November 2026

# Briefing: 026/26: Guide to the Community Pharmacy England 10+ (non-CCA) Multiple Pharmacy Owner Election

Community Pharmacy England (CPE) is preparing for the (non-CCA) 10+ Multiple Pharmacy election, as the terms of office for all CPE members expire on 31st March 2027. The election process starts in January 2027.

This briefing outlines the election process and actions required for those seeking to stand for the election.

CPE's membership will consist of its Chair (who may or may not be a registered pharmacist) together with 26 registered pharmacists from England, 3 of whom are (non-CCA) Multiple pharmacy owners (Multiples) elected as such in accordance with CPE rules. The term of office for all members of CPE is four years.

In addition to the three elected places available to representatives of 10+ multiple pharmacy owners on the Community Pharmacy England Committee, the Independent Pharmacies Association (IPA) has appointment rights to two multiple places. IPA member businesses interested in these positions (including IPA members with 2-9 NHS pharmacies in England) should engage with the IPA regarding its appointment process.

**Multiples** for this election means pharmacy owners that:

- operate retail pharmacy businesses from more than nine (9) premises in England from which NHS pharmaceutical services (including LPS arrangements) are provided, other than members of the Company Chemists Association.

These Multiple Pharmacy Owners are referred to as 10+ Multiple Pharmacy Owners in this briefing.

## Role of CPE 10+ Multiple Pharmacy Owner Representatives

The 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner representatives, together with the other members of CPE, represent the interests of NHS pharmacy owners and ensure that CPE undertakes the functions

set out in its Constitution. In addition, they provide an important conduit between 10+ Multiple pharmacy owners and CPE.

CPE has approximately five main two-day meetings a year. Occasionally, there are extra meetings and members may be nominated to attend additional sub-committees, working groups or panels, and may be asked to represent CPE at external meetings. This is a time commitment that candidates should consider.

CPE 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner representatives need to be confident that they can arrange for appropriate cover for the running of their pharmacy while they attend CPE meetings

As 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner representatives (owner or employee), the decisions made at CPE could have a significant effect on the business. For example, agreeing on the terms of the contractual framework or funding for pharmacy will have a direct impact on the business. So, pharmacy owners who elect the representative (owner or employee) have to be assured that they will do their best for the whole network of pharmacies.

CPE has a rigorous governance policy which ensures that members of CPE adhere to the highest standards, comparable to the Nolan Principles1. The governance policy includes a Code of Conduct and guidance on confidentiality, which CPE members must adhere to (and includes a Code of Conduct). The successful candidate must also declare relevant interests.

The process for elections is set out in the CPE Constitution and Rules (available from the About us page of our website).

Further information

Role and Responsibilities of Committee Members

Guide to Community Pharmacy England Subcommittees and Working Groups

## Eligibility

The candidate must be a/an:

**Pharmacist** - registered as a pharmacist with the General Pharmaceutical Council.

**10+ Multiple pharmacy owner or employed by a 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner***

***10+ Multiple pharmacy owner** means a pharmacy owner, other than a member company of the Company Chemists' Association, that operates retail pharmacy businesses from more than 9 premises in England from which NHS pharmaceutical services are provided.

See CPE Rules

**10+ Multiple pharmacy owners with fewer than 40 premises**

One of the 10+ Multiple representatives elected will have a maximum of 40 NHS pharmacy premises on a pharmaceutical list in England, if one or more such candidates are nominated as candidates to the 10+ Multiple election. This ensures that smaller 10+ Multiple pharmacy owners have representation on CPE.

## Provisional timetable

CPE is seeking to check the database, which is taken from the NHSBSA data for 31st October 2026, of all pharmacy owners for the purposes of the elections.

***December 2026, date to be confirmed: Pre-vote notice***

In December 2026, 10+ Multiple pharmacy owners will be contacted by Civica (the firm engaged to assist CPE with the election process and to carry out the ballot) to confirm their NHS pharmacy premises, email contact details and other relevant details.

CPE asks all 10+ Multiple pharmacy owners to confirm or provide to CPE:

1. A contact name.
2. E-mail address for the election process.
3. Head office details, if applicable.
4. The total number of premises in England on a pharmaceutical list operated by the 10+ Multiple Chemist (including LPS arrangements).
5. ODS code of these premises.
6. Your NHS POC (CPE information about POC is at: https://cpe.org.uk/poc and you can check your POC at the NHS ODS portal)

It is the responsibility of 10+ Multiple pharmacy owners to provide relevant information to CPE.

***On Monday 25th January 2027 – formal nominations***

The Returning Officer will write or e-mail all known 10+ Multiple pharmacy owners to invite them to nominate a candidate for election as a 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner representative.

Candidates for election shall be nominated in writing, and the nomination shall state their full name; the name of the 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner, their correspondence address; and telephone number; and a declaration that they are either the 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner or employed by the 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner. The nomination shall be signed by the owner of the 10+ Multiple pharmacy, or in the case of a body corporate, by a director of the 10+ Multiple pharmacy, stating their name and correspondence address and the number of premises on a pharmaceutical list in England operated by the 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner. The nomination may be accompanied by a policy statement not exceeding 500 words, which must avoid any direct reference to other candidates.

Candidates for election must also include in their nominations the 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner's membership or associate membership, or the equivalent or similar, of any pharmacy association or pharmacy-related organisation; which, with the number of premises on a pharmaceutical list in England operated by the 10+ Multiple pharmacy owner, may be published as part of the election.

***On Monday 15th February 2027 by 12 noon – formal nominations must be received by CPE***

The nomination form shall be despatched so as to be delivered to the Returning Officer not later than midday 21 days after the invitation to nominate is sent, which is Monday 15th February 2027.

The nomination form must be submitted on the online portal, hosted by Civica. Any candidates expecting to be away during this time can complete and submit a nomination earlier. If a candidate cannot use the online portal, the nomination may be emailed to the Returning Officers, and candidates should contact the Returning Officers as soon as possible to facilitate this.

Upon receipt, the nominations will be checked for eligibility

**If there are more than three candidates, a ballot will be held. Otherwise, if there are just three valid nominations, they will be held to be elected and notice given as soon as practicable thereafter.**

***On Friday 26th February 2027 – ballot information sent out***

If appropriate, ballot information, accompanied by each candidate's policy statement, will be sent to all 10+ Multiple pharmacy owners by Civica, with a link to the online voting portal and the deadline for receipt of votes, which will be12 noon on 15th March.

***At 12 noon on 16th March 2027: vote closes***

Voting in the ballot will close at this time; votes received after this time will not be counted.

***On or around 19th March 2027: declaration***

The three successful candidates will be declared as soon as practicable.

## Next Steps

The timing above is provisional, and deadlines are subject to change to the extent permitted within the Rules. Potential candidates should therefore consider the different steps involved, particularly in submitting the policy statement with the nomination.

If you have queries on this CPE briefing or require more information, please email Katrina Embrey, Regulations Officer and Gordon Hockey, Director, Legal (email elections@cpe.org.uk or call 0203 1220 814).