

# Minutes of the LPC and Contractor Support Subcommittee

**Date:** Wednesday 25th June 2025

**Start time:** 4:15pm

**Location:** Hard Days Night Hotel, Liverpool

**Members of LCS present:** Ifti Khan (Chair), Sami Hanna (Vice Chair), Jay Patel, Sian Retallick.

**In attendance:** Alastair Buxton, Phil Day, Mike Dent, Lindsey Fairbrother, George Foote, Jas Heer, Gordon Hockey, Tricia Kennerley, Clare Kerr, Melinda Mabbutt, Fin McCaul, Has Modi, Janet Morrison, Prakash Patel, Adrian Price, Anil Sharma, Ian Strachan, Roise Taylor, Stephen Thomas, Katrina Worthington.

**LPC observers:** Mubasher Ali, Louise Gatley, James Glover, Matt Harvey, Adam Irvine, Helen Murphy, Dane Stratton-Powell.

**Apologies:** James Wood, Niamh McMillan, Beran Patel, Janice Perkins.

**Conflicts of interest:** No new or updated conflicts of interest were raised.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes from the last meeting held on Wednesday 30th April 2025 were approved.

**Actions and Matters arising:** The actions from the last meeting had been completed or otherwise will be carried over.

## Item 1: Regional LPC and pharmacy events

- 1.1 Alastair Buxton gave an update as to progress with these events. Each region will have an LPC focussed regional meeting in the afternoon, followed by a pharmacy owner event in the evening. The subcommittee were pleased to see the shift to a more interactive and workshop-based style for this year, which will help pick out diverging views. Those views will then be brought back to the Committee to digest ahead of negotiations.
- 1.2 Whilst recognising the burden on the team, it was noted that the LPC discussions gave very good value last year and that this is pharmacy owners' chance to get involved and feed into what Community Pharmacy England takes into negotiations. It was suggested

that planning for next year's events begins as early as possible and takes into account that July is perhaps not the most optimal timing.

**ACTION: Continue to promote these events, including reminding LPCs of the resources available for them to assist with promotion.**

## **Item 2: Conference of LPC Representatives – November 2025**

- 2.1 Planning is underway for this year's LPC Conference on 25th November, taking place at The Royal Horse Guards Hotel. A working group of LPCs is being formed to help shape the agenda and content.
- 2.2 It was noted that table discussions are a really beneficial part of the day. There were varying views on the amount of time dedicated to the 'soapbox' items, although recognising the importance of being able to cover very topical items that may only arise on the day itself.

**ACTION: Begin identifying conference agenda topics and potential speakers, including inviting the Minister with responsibility for pharmacy.**

## **Item 3: LPC Constitution and consultation**

- 3.1 Gordon Hockey gave an update on the ongoing consultation with views being sought from LPCs. The deadline has been extended to the end of the month to give more time for committees to respond.
- 3.2 There is no current consensus on the proposals, but the range of opinions coming through from LPCs broadly reflect the respective views of the three main trade bodies. It was noted that some of the comments didn't directly address the proposals.
- 3.3 Independent governance expert Victoria Finney has been commissioned to analyse and report back on all the feedback received, recommending the next course of action. She will submit her independent report to the Committee in due course.

## **Item 4: LPC support team**

- 4.1 It was noted that there was considerable interest in the new role of LPC Support and Engagement Manager, with over 40 applicants. Interviews are currently being conducted with the expectation that an appointment will be made in the next few weeks.

## **Item 5: Forum of LPC Chairs**

- 5.1 George Foote reported back on the recent meeting of the Forum of LPC Chairs in the Houses of Parliament, held on 18th June 2025.

- 5.3 It was noted that the event was a success, with 38 Chairs (or Vice Chairs) attending, and 35 MPs joining the drop-in session at the end. Regional Representatives shared very positive feedback from Chairs in their localities.

#### **Item 6: Any other business**

- 6.1 The Community Pharmacy England team will continue in its approach to LPC AGMs – providing a video update, helping to manage capacity during the busy autumn period.