



Would you like to
live and work in
England?

The NHS is looking for GPs to work in the areas of
**BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET AND
SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

INTRODUCTION

The National Health Service in England is running an international recruitment campaign for family doctors. In England these are called General Practitioners or GPs. We plan to recruit around 2,000 GPs from overseas by 2020. They will work alongside GPs we train in England to develop an exciting range of health services away from hospitals and in local community settings.

This brochure explains the importance of GPs in providing healthcare to our population. It tells you about the application process and what to expect when you apply. We are recruiting GPs for many areas across England. This brochure gives you an idea of the benefits and opportunities available to you if you choose to work in **Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire**.

WHY WORK AS A GP IN ENGLAND?

GPs in England are the foundation of the NHS. They are usually the first person a patient turns to for help and they deal with a whole range of health problems. They are general experts in the whole field of medicine for adults and children. They manage the healthcare of all their patients, including acute illness, long term conditions and mental health problems.

GPs usually work in practices, often leading teams which include nurses, healthcare assistants, practice managers, receptionists and other staff. Practices also work closely with other healthcare professionals, such as health visitors, midwives, pharmacists, physiotherapists, mental health services and social care services.

GPs provide continuing medical care for patients in the community or they will refer patients to hospital clinics for further assessment or treatment by specialists. Nine out of 10 NHS patients are seen in English general practice, and nearly nine out of 10 patients rate their experience of their GP practice as good. Because GPs often lead the continuing development of the NHS in England, we are investing an additional £2.4bn a year into general practice by 2021. The money is being used to recruit more doctors and other healthcare professionals, improve buildings and extend the use of information technology so general practice can offer more and better services to meet people's needs.

Any GP recruited under the international recruitment programme and working in the UK before 29 March 2019 will be able to stay and enjoy the same rights and benefits as now and qualifications of EU doctors will continue to be recognised if they were obtained before 29 March 2019. Recruitment will go beyond March 2019 and while we do not know details of a future immigration system yet, we will make clear how it applies to this programme as soon as possible.

Many GPs choose to work in England because of the attractive salaries and benefits. But the work offers much more: the chance to extend your clinical experience as part of a team of 1.2 million NHS employees, all of whom are proud to work for a 'national treasure' and many of whom have come to England from across the globe.

GENERAL PRACTICE AND YOU

- If you choose to apply to work as a GP in **Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire** you will be supported with dedicated training programmes, help with meeting language requirements and in meeting the standards of the national Induction and Refresher (I&R) Scheme.
- You will have an opportunity to meet with staff from the recruiting practices and to learn more about them and the local areas. This will help you and the practices decide if this is the best place for you to live and work.
- Practices involved in this recruitment scheme will be offering attractive and competitive salaries.
- You and your family will be offered help to relocate to the area and continued support while you settle into your new community.

THE CANDIDATE PROCESS

If you apply to be a GP in England this is the application process you will follow:

STEP 1

An initial conversation in your own country with the recruitment agency for the area you are interested in working in and some background checks (including police checks).

STEP 2

You will be asked to take an English test organised by the recruitment agency. The agency will use the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Occupational English Test (medicine version) proficiency test for people wishing to study or work in English speaking countries.

STEP 3

You will have an interview in your own country by Skype. You start your registration with the General Medical Council (GMC). The GMC is the organisation which sets standards for doctors in the United Kingdom. You need to be registered with the GMC and be on the GMC's GP Register to work as a GP in England. You will be invited to complete a self-assessment to help identify any training needs.

STEP 4

You visit your chosen area to find out more about where you will be working and to meet other international GPs. You will have a second interview and an assessment of your learning needs.

STEP 5

Once you pass your second interview you will be able to join the programme. You will be allocated to a GP practice within the region.

STEP 6

You will be provided with a minimum of three months of training and observation in your employing practice to prepare you for the I&R assessments and improve your English language skills. You will then spend a minimum of six months treating patients with supervision and support from a senior GP at your practice.

