

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PHARMACY STAFFORDSHIRE AND STOKE-ON-TRENT(CPSSOT)**held on****Wednesday 8th July 2026****Thea Pharmaceuticals, Keele**

MEMBER	CATEGORY	10 th Sept	12 th Nov	21 st Jan	11 th March	13 th May	8 th July
Lucy Dean (LD) Chair	IPA	P	P	P	P	P	P
Raj Morjaria (RM) Vice Chair	independent	P	P	½ day	A	P	P
Chris Ward (CW)	CCA	A	P	A	P	P	P
Jeet Patel (JP)	CCA	1/2 day	P	P	P	P	P
Indy Grewal (IG)	Independent	A	P	P	A	P	A
Lee Ison (LI) – Services Manager	Independent	P	P	P	P	P	P
Eleanor Cogan (EC)	CCA	P	P	P	A	P	P
Rafat Tabar	CCA			P	P	A	P
Helen Watton (HW)	IPA	A	P	P	P	P	A
Hema Morjaria (HM)	Independent	A	P	P	2hrs	P	A
Ashwin Patel	CCA	P	P	½ day	P	½ day	P
Rahul Sharda	Independent	P	P	P	P	P	P
Gillian Mason (GM) (IT Support Officer)	Officer						
Tania Cork (TC)Chief Operating Officer	Officer	P	P	P	P	P	P
Andrea Hawkins (AH) Treasurer	Officer	A	P	P	P	P	P

☑ Present / A Apologies for absence / Absent X / R Resigned/ S sick/ N/A Not applicable * Member unable to attend all or part of meeting due to attendance at a meeting elsewhere on behalf of the CP on the same day.

Welcome/Apologies/Introductions/Announcements
Apologies from HW, HM and IG
Declarations of Interest (Dol)
None declared
Vent, Validate, vision – current affairs.
1. New Pharmacy contract The general view was that the new contract is better than expected and provides opportunities for community pharmacy (CP). There are, however, significant concerns about: ○ Funding levels, particularly the proposed £17 consultation fee for prescribing services. ○ Costs of governance, insurance, software, training, and clinical supervision. ○ Clinical liability and litigation risks ○ Whether newly qualified pharmacist prescribers will have sufficient experience. • The prescription service is not expected to launch before autumn due to unresolved governance arrangements. • Some contractors feel pharmacies should resist delivering prescribing services at current funding levels. 2. Regulatory burden There was strong frustration expressed about increasing regulatory requirements without corresponding funding. Examples included: • Clinical Safety Officer requirements • Freedom to Speak up Guardians • Waste management obligations • Annual complaint reporting. There was concern that future prescribing services could lead to additional oversight from bodies such as CQC. 3. Relationships with GPs • There was a discussion around negative social media posts from some GPs about pharmacy, albeit the GP is not from the SSOT area. • Members felt that inappropriate criticism of another healthcare profession should be challenged.

- There were ongoing issues around prescription changes due to medicine shortages and confusion over responsibilities between GPs and pharmacies.

Approval of minutes from previous meeting and Competition Law approval

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13th May 2026 were AGREED as an accurate record of the meeting.

During this meeting, along with these minutes, there was a constant check to ensure no discussions could constitute to breaking competition law. The competition lead for this meeting was Ellie Cogan. The minutes of the CPSSOT meeting are therefore APPROVED.

Matters arising from previous meeting

None

Review of Action Tracker

The Action Log was reviewed, and it will be updated on Teams for members to access.

Members were reminded to check it regularly and notify AH or GM if they encounter any access issues.

Reports

Chair's Report

- LD did not attend the Chairs Forum due to prior commitments. All slides have been made available for members to read.

Chief Officer's Report

- Meeting reports for May/June were shared with the committee – nothing was raised.
- Regional Roadshow – TC and LD briefed the committee members on the East CPE Roadshow. CPE is holding a series of regional roadshow events across the county every year. The roadshows are a chance for CPE to talk directly to pharmacy owners and LPCs. During the face-to-face events pharmacy owners and their team members shared views, ask questions, and engage in discussion sessions with members of CPE Executive Leadership Team, as well as Committee Members and our Chair, Professor Dame Jenny Harries.
- TC and LD noted that the attendance was better than the previous year and it seemed to be better organised and less food waste.

