

Good afternoon all

I hope that you have all had a chance to read the AGM documents, we've had a few questions which have arisen, so I wanted to provide some communications before our AGM. Thank you for raising questions as this is EXACTLY what the constructive dissent we always talk about looks like and we are always happy to hear from LMCs directly with any concerns. I've put a quick summary together of the main queries we've received which I hope is helpful.

“Why are we having a vote on a levy increase without a figure; we don't know how much we are voting on”

In short, we wanted to make sure we kept our word. In the past, the levy has been changed without much if any consultation with LMCs and we have committed publicly to having a vote at the AGM on changes to the levy. We've had to deal with some unexpected delays (in addition to those stemming from the extension to our financial year) from our accountants which meant the final accounts were presented to the board too late to give the conversation around specific figures for a levy increase the time that it warrants. We also wouldn't want to recommend a levy change without engaging with LMCs as our members about it first. There are some potential future spends, particularly around the LMCSN and Rebuild GP work that are still unknown and setting a levy change without these accounted for wouldn't be sensible. We will be providing detailed commentary on our current finances at the AGM, and believe we will set out a clear case that amount notwithstanding, the current levy is not sustainable.

Our AGM is governed by certain rules about the length of time we have to get papers out ahead of the meeting, and on this occasion those timelines simply haven't lined up.

Having committed to only increasing the levy with LMC support, we wanted to publicly do this, and ask you to discuss this at the AGM. We will be coming back to our members at our EGM in March 2025 for a vote on the final figures

Why are we being asked to vote on a multi-year increase in the Discretionary element of the Deed of Grant?

You're not and you can't! One of the disadvantages of dealing with something on a near daily basis is that sometimes you “can't see the wood for the trees” and this is one such instance. We've been so heavily involved in the Deed of Grant that we didn't appreciate that we should have communicated the specifics of the discretionary vote better. The Deed of Grant runs for 3 years and includes a 12.5% discretionary element (see the table below copied from the [Deed of Grant](#)), with the second year of the grant being voted on at the September 2024 AGM and the third year being voted on at the September 2025 AGM. The vote on the discretionary element will be apportioned across the nations with 3 separate votes, one for LMCS in England (59.44%), one for LMCs in Wales (14.4%) and one for LMCs in Scotland (26.2%), with a successful vote meaning the proportion of the discretionary grant for that nation is paid to the BMA.

The Deed of Grant is [available on our website](#) for your information but will draw your attention to the passage below on page 4 which states:

“Discretionary Grant or Grants means a discretionary element of the Total Grant(s) for 2025 and 2026 made available by GPDF to BMA following a vote open to LMC Nominees by Nation at the GPDF's AGM in the calendar year prior to the relevant Grant Period and apportioned between the Nations in the proportion to actual spending under this Deed in each Nation in the relevant Grant Period;”

Date of payment	Description of amount of grant payment
1 st January 2024	One quarter of Total Grant 2024 (based on the total grant being £1,592,000 (one million five hundred and ninety-two thousand pounds))
1st April 2024	One quarter of Total Grant 2024 (based on the total grant being £1,592,000 (one million five hundred and ninety-two thousand pounds))
1 st July 2024	One quarter of Total Grant 2024 (based on the total grant being £1,592,000 (one million five hundred and ninety-two thousand pounds))
1 st October 2024	One quarter of Total Grant 2024 (based on the total grant being £1,592,000 (one million five hundred and ninety-two thousand pounds))
1 st January 2025	One quarter of 87.5% of Total Grant 2025 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2025 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2024 by nation
1 st April 2025	One quarter of 87.5% of Total Grant 2025 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2025 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2024 by nation
1 st July 2025	One quarter of 87.5% of Total Grant 2025 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2025 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2024 by nation
1 st October 2025	One quarter of 87.5% of Total Grant 2025 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2025 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2024 by nation
1 st January 2026	One quarter of 87.5% of Total Grant 2026 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2026 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2025 by nation
1 st April 2026	One quarter of 87.5% of Total Grant 2026 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2026 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2025 by nation
1 st July 2026	One quarter of 87.5% of Total Grant 2026 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2026 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2025 by nation
1 st October 2026	One quarter of 87.5% OF Total Grant 2026 PLUS up to one quarter of all or part of 12.5% of Total Grant 2026 as voted by LMC nominees at the AGM in September 2025 by nation

All references to Total Grant in this Schedule 2 in respect of calendar years 2025 to 2026 are subject to any applicable Annual Uplift, payable in respect of the Core Grant and any

So, in summary, you are **only voting for the second year of the Grant**, as year one was decided during initial negotiations, with a further vote at our AGM in September 2025 regarding the year 3 discretionary element.

Why are we not being given information to vote on?

We are required by the Deed of Grant to offer our members a vote on the discretionary element of the Grant at our September 2024 AGM but due to the late signing of the Deed of Grant (we have undertaken an SEA to ensure that lessons are learned for future negotiations), the “new” Deed of Grant has only been in place since April 2024, so running any evaluation process would not give sufficient data. It should also be noted that the Deed of Grant evaluation we initially prepared was a more traditional evaluation framework, and the response was that it wasn't what was wanted or expected by GPC Chairs. As a result, we developed a feedback framework to gather feedback from as many sources as would like to give it (GPC members, LMCs etc). Whilst we receive a lot of informal feedback, there isn't a huge amount we can do with that,

which is why process will be clear and documented, and potentially even auditable. We recognise that our members need focused information regarding the Deed of Grant for the vote, which simply wasn't feasible before this AGM and as it has only been in place for a few months GPDF is recommending that members vote in favour of the discretionary element of the Second year of the Deed of Grant. We feel that to do otherwise would be unfair.

Again, I wanted to reiterate that really do value your input to ensure that GPDF functions effectively and in keeping with our principles. We are still on a learning curve to make the "new" GPDF one that supports general practice, works smoothly for LMCs, and makes the best use of our funds. We really appreciate your support and patience while we do this, and as always are happy to answer questions from LMC members.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Cox'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'P' and 'C'.

Dr Phil Cox

GPDF Chair