THE NHS OFFERS A

COMPETITIVE PAY PACKAGE FOR GPs

Once you have gained entry to the National Medical Performers List without conditions you can expect to earn a salary of between £68,000 and £72,000 per year. This salary is the same across all parts of the NHS in England excluding London where you will receive additional funds to help with the increased living costs there, known as London weighting.

Alongside your salary there are many other financial benefits including paid maternity and paternity leave, parental and carers leave.

THE NHS IN ENGLAND

The National Health Service was founded in 1948, based on the principle that good healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth.

With the exception of some charges, such as prescriptions, optical services and dental services, the NHS in England remains free at the point of use for all UK residents.

In 2014, the Commonwealth Fund declared that in comparison with the healthcare systems of 10 other countries (Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the US) the NHS was the most impressive overall. The NHS was rated as the best system for its efficiency, safety, effectiveness, co-ordination and patient-centred care.

The NHS covers

54.3M PEOPLE

in England



It deals with more than

1M PATIENTS

every 36 hours



The NHS employs

1.2M PEOPLE



And has more than

40,500 GPs





LIVING IN...

BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET AND SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The south west
of England offers
multiple destinations,
each with their own
unique character
to explore

HEALTH SERVICES IN

BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET AND SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

There are 84 practices, with 95 per cent rated as good and five per cent as outstanding by the Care Quality Commission. These provide huge variety, so you will be able to find a practice which matches your clinical interests and skills.

The organisations in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire providing acute hospital, community, mental health services and social care include:

- Weston Area Health NHS Trust
- North Bristol NHS Trust
- University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust
- Avon and Wiltshire Partnership Mental Health NHS Trust
- Sirona care and health
- Bristol Community Health
- North Somerset Community Partnership
- South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
- Bristol City Council
- North Somerset Council
- South Gloucestershire Council

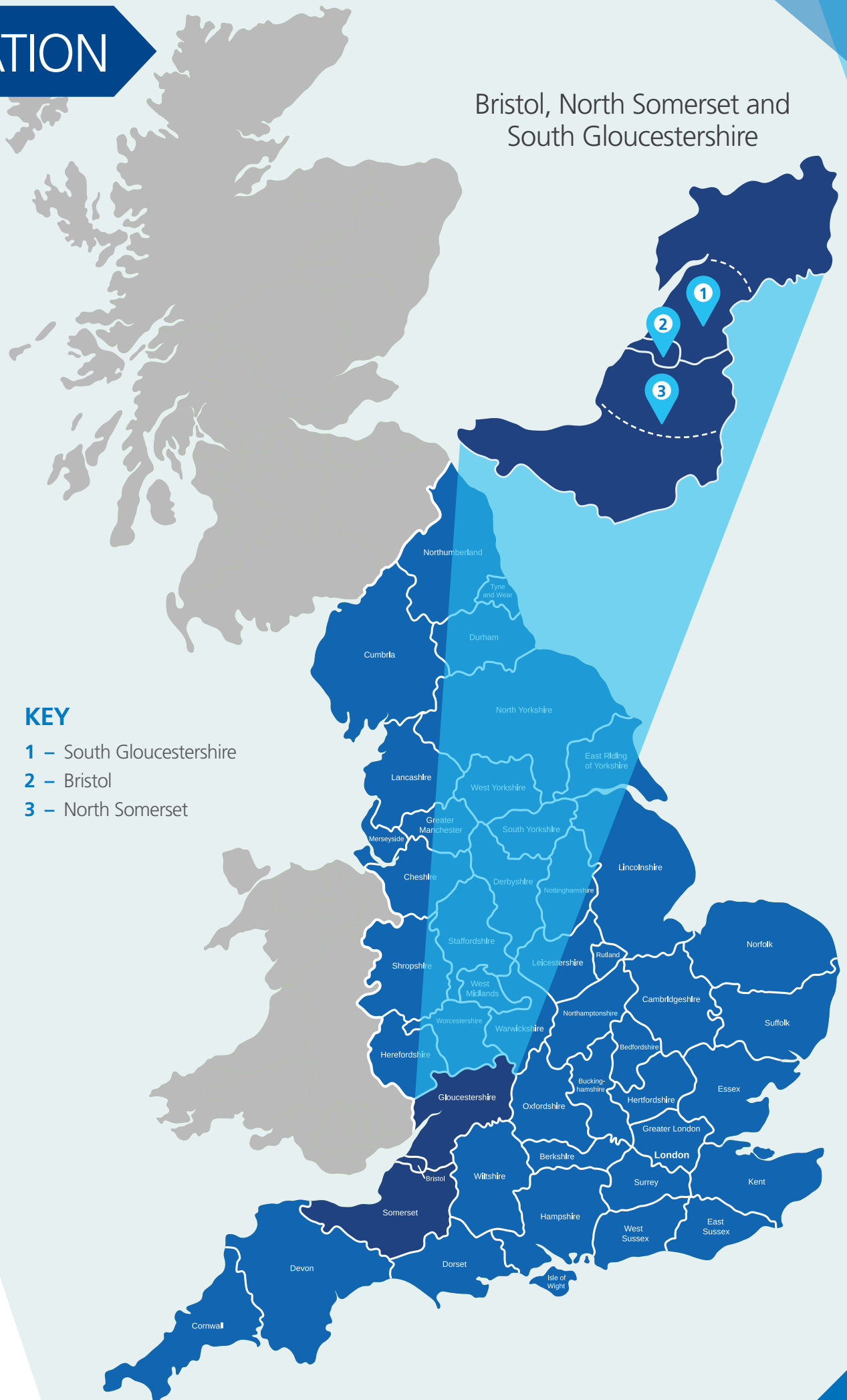
These are all involved in the development of Integrated Care Systems for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire spanning health and social care.

