

PRESS RELEASE

18 May 2017

Commenting on the Conservative manifesto commitment to support GPs on rising indemnity costs:

Simon Kayll, Medical Protection Society CEO, said:

“We welcome the commitment in the Conservative Party manifesto to provide appropriate funding for GPs to meet the rising costs of indemnity. The decision to reduce the personal injury discount rate has increased the cost of settling future loss claims against our members at a time when the cost of clinical negligence is already high. Without Government support, this increase will need to be reflected in GP subscription rates and we know this will be worrying news. We are working hard to ensure the promise to fully protect GPs from these additional costs is honoured - this is a critical issue that must be resolved urgently after the General Election.

“The recognition that a longer term, sustainable solution is needed to tackle the rising costs of indemnity is also encouraging. The cost of clinical negligence is spiralling and it is right that we ask ourselves whether such costs are sustainable. The case for a whole package of legal reforms to create a more sustainable system is becoming ever more pressing.”

END

Notes:

The Conservative manifesto, page 67, stated: “We will ensure appropriate funding for GPs to meet rising costs of indemnity in the short-term while working with the profession to introduce a sustainable long-term solution.”

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About MPS

The Medical Protection Society Limited (“MPS”) is the world’s leading protection organisation for doctors, dentists and healthcare professionals. We protect and support the professional interests of more than 300,000 members around the world. Membership provides access to expert advice and support together with the right to request indemnity for complaints or claims arising from professional practice.

Our in-house experts assist with the wide range of legal and ethical problems that arise from professional practice. This can include clinical negligence claims, complaints, medical and dental council inquiries, legal and ethical dilemmas, disciplinary procedures, inquests and fatal accident inquiries. Our philosophy is to support safe practice in medicine and dentistry by helping to avert problems in the first place. We do this by promoting risk management through our workshops, E-learning, clinical risk assessments, publications, conferences, lectures and presentations.

MPS is not an insurance company. All the benefits of membership of MPS are discretionary as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association.