



## Minutes of the Service Development Subcommittee meeting held on 4th February 2026 at Hosier Lane, commencing at 2pm

**Present:** Fin McCaul (Chair), Prakash Patel, Sami Hanna and Phil Day.

**In attendance:** Alastair Buxton, Rosie Taylor, David Onuoha, Vicki Roberts, Mayank Patel, Jas Heer and Sian Retallick.

**LPC members in attendance:** Ben Eaton and Tania Cork.

### Item 1 – Welcome from Chair

1.1 The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

### Item 2 – Apologies for absence

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Beran Patel, Faisal Tuddy and Jay Patel.

### Item 3 – Conflicts or declarations of interest

3.1 No new conflicts or declarations of interest were raised.

### Item 4 – Minutes of the November meeting and matters arising

4.1 The minutes of the subcommittee meeting held on 19th November 2025 were approved.

### Item 5 – Final review of progress against the 2025/26 Workplan

5.1 Alastair Buxton highlighted that this was the last report on the 2025/26 Workplan. However, many of the items have mapped across to the plan for the following year, due to them still being items that are priority areas of work.

5.2 The subcommittee was content with the progress made against the workplan for 2025/26.

### Item 6 – Draft 2026/27 Workplan for the subcommittee

6.1 Alastair Buxton advised that the draft workplan for 2026/27 is derived from the overall Community Pharmacy England workplan which will be considered tomorrow; the SDS workplan pulls out the elements that are relevant to services.



6.2 There were no additional comments on the workplan and the subcommittee was content with it. However, there were discussions on some of the elements; the following points were noted:

- A discussion was had on NHS England's vaccination strategy and how much of the strategy had been delivered.
- A discussion was had on the request to NHS England to expand the eligible cohorts for the Childhood Flu Vaccination Service to allow a 'mop-up' service and to support increased rates ahead of Christmas. As stated in the SDS agenda paper, NHS England had responded to say that UKHSA would not be able to amend the PGD before Christmas.
- Positive comments were made by Prakash on the local Independent Prescribing service that had been commissioned in North East London and the desire for this to continue.

### **Item 7 – Progress with CPCF 2025/26 service changes and PQS implementation**

- 7.1 The subcommittee noted the progress with the CPCF 2024/25 and 2025/26 service changes and the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS).
- 7.2 The subcommittee was briefed on confidential discussions ongoing with NHS England on the updating of the Hypertension Case-Finding service specification and provided feedback on the latest proposed updates.

### **Item 8 – Update on work to support locally commissioned services**

8.1 Vicki provided a summary of the work undertaken since the last subcommittee meeting on neighbourhood health and integrated neighbourhood teams, including editable PowerPoint slides and a flyer on 'Community pharmacy: A unified partner in neighbourhood care' which would shortly be shared with LPCs for local use. A discussion followed highlighting the challenges that LPCs are facing with regards to capacity, engagement and approach. Points made included:

- It is important to showcase what pharmacy is and is not to the leadership of neighbourhood teams. We should not assume people know what pharmacy does; we need to shout more loudly about what we currently offer.
- The PowerPoint slides and flyer could be modified so pharmacy owners could use

these as well. Subcommittee members thought the flyer would be particularly valuable to the LPCs.

- The power of patient stories (how pharmacies have helped people) was highlighted and should be explored further as another tool to showcase what pharmacy does.
- Our commissioner focused animations may also be useful to use with neighbourhood team leaders.
- Sharing ideas and good practice amongst LPCs, as is currently being done through the webinars was welcomed.

8.2 Vicki provided a summary of the work highlighted in the agenda paper on HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis. She also advised that she and Alastair had attended a round table event last Friday to discuss the Terence Higgins Trust policy options report for widening PrEP access in England through making it available from community pharmacies.

8.3 At the event it was identified that the main issue is availability of PrEP medicines to community pharmacies and the Drug Tariff prices versus NHS commissioning framework prices.

8.4 There was agreement at the round table event that any service would likely need to be locally commissioned and from a small number of pharmacies per local authority area, based on local need.

8.5 The subcommittee was content with the proposed 2026 local services development priorities; additional options suggested for consideration by a committee member, who was not present at the meeting, will be reviewed.

### **Item 9 – Recommissioning the COVID-19 LFD supply service**

9.1 Alastair Buxton highlighted that the COVID-19 Lateral Flow Device (LFD) service is currently commissioned until 31st March 2026. NHS England has advised that they would like to continue to commission the service. The NT discussed this at its last meeting and agreed that we would seek an inflationary increase in the service fee for the service; this has been requested and we are waiting for a response from NHS England.

9.2 A question was raised about the price at which pharmacy owners can source LFD tests for. Alastair said if pharmacy owners are unable to source one box of 5 LFD tests at or below the Drug Tariff price, this should be raised with the Dispensing and Supply Team.



- 9.3 The question was asked as to how long the service will continue to be commissioned for; Alastair advised that NHS England is proposing it is commissioned for another year (until 31st March 2027) and the expectation is that this will continue to be re-negotiated on an annual basis if there continues to be a need for the LFD test kits to be supplied under an NHS service.

#### **Item 10 – Update on Vaccination services**

- 10.1 This was a matter of report.

#### **Item 11 – Update on independent prescribing**

- 11.1 This was a matter of report.

#### **Item 12 – Miscellaneous matters of report**

- 12.1 This was a matter of report.

#### **Item 13 – Any other business**

- 13.1 There was no other business.