



**South East London  
Commissioning Alliance**  
Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups

# Primary Care Covid 19 Cost Reimbursement scheme

25 March 2020

# Principles

- NHSE/I have committed to meeting the additional and reasonable costs of Covid 19 that general practice has and will incur.
- General practice are required to prioritise their workload and prepare for and management the outbreak
- The fund should support NHS staff and maximise their availability
- Accurate record keeping is crucial and must meet the requirements of external and public scrutiny
- Best value, as far as possible, needs to be maintained
- Removal of routine burdens where possible – this would include the requirement around procurement

# Overview

- NHSE/I will reimburse any additional costs to general practice as part of the wider finance agreement on Covid 19
- The CCGs, through the borough based teams, will be the link for general practice/federations/primary care networks
- Each practice will be given a Covid 19 fund to use for lower value operational costs.
- All individual items or costs that exceed £1,000 must be agreed with borough leads before any commitment is given. These costs will be met from a central fund.
- Any agreed costs that are valued between £1,000 and £10,000 can be approved by the Borough Leads. Any items valued above £10,000 will need to be approved and signed off by Sam Hepplewhite, which borough based teams will action on behalf of the requester. This will be done within 12 hours of the request being submitted.

# Operational Support Fund

- Each practice will receive a small value operational support fund to ensure operationally they are able to respond to Covid-19 demand, based on approximately 60p per registered patient up to a maximum of £10,000 and with a minimum of £3,000
- Practices are encouraged to pool this resource with their neighbouring practices, federations or primary care networks

Practice List Size	Operational Support Fund
Under 5,000 list size	£3,000
Up to 7,500	£4,500
Up to 10,000	£6,000
Up to 12,500	£7,500
Up to 15,000	£9,000
15,001 plus	£10,000

# Practice Requirements

- All costs that are met by the Covid operational fund will need to be evidenced by an invoice. A template and the supporting evidence will be submitted to the Borough primary care lead every fortnight.
- Borough Lead has the authority to reject claims are not supported by invoices and/or directly related to Covid 19 response
- All costs that are above the £1,000 threshold and that have been approved by the Borough PC lead will be submitted with evidence on the template on an ad hoc basis

# Locums

- Locums required to cover the absence of GPs, Practice Nurses, allied health professional including paramedics that cannot work remotely from home or are too poorly as a result of COVID-19 symptoms will be reimbursed at full cost for the duration of this outbreak.
- These will need to be claimed using the template and prior approval must be requested from the Borough Primary Care Leads.

# Payments

- Each practice will submit on a fortnightly basis the template provided and supporting evidence.
- Each practice or their nominated partner will submit all agreed claims for reimbursement with evidence regularly and the CCG will, at the earliest possible primary care run after the submission, make payment.

# Examples

This list is not meant to be exhaustive but provide a guide for practices on the sorts of costs the CCG is anticipating:

- Staffing costs including non medical
- Transport costs
- Hotel/accommodation costs for staff including non-medical
- Clinical/organisational costs
- Immediate and necessary clinical equipment costs not centrally issued and/or delayed