

Minutes of Community Pharmacy Kent Committee Meeting 13th May 2025

Officers

P	Mark Anyaegbuna (CEO)	CEO	Kent LPC
P	Amish Patel (Chair)	Chair	Independent
P	David Entwistle (DE)	Vice Chair	CCA
Members			
P	Sachin Mehta (SM)	Member	IPA
Aps	Sunil Chopra (SC)	Member	Independent
P	David Apata (DA)	Member	CCA
P	Samantha Grieve (SG)	Member	CCA
Aps	Shirley Walker (SW)	Member	CCA
P	Maureen Aruede (MA)	Member	Independent
P	Alice Bright (AB)	Member	IPA
P	Mike Rudin (MR)	Member	IPA
Pm	Olabimpe Kunlipe (OK)	Member	Independent
LPC Staff			
P	Adeyinka Jolaoso (AJ)	Service Development Manager	
P	Priya Mattu (PM)	Project Manager	
P	Natalia Bejan (NB)	LPC Office Administrator	
Guest			
P	Kiky Lily	Scope Eye Care Development Manager	
P	Gary Warner	CPE South East Regional Representative	

p	Present	pm	part of the meeting only	Aps	apologies sent	Apns	Apologies not sent
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Meeting Commenced at 09.38 am

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

Chair welcomed committee members.

SC and SW sent their apologies.

2. Minutes

Minutes was signed off with no amendments.

All actions and next steps were completed and signed off.

3. CEO Updates

The CEO shared the presentation slide as attached.

Key Highlights:

- CEO provided an update on the office team and recognition from Healthwatch, and welcomed Priya back from her maternity leave
- The CEO provided insights into financial savings and the effective leveraging of office resources to meet organizational goals and maintain high performance levels. Additionally, development and learning needs for the office team were shared and an additional series of PCN Leads meetings will be scheduled from June to September. The first training is booked for 25 June. These sessions will focus on introducing the updated digital module and outlining the PCN strategic plan for the coming year.
- The CEO reviewed the recent LPC self-assessment with AB, focusing on aligning the team's initiatives with the organization's strategic objectives.
- He also shared the plans to engage the local MPs and to do a joint visit to community pharmacies in their respective areas.
- An update on the Pharmaceutical Need Assessment report was shared with the committee, and this includes the accessibility and availability of pharmacy services across Kent and Medway.
- The CEO also shared that despite the recent closures across Kent and Medway, the existing sites remain well-positioned to meet the needs of the local population and shared that the assessment also confirmed that no gaps in essential pharmaceutical service provision have been identified, either currently or within the next three years, as determined by the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB).
- The CEO highlighted a concern raised about a local surgery regarding the AMP website, which has been redirecting Pharmacy First consultations to a different platform. This has affected many Community Pharmacies in Kent, making it challenging to meet their monthly targets.
- The CEO also shared that, while the platform appears to offer free services, there may be hidden costs involved, which could impact overall service delivery, and he has already engaged in discussions with the LMC, ICB, and CPE about the issue. The committees unanimously agreed that the CEO to hold off on any further actions and wait for guidance from the ICB and CPE.
- A draft strategy for the year was shared with the committee and there was a discussion around this.
- The recently launched Primary Care Training Hub program was shared with the committee and the initiative behind this, which includes the enhancement of workforce skills, improved patient care, and promoting integrated healthcare delivery across Kent and Medway, was shared with the committee.

- The committee was updated about the issue of REHALE and the issue faced with the launch of the service, and a decision will be made after all stakeholders have been contacted.

Action: CEO to share the draft strategy with the committee for feedback.

Action: AJ to continue engagement with the pharmacies around AMP to see how they are promoting the Pharmacy First Service

3. Service Development Updates

AJ shared the slides as attached.

Key highlights

- AJ shared the performance of various NHS services, including Hypertension Case Finding (HCF), the Contraception Service, the New Medicine Service (NMS), and Lateral Flow Distribution.
- Performance data for the four Health and Care Partnerships (HCPs) in Kent and Medway were shared and compared against the Southeast Integrated Care Board (SE ICB) data.
- The total number of pharmacies at risk of not meeting the minimum threshold for November was identified and shared with the committee.
- An update on NMS performance across Kent and Medway was provided, highlighting improvements and the changes to the payments for intervention and follow-up breakdown.
- Over 93% of contractors actively engage in blood pressure checks, and the collaborative efforts between the LPC and the ICB team were reviewed.
- Updates on the implementation of the Independent Prescribing (IP) pathfinder service were shared.
- AJ shared that CGL has rebranded as the West Kent Drug and Alcohol Service. The service currently supports 480 clients, with 75 pharmacies signed up, 62 of which are actively serving clients. Of these, 10 pharmacies also offer a needle exchange service.
- AJ shared the NEO system in East Kent and Coast has received a layout update with guidance provided to contractors; currently, 111 pharmacies are signed up, 104 are active, and Jhoot Rainham is fully operational and accepting patients.
- AJ highlighted key Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) actions and emphasized the ongoing support available to contractors to help them meet the required criteria. It is essential to ensure that all pharmacies pass the gateway criteria, including 25 pharmacies for HCF and 24 for PCS.

