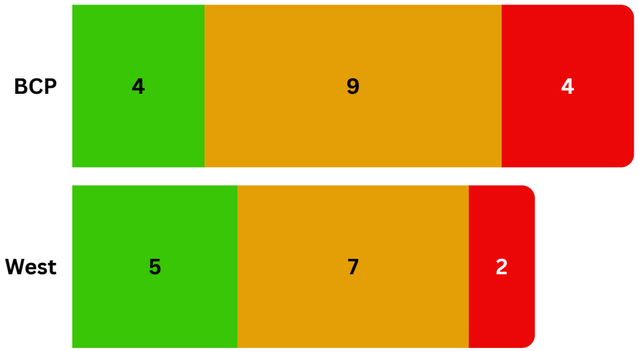
Wessex LMCs
General Practice
OPEL Report

General Practice OPEL Report
DORSET
Week Ending Friday 30th October 2026

WESSEX
Local Medical Committees

Count of practices declaring their OPEL status.



OPEL 1 Practices are able to maintain patient flow & meet anticipated demand within available resources
OPEL 2 Practices are starting to show signs of pressure
OPEL 3 Practices are experiencing major pressures compromising patient flow
OPEL 4 Practices are experiencing escalating levels of pressure. There is increased potential for patient care & compromised safety.

Supporting Your Practice Team

Recognising the challenges, sharing the support

We know that many practices have highlighted the significant impact of additional pressures caused by high levels of staff illness. This can be incredibly challenging for teams, affecting workload, wellbeing and the ability to maintain business as usual.

We're here to help, with practical resources and upcoming events to support you and your team.

Support for the Practice Team
Useful resources, guidance and support for you and your team.
Visit our webpage →

HR Bitesize: Employment Law Update
Join our upcoming session for the latest updates and key information for practices.
Find out more and book your place →

PRACTICE COMMENTS

Annual leave adding to staff pressures

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A lot of staff sickness. Having to use locums a lot.
Routine appointment 3 weeks away.

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GP wait times within target. Lift in nursing wait times.
Extra sessions being offered to internal staff to bridge gap.
Extra bloods sessions also applied to maintain patient demands.

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Increasing amount of pressure - patient demand high

Thank you for your feedback, which consistently highlights the significant pressures you encounter daily. While some of your comments were not included in this week's report, we have instead used them as valuable examples to initiate direct discussions with your ICB. Please be assured that your organisation name have not been mentioned in our conversations.