

# New GP Retention Programme

We are pleased to announce that over the next few months, Oxfordshire Training Network will be rolling out a range of services aimed at providing support to ALL GPs throughout their careers.

Recruitment and retention is a growing challenge for local practices in the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West (BOB) area. This programme complements other local and national schemes aimed at relieving pressure on GPs, and is critical to help us support GP retention across BOB.

The GP Retention Programme is divided into 3 key project areas:

<b>1. GP Mentoring Scheme</b>	This service will provide free access for GPs requiring extra support at any stage in their career to experienced, trained Mentors. The pilot launched in July 2019. For more information visit <a href="https://gpmentoring.co.uk">https://gpmentoring.co.uk</a>
<b>2. Locum Chambers</b>	<p>Working with the National Association of Sessional GPs we are developing a new initiative to link Training Hubs, GP Federations/PCNs, Practices and the locum workforce, to create a tangible online “home” for flexible GPs.</p> <p>The platform will facilitate administrative tasks and enable Locums to connect more easily with one another. By forming new Local Chambers Groups, they will be able to access online resources and discover opportunities for peer support.</p> <p>By simplifying the engagement between clinicians, services and practices, there will be a considerable saving of administrative resource at practice level. And, by providing a supportive network for Locum GPs we aim to attract new talent into the area who may subsequently take up a permanent role within a BOB practice. Due to launch Autumn/Winter 2019.</p>
<b>3. Flexible Career Programme</b>	<p>A new service to help GPs start, boost, freshen up or extend their careers. We will provide access to information, career advice and coaching, additional training and support, and explore scope for portfolio career development.</p> <p>By helping GPs to build varied and rewarding careers tailored to their personal circumstances, we hope to improve recruitment and retention in our area. Due to launch Autumn/Winter 2019</p>

The OTN will be providing GPs with more information on the GP Mentoring Scheme in the near future. For more information on this or other services please contact the OTN Project Lead, Darren James ([darren.james7@nhs.net](mailto:darren.james7@nhs.net))

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