NHS England and NHS Improvement

Cheshire & Merseyside

*Regatta Place, Brunswick Business Park, Summers Road, Liverpool, L3 4BL*

**16th December 2021**

Dear General Practitioners,

**Re: Career conversations and support for general practice**

The current pressure in primary care, and especially on GPs, is a growing concern and over the last few months we have been working with colleagues from across primary care to develop a GP workforce support programme to help retain, support and develop our GP population.

We recognise that whilst current workload remains high and intense in primary care, we need to support the health and wellbeing of our GPs as a priority. Additionally, we want to provide GPs with the opportunity to consider their careers, current training needs and future development opportunities.

The offer is for any qualified GP (including locums) to take part in a confidential holistic career conversation with a trained GP Career Conversation Facilitator (GP-CCF); the Facilitators are all experienced local GPs who have a deep understanding of the current challenges within General Practice. Cohort 1 has now completed their training and a further 3 cohorts are confirmed for early next year therefore the provision of Facilitators will significantly increase soon.

We have built a suite of resources to ensure that the Facilitators can direct GPs to appropriate support and training opportunities, and we will provide funding to help GPs meet their career needs. We anticipate this will include, clinical and specialist training and the development of leadership and education skills. Applications will also be considered for funded time to enable GP to input into projects at practice, PCN, and Place level to support personal development and local need. We will also continue to work with the Facilitators to gather ideas and suggestions about how to promote the role of the General Practitioner, develop more enhanced career opportunities and alternative career pathways for our GPs.

If you are interesting in taking part please visit the FutureNHS Platform [HERE](https://future.nhs.uk/CMPCSocialRecognition/view?objectID=31249168) to learn more about the programme, funding and view the Facilitator’s Biographies.

If you would like to express an interest in undergoing a Career Conversation please complete this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/0Y40QaHjJg>

Should you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact: s.christian@nhs.net

Yours faithfully,

NHSEI Cheshire & Merseyside Primary Care Team and

Cheshire & Merseyside Training Hub

