

## Newsletter – October 2023

In this update: Welcome & Committee Spotlight, News, Training, Events & Communications

### Welcome to the Community Pharmacy Thames Valley Newsletter



A warm welcome to Community Pharmacy Thames Valley (CPTV). The LPC formed on 1st July 2023 as the result of a merger between Buckinghamshire and Thames Valley (Berkshire & Oxfordshire) LPCs. We represent 331 Community Pharmacy Contractors in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire on all matters relating to community pharmacy, including Essential Services, Advanced Services, Locally Commissioned Services and applications for new contracts. Find out more about us on our website:

[cptv.org.uk](http://cptv.org.uk)



### Committee Spotlight – James Famakin

In each edition of the newsletter, we feature a member of the committee. This month we are pleased to introduce James Famakin. James is our Vice Chair and Managing Director and Superintendent Pharmacist of an independent pharmacy in Oxfordshire. He graduated with a Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) degree in 1995 and an MSc in Pharmacology in 2002, and gained his supplementary and independent pharmacy prescribing qualification from the University of Derby in 2007. He also graduated with an LLB degree from the University of Buckingham in 2015 and an LLM in Commercial and International Laws from Oxford Brookes University in 2017.

A member of Royal Pharmaceutical Society, James has over 20 years' experience in community pharmacy in the UK, including managerial positions with former Sainsburys and Lloyds Pharmacies, and locum positions at Boots, Superdrug, and many other community pharmacies. Prior to his UK practice, he was a registered and practising pharmacist in Nigeria, South Africa and the United States, working in both hospital and retail pharmacy settings. James is very passionate about ensuring community pharmacies are well recognised and fully integrated into primary care.

Outside of work, James has recently been re-elected as councillor for Faringdon Parish Council, a post he has held for over 6 years. He enjoys watching movies and football, and is an ardent Arsenal supporter.



## Pharmacy Vision

Community Pharmacy England commissioned Nuffield Trust and The King's Fund to set out a vision to transform community pharmacies over the next decade. If the vision becomes a reality, patients and the public of the future will have access to more advice and help from their local pharmacies than ever before. All pharmacies will offer all the following and more:

- Access to, and support getting the most out of, medicines;
- Help with common illnesses, such as urinary tract infections and hayfever;
- Prescriptions for certain conditions (independent prescribing);
- Advice and support on smoking cessation and weight management;
- Targeted health checks, such as blood pressure and cholesterol tests;
- Support in managing long-term conditions such as asthma and diabetes;
- Support to optimise medicines regimens;
- A wider range of vaccinations and other public health services.

The report advises that to improve health outcomes, increase safety, and deliver better value for the public and NHS, community pharmacies must be empowered to take on this expanded role. They need a sustainable funding package, to be fully included in NHS workforce planning, and they must embrace a culture of ongoing improvement.

[Find out more about the vision, and how it could be delivered, here](#)

## Pharmacy Show

For all that pharmacy demands

## Pharmacy Show 2023

Our Chief Officer, David Dean, visited this year's Pharmacy Show and provided this update: "I tend to visit the Pharmacy Show at the NEC every couple of years to help me, and the LPC, understand the key opportunities available to contractors over the coming months. In previous years I witnessed a plethora of vaping products and, the last time I attended, CBD was seen as the saviour of community pharmacy. This year seemed different, with the focus firmly on compensating for the funding shortfall in areas such as:

- Automation (extensive technology to improve the efficiencies around dispensing);
- Advanced PMR software – giving pharmacists "time back" by improving the process of checking scripts as they come in;
- Private services – all sorts of displays around Private GP services, Travel clinics, etc;
- Workforce – improved access to locums and an increased focus on developing the pharmacists and technicians of the future.

I would be interested in your views, drop me a line: [chiefofficer@cptv.org.uk](mailto:chiefofficer@cptv.org.uk)"



## 2023/24 Vaccination Campaigns

This year we have had a fantastic start to our winter vaccination campaigns. Community Pharmacy has delivered over 100,000 flu vaccines across the Thames Valley LPC area, with 21 pharmacies having already vaccinated over 1,000 patients. Thank you to everyone that has participated (over 85% of pharmacies), especially those helping patients with current health issues. Please pay particular attention to unpaid carers looking after immunosuppressed family or friends as these are often overlooked by their GP as this information doesn't form part of their medical record.

Thanks also go to the 110 pharmacies across our area that are participating in the COVID vaccination program, this is testament to community pharmacy's commitment to our communities.



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## LPC Representatives Conference

Our Chief Officer, David Dean, reported back from this year's LPC Conference: "I was delighted to be able to attend this year's CPE Conference for LPCs in London and was also joined by Robert Brashaw (LPC Chair), Ian Dunphy (LPC Treasurer) and Kevin Barnes (CSO). With over 140 attendees – this was the first fully face-to-face LPC Conference since before the pandemic.

After initial introductions, we were treated to a great presentation from Professor Claire Fuller, the author of the recent [Fuller Stocktake Report](#), who outlined her wish for great collaboration across healthcare sectors and a move away from PCNs into neighbourhood working. This was followed by several discussions and presentations around the recent Vision for Community Pharmacy that was put together by the Kings Fund and The Nuffield Trust (see above) which highlighted the need for ICS's to find better representation for LPCs at both Board and Place level.

After lunch and networking, we were taken through various governance changes for LPCs, which I'm pleased to report our LPC have already adopted. This was followed by a very good Q&A session with the head of NHS Digital, in which many challenges were made on improving current pathways and access for LPCs to more granular data. The final session came from CPE CEO Janet Morrison, who provided an update on negotiations around the new £645m funding and recapping the main points of the day.

