



Minutes of a meeting of the BLMK and Northants LPC  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Attendees:**

**Nishil Shah** - Chair and Independent LPC Member (Retrolink Ltd) **NS**  
**Mahesh Shah** - Vice Chair and Independent LPC Member (Sampson AP Ltd) **MS**  
**Anne-Marie King** - Chief Officer **AMK**  
**Paul Fearon** - Treasurer **PF**  
**Ann-Marie Carrey** Services & Engagement Lead BLMK **AC**  
**Rita Patel** Services & Engagement Lead Northants **RP**

**Rishi Hindocha** - Independent LPC Member (Pharmacy Cherry) **RH**  
**Amit Lakhani** - Independent LPC Member (Bishopscote Chemist) **AL**

**Lakhminder Flora** - LPC Member, CCA representative (Boots) **LF**  
**Gordon Ross** - LPC Member, CCA representative (Boots) **GR**

**Has Modi** - LPC Member, AIMp representative (Jardines - UK Ltd) **HM**  
**Conor Steele** - LPC Member, AIMp representative (Jardines - UK Ltd) **CS**  
**Mohammed Saloo** - LPC Member, AIMp representative (Peak Pharmacy) **MS**

**Guests:**

**Alesha Watkins** – Partnership Development Manager CGL North Northants **AW**  
**Susanna Ikwen** – Health Protection BLMK (online) **SI**  
**Christina Gleeson** – Population Wellbeing Luton Borough Council (online) **CG**  
**Suki Tagger** - Pharmacy Technician Manager Midlands (online) **ST**

**Apologies :**

**Viren Bhatia** - Independent LPC Member (Kalki Health Ltd) **VB**  
**Tahera Dewji** - LPC Member, CCA representative (Superdrug) **TD**  
**Ingrid Cruickshank** - Services & Engagement Lead BLMK **IC**  
**Anil Sharma** – East of England CPE Rep – **AS**

Number	Agenda Item	Actions
1	<b>Welcome and Introductions (NS)</b>  NS welcomed the members, confirmed that the meeting was quorate and made it known that the meeting would be recorded for administrative purposes only.	
2	<b>Declaration of Interests and Governance (all)</b>	

	None declared.	
3	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>As above</p>	
4	<p><b>Presentation from Sponsor</b></p> <p>‘Menopause’ from our sponsor <b>Aishah Ali-Farooqi</b>, Theramax UK Ltd (Women’s Health Account Manager)</p> <p>(The meeting has kindly been sponsored by Theramax. Theramax had no input in the agenda).</p> <p></p>	
5	<p><b>Treasurer’s Update - PF</b></p> <p><b>Finance Report (PF)</b></p> <p><b>1. Management accounts for seven months to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025</b> (distributed with the agenda):</p> <p><b>Income:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In line with budget:</li> <li>• Contractor payment for November was received on 31<sup>st</sup> October</li> <li>• Sponsorship budget for alternate committee meetings is higher than usual; this includes sponsorship for the Contractor event in September</li> </ul> <p><b>Expenditure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payroll: in line with budget.</li> <li>• Meeting costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Lunches had not been included in the budget</li> <li>◦ Meeting fees will always be attendance related— forecast has been updated due to lower attendance.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Office rental – now includes post office box.</li> <li>• Admin: Transcribing of minutes is costing more as the meetings are longer: forecast updated.</li> <li>• Licence fees: now includes £12 extra for storage.</li> <li>• Contractor Support: Includes October claims. Forecast updated.</li> <li>• Capital expenditure: Purchase of a laptop for the Chief Officer.</li> </ul> <p>Surplus at this stage expected of £11, 068.</p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> tab: Bank Funds:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £233, 642 belonging to the LPC</li> <li>• £194, 041 in External Funds</li> </ul> <p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> tab: Committee Expenses:</b></p> <p>Nothing of note</p>	PF

