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Local News:

- FAO Luton – Short survey on chlamydia
- Has Modi joins CPE Committee.
- MP visit at Britannia Pharmacy, Kempston.
- FAO Northamptonshire – **Health Promotion Campaigns from 10 November 2025.**

Training & Events:

- Inclusive Pharmacy Practice week – from **24–27 November 2025.**
- GPhC consultation on standards for the initial education and training on Pharmacy Technicians.

National News/Reminders:

- NHS prescription charges frozen for the second-year running.
- Ministry of Defence (MOD) using paper FP10 prescriptions.

Local News

FAO Luton – Short survey on Chlamydia testing.

Luton Council's Public Health Team are seeking your insights to better understand the barriers and opportunities for offering chlamydia testing in community pharmacy settings.

Your feedback will help shape future support, training, and service design to ensure pharmacies are equipped to play a vital role in sexual health promotion. All responses will be stored securely and used solely for the purpose of understanding barriers to chlamydia testing in community pharmacies.

Has Modi joins Community Pharmacy England (CPE) Committee.

Congratulations to Has Modi (Managing Director of Jardines (UK) Ltd and BLMK–N Committee Member) after following a period as an Observer to the CPE Committee, has become one of the first Members to be nominated by the Independent Pharmacies Association (IPA), and now has full voting rights.

Mohammad Yasin MP visits Britannia Pharmacy, Kempston.

We would like to extend a BIG thank you to Eddie Rayner and his team at Britannia Pharmacy, Kempston, who hosted a visit for Mohammad Yasin MP for Bedford, they were also joined by Anne-Marie King, Chief Officer of BLMK–Northants LPC.

Reminder – FAO Northamptonshire – Health Promotion Campaign.

NHS Northamptonshire ICB has chosen **Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness (AMR)** as the first local health campaign this year. All Northamptonshire contractors should have received an email, from the ICB, to their NHS email account on **6 November 2025**. The email includes all instructions, resources, and the reporting form link you'll need to complete the campaign requirements.

Campaign dates: 10 November – 7 December 2025 (minimum campaign duration: one week)
(Ideal timing: 18 – 24 November during World AMR Awareness Week)

Full information on the campaign can be found on the [BLMK-N website](#).

All community pharmacies are required to participate in this campaign as part of the **contractual framework**.

Calling all Pharmacy Contractors – Stay Connected with BLMK-Northants on LinkedIn!

Stay informed with the latest updates, key deadlines and training opportunities across Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes, and Northamptonshire. [Follow us today!](#)

Training & Events

Registration is now open for Inclusive Pharmacy Practice Week 2025

From **24–27 November**, all pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and wider pharmacy team members are invited to join a series of free online workshops. Co-produced by 16 national pharmacy partners, sessions will focus on building more diverse leadership in pharmacy, improving patient experiences and reducing health inequalities. [Register via the CPPE website](#).

GPhC consultation on standards for the initial education and training of pharmacy technicians

The General Pharmaceutical Council's (GPhC) [consultation on standards for the initial education and training of pharmacy technicians \(IETPT\)](#) is open until **24 December 2025**. It seeks to gather views on proposed draft standards which bring about changes to pharmacy technician initial education and training, such as the level of study, entry requirements, educational supervision requirements, and the learning outcomes. [Find out more on the GPhC's website](#).

National News/Reminders

NHS prescription charges frozen for the second-year running.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has announced that the NHS prescription charge will remain at **£9.90 per prescription item for 2026/27**.

Ministry of Defence (MOD) using paper FP10 prescriptions.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has [announced](#) that from the start of 2026, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) will start using **paper FP10 prescription forms** for all outsourced prescriptions issued by MOD medical facilities. Any MOD-issued paper FP10 prescriptions should be processed by pharmacy teams in the usual way.

Advance Payments Update: Payments now include Flu and Covid-19 activity.

From this month, advance service payments now include the consultation fees for Flu (adult), Covid-19 and Emergency Contraception (part of the Pharmacy Contraception Service).

Funding & Reimbursement Shorts: Referred back items.

As part of Community Pharmacy England's (CPE) [Funding & Reimbursement Shorts](#) series, CPE's in-house Drug Tariff and funding experts have created a new video on **referred back (or unpaid) items**.

Pharmacy First: ESPAUR report provides insight into antimicrobial supply from pharmacies.

The UK Health Security Agency has published the English surveillance programme for antimicrobial utilisation and resistance (ESPAUR) report for 2024/25. They have also launched a Keep Antibiotics Working campaign to coincide with World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW)

DHSC Campaign Resource Centre website.

PQS: Research published on the use of TYI RTI leaflets.

An article has been published in the journal JAC – Antimicrobial Resistance highlighting outcomes of the 2022/23 and 2023/24 antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) quality criterion of the Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS).

Reminder – Enabling pharmacist flexibilities when dispensing medicines – consultation.

The Department for Health and Social Care and NHS England have launched a consultation seeking views on proposals to enable pharmacist flexibilities when dispensing medicines.

[Respond online with your views](#) by **11:59pm 11 December 2025**.

Useful Links:

<https://cpe.org.uk>

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

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

[Drug Safety Updates.](#)

[Timelines for PQS Domains 2025/26.](#)

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