

Community Pharmacy North East London Committee Meeting 12/03/2026
Full day 10:00am – 3:50pm
Hyatt Regency Stratford

Present: Shilpa Shah (SS), Rebecca Dew (RD), Parvesh Patel (PvP), Nickil Patel (NP), Gulveer Sura (GS), Dalveer Singh Johal (DJ), Bhavna Tailor (BT), Jaspreet Dhaliwal (JD), Mina Patel (MP), Kerry Webb (KW), Ravi Vaitha (RV), Prakash Patel (PkP), Shazli Hafeez (SH)

Guest: Rebecca Butterworth (RB) from CPE

Apologies: Ross Fraser (RF), Shafi Ali (SA), Faruque Gani (FG), Jyoti Bakshi (JB)

Welcome, Introductions & Declarations of Interest

SS opens the meeting.

RB has joined as a guest from CPE. RB introduces herself to committee and gives outlines of her role and background.

Committee Members and Staff introduce themselves to RB.

SS confirms apologies and chosen Proxy votes for non-attendees.

SS opens for DOIs. No new declarations of interest

Minutes & Next Steps from January 2026 meeting

SS goes through next steps.

SS raises needing to claim for services within the month, suggestion for this to be extended.

PkP clarifies process for late payments and confirms he is in touch with CPE regarding the matter.

PkP notes that situations where there is an IT issues, email issue, etc, to communicate directly with NHS BSA via email in the first instance and follow up via phone call, with suggestion to retain screenshots of communications for own records.

PkP outlines the pros to utilising digital records over paper records.

Members discuss using IT systems in pharmacy.

Members discuss various elements of system providers and experience utilising them in Pharmacy.

RB to take comments back to CPE.

MP raises a PharmOutcomes alert for some GP emails that are not working. MP to feedback issue to JD and SA so they can raise with the surgeries. SS reiterates the need to raise with JD and SA for resolution while they are in a position to rectify.

SS raises the upcoming changes to GP emails, members discuss.

SS has contacted the GPHC regarding a webinar for contractors to set date after Ramadan for an evening meeting. GS gives positive feedback on the recent 111 webinar, noting the relevance and usefulness of the information. SS has also had positive feedback from contractors.

SS has spoken with NEL ICB for June training, so newly qualifieds can also join. Training will be for PF, Hypertension and PCS; for 150 attendees with CPPE.

KW queries adding pre-reg and pharmacy technicians to support Hypertension and promotion of services. SS agreed that it would be useful to arrange training for staff in the pharmacy, and notes that where communications are not being filtered to the pharmacy teams, they may not be picking up on opportunities in the pharmacy.

SS reflects on the CPNEL conference on February 2026; there were number of new owners and their staff in attendance and were very engaged. SS also highlighted the support from Sponsors and speakers and suggests hosting a similar conference for Pharmacy Staff on a Saturday.

The CPE services dashboard has been updated, therefore PkP next step closed.

PvP raises the difficulty in accessing price concessions on the CPE website, RB suggestion to feedback to CPE directly, and will also include in her feedback. Members discuss and give feedback on the CPE website.

PkP mentions the LPC members only area on the CPE website, and examples of content included that members must login to view. Many members unaware or have not accessed the LPC members area. Suggestion for RD to support members with access.

Next Steps: RD to raise LPC members logins for the CPE website and support members access to the LPC area.

Members further discuss Pharmacy finances and difficulties with interpreting the drug tariff price, suggestion for a more transparent pricing to show the price you are getting paid more clearly.

PkP suggestion to invite NHS BSA to the next meeting. SS suggests a contractors meeting and ask them to explain pricing clearly.

NP seconds that inviting to a contractor meeting would be useful.

SS raises the potential to hold a contractor meeting just on finances. Members discuss pharmacy finances, issues with calculating margins and purchasing decisions.

Members query if clawback is based on full price, PkP Confirms that it is. Members discuss what this means in reality, with cost examples. Members discuss the importance of clearer drug tariff pricing.

PkP also raises potential issues around ownership of data where Hub and Spoke is being utilised. A consideration when utilising companies, as in some instances the data belongs to them and could potentially be sold in the future. Members discuss experiences using hub and spoke.

