

Minutes of Community Pharmacy Kent Committee Meeting 8th July 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
P	Sunil Chopra (SC)	Member	Independent
P	David Apata (DA)	Member	CCA
P	Samantha Grieve (SG)	Member	CCA
P	Shirley Walker (SW)	Member	CCA
Aps	Maureen Aruede (MA)	Member	Independent
Aps	Alice Bright (AB)	Member	IPA
P	Mike Rudin (MR)	Member	IPA
P	Olabimpe Kunlipo (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	Claire Briggs	Trade Bridge Sales Director	
P	Sukh Singh	ICB Primary Care Director	
P	Katie Perkins	National Commissioning Hub Pharmacy, Optometry and Dentistry	
P	Karen Samuel-Smith	CEO Essex LPC	

p	Present	pm	part of the meeting only	Aps	apologies sent	Apns	Apologies not sent
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Meeting Commenced at 09.39am

1. Welcome and Apologies

Chair welcomed committee members. MA and AB sent their apologies.

2. Minutes and actions

Minutes was signed off with no amendments.

All actions and next steps were completed and signed off.

3. CEO Updates

CEO Shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights:

- CEO celebrated LPC Chair for receiving the British Empire Medal (BEM) award from King Charles and acknowledged his significant contributions to community pharmacy.
- CEO provided an office update, which included AJ's ongoing engagement with Ashford Medical Practice.
- An update was given on the progress of the DSP Toolkit for Kent and Medway.
- CEO gave brief feedback on the face-to-face PCN training held on 25th July 2025, highlighting the high level of attendance.
- The CEO shared insights from the NHS 10-Year Plan and the evolving operational changes within the ICBs.
- He outlined how the plan may impact the community pharmacy sector and confirmed that measures are in place to ensure the sector remains engaged as the plan develops.
- CEO highlighted encouraging growth in the community pharmacy workforce, supporting its expanding role in delivering clinical services.
- The CEO also outlined current work to include community pharmacy workforce development as part of the Kent and Medway Primary Care Training agenda
- He shared the CPE draft key points on proposed changes to the LPC constitution, including the following:
 - IPA members will be replaced by 10 Multiple representatives.
 - LPC members will be appointed by the IPA only if all such owners in the area agree otherwise.
 - Pharmacy owners with 1–9 NHS pharmacies, including those in the IPA, will be elected and treated as Independents.
 - These changes will take effect from September 2025.
- The CEO presented the final draft of the LPC strategy, which included an additional pillar titled “Changing NHS Landscape”. The strategy was signed off by the committee

4. Service Development Updates

AJ Shared the slide as attached

- AJ shared the performance matrix for March and expressed satisfaction with the progress made in contraception service provision.
- AJ presented performance data for the seven clinical conditions in Kent and Medway, comparing it with other ICBs due to some referrals being directed to one of their practices.
- AJ highlighted Pharmacy First performance across the seven clinical conditions from February 2024 to March 2025, noting improved contractor engagement over the 12 months and rising targets for June and July.
- AJ shared the blood pressure check performance across Kent and Medway, which has increased over the last three months.
- AJ provided an update on nationally commissioned services, including the status of pharmacies that have not yet signed up.
- 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 upcoming changes to payment structures for interventions and follow-ups.
- Updates on the Independent Prescribing (IP) pathfinder pilot were shared, and discussions were held on how to increase patient numbers within the pilot.
- AJ reported that over 490 clients are receiving supervised consumption prescriptions, with 75 pharmacies signed up and 62 actively seeing patients.
- The list of pharmacies holding palliative care medication has been shared with contractors via their NHSmail accounts.

Action: AJ to ensure that pharmacies holding list of palliative care medications DOS profile has been updated

5. Project Updates

PM Shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- PM shared the new steps in claiming DMS and stated that claims using the old system are no longer accepted after 5 July 2025. Contractors can now submit claims for all three stages of NHS DMS via the updated MYS.
- 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.
- PM shared that the project is currently at Stage 3, where PCN Leads are engaging with their surgeries and Clinical Directors. The final stage of the project is scheduled for September–October 2025.
- PM is supporting them using LPC resources on Pharmacy First, Contraception Services, and Hypertension case studies, with each PCN Lead receiving a £507 reimbursement upon completion.
- PM gave an update on the PCN Lead training delivered on 25th June, in collaboration with Captivating Training.
- PM shared the Pharmacy First data, where there is a significant decline in the total number of referrals sent from the GP.
- PM shared the ongoing activity for Pharmacy First, and a new Shingles leaflet for pharmacists to share with eligible patients. LPC and ICB have revised the escalation pathway, developed a stakeholder slide deck and are exploring why certain patient groups are not accessing the service to help boost uptake.
- PM shared a new leaflet developed by the ICB to promote the seven Pharmacy First conditions and highlight the benefits of the service. The leaflet is intended to support patient awareness and encourage appropriate service use.

