

Community Pharmacy Thames Valley Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 8th July 2026
Holiday Inn, High Wycombe

Minutes

Item	Agenda Item
1	Welcome Apologies and Introductions Present: Ian Dunphy (Chair), James Famakin (Vice Chair), Taofik Shodunke (Treasurer), Alex Stacey, Vikash Patel, Danielle Brennan, David Dean (Chief Officer), Kevin Barnes (CSO), Lorna Girling (Minutes). Apologies: Helen Egan, Corrin McParland, Khal Khaliq, Vikash Patel Vistors: Caroline Martinez (Thames Valley ICB), Bobby Pozzoni-Child (Bucks Primary Care)
2	Declarations of Interests None
3	Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting Approved.
4	Action Log Reviewed and updated • Early-careers funding – Additional funding available; consider IP/DPP training and CPE-commissioned workshops. • HepB vaccination reminder – Contractors to be reminded that HepB vaccination is required for delivering MenB and autumn/winter vaccination services (include in Digest). • Vaccination training sessions – Approx. £25k remains; Corrinne's session published. Further half-day sessions (late Aug/early Sept, incl. weekends) being explored. VP, KK and ID to update on venue availability at next meeting. • BHF screening bid – Diabetes and AF screening funding application submitted. • Oxfordshire research grant – Applied for digital pathways research funding. • ABPM training – DD to meet Claire and report back. • DMS – GW to share DMS presentation with the committee.
6	Chair Update • LPC Chairs' meeting – ID attended the Houses of Parliament session, which provided valuable access to MPs. Steven Kinnock MP attended and offered positive discussion on pharmacy priorities, including IP rollout and future pathways. During the session clinical topics such as obesity, injectable treatments and oral medicines were discussed. The overall attendance was reasonable, however, due to the impending General Election MP attendance was limited, but overall feedback was strong progress and it is moving in a

	positive direction.
7	Treasurer update TS shared latest financial papers to end June and ran through the budget – see attached. • Draft financial report will be circulated prior to publication. • Levy and non-levy income will be reported separately going forward. • Training income will be held in dedicated accounts for clearer tracking.
8	Chief Officer update See presentation slides • PCPC roles – Oxfordshire funding confirmed and representation discussions are ongoing. Berks West non-voting seat has now been selected. • Neighbourhood leads – No funding available; lack of local representation continues to be highlighted. • SECPA bid – Bid submitted for BHF supported Diabetes and AF screening. • MenB programme – Update provided – useful resources will be published in the Digest and on CPTV website. • Market entry – Current activity reviewed. • RBH outpatient dispensing – Trust reviewing future model; approx. 114,000 items may move to community pharmacy. Joint working group established. • Barts POCT – This service was discussed and members are advised to proceed cautiously regarding payment structure. • Pharmacy & GP Show – DD and KB attended. • CPE constitution changes – National changes progressing; elections expected March expected to be largely administrative. • COVID antiviral service – Service now operational with eight pharmacies delivering routine provision and three providing on-call cover.
9	Contractor Services Officer Update See presentation slides • National comparison – KB summarised national averages using CCA data. • Contraception initiation – Discussion held on improving initiation performance; DD will explore face-to-face training and seek ICB support. GW will share QR codes for Pharmacy First and contraception resources. • Needle Exchange Service – OP reported a 9-month delay in back payments. KB requested details and will assist in resolving the issue.
10	CPE Update See CPE presentation New Contract slides

	• Pharmacy First - referrals remain low where GP practices are not directing patients; pharmacies promoting PF risk losing cost recovery for advertising. OP advised that NPA has partnered to support digital marketing for members. • CPCG Conference - update from the CPCG conference noted, including GP Practice Bypass data. • NHS App signposting discussed: weekly PF QR codes; GW to share details from the presentation and contraception section. • Ongoing concerns raised around margin redistribution, missed margin delivery, and hub-and-spoke impacts. • NHS 111 referrals - recent outage prevented referrals; email used as a temporary workaround. Gary/Optum confirmed the issue is now resolved. Contractors should log help desk tickets if problems continue • Hypertension – BP follow-up work remains challenging; positive discussions are not yet translating into operational change. • MenB highlighted as a major focus. • Pharmacy Access Scheme - update on the Pharmacy Access Scheme, including establishment payments and medicines coverage. • CPE constitution changes in September to improve proportional balance.
	NPA Update • Pharmacy & GP Show – June event well attended despite being held on Father’s Day; ongoing need to increase engagement. Dr Adrian Hater (NICE) identified as a useful LPC ally with good connections. • Conference programme – COGORA/NPA planning three further conferences; next major event scheduled for June 2027. • International comparison work – Jill Loader (ex-NHSE) is carrying out research on benchmarking UK community pharmacy models against other countries; findings to be presented to all LPCs. • Contract reform – NPA developing a reform agenda alongside IPA and CCA; differing business models noted as a challenge. • Independent Prescribing – IP rollout progressing slowly; NPA advocating national commissioning and preparing support/training for qualified IPs. • Integration Conference – NPA contributing to neighbourhood model consultations and planning an integration conference to help strengthen GP–pharmacy collaboration. IPA Update • Parliamentary event in June focused on business rates, medicine supply challenges, and dispensing at a loss • Membership now includes traditional groups and smaller chains (2+ pharmacies). CCA Update • No further update
11	Engagement session Committee individually gave a short review of the challenges they are facing as a community pharmacy contractors.

