

GPC UK Regional Elections

Barnsley / Doncaster / Rotherham / Sheffield Seat:

Personal Statement – Dr Neil Thorman

Sheffield
LMC



I would like to ask for your vote in the upcoming South Yorkshire GPC representative elections.

I am an experienced LMC officer, having worked as Secretary to Rotherham LMC for over 10 years. My work has involved local negotiation of enhanced services, as well as occasional pastoral support and advocacy on behalf of individual practices encountering specific problems.

My philosophy in regard to practice and practitioner support is that what benefits the doctor and practice will, without doubt, lead to benefits for the patient. Doctors working in secure, stable and healthy environments are best placed to do what they came into medicine to do.

Rotherham LMC is not prominently involved in national medical politics, but I have maintained a keen personal interest. As well as speaking at conference, I contribute regularly to the GPC sponsored list servers on national matters, and I feel recognised adequately on a national level to have contrary views considered even when unpopular or counterintuitive.

In regard to my positions on national matters, I believe the partnership model serves the interest of patients well, and has provided security of tenure that has allowed patients to form lasting relationships with their GPs. I also believe the cottage industry model serves the NHS and partners well, with productivity efficiencies identified at the coal face easily translated into organisational change. I also believe that it is essential that options other than partnership continue to be a realistic option for those that choose them; I do have a concern that the GPC in some matters is conflicted in its attempts to represent both employee and employer in some matters separating to session terms and conditions, and I would work to have this acknowledged. I believe General Practice is currently overregulated to no one's benefit, and believe the astonishing innovations GPs have produced during the COVID period demonstrates that higher trust contracts, lighter touch regulation and formative appraisal processes have proven their worth.