**The Secretariat of the Local Medical Committees for**

**Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire**

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29th January 2019

To: All Buckinghamshire practices

Re: Withdrawal of unfunded non-core services by practices

Dear Practices,

The LMC understands that several practices have written to the CCG giving notice that they will be withdrawing certain unfunded non-core services in order to prioritise the delivery of core services. The letter sent by those practices is attached.

As workload continually increases with little or no associated increase in resources, practices are quite right to prioritise their essential core services over non-contractual unfunded services. We recently carried out a survey specifically regarding ear syringing/irrigation and the majority of respondent practices favoured the withdrawal of this service if an appropriately funded LCS is not forthcoming.

The LMC fully supports practices who choose to withdraw the provision of such services which they are not contractually obligated to provide. Whilst a formal notification of such a decision is not necessary, we advise where such practices choose to send a notification to the commissioner, they use a letter similar to the format of the attached.

The BMA has published a non-exhaustive list of enhanced (and therefore non-core) services which should attract funding over and above core funding. Practices may use this as a guide to decide which services they may wish to cease providing.

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice/employment/gp-practices/quality-first/assess-and-negotiate-your-workload/enhanced-services>

As all practices have different individual circumstances, please do not hesitate to contact the LMC office on the contact details above if you have any queries regarding the withdrawal of such services.

Kindest regards,



Dr. Matt Mayer

Chief Executive Officer