PM: to share newsletters or website information for shingles.

3. Performance Sub-Committee Update

Chair provided verbal performance sub-committee update.

- The committee reviewed the updated LPC strategy presented by the CEO.
- There was a discussion on training and development for the LPC team, with agreement on the need to collaborate with CPE to communicate and address training needs effectively.
- It was agreed that staff should have holidays booked in advance, with only one week permitted to be carried over beyond December.
- The committee celebrated the Chair's recent achievement of receiving the BEM from King Charles, recognising his significant contribution to community pharmacy

4. Finance Sub-Committee Update

SG Shared the slide as attached

- The budget has been updated in line with the CPE templates. The reserve summary was also reviewed and discussed.
- National Insurance contributions and pension increase rates were discussed, and the accounts file has been updated accordingly.
- The new LPC expense policies were discussed and have been revised accordingly.

NB: to update the date on expense policies and then share this with the committees.

5. Trade Bridge Update

CB Shared the slide as attached

- CB shared the role of Trade Bridge in supporting the pharmacy sector, funding options available to businesses.
- CB also highlighted the support offered for business growth, providing personalized assistance to help pharmacies thrive.
- CB shared that Trade Bridge works with a wide range of UK pharmacy businesses, providing tailored financial solutions to help them modernize, diversify income, manage complex operations, and scale their services.
- CB shared that Trade Bridge provides pharmacy sector specific funding, revenue based financing, and long-term partnerships to support pharmacy growth.

6. ICB Update

SS Shared the slide as attached

Highlights

- SS provided updates on all changes across NHS and ICB at the national level, effective from September.
- SS presented the NHS 10-Year Plan, which focuses on supporting more patients through patient-centered teams and general practices and enabling hospitals to provide specialist care.
- SS shared plans to establish neighborhood health centers that will operate six days a week with extended hours.
- SS highlighted the ongoing transition from analogue to digital services, emphasizing the implementation of unique patient records. Updates to the NHS app are planned to align with higher performance and accessibility standards.
- ICBs are expected to deliver a 40% reduction in workforce costs. Some ICBs may

merge to achieve further savings

- SS mentioned that one of the key objectives for community pharmacy within the plan is to expand clinical services.

7. ICB Commissioning Hub update

KP Shared the slide as attached

- KP updated the committee on the distance selling pharmacies, and from 23 June, no more applications will be accepted to join the pharmaceutical list. And from 1st October, the distance selling pharmacies will no longer be able to provide face-to-face services at all.
- KP is given an update of the pharmacy core hours, a new type of application test has been introduced, which allows the population seeking pharmacies services.
- CPAF questionnaires are open on the 1st of July and it's a regulatory requirement for pharmacy contractors to complete.
- KP shared that GP dispensing practices must remove patients living within 1.6 km of a pharmacy within one to three months, though some patients remain reluctant to use community pharmacies.
- KP is encouraging the pharmacy contractors to complete and update their audit around pharmacy waste collection.

8. Provider company

KP Shared the slide as attached

- KSS discussed the Healthy Living Partnership, its role as a provider company, and how it supports the LPC with the committee.
- The Partnership now has an independent shareholder, a revised membership structure, and four new directors with an agreed honorarium. It manages all non-LPC constitutional activity, holding contracts with NHS England, local authorities, ICBs, a Community Interest Company, and pharma companies, with policies aligned to NHS standards.
- Healthy Living Partnership is working with CPE on a key workstream, with the only deviation being the appointment of a CCA observer.
- The Partnership plans to grow by managing (10% fee) or hosting (1% fee) contracts, which would require indemnity cover and a director or board observer.

9. AOB

Meeting ended at 16:20pm

Upcoming LPC meeting 2025/26:

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