

## What is an APMS Contract and how is it Different?

These APMS (Alternative Provider Medical Services) contracts were originally given to increase access to primary care across the Borough. An APMS contract is different to the standard GMS (General Medical Services) contract that most GP Practices have. The main differences between the two are highlighted below.

|   | <b>GMS</b>  | <b>APMS</b>  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>Who agrees it</b>                          | A nationally agreed and fixed contract.   | A locally agreed contract.   |
| <b>How long is it for</b>                     | Continuous.   | For a fixed number of years before it has to be reviewed.  |
| <b>What is included in the contract</b>       | The management of patients who are ill with acute, chronic or terminal conditions.  | The same as GMS plus the option to vary the terms of the contract i.e. longer opening hours and additional services to meet local needs, e.g. warfarin clinics |
| <b>What additional services* are included</b> | None within the standard contract. But, additional 'enhanced' services to meet local needs can be agreed and paid for on top of the contract. | Additional services are agreed as part of the main contract to meet specific local needs.  |
| <b>Cost per patient per year**</b>            | Fixed cost at £76.51* - with additional payments for providing any enhanced services.   | A locally agreed cost of between £116-£149 dependant on the number of enhanced services included in the APMS contract.   |
| <b>Contract hours</b>                         | Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm – although some practices are paid extra to open some evenings and weekends                                    | Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm.  |

\*Additional or enhanced services aren't offered as standard in all 63 practices across the Borough, but are offered in some. Examples of some of the enhanced service include phlebotomy and warfarin management.

\*\*Please note that this is not the only funding available to GP practices.