

Newsletter

North Yorkshire Local Pharmaceutical Committee

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General news and information

Committee changes



At the July meeting we were greatly saddened to lose our two longest serving committee members, David Gill and Shirley Maude, who between them have served on the LPC for nearly 50 years, having joined in 1988/1989!

David served for many years as Vice chairman and then Chairman, as well as being the regional representative on PSNC. Shirley has always been a keen and active member and many of you would have met her at the recent respiratory project events which she was involved with.

John Evans resigned from the committee in May and has been replaced by Adnan Yousaf from Tesco Pharmacy. John had been a proactive member of the committee since 2005 and his wide range of experience was very useful to the committee.

The LPC would like to take this opportunity to publically thank John, David and Shirley for all the hard work and support they have given the LPC and contractors over this period and send them our best wishes for the future

There now exists a vacancy for an independent contractor.

This will be an interim co-option until the next LPC elections in 2014, and the LPC will give preference to applications from contractors in the following geographic areas;

Hambleton
Whitby
Richmond
Vale of York.

(This is to ensure that we the local knowledge of LPC members covers as much of our geography as possible.)

Please contact Hazel by email if you would like to express an interest or would like further information.

Applications by August 15th 2013 please, giving some background such as where you work and any other relevant details such as previous LPC experience.

AGM event

At the "Have your say" event on July 18th, pharmacists were given the opportunity to comment on existing enhanced services and future enhanced services.

The LPC is now interested in getting further feedback from contractors on what works and what doesn't as we will be feeding in to the local authorities for the service reviews which they will be undertaking before April 2014.

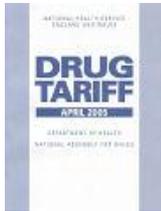


Please feed your views to Hazel by email on the following:

Existing services (EHC, smoking cessation, syringe needle exchange, out of hours and supervised consumption)	What works well? What doesn't work? What would like to see changed?
New Services	What would you like to see commissioned locally?

The presentations on EPS release 2 and NHS changes from the AGM update will be posted on the LPC website.

Drug Tariff events



We have organised a series of events for pharmacists, technicians and pre-registration pharmacists on getting the most from the drug tariff. The first event, in conjunction with the Health Education Foundation on July 8th, was very well attended and proved very useful.

There will be a second event in Harrogate on September 9th and a final event in Scarborough on September 23rd funded and organised by Pfizer. (same format, presentation, speaker etc)

Please note these dates in your diary.

Further details and how to register for these events will be issued by email and on the LPC website nearer to the time

LPN

We are still awaiting the details of the vacancy for chair of the Pharmacy LPN for this area – once the job specification has been received, the LPC will notify you via email and the website of details and where to apply.

Direction of prescriptions.

At the request of the LPC, the Area Team has sent the following to all North Yorkshire GP practices.

"The NHS Co-operation and Competition Panel will be interested in any examples of direction of prescriptions as this is anti-competitive behaviour and a breach of Competition Law. The Panel has the power to award large fines which can reach to 10% of annual turnover.

To avoid potential issues surgeries should ensure that :

1. The GP surgery should not be collecting sign-ups for collection & delivery services from patients on behalf of community pharmacies i.e. Y Pharmacy. This is direction of prescriptions.
2. Y Pharmacy must collect their own sign-ups from patients for any collection and delivery services and retain copies for their records.
3. The GP Surgery should not have different policies for length of treatment for patients of one pharmacy vs. patients of a different pharmacy. (28 days vs. 56 days vs. 84 days)."

If contractors have evidence of prescription direction by GP surgeries, these should be reported to either Christine Gibson christinegibson2@nhs.net or Gill Braithwaite gillbraithwaite@nhs.net at the area team.

Contractual and NHS information

PharmOutcomes and CPAF

The area team will be shortly sending out the community pharmacy assurance framework by post. They have agreed that pharmacies can complete this online if they prefer, by accessing it from PharmOutcomes and emailing it to the area team after completion to England.pharmacyreturns@nhs.net

All independent contractors should have log-in details (same ones as for PharmaBase.) CCA companies will be sending the log-in details out from head offices.

If you are an independent and do not have, or have lost your log-in details, you can go to the **Help** page at pharmoutcomes.org and send them a request; they will then contact you and help you get online with the system.

