

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

### How would members of each PCN be decided?

(Source: NHS, Primary Care Networks, Publishing Approval Reference 000429, March 2019)

Membership of a primary care network will be down to local agreement, dependent on the needs of the local population. However, each PCN should have a boundary that makes sense to:

- (a) its constituent practices;
- (b) to other community-based providers, who configure their teams accordingly; and
- (c) to its local community, and which typically covers a population of at least 30,000 and tend not to exceed 50,000. Each PCN will be required to appoint a named accountable Clinical Director who does not have to be a GP. Information is available in the recently published “*Investment and evolution: A five-year framework for GP contract reform to implement The NHS Long Term Plan*”.

### What are the core characteristics of a PCN?

The core characteristics of a PCN are:

- Practices working together and with other local health and care providers, around natural local communities that geographically make sense, to provide coordinated care through integrated teams.
- Typically, a defined patient population of at least 30,000 and tend not to exceed 50,000.
- Providing care in different ways to match different people’s needs, including flexible access to advice and support for ‘healthier’ sections of the population, and joined up care for those with complex conditions.
- Focus on prevention and personalised care, supporting patients to make informed decisions about their care and look after their own health, by connecting them with the full range of statutory and voluntary services.
- Use of data and technology to assess population health needs and health inequalities; to inform, design and deliver practice and populations scale care models; support clinical decision making, and monitor performance and variation to inform continuous service improvement.
- Making best use of collective resources across practices and other local health and care providers to allow greater resilience, more sustainable workload and access to a larger range of professional groups.

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