	• Referral challenges — OP reported ongoing lack of GP referrals into Pharmacy First despite repeated escalation, causing frustration and limiting collaborative working. Raised concerns about IP–GP integration and has offered to speak directly with local GPs. Committee noted these challenges are common across contractors. Staffing pressures continue. • MenB and GPs — DB highlighted issues with GP perceptions of pharmacy capability in relation to MenB activity. • Local pressures — AS described changes in Maidenhead town centre driving increased workload due to closures. Boots investing in a regional hub. Care home market becoming highly competitive and labour-intensive, especially where blister packs are requested. Ongoing staff retention challenges. • Clinic model & IP pathways — ID outlined a clinic-based model run by pharmacists/technicians adopting GP-style triage, filtering patients via IP pathways. BP-C noted this as a strong integration example and requested deeper exploration; asked for further evidence to support wider neighbourhood adoption. • Blister pack provision & inequalities — TS invested in blister-pack machinery to meet needs in a highly deprived area. Operating at a loss due to free delivery and blister provision. BP-C requested evidence to support an inequalities-focused evaluation. TS funding minor ailments privately and wishes to raise this formally, TS to contact CM at the ICB. discussion also covered GP delisting - BP-C to share LMC paper with DD. • Workforce & IP supervision — JF reported a 50/50 NHS/private model with insufficient staffing funding. ABPM and DPP site challenges noted; CM running teach-and-treat sessions and requires an additional site (JF to liaise). DD suggested creating a register/portal for IPs seeking DPP support.
12	Thames Valley ICB Update - Caroline Martinez See presentation slides • ICB formation & roles — Overview of the organisational merge and distribution of roles within the new NHS Thames Valley ICB. East Berkshire Integration — Slough, Bracknell Forest and Windsor now part of Thames Valley; teams adjusting to new “one place” working amid differing identities and population needs. (see presentation slides). • ICB Neighbourhood working overview – targeted resources for areas are required. • PCAP update — CM to ask Julie for an updated PCAP to share with DD. DD reiterated that messaging must emphasise digital referral to Pharmacy First (not signposting), in line with contract requirements and safeguarding/audit needs. CM will take this back to the ICB; LMC concerns about “double work” noted. • DMS — Engagement and support discussed; a reset planned for September with the new lead. • Independent Prescribing — Brief update provided (no major changes reported). • Contraception service – Service aligned to PMOS; practices completing action plans; communication tools from Frimley not yet cascaded.

13	PCPC Update: Bucks Primary Care – Bobby Pozzoni-Childs Provided an overview of how Bucks Primary Care operates, focusing on collaborative working with GPs and wider sector integration. • Bucks Primary Care — department works collaboratively with GPs and wider primary care sectors. Led by Bobby Pozzoni-Childs (non-clinical integrator) and Dr George Gabriel (GP, ICB Primary Care Board). BP-C moved from GP Provider Alliance to Bucks Primary Care, now including LPC, LDC, LOC, LMC, PCNs and GP Federation. • Purpose and function — brings together primary care pillars; represents them in system forums; triages pharmacy-specific vs cross-cutting issues; aligns stakeholders, smooths operational interfaces and supports neighbourhood development under the National Health Neighbourhood Implementation Programme.
	AOB • Next meeting will include AGM on 23rd September, Holiday Inn, High Wycombe.

Next Meeting – 23 September 2026 – 10am-4pm – Holiday Inn, High Wycombe

Forthcoming LPC Meetings 2026
25 November 2026 – 10am-4pm – Holiday Inn, High Wycombe