

## THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY PHARMACY

### Primary Care Networks & neighbourhood working in Greater Manchester

#### How have PCNs been formed?

(Source: The King's Fund Primary Care Networks Explained March 2019 – edited by GMLPC)

A new extension to the GP contract was recently introduced in NHS England's five-year framework for GP services; the Network Contract (a Directed Enhanced Service). This went live on the 1st July 2019 with the aim to enable GP practices to play a leading role in every PCN.

A PCN must appoint a Clinical Director as its named, accountable leader, responsible for delivery, who will also provide strategic and clinical leadership to help support change across primary and community health services.

A PCN cannot exist without its constituent practices, but its membership and purpose should be much wider. The NHS Long Term Plan sets out a clear ambition to deliver 'triple integration' of primary and specialist care, physical and mental health services, and health with social care.

All PCNs will have a Network Agreement which sets out its collective rights and obligations as well as how it will partner with non-GP practice stakeholders. It will also include a patient data-sharing requirement, in order to support safe and effective delivery of patient care. PCNs will be the foundation of all ICSs (Integrated Care Systems) and every ICS will have a critical role in ensuring that PCNs work in an integrated way with other community staff and providers including Community Pharmacy; collaboration arrangements with other local organisations will form a distinct part of every Network Agreement.

We expect there to be 67 PCNs in Greater Manchester (This is to be confirmed).

***The LPC will continue to provide updates on the PCNs via these bulletins.  
We will be providing local/ neighbourhood-based resources and information, so please  
watch this space and save our website to your favourites!***