

Minutes of Community Pharmacy Kent Committee Meeting 16th September 2025

Officers

P	Mark Anyaegbuna (CEO)	CEO	Kent LPC
P	Amish Patel (Chair)	Chair	Independent
Aps	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
PM	Mike Rudin (MR)	Member	IPA
P	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	Tracy Breeze	Lupin Healthcare	
P	Sammy Chana	Strides Pharma	
P	Jas Dol	Galen Pharma	
P	Maria Butrymowicz, Sue Wanstall	ICB Pharmacy Integration Team	
P	Ruth Perkins	Kent County Council	
P	Swapna Thumala, Aku Ocansey-Nyako	ICB End of Life Medication	

p	Present	Pm	part of the meeting only	Aps	apologies sent	Apns	Apologies not sent
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Meeting Commenced at 09:40am

Welcome and Apologies

Chair welcomed committee members. MA, DE, AB sent their apologies.

Minutes and actions

Minutes were signed off with no amendments.

All actions and next steps were completed and signed off.

1. CEO Updates

CEO shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights:

- CEO shared the success in the engagement in all the projects that the office team is actively supporting.
- CEO shared that AB, an IPA representative, is on maternity leave, and IPA has been contacted for a replacement.
- CEO also shared the changes relating to DSP pharmacies from the 1st of October 2025, not being able to deliver services face-to-face on site.
- CEO gave brief feedback on the vaccination training that took place on the 3rd of August 2025, and the feedback received from the attending pharmacist.
- CEO shared insights into PNA development and indicated that there is no gap in the area.
- CEO updates on the CPAF in the community pharmacy and the number of pharmacies chosen to complete the full questionnaire.
- CEO outlined the changes in the GP contract for 2025/26, functionality in GP Connect, and confirmed that measures are in place to ensure the sector remains engaged as the plan develops and maximizes pharmacy first referrals.
- CEO shared the payment structure for the new smoking cessation service available in the area.
- CEO provided an update on the NHS Teach and Treat program, which enables community pharmacists to become IP and the DPP, along with details of the funding plan and eligibility criteria.
- CEO shared the CPE guidance and the key benefits of the LPC's on having a provider company, if needed to get the service mobilized.
- CEO shared the benefits and advantages of working closely with the provider company, the management payment plan, and all the risks involved have been considered.
- There was a discussion around the provider company in Kent and Medway and a decision was made on how we will proceed.
- The committee unanimously agreed that Kent LPC continue working with Essex provider company.

2. Service Development Updates

AJ shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- AJ shared updates on pharmacy contractors' engagement, including insights from pharmacy visits at each HCP and the key benefits of these meetings.
- AJ shared that optimizing workforce use by having pharmacy assistants and technicians deliver eligible services and identify patients during dispensing saves pharmacists' time, reduces delivery costs, and maximizes teams' skills in the pharmacy.
- AJ shared the contractors' pack during visits, highlighting the benefits of these services for pharmacists, including potential yearly profits.
- AJ shared that Pharmacy First performance across Kent and Medway has improved over the last three months, and highlighted actions taken by the office team to further increase the total completions.

- AJ provided an update on nationally commissioned services, covering the status of pharmacies that haven't signed up, those signed up but not delivering, and upcoming changes.
- An update on NMS performance across Kent and Medway was provided, highlighting improvements and upcoming changes to payment structures for interventions and follow-ups.
- AJ reported that over 490 clients are receiving supervised consumption prescriptions, with 75 pharmacies signed up and 62 actively seeing patients.
- AJ also shared the medicine incidents and how these incidents can be avoided for patients' safety.
- AJ shared the list of pharmacies signed up for the childhood vaccination service and also shared that these pharmacies will be able to get the vaccine stock ahead of the service start date.

Action: AJ to develop a one-pager for post-payment verification according to CPE guidance and send it to all contractors.

Action: To find out the reason why the outstanding pharmacies are not signing for Bundling.

Action: Produce a list of all national commissioned services and local commissioned services for each area.

