

GPDF 2022 AGM 9/9/22

Notes and responses to questions from Londonwide LMCs and others

GPDF MEMBER QUESTIONS:	GPDF CHAIR'S ANSWERS:
<p>What plans does the GPDF have to use reserves to address the current crisis in General practice?</p> <p>a. How has the GPDF assessed the risks facing general practice and targeted funding as a consequence? Can the risk assessment and process be shared?</p>	<p>The GPDF will be meeting BMA shortly.</p>
<p>This year has been exceptional for GPs and there has never been a greater need for National Representation yet the funding provided to the BMA this year has decreased. Why has support not been increased during these exceptional times?</p>	<p>The amounts reported represents the agreement reached in September 2020. BMA has responsibility for representation.</p>
<p>What are the plans/strategy for re-negotiating the grant to the BMA beyond 2023?</p>	<p>GPDF don't manage spend of grant and have no role in deciding how money is granted. Not revealing negotiating strategy. Awaiting disclosure of BMAs "future plans". GPDF will commission an audit about how the funds were used by BMA</p>
<p>Given the need for a unified general practice voice, can members be given the opportunity to discuss inclusion of currently excluded LMCs so that GPDF is representative of all LMCs, regardless of voluntary levy status?</p>	<p>GPDF say currently excluded LMC areas can be readmitted to GPDF on payment of outstanding quota payment. Amounts total £199k for Manchester and Bury. Other outstanding amounts of £164k. If a large percentage of LMCs do not pay their quota as levies then the national representation model is completely undermined. Other LMCs are also owing (450k) Directors can hold a vote on this topic. The Company (GPDF) is ready to wind up when circumstances/ finances require it.</p>
<p>The fund seems to have made significant investment gains and significant surplus again, what consideration has been given to the following options:</p>	<p>The surplus reflects a change in the market value; investments are subject to market fluctuations. Investments fell by just over £2m.</p>

<p>a. Providing a rebate to LMCs (as per 2019) to support local activity;</p> <p>b. Making the GPDF activities investment funded (Financial gains of £2.2m would cover BMA grant and conference funding) without further voluntary levy funding.</p>	<p>P9 of the 2022 Annual Report sets out the accumulated funds policy and expected future commitments policy. In 2001 they were in a deficit.</p> <p>The strategy has developed and GPDF want to keep the levy low to use funds locally</p>
<p>Out of total expenditure of £2,505,142 in 2021, £754,931 has been spent on fund running costs (fares, directors costs, administrative expenses and audit.) This is 30.13% of total expenditure and 38.8% of levy income. Arguably, running costs are an unacceptably high proportion of total expenditure. What are the board plans to reduce running costs?</p>	<p>GPDF advised that quota levy income fell by 7% in 2021.</p> <p>Extra Director costs were offset by reduced admin costs, all of which are explained in the remuneration report from the independently chaired RemCom.</p> <p>GPDF advised that they operate a “robust procurement policy”. And that the increased complexity and additional time required from Directors and staff justified salary increases.</p>
<p>In a year where GPs have had a 2.1% pay rise, directors costs have increased by nearly 12%, how is this justified?</p>	<p>The process of determining remuneration was managed by an independently Chaired remuneration group (RemCom).</p> <p>The Chair outlined that the Chairman role’s remuneration had increased 32.5% from £105k to £140k. And that Director payments increased by 14.8% over the year. Increases included additional payments for Directors for the subsidiary “LMC Support Ltd” where “additional work [was] expected”.</p> <p>Responding to the question of whether the agreed increases were reasonable in light of a 2.15% increased in GP pay in the past year, the GPDF Chair advised that different groups receive different increases. And that the committee considers these increases reasonable to fill the independent roles on the Board.</p>
<p>Re LMC expenses:</p> <p>a. Landscape Project has consumed over £91k, this is new expenditure. The popularity of the Dennis Sherwood sessions is noted but what has actually been achieved (what has changed?) through this expenditure and does the board consider this good value for money?</p>	<p>Responding to the question about outcomes and value for money on GPDF spend regarding the Landscape Project and other commissioned work, the Chair advised that the GPDF were not / are not responsible for monitoring outcomes/ activities. Members were directed, instead, to read a report from the June GPDF newsletter. The article shared by the Chair indicated that the landscape sessions provide a safe space for discussion and support for LMCS and highlighted challenges facing general practice, with key outcomes identified as the need to improve IT support and for system improvements in GP representations. And “Allowed time for LMCs to consider the value of mutual and consistent support”.</p>