	<p><b>4<sup>th</sup> tab: Payroll Costs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A breakdown of the numbers on the first tab.</li> </ul> <p><b>5<sup>th</sup> tab: External Funds</b></p> <p>PF considered that the Finances are in good health. <b>He advised that the Finance Committee had reviewed them and had no concerns arising.</b></p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Governance – Governance SubCommittee</b>	
<b>7</b>	<p>A presentation by  <b>Alesha Watkins</b>,  Partnership Development Manager CGL North Northamptonshire</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p>Health Protection presentation  <b>Susanna Ikwen</b>, and <b>Christina Gleeson</b>,  Population Wellbeing, Luton Council.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p>A presentation to include feedback on the PT Apprenticeship Programme  <b>Suki Tagger</b>,  Pharmacy Technician Manager, Midlands.</p>	
<b>10</b>	Anil Sharma, CPE East Of England Representative was unable to join the meeting.	
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Central East LPC Collaborative</b></p> <p>Notes for this Agenda Item will be made available separately.</p>	
	LUNCH	
<b>12</b>	<p><b>CCA Quarterly Questions</b></p> <p>Answers to this quarter's questions were provided and discussed:</p> <p><b>Pharmacy First and PQS</b></p> <p><i>What specific actions are your LPC undertaking to support engagement of local surgeries with electronic referrals for Pharmacy First, ensuring that all contractors can equitably benefit from referrals?</i></p> <p>AMK advised that the changes around NMS and PCS were communicated to contractors via normal channels.</p> <p>Most recently, for PQS there have been BLMK ICB-led campaigns (recently finished) for hypertension which the team have supported.</p> <p>Changes in IT and Gateway have been communicated (GP Connect).</p> <p>Any contractors who have missed Pharmacy First targets have been contacted.</p>	

	<p><i>Has your LPC discussed with local commissioners the possibility of redirection of released sexual health funding into other pharmacy-delivered services e.g. condom supply, testing etc?</i></p> <p>The LPC has not yet had an answer on the amount of funding available. It was understood that the pot was relatively small, but uptake was low. Conversations have been had around vaccinations such as HPV.</p> <p>More information about ongoing funding is expected this week. Payment for signposting patients is also being requested.</p> <p><b>Integrated Neighbourhood teams and the NHS 10 year Plan:</b></p> <p><i>Does your LPC contain a pilot Neighbourhood health service in its boundaries?</i></p> <p>The LPC does not, but there are versions of similar services being piloted. AMK explained that there has been work going on in Northamptonshire with 2 INTs (23 practices) looking at long-term conditions, but there has been no mention of Community Pharmacy. A Pulse article mentions that although GPs are keen to retain their services, they would look to ICBs to be more innovative. From April 2026 patients should be seen the same day, so should be redirected “within Primary Care” to achieve this. Concern was expressed that Community Pharmacy and Pharmacy First does not feature in this work. AMK advised that this information had only been supplied the previous day.</p> <p><i>Has your LPC discussed INTs and has your LPC updated its stakeholder map to ensure only the most appropriate engagement and attendance at local meetings?</i></p> <p>A stakeholder list is available. AMK advised that in Northampton there has been an issue with PCNs which is being worked through.</p> <p><i>What plan does your LPC have to support INTs in understanding the national services that community pharmacy provides in neighbourhoods – Pharmacy First, DMS, Contraception, Hypertension, NMS etc?</i></p> <p>See above for details on engagement with partners. In addition, the team are ensuring that contractors have adequate skills as best they can (bearing in mind the team is only 4 strong). Challenges have been digital infrastructure and workforce.</p> <p>There has been a variable level of engagement at strategic level.</p> <p>AMK advised that she attends several steering groups but has experienced active exclusion from others.</p> <p>Concern about the lack of a Pharmacist at strategic level of the INTs (ie alongside Chief Medical and Nursing Officers) was discussed. The LPC’s ambition is to get representation at all levels.</p> <p><b>ICB Clustering and Merger Changes:</b></p> <p>Discussed above at this meeting.</p>	
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	<p><b>CCA Rep Engagement Events:</b></p> <p>Not discussed at this meeting in detail.</p> <p>Discussion was had around the way in which the CCA collated the answers to these questions and how the information was used. LF agreed that this would be useful, and he would investigate and report back.</p>	
13	<p><b>Consider next contractor event</b></p> <p>AMK advised that the support team were looking at an event to take place in February onwards and were keen for the Committee to provide ideas for format and context. The priority is for something in the Northamptonshire area as BLMK has had good engagement so far.</p> <p>Suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By February there might be more clarity regarding the situation with Leicestershire, discussion around which might encourage attendance.</li> <li>• Feedback for the last event showed that a weekend event need not be discounted, however opinion was that this should be avoided. It was discussed that Leicestershire's AGM had taken place on a Sunday and had a successful turnout.</li> <li>• Sponsorship to keep costs down and open up opportunities for training and quality of the event.</li> <li>• A recording of the event, with access to slide decks, to be available for anyone who could not attend in person.</li> <li>• A training meeting where contractors could bring staff, with a focus on ensuring Pharmacy First's success.</li> <li>• An option for hybrid attendance, with a webinar element.</li> <li>• Two or three guest speakers, including the ICB and CPE, and the incorporation of a training event was considered important.</li> <li>• A chance for networking – perhaps a 90-minute-long lunch break.</li> <li>• Ensuring that this was a rewarding experience for contractors.</li> <li>• Consideration needs to be taken with the amount of support needed to produce a larger event.</li> </ul>	
14	<p><b>KPI Update</b></p> <p>The KPI document was shared (available on the LPC website).</p> <p>AMK asked the Committee to have a look at the narrative parts of the document which provided context for the rating on each KPI.</p>	ALL

