

Dr Richard Fieldhouse  
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7 October 1998

Dear Dr Fieldhouse

Thank you for your letter dated 6 October. Subsequent to our telephone conversation, I have attempted to clarify the issues you have raised.

The term "GP", as written in the HSC 1998/139 "Developing Primary Care Groups", is a generic term which refers to all GP principals, non-principals, salaried GPs and GPs supplying personal medical services working within primary care.

Local GPs will decide how many GPs will be elected to the PCG Board, minimum of 4, maximum of 7, and they will also decide how to elect the GP Board members. The election process should ensure that all local GPs are represented and these representations reflect the health care contributions by GP non-principals.

All local GPs involved within primary care are able to put themselves forward for election to their PCG Board. PCGs will also have the power to co-opt onto the Board others who may have particular skills and knowledge for dealing with the PCG tasks.

Item 27 HSC1998/139 refers to the board members of a PCG seeking the involvement of all those who have a legitimate interest in reaching decisions on commissioning or investing in services.

I hope that this helps to define the intention of the HSC and the position of non-principle within PCGs.

Yours sincerely



Julie Chapman  
Primary Care

