

Annual Report 2025/2026



Officers

Chair: Mr. James Glover

Vice Chair: Mr. Martin Stratton

Treasurer: Mrs. Una Harding

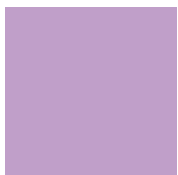
Chief Officer: Dr. Lisa Manning



About Us

‘The Committee’ shall be the Sefton Local Pharmaceutical Committee (as required by the NHS Act 2006) and known as ‘Community Pharmacy Sefton’.

The Aim of the Committee is to represent all Sefton Contractors with the various stakeholders, developing multi-organisational working and promoting the community pharmacy profession. It is accountable to those contractors for the work that it does on their behalf and for the effective and economical use of LPC funds.



Welcome

It has been another busy and important year for community pharmacy, and it has been encouraging to see some positive developments for our sector. In particular, the increase in funding agreed for community pharmacy is a welcome recognition of the vital role we play within the NHS. While we know that significant pressures remain for contractors, I remain optimistic about the direction of travel for community pharmacy and the increasing recognition of the clinical contribution we can make to patient care.

Locally, I was particularly pleased with the success of our training session in February for pharmacy teams. The engagement and feedback demonstrated the value of bringing colleagues together to learn, share experiences and strengthen relationships across Sefton, and we are already looking at further training opportunities over the coming year. We also have important developments ahead, including changes to the Hypertension Case-Finding Service. As services continue to evolve, it is important that contractors feel informed and supported to make the most of these opportunities.

I am also pleased that we were able to provide contractors with a three-month levy holiday this year, returning some financial benefit to pharmacies at a time when every saving helps.

I have full confidence in the Community Pharmacy Sefton team to continue providing that support, and I would like to personally thank Lisa, Jess, Edward and Sara for all their hard work over the past year. Much of what the committee achieves relies on the work that takes place behind the scenes, and their commitment to supporting and representing our contractors is hugely appreciated.

Finally, I would reiterate the message from my report last year: Community Pharmacy Sefton is here for you. If you are experiencing difficulties, need advice or support, or simply want to raise something that you feel we should be aware of, please reach out to us. The stronger the relationship between the committee and our contractors, the better we can represent community pharmacy across Sefton and ensure that our collective voice is heard.

James Glover
Chair, Community Pharmacy Sefton



Who we are

Our committee members

- James Glover Chair/Member IPA
- Martin Stratton Member/Independent (Vice Chair)
- Una Harding Member/Independent (Treasurer)
- Jemma Lees Member/IPA
- Sarah Halpin Member/Independent
- Salma Iqbal Member/CCA
- Lucy Corner Member/CCA
- Clare Colwyn Member/CCA

Our office team

- Dr Lisa Manning CEO
 - Sara Davies Pharmacy Services Manager
 - Edward Murphy Engagement Officer
 - Jess Bibby Business Support Officer
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Governance

Meeting attendance

The table below lists all committee members who served in 2025/26. The LPC meets monthly except for August and December, with alternate evening and daytime meetings. For the year 2025/26 the committee agreed, however, to meet less frequently to optimize LPC time. With the additional months of May, October and March excluded from the meeting schedule. The majority of meetings have taken place virtually via Zoom for 25/26. Various commissioners, e.g. Integrated Care Board (ICB), Public Health (PH), Community Pharmacy England (CPE), and Medicines Management Team (MMT), are invited to attend certain meetings along with other stakeholders and relevant people when applicable. All contractors are welcome to attend any of the meetings as observers, but they must inform the committee in advance. We hold an annual general meeting in September each year.

Name	Role/Status	Possible meeting attendance	Actual meeting attendance
James Glover	Chairman/ IPA	7	6
Martin Stratton	Vice Chairman – Independent	7	4
Una Harding	Treasurer – Independent	7	6
Lucy Corner	CCA (Rowlands)	7	6
James Moir	IPA	7	4
Joanne Murphy	CCA (Rowlands)	7	2
Sarah Halpin	Independent	7	5
Salma Iqbal	CCA (Boots)	7	5
Jemma Lees	IPA	7	6

Please remember:

- To regularly visit your CPS website at www.psnc.org.uk, go to the LPC portal. (for Sefton LPC):
<https://sefton.communitypharmacy.org.uk/>
- To inform us of any new email contacts that may benefit from receiving CPS updates.
- To contact myself, the chair, or any member of the committee to confidentially discuss any issue. We are here to represent you with our services and advice. Please contact lisa@sefton-lpc.org.uk or 07912043872.



