

## Local news, views and support for community pharmacy teams

Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex  
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It's an exciting time for LPCs and as we head towards 2021 we have vacancies to fill on our East Sussex and West Sussex committees.

Being an LPC member presents a fantastic opportunity to help provide strong strategic leadership to our staff team and ensure we continue to provide high quality representation and services that contractors in the county have come to expect.

Committee Members are unpaid, but reasonable travel and other expenses are met. Since April our [LPC meetings are held bi-monthly by Zoom](#) and will continue this way until prevalence of coronavirus subsides and we can meet face-to-face again. Please see our vacancies below and get-in-touch if you are interested and want to know more.

### LPC news

#### Committee news

Ramiz Bahnam has stepped down from East Sussex LPC. Ramiz had been a committee member since March 2014, one of nine members who has helped to shape the direction of the LPC and represented the LPC on the Area Prescribing Committee. There is now a vacancy on the committee for an independent contractor representative in East Sussex, Brighton and Hove to serve for the rest of the LPC term to March 2022. To find out more and how to put yourself forward [download the vacancy pack](#) and let us know by Tuesday 17 November 2020, latest.

Gemma Staniforth has stepped down as a LPC member and Vice Chair of West Sussex LPC. Gemma was closely involved in the joint work of the three LPCs. Commenting Mark Donaghy, committee chair said: "Gemma served the committee over many years and brought a great depth of experience. She will be missed." Yola Barnard has been elected vice-chair. This is a CCA vacancy on the committee and will be filled through CCA internal processes.

#### Community pharmacy primary care network (PCN) leads meet to discuss local elements of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS)

It was as good as a full-house last week when 35 out of 45 current community pharmacy PCN leads met online to learn more about their role co-ordinating PQS participating contractors in their network. They will now be reaching out to all pharmacies in their PCN to deliver local collaborative work to meet domains 4 and 5 of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme part 2.

- There's around 15 PCN areas across Surrey and Sussex without a current PCN lead. We are helping these areas local areas to fill the vacancies. [Check if you have a lead in your local area](#). If not, can you, or a colleague, step up to ensure all pharmacies in your area can meet the PQS requirements?

#### Supporting patients in West Sussex coming out of hospital

West Sussex is about to join TCAM, connecting pharmacy with secondary care and primary care, with referrals commencing from Western Sussex Hospital sites of St Richard's and Worthing from 16 November 2020. TCAM has many benefits, including improving the safety of dispensing and being able to positively challenge prescribing. But more than that, it's critical to deliver the new Discharge Medicines Service, a new essential service being added to the CPCF from 1st January 2021.

- Contractors in West Sussex should now look-out for one or two referrals a week coming through PharmOutcomes from mid – late November.
- [Use this short guide](#) to brief your team. Our on-demand webinar briefing can be viewed [here](#)

### **CEO James Wood moves to PSNC as we advertise for his successor**

Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex (CPSS) will be under new executive leadership in the new year as chief executive, James Wood, moves on to a new national role with the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC). The recruitment for our next Chief Executive is being led by Sarah Davis, vice-chair of East Sussex LPC. [Read more](#) and [download our CEO recruitment pack](#). Applications close at 5pm on Monday 23 November.

## Views

### **Are you an Independent Prescriber in Surrey and Sussex?**

If so, we'd love to hear from you.

We're coordinating a database of all independent prescribers working across Surrey and Sussex as part of our HEE funded [BP+ project](#) evaluation, which is also looking into the community pharmacists role in prescribing.

Please tell us your name, where you work and your interests via this [short form](#) before 16 November 2020 – *it should take you less than one minute to complete.*

### **GP Referrals into the Community Pharmacist Consultation Service**

From 1 November 2020 it became possible for GPs to be able to refer patients into the CPCS service for minor illness consultations. Local preparatory work to mobilise the service is just beginning, and includes GPs, PCNs, CCGs and the NHS England & Improvement region working together with all the LPCs in the South East region to agree how this will work.

