



**Community
Pharmacy
Leicestershire
& Rutland**

REGIONAL & LOCAL NEWS



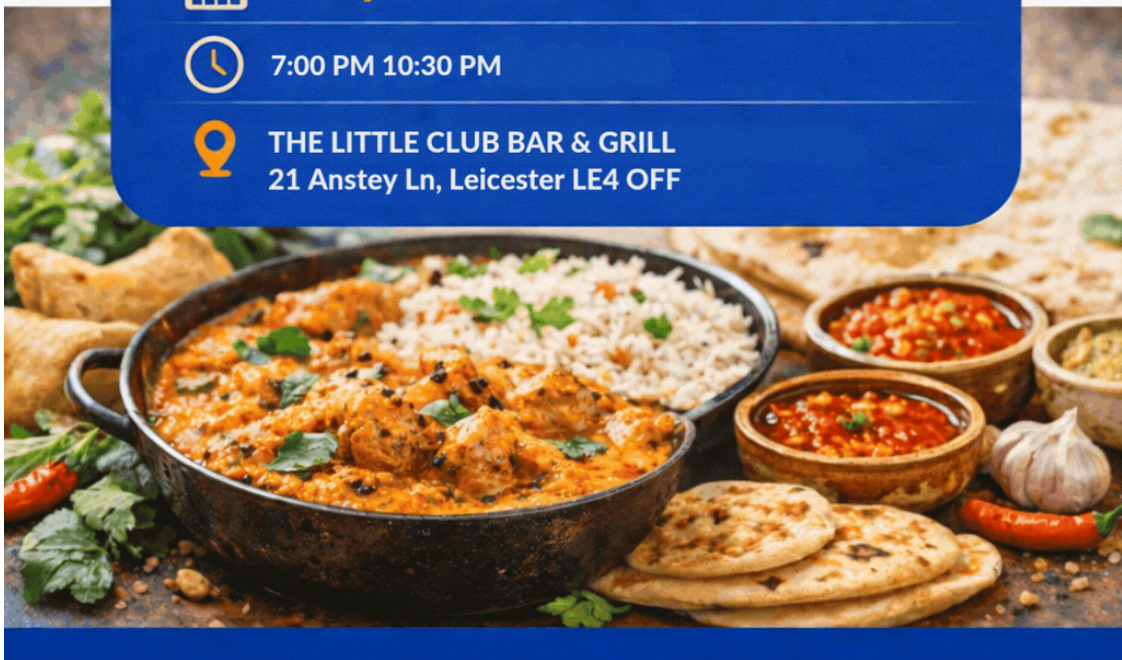
Friday 19th June



7:00 PM 10:30 PM



**THE LITTLE CLUB BAR & GRILL
21 Anstey Ln, Leicester LE4 OFF**



We're delighted to announce that our Annual Community Pharmacy Curry Night is back for 2026 — and it's always one of the highlights of the LLR pharmacy calendar!

This informal evening provides a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow contractors, pharmacy teams and colleagues from across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, share experiences, discuss current challenges and opportunities, and enjoy an evening in a relaxed and friendly setting.

We are particularly pleased to welcome two special guests this year:

★ **Amandeep Doll** – Director for England, Royal College of Pharmacy (formerly the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, RPS)

★ **Leyla Hannbeck** – Chief Executive Officer, Independent Pharmacies Association (IPA)

Whether you're looking to catch up with familiar faces, build new professional relationships or hear perspectives from two influential leaders within the profession, this promises to be an enjoyable and engaging evening.

⚠ Spaces are limited to just 50 attendees and always fill quickly, so early booking is strongly recommended.

To reserve your place, please click the booking link below.
We look forward to seeing you there!

[Book Now](#)