Constitution and Compliance

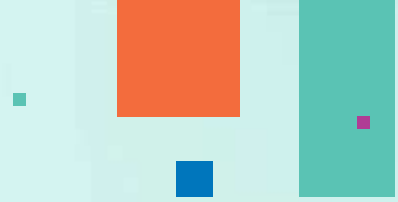
As in the previous year, there were no constitutional irregularities or problems, and the committee discharged all its duties on time and to specification. All CPS members are required to sign declarations adhering to a code of corporate governance, confidentiality, and conflict of interests.

The committee consists of 9 members and is in proportion to the different proportions of contractors, i.e., CCA, Independent, and IPA.

We are also GDPR-compliant and have helped contractors via support materials to also meet their GDPR responsibilities.

All members are reminded that, no matter their source of nomination or election, CPS members have to act and speak in the interests of all the contractors, not just those of their nominating body. In the event of a member having a conflict of material or financial interest with regard to agenda items or minutes, they are required to make a formal declaration to that effect and either leave the room or meeting or take no part in the ensuing debates. All such declarations are formally minuted.





Community Pharmacy Sefton Financial Statements



Community Pharmacy Sefton LPC

Accounts

for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026		2025	
Income		£	£	£	£
Contractor Levies		96,538		76,841	
Other Income		<u>8,201</u>	<u>104,739</u>	<u>26,978</u>	<u>103,819</u>
Expenditure					
Administration					
Staff employment costs		61,625		72,369	
Meeting costs		4,677		5,583	
Levies		31,440		32,903	
Post and stationery		728		842	
Computer costs		727		833	
Insurance		767		634	
Telephone		787		859	
Travelling		3,668		2,147	
Bank charges		51		5	
Accountancy		3,231		3,089	
Legal fees		1,800		1,800	
HMRC interest and charges		100		0	
Total Costs			<u>109,601</u>		<u>121,064</u>
Surplus/ (loss) before tax		(4,862)		(17,245)	
Corporation tax		<u>65</u>		1,587	
Surplus/ (loss) after tax		(4,927)		(18,832)	

Balance Sheet

as of 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026		2025	
		£	£	£	£
Debtors	4	6,050		5,929	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>78,053</u>		<u>85,075</u>	
		84,103		91,004	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	5	4,010		5,984	
Net current assets			80,093		85,020
Total assets less current liabilities			80,093		85,020
Net assets			80,093		85,020
Represented by:					
General fund					
Balance at 1 April 2026			85,020		103,852
Surplus/ (loss) for the year			<u>(4,927)</u>		<u>(18,832)</u>
Balance at 31 March 2026			80,093		85,020

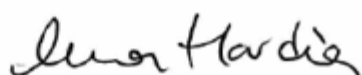
These financial statements were approved by the Community Pharmacy Sefton LPC on and signed on its behalf by:

James Glover



Chair of the Committee

Una Harding



LPC Treasurer

Chief Officer Report

The Aim of the Committee is to represent all Sefton Contractors with the various stakeholders, developing multi-organisational working and promoting the community pharmacy profession. It is accountable to those contractors for the work that it does on their behalf and for the effective and economical use of LPC funds.

Year 2025-2026 has continued to be a challenging but opportunistic year for pharmacy. The demands on pharmacy are ever increasing with many pharmacies becoming unviable which is reflected in the closure of further pharmacies within Sefton. Pharmacies report being busier than ever with increasing challenges from stock shortages and procuring stock etc.

Community pharmacies in Sefton continued to operate under significant financial and operational pressures throughout 2025/26. Persistent medicine shortages, increasing patient demand and workforce challenges affected every pharmacy. Despite these pressures, Community Pharmacy Sefton (CPS) focused on supporting contractors, strengthening relationships across the NHS and expanding the clinical role of community pharmacy. As an LPC, we are engaging regularly with stakeholders through evidence-based facts e.g. GPs' annual survey, CPE surveys, demonstrating the real work pressures we are under, and providing evidence demonstrating the value the public places upon pharmacy. We champion community pharmacies to be increasingly recognised as an integral part of primary care, with pharmacists providing more direct clinical care rather than solely dispensing medicines. We also highlight and strategically plan the importance of preparing for the future pharmacist prescribing workforce and supporting the first cohort of trainee independent pharmacists entering community practice.

