

Primary Care Networks



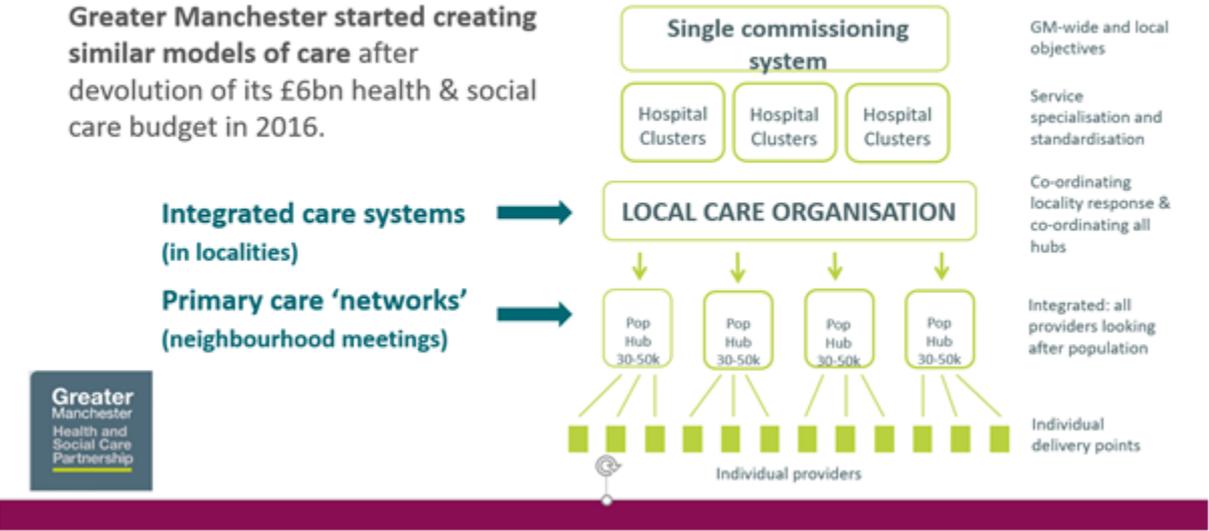
PCNs in Greater Manchester – Our local challenges – Part 3

With Devolution, Greater Manchester has been given the opportunity to identify its own needs and allocate its own devolved funding and resources to meet the needs of our local population.

Our Healthcare system has become significantly advanced with refreshing new structures and integrated working models being implemented that ensure we really are delivering patient centred care, in the right settings and at the right time. We have seen professions come together to improve patient outcomes and experiences and we have seen some real success stories across Greater Manchester.

Over the past 12 – 18 months we have seen the emergence of ‘Neighbourhood’ working across all our localities. Localities have approached this slightly differently dependent upon demographics etc, but on the whole localities have been broken down in to **‘Neighbourhood’ footprints each working to a 30,000 – 50,000 population**. To date these Neighbourhoods have been managed by our GP colleagues and in recent months, wider Primary care and community-based services have been integrating within these structures, to create a multi-disciplinary team approach to the delivery of patient care.

What it means in Greater Manchester



As an LPC we have been working hard mapping our Community Pharmacies to existing Neighbourhood structures, and we are working closely with our GP colleagues to see how these align with the 62 (approximate) Primary Care networks, we want to work with you to ensure Community Pharmacy is in a position to embrace the change by facilitating the formation of Community Pharmacy networks.

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The importance of this is highlighted in the 'hot of press' DES (**Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service**) section 8.1:

“PCNs will increasingly need to work with other non-GP providers, as part of collaborative primary care networks, in order to offer their local populations more personalised, coordinated health and social care.

*To support this, the Network Contract DES will be amended from 2020/21 to include **collaboration with non-GP providers as a requirement**. The Network Agreement will be the formal basis for working with other non-GP providers and community-based organisations. Commissioners should consider how other services could be aligned with the PCN footprints in future.”*

Part 4: Next week we will update you on how we are going to do this!

Additional PCN information and support

With the emergence and ongoing development of Primary Care Networks, it is increasingly important for GP and community pharmacy teams to understand each other's profession and the roles they undertake. To support both professions, PSNC has recently updated [The community pharmacy – A guide for general practitioners and practice staff](#) and is working in collaborating with the British Medical Association's General Practitioners Committee (BMA GPC) to promote this useful resource among the GP and pharmacy professions. So please do take the time to take a look.