

This LPC newsletter is for community pharmacy contractors, managers and team members in Surrey and Sussex. It contains local information and local news items, local diary dates and other local topics to help effectively manage NHS and locally commissioned contracts.

Visit our [Newsletter page](#) for an archive of previous issues. [Sign up to PSNC](#) to receive nationally significant news and guidance on national contracts.



Happy New Year. We hope 2022 will be a good year for you all!

LPC News

Opiate Substitution Therapy prescriptions from Surrey and Borders Partnership (SABP)

SABP have been monitoring the cost and use of buprenorphine preparations, and from January **newly started** (or re-started) people under their care will be prescribed generic buprenorphine sublingual tablets, rather than the branded Subutex® tablets. Please do

not hesitate to contact the Drug and Alcohol Service leads if you have any questions around this change.

PhAS Review applications window open now

[The details](#) about the revised Pharmacy Access Scheme (PhAS) for 2022 were published earlier in 2021. Community pharmacy contractors also received one or more letters in Autumn 2021 from the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) which indicated whether a contractor's pharmacy/ies would:

- remain eligible for PhAS, with details of payment, or
- become eligible for PhAS with details of payment, or
- not, or no longer, be eligible for PhAS, (such a decision is usually based on distance calculation* or dispensing volume)

At the start of PhAS 2022, a review process allows NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I) to consider extenuating circumstances which may mean that patient access is not being protected in the way intended by the scheme. The review is based on contractor application.

The review application window for contractors is between **January 4th 2022 and midnight on 4th February 2022**. Those contractors with pharmacies that would have been eligible for PhAS but for the distance criteria/calculation, and so who may want to request a review, were informed of this in the Autumn letters.

[PhAS 2022 to start soon and review application window to open in January : PSNC Main site](#)

Local Services

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments (PNA) Community Pharmacy Consultation

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments (PNA) are a statutory obligation of Health and Wellbeing Boards. They are undertaken to inform NHS England about the entry of new pharmacies in an area and the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population. Local authorities are required to carry out a PNA every three years. This has been

delayed by the pandemic, meaning that the last one was carried out in 2017.

All four localities – East Sussex, West Sussex, Brighton & Hove and Surrey will be sending out the pharmacy contractor questionnaires over the next couple of months. To make sure the local authorities know what services your pharmacy provides and your views for future provision please complete this survey.

East Sussex PNA Community Pharmacy Survey – out now

This has been sent separately to all pharmacy contractors. Please complete the survey as soon as possible. The local authority would like to hear from every pharmacy that provides services in the county. Please click here to go the survey

<https://consultation.eastsussex.gov.uk/public-health/c0c3e83f/>

Training

Pharmacy Integration Programme education and training future developments

Following the announcement of further investment in pharmacist and pharmacy technician professional development last month, please click [here](#) for more information about emerging offers and how Health Education England plan to work with their partners.

Newsletters

To read the latest edition of the National PPE Acute and Primary Care Customer Insight Newsletter click [here](#).

To read the latest edition of the NHS E&I Primary Care Bulletin click [here](#).

Additionally you might be interested in.....

Surrey Information Point Website

Surrey County Council are running a campaign to raise awareness and encourage residents to visit the [Surrey Information Point website](#), a directory of services about care and support options that can help residents self-serve and stay independent. The website includes a vast amount of useful information and details of local trusted networks and organisations to help residents live healthy, happy and independent lives. They are targeting residents who would benefit from the services and support listed on the website such as older people (65+), people with disabilities, carers and 'care arrangers' such as friends and family. Please see the link [here](#) to the communication toolkit to help find support.

Review Steering Group January engagement events

We would like to remind you that the RSG is planning to hold three engagement events in January 2022. During these events, attendees will hear from RSG members and the programme team, who will update them about the group's work, the draft proposals for change, what these mean for contractors and the next stages of the process. These events are open to everyone with an interest in the sector, and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and give feedback. You can register for your preferred event below.

[Wednesday 26th Jan 2022 7pm – 8.30pm](#)

[Thursday 27th Jan 2022 1pm – 2pm](#)

[Friday 28th Jan 2022 11am – 12.30pm](#)

Medicines Safety when dispensing liquids

Prescribing of liquids is complex; even more so when different strengths are available. Liquids may be used when prescribing for people with difficulty swallowing tablets and children who are already vulnerable population groups. Confusion can arise when different strengths are prescribed or dispensed and when calculating the volume required.

Ideally when dispensing:

- Remind the patient/parent/carer of the dosing requirements and risks of potentially fatal overdose if they take more than has been directed.
- Ensure the dose is clearly documented on the label in both mass and volume.
- Provide patient information leaflets (PILs).
- Check that all the necessary monitoring requirements for the medicine are being adhered to.
- Take every opportunity to counsel the patient/parent/carer to support the safe use of the medicine.
- Not every prescription will contain information on the strength, mass and volume of medicine required so communication with specialist, GPs and patients/parents/carers will be necessary and information feedback as required.
- Care must be taken to choose the correct product and calculate the volume of medicine required to ensure the required dose is achieved. A double check is recommended.

The latest instalment of the Better Health campaign

On Tuesday 4th January, the Department of Health and Social Care launched the latest instalment of the Better Health campaign to encourage adults across the nation to lose excess weight, eat more healthily and get active as we begin the new year.

One You Surrey's free Adult Weight Management programmes include Slimming World, MAN v FAT Football, new digital weight loss programme MAN v FAT Challenge and remote tier 2 group support. Residents also have access to new digital weight management platform Gloji, allowing them to have high quality support at their fingertips, any time of the day.

We are also supporting the Better Health Smoke Free campaign to encourage smokers to make a quit attempt this January.

One You Surrey have created an asset pack for you to use on your social media to support the campaign. It contains posts and images for you to copy and paste to your social media platforms. You can access the asset pack and additional One You Surrey resources via their secure Google Drive by [clicking here](#).



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Community Pharmacy Surrey and Sussex

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