

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.



Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex
LPC News | week ending 12 March 2021

A note from Julia Powell Chief Executive, Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex

Hello. I'm extremely proud to be writing this as Community Pharmacy Surrey & Sussex new Chief Executive, having been appointed in December. As [I've said before](#) it's a great privilege to lead this organisation – one with a great track record and, despite these challenging times, a number of exciting activities in the pipeline or already underway (think GP CPCS, DMS, Surrey Care Records and more immediately C-19 vaccinations and Lateral Flow Testing).

Speaking of GP CPCS, we are receiving a number of enquiries, mostly about things we can't answer just now, but please do be reassured that there's a lot going on in the background with NHS England and CCGs about the logistics of local pathways and we, on behalf of your LPCs, are planning a number of activities from April 2021 to inform and help all contractors across Sussex and Surrey claim their £300 by the deadline in June.

I look forward to meeting many of you (the Government's roadmap out of COVID-19 optimistically suggests we may be able resume face-to-face meetings sometime in 2021) and I look forward to working with you all to ensure Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex continues to deliver value to all 520 contractors while representing them collectively and individually, locally, fairly and responsibly.

Easter is just a few weeks away and I hope you are able to plan some time off to enjoy the bank holidays.

Thank you for everything you do for pharmacy, your patients and your communities and, as ever please get in touch to let us know what you think – lpc@communitypharmacyssex.co.uk

Urgent

Nationally there is an increase in scams relating to the Covid-19 vaccine. All agencies, including your LPCs, are working together to remind people that:

- They will not be charged for the Covid-19 vaccine
- They do not need to give their bank details to verify their identity in order to book a vaccine
- If they are offered the vaccine via email, text or on the phone, they should check it's genuine before taking action

Many vulnerable people are isolated from family and friends who might usually look out for them, are generally less savvy to scams and might not necessarily fall under one of the Gov's key groups but will be eager to get the vaccine. Many will be regular visitors into community pharmacy and may share with you. Please will you all help stamp out this abhorrent behaviour by listening out for it and advising patients accordingly.

LPC news

LPCs step-up support to help contractors meet PQS deadline

Following an influx of last-minute enquiries and requests for support, CPSS on behalf of the LPCs arranged a number of measures to ensure as many contractors as possible were able to claim PQS points and funding before the deadline of 1 March 2021. Over 10 drop-in clinic appointments were made available along with a self-serve Q & A briefing, regularly updated website pages along with a last-minute ring around of over 20 contractors helped everyone who wanted to claim before the deadline. NHSBSA data tells us that nine contractors across Surrey and Sussex did not participate in PQS.

Discharge Medicine Service (DMS)

It's almost one month since DMS has been an essential requirement for pharmacies. Since then, we are delighted to report a lot of work behind-the-scenes and have received target dates for three remaining Trusts to go live with TCAM. Contractors in each of the catchment areas will be contacted nearer the time with details. In the meantime please read more about [TCAM](#) and CPSS briefing note from June 2020 called [TCAM and the Discharge Medication Service](#)

- BSUH (19 May 2021)
- Epsom and St Helier's (May 2021)
- SASH (June 2021)

Sussex LPCs and Sussex councils working together on c-19 testing

Last week we were trialling a Sussex wide symptom-free *Community Testing Programme* which aims to rapidly identify people who have Covid-19 but have no symptoms who could be passing it on to others without knowing. It's the first time all three top tier councils have worked together with pharmacy in this way. The trial was a success with the test group booking 258 appointments at 11 pharmacies. The number of pharmacies involved in the project is expected to rise steeply over the next two weeks. [Read more](#)

LPCs review their spending across Surrey and Sussex

At their February meetings all three LPCs revisited their budgets, noting reductions in expenditure made possible by [remote meetings](#) and continued savings from joint working under the banner of Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex. Members also reflected on several Levy holidays across all LPCs in the year to 31 March 2021, and the extremely challenging financial year for pharmacy contractors. Each LPC agreed to the following for the year ending 31 March 2022:

