Unlike previous plans the role of Community Pharmacy features heavily. Our contribution and our potential has been recognised.**
- This NHS England film explains more: <https://youtu.be/W19DtEsc8Ys>
- PCNs will build on current services by enabling primary & community care to become **more proactive, personalized, coordinated and integrated:**

“Clinicians describe this as a change from reactively providing appointments to proactively care for the people and communities they serve”

- Likely to cover populations of **30,000-50,000 people** & to be based around GP lists.
- Typical PCN includes approx. **5 GP practices & 8 community pharmacies.**
- **Small enough to be personal** but **large enough to enable other services** that can't be provided in individual GP practices (e.g. physio, mental health, social prescribing?).
- Across GM we have 67* identified PCNs working across 10 Localities. This will largely be based on the neighbourhoods already identified over the past 12 – 18 months.

Why do Community Pharmacy contractors need to engage

1. Your survival as pharmacies depends on it, because of the interdependence relationship between PCNs and Community Pharmacies going forward.
2. You will have greater control and influence over local medicine optimisation decisions by engaging in PCNs.
3. PCNs gives you the potential to take on a greater paid role of managing patient's condition locally and develop existing service... maximising your income potential.

Primary Care Networks



4. PCNs will be the local focus for primary care provision & potential future local sub-contracting, getting involved now helps secure your future.
5. PCNs will bring opportunities Community Pharmacy, but only via if you engage, collectively with other pharmacies. The time of collaborative working as opposed to competition is upon us.

Community pharmacy involvement - our progress to date

- GMLPC has drafted an operational plan to support our Community Pharmacies to engage with PCNs as and when they develop. Tameside and Bury have been identified as early adopter sites.
- GMLPC has mapped Greater Manchester Community Pharmacies into the PCNs and has created 'virtual hubs' for pharmacies to share and interact with one another within neighbourhood groups. These are currently active in the early adopter sites mentioned above.
- GMLPCs committee members are engaging with active PCNs in the first instance, so they are then able to support Community Pharmacy contractors to engage directly when appropriate.
- To support the above GMLPC is representing Community Pharmacy at the relevant GM and local forums and meetings including: Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Board, Primary Care Provider Board, Greater Manchester LCO Network, ensuring that community pharmacy is involved in shaping PCNs going forward.

We will be providing regular updates on PCN progress across Greater Manchester.

If you want to hear more and get involved, we would love to hear from you! Watch this space and get in touch!