	<p>KPIs needing attention:</p> <p>KPI 21: Mapping individual representatives: Support requested from the Committee to share contacts to facilitate this.</p> <p>KPI 24: Develop relationships with representatives from other Primary Care contractor professions: Support requested.</p> <p>KPI 25: Plan for ongoing engagement with other providers: An open invitation has been given to LMC to attend Committee meetings which has not been taken up. There have been challenges in the relationship with Northamptonshire LMC. MS advised that he had received an invitation from an LMC to attend a meeting – NS to liaise with MS to explore this. Several contacts were suggested by the Committee members.</p> <p>KPI: Governance: NS has documents that needed to be reviewed.</p> <p>There have been several KPIs that have moved up the RAG rating due to the work that the team have done such as MP engagement. The Committee agreed that this was very positive.</p>	
15	<p><b>Items outstanding from 17<sup>th</sup> September meeting</b></p> <p>The discussion about the Central East merger at the last meeting had not been captured in the minutes as the recording had stopped.</p> <p>NS offered to provide a write up: the Committee agreed to this as an appropriate measure.</p>	NS
16	<p><b>AOB: A message from the Chair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was reported that the GPhC website had not been working and this had caused an issue when trying to respond to deadlines. It was agreed that whilst there was little the Committee could do about this, it was recognized that this was a concern.</li> <li>• AMC advised that an email had been sent on 14<sup>th</sup> October regarding reducing of the number of workstreams – there were very few responses. She asked that the Committee confirm they were happy with the contents as she is waiting to upload the documentation onto the website.</li> <li>• NS has reviewed the attendance at Committee meetings and advised that at each one of the last few months, 3 or more members had not attended. PF advised that there were two members who had not attended since May. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NS asked if moving the meetings to virtual would help, and what measures should be exercised towards members who were repeatedly absent.</li> <li>○ Concern was expressed that members who were not engaged with the Committee were blocking a space for someone who would be keen to represent contractors.</li> <li>○ It was agreed that the LPC meeting dates were set well enough in advance for cover to be arranged.</li> <li>○ It was agreed that if members could not commit the time to the LPC (including failing to provide feedback on papers if</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	ALL

	<p>not attending), a conversation with them should be had in the first instance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PF to send attendance list to GR, who can take this up with the Governance Sub Committee.</li> <li>○ NS advised that he would be prepared to have the initial conversations with affected members, but that clearer direction after that point was needed.</li> </ul>	<b>PF/GR</b> <b>NS</b>
<b>17</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Concluding Comments</b></p> <p>There being no other items, The Chair declared the meeting closed.</p>	
<b>18</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Close of meeting</b></p>	
	<p><b>Next meeting Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026</b>  <i>Please submit Agenda items to AMK in a timely fashion.</i></p>	

Approved   
 Chair:  
 Date: 21st January 2026