Community Pharmacy Essex

Essex LPC – Website

Weekly Bulletin
16th November 2026

This newsletter is sent as required and contains useful information for community pharmacy owners in Essex. Stay informed with updates in our newsletter and visit our website at the link below



Independent Prescribing within the CPCF

Independent Prescribing (IP) is now live within the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). Pharmacist Independent Prescribers working from approved and onboarded pharmacy premises can now provide prescribing consultations through Pharmacy First, including the new prescriber-only clinical pathways, as well as the Pharmacy Contraception Service (PCS).

Local ICB Onboarding Process

You should be aware that both the pharmacy premises **and** the individual prescriber must complete the Integrated Care Board (ICB) onboarding and authorisation process before CPCF prescribing services can be delivered.

Community Pharmacy Essex is actively working closely with NHS Essex ICB colleagues to support implementation across Essex. When the ICB receives notification that you have registered to provide the service on MYS they will

provide a self-assessment document for you to complete on MS forms. In time there will be a date each month for reviewing these, however we are encouraging some additional time to assess the inevitable spike in registration as the service went live at the end of October.

If your pharmacy has qualified Independent Prescribers and you are ready to begin delivering these services, please register on MYS. This will help ensure your pharmacy is included in local onboarding considerations and future implementation planning.

NHS Premises DoS and Mailbox Reminder

As we enter the new quarter, pharmacy contractors are reminded to review and verify their NHS profile details and premises shared mailboxes via the appropriate NHS platforms to ensure accurate directory listings and communications.

Directory of Services (DoS)

Keeping your DoS profile up to date ensures NHS 111 and local healthcare providers can correctly refer patients to you.

Shared Mailbox

Ensuring your pharmacy checks its shared mailbox daily is essential. NHS England, The Essex ICB, and NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) will share information via this channel and communicate important updates, and urgent patient safety alerts.

Keeping both up to date is not just good practice but is also a contractual requirement that NHS England can use for contractual management purposes.

Action: Take a few minutes to check that your pharmacy's contact details, premises information, and shared NHS mailbox are accurate.

Top Tip!

To avoid losing access to the premise mailbox during annual leave, sickness, or locum cover, we advise you to maintain at least two active individual @nhs.net accounts linked to the shared mailbox and ensure locums either have access arranged in advance or a permanent team member is assigned to monitor the inbox on their shifts. Remember that individual @nhs.net accounts automatically lock out after 30 days of inactivity, so all linked staff must log into their personal accounts at least once a month to keep access active.

How We Communicate with You

We are now using HubSpot! In case you missed the email notification, Community Pharmacy Essex is moving to HubSpot for our emails, including newsletters, local notices, and soon for meetings too!



Join Us at the North East Essex Pharmacy Forum: Antimicrobial Stewardship & Pharmacy First

If you're based in or near North East Essex come along to our upcoming **North East Essex Pharmacy and Primary Care Forum** meeting this Wednesday to explore and discuss Antimicrobial Stewardship & Pharmacy First.

Event details

- **Date:** Wednesday, 18th November 2026 - **Meeting starts:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Banquet Chinese Restaurant, 342 London Rd, Stanway, Colchester CO3 8LT

- **Arrival & food:** Arrive from 6:45pm (hot food will be served at the start of the evening)

Spaces are limited, so please email **office@cpesx.org.uk** to reserve your place(s). We hope to see you there!

General queries to - office@cpesx.org.uk or essex.lpc@nhs.net

Karen Samuel-Smith (Chief Officer) - karen@cpesx.org.uk

Angela Culleton (Office Manager) - angela@cpesx.org.uk (Mon - Thurs 9-4pm)

Eddie Brown (Business Intelligence Lead) - eddie@cpesx.org.uk

Lisa Lovell (Lifestyle Services Lead) - lisa@cpesx.org.uk

Evan-Leigh Scheepers (Relations and Engagement) –evan@cpesx.org.uk

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Community Pharmacy Essex, 17 Clematis Tye, Chelmsford, CM1 6GL, UK

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