There are big advantages for filling in CPAF using PharmOutcomes rather than manually filling in the forms, not least being that the system will save contractor's answers to the CPAF questions and then allow them to download the completed CPAF to either print or email to their Area Team and it will remember the answers from one year to the next – if a contractor used the PSNC provided Contract Workbook/CPAF module last year, those answers have been imported into the new PharmOutcomes and should be visible in the right-hand column of this year's assessment as an aide-memoire.

Annual Complaints report

The Area Team has written to all pharmacies requesting their annual complaints report for 2012/13. The CSU has also requested these and understandably, this has caused some confusion for the pharmacies and the Area Team is now liaising with the CSU to consolidate responses and will be chasing up any outstanding returns.

Regulations 34(1) requires pharmacies to comply with the Local Authority Social Services and NHS Complaints (England) Regulations 2009 which set out the content and information to be included in the annual report. Unfortunately the reports received vary considerably and many don't include all of the information that is required.

Because the process has already been confusing this year, the Area Team won't be requesting pharmacies to resubmit a further report. However, if they undertake a pharmacy to visit under the CPAF programme they will be asking about their complaints procedures and what they have submitted. In future they will expect all pharmacies to submit annual reports to the Area Team in a timely manner to ensure compliance with their terms of service.

EPS release 2

EPS2 will be going live in some areas of North Yorkshire from this September/October, the first area being Harrogate.

We recommend you register an interest in this area as a matter of urgency if you have not already done so.

You will also need to check you have an EPS 2 enabled system.

Useful factsheets: <http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/eps/dispensing>

Prescription Tracker: <http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/eps/dispensing>

Deployment map: <http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/eps/stats/deploymap/national>

You can also sign up for an alert when ever the Spine goes down, which is fortunately a rare occurrence. The form for this is posted on the LPC website.



Tokens will be distributed by the area Team immediately prior to going live – no action is needed for tokens at this time.

The issuing of Smartcards is now a function of the Commissioning Support unit in this area – contact Simon McCreath, Clinical Applications Support Officer, North Yorkshire and Humber Commissioning Support Unit, Tel: 01845 573815 Mobile 07815 928991 simonmccreath@nhs.net

Contract applications, decisions and changes

Pending applications

Stokesley, new application from Expertcare Ltd offering to secure identified improvements or better access between the vicinity of North Road and High Street, Stokesley.

Application decisions

Topcliffe – repeat application from Homecare (Yorkshire) Ltd in respect of distance selling premises at Unit AA, Alanbrooke Industrial Park, Station Road, Topcliffe, YO7 3SE, has been conditionally approved by the Area Team of NHS England.

York, Acomb, the “no significant change” relocation to Gale Farm Surgery, 109-119 Front Street, Acomb, York, YO24 3BU by Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd from 28 York Rd (and current 100hr pharmacy to cease trading) has been granted by the Area Team of NHS England. This has been appealed against.

Other Changes

Knaresborough – new pharmacy opened from 29/5/13 Boots Pharmacy, Unit 4a, St James Retail Park, Grimbald Crag, Knaresborough HG5 8PZ under the 100 hour exemption.

LPC Website

A reminder that Newsletters, agendas, news items, minutes etc can be found on the LPC website which can be accessed via the psnc.org.uk website (open access, no password required).

Suggestions for what you might like to find on the website will be gratefully received.

Future LPC meetings;

September 19th, November 21st 2013

All full day meetings held at the Crown Hotel, Boroughbridge

Any pharmacist can attend any LPC meeting as an observer, contact the Chief Officer for details.

A bi-monthly Newsletter will be sent out to update you on important issues and full copies of the minutes of LPC meetings (non-confidential matters only) are available on request from the Chief Officer or via the LPC website. The Chief Officer also has a database of contractors who receive information items and Newsletters electronically; anyone wishing to be added to this list, please e-mail Hazel on hazeldmarsden@msn.com

For employee pharmacists and locums, please give your home email address if you prefer, or cannot easily access emails with attachments at work.

Any queries regarding the LPC or community pharmacy issues should be made to the Chief Officer preferably by email.

Feedback on the work of the LPC always welcome.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM THIS NEWSLETTER

<i>LPC independent vacancy</i>	<i>Contact Hazel if interested.</i>	
<i>Have your say on services</i>	<i>Email your views to Hazel</i>	
<i>EPS release 2</i>	<i>Register an interest & check you are ready with EPSr2 system & smartcards</i>	
<i>LPC database</i>	<i>Register email address with Hazel</i>	
<i>Drug Tariff events</i>	<i>Be ready to register for your area</i>	