Throughout the year, Community Pharmacy Sefton has worked collaboratively with NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, Sefton Council, Primary Care Networks, General Practice colleagues and wider system partners e.g. Healthwatch, NW Health Innovation etc. to ensure community pharmacy remains a valued and accessible component of local healthcare provision.

Your LPC has been working hard for you over the past year and just wanted to highlight the work we have undertaken on your behalf and successes we have achieved.

[Please click here to view](#)

Key Achievements

Contractor Support

Community Pharmacy Sefton continued to provide:

- Regular contractor newsletters and communications and engagement

- Advice on contractual requirements and service implementation.
- Training opportunities and supporting pharmacy team upskilling
- Clinical and operational guidance.
- Representation of contractor interests with NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB, and local commissioners.
- Continued to work with MPs to ask government for the funding required to improve sustainability within the sector

This ensured local pharmacies had access to timely information during periods of rapid service development and policy change.

Regular contractor engagement events, newsletters, briefings and one-to-one support sessions have been provided to ensure pharmacies remain informed about national policy developments, service specifications and commissioning opportunities. Particular focus has been placed on supporting implementation and optimisation of Pharmacy First, the Contraception Service, Hypertension Case Finding Service and vaccination programmes.

Strengthening Clinical Services

A major part of our workplan is the continuing shift towards pharmacies delivering more clinical care and supporting contractors to do this.

The committee supported implementation and optimisation of services including:

- Pharmacy First
- Hypertension Case Finding (HCFS)
- Oral Contraception Service (PCS)
- Smoking Cessation Service
- NHS vaccinations and other locally commissioned services
- Discharge Medicines Service

We continue to share data with GPs and other stakeholders to show how these services continue to reduce pressure on general practice and urgent care while improving access for patients. This year we saw a 29.76% increase in Pharmacy First consultations, a 6.82% increase in HCFS and a 194% increase in PCS and will continue to promote the service and offer training to GPs to increase referrals.

We have continued to work with our local commissioners on pharmacy services, e.g. Ensuring improved training accreditation processes for Smoking Cessation services, provision of resources etc.

Community Pharmacy Sefton has worked closely with commissioners and providers to identify opportunities for service expansion and to promote greater utilisation of community pharmacy expertise across the local health and care system.

Partnership Working

Community Pharmacy Sefton strengthened relationships with:

- NHS Cheshire and Merseyside
- Primary Care Networks
- GP practices
- Medicines Management Teams
- Local Medical, Dental and Optum committees
- New neighbourhood health partnerships
- Local Authority colleagues

During the year, Community Pharmacy Sefton has actively contributed to discussions relating to neighbourhood health, integrated care and primary care transformation. The organisation has represented contractor interests at local and regional forums and has advocated for greater recognition of the role of community pharmacy in addressing health inequalities and improving patient outcomes.

Collaboration with Sefton Council Public Health, NHS Cheshire and Merseyside and Primary Care Networks has supported the development of local initiatives aimed at improving population health and access to care.

One notable progression is that we have pushed to be included in neighbourhood health working groups within Sefton to discuss the pharmacy offer and we are now included as a partner in the development of future work. A key challenge has been, and will continue to be, the changes within the ICB due to redundancies, transformation and a reduced capacity. Therefore, one of our priorities will be building relationships with these new partners and stakeholders

Workforce Development

We have supported contractors and their teams by:

- Supporting trainee pharmacists
- Encouraging education and clinical development
- Promoting collaborative learning
- Supporting contractors with workforce challenges
- Supporting the wellbeing of all pharmacy staff

This reflects national changes in pharmacy education and the expanding clinical

role of pharmacists. Highlights and priorities for us will include upskilling pharmacy teams, utilising their skill mix effectively and preparing for future pharmacist independent prescribing.

Challenges Identified

The LPC recognises several ongoing challenges affecting community pharmacy:

- Continued financial pressure on contractors.
- Ongoing medicines shortages.
- Increased patient expectations and demand.
- Workforce recruitment and retention.
- Sustainability of the community pharmacy network.
- Neighbourhood health working and ensuring we are included in development of clinical pathways etc.

The community pharmacy sector continues to face significant challenges, including rising operating costs, workforce shortages, medicines supply disruptions and sustained financial pressures.

Despite these challenges, pharmacies across Sefton have continued to deliver safe, high-quality care and have demonstrated remarkable resilience and commitment to their local communities.

Despite these issues, the committee remains optimistic that the profession's expanding clinical role will strengthen its long-term future.

