Witten Answer

Sarah Wollaston (Totnes, Conservative)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health what guidance he has issued to GPs on removing patients from their lists.

Simon Burns (Chelmsford, Conservative)

The procedures which a general practitioner (GP) practice must follow when removing a patient from its list are set out in the regulations covering the contractual arrangements between the GP practice and its primary care trust (PCT).

Under the terms of its contract, a GP practice may remove any patient from its list of national health service patients if it believes that it has reasonable grounds for doing so. Patients should be given a warning before action is taken for removal and specific reasons as to why the removal has occurred.

If anyone who has been removed from a practice list has difficulty in finding another practice, the PCT has a legal responsibility to find them a practice with which to register.

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