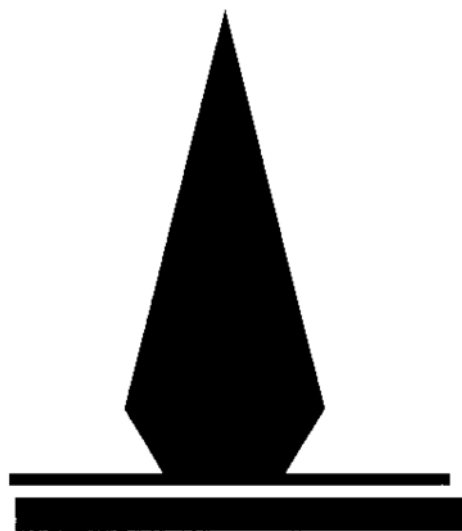


**GLOUCESTERSHIRE
LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2008 - 2009**



Chairman's Introduction

Gloucestershire Local Medical Committee

Report 1 April 2008 to 31st March 2009

Once again it is my pleasure to introduce this report. It covers a year in which, nationally, the face of primary care medical practice has undergone some minor plastic surgery, not all of it elective. The imposition of extended opening hours, coupled with threats of major reforms arising from the study by Lord Darzi, has impacted many of us, and will continue to do so for some years.

Locally, though, the relationships between the LMC and the Gloucestershire PCT remain positive and cordial, resulting in several improvements: the paperwork for QoF assessments has been much reduced; hasty decisions about health visiting have been halted and are being reviewed; the PCT has shown itself very willing to reach an accommodation with GPs in order to help them to help it meet its targets.

I must thank my Vice Chairman, Dr Philip Fielding, for taking my place as Chairman with his customary humour and flair while I was away this summer on sabbatical leave. We have both been grateful for the LMC staff for their unfailing support and hard work.

Although we have a strong membership, we would still welcome the services of another member for Gloucester City and two from Cheltenham, and would be particularly happy if some of them could be salaried GPs. Even so, your LMC is well placed to continue to give you excellent service in the coming year.

Remember: we are here to serve the interests of all GPs.

Dr. Andrew Seymour
LMC Chairman

Secretary's Report

Gloucestershire Local Medical Committee

Report 1 April 2008 to 31st March 2009

NATIONAL ISSUES

The latter part of the year has been clouded with financial misfortune internationally and nationally. Massive cash injections by the Government to prop up the banking system and industry will have to be paid for, and some cuts in public spending seem inevitable. The specific effects on the Health Service in general and on GPs in particular have yet to be seen.

Relations between the Department of Health and the GPC have moved during the year from outright confrontation into an uneasy truce. However, the Government's long term aim has clearly been to reduce the overall cost of patient care at primary level. The Government's mantra appeared to be 'responsiveness to patient demand'. To do this they have been looking at surgeries opening longer hours, practices being paid less, and much more emphasis being placed on patient surveys to directly affect doctors' opening hours and incomes.

Longer Opening Hours.

- **GP-Led Health Centres.** Lord Darzi's report recommended that all PCTs should set up a GP-led Health Centre to be open 8 a.m. until 8 p.m., 7 days a week. This was ostensibly in response to a small minority of patients who commuted and thus had difficulties seeing their doctor during normal working hours. The possible effect of this, and the probable intention, would be to force all other practices to respond by staying open longer in order not to lose patients. It might also open the way to non-medical companies taking a share of the primary care 'market'. The GPC led a 'Support Your Surgery' campaign which raised over 1.25 million signatures in only 3 weeks – a testament to the support of patients for their GP practices. In many areas of the country GPs formed cooperative groups to bid for this business themselves, thus reducing the risk of destabilising existing practices. In Gloucester the local GP consortium was awarded the contract.
- **Extended Opening Hours.** All PCTs were told to get at least half their practices to open extended hours by Christmas 2008. Because practices could not see much benefit from it, either for the patients or themselves, there was a very slow take-up in Gloucestershire, but by Christmas 46 of the 84 practices had agreed to do it. (There had been 83 practices but a new one was opened at Springbank in Cheltenham during the year.) This was the lowest take-up in the SouthWest region, and one of the lowest nationally, and reflects how satisfied patients are with the service they currently receive.

Income The Minimum Practice Income Guarantee (MPIG), which had been introduced in 2004 to ensure that practice incomes did not fall below their 'Red Book' values on the introduction of the new GMS contract, was targeted for reduction or removal. The Doctors and Dentists Review Body (DDRB) made a recommendation that GMS practice global sums should be increased by 2.7%, but those practices with an MPIG had their Correction Factor (that part of the MPIG above the Global Sum) reduced by a similar percentage, so GMS practices in this county received no increase. PMS practices likewise received no increase.