	<p>Knowledge, Training and Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) Pharmacy First Service self-assessment framework is not mandatory but recommended to identify gaps in competency and associated learnings to ensure safe delivery of the service. • Ensure strict adherence to the service specification , clinical pathways, clinical protocol and PGDs. The PGD provides the legal basis for the provision of the medicine; professional discretion cannot be used to make a supply of a POM outside the provisions of the PGD. • Be aware that a clinical pathways consultation can only be accessed when a gateway point in one of the clinical pathways is crossed. • Support the training of counter support staff to identify eligible walk-in patients for the clinical pathways.
	<p>Pharmacy First Consultation Referrals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A referral within the NHS means one healthcare provider asks another healthcare provider to provide a service to a patient and this needs to be sent digitally. Therefore, a referral must be through Local Services, PharmRefer, TPP integrated solution or NHS mail. • If a referral has been received via NHS Mail, please ensure the referral button is selected so that the data is recorded appropriately • If referral is from a GP Practice ensure the GP practice ODS code is added even if it is marked as optional on the template. • Patients who are electronically referred but do not meet the gateway criteria for the Pharmacy First clinical pathway can instead be seen under the minor illness strand of the service. For example, an adult for earache would not be eligible for the acute otitis media clinical pathway, but the pharmacist could provide the minor illness strand of the service for this patient and make a claim. • A 111 urgent medicine referral is a request for a consultation regarding the need for an urgent medicine supply, rather than a directive to dispense and supply medication. The maximum supply allowed for Schedule 4 and 5 controlled drugs is up to 5 days. Schedule 2 and 3 drugs cannot be supplied, except for phenobarbital when used for epilepsy. • There is no requirement to make an entry on the Pharmacy First IT system if the patient has walked in (self-referred) for the Pharmacy First service and does not pass the gateway point. However, pharmacists may choose to make a clinical record of advice provided under the Support for Self-care Essential Service.
	<p>Pharmacy First Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gateway Points – The Pharmacy First gateway points play a key role in determining when pharmacies are eligible to claim payments for consultations. The recent updates include the introduction of eight additional gateway points and adjustments to some of the existing ones. This may increase the number of consultations that are eligible for a fee under the Pharmacy First service. • Low acuity, minor illnesses - If it is known that a patient has used the service more than twice within a month, with the same symptoms and there is no indication for urgent referral, consider referring the patient to their general practice as locally agreed. • Urgent repeat medicine supply- If the medicine is not in stock at the pharmacy, with the agreement of the patient, identify another pharmacy that provides the service and forward the electronic referral to the other pharmacy via NHS mail or NHS assured Pharmacy First IT system.

Pharmacy First Service: Top Tips for service delivery should be read in conjunction with the [service specification](#)

Pharmacy First- Referrals, Claims and Income Optimisation

Thank you again to everyone who joined our recent webinar: *Pharmacy First – Referrals, Claims & Income Optimisation*.

It was fantastic to bring this event to you as a direct outcome of the feedback received following our previous face-to-face contractor event, *Navigating the Numbers*. It was clear from that event that contractors and pharmacy teams wanted further practical support around referrals, claims, thresholds and income optimisation.

For those who attended and for anyone unable to join on the evening, the webinar recording is now accessible via the link below:

The “Top Tip” documents that both Paul and I referenced throughout the session, can also be downloaded via the above link.

Thank you again for your continued engagement and support.

Call to action

JUNE 2026 COMMUNITY PHARMACY DEADLINE TRACKER

To help keep LLR community pharmacy teams on track with monthly tasks, quality payments and to meet local and national deadlines. View the latest monthly Community Pharmacy Deadline Tracker.

READ MORE



NHS Data Security and Protection Toolkit

Data Security & Protection Toolkit 2026- Mandatory! Deadline 30th June

We are pleased to confirm that Community Pharmacy Leicestershire & Rutland has launched a dedicated **DSPTK 2026 webpage** to support contractors and pharmacy teams with completing this year’s Data Security and Protection Toolkit.

As a reminder, the DSPTK must be completed by **Tuesday 30th June 2026** as part of your NHS Terms of Service.

Our new webpage includes:

- A summary of key changes for 2026 (including the new multi-factor authentication question)
- Guidance on using previous submission responses
- Information for owners using the NHS Parent Organisation Code (HQ) batch submission
- Direct links to Community Pharmacy England’s step-by-step guidance



Join our WhatsApp -Stay up to date !

Stay connected with the latest community pharmacy news, important updates and key actions through our

- Practical tips to help manage workload

We strongly encourage our LLR Pharmacy contractors to log in to the Toolkit as soon as possible and begin reviewing the questions, rather than leaving completion close to the deadline.

active LLR Contractors WhatsApp Group.

The group is a valuable way to receive timely information, share experiences and connect with fellow contractors and pharmacy professionals from across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Not yet a member? Join today by scanning the QR code above

Call to action




MENOPAUSE EDUCATION EVENING

An informative and exclusive session for Community Pharmacy IPs or those working towards their IP only.



