

5 July 2022

Dear Secretary of State

As GPs, retired GPs and GPs in training in England we are writing to ask you to take action in response to the RCGP's Fit for the Future campaign. General practice is the cornerstone of the NHS. It helps more patients than the rest of the NHS put together. So, when GPs and their patients say that general practice is in crisis, we should all be concerned.

With 68% of GPs saying they don't have enough time to adequately assess and treat patients during appointments, and 42% saying that they are planning to quit the profession in the next five years, it's clear we are already struggling, and without action things are likely to get worse. That is why we are calling on you to commit to a bold new plan to provide GPs and patients with the support that they need. This should include:

- A new recruitment and retention strategy that allows us to go beyond the target of 6000 more GPs
- An NHS wide campaign to free up GPs to spend more time with patients by cutting unnecessary workload and bureaucracy
- Improving patients' experience of accessing care by investing in a new suite of IT products and support for practices, making it easier for patients to choose to see the same GP or the next available member of the team.
- Returning funding for general practice to 11% of total health spend, including £1 billion additional investment in GP premises.

We hope you agree to work with the RCGP and others to promote this bold vision for the future of general practice.

Yours sincerely

Professor Martin Marshall



Chair, Royal College of General Practitioners

Alongside 4620 other GPs, retired GPs and GPs in training in England