

[View this email in your browser](#)



Newsletter

8th November 2024

Week 46

This newsletter contains important information for
Community Pharmacy Kent owners and staff in Kent & Medway



In today's edition:

- [Community Pharmacy Kent Webinar](#)
- [Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for Kent Health and Wellbeing Board](#)
- [Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2024](#)
- [Community Pharmacy England Webinar](#)

- [KCHFT Adult Health Improvement](#)
- [COVID-19](#)
- [Oriel 2026/27 Webinar](#)
- [Patient Group Direction update](#)
- [One You Kent Updates](#)
- [Virtual Outcomes Online Training \(Updates\)](#)

Other newsletters:

- NHSE Primary Care Bulletin update



Community Pharmacy Kent (Kent LPC) update webinar

Dear colleagues,

We have scheduled an update webinar on Wednesday 20th November to hear from you and provide key important update.

Webinar details are as below

- Date: Wednesday 20th November 2024
- Time: 7.30pm-9pm

To join click this link: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZmRiODRiOGMtMTk0Mi00NTUzLWI1YTYtN2Q5NmY5OWZmZDRj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%225d6ba29e-40ce-481b-b82f-d26bcc71de77%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22f3543d24-c78f-4b40-9811-1584b60b3930%22%7d

Draft agenda

- ICB update- Primary care strategy overview
- Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) review
- Kent LPC update
- Day to day working of a PCN pharmacist

Please do make a special effort to attend. This is one of the ways we keep you updated and integrate our sector to the wider system.



Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for Kent Health and Wellbeing Board (KWB) for Kent Community Pharmacy Contractors Only

Kent County Council (KCC) is currently developing a revised Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA), which is a legal requirement every three years and statutory responsibility of the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board.

The PNA will be used by NHS England, Kent County Council (KCC), and the Integrated Care Boards to decide whether to approve the opening of new pharmacies and inform commissioning decisions related to other services that could be delivered by pharmacies and other providers.

We would be grateful if you would answer some questions about your pharmacy and the services it provides.

To access the short questionnaire please go to [Questionnaire for Pharmacy Contractors | Let's talk Kent](#) **before 13 December 2024.**



Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2024

Community pharmacies are encouraged to complete the annual Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2024, which is a key component of community pharmacy regulations. This annual survey supports NHS England to strategically plan investments for the current and future community pharmacy workforce. Commissioned by NHS England, the survey is conducted by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit (NECS).

The survey will close on **11 December 2024**. Find out more about the [community pharmacy workforce survey](#).

Original Pack Dispensing webinar

Book your place now!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)





Community Pharmacy England - Original Pack Dispensing webinar

Community Pharmacy England is hosting a webinar on Original Pack Dispensing (OPD) on **Monday 25th November, at 7:30pm**. This session will outline recent

regulatory changes allowing pharmacies the flexibility to dispense up to +/- 10% of prescribed quantities in original packs starting in January 2025.

Our in-house experts will talk viewers through what these regulatory changes mean in practice and how you may need to amend your dispensing processes, as well as providing an update on reimbursement and IT arrangements.

Participants are welcome to submit questions to [our Regulations Team](#) in advance to help shape the event.

Click the [link here](#) to book a place.



**KCHFT Adult Health Improvement –
One You Tier 2 Adult Weight Management Provision – Pharmacy Provision East
Kent & Swale**

KCHFT Adult Health Improvement Service have been working in collaboration with KCC and local pharmacy providers in East Kent and Swale for more than ten years to offer a Tier 2 Adult Weight Management Programme.

Following the pandemic, the number of active pharmacies offering this provision has reduced significantly over the last two years. It is acknowledged that this is due to various reasons such as winter pressures and prioritising vaccination programmes, staffing challenges, payment tariffs and the weight loss intervention taking longer than other interventions delivered in pharmacies, and more recently, the national rollout of the Pharmacy First programme which has also impacted on local priorities within pharmacy.

Following a whole system review of pharmacy provision across Kent, discussions have been held between KCC, KCHFT and the LPC on the cost effectiveness and outcomes of the Tier 2 Adult Weight Management Programme in East Kent and Swale within pharmacies. As a result, a decision has been made to withdraw the Tier 2 Adult Weight Management Programme offer within pharmacy in East Kent and Swale. KCHFT Adult Health Improvement Service will continue to provide a Tier 2 Adult Weight Management Programme in these areas.

To continue to support people to lose weight and become more active you can continue to signpost to KCHFT One You Weight Loss service. [Healthy weight - Kent County Council](#) or www.oneyoukent.org.uk or by phone on 0300 123 1220.

KCHFT Adult Health Improvement Service will continue to work alongside and maintain strong working relationships with local pharmacy providers to ensure that weight and activity remains on the agenda. **This will not affect or impact the Smoke Free pharmacy provision in Kent.** KCHFT Adult Health Improvement GP/Pharmacy Project Lead will continue to support pharmacy partners, pharmacists and advisers to provide and fulfil their contractual role to effectively deliver Smoke Free interventions within pharmacy.

Formal communication will be sent by KCHFT Contracts Team in January 2025 to all relevant pharmacy providers to share details of the notification period and key dates associated with the withdrawal of the Tier 2 Adult Weight Management provision. This will enable all to manage current caseload, staffing and client expectations to ensure a smooth transition.

