

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE

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To Whom It May Concern

Benefits Reform – GP letters

South Staffordshire Local Medical Committee (LMC) is the representative body for all GPs in South Staffordshire. This letter has been produced by the LMC for use by GP practices.

The Benefits System is undergoing major changes and this is impacting on many people across the country in the amount of money they receive and also the benefits they may be eligible for.

GPs provide General Medical Services to their patients and we are not in a position to administer nor to police the Benefits System. The LMC considers that it is not appropriate for the GP to be asked for letters of support or letter to confirm care needs. GPs are not resourced to provide this service. Time taken up with paperwork is time taken away from direct patient care. There are contractual and agreed methods for GPs to provide medical information to the Department for Work and Pensions. These are sent to the GP practice and GPs respond directly to the departments requesting information. Therefore we cannot respond to your request for a letter.

Please show this document to the service who has asked for the GP letter. The service can contact South Staffordshire Local Medical Committee for more information.

Yours sincerely

Dr David Dickson
LMC Secretary