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**Integration Authority Chief Officers  
NHS Board Chief Executives  
Integration Authority Chief Finance Officers  
NHS Board Director of Finance**

11 August 2022

Dear Colleagues

## **PRIMARY CARE IMPROVEMENT FUND: ANNUAL FUNDING LETTER 2022-23**

I am writing to confirm the 2022-23 funding allocations for the Primary Care Improvement Fund (PCIF) element of the wider Primary Care Fund (PCF). As in previous years, funding will be allocated on an NRAC basis via Health Boards to Integration Authorities (IA's).

### **Background**

The Scottish Government remains committed to the aims and principles which underpinned the 2018 GP Contract Offer. This letter relates to the PCIF component of the PCF, setting out our expectations as we continue to improve primary care. This should be read in conjunction with the Memorandum of Understanding 2 (MoU2) on GMS Contract Implementation for Primary Care Improvement<sup>1</sup> and the Amendment Regulations<sup>2</sup>.

### **Primary Care Improvement Fund (PCIF)**

#### *Available Resources*

Having assessed Primary Care Improvement and spending Plans, I can confirm that £170 million will be available for Integration Authorities in 2022-23 under the auspices of the Primary Care Improvement Fund (PCIF). In-year delivery and expenditure will be monitored by my team to account for both slippage and funding pressures.

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<sup>1</sup> [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\) 2: GMS Contract Implementation for Primary Care Improvement – Agreement between Scottish Government, British Medical Association \(BMA\), Integration Authorities \(IAs\) and NHS Boards](#)

<sup>2</sup> [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Primary Medical Services Section 17C Agreements\) \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2022 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

**Given the overall financial pressures across health and social care, and taking into account the Resource Spending Review, it is prudent and sensible to use existing reserves that have been built up over time. On this basis, we have agreed with the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care that Integration Authorities should draw down existing reserve balances in the first instance, and therefore 2022-23 allocations will reflect reserves held. Please note, therefore, that the £170 million envelope takes account of the funds already held by Integration Authorities by means of these existing PCIF reserves.**

#### *Methodology for Tranche One Allocation*

We will be making two in-year allocations on a 70:30 basis. The initial tranche of £119 million in August 2022 will take account of IA reserve balances at October 2021 as well as baselined pharmacy funding. Note that baselined pharmacy funding of £7.8m has been allocated separately and must also be treated as part of the Primary Care Improvement Fund.

Annex A shows the initial allocation of the fund, by Health Board and by IA. The funding must be delegated in its entirety to IAs.

#### *Methodology for Tranche Two Allocation*

Any locally held reserves should be invested in the implementation of PCIPs in 2022-23 before new funding is requested. Further funding will be made available to IAs later this year, subject to reporting confirming latest spend and forecasts required by Friday 4 November 2022.

Robust assessments of future resourcing requirements to support implementation of the PCIPs helps to inform central financial planning and policy development, enabling the Scottish Government to target funds as efficiently and effectively as possible, ensuring best value for the public purse. Reporting using national templates should detail how this initial 70% (comprising new funding plus utilisation of any local reserves) has been spent, providing a breakdown of spending by category (staff and non-staff costs) and detailing what benefits have been created.

Second tranche allocations will follow in Autumn 2022, subject to supporting data and evidence (in particular Primary Care Improvement Plans) regarding additional PCIF funding required in 2022-23. The approach to second tranche allocations will also be informed by updated financial data on the reserve positions as at 31 March 2022, which Scottish Government officials have separately requested from IAs. Second tranche allocations will be accompanied by any further guidance, as required.

### *Scope of PCIF*

For 2022-23, PCIF should continue to be used to deliver the priority services set out in the Memorandum of Understanding:

- Pharmacotherapy
- Vaccination Transformation Programme
- Community Treatment and Care Services
- Community Links Workers
- Additional Professional Roles
- Urgent Care services

There should be a particular focus on Pharmacotherapy, CTAC and Urgent Care given existing or planned regulations for these services. Please also note the following changes in the scope of the fund:

