Greater Manchester
Optometry Connectivity Project

By now most of you will have heard about the GM project to connect optometry practices to the NHS network. Funds of half a million pounds have been allocated by the Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership to do this and related projects.

What are we doing and why:
The project is to connect all Greater Manchester optical practices to the NHS network, currently known as N3. The reason is to provide access to a number of NHS resources that will assist with the further development of the profession, and of extended services, within Greater Manchester.

What practices will get include:
- A grant of £1,000
- Access to the NHS Network
- NHS Number lookup
  - To reduce eliminate duplicate patients in Optomanager
- Access to the GP Summary Care Record (SCR)
  - With details of medicines
- Electronic referral module
  - Enabling accurate and complete referrals
- A consolidated patient demographics module across all Optomanager services

In return, practices will need to
- Complete the NHS Information Governance Toolkit
- Order their preferred means of connection
Practitioners will need to:
- Attend a meeting to receive an NHS smart card in person
- Undertake very simple training on the SCR

A smart card is, in effect, an electronic user name and password for accessing some NHS services, including the summary care record. Think of a credit card and card reader. This is personal, so all practitioners will need them and all practices will be supplied with a suitable card reader.

Background
The background to all of this is that of 2 bids by the national optical bodies for funding to implement connectivity across England. Wales already has NHS network access, and Scotland is slightly different. Both bids were rejected. During the wait for the result of the 2nd bid, and opportunity arose at short notice to bid for funds in GM. Dharmesh Patel submitted a bid and was successful. Later the national bid was declined and the Department of Health and NHS England decided that Manchester would be a pilot. Locally we have strongly disagreed with that, since the dynamics are significantly different. Nevertheless, we are now the “pilot”.

Connectivity is required if we wish to further our aims of GM-wide extended services. It will be needed for any HES care in the community, and we have to eliminate the endless problem of duplicate patients in Optomanager.

This is a 3 year project, though the hope and intention is that funding will extend it beyond that. The funding will more than cover token-based access to the NHS network. A token is like the one-time code gizmo that practices in the south of Manchester use in the DR screening programme, or like the little calculators used for online banking. It makes use of your own existing broadband connection. An alternative for those who would like a more convenient “always on” solution, is a fixed connection, which may be able to replace your existing broadband. Further information on cost detailed later.

The timetable is as follows:
- Complete IG Toolkit by the end of July
- Order NHS connection via the web portal (details to follow)
- Connections live by end September
- Electronic referral module to follow shortly after
- All Optomanager services to move into the NHS space early 2018
  - After which it will not be possible to participate in Optomanager services without the NHS connection
Next Steps
Practices now should begin to complete the NHS IG Toolkit without delay. To assist with this, we have produced a Manual on completing the toolkit and a bundle of policies to suit GM, adapted slightly from the Optical Confederation bundle. The Manual guides you step by step through the Toolkit and the policy bundle provides any polices you don’t already have – many you will have for compliance with the GOS and extended service contract.

Bundle of Policies: www.gmlocs.co.uk/files/IGT Policy Bundle GM.docx

Remember, there is a reasonable prospect of a GM-wide MEC service before long. Part of the service specification will require use of the electronic referral module for all referrals as a condition of participation. For this, access to the NHS network is required. In addition from early next year all services run by Greater Manchester Primary Eyecare will require NHS network access in order to use the service.

Costs
The table below shows the costs, as well as the grant to practices of £1,000. A practice opting to use a single token will spend £724 over 3 years and receive £1,000. A practice may feel it would be more convenient to have multiple tokens, or a fixed connection which does not require logging on. These will require practices to make a contribution and, worst case, is about one MECS fee per month, which you won’t be able to do without the connection!

There is a setup fee in all cases. A fixed N3 connection can also be used as a normal broadband connection to the internet. Some practices may like the idea of a fixed line, but be locked into a broadband contract for some time to come. In this case, choose the ‘flex’ product which provides a token at first but can be switched to a fixed line later with no further setup cost.
## Confederation of Greater Manchester LOCs

You should register on the ordering site straightaway. You do not have to order N3 via this site if you have an alternative supplier, but you will need to use it to claim the grant.

The grant is paid once you have an N3 connection. The connection can be supplied once you have evidence of a completed IG Toolkit. If you order your connection though this site, it will be supplied by Cegedim (Webstar’s parent company) who will contact you to discuss the details of your order and installation. Both the Confederation and LOCSU have looked at various suppliers, and those offered by Cegedim were the most competitive on price.