4. Project Updates

PM shared the slides as attached.

Key highlights

- PM shared the PCN Leads Plan along with the project timeline and implementation plan, which is divided into four activities: recruitment and preparation, activity implementation, engagement with surgeries, and a final stage where candidates submit their documents and outcomes. We are currently at stage two and a webinar was held last week. The digital training will soon go live, and login details have been created to monitor candidate engagement and support them through completion.
- PM shared PCN payment plan and outlined the amount each candidate will receive upon completing each module or activity.
- PM shared the DMS referral rates across the Southeast — we are currently ranked 26th nationally and are continuing to work hard to increase referrals and make full use of the service.
- PM shared that the Pharmacy First and UTC initiative at DVH initially faced delays due to an unapproved DPIA following Trust changes, but it has now been resubmitted with support from Pharmoutcomes; meanwhile, UTCs in East Kent are proactively engaging with PCNs, and PM is working with the ICB team to provide ongoing updates.
- PM shared that referral engagement is ongoing, with weekly meetings held with the ICB and continued delivery of surgery training through PLT sessions and wider network events, while issues persist with HCFS and PCS claims via Pharmacy First, and the ICB is actively making a case for funding a referral pathway.
- Monthly meetings with the antimicrobial pharmacist are also taking place, and notes from these meetings will be included in the monthly patient safety report.

5. Performance Sub-Committee Update

Chair provided an update on the progress of the LPC committee, and he also updated the committee about the REHALE service situation.

6. Finance Sub-Committee Update

SG shared the update.

Key highlights

- The accounts are up to date as of 2024/25 with a slight underspend in some areas
- The budget has been updated in line with the CPE templates, and the reserve summary was reviewed and discussed.
- The budget was anonymously signed off by the committee.

- Reserves and contractors' levy were discussed, and the proposed plan was agreed upon by the committee.
- A proposal to have a 20% uplift in the contractors' levy was proposed, and this was unanimously agreed by the committee.

7. Scope Eye Care Updates

KL shared the slides as attached.

Key Highlights

- KL shared the anatomy of the eye, focusing on the layers and the importance of each layer
- She shared the Scope product used for treating dry eye, which include the Hylo-Dual Intense.
- A demonstration of the application was shown to the committee and the benefits of this to elderly patients.

8. ICB and REHALE Updates

SB shared the slides as attached.

Key Highlights

- An updated blueprint has been provided to the ICB by the NHSE to give guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the ICB.
- Savings need to start by the third quarter of the year.
- Chair raised all the concerns regarding the launch of the REHALE service across the pharmacies in Kent and Medway.
- SB shared the REHALE updates, and the work done to enable pharmacies to support the project.
- SB noted that they collect an average of 40 bins every month.

Action: SB to send the outcome of the REHALE pilot to the CEO.

9. CPE Regional Updates

GW shared the slides as attached.

Key Highlights

- GW shared the CPCF 2025/26 updates and discussed NHS 10-Year Plan and related spending reviews.
- GW gave an update on the NMS intervention and follow-up payment, which has been set at £14 at each stage.
- GW stressed the importance of pharmacies claiming the PQS aspiration payment

- GW shared the treasury rule that has been discovered, which states that payment can't be made for a service not carried out.
- There was a discussion about the AMP issue with GW and he advised the committee on the next step to take.

10.AOB

SG updated the committee on the CPE roadshow conference that she attended and shared the key points of the discussion

MA raised the concern regarding high-cost items such as Mounjaro and Freestyle Libre sensors re-imburement.

Meeting ended at 16:50pm

Upcoming Committee Meeting 2025-26

8th July 2025

16th September 2025

11th November 2025

20th January 2026

10th March 2026

All meeting will be taking place face to face at *Holiday Inn Maidstone/Sevenoaks
London Road Kent TN15 7RS*