- **East Sussex:** a Levy reduction for one month in the next 12 months

- **Surrey:** details to be confirmed when business planning process has finished
- **West Sussex:** a Levy reduction of 5% for the next 12 months

**** New ** Easter communications resources from the LPCs**

The LPCs will be running a new Easter social media campaign from around 17 March to help manage everyone's expectations of community pharmacy over the Easter period. The activity encourages our [system partners](#) to include our key messages in their Easter wellbeing advice to their residents and their service users, as well as reminding patients directly of how to get the best from pharmacy over the bank holiday weekend. We will be providing partners with a social media toolkit, which contractors are urged to use too. The toolkit contains posts encouraging people to remember that not all pharmacies are open over the Easter weekend, to check they won't run out of medicines over the weekend, and more. Look out for a bespoke mailing about this next week.

Briefing local politicians on the pressures facing community pharmacies

New CEO, Julia Powell, and communications and engagement lead, Sandra Lamont, joined forces with PSNC earlier in the week to take South East MPs through a briefing on some fabulous work pharmacies are doing in their communities as well as highlighting financial and other pressures faced by contractors. After the briefing Sally-Ann Hart MP (Hastings and Rye) and a representative of Nus Ghani MP (Wealden) met separately with Julia and Sandra to discuss issues local to their constituencies.

Supporting pharmacies across Sussex and Surrey

Website helps with most contractor queries

We are delighted that traffic to our website is increasing every month, especially since we revised the structure and content 18 months ago to make it easier for you to access information you need to do your job. However, we are also experiencing an increase in telephone calls for information which is more quickly found on our website, usually in the A-Z. Please bookmark communitypharmacyss.co.uk to help you access local information quickly.

Community Pharmacist Prescriber Telegram Group

Sunil Kochhar is mentoring and coaching Community Pharmacist Prescribers in methods to integrate prescribing in their day to day working practice. The group is an open and safe space to network and get support. The aim of the group is to work together and build competences and confidence in prescribing. Sunil wants to create a network and is fighting for a formal training platform for prescribing pharmacists in a community pharmacy setting. Currently there isn't any formal platform available to help us use prescribing skills in community pharmacy. If you are a Community Pharmacist Prescriber and want to join this group, please email sunil.kochhar@nhs.net. Please note you will need to download and set up telegram to be part of the group: <https://telegram.org/>

New on communitypharmacyss.co.uk this month

- **D for Domestic Abuse:** following the launch of the 'Ask for ANI' codeword scheme that allows survivors of domestic abuse to access support from the safety of a local pharmacy we have collated contact details for domestic abuse services across Surrey and Sussex and have linked to Government materials for you to share with staff to ensure they are trained to respond.
- [CPPE training brochure for Spring-Summer 2021](#). How to find this file in the future. Choose Training and development from the tabs on the front page >> scroll to Training by Provider and choose CPPE from the list.

You are invited

Health Champions Training ****FREE****

Your LPCs are working with neighbouring LPCs, Health Education England (HEE) South East Schools of Public Health and the HEE South School of Pharmacy to offer fully funded Health Champion training to Community Pharmacies across the South East. Over 194 places are available to book now. Book [here](#) – one space per contractor.

And finally ...



Thank you and wishing you all the best Hinal. You will be missed at the LPCs, but we know you will be a huge asset to our colleagues at KSS AHSN.

Service development and support pharmacist, Hinal Patel, is starting the next part of her pharmacy career in April after securing a new role with [Kent Surrey and Sussex Academic Health Network](#) (KSS AHSN). Hinal has been with Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex for just over three years, after coming to the LPCs as an outpatient's pharmacy manager. She is set to start her new position after Easter. In the meantime, a search is getting underway for a replacement and a role will be advertised soon.

Support | Develop | Promote | Deliver

You are receiving this email because you have previously supplied contact details to us asking us to add you to our mailing list. You must tell us if you would like to unsubscribe from our mailing list. [See our website](#) for more information about our privacy practices, including a copy of our privacy policy.

Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex, The White House, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8BB

Communitypharmacyss.co.uk | [@CPSS_LPCs](#)

