
Dear Community Pharmacy Contractors in Brighton & Hove,

Locally Commissioned Services in Surrey during Covid-19

We are writing to update you about arrangements for community pharmacy locally commissioned public health services in Brighton & Hove during the response to Covid-19. These have been agreed between Brighton & Hove City Council and Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex, on behalf of East Sussex Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC). There are a number of important updates. Firstly, on behalf of public health and the LPC we would like to say thank you for the commitment and hard work of community pharmacy teams in very difficult and challenging times.

Locally Commissioned Services

- The **Public Health overarching contract** will be rolled over until the 1st September 2020. Further contract variations will be reassessed on an ongoing basis.
- **Contract monitoring and service targets for LCS** will be relaxed and we are aware that adjustments may be required to the delivery of LCS in line with business continuity plans. We would like to emphasise the importance of informing commissioners of the temporary or permanent suspension of LCS services within 24 hours. This is particularly important for the continuity of the sexual health and contraceptive service supply and as you are aware the specification has been temporarily updated to include telephone consultations (or paper based consultations applying social distancing guidelines) as an option for the supply of emergency contraception.
- Locally Commissioned Services related **training events will be postponed** (face to face and virtual) until further notice, including training and the proposed conference associated with the Healthy Living Pharmacy Level 2 Framework.
- Renewal of the **Declaration of Competence (DoC) requirements** will be extended for 6 months for all LCS services and Pharmoutcomes will be informed accordingly. Completion of the CPPE Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults: Level 2 assessments is still a prerequisite for the delivery of LCS however we are aware that community pharmacies have recently update this training as part of the NHS England Pharmacy Quality Scheme.
- Service commissioners are **currently reviewing how to award a Covid-19 pandemic payment to community pharmacies to compensate for the reduced LCS activity**. We will come back to you once this has been agreed.

Additional Stop Smoking Support will be provided through the Public Health, Healthy Lifestyles Team which can support with stop smoking enquiries. People can self-refer for support and information via an [online](#)

[support form](#), or contact the team by phone 01273 294 589 or email healthylifestyles@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Support will be by telephone, but will continue to be able to offer NRT, and stop smoking/maintenance support. Please note at the moment it may not be possible to support clients who need an interpreter with appointments, although some general advice/information could be given. Smokers will be fast tracked through to the Healthy Lifestyles Team Single Point of Contact (SPOC) system and put in touch with Smoking Specialist Health Trainers as quickly as possible.

Local Planning

In respect to local planning and system co-ordination within the NHS and Local Authority we would value your input and will ensure that all relevant conversations include community pharmacy.

We can now confirm that all community pharmacies that have provided locally commissioned services over the last three quarters (2019-2020) are entitled to a pandemic payment. The pandemic payment will be calculated based on three- fifths of the average quarterly claim and paid in April. Additional activity above the average quarterly claim will also be paid to compensate pharmacies that are still able to offer telephone based or remote access services such as emergency contraception and support for people to complete a course of stop smoking treatment.

Thanks again for everything you are doing to support the local and wider healthcare system.

Kind regards,



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James Wood
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