

Local news, views and support for community pharmacy teams

Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex
Every two weeks | Issue 34 | 29 June 2020

Covid-19 has dominated our sector over the last two quarters and now, as we move-on to find our 'new-normal', [Professor David Wright's report](#) about the shape and direction of the management of our sector has been published.

Professor Wright's [recommendations](#) follow a brutally honest account of the shape of LPCs and PSNC and cover a dizzyingly huge range of challenges as our eyes have been opened to how and why change is necessary. Please read the report, if you haven't already, and the [initial reaction](#) from your three local chairs and vice-chairs, who are meeting with their committees this week to discuss in more detail. There's several ways you can input to the discussion about the future of LPCs and PSNC:

1. Sign up [here](#) to attend Professor Wright's contractor webinar being held at 7pm tonight (Monday 29 June)
2. Tell your LPC members directly [here](#), about what matters to you
3. Send us your questions about the review in an [email](#)

Staff and LPC members are dealing with an extensive range of issues across Surrey and Sussex at the moment. Read on to find out more about some of them.

Local news

➤ On the agenda at July's LPCs meetings

Topics for discussion include restoration and recovery; locally commissioned services (LCS) and income protection for LCS during Q2 2020-21 of the Covid period; and formally responding to the independent review of pharmacy representation and support.

- There is still time for you to shape the agenda. Feedback to members [here](#).
- [Read more about the three LPC in Surrey and Sussex](#), including membership, past meetings and future dates

➤ Patients isolating at home and in need of help

People who are shielded because of an extreme medical condition, are being contacted with details of how some restrictions will ease from 6 July. Patients who are getting a Government-provided medicine delivery will continue to do so until the end of July.

- Some, but not all, local authority helplines across Surrey & Sussex will continue beyond July with those who are operating reduced services alongside local voluntary and community sector organisations. Please ask them if you are unsure.
- [NHS volunteers](#) can continue to help with collecting medicines. Patients can contact NHS Volunteers on 0808 196 3646 (8 am to 8pm) to access this support.
- Please update your local operating procedures accordingly and inform everyone on your team.

➤ Test & Trace: avoiding local lockdowns

When the NHS Test and Trace service was launched on 28 May 2020 Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock introduced the concept of local lockdowns "Taking local action to respond to a local flare-up". But what does a local lockdown look like? Ruth Hutchinson interim Public Health lead at Surrey County Council has emphasised that it is more likely for a local lockdown to happen in a specific setting rather than a whole area or town:

- Here is a [summary of the Surrey Local Outbreak Action Plan \(PDF\). COVID-19 recovery strategy](#), published in advance of all full local plans for Surrey and Sussex being published on 30 June.

- Please keep-an-eye on our website for '[news](#)' and new [A-Z entries](#) on this topic, as the impact of these plans on community pharmacy becomes clear.
- **PCNs: NHSBSA is to verify information supplied by some NHSBSA** want to ensure they have accurate information and records regarding the community pharmacy primary care network (PCN) leads in Sussex and Surrey. You may be contacted by the NHSBSA provider assurance team to verify the information you supplied as part of your latest PQS (Pharmacy Quality Scheme) submission. Here is [information about PCNs in Surrey & Sussex and the information about leads that was supplied to the LPC](#)
- **Electronic prescription service continues at pace locally**
We're hearing of continued growth in EPS at local GP practices, including increase in eRD and move to phase 4 in over 35% of practices across Surrey and Sussex.
- [Here is a handbook to help pharmacy and GP practice staff](#) with the increase in uptake in eRD
 - [Here is more information about EPS phase 4](#)
 - **Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Trust is going-live with EPS in July 2020**
[SABP](#) will be the first mental health partnership trust in England to go-live and is planning to roll out EPSr2 starting with some young people and older adult services from the end of July 2020. The LPC is supportive of this work, as it will reduce the burden on pharmacies to provide emergency supplies for urgent prescriptions as a result of remote consultations during Covid. They will be using TPP SystemOne and are currently working with the LPC on business change processes and technical testing with some community pharmacies before go-live. Most patients will have nominations already and the Trust also have plans to use phase 4 functionality for non-nominated patients and /or 'one-off' nomination for an individual prescription functionality. A full roll out is likely to take 6-12 months, so pharmacies will still see paper FP10s

Views

- **Will your pharmacy team help demonstrate community pharmacy's value in the week commencing 29th June 2020?**
PSNC is urging all community pharmacy teams to take part in an audit to capture information about all of the advice you are giving to patients and local communities. [Watch PSNCs digital guide to the audit.](#)

Support

- **Diversity and risk assessing staff ***Requires immediate attention*****
NHS England has written to remind contractors that, "as part of their responsibilities", all relevant staff should be given risk assessments. There was added emphasis on those from a black, Asian or minority ethnic background. Read the letter and access useful resources on our website by going to our [A-Z and choosing 'D for Diversity and risk assessing staff'](#)
- **Providing stop smoking services in West Sussex remotely**
Hinal Patel, service development and support pharmacist says: "When prompted for a CO reading on PharmOutcomes just put 19 so you can progress through the template and record your data". Contact Tom.Howell@westsussex.gov.uk if you need support or have specific queries about providing this service. [Here](#) is the NCSCS guidance document.
- **Dexamethasone in the treatment of Covid-19**
Dexamethasone should be stopped on discharge from hospital and will need to be queried if you see it. Colleagues may see it if they are doing TCAM and MUR's, if not before. [Here](#) is the guidance letter
- **New on our website**
- TCAM: link to new video from PharmOutcomes about [Care Home Discharge Referrals](#)
 - [TCAM and the Discharge Medication Service](#) (CPSS briefing note June 2020)
 - P for PPE [CAS alert regarding the use of PPE during a heatwave.](#)

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- **Issue 35 is due in two weeks in the week beginning 14 July.** What would you like to see in your next newsletter? Tell us at jpc@communitypharmacyss.co.uk
- **Issue 1 of a *** NEW ***regular round-up with links to partners regular newsletters, press releases and assets will be distributed tomorrow (30 June)**
- **View [news archive](#)**

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