Community Pharmacy North East London Committee Meeting 14/05/2026
Full day 09:30am – 3:50pm
The Gantry London, Curio Collection by Hilton

Present: Shilpa Shah (SS), Nickil Patel (NP), Shazi Hafeez (SH), Faruque Gani (FG), Gulveer Sura (GS), Jyoti Bakshi (JB), Ravi Vaitha (RV), Ross Fraser (RF) – until 13:06, Kerry Webb (KW), Dalveer Singh Johal (DJ)

Apologies: Prakash Patel (PkP), Mina Patel (MP), Parvesh Patel (PvP), Jaspreet Dhaliwal (JD), Shafi Ali (SA), Rebecca Dew (RD)

Guests: Mohammed Fessal (MF), Raliat Onatade (RO) and Sotiris Antoniou (SoA), Jo Ferry (JF), Sukhjit Sanghera (SuS) and Swati Krishnan (SK)

Welcome, Introductions & Declarations of Interest
SS opens meeting
Notes apologies from PkP, MP, PvP, RD, SA, JD

Opens for DOI - Chief pharmacist from CGL present, RV works one day a week for CGL, RV will step out for that part of the agenda.

Minutes and Next Steps from previous meeting
No questions, Minutes unanimously agreed

SS goes through next steps. Two actions closed and two remain. Documented below.

Next step:
RD to raise LPC members logins for the CPE website and support members access to the LPC area
SS to contact Simon (GPhC) regarding a webinar for contractors.

CEO update
SS confirmed date of AGM as well as location and encourages the committee members to attend.

SS explained proposed contract update with CGL for substance misuse services. The committee discussed the service and their stance on the future of the service. The committee discussed the current state of play with supervised and non-supervised patients.

SS discussed updates to the POCT testing which has been running in partnership with Barts Health. There have been discussions about expansion of the service. As well as this SS explained the proposed Inclisiran service which is yet to be finalised.

FG talked through the logistics of the POCT service and how long the service takes to deliver. Committee members discussed the service and FG answered questions about the service.

SS discussed finance and accounts being used for banking.

Next steps: SS to check with CPE about using an interest account for LPC funds

CGL (Mohammed Fessal (MF) – Director of Pharmacy, CGL)
MF joins at 11:15am

Committee introduce themselves to MF, MF introduced himself to the group.

MF presents about the supervised consumption service. MF explained the changed service that has been implemented in 10 areas across England, including the number of pharmacies currently under the changed service. Number of pharmacies providing the service has increased in those 10 areas compared to previously. Quality and efficiency are the reason behind this change, and the 10 areas have shown improved service delivery and safety for patients.

Pharmacist reviews are part of the service, and this has increased adherence. Reviews are currently taking 15 minutes to deliver.

MF discussed details of the new offer and showed the registration process on PharmOutcomes. MF shared details of national guidance for '*Oral Methadone and Buprenorphine: Recommendations December 2024*'.

Members discussed additional challenges of providing service in London versus outside of London. MF responded about wanting to provide an equal service across England regardless of locality. MF closed and members agreed to discuss next steps.

MF leaves at 12:06pm

POCT testing service and Inclisiran (Raliat Onatade (RO) and Sotiris Antoniou (SoA))
RO and SoA arrived at 12:06pm

RO and SoA introduce themselves to members, members introduce themselves to RO and SoA.

SS introduced the discussions which involved POCT and the Inclisiran administration service. Members providing the POCT service provided feedback to RO and SoA about delivery of the service. This included challenges and some issues around claiming for delivery.

SoA explained the background of the service including how the service came about and where the funding had come from. RO answered questions from members about the service going forward. RO explained priorities in NEL and the pathways of focus. Members explained some of the challenges that they have experienced in delivery of the service and frustration that it came about so late in March not giving much time for delivery.

Discussion outlines the offer, process and time taken in practice to ensure service is viable from Community Pharmacy. Members agreed on the service remuneration going forward.

RO and SoA leave at 13:06

Break for lunch at 13:06, RF left at 13:06; Reconvene at 13:55

Healthy Tower Hamlets Community Pharmacy Service (Jo Ferry (JF) - Public health programme lead, Sukhjit Sanghera (SuS) - Public health programme lead, Swati Krishnan (SK) - Public health programme manager)
JF, SuS and SK arrived at 13:55

JF set the scene of the conversation about Healthy Tower Hamlets neighbourhoods. This is a borough-wide neighbourhood prevention programme, focused on long term conditions. Healthy Tower Hamlets is a borough wide framework for Vital 5 communications, engagements and service promotion.

SuS discussed the current landscape of community pharmacy and what current service provision looks like. This included smoking cessation, sexual health services and needle exchange. Update included the future of selected services. SuS discussed the current landscape in the council and financial position.

SuS proposed the new proposal for Tower Hamlets and the details behind the number of pharmacies that is desired for sign up.

JF, SuS and SK leave at 14:58

Next Step: SS to feedback to the Tower Hamlets team the views of the committee

Treasurer Update
SH updated on finances, papers were sent in advance of the meeting. No questions.

AOB
DJ raised a research proposal that has been offered by an independent researcher. After full discussion, committee has rejected the proposal.

Complaint raised previously discussed. Governance subcommittee to finalise response.

SS discussed London wide meeting of primary care (LPC, LMC, LOC and LDC), representation was discussed.

SS discussed procedure for dealing with complaints about LPC committee members. Procedure was sent with the meeting paperwork in advance of the meeting. Members agreed with the details of the procedure.

Next Step: Governance subcommittee to finalise response and send to complainant.

Meeting closes at 15:50