



**Community
Pharmacy**
Surrey & Sussex

on behalf of East Sussex, West
Sussex and Surrey Local
Pharmaceutical Committees



NOTE: our newsletters are currently designed and distributed as html templates on Outlook. They are available here in .pdf format, with some reduction in quality and layout

Local news, views and support for community pharmacy teams

Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex

Usually, every two weeks | Issue 44 | wk beg 14-21 Dec 2020

'Tis the busy season in community pharmacy – and this year is no exception. From keeping patients supplied with medicines to last the bank holidays to managing demand for flu vaccinations (and now fielding questions about the Coronavirus vaccine) and PQS to PCN, you'll have welcomed the reassurance from NHS England earlier this month that there would not be mandatory opening as there was at Easter, and hopefully that gave an opportunity for many of you to plan some extremely well-deserved time off.

And, as we approach the new year, we'd like to personally thank everyone that has helped us to make Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex such a fantastic organisation over 2020; there is a real spirit of curiosity and camaraderie and be assured your continued support and questions and scrutiny are welcomed by the team and new CEO and are already shaping workplans for the rest of 2020 and beyond.

Like you our staff team has been working flat out, often at weekends and late into the evening to understand local issues and work on finding solutions to problems then get communications out to whoever needs them. We'll be taking a break for Christmas and the New Year – so we can come back fresh for 2021. Emails and phones will be monitored for urgent message from midday on 23 December to 9am on Monday 4 January 2021.

LPC news

Surrey and Sussex LPCs pick Julia Powell as new CEO

We're pleased to announce the appointment of Julia Powell as the new Chief Executive of Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex. [Read more](#)

More community pharmacy teams than expected want to help deliver the COVID-19 vaccine

NHS England has confirmed that over 50 contractors in Surrey and Sussex responded to their recent (27 November) call-for-expressions of interest to be Covid-19 vaccination centres. In order to meet immediate needs and fill a small number of urgent gaps in GP/PCN provision, the candidates applications are being shortlisted against a [set of selection criteria for designation](#), before Monday 21 December 2020. [Read more](#)

Partnership working to help communities feel prepared ahead of the festive period

Over the coming days and weeks', we will continue to work with district and borough councils, voluntary and community sector, as well as community health

professionals, to help local communities know how to get the best out of community pharmacy this season and ensure a positive experience for everyone.

- [Read more](#) and find out about the [downloadable document](#) of key festive messages we have been distributing to all our partners to enable them to play their part in communicating relevant and useful information to each of their unique audiences.
- Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne, is lending her support to our *respect our staff* message with her #KeepingChristmasKind campaign. Last week she visited a pharmacy to speak to staff about many of the issues being faced just now and has pledged to work with Sussex Police to make it easier and quicker for pharmacy teams to report crime. [Read more.](#)

LPC helps find pharmacies to help with 'flu' in care homes

Guildford and Waverly's Medicines Optimisation Groups (MOG) and other pharmacy leaders in the county have said thank you to the LPC for facilitating a quick response to filling gaps in flu vaccination services to care homes in the area.

West Sussex TCAM

The West Sussex Transfer of Care Around Medicine (TCAM) switch-on from of discharge information from hospitals to community pharmacy was put back several days due to other pressures in the system. Last week (16 December) it finally went live. Here is our [TCAM webpage](#) for more information. We now encourage all contractors in areas where TCAM is live to check their *PharmOutcomes* daily for TCAM notifications and prepare to be ready to deliver the [Discharge Medication Service](#) which will be added to the contractual framework in the New Year.

LPC agrees changes to WSCC medicines policy

We told you in November that we were to [feed-in views](#) to the next revision of West Sussex County Council Medication Policy in December 2020. The policy supports medicines administration by employed carers in the domiciliary setting.

West Sussex LPC has been successful in seeking to ensure that the policy is aligned with the services commissioned through community pharmacy contractual framework (CPCF) only, or are supported by locally commissioned services (LCS). Several beneficial changes have been made, which will reduce the burden on local pharmacies. The policy will be published for the start of the New Year.

