

Publications Gateway Reference No. 05003
To: Directors of Commissioning
Regional Heads of Primary Care and Heads of
Primary Care
Accountable Officers (CCGs with full delegated
authority)

Medical Directorate
Quarry House
Quarry Hill
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23th March 2016

Dear Colleagues,

Implementing the 2016/17 GP Contract

This letter signposts the support and guidance available to implement the 2016/17 GP contract changes. The outcome of negotiations on changes to the national General Medical Services (GMS) contract were recently confirmed by NHS England following agreement with the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) of the BMA.

We are committed to ensuring that the changes agreed in GMS contracts are consistently and equitably applied through Personal Medical Services (PMS) and Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contracts.

NHS England teams and CCGs with delegated authority will need to work to amend local contracts and implement the subsequent changes at the earliest possible opportunity, applying the changes with backdated effect to 1st April 2016 (where appropriate), including any agreed enhanced services.

In most instances the preferred approach will be to issue the standard contract variation. Agreed enhanced services will require either a contract variation or can be accommodated under a standalone APMS contract.

As was the case last year, we will now work with NHS Employers and GPC to develop more detailed guidance on all of the agreed changes, including the necessary supporting documents that underpin contracting and delivery of these changes.

[The NHS Employers website](#) provides full details of the agreement and we will be updating this and [NHS England's dedicated GP contracts page](#) with details of the implementation guidance, links to supporting legislation and standard contract documentation in time for these new arrangements to take effect from 1 April 2016. Given the timing of this announcement we will, however, be implementing the changes to the Regulations by July 2016.

OFFICIAL

I would be grateful if you can ensure that this letter is shared with all relevant people within your teams.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deborah Jaines', with a short horizontal line underneath.

Deborah Jaines
Head of Primary Care Policy & Contracts
NHS England

Other formats of this document are available on request. Please send your request to england.gpcontracts@nhs.net