KCHFT Adult Health Improvement Service will ensure that all communication and resources are managed appropriately and pharmacy providers/staff are supported by the KCHFT Adult Health Improvement GP/Pharmacy Project Lead throughout.

We would like to thank you for your continued support to provide a Tier 2 Adult Weight Management Programme within pharmacy in East Kent and Swale over the last decade and the positive impact that you have made to improve people's lives.

KCC are currently undertaking a transformation programme, which will result in a change to Weight Management provision beyond April 2026 and there may be opportunities for Pharmacies to deliver services in the future. KCC aim to keep pharmacies informed by regularly updating the LPC.

ONE YOU KENT

One You smokefree training dates

We are pleased to be able to share with you some new smokefree adviser training dates for the remainder of this year, and through 2025. The course dates are attached and as follows:

Online Refresher Training

11th December 2024

09:30 to 16:00

1-day online via Microsoft Teams

This session is for those who have completed the OY Smokefree Adviser Training in the past and the NCSC Assessment of Core Knowledge and Practice Skills.

New Adviser Training - 2-day Face to Face Training

14th and 16th January 2025 – Trinity House, Ashford

23rd and 24th April 2025 – Trinity House, Ashford

9th and 10th July 2025 – Trinity House, Ashford

7th and 8th October 2025 – Capital House, Faversham

Should you wish to book on to any of the courses, please complete one booking form (attached) for each member of staff and email to:

kentchft.healthimprovementsolutions@nhs.net



Latest surveillance data for flu, Covid-19, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and norovirus

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) continue to publish their [Covid-19, flu, RSV and norovirus surveillance bulletin \(formally weekly winter briefing\)](#). Each week, this brings together the latest surveillance data, along with the latest public health advice for Covid-19, flu, RSV and norovirus. In week 43:

- covid-19 activity remained stable or decreased slightly across most indicators and was at low levels
- influenza activity increased slightly across some indicators but remained at low levels
- respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) remained low overall with increasing activity across most indicators and more pronounced increases in those aged below 5 years of age
- norovirus activity has remained high in recent weeks, with total norovirus laboratory reports between weeks 41 to 42 of 2024 more than double the 5-season average for the same 2-week period.

The bulletin is published every Thursday on [GOV.UK](#). You can also visit the [UKHSA's data dashboard](#) for the figures.

In light of high norovirus activity, a reminder that they have a series of [norovirus social media assets](#) for stakeholders to use.



Oriel 2026/27 Webinar links for information sessions from 7th November

South East Workforce transformation leads and NHS SE WT&E are putting on a series of webinars from next week to help explain the Oriel process and support community pharmacy contractors in the next round of Oriel programme submissions (window of which will open January 2025).

Please join one of the sessions below for a chance to hear about the process and have the opportunity to ask questions.

Tuesday 19th November 6:30pm to 8pm

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 389 675 865 211

Passcode: kLnBeL

Wednesday 27th November 1pm to 2pm

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 327 482 786 73

Passcode: mTAK9o



Early Careers Pharmacist Education and Career Survey for pharmacy workforce leads, employers, managers and supervisors

Following years of planning and investment, 2026 will mark the first year that new registrants will enter the pharmacist workforce as independent prescribers. To realise their full potential, and widen their generalist scope of practice, this new generation of early careers pharmacists (ECP) will require education and career pathways that are aligned to their skills and knowledge.

We are inviting pharmacy workforce leads, employers, managers and supervisors to help shape the post-2026 vision for ECP education and careers. **Please complete the survey below by 23.59 on Monday 16th December 2024.**

Survey link: <https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/healtheducationyh/ecp-reform> QR code:



Patient Group Directions (PGD) – updated NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service guidance

NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service has updated its [Introduction to PGDs guidance](#), setting out what a PGD is and how it is used in clinical practice. Key principles include:

- PGDs are not prescriptions
- Clinical judgement cannot be used to supply/administer a medicine outside the criteria in the PGD including:
 - Inclusion/exclusion criteria, e.g., age, gender etc.
 - Quantities supplied

The supply and/or administration of medicines under a PGD cannot be delegated; the whole episode of care must be undertaken by the healthcare practitioner operating under the PGD.



Virtual Outcome

We confirm that **Community Pharmacy Kent** has renewed the **Virtual Outcomes Subscription** on behalf of all Kent LPC contractors for another year. This ensures that all **Kent & Medway pharmacy contractors** will continue to have **free access** to the extensive online library of training resources.

New Training Modules Available

Pharmacies in Kent and Medway can now access the following new online training modules:

- **Pharmacy First**
- **Fungal Infections**

- **Acne**

How to Access Virtual Outcomes Training

1. Visit [Virtual Outcomes Pharmacy Training](#).
2. Enter your pharmacy's **F Code**.
3. Select the training menu for the course you wish to view.
4. Click "**Start Course**".
5. Complete the registration form.



- [NHSE Primary Care Bulletin update.](#)

Community Pharmacy Kent

Address: The Hill Hub, 1A Highfield Road, Dartford, DA1 2JH

Tel: 01634 649101 | Email: Admin@kentlpc.org.uk

Copyright © 2024 Community Pharmacy Kent, All rights reserved.

To view our newsletter archives click [here](#).

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).