Thanks to the team at CPE for organising and I look forward to next year's event, hopefully with more committee members being able to attend."



## New Contracts FAQ

Recent market changes have meant a number of new contractors joining or expanding across the Thames Valley area. Below are answers to some of the common questions new contractors have:

### How can I set up my NHS Shared Email Account?

To obtain a shared NHSmail account for your pharmacy, go to the community pharmacy NHSmail registration portal at:

<https://portal.nhs.net/pharmacyregistration#/> If you are having technical difficulties contact [pharmacyadmin@nhs.net](mailto:pharmacyadmin@nhs.net)

### How can I set up/update the NHS Profile for my pharmacy?

You can sign in (or register, using your personal NHS email address), at: <https://www.nhs.uk/our-policies/profile-editor-login/>

### Who can I contact about Smart Cards?

To obtain Smart Cards or for Smart Card issues, contact the Registration Authority Team on: [scwcsu.smartcards@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.smartcards@nhs.net)

### Who do I contact about Clinical Waste Management?

Anenta undertake all management of pharmaceutical waste on behalf of all community pharmacies in the Thames Valley. See: <https://cptv.org.uk/contractorfaqs/clinical-waste-services-for-pharmacies/>

### How do I contact the NHS Local Area Team?

All queries regarding the NHS Contract should be emailed to: [england.southeastcommunitypharmacy@nhs.net](mailto:england.southeastcommunitypharmacy@nhs.net)

### Where can I find out about Locally Commissioned Services?

Details of currently commissioned services, including service specifications, PGDs, etc are available on our website at: <https://cptv.org.uk/commissioned-services/>

### How do I arrange for Controlled Drug (CD) Destruction?

NHS England now manages requests for CD destruction and other CD management via the CD Reporting website at: [www.cdreporting.co.uk](http://www.cdreporting.co.uk)

### Where can I find out about Local Events?

We run regular contractor events and information on these, as well as other local events can be found at: <https://cptv.org.uk/our-events/>



## Healthwatch Buckinghamshire

The team at Healthwatch Buckinghamshire recently published a report on the role of community pharmacy in primary care. This followed up their work in 2017 which looked at what people knew about the services offered by their community pharmacy, which services they used and, just as importantly, why they might not use them. The new report investigated whether people were more aware of the services that are available five years later and following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Their key findings were that just over three quarters of respondents were aware of the services community pharmacy provide, compared to around half in 2017. They found that those under 56 years of age, and those who identified as an ethnicity other than White British, were less aware of the range of services that could be offered at a pharmacy than their counterparts. The report recommends BOB ICB and Buckinghamshire Local Authority work with the LPC to raise awareness of services, encourage more use of healthy living services in pharmacies, and enable patients feedback.

To find out more about the methodology and recommendations, and to read the report in full [click here](#).

## Training, Events & Communications



### CPPE Workshops

The CPPE training calendar to December 2023 has been released which includes:

- New topics on Atrial Fibrillation and Deprescribing
- A face-to-face session on Inhaler Technique in Reading on 9th November.
- Online evening workshops including Type 2 Diabetes, Familial Hypercholesterolaemia, Supporting People Living with Frailty, Hypertension, COPD, Falls Prevention, NHS CPCS, Opioid deprescribing in chronic pain, Mental Capacity Act and covert administration of medicines, Health Inequalities, and EHC.

For full details and booking links [click here](#).



### Virtual Outcomes Online Pharmacy Training

All CPTV pharmacies have access to Virtual Outcomes. This is a suite of short (approx. 15 minute) online training courses and podcasts on a variety of subjects including Atopic Eczema, IBD, Adrenaline Auto Injectors, Menopause and Atrial Fibrillation. To access your training modules, simply log in using your pharmacy ODS code. [Click here](#)



## Current Training Offer

In addition to the CPPE and Virtual Outcomes training above, the following NHS-funded schemes are also currently open for registration:

- **Clinical Examination Skills Training** – NHS funded clinical skills training specifically aimed at Community Pharmacy, including specialist modules in cardiology, paediatrics, ENT or dermatology. [Click here.](#)
- **Let's Talk About Vaccines** – BOB ICB are offering these 2.5hr interactive online training sessions to healthcare staff across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West to help build confidence, skills and knowledge to open up discussions with patients about vaccination decisions. For details, [click here.](#)
- **Educational Supervisor Training** – the NHS are offering fully-funded training for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians wishing to supervise colleagues in community pharmacies, including Designated Supervisors (DSs), Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacy Technician education supervisors and Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs). [Click here.](#)
- **Preparing to train as an Independent Prescriber (IP)** – this new CPPE programme aims to help pharmacists prepare and apply for IP training by helping them: understand what it means to be a prescriber, choose a course, demonstrate relevant knowledge and skills, and plan for the study and supervised practice requirements of the course. [Click here.](#)
- **Accuracy Checking Pharmacy Technician Programme** – NHS England has funded CPPE to offer the Accuracy Checking Pharmacy Technician (ACPT) programme for pharmacy technicians, including those in community pharmacy. A total of 60 places are available and funding will end when all 60 places have been allocated, or by the end of March 2024. [Click here.](#)
- **Community Pharmacy Technician: Advancing your Role** – this new NHS England fully-funded training programme will help pharmacy technicians develop the skills and confidence to deliver effective clinical services in community pharmacy. 840 pharmacy technicians places are available. To find out more visit the [CPPE website.](#)

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We are here to support all CPTV contractors and pharmacy teams. We would greatly appreciate any feedback and if there is anything you would like raised at our next committee meeting, please do let us know on [office@cptv.org.uk](mailto:office@cptv.org.uk).