

Consultation Questions on changes to eligibility criteria for providers of primary medical services

Proposal A

Do you agree that Scottish Ministers should remove the existing provisions that currently allow commercial companies (as defined in this document) to provide GP services?

Yes, without question.

Proposal B

Do you agree that the lists of persons who would be eligible to provide GP services under a contract or agreement should be simplified to those listed under proposal B?

Yes.

Do you consider that other persons (or categories of persons) should be included or that there should be additional restrictions?

Proposal C

Do you agree that there should be measures to require a medical practitioner, or other individual eligible to hold a contract to GP services, to perform at least some specified minimum level of clinical care or day to day involvement in running the general practice (eg on average at least one day per week) with exceptions for retired partners and those on maternity leave or career breaks (eg for up to five or seven years)?

Yes. There was some discussion as to what an appropriate minimum level might be. One of our members belongs to a GP practice where the part-time lady GP has a specialist responsibility for diabetics in the practice. This causes problems in that it is very difficult to make an appointment with her because of her limited availability and also such appointments have to be made in the middle of the day which is not necessarily convenient for those with work commitments. One other member had a similar problem with a different practice in that the part-time GP was responsible for all cancer patients – and again it was difficult to keep continuity by attending that GP since she had limited availability.

Proposal D

Do you agree with the proposal that voluntary organisations and related bodies (e.g. an industrial and provident society, a friendly society or any other body) should no longer qualify as able to bid for a contract to provide primary medical services?

Yes.

South Edinburgh Health Forum

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