3. Project Updates

PM shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- PM shared the new DMS referrals updates in each trust for the last 3 months, which are slightly low in some areas. PM shared that the process of claiming the DMS has been simplified. This will hopefully increase the number of completions.
- PM shared the PCN Leads progress, which indicates that the stage of the activity sheet 1 has been completed, and from next week, the leads will engage in the activity sheet 2, which is the final stage where they submit their documents and outcomes.
- PM shared that positive engagement of the PCN Leads with their surgeries and Clinical Directors, and the good practice guide has been distributed to GP practices.
- PM shared the weekly actions in supporting pharmacy contractors completing a high number of referrals for Pharmacy First, Contraception Services, and Hypertension. These actions and collaboration are managed by the ICB team to help with the importance of utilizing the services.
- PM shared that Anima is used by 80 practices in Kent and Medway to provide a full GP triage system, but referrals are currently sent by NHS mail, causing extra work and lost pharmacy income. A trial with one practice will test a new process, and if it works, it will be rolled out to all surgeries.
- Priya shared the project that is being led by the "DGS HCP The Ageing and Dying Well Programme" to support ICB vaccination work, with four pharmacies and six venues interested, benefits linked to an increase in vaccination numbers, and this will be managed through the national booking systems.

PM: to share with contractors the new DMS claiming process.

4. Performance Sub-Committee Update

- Chair provided verbal sub-committee update.
- The committee discussed provider company, as referenced in the CEO update, as well as staff welfare and the ongoing programme of work being progressed by the LPC office.

5. Finance Sub-Committee Update

SG shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- Kent LPC budget has been discussed and finalized, and both accounts have been updated accordingly.
- The contractor levy increase has been actioned, and an email has been sent to all contractors.
- The reserve summary was also reviewed.

6. Lupin Health Care

TB shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- TB shared some of Lupin Healthcare's products available for otitis media and shared information about Lufobec. The committee reiterated that all medications should be prescribed generically, except where there are specific patient safety concerns.
- SC shared insights about Focusim XL Modified-release hard capsule, which can be prescribed as a substitute to Medikinet if out of stock. The committee noted that prescribers have the discretion to specify a brand of methylphenidate, as the release profile differs between brands.

7. Galen Pharma

JS shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- JS discussed the availability of their products and their collaboration with the ICB and hospitals in supplying these products including the pricing structure and potential cost savings to Kent and Medway.

8. ICB Pharmacy integration team update

MB shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- MB updated the committee on the ICB updates in the community pharmacy
- MB highlighted collaboration with Ardens to create a national search tool for the Oral Contraception Service, enabling targeted patient outreach, and noted presentations delivered at Women's Health Hubs
- MB shared that a GP Good Practice Guide, a Pharmacy First Myth Busting document, and patient-facing materials for waiting areas, social media, practice websites, and e-consult forms have been developed, alongside engagement with Patient Participation Groups through information packs and ICB networks.
 - SW highlighted the collaboration between the LPC and ICB to review progress, address issues, and identify communication and training needs

- SW shared that all the referrals and data sent daily are checked and reviewed to ensure GPs are following the PF criteria and making the correct referrals.
- SW shared that the ICB is working with the UTC leads and stakeholders to develop and implement the Pharmacy First referrals process at the UTC sites across Kent, to reduce pressure in urgent and emergency care, support self-care, and improve access to treatment for minor illness, injury, and urgent medicines.

9. Kent County Council Updates

RS shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- RS provided an overview of the health check program available in Kent for patients aged 4–74, which is offered every 5 years.
- RS shared that KCC delivers Public Health customer services; the service is under review, focusing on the longevity and quality of services provided.
- RS outlined changes to service delivery; some services in Kent are no longer commissioned through third-party providers such as KCHFT. Instead, pharmacies will be directly contracted by KCC.
- RS gave an update on ongoing contracts, which are being prepared in January and are expected to be signed off by April 2026.

10. Kent County Council Updates

ST shared the slide as attached

Key Highlights

- ST shared the issues around care homes and how medication error reporting can be improved for the benefit of patients.
- ST highlighted factors that primary care, GPs, and pharmacies can address to prevent medication errors before they reach care homes, the significant impact on the NHS budget, and the contribution to hospitalizations.
- ST shared the importance of maintaining relationships and working collaboratively between community pharmacies and care home providers.
- ST shared updates on medicines safety in care homes, including the implementation of the new IMAR system in the GPs and care homes.
- ST gave an update on the Palliative Care service specifications and formulary, which have been extended in Kent and Medway for another year.
- She also highlighted the importance of pharmacies providing the service and maintaining an adequate stock of palliative care.

11. AOB

None raised

Meeting ended at 16:19

Upcoming LPC meeting 2025/26

11th November 2025

20th January 2026

10th March 2026.

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