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| October 2022 Newsletter |

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| **AGM**Our AGM for 2022 was held on Thursday 29th September, where the Annual Report 21/22 was discussed, and the accounts presented and accepted by contractor vote.  If you missed the meeting, and would like to access the annual report and accounts they are available to view on our [website](https://swindonwiltshire.communitypharmacy.org.uk/about-us-2/annual-report/). |

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| **Local Health Care System Changes**‘Integrated care systems (ICSs) are geographically based partnerships that bring together providers and commissioners of NHS services with local authorities and other local partners to plan, co-ordinate and commission health and care services. They are part of a fundamental shift in the way the health and care system is organised – away from competition and organisational autonomy and towards collaboration, with health and care organisations working together to integrate services and improve population health. ICSs have been developing for several years – since July 2022 the Health and Care Act has put them on a statutory footing’ (King’s Fund - [Integrated care systems: how will they work under the Health and Care Act? | The King's Fund (kingsfund.org.uk)](https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/audio-video/integrated-care-systems-health-and-care-act))Swindon & Wiltshire pharmacies are part of the Banes, Swindon & Wiltshire