SS opens for comments or queries on draft January 2026 minutes.

No comments or queries raised.

Committee Members unanimously agree January 2026 minutes

Staff Updates

Staff updates are sent with the meeting papers, prior to the session.

SS opens for any queries on Staff updates.

No queries.

SS updates on negotiations with CGL regarding supervised consumption. CGL look after the contract in 5 boroughs of NEL and several contracts are up for renewal. SS outlines the current negotiations and associated fees that have been agreed.

SS informs members that CGL wish to attend the May 2026 Committee meeting.

Members discuss and agree to invite CGL to the May meeting to outline their offer directly to the committee.

Next Step: To invite CGL to the May 2026 meeting.

SS outlines current situation with POCT testing, some pharmacies have gone live so the team are focussed on supporting them to complete as many as possible before the end of March and hopes for funding to continue next year. SS will keep committee updated on progress.

Members discuss service, remuneration and capacity within pharmacies to provide, impact on the margin and considerations for future negotiations.

SS outlines a letter that has been sent in other areas regarding concerns with using certain eConsult companies, whereby patients are not always given a clear choice of being able to also utilise the Community Pharmacy. SS raises issues with understanding of liability, as the Community Pharmacy is still liable should an incident occur. The ICB have outlined a letter to go out raising the concerns regarding eConsult companies. This will now go out in our area too.

SS highlights for JD and SA to raise when on surgery visits, to check which provider they are using and highlight the issues that have been raised.

Team members leave at 12:31 for lunch, Committee remain to discuss confidential matters prior to lunch.

Meeting reconvenes at 14.03

IPA Message

RV Shared a message from IPA received yesterday regarding negotiations. SS outlines the message received from IPA. Members discuss the give their views on CPNEL involvement.

Suggestion that LPC would not make recommendation as is not within their remit. Members discuss previous experience of the judicial review.

All members give their view, Majority in agreement that is down to contractor individually whether to get involved, and not for the LPC to steer. Put to vote on whether CPNEL should steer or allow contractors to make their own decision on action.

In Favor or CPNEL involvement: 1

For contractors to make their own decision: 8

Abstain: 2

CPE Update

PkP would like to support any committee members if they would like to be a CPE regional rep from 2027. If anyone is interested by October this year, to keep in mind so he can support hand over.

SS informs members that CPSAS is being evaluated, they want responses directly from the pharmacists. SS opens copy of the proposed survey and comments. Highlights the need for sensible answers. SS wants to reduce to less questions, and CPNEL will need to support completion

SS raises the London Pharmacy First report by ICB and goes through NELICB data for services.

SS asks RB if there is anything she would like to raise.

RB gives an outline of her experience in service commissioning, and her starting at CPE. RB gives CPE update and answers some queries from within the day.

RB opens for feedback to CPE.

NP queries whether RB has noticed qualities of the more effective LPC's. RB highlights better relationships with contractors, proactive CEOs, staff and members appear to me making an impact, not always the numbers and gives consideration to the unmeasurable support mechanisms LPCs provide.

RB highlights the work done by Pharmacist Support, and notes CPE is working more closely with them. RB outlines the support they provide for Pharmacists and their family member and notes they will be joining the upcoming CLOT meeting.

Prakash CPE update: PkP presents the February 2026 CPE update.

PkP opens for discussion on where members would want the money to be spent i.e. Margin or SAF, and how much they believe this should be. Members discuss.

Unanimous agreement that any quantum increase should go into SAF as opposed to Margin.

Suggestion for £3.

PkP continues going through the recent CPE update.

AOB

SS opens for AOB.

JD queries on an update on the clinical pathways. PkP clarifies that it will be agreed with the negotiations, for now they are remaining the same.

SS clarifies GPs won't be able to send patients for a clinical BP check if patient already has BP.

Awaiting a date for this to become official. SS notes BP checks were about finding new BP patients, and pharmacies will still receive ABPM referrals.

GS queries integrated neighbourhood teams, SS clarifies that 5 of the boroughs are doing work on INT and Jignesh is working on this for us.

Treasurers update

SS clarifies two months levy holiday has been given.

SH gives finance update and reminds members to make sure their claims are in with the upcoming financial year end.

No queries or comments on the finance update.

Meeting closes at 15:50