LOCATION

Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

KEY

- 1 – South Gloucestershire
- 2 – Bristol
- 3 – North Somerset



Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, in the south west of England, are stunning counties of great contrasts. This makes them an attractive destination for living and working, as well as for tourists.

We are fortunate to have many wonderful cycle trails off-road, on-road, traffic-free, plus everyday commuter routes. Bristol was named England's First Cycling City in 2008.

The coastline offers sailing, sea or river fishing, water-skiing and windsurfing; and the countryside offers great walks and farm attractions.

CITY OF BRISTOL

Bristol is both a county and a city. The city is rich in parks and open spaces. The neighbourhoods vary in culture and diversity. Easton is synonymous with the artist Banksy, and shops specialising in organic and ethnic foods, whereas the Clifton area is known for chic boutiques, beautiful buildings and iconic attractions, such as Clifton Suspension Bridge and Bristol Zoo Gardens. Clifton is one of Bristol's most exclusive suburbs and picturesque quarters.

NORTH SOMERSET

The area known as North Somerset is spread over 225 square kilometres in both urban and rural communities. The seaside resort of Weston-super-Mare on the North Somerset coast is known for the pier and the tradition of donkey rides for children on the beach. North Somerset is steeped in Victorian history and is the gateway to iconic tourist spots in Somerset, Devon and Cornwall.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

South Gloucestershire has great access links to Wales with a road link via the motorway suspension bridge known as the Severn Bridge. It has easily accessible commuter towns to Bristol such as Yate and market towns like Thornbury and Chipping Sodbury and is part of the 167 kilometers hiking trail which starts close to Shakespeare's Stratford and finishes in the Georgian city of Bath.



NOT TO BE MISSED

There are many festivals around Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire. Two of the big events in the Bristol calendar are Bristol Festival and the International Balloon Fiesta. Bristol Harbour Festival is a maritime festival that celebrates the city's vibrant Harbourside.

North Somerset has its share of festivals too with the White Hart Festival of Food and Drink for two days in October, Food and Craft market at Tyntesfield Manor, the RHL Beach Race at Weston-super-Mare, Avon Owls Open Day, Sand sculpture Festival, Weston's Art Trail and much more.

South Gloucestershire's SoGlos's music festival has entertainment for whatever kind of music you desire, whether you're a folk fan, heavy rocker, or prefer a bit of jazz to get you moving. South Gloucestershire is home to countless music festivals to suit all tastes.

CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT

Bristol has many theatres including the Hippodrome, the Old Vic, Tobacco Factory and the Redgrave which host a wide variety of productions including operas, musicals, stand-up comedy, theatre and dance and West End and Broadway productions. There are also many live music venues throughout Bristol including the Colston Hall and the O2Academy. Theatre Orchard brings inspiring, professional live performance to an array of indoor and outdoor settings in North Somerset.

SHOPPING

If you want the best of the high street or to indulge in some designer goods, then head to Cabot Circus Shopping Centre in the centre of Bristol or Cribbs Causeway Mall, in South Gloucestershire. If it's more unique items you're after, then go to Clifton Village for boutique, one-of-a-kind shops and the Gloucester Road for urban, culturally diverse stores.

North Somerset has a large variety of shops from farm shops in the countryside to art galleries in the urban areas and seaside wares at Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon. Hill Road in Clevedon has a variety of boutiques, gift shops and eating places.

South Gloucestershire, has a variety of shops along the wide High Street and Broad Street in the centre of the town. As well as a selection of cafés you will find gift shops, newsagents, vintners, clothes shops, grocers, bakers and butchers all within easy walking distance of each other.



FOOD AND DRINK

Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire have many food festivals throughout the year and a multitude of restaurants to suit all tastes and budgets around the area. There is fine dining including five Michelin starred restaurants in the area, bistros and even a lido with a fabulous Middle Eastern menu.

Bristol's food scene is bursting with restaurants, markets, breweries and bars. St Nicholas Market has a maze of quirky stalls, street food and historic architecture in the heart of the old city.

Cider and cheese are what North Somerset is perhaps most famous for. Farmers markets run regularly in many towns and villages and there are lots of excellent farm shops and well-established food festivals in the county. South Gloucestershire has for the past two years hosted a whole weekend of food and drink on the lawns of the Bristol and Bath Science Park. There are many farm shops, with on-site cafés, dotted throughout the area offering sustainable, organic, locally produced food from vegan, vegetarian to meat and dairy.

HOUSING

House prices in Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire can be as varied as the property types found there. Waterfront studio flats, Victorian and Georgian terraced houses, large apartments, exclusive townhouse developments, new dockside terraced houses, traditional semis and more are all available to buy and rent.

SPORT

Bristol hosts two football clubs, a rugby club, a basketball team and also an American football team and a community baseball team as well as a cricket club. You will also find a selection of clubs to suit for all age groups and abilities.

EDUCATION

The English education system is well-known for its high quality and standards with five stages; early years, primary years, secondary education, further education and higher education. Education is free in England between the ages of three and 18 years old and entry admissions for primary and secondary schools are based on living in the school's catchment areas.

TRANSPORT

Bristol is located 190 kilometres west of London (1 hour 40 minutes by train) and is the largest city in the south west. Bristol Airport is situated in North Somerset, just eight miles south of central Bristol, and is easily accessed by car, coach or bus. Direct flights operate to Bristol from more than 120 destinations.

WEATHER

The hottest months of the year tend to be July and August where temperatures reach into the low 20s (°C). In the winter months, temperatures can drop to 0°C and there can be snow.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about our international recruitment programme or about living and working in **Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire** the following websites will be useful:

Lonely Planet Bristol – www.lonelyplanet.com/england/southwest-england/bristol

Lonely Planet Somerset – www.lonelyplanet.com/england/southwest-england/somerset

Lonely Planet Gloucester – www.lonelyplanet.com/england/gloucestershire/gloucester

Visit Bristol – www.visitbristol.co.uk

Visit Somerset – www.visitsomerset.co.uk

Things to Do in Gloucestershire – www.visitengland.com/things-to-do/gloucestershire

South Gloucestershire Council – www.southglos.gov.uk

Somerset County Council – www.somerset.gov.uk

Bristol City Council – www.bristol.gov.uk

You can also email england.gpfvsw@nhs.net



NHS ENGLAND'S PARTNERS:



Royal College of
General Practitioners

General
Medical
Council



BMA

NHS
Health Education England

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

www.england.nhs.uk/igpr

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