The number of patients needing to see their GP is increasing, yet investment in general practice has reached an historical low and patient care is now being compromised.

In response, the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) and the National Association for Patient Participation (N.A.P.P.), launched the Put patients first: Back general practice campaign. We are demanding that the governments of the UK improve patient care by increasing funding for general practice from 8.39% to 11% of the NHS budget by 2017.

How your PPG can get involved in the campaign!

Write to your local politician
Tell your local politician about how an underinvestment in general practice is impacting on patient care at your local surgery. This action is quick and very effective.
Send your letter here.

Meet with politicians
Set up a meeting or encourage your surgery to host a visit with local politicians. If you need support email the campaign team.

Posters, badges and briefs
Posters and badges have been sent to every GP surgery in the UK. Can your PPG make sure these posters are on display? Briefs, with a rationale about the campaign, are also available to distribute.
Download posters and briefs here.

Campaign updates
Can your PPG encourage patients to sign-up to receive campaign updates? This will ensure patients are receiving information about the campaign from England, NI, Scotland and Wales.
Sign up for your updates here.

Events and meetings
We want to promote the campaign messages to patients, peer organisations, health practitioners and politicians. Are there events, conferences, or meetings that you can take your posters and campaign briefs to?

Team up with your GP surgery
Discuss options for your PPG and surgery to promote the campaign in your community. Could you inform your members in a newsletter, discuss the campaign at meetings or write to your local council or newspaper about the pressures facing general practice? You and your practice may also like to write a joint letter to your local politician and suggest a meeting or the option of hosting their surgery in your surgery.

Share your experiences
Patient experiences are the backbone of this campaign, proving fresh evidence about what is happening on the frontline of general practice. You could talk about how the general practice crisis has impacted on you personally, or provide examples of where investment in general practice is delivering better care for patients.
Share your experience here.

Engaging CCGs (England only)
CCGs can help reverse the decline in funding in general practice by investing in services provided by GPs locally – can your PPG raise the campaign with them and urge them to consider how they can help?
Read the RCGP’s letter to all CCGs.

Contact us
To contact the London campaign team email: campaigns@rcgp.org.uk

www.putpatientsfirst.rcgp.org.uk    Twitter.com/rcgp #putpatientsfirst    facebook.com/rcgp.org