













Report by the Chairman to LMC Conference - March 2018

I am glad to report that the Fund – The GP Fund, Your Fund – is in robust health.

Thank you for your generous donations at the Conference Dinner yesterday. A total of £4,046.57 and one button was collected. With Gift Aid this will mean almost five thousand pounds was raised to help support colleagues in dire need.

The Fund's objects are the relief of poverty and the prevention of hardship and distress among registered and formerly registered general medical practitioners and their dependents. The majority of new applications now come from GPs in the early and middle years of their careers, some of which are of an extremely complex nature. The Cameron Fund's charitable activities assist GPs to return to their work. Council members are conscious of their duty to use charitable funds responsibly.

The Fund had a change in officers during the past year with myself replacing Dr Stephen Linton as Chairman and Dr Ian Winterton replacing Dr David Wrigley as Treasurer. Dr Richard Brown was elected as Vice-Chair and Dr Simon Lockett as Deputy Treasurer. I would particularly like to thank Stephen and David for their commitment to, and work for the Fund over the last three years.

New applications for assistance were received from 198 individuals. The Council authorised grants and loans, including Money Advice, to the value of over £220,000.

The Fund launched the Joint Medical Charities Portal, <u>"Help Me, I'm A Doctor"</u> which provides a single access point for medical practitioners and their dependents seeking financial support

We have further plans for the next year

Following suggestions from both the NHS GP Health Service and the BMA Sessional GPs' Sub-Committee, we will develop an advice pack for newly-qualified GPs to encourage robust financial planning. The pack will cover areas such as insurance, tax planning and budgeting. We are aware that our Register of Members lacks several GPs who are active in the profession. I will invite them to join the membership. We will create associate membership, primarily for non-medical LMC staff, but available to anyone who wishes to support the work of the Fund.

I would particularly like to thank our Chief Executive, David Harris, who has been the leading force for the Fund over the past decade and will be leaving us in May. The commitment and hard work that David has given to the Fund is beyond description. He will be a very hard act to follow. David: Thank You.

Dr Gary Calver

Chairman, the Cameron Fund