



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Public Audit Committee

Dr Iain Morrison
Chair
BMA Scotland

4 July 2025

Dear Dr Morrison

General practice: Progress since the 2018 General Medical Services contract

Thank you for providing evidence to the Public Audit Committee on the Auditor General for Scotland's (AGS) report on [General practice: Progress since the 2018 General Medical Services contract](#) at its [meeting on 18 June 2025](#).

Following the meeting, the Committee agreed to write to you to seek your views on issues in the AGS's report relating to GP premises. The report explains that the 2018 GMS contract set out the Scottish Government's plans for moving to a model where GPs are no longer expected to provide their own premises, as part of measures introduced to reduce risks for GP partners. The main commitments in this area were—

- GPs who own their own premises would be eligible for an interest free sustainability loan of up to 20 per cent of the value of the property every five years, with the intention that the NHS board will own the premises by 2043.
- GPs who lease their premises would be eligible to apply for their NHS board to either negotiate a new lease for the GP premises, take responsibility for the current practice lease, or provide the practice with alternative, board managed, premises. The transfer of leases is expected to take place over a 15-year period.

In his report, the AGS goes on to state that the Scottish Government does not have sufficient oversight of whether GP premises are fit for purpose.

The Committee would welcome a response from you on the following—

- **Do you have a view on the condition of the general practice estate and the impact of the maintenance backlog on working conditions and the delivery of healthcare services?**

Contact: Public Audit Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP.
Email publicaudit.committee@parliament.scot. We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

- **How has the offer of sustainability loans and lease transfer been received by your members?**

As you will be aware, the Committee also took evidence from the Scottish Government directly after your evidence session (see link above). **The Committee would welcome your views on any of the issues that were raised during the evidence session with the Scottish Government.**

A similar letter has been sent to the Royal College of General Practitioners. The Committee would be grateful for a response by **Friday 22 August 2025.**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Leonard". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Richard Leonard MSP

Convener