	Follow up workshops are available.
LMC development funding had more than doubled to £49k, which LMCs have received this, for what purpose and what has it achieved?	The Chair declined to provide information about the purpose and outcomes of development funding saying that “Placing of funds is sensitive other than those listed in the report.” Members were directed to a second report in the June newsletter by Claire Bannon re a project funded in South Yorkshire.
£131,801 has been spent on a QC review of LMC representation, who has received these funds, what outcomes has the expenditure achieved and where is this demonstrated?	Commissioned by GPDF in response to a May 2021 ARM motion which did not meet mandated levels of support but was supported by Conference, the Chair advised that whilst GPDF paid for and commissioned the Review, the GPDF were not / are not responsible for monitoring outcomes/ activities. Or for acting on any conclusions or recommendations. The outcome should be available to all LMCs.
Administrative expenses: a. The GPDF has been known for assisting LMCs and practices with legal support for significant issues and test cases. In this most challenging of years, expenditure on legal services in 2021 is only 41.5% of the level in 2020. Why is this? Please breakdown the types of cases supported and what the outcomes were? i. When were the eligibility/ qualification criteria for legal support last reviewed and can the Board provide a comment on when and how the criteria are reviewed to ensure that legal support is available at the appropriate level.	The GPDF Chair declined to provide a breakdown of the purpose and outcomes of action and cases saying that many of the cases are personal and sensitive and cannot be discussed. Cases are supported on application by LMCs, and the number and frequency are not within GPDF control.
Other Administrative Expenses have increased from £16776 in 2020 to £81515 in 2021, an increase of 486%. These expenses are not specified, what has this included?	Additional admin expenses were broken down to include £20k insurance, £15k travel, £10k recruitment, £13k RAEM.
The donation to the Cameron Fund is unchanged this year yet inflation is high, the GPDF has declared a significant surplus	Beginning with a DOI as a Board Member of the Cameron Fund, the GPDF Chair explained that donations to the Fund from GPDF had not increased due to a planned

<p>and GPs have faced significant hardship. Compared to other areas of budget expenditure, this donation seems at best modest, please comment.</p>	<p>cessation of conference dinners and concern expressed (unnamed) about the voluntary quota being on-passed to a registered charity.</p>
<p>Given the pressures borne by partners and other practitioners at present, what plans do the GPDF have to further support individual practitioners experiencing burnout or mental health crisis either nationally or by supporting existing schemes and supports offers, such as the Londonwide “General Practice Support Network”.</p>	<p>The Chair said he was unaware of the GP Londonwide Support Network [sic] but was happy to discuss and help scale up support for other GPs beyond London.</p>
<p>Additional question re supplementary payments to Board members and staff.</p>	<p>Citing the Independently Chaired RemCom, the GPDF Chair advised that the recently appointed Chair of RemCom had led a review and determined that the two admin roles were each deployed greater than part time and the levels of remuneration for those roles was then benchmarked against similar roles in other organisations and matched to job descriptions.</p> <p>The newly recruited Chair of RemCom is Reward Director for Rolls Royce.</p> <p>Responding to questions about supplementary payments to Directors, the Chair advised that this provides better value for money than a daily rate.</p>
<p>MOTION TO SUSPECT THE SO AND ENABLE THE IMMEDIATE ELLECTION OF BOTH DIRECTORS WAS PASSED WITH 95%</p>	<p>Voting took place and Dr Kalindi Tumurugoti and Dr James Booth each secured sufficient votes to be elected unopposed and join the Board.</p>
<p>GPDF CHAIR REPORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summarised activities - Committed to achieving purpose - Continuing to make progress on LMC priorities guided by consultation and regular contact - GPDF role is to listen, influence, and support LMCs - The landscape project is evolving - Talked about the quota levy and it not increasing - Talked about funding Devon LMC for GPAS to identify failing practices

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- In discussions with BMA, GPDF will fund the second wave of the Rebuild GP PR campaign- GPDF decided to fund the activity following the 2021 AR despite it not being mandated because it didn't receive the required number of votes.
LONDONWIDE LMCs' CEO COMMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- From what I have understood today I am going to recommend to our LMCs and our Board that we suspend our payments to GPDF.- It will be soon, I wanted you to be aware of that- The Londonwide LMCs group is not satisfied.- We are the largest payer- And we are not going to continue to pay without further consideration