### Table of N3 Connection Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>N3 VPN</th>
<th>N3 VPN Flex</th>
<th>N3 ADSL</th>
<th>N3 ADSL 2+</th>
<th>N3 FTTC (Fibre-like BT Infinity)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grant to Practice</strong></td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
<td>£1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contract Term</strong></td>
<td>36 months</td>
<td>36 months</td>
<td>36 months</td>
<td>36 months</td>
<td>36 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Licence</strong></td>
<td>per user</td>
<td>per user</td>
<td>per premise</td>
<td>per premise</td>
<td>per premise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Includes line and rental</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Broadband</strong></td>
<td>Own broadband</td>
<td>Own broadband</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed N3 connection</strong></td>
<td>Own broadband</td>
<td>Own broadband</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed Internet</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upload Speed</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>256Kbps</td>
<td>1.3Mb</td>
<td>10 Mbps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Download Speed</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2Mb</td>
<td>8Mb</td>
<td>40 Mbps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contention Ratio</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20:1</td>
<td>20:1</td>
<td>20:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Installation</strong></td>
<td>1st token: £400.00</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd to nth token: £250.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monthly</strong></td>
<td>£9.00</td>
<td>£9.00</td>
<td>£34.00</td>
<td>£42.00</td>
<td>£50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upgradeable to Fixed Line?</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes, no additional installation charge</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Register now:
Ordering Portal: https://gmn3.optomanager.co.uk/

To download this handout again, with the presentation slides:
www.gmlocs.co.uk/files/GM IT Project FINAL Web.pdf

or scan this QR code:

![QR Code Image]

Information and links to all the documents, including an Excel spreadsheet of all ODS codes, are on the GM Confederation website (this is rudimentary – a new one is under construction)
www.gmlocs.co.uk

If you have any difficulties, contact one of the following:

Trevor Warburton trevorwarburton@tjwarburton.co.uk
Dharmesh Patel dharmesh.patel5@nhs.net
**Greater Manchester Local Optical Committees**

**Greater Manchester**

**Optometry Connectivity Project**

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**Greater Manchester NHS IT Project**

[www.gmlocs.co.uk/IG.html](http://www.gmlocs.co.uk/IG.html)

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**Agenda for tonight**

- Short presentation
- Questions
- Live Demo of IG Toolkit site
- Questions
- Live demo of Ordering Portal
- Questions

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**Background**

- Optical Confederation
  - Bids for N3 funds
  - Because they feel it is vital
    - 2014 and 2015
    - Both rejected
- Greater Manchester
  - Have provided funds for this
  - You may recall the graphic from last year...

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**Why does it matter?**

- Long term protection of the future:
  - Need involvement with “community monitoring”
  - Without access to NHS network we are at a disadvantage
- Demonstrating widespread commitment to N3
  - Is an investment in our future

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**What do practices get?**

- Connection to N3 network
- Smart cards for access to NHS services
- Direct electronic referral
- Access to Px Summary Care Record (SCR)
  - Potentially extended access in the future
- NHS number integration
- Some funding for IGT and setup

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**Referral problems**

- Some areas have problems, esp. with referral centres
  - Incorrect spelling of names
  - No DoB
  - Incomplete forms
  - No practice name
- Electronic referral systems sort this out
  - If they utilise NHS number look up

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June 2017
Greater Manchester
Optometry Connectivity Project

Electronic Referral

• New module for Optomanger for GM
  – Available to all practices
  – NHS number look up
    • No duplicates
  – Assistance with referral pathways
    • Determined by location of patient’s GP
  – Capable of receiving replies
    • Via the GM document system “Docman”

Other benefits

• Move to common patient demographics for all Optomanger modules
  – With NHS number look up – no duplicates
• Access to Summary Care Record

Summary Care Record

• Current meds
• Allergies
• Needed for cataract referral
• Useful at other times
• May in the future contain additional information

What next?

• It’s taken longer than expected but...
  • Now
    – You will be asked to complete the NHS IG Toolkit
    – Then to choose your preferred means of connection (more information later)
    – Connect by end September
    – eReferral soon after
    – Updated Optomanger soon after that

It’s a bit of an act of faith!

• If we don’t do this
  – We may not get care in the community services from the HES
  – Optometry will remain less integrated with the NHS
    • So more vulnerable
  – Manchester is being regarded as a pilot
  – If we can’t get good engagement
    • There will be no chance of a national project
**Extended Services in Greater Manchester**

- Future GM-wide extended services...
  - Service spec will require use of the electronic referral system
  - And so will require N3
- All GMPEC services will move into the N3 space in time
  - So NHS access will be a requirement

**On the bright side in Greater Manchester**

- Electronic referral offers
  - Accurately completed referrals
  - Greater possibility of feedback
  - Ability to audit referrals
- Summary Care Record offers
  - Access to patient meds
  - Possibly to ophthalmology notes in the future

**What will it cost? in Greater Manchester**

- More details will be available soon but...
  - Grant is £1,000 to cover a 3 year contract
  - This will cover access by VPN token on your current broadband
  - If a fixed connection would be more convenient
    - You may not need your current connection
    - Extra cost is less than one MECS fee per month
    - There is more detail in the handout

**What next? in Greater Manchester**

- Contractors need to start completing the IG Toolkit
  - The latest version in QiO is similar
- Register on the ordering portal
- Contact us if you have problems
- Corporate sector – co-ordinate with your centre

**IG Toolkit in Greater Manchester**

- Current version is 14
- Version 14.1 literally just announced
  - Available 5th April
  - “No substantive changes from V14”
- It’s easy to move your existing work to the new version

**Resources in Greater Manchester**

- This presentation and additional information is available on the website or via the QR code

**Questions?**

www.gmlocs.co.uk/IG.html