Treasurers Report

- The Trial balance and profit and Loss reports are available on Teams for Members.
- Annual finance report has not been finalised yet but is near completion
- Monthly subscription for XERO is increasing in September 2026
- Reported that CPSSOT has received money from LPN and ICB (extension for 12 months) to go into Allocated Funds.

Services Engagement Officer Report

- LI went through the CPE dashboard and compared data from CPSSOT with those of another LPC that is closely matched to us. LI also discussed at length the Minor Ailments Service and how we are falling behind slightly compared to other areas. Members gave suggestions on how this can be improved.

LOCAL BUSINESS – DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioners & Stakeholder

Sam Travis (ST) joined the meeting virtually to brief the committee on pharmacy matters within the ICB.

- NHSE are working with CPE to tighten up some details on the hypertension service.
- Two of our IP pathfinder sites will continue to operate until Autumn.
- PF IP part of the new contract is still being discussed at CPE with NHSE.
- The five prescribing areas should be ready by autumn 2026.
- There will be slides and information for pharmacy contractors.
- There will be a prescribing development programme – details will be released soon. It may concentrate on CVD incorporating metabolic risk and renal issues. ST is hoping for four sites (two in Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent and 2 in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin). This is additional funding and not part of the contract funding. The key to making this work will be that community pharmacies are part of the integrated neighbourhood teams.

Abuse of pharmacy teams

- The committee asked for ICB campaign posters pharmacies with regards to abuse from patients. ST will forward these to TC.

CPE Update -RS

The committee congratulated RS on his new position of CPE representative for the East and North of England. RS gave an update from CPE, topics included:

- The July meeting of the CPE Committee – the full committee met in London on 24th and 25th June. Discussions focused on the contract reform programme and longer-term future thinking. There were observers from LPC Leaders in the Southwest. The two days also covered subcommittee meetings and covered work to implement changes agreed in the 2026/27 CPCF and ongoing concerns such as medicines supply.
- Other topics discussed were:
 - planning for 2027 CPE and LPC elections.
 - What next after 2026/27 CPCF settlements
 - Contractual Reform Programme
 - Sector inputs and Polling

MenB Vaccine in community pharmacy

All information from CPE and UKHSA was given to the committee members

Stoke on Trent Shadow Place Board

TC informed the committee that she had been invited to sit on the Stoke -on-Trent Shadow Board.

This board exercises those functions delegated to it by the ICB Board through the Scheme of Reservation and Delegation and Standing Financial Instructions.

The Board is accountable to:

- The ICB Board for the discharge of delegated statutory and financial responsibilities: and
- The Stoke-on-Trent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) for delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and agreed local health and wellbeing priorities.

The Board operates within the statutory framework of the Integrated Care System and relevant Stoke-on-Trent City Council governance arrangements.

- The purpose of the Place Board is to lead delivery at Place level, determining how services are delivered to achieve the strategic commissioning intent set by the ICB Board. The Board will also:
 - Oversee development of PCN-aligned integrated neighbourhood teams.

○ Ensure multidisciplinary working across health, social care, public health and Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise(VCFSE). ○ Support population health management approaches at neighbourhood level. ○ Assure delivery of community and asset-based models of care.
LUNCH
Talk with Abbotts, Ihsaan Ahmed (IA)
Ihsaan gave a very useful and informative talk to the committee members on their ONS products. The committee thanked IA for sponsoring lunch.
INT (Integrated neighbourhood teams)
TC gave an update on INT within the area and nationally. Also shared was the intelligence paper produced by the CPE that detailed fundings on the impact of LPC capacity and representation. The main themes are as follows: 1. NHS ICB headcount reductions are significant and ongoing, with many LPCs reporting losses of 30–55% in relevant teams. 2. Pharmacy specific leadership, commissioning expertise and primary care capacity have been materially reduced. 3. There is widespread concern that reduced ICB capacity is leading to delayed decisions, weaker pharmacy representation, and increased contractor and patient risk. 4. Growing risk that community pharmacy is marginalised within system decision making at a time of increasing reliance on the sector. 5. Engagement between LPCs and ICB leaders is inconsistent, with variable responsiveness to formal concerns. 6. Work previously led by CPCLs and ICB pharmacy teams is reverting to LPCs without additional resource. 7. LPC workloads have already increased or are expected to increase for nearly 80% of respondents. 8. LPCs are looking to Community Pharmacy England for national support from shared resources and advocacy with DHSC and NHS England to attempt to mitigate system level risks.
Reflection on FY1 of IP
There was a discussion on the first year of trainee pharmacists having the prescribing learning outcomes. Concerns were raised over DPPs and how difficult it had become to secure these. Overall the committee felt this had been a positive start however the need for further resources for newly qualified novice prescribers was noted.
Sexual Health services (stoke and Staffs)
TC explained to the committee that LI will now be taking over the Sexual Health Service for contractors. LI gave a report on how SOT LA are progressing with the funding. He also mentioned that Staffordshire LA are coming on board, however, the service and funding may not totally match that of Stoke.
Flu vouchers Service
Due to the LA having to contract with every individual pharmacy this service has now been handed over to the provider company CHS.
LPN Projects
Projects are progressing albeit slowly. The research project now has capacity problems due to ICB stepping away from supporting interviews. The Acne Service is awaiting more PGDs to be written, and there is a concern that those may not get signed off by a medical director at the ICB.
Constitution

