

## For Action

### Local News:

- Broadcast Group mobile number required from contractors.
- Luton PNA Survey – **Deadline 21/2/25.**

### Training:

- NHS App Refresher Training.
- Hypertension Event.

### Reminders:

- Pharmacy Pressures Survey – **Deadline 28/2/25.**

All details are below.

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## Local News

### URGENT UPDATE – BLMK-N LPC Communications are changing.

The **Community Pharmacy BLMK & Northamptonshire** newsletter will now be published **fortnightly** instead of weekly.

Please continue to check <https://cpe.org.uk> for news updates in between receiving our newsletter and check the CPE newsletter too. This is published on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to support community pharmacies in all regions. If you are not on the mailing list to receive CPE newsletters, please register at [Community Pharmacy England Newsletter](#).

Additionally, we are launching a **WhatsApp Broadcast Group** (to exist alongside your existing groups) to share urgent local updates between newsletters. Unlike regular WhatsApp groups, this will be a **one-way communication channel**, where only the LPC can send messages.

#### **📣 To join the WhatsApp Broadcast Group:**

Email your **mobile number, pharmacy name, and role** to [office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk](mailto:office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk) and ensure your privacy settings allow us to add you.

We aim to set this up **ASAP**, so please send your details promptly.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### **FAO Luton – [Luton Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment PNA 2025 Contractors Survey.](#)**

Luton Council is currently undertaking a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). The PNA will be used by NHS England to consider applications to open new pharmacies, or to commission additional services from pharmacies.

As part of this process, they are collecting information about services provided by all pharmacies in Luton. Please complete the following survey:

<https://survey.ntropydata.co.uk/surveys/PNApharmacy>. It is really important that they collect this information from as many local pharmacies as possible to help shape the future direction of pharmacy services in Luton. They understand this is a very busy time for you, so have kept the survey short. Can you please complete the questionnaire by **21 February 2025**.

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## **Training & Events**

### **FAO Northants – Midlands Region Back to Basics – NHS App refresher training sessions!**

These sessions are for primary care practice staff and supporting teams, to enhance knowledge, confidence, and share top tips for the NHS App.

**26 February 12:30 – 2pm** on Microsoft Teams, [Registration Link](#).

**20 March 12:30 – 2pm** on Microsoft Teams, [Registration Link](#).

### **[NHSBSA Online Webinars for Pharmacy Teams.](#)**

The NHSBSA are hosting webinars to provide an insight into how they reimburse prescriptions. These sessions will take place online and last approximately 1 hour. There are 8 sessions in total, the next one will be on **Thursday 13 March at 10:00** (a full list of the dates is on the CPE website). To sign up and attend one of the sessions, email NHSBSA at [open-days@nhsbsa.nhs.uk](mailto:open-days@nhsbsa.nhs.uk) with the date and time of the session you wish to attend.

### **FAO BLMK – [Addressing Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease in BLMK.](#)**

A Fantastic conference which will bring together community pharmacists, dentists, optometrists, and general practice colleagues.

**Wednesday 2 April 2025, 6:30 – 9pm**, Mitchell Hall, College Road, Cranfield, Beds, MK43 0AL.

[Register attendance here.](#)

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# Reminders

## Pharmacy Pressures Survey 2025: It's time to share your views.

Community Pharmacy England has launched its fourth annual Pressures Survey, and all pharmacy owners and staff are asked to share their views.

The survey provides crucial evidence as part of ongoing work to monitor and quantify the intolerable challenges facing the sector. The survey is split into two parts for [pharmacy business owners/head office representatives](#) and another for [pharmacy teams](#).

Both surveys are short and should take around 10–15 minutes to complete. They will remain open until **23.59 on 28 February 2025**.

## Reminder: EPS token submission.

Community Pharmacy England is reminding pharmacy teams about which EPS tokens need to be submitted.

## Reminder: changes to the Pharmacy First monthly threshold.

The Minimum number of clinical pathway consultations for the Pharmacy First Service for **February** is **25** and will **increase** in **March** to **30**.

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## Useful Links:

<https://cpe.org.uk>

[Serious Shortage Protocols \(SSPs\)](#)

[Alerts recalls and safety information: medicines and medical devices.](#)

[Drug Safety Updates.](#)

Email: [office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk](mailto:office@blmk-n-communitypharmacy.org.uk)