 Session delivered by **Anthony Singh**
BMS-accredited Menopause Prescribing Pharmacist


 **DATE**
Tuesday 16th June

 **TIME**
6:30pm – 9:30pm

 **VENUE**
Marriott Hotel,
Grove Park Leicester
LE19 1SW

“
Knowledge today,
better care tomorrow.”

 **Dinner will be provided** 

 To register please email chiefofficer@leics-lpc.co.uk



Advancing Your Practice: Menopause Care in Community Pharmacy for IPs

We are pleased to invite **Independent Prescribing Pharmacists, or those currently working towards their IP qualification within community pharmacy**, to an upcoming **Menopause Education Event**. This session is specifically designed to support the expansion of clinical expertise in women's health and menopause care.

The event will be delivered by **Anthony Singh**, a BMS-accredited menopause prescribing pharmacist, who will provide practical insights into menopause management, prescribing considerations, and how community pharmacy can play a greater role in supporting women through this stage of life.


 **Tuesday 16th June**

 **6:30pm – 9:30pm**

 **Leicester Marriott Hotel Grove Park Leicester**

 Dinner will be provided- maximum 25 delegates

This event is a **valuable stepping stone for those looking to expand their area of expertise**, build confidence in menopause care, and understand how this aligns with local service development. It also offers an opportunity to explore how community pharmacy can further improve access and outcomes for women across our population.

 **Please note: This event is exclusively for Independent Prescribers or those actively working towards their IP qualification within community pharmacy.**

National News



Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2026/27 – Key Updates

The Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) 2026/27 will commence in June and remains an optional element of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). This year's scheme retains several existing requirements while introducing new criteria to support the safe integration of prescribing into community pharmacy practice.

Pharmacies choosing to participate will be able to claim an **Aspiration Payment of up to 80%** of their anticipated PQS value in July, an increase from 75% last year. Payments will be made on 1 September 2026.

Key Requirements

Gateway Criterion

Pharmacies must develop or update a **Palliative and End of Life Care (PEoLC) Action Plan** and, where applicable, update their NHS Directory of Services profile to confirm stocking of the 16 agreed PEoLC medicines. A short online survey must also be completed.

Medicines Optimisation & Patient Safety

- **Respiratory Care:** Pharmacists must complete the CPPE Fundamentals of Respiratory Therapeutics asthma training and pass the associated 2026 asthma assessment to ensure knowledge is aligned with current national guidance.
- **Urgent Supply of Medicines:** SOPs must be updated to include guidance on supporting patients requesting time-critical medicines and Controlled Drugs.

Professional Practice

Pharmacies will be required to complete a national clinical audit and participate in a peer discussion to review findings and encourage reflective practice, supporting ongoing clinical development and preparedness for prescribing roles.

Call to action



CPCF 2026/27 Agreed – What Does It Mean for Community Pharmacy?

The 2026/27 Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF) has now been agreed, bringing a further funding uplift for the sector and setting the direction for the next phase of community pharmacy development.

The settlement includes an increase in overall funding, an uplift in medicines margin to £1.1 billion and an increase in the Single Activity Fee. The Government has also confirmed that NHS-funded independent prescribing will be introduced into Pharmacy First and the Pharmacy Contraception Service from autumn 2026, marking a significant step forward for the profession.

For contractors, the agreement provides welcome financial stability and recognition of the pressures pharmacies continue to face, including medicine shortages, rising operating costs and increasing patient demand. The decision not to recover historic margin over-delivery will also be welcomed by many pharmacy owners.

Alongside the contractual settlement, the 2026/27 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS) has been announced. The scheme remains optional and includes new requirements designed to support the safe introduction of prescribing into community pharmacy. Key areas include palliative and end of life care planning, respiratory training, updated urgent supply procedures and reflective clinical practice through audit and peer discussion.

Whilst the settlement is a positive step and demonstrates continued confidence in community pharmacy, many contractors will recognise that challenges remain. The focus now turns to maximising the opportunities within the contract, preparing for the introduction of prescribing services and continuing to demonstrate the value community pharmacy brings to patients and the wider NHS.

Community Pharmacy Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland will continue to support contractors with updates, guidance and implementation resources as further details become available.

Call to action



**Community Pharmacy
Leicestershire & Rutland
(CPL&R)**

Formerly known as the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC)

admin@leics-lpc.co.uk

You received this email because you are registered with LPC

[Unsubscribe here](#)

