

**Directorate for Primary Care
General Practice Division**



**Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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For Action

Chief Executives NHS Boards
General Medical Practitioners

For Information

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GP Practices – Sustainability Payment – 2022-23

1. On November 29 2021, the Scottish Government set out in [PCA2021\(M\)12](#) its agreement with SGPC to allocate a sustainability payment to all practices (including 2C practices) covering 2021-22 and 2022-23. This payment brought into effect what was agreed for transitional services for pharmacotherapy and community treatment and care services in the 2020 [joint letter](#).
2. Scottish Government allocated £15 million for this payment in 2021-22 through the Scottish Workload Formula.

2022-23 Allocation

3. Scottish Government had intended to allocate a further £15m for 2022-23, following that funding being identified through the 2022-23 Scottish Budget process. It is an unfortunate reality that our budget was based on a UK spending review which did not foresee the rising costs of inflation that we are now seeing and, as a result, the costs incurred by Government have risen. At the same time, in real terms, our budget is worth almost £1.7 billion less than it was when the 2022-23 budget was set. We remain committed to sustainability of general practice, particularly during this difficult period, however we required to balance the needs of general practice against the significant challenges facing public finances at this time.
4. Due to these financial circumstances, the Scottish Government is only in the position to currently allocate £10m to practices. Whilst no substantial material change in the financial circumstances is anticipated, this position will be kept under review. This will be allocated through the Scottish Workload formula. Following reporting on intended use of the sustainability payment in 2021-22, the Scottish Government does not require further reporting this year.

PCA(M)(2022)15

Action

5. NHS Boards are requested to ensure that their primary medical services contractors are aware of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Naureen" followed by a stylized circular flourish.

Naureen Ahmad, GP Policy and Contract.