

For Action

Local News:

- North Northants – EHC contract.
- National Flu immunisation programme.
- West Northamptonshire PNA draft.
- Luton & Beds – HUC re NHS 111 referral process.

Training & Events:

- Register for Hypertension conference – **2/4/25 6:30 – 9:00pm.**
- NHSBSA online webinar – **27/3/25 14:00.**
- Bletchley Events – **2 & 14 April 2025.**

Reminders:

- BLMK – Deadline for invoices – **end of May 2025.**
- Broadcast Group mobile number required from contractors.

Local News

FAO North Northants – EHC Contract.

After successful negotiations between the LPC and North Northamptonshire Council, notice regarding the EHC contract for North Northamptonshire pharmacies has been published on Contracts Finder for public reference, please click this link for service information: [EHC EOI Contract Finder Link](#).

North Northamptonshire Council are committed to ensuring a smooth transition, and to help with this, kindly ask that you complete the attached Expression of Interest (EOI) form by clicking this link: [Emergency Hormonal Contraception Expression of Interest Form](#).

Interested pharmacies can only submit their expression of interest through the EOI link above.

Please note, **West Northants EHC** are currently not on the government Contracts Finder. As soon as it is, we will publicise through the newsletter or What's App/Broadcast group. This will include details for the 5 pharmacies currently under contract with NHFT to onboard to the new West Northamptonshire contract.

National Flu immunisation programme 2025 to 2026 letter.

The Department of Health and Social Care, the UK Health Security Agency and NHS England have jointly published the national flu vaccination programme letter for the 2025/26 season.

Key highlights from the letter are:

- There are no changes to the eligible cohorts for the 2025/26 season.
- **From 1 September 2025** and in line with the 2024/25 season, pharmacies will only be able to vaccinate pregnant women.
- **From October 2025**, vaccination of the other adult cohorts will commence, with the **exact starting date to be confirmed by NHS England in due course**.

For further information visit the Community Pharmacy England website, [Flu Vaccination Service](#).

The East of England Immunisation Team have produced poster to support providers of immunisations with any incidents within BLMK [Incidents Poster](#).

FAO West Northamptonshire – PNA Draft.

The West Northamptonshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment draft has been approved and is out for consultation. Contractors are invited to read the draft and leave a comment, which is in the link below, the consultation closes on **1 May 2025**.

[Have your say on the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment – West Northamptonshire Council – Citizen Space.](#)

FAO Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton – Hertfordshire PNA.

As a contractor neighbouring Hertfordshire in Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton, we would be grateful if you would support the Hertfordshire HWB by reading the PNA and completing the survey which is hosted here www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/pna. The consultation closes **11 May 2025**.

For Luton & Bedfordshire only – HUC re NHS 111 and Pharmacy First.

If you receive a patient referral from 111 and the patient needs to be referred back to them, where appropriate, pharmacists should utilise the healthcare professional line rather than advising patients to call 111 themselves, this will ensure the patient is dealt with as efficiently as possible. This line is accessed by **calling 111 and selecting option 3**, whereby they will arrange for a healthcare professional to callback.

Training & Events

FAO Northants – Midlands Region Back to Basics – NHS App refresher training session.

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

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. The final session will be on **Thursday 27 March at 14:00**. To sign up and attend the session, email NHSBSA at open-days@nhsbsa.nhs.uk.

[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 OAL.

[Register attendance here.](#)

[Let's Get Together, Bletchley.](#)

BLMK Integrated Care Board, Milton Keynes City Council and other partners have lined up a range of community events over the spring and summer as part of their Bletchley Pathfinder programme where they are working together to help local people stay healthy.

Ageing Well Event:

Wednesday 2 April 2–4pm, West Bletchley Community Centre, 3 Porchester Close MK3 6BH.

Child Development Event:

Monday 14 April 10am – 12pm, Bletchley Library MK2 2RA.

[CPPE East Midlands Newsletter.](#)

Included is up to date information on recent developments, programmes and resources available to support pharmacy professionals across all sectors.

[Data Security and Protection Toolkit 2025 workshop now on-demand.](#)

Pharmacy owners can now watch a recording of Community Pharmacy England's recent online workshop to help with the completion of the [Data Security and Protection Toolkit for 2025](#). Pharmacy owners required to finalise their pharmacy's Data Security and Protection Toolkit submission by **30 June 2025**.

[Reminders](#)

[FAO BLMK](#) – A reminder from Fiona Garnett, Associate Director Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation BLMK ICB.

As we approach the year end it is important that you ensure that any invoices relating to activity in 24/25 that the ICB reimbursed are sent to BLMK ICB payables in a timely way.

All invoices for 24/25 must be received **by the end of May 25** and be processed internally by the ICB by mid-June. After mid-June we lose access to monies from 24/25 and are unable to pay invoices relating to that period.

Please ensure invoices are submitted by e-mail to sbs.apinvoicing@nhs.net the billing address is below.

NHS BEDS, LUTON & MK ICB
QHG PAYABLES N195
PO BOX 312
LEEDS, LS11 1HP
Ref:QHGSOLTON

BLMK-N LPC WhatsApp Broadcast Group.

We have recently launched 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 and ensure your privacy settings allow us to add you.

Reminder: Mandatory NHSmail Multi-Factor Authentication for all users.

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) is becoming mandatory for all NHSmail users. The NHSmail team previously announced that users would be prompted to enable MFA from late 2024, and a rollout timeline was introduced to support this transition.

Reminder: NHS Smartcard action required: checking contact info, self-unlock and expiry.

NHS England and Community Pharmacy England recommend that pharmacy team members with NHS Smartcards take actions to support ongoing use of their smartcards.

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