- The Memorandum of Understanding 2 noted Pharmacotherapy, CTAC and the Vaccination Transformation Programme should be prioritised. The Vaccination Transformation Programme is now substantially delivered with GP practices only continuing to deliver vaccinations on a transitional or remote basis. We anticipate that Health Boards will have completed the remaining elements of the programme by the end of this financial year allowing Primary Care Improvement Plans to intensify their focus on other transformational activity. Where possible, Partnerships are advised to consider synergies between PCIF-funded VTP activity and wider Board governance and funding.
- With the introduction of the Mental Health and Wellbeing in Primary Care Services programme, partnerships are requested to use this additional funding to build on the existing investment from PCIF and other funding streams to create additional capacity. Partnerships are asked to use this year to consider whether there are any practical challenges in allocating and reporting on Mental Health Workers across different funding streams (PCIF, MHWPCS and other funding streams) and whether there would be benefits/opportunities to aligning reporting. We would ask partnerships to feedback as appropriate and we will write out with further guidance at financial year-end working alongside Mental Health and Wellbeing policy colleagues.
- We note that current investment projections from PCIP trackers assume the majority of the PCIF will be spent on MoU MDT staff. From 2022-23, new investment in the Primary Care Improvement Fund can be used for a wider range of costs (such as premises, training, digital, fixed-term contracts and redesign and change management) as long as they support delivery of the MoU MDT and are agreed with the GP Sub-Committee.

### *Future PCIF Funding*

As previously noted, robust financial planning is critical to support effective and efficient use of resources and to enable continued investment in PCIF. To this end, the Scottish Government, in collaboration with other MoU Parties, will be reviewing and updating the PCIP trackers and financial reporting templates this year to ensure

they remain fit for purpose. Using this information, we will review the PCIF position mid-year, during the process of allocating tranche 2 of the funding.

Scottish Government will also work with Public Health Scotland and local evaluators to understand the current evaluation landscape, the work already underway at local level and any gaps that might exist. This work will inform further development of the monitoring and evaluation of PCIPs at the national level, in turn allowing us to better target investment in future years. **However, the Cabinet Secretary has agreed that £170 million will be the minimum budgeted position for future years. In future years, where Partnerships have used the full £170m minimum budgeted position, Scottish Government will ensure additional funding is available to apply agenda for change uplifts to staff recruited through the PCIF and ensure fulfilment of the terms of the MOU2 dated 30 July 2021. Any further investment will be subject to joint assessment and benefits case at each annual budget round.**

To help inform our ongoing review of the current monitoring and evaluation landscape, we also request sharing of Primary Care Improvement Plans this year. These can be sent to: [PCImplementation@gov.scot](mailto:PCImplementation@gov.scot)

*GP Sustainability Payment – 2022-23*

The second tranche of the GP Sustainability Payments will be paid out later in the year.

I look forward to working with you as we continue to drive forward on delivering primary care reform.

Yours faithfully



**Naureen Ahmad**  
Deputy Director - Primary Care Directorate

## ANNEX A

### PRIMARY CARE IMPROVEMENT FUND: ALLOCATION BY BOARD AND INTEGRATION AUTHORITY

#### Allocation By Territorial Health Board

NHS Board Name	NRAC Share 2022-23	PCIF NRAC Share 2022-23 (£)	PCIF tranche 1 2022-23 (£)	less PCIF baselined funds (£)	less PCIF IA reserves (£)	PCIF initial allocation 2022-23 (£)
Ayrshire & Arran	7.32%	12,440,274	8,708,191	-569,300	-4,050,213	4,088,679
Borders	2.15%	3,647,718	2,553,403	-161,300	-79,201	2,312,902
Dumfries & Galloway	2.97%	5,043,683	3,530,578	-229,100	0	3,301,478
Fife	6.86%	11,663,366	8,164,356	-521,800	-3,453,067	4,189,489
Forth Valley	5.46%	9,286,259	6,500,382	-415,000	0	6,085,382
Grampian	9.81%	16,672,511	11,670,758	-755,400	-10,567,097	348,261
Greater Glasgow & Clyde	22.18%	37,705,607	26,393,925	-1,718,200	-11,434,501	13,241,224
Highland	6.58%	11,188,302	7,831,812	-494,100	-2,785,450	5,239,790
Lanarkshire	12.28%	20,878,060	14,614,642	-947,700	-5,216,468	8,450,474
Lothian	14.97%	25,449,756	17,814,829	-1,132,000	-5,578,785	11,104,045
Orkney	0.49%	838,060	586,642	-75,000	-886,857	0
Shetland	0.48%	809,431	566,602	-76,200	-125,574	364,828
Tayside	7.80%	13,258,304	9,280,813	-601,900	-8,946,318	522,576
Western Isles	0.66%	1,118,667	783,067	-103,000	-318,806	361,261
<b>Total</b>		<b>170,000,000</b>	<b>119,000,000</b>	<b>-7,800,000</b>	<b>-53,442,336</b>	<b>59,610,387</b>