Calls for action

Sexual health & HIV professional survey

Surrey County Council's Sexual Health & HIV Needs Assessment survey for professionals closes on 23 December 2020. The results of the survey are very important as they will form part of the Surrey Sexual Health Needs Assessment 2020, helping to support the sexual health care of all Surrey residents. Only 13 out of Surrey's 209 pharmacies have responded so far. The Survey can be found [here](#). It will take less than five minutes to complete.

Please claim funding and fees you are owed

Insight from commissioners backed up by analysis of claims made tells us that a significant number of pharmacy contractors across Sussex and Surrey are not claiming fees owed to them for the needle exchange services they provide. We urge all participating pharmacies to check that they have claimed the funding they are owed for providing this service. All claims should be submitted via [Home Page - PharmOutcomes](#)

Have you signed-up to use NHS Service Finder?

NHS Service Finder is for health care professionals. It is not open to the public but all NHSmail users can speedily obtain login details. The tool enables pharmacy teams to look-up non-public telephone numbers (where available) for listed services, such as general practice by-pass numbers.

As you prepare for Christmas, we would recommend sign-up now and bookmark the webpage (<https://finder.directoryofservices.nhs.uk/>) so you can return to it quickly.

- Find out more about NHS Service Finder: [PSNC NHS Service Finder factsheet](#)

Requests from local dentists for Flu Vaccination

There has been a [change to the DHSC guidance](#) on the use of their seasonal flu vaccination stock, to allow private vaccinations for frontline health and care workers (not just via occupational health schemes). We have briefed the Local Dental Committees as staff from dental practices may be looking to pharmacies to be vaccinated in the coming weeks.

Support

Long story short about PCN vacancies across Sussex and Surrey

In the last few weeks six vacancies increased to eight, but through sheer hard work and determination from Gemma and Micky in the staff team, is now back down to four - Horsham Collaborative, Horsham Central, Angmering Coppice Fitzalan (ACF) and Integrated Care Partnership - with potential leads identified for three of these. Many congratulations to all our new lead community pharmacists and welcome aboard.

PCN Vacancy Area	LPC Area
Horsham Central PCN	West Sussex
Angmering, Coppice and Fitzalan (ACF) PCN	West Sussex
Integrated Care Partnership PCN (Epsom)	Surrey
Horsham Colaborative PCN	West Sussex

Filling PCN lead pharmacy vacancies is an LPC priority to ensure that all contractors across Surrey and Sussex can claim maximum PQS points for this domain. If your pharmacy is in one of these PCNs, please discuss with your local colleagues who can take on this role, we can help and support this process, contact us on pcn@communitypharmacyss.co.uk

All pharmacies participating in the Pharmacy Quality Scheme part 2 should have completed, or have plans to do the following by 31 January 2021, ahead of the PQS declaration window opening:

1. Identify your local PCN, and [have details](#) of your local agreed Community Pharmacy PCN lead
2. Completed the [contractor questionnaire](#) and sent to your Community Pharmacy PCN lead by close of Monday 21st December 2020 latest
3. Attended a virtual meeting of contractors in your PCN, organised by your Community Pharmacy PCN lead to discuss local plans
4. Be in receipt of your PCN Community Pharmacy Flu Plan and PCN Community Pharmacy Business Continuity Plan from your Community Pharmacy PCN lead. Expect this towards the end of January 2021.

Webinars and digital events

East Sussex County Council funded HLP shared learning events

HLP shared learning events in East Sussex are an important opportunity for pharmacy colleagues to come together, hear the latest news and views from public health specialists, service providers and pharmacy leadership, to exchange ideas, share knowledge and best practice, and to feedback and contribute to the development of the HLP programme in East Sussex. All East Sussex pharmacy teams are funded to attend one of two events with contractors able to claim **backfill** if they attend the online event.

- **Session 1 - Tuesday 19th January 2021 – 9.00am-1.00pm**
- **Session 2 – Wednesday 21st January 2021 – 9.00am-1.00pm.**

Register: [East Sussex Public Health Events | Eventbrite](#)

Support | Develop | Promote | Deliver

- We aim to distribute our LPC bulletin according to our published [distribution schedule](#), but in order to be effective and timely we remain flexible and will delay or bring forward distribution to include information that is emerging and important.
- Issue 12 of our regular round-up with links to partners regular newsletters, press releases and assets will be distributed in the new year.
- View [news archive](#)

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