GPC England reject 'unsafe and insulting' contract offer

GPC England (GPCE) met yesterday 2 February, where we discussed the negotiations for the 2023-24 contract, the final year of the five-year contract deal, the committee's strategy going forward, and the Junior Doctors and GP Trainees ballot for industrial action.

At the meeting, GPCE voted to reject the 'insulting' proposed changes to the GP contract in England, which completely ignore the unsustainable and unsafe pressures practices are under right now.

With no additional investment to counter the damaging impact of soaring inflation on practice expenses – and to cover rising fuel bills and increasing staffing costs – this year's offer from NHS England risks safe patient care, brings the very future of practices into question and will cause even more GPs to leave when they are needed most.

If the Government and NHS England refuses to negotiate an improved offer, and a contract is imposed on practices, this would send entirely the wrong message to patients and a profession speaking up to defend patient safety. We would therefore be forced to consider all options, including the potential for industrial or collective action. More information / guidance will be shared shortly. Read my statement <u>here</u>.

Taken from the GPC Update to LMCs Friday 3rd February 2023