Patient Satisfaction. A new, national 47-question survey was introduced, the effects of which are not yet known.

Uplift. As part of the deal the Government promised a 1.5% increase in funding at primary care level. This was carried out, in part, by 5 new Directed Enhanced Services (DESs). But there was a catch. Not all the increase would be likely to be needed to fund those DESs. This was all the more likely as a court action between the GPC and the Department of Health concerning pensions delayed the introduction of the DESs. The DESs finally became operational in Feb 09 (month 11 of the financial year with little chance for practices to gain much from them. The remainder of the promised 1.5% increase appears to have been absorbed elsewhere in the budget, rather than being fed into primary care. PMS practices received no uplift at all.

LOCAL ISSUES

Finance. The PCT hired a new Programme Director of Primary Care & Community Care Services, Mrs Debra Elliott. She set in train a root and branch review of the whole county primary care budget, since there were many historical anomalies inherited from the former 3 PCTs that merged in 2006 to form the current organisation. The LMC negotiators were constructively consulted in much of this work. A number of changes were made in the year:

- Out of Hours (OOH) Pay rates. Pay for GPs taking OOH shifts had been markedly less in Stroud and Tewkesbury, marginally lower in Cheltenham and significantly higher in Gloucester. This was equalised in Jan 09.
- Choose and Book. Faced with national targets for making referrals with a system that is clearly not yet fit for purpose, the PCT has engaged very closely with the LMC to provide financial encouragement to practices to use the system, and a back-up system should it fail.

Mental Health. The provision in Gloucestershire for mental health care is not yet at the level we would all hope for. The LMC has been discussing this with the PCT.

Health Visitors. A policy to centralise health visitors in order to target the most deserving and needy cases was not popular with GPs, and the LMC took a role in bringing this to the PCT's attention and negotiating first of all a freezing of any changes under this policy, and then, in slower time, a review of the policy and the introduction of an alternative solution. This is still work in progress.

LMC MATTERS

Membership. During the year we said farewell to: Dr Robin Hollands, due to pressure of other work; Dr Christine Haseler, as she became a freelance GP; and to our co-opted registrar GP, Dr Rachel Stone as she completed her training. We wish them well in all that they do. Dr Tom Morgan, from Cheltenham, was co-opted to replace Dr Haseler, while Dr Dom Kanga was co-opted as the Registrar GP member. At the end of the year we thus had 2 vacancies in Cheltenham and one in Gloucester City. All other areas were up to strength. Although we have a freelance member we have still not persuaded a salaried GP to represent any constituency.

Practice Visits. The scheduled programme of visits to practices was completed.

Support to GPs. Fortunately, there have been fewer cases than usual of GPs with serious personal problems. The pastoral side of the LMC's work was engaged with all cases that needed help and is ready to do so in future.

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE
GLOUCESTERSHIRE MEDICAL BENEVOLENT TRUST**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

We have independently examined the accounts of the Trust as set out on pages 2 to 3 as required by the Charities Act 1993.

The Trust has elected both to prepare the accounts on the receipts and payments basis and to subject its accounts to independent examination rather than audit.

Our responsibilities are to:

- Identify whether or not proper accounting records have been kept;
- Check that the Trust accounts agree with the account records;
- Check that the accounts have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 insofar as these apply to the receipts and payments basis.

Where matters arise from this examination that give cause for concern it is our duty to report it.

Our report:

No matters have arisen during the course of our examination where we have to give an adverse report.

ARNOLD & CO

Chartered Accountants

Annandale House
105 Eastgate Street
Gloucester GL1 1PY

February 2009

GLOUCESTERSHIRE MEDICAL BENEVOLENT TRUST

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

	2008		2007	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Interest on Gilt Edge Securities		-		120
Dividends		68		61
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		68		181
 EXPENDITURE				
Accountancy Fees	-		-	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
NET RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR		£ 68		£181
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

GLOUCESTERSHIRE MEDICAL BENEVOLENT TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

31ST DECEMBER 2008

	<u>2008</u>		<u>2007</u>	
	£	£	£	£
ACCUMULATED FUNDS				
Balance at 1st January 2008		10,931		10,839
Net Receipts for the Year		68		181
Loss on sale of Investment		-		(89)
Balance at 31st December 2007		----- £10,999 =====		----- £10,931 =====

Represented by:

INVESTMENTS

1,100 25p Ordinary Shares in Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust plc	1,026		1,026	
£1.411 8.5% Treasury Stock 2007	-		-	
(Market Value £2,508 – 2007 £3,490)	-----	1,026	-----	1,026

CURRENT ASSETS

Balance at Bank:

Lloyds TSB	9,973		9,905	
	-----		-----	
		9,973		9,905
		-----		-----
		£10,999 =====		£10,931 =====

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

ACCOUNTS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

We have prepared the annexed accounts from the books and records of the Gloucestershire Local Medical Committee, and from the information and explanations supplied by the Treasurer.