Governance and Finance

Community Pharmacy Sefton maintained appropriate governance arrangements throughout the year, including:

- Publication of annual accounts and financial declarations.
- Transparent reporting of expenditure.
- Continued contractor representation.
- Compliance with governance and committee requirements.

Committee members have continued to provide strategic leadership and oversight, supported by regular performance monitoring and engagement with contractors. The organisation has remained committed to equality, diversity and inclusion, workforce development and continuous quality improvement.

All CPS members are required to sign declarations adhering to a code of corporate governance, confidentiality, and conflicts of interests.

The committee consists of nine members, with representation proportionate to the different contractor types, i.e. CCA, Independent and IPA.

We also maintain compliance with GDPR requirements and have helped contractors via support materials to also meet their GDPR responsibilities.

All members are reminded that, regardless of their method of nomination or election, CPS members have to act and speak in the interests of all the contractors, and not just that of their nominating body. In the event of a member having a material or financial conflict of interest regarding agenda items or minutes, they are required to make a formal declaration to that effect and either leave the room or meeting or take no part in the subsequent discussions. All such declarations are formally minuted and recorded.

The LPC also conducted a robust CPE LPC self-assessment evaluation on its workings, the details of which are published on our website and overall, we were RAG-rated green. From this we determined further actions that could be implemented to ensure we are RAG rated green for all variables, and we will ensure all standards are maintained.

The finance subcommittee meets every 6 weeks. Due to robust budgets and accounting we were again in a good financial position whereby we could give contractors a 5-month levy holiday in 2025–2026, helping reduce financial pressure on contractors. Our annual report and extensive assurance report has again been published with no issues identified.

Looking Ahead (2026/27)

Key priorities for the coming year include:

- Supporting implementation of the new changes to the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework.
- Maximising delivery and quality of Pharmacy First, HCFS, PCS and other clinical services.
- Supporting workforce development, training and independent prescribing readiness.
- Continuing to advocate for sustainable funding.
- Strengthening collaboration across primary care, wider health and care services and with the new ICB structure.
- Strengthening collaboration as a region with other local LPCs
- Representing contractors in the development of neighbourhood health and strengthening involvement
- Supporting contractor resilience and workforce wellbeing.
- Adopting a new constitution and undergoing the election process to start Apr 2027

Overall Conclusion

The 2025/26 report presents a realistic but optimistic picture of community pharmacy in Sefton. While financial pressures, medicine shortages and workforce issues remain significant, Community Pharmacy Sefton has focused on ensuring contractors are

supported, represented and well placed to deliver an expanding range of NHS clinical services.

The report emphasises that community pharmacy is evolving from a predominantly dispensing service into a recognised clinical provider within integrated primary care. Continued partnership working, workforce development and advocacy for sustainable funding will be essential to achieving this vision.

With the announcement of the Government's 10-year health plan [10-year-health-plan-for-england](#) that aligns with the Vision for Community Pharmacy [Vision for community Pharmacy](#) developed by the Nuffield Trust and The King's Fund, positioning pharmacies as central to the proposed Neighbourhood Health Service and the Prescription for Success document [A-Prescription-for-Success-report](#), we will look to maximise opportunities for community pharmacy, and we will be linking with key stakeholders to understand what the shift from working as Primary Care Networks to Integrated Neighbourhood Teams will look like for Community Pharmacy.

Community Pharmacy Sefton remains committed to championing the interests of community pharmacy contractors and demonstrating the sector's vital contribution to the health and wellbeing of local residents.

The achievements of 2025/26 reflect the dedication of pharmacy teams across Sefton and the strength of partnerships developed across the health and care system. As community pharmacy continues to evolve, Community Pharmacy Sefton will remain focused on supporting contractors, influencing local decision-making and ensuring patients benefit from accessible, high-quality pharmaceutical care close to home.

These are the key points of our work over the past year. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

As CEO I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all CPS members for their commitment to our local contractors and for the support they have given both myself and the Chair during the year.

Finally, but by no means least, I would personally like to recognise the resilience and hard work of Sefton's community pharmacies resilience and hard work in still providing an excellent service to our communities during extremely challenging times.

Kindest Regards



Dr Lisa Manning
Chief Executive Officer



Get in touch

Visit: [Community Pharmacy Sefton – Welcome to the Community Pharmacy Sefton website.](#)

[Click here to find information on Officers, Members, Governance and how to conduct us.](#)

Email: admin@sefton-lpc.org.uk