

SGeneral Information	
Ministerial Decision Type	Approval: Budget/Contract/Resource Allocation
Report Title	General Practice Initiatives
Minister	Social Security
Signatory	Minister
Lead Department	Customer and Local Services (CLS)
Lead Directorate	Customer Services (CLS)
Ministerial Decision Summary: Public or <a href="#">Absolutely/Qualified</a> Exempt	Public Select if more than one Absolutely/Qualified Exemption.
Date decision made if different to date 'Ministerial Decision Summary' signed.	Select date.
Report and Supplemental Report Details	
Report Author	Senior Policy Officer
Date of Report	04/05/2022
Supplementary Report Title <i>(If applicable)</i>	SR Exempt 33: Supporting the Development of General Practice
Supplementary Report Author <i>(If applicable)</i>	Senior Policy Officer
Date of Supplementary Report <i>(If applicable)</i>	04/05/2022
Ministerial Decision Report: Public or <a href="#">Absolutely/Qualified</a> Exempt	Public Select if more than one Absolutely/Qualified Exemption.
Relevant Case/Application/URN <i>(Only complete if making a decision related to an appeal/case/application)</i>	Insert Relevant Case/Application.
Relevant Proposition Number <i>(Only complete if presenting Comments or if lodging an Amendment)</i>	Insert P. number.
Relevant Scrutiny Report <i>(Only complete if presenting a ministerial response)</i>	Insert S.R. number.
Associated Law(s) and/or Subordinate Legislation	Health Insurance (Jersey) Law 1967
Action required if recommendation agreed	Department to take necessary action.

Resource Implications	There are additional financial and/or manpower implications. Further detail is included in the detail section of the report.
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### **Introduction**

The Minister has approved a package of measures designed to support General Practice in undertaking the development needed to respond to the demands of a growing and aging population and play its role in the delivery of the Jersey Care Model. The initiatives have been designed in consultation with General Practice representatives and will support the introduction of a wider range of health care practitioners, increasing capacity in primary care, improving patient access and enhancing health outcomes.

### **Recommendation**

Other

To approve the package of measures to support the development of General Practice and to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Primary Care Body

### **Detail (Decision and Reason for decision)**

The following initiatives will be brought forward

#### 1. Wage Support Scheme

The employment of specified Health Care Professionals (HCPs) comprising Nurse, Health Care Assistant, Clinical Pharmacist and Paramedic will be facilitated under a wage support scheme where practices may claim in arrears the cost of wages and social security contributions for staff on permanent employment contracts. The scheme will operate with an annual budget of £2 million (£1 million for the remainder of 2022) and the level of support will be reduced during 2024 and 2024.

#### 2. Payment for non-GP consultations

An activity payment will be extended to Nurses, Clinical Pharmacists and Paramedics by making a £20.28 contracted payment to offset the cost paid by patients, and a payment of £10.00 will be made to support the cost of appointments with Health Care Assistants (HCAs). This will allow general practice to deploy the 'right person' to meet the patient's needs.

#### 3. Expansion of the Jersey Quality Improvement Framework (JQIF)

The structure of JQIF provides a significant opportunity to incentivise general practices to improve their overall standards of patient care and to support agreed programmes to improve health outcomes. Further investment will be made in the JQIF model by progressively increasing the budget from £1.8 million to £2.8 million by 2025. At the same time award mechanisms within JQIF will be amended to create targets and payment for individual practice performance

#### 4. Remote Services

The current remote services contract was introduced in March 2020 at the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and the contract is due to fall away when public health advice regarding Covid-19 is withdrawn. Telephone consultations with GPs have proven useful to islanders and practices alike and the payment of £20.28 for this service will be moved into ordinary contractual terms. The contract will be extended to include nurse, pharmacist and paramedic remote consultations.

#### 5. Variation of the Health Access Scheme agreement

The Health Access Scheme Agreement will be varied to include paramedics and pharmacists alongside GPs, Nurses and HCAs (who are already included). This will ensure that patients from low-income households are not disadvantaged in accessing the appropriate practitioner.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

Ministerial Office  
Ministerial Decision Report



The package of measures has an overall budget of up to £9 million (2022 – 2025) with funding coming from the Health Insurance Fund. This is summarised in the table below:

	<b>Funding for HCP (Wage Support up to 25 -50 extra staff</b>		<b>Subsidy for Non-GP appointments</b> (Activity fee)	<b>Expand JQIF</b> (Additional funding added to 2022 budget)
2022	100%	Up to £1 M (half year pro rata)	£250 K	£115k
2023	100%	Up to £2 M	£250 K	£400k
2024	66%	Up to £1.3 M	£500 K	£700K
2025	33%	Up to £0.7 M	£1 M	£1M
2026	0%	£0	£2 M	£1M

A project officer will be allocated to this package of initiatives to maintain oversight of performance and outcomes, reporting to the Director General CLS.