The plan, so far, is for phased implementation over the next six months, with further information becoming available at short notice as discussions progress. The first phase, beginning shortly, will be NHSE&I seeking expressions of interest from GP practices & PCNs who wish to be early adopters for a roll out in the New Year.

- If you have views about potential or interested local GP practice or PCN, let us know by email [lpc@communitypharmacyss.co.uk](mailto:lpc@communitypharmacyss.co.uk)

## Support

### **Pharmacy Quality Scheme Part 2 – Domains 4 and 5 (primary care network support)**

All pharmacies who intend to participate in PQS part 2 should now engage with your local community pharmacy PCN lead to help support them meet the requirements of collaborating at a local level.

- Here is a [short survey developed by PSNC](#) (editable in MS Word or [PDF](#)) for every pharmacy to fill in and send back to their PCN lead, as soon as

possible. We would recommend this is done by Friday 20 November 2020. Identify your PCN lead [here](#). Contact us if your PCN has a vacancy.

- [Register here](#) to secure a place at our briefing to help pharmacy teams understand the local PCN requirements. Thursday 19 November 2020

## New national restrictions from 5 November

For up-to-date information on the new national restrictions, including what they mean, why they are being introduced and more:

- [Sign up here](#) to PSNC for nationally significant sectoral news
- We urge you to bookmark your local **county** council's website and check it regularly for locally significant news. County councils are responsible for services like education, transport, social care and public health. [Find a local council here](#).
- Please also consider signing-up to receive your local **district** or **borough** council's newsletter so you get very local news as it happens. District/Borough councils are responsible for services like rubbish and recycling collection, environmental health and community focussed activities such as Covid-19 community hubs. [Find a local council here](#).
- **Please help avoid misinformation and confusion.**



Do you find that your patients are struggling to understand current guidance? If so, the [PHE campaign resources hub](#) has the most up-to-date posters in it's coronavirus campaigns section that can be used to highlight

the latest Government messaging (staying alert to symptoms and don't enter if you have symptoms). Please try to avoid using previously issued posters, or those you have produced yourself. We are also aware of a [poster created by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society](#).

## Helping to reduce the number of calls you receive into pharmacy

We are hearing from contractors that pharmacy phones are 'red-hot' so are doing what we can to help reduce the number of incoming telephone calls by encouraging our stakeholders and system partners to amplify and pass on [our public messaging](#) to help you. It is hoped that consistent messaging across local health and civic partners will help manage citizen's expectations of community pharmacy during lockdown and help keep pharmacy staff safe.

- What is making your phones ring? Tell us by emailing [sandralamont@communitypharmacyss.co.uk](mailto:sandralamont@communitypharmacyss.co.uk)

**\*\*FREE\*\* we still have stickers to give away \*\*FREE\*\***

All pharmacy staff across Sussex and Surrey are urged to have a flu jab and wear a sticker to promote the vaccination to others. [Read more](#)

## New / updated on our website

- See our [locally commissioned services page](#) for updated Essential Guides and at-a-glance checklist.

## You are invited

### PQS Part 2 – Understanding Local Next Steps for Pharmacy Teams Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November – 7:30pm – 8:30pm

Webinar for all Surrey & Sussex pharmacy teams to provide a briefing on the local elements of PQS part 2 (domains 1,4 and 5)

- What actions you need to take to meet the requirements and by when
- How to engage with your PCN lead and what to expect from them

- Resources to help and sharing hints and tips from colleagues
- Answering your questions

Book your space by [registering here](#)

### **LPC Committee meetings**

All committee meetings are open to observers and we especially encourage community pharmacy contractors and their team members to join us and find out what we do. Should you wish to attend an LPC meeting as an observer, this needs to be pre-arranged by sending an email to

[LPC@communitypharmacyss.co.uk](mailto:LPC@communitypharmacyss.co.uk). Everything relevant to our committees, including dates, is published on our website [here](#) (Simply scroll down the page and *click on the heading for your LPC*

## **Support | Develop | Promote | Deliver**

- We aim to send out at least one 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 8 of our regular round-up with links to partners regular newsletters, press releases and assets was distributed yesterday. Please look out for it as it contains important information.
- View [news archive](#)

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