Committee members had a discussion on the CPE and LPC constitution. This helped to clarify any misunderstanding particularly with the levy payments to the CPE.

Conference Planning

TC thanked the conference planning group for their support in helping to shape the September 2027 conference for the LPC.

All papers can be found in the TEAMS folder. AH is looking at another venue and then the decision can be made.

Sponsorships are needed and so all committee members were asked to support this by talking to pharma reps.

Policy and Advisory – Information only

The following papers were provided for members to read:

- Barriers to implementing AI in Healthcare and how to overcome them—PowerPoint.
- A Systematic Review of the Barriers to the Implementation of Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare
- Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey 2025
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy 2026-2031
- NICE update – talk to clinical senate

Closed Meeting

- Change of ownership application for LP SD Eighty-Three Limited at Unit 3 Burntwood S/Centre, Cannock Road, Burntwood, Stafford, WS7 1JR by AP SD One Limited.
- Change of ownership application for LP SD Seventeen Limited at Hednesford Valley HC, Station Road, Hednesford, Cannock, WS12 4DJ by AP SD Fifty-Four Limited.
- Change of ownership application for LP SD Eighteen Limited T/A Jhoots Pharmacy at 9-10 Burton Square, Rising Brook, Stafford, ST17 9LT by AP SD Forty-Eight Limited
- Change of ownership application for Jhoots Pharmacy Limited at Shelton Primary Care Centre, Norfolk Street, Hanley, Stoke on Trent, ST1 4PB by AP SD Forty-Two Ltd
- (Ramin) IClick (DSP) previously at Unit 89, Shelton Enterprise Centre, Bedford Street, Stoke on Trent, ST1 4PZ will start to provide pharmaceutical services from 48 Broad Street, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 4EU on 15/06/2026

CCA Questions

No reporting needed from this meeting.

Subgroup Work

Finance and Audit

- Met with Governance Subgroup

Governance

- Met with Finance and Audit

Communications

- Went through Social media/Whats App and discussed the I Pad prize

Whole group work

- Build a stakeholder Power point presentation
- This would be based on:
 - Who we are

○ What we do ○ Why we're needed. ● It was agreed that there should also be a separate presentation for Contractors. ● Key facts ○ Hours of opening ○ Medicine shortages ○ Services that aren't funded ○ Regulation/legislation ○ Complexity of drugs regulations ○ GDPR
Review of Actions
The logs and Action Plan are on Teams and available to view at any time.
AOB
Project to stop CP re-ordering prescriptions for patients. There is a model to demonstrate what capacity CP has – concerns were raised that this is a model of 1 pharmacy and it doesn't apply to all.
Confirm next Meeting
Wednesday 9th September 2026 at Dean & Smedley, Burton upon Trent if you are unable to attend, please send your apologies to Tania Cork taniacork@cpstaffsstoke.org.uk or Andrea Hawkins andreaahawkins@cpstaffsstoke.org.uk

Date	time	Venue	chair
Wednesday 9 th September 2026	10:00	Dean & Smedley	LD
Wednesday 11 th November	10:00	Dean & Smedley	LD
Wednesday 13 th January 2027	10:00	To be confirmed	LD
*TUESDAY 2nd March 2027	10:00	Keele	LD

***PLEASE NOTE DIFFERENT DAY!**