

GPDF Update December 2023

Good afternoon all!

I'm planning that this brief update is the first of a regular series to keep you informed about GPDF, without deluging your already overflowing inboxes at this busy time of the year. Those of you who have met me will know my mantra of "constructive dissent" so if you have feedback, please let me know!

Projects – URGENT: we need your help!

As I'm sure you are aware, we have been working hard at GPDF to make the changes to the way we interact with you all and fund projects/legal support requests/GPC additional funding requests. Following review of previous GPDF projects and a review of significant events, GPDF has created a fair, transparent process for projects. The aim is that LMCs will easily be able to see where GPDF's funds are spent and can plan various submissions using clear criteria for approval and timelines.

We ratified the new documents (available [here](#)) for our funding processes and we are keen to get the project funding process up and running for our 1st April 2024 release of funds, with an application submission deadline of 28th February 2024. It has taken us a while to ensure we have a robust backend process for dealing with these requests, ensuring we can support you through the process and making it as easy as possible. This does mean that we have a deadline to set up an allocation panel by the end of February 2024, so we need you to submit nominees to sit on this panel for the following positions:

- 1 Representative of Welsh LMCs
- 1 Representative of Scottish LMCs
- 2 Representatives of English LMCs

The Panel will meet virtually within the 2 weeks following the quarterly deadline, to allow for detailed review of bids to be considered. A comprehensive and (hopefully) helpful marksheet will guide the panel member through the application prior to the panel meeting, using objective criteria to ensure that the project is assessed in an unbiased manner and provides plenty of feedback to the applicant. The panel will then compare marksheets, discuss applications and award a final outcome (ineligible, potentially eligible, not viable, approved -not funded or approved -funded) on the summary sheet which is sent to the applicant which includes detailed feedback about the application.

Those on the panel will serve a 3-year term before re-election and an honorarium will be paid for this role. The work is anticipated to take approximately 8 sessions per year, which includes the pre-panel document review, but as this is a new application process there may be more/less work depending on the number of applications we receive.

Please note that nominees must be part of an LMC in good standing with GPDF. If you would like to be a vital part of these changes to GPDF, please consider applying by [emailing us](#) to express your interest!

[The deadline for applications is 29th February 2024](#)

Look out for us at conferences!

We'll be present at conferences and would love for you to come and have a chat, ask us questions or just introduce yourselves! Ill be wearing a snazzy T-shirt with the GPDF logo on so should be easy to spot. Our next conference attendances will be:

- Welsh LMCs national conference
 - 9th March 2024
- UK LMCs Conference
 - 23rd-24th May 2024

Expenses:

Weve made some changes to our expenses policy which includes:

- Parity with BMA rates for hotels within and outside of London
- Dinner expenses now capped at £35
- Parking fees are now compensated
- Booking fees are now compensated, allowing you to use trainline.com and other handy apps!
- Alcohol will no longer be compensated to bring us in line with BMA policies

I promised I would keep this email short as I know everyone is exceptionally busy this time of the year. I will send some more “snappy” updates at regular intervals but in the meantime if you have questions or comments, [please reach out to me!](#)



Dr Phil Cox

GPDF Chair

chair@gpdf.org.uk