We have not carried out an audit.

ARNOLD & CO

Chartered Accountants

Annandale House
105 Eastgate Street
Gloucester GL1 1PY

February 2009

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2008

	<u>Voluntary</u>	<u>2008</u> <u>Statutory</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>2007</u>
	£	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE				
Donations:				
Royal Medical Benevolent Christmas Fund	-	-	-	300
Cameron Fund Christmas Appeal	300	-	300	300
General Medical Services Defence Trust	33,300	-	33,300	32,000
Secretary's Remuneration	-	59,711	59,711	41,251
Secretary's Expenses, etc.	-	825	825	910
Catering	2,672	-	2,672	2,877
Professional Charges	-	2,203	2,203	2,139
Bank Charges and Interest	-	268	268	274
Locum Fees and Mileage Expenses	-	103,832	103,832	87,554
Clerical Assistance and Office Expenses	-	50,361	50,361	51,242
Corporation Tax	(2,443)	-	(2,443)	1,560
Office Rent etc	-	12,299	12,299	11,912
Retirement Gift	50	-	50	-
Office Equipment	-	1,444	1,444	379
	33,879	230,943	264,822	232,698
INCOME				
Voluntary Levy	33,500	-	33,500	32,500
Statutory Levy	-	220,500	220,500	186,500
Sessional GP Subscriptions	200	-	200	225
Bank Interest	882	-	882	1,832
	36,582	220,500	257,082	221,057
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	2,793	(10,443)	(7,740)	(11,641)
CASH AT BANK AT 1ST JANUARY 2008	618	46,081	46,699	58,340
CASH AT BANK AT 31ST DECEMBER 2008	£ 3,321	£35,638	£ 38,959	£ 46,699

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE
ATTENDANCE BY ELECTED/CO-OPTED MEMBERS*
AT MEETINGS APRIL 2008 – MARCH 2009

<u>NAME:</u>	<u>POSSIBLE:</u>	<u>ACTUAL:</u>
DR. A SEYMOUR	11	9
DR. P FIELDING	11	11
DR. S STEINHARDT	11	9
DR. S ALVIS	11	8
DR. J BAYLEY	11	9
DR. N BOOKER	11	9
DR. I BYE	11	10
DR. R COKER	11	8
DR. P FELLOWS	11	10
DR. R GALE	11	8
DR. C GOOD	11	11
DR. C HASELER (resigned)	3	1
DR. R HOLLANDS (resigned)	1	1
DR. D KANGA*	7	5
DR. T MORGAN	7	6
DR. C MORTON	11	9
DR. L PATTERSON	11	7
DR. A RIGBY	11	7
DR. J SALTER	11	7
DR. I SIMPSON	11	10
DR. N SIVA	11	8
DR. R STONE*	4	2
DR. T ULHANNAN	11	9
DR. T YERBURGH	11	7

*(Trainee Reps)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AS AT 31ST MARCH 2008

Constituency and Elected Members

Co-opted Members*

North Cotswolds:

DR. C MORTON White House Surgery, High Street, Moreton-In-Marsh

Cheltenham Bishops Cleeve & Winchcombe:

DR. P FIELDING Royal Well Surgery, St. Paul's Medical Centre, Cheltenham
DR. R COKER Overton Park Surgery, Overton Park Road, Cheltenham
DR. T MORGAN Overton Park Surgery, Overton Park Road, Cheltenham
VACANCY

Cirencester, Fairford & Tetbury

DR. I J SIMPSON Phoenix Surgery, 9 Chesterton Lane, Cirencester
DR. L PATTERSON The Park Surgery, Old Tetbury Road, Cirencester

Dursley, Wotton-Under-Edge:

DR. T YERBURGH Acorn Practice, May Lane Surgery, Dursley
DR. S ALVIS 42 The Street, Uley, Dursley

Forest Of Dean:

DR. P R FELLOWS Severnbank Surgery, Tutnalls Street, Lydney
DR. C GOOD The Surgery, Drybrook
DR. M HAYES Yorkley Health Centre, Lydney

Gloucester City:

DR. A SEYMOUR Heathville Medical Practice, Gloucester
DR. N SIVA Quedgeley Medical Centre, Olympus Park, Quedgeley
DR. S STEINHARDT The Surgery, 5A Brookfield Road, Hucclecote, Gloucester
DR. J BAYLEY Saintbridge Surgery, Askwith Road, Saintbridge, Gloucester
VACANCY

Stroud:

DR. J SALTER The Health Centre, Beeches Green, Stroud
DR. I BYE Locking Hill Surgery, Locking Hill, Stroud
DR. N BOOKER Prices Mill Surgery, New Market Road, Nailsworth

Tewkesbury:

DR. A RIGBY The Church Street Practice, Tewkesbury

Non-Principal Rep:

DR. R GALE

Trainee Representative:

DR. D KANGA Hoyland House, Gyde Road, Painswick,

Officers of The Committee:

CHAIRMAN: DR. A SEYMOUR
VICE CHAIRMAN: DR. P FIELDING
LMC LAY SECRETARY: MR M FORSTER
TREASURER: DR. S STEINHARDT

Consultant Representative:

DR. T ULAHANNAN Gloucestershire Royal NHS Trust

Elected Representatives:

LMC Conference 2008:

DR. S ALVIS
DR. J BAYLEY
DR. T YERBURGH

LMC Conference 2009:

DR. S ALVIS
DR. J BAYLEY
DR. T YERBURGH

LMC REPRESENTATION TO COMMITTEES
2008 / 2009

G.P.C.

G.P.C. Representative

Dr. P Fellows

Annual Conference Representatives 2008

Dr. S Alvis
Dr. J Bayley
Dr. T Yerburgh

Local Support Panel

Members: Dr. P Fielding Dr. C Good Dr. A Seymour

LMC QoF Assessors

Members: Dr. I Bye Dr. P Fielding

Choose & Book

Member: Dr. A Rigby / Dr. P Fielding (subsidiary)

PBC

Members: Dr. P Fielding Dr. M Hayes

IM&T Steering Group

Members: Dr. A Rigby Dr. N Siva

Gloucestershire Research Ethics Committee

Members: Dr. P Fielding
 Dr. C Goldie

Gloucestershire Dispensing Quality Scheme

Member: Dr. T Yerburgh

Substance Misuse Treatment Shared Care Monitoring Group

Members: Dr. T Yerburgh
 Dr. J Milsom

Breast Screening Steering Group

Member: Dr. L Patterson

Gloucestershire Chronic Disease Management Committee

Member: Dr. L Patterson

Gloucestershire Controlled Drugs Local Intelligence (GDLIN)

Member: Dr. S Alvis

Gloucestershire Control of Communicable Diseases Committee

Member: Dr. S Alvis

Gloucestershire PCT Antibiotic Management Committee

Member: Dr. S Alvis

County Infection Control Committee

Member: Dr. S Alvis

Countywide Sexual Health Group

Member: Dr. R Coker

GP Appraisal Steering Group

Member: Dr. P Fielding

Cervical Cytology Working Party

Member: Dr. R Coker

Chlamydia Screening Pilot Group

Member: Dr. R Coker

Gloucestershire Thoracic Advisory Committee

Members: Dr. N Booker

Maternity Services Liaison Committee

Member: Dr. R Gale

Teenage Pregnancy Partnership Board

Member: Dr. J Bayley

Pandemic Flu

Member: Dr. P Fielding

Mental Health Shared Care Monitoring Group

Member: Dr. J Salter

Crisis and Home Treatment Project Team

Member: Dr. J Salter

TRUSTS

Local Diabetes Services Advisory Group

Member: Dr. N Booker

Gloucestershire Palliative Care Network

Member: Dr. N Booker

Executive Committee of the Gloucestershire GP Education Trust

Member: Dr. P Fielding

LMC WORKING PARTIES & ADVICE

LMC Executive Committee

Members: Dr. A Seymour Dr. P Fielding
Dr. S Steinhardt Dr. C Good

LMC / PCT Liaison (Negotiators)

Members: Dr. I Bye (Chair) Dr. A Seymour Dr. C Good (Dep)
Dr. P Fielding Dr. C Morton

LMC Pastoral Support

Dr. P Fielding Dr. N Booker Dr. C Good Dr. A Rigby
Dr. A Seymour Dr. I Simpson Dr. A Seymour Dr. P Fielding

PROFESSIONAL LIAISON

Gloucester Hospital Medical Staff Committee

Member: Dr. N Siva Dr. J Bayley (Deputy)

Cheltenham Hospital Medical Staff Committee

Member: Dr. C Morton

Winfield Hospital Medical Advisory Committee

Members: Dr. J Bayley

Local Negotiating Committee

Member: Dr. C Morton