*\*Pharmacists in GP practice funding was baselined in 2018-19, this has been removed from the 2022-23 allocation in the above table.*

## Allocation by Integration Authority

NHS Board Name	IA Name	IA NRAC Share 2022-23 (£)	PCIF NRAC Share 2022-23 (£)	PCIF tranche 1 2022-23 (£)	less PCIF baselined funds (£)	less PCIF local reserves (£)	PCIF initial allocation 2022-23 (£)
Ayrshire & Arran	East Ayrshire	2.37%	4,032,636	2,822,846	-186,694	-1,777,911	858,240
	North Ayrshire	2.70%	4,587,529	3,211,270	-209,033	-1,302,178	1,700,059
	South Ayrshire	2.25%	3,820,108	2,674,076	-173,573	-970,124	1,530,379
Borders	Scottish Borders	2.15%	3,647,718	2,553,403	-161,300	-79,201	2,312,902
Dumfries & Galloway	Dumfries and Galloway	2.97%	5,043,683	3,530,578	-229,100	0	3,301,478
Fife	Fife	6.86%	11,663,366	8,164,356	-521,800	-3,453,067	4,189,489
Forth Valley	Clackmannanshire and Stirling	2.57%	4,367,222	3,057,055	-195,164	0	2,861,891
	Falkirk	2.89%	4,919,037	3,443,326	-219,836	0	3,223,490
Grampian	Aberdeen City	3.81%	6,480,253	4,536,177	-298,317	-4,232,528	5,333
	Aberdeenshire	4.27%	7,251,701	5,076,191	-324,766	-4,714,534	36,891
	Moray	1.73%	2,940,557	2,058,390	-132,317	-1,620,035	306,037
Greater Glasgow & Clyde	East Dunbartonshire	1.85%	3,150,460	2,205,322	-140,141	-837,807	1,227,374
	East Renfrewshire	1.58%	2,685,569	1,879,898	-120,632	-1,233,315	525,951
	Glasgow City	11.99%	20,381,275	14,266,893	-928,315	-3,438,308	9,900,270
	Inverclyde	1.62%	2,747,032	1,922,922	-126,472	-1,223,070	573,380
	Renfrewshire	3.37%	5,721,487	4,005,041	-261,903	-3,161,668	581,470
	West Dunbartonshire	1.78%	3,019,783	2,113,848	-140,737	-1,540,333	432,778
Highland	Argyll and Bute	1.88%	3,199,436	2,239,605	-141,683	-2,785,450	0
	Highland	4.70%	7,988,867	5,592,207	-352,417	0	5,239,790
Lanarkshire	Lanarkshire combined	12.28%	20,878,060	14,614,642	-947,700	-5,216,468	8,450,474
Lothian	East Lothian	1.87%	3,173,726	2,221,608	-140,067	-75,922	2,005,619
	Edinburgh	8.35%	14,191,963	9,934,374	-634,173	-3,921,067	5,379,134
	Midlothian	1.63%	2,765,128	1,935,589	-120,660	-486,844	1,328,086
	West Lothian	3.13%	5,318,940	3,723,258	-237,100	-1,094,952	2,391,206
Orkney	Orkney Islands	0.49%	838,060	586,642	-75,000	-886,857	0
Shetland	Shetland Islands	0.48%	809,431	566,602	-76,200	-125,574	364,828
Tayside	Angus	2.16%	3,674,043	2,571,830	-165,208	-2,700,440	0
	Dundee City	2.86%	4,858,691	3,401,084	-226,196	-3,671,050	0
	Perth and Kinross	2.78%	4,725,571	3,307,899	-210,496	-2,574,828	522,576
Western Isles	Western Isles	0.66%	1,118,667	783,067	-103,000	-318,806	361,261
<b>Total</b>			<b>170,000,000</b>	<b>119,000,000</b>	<b>-7,800,000</b>	<b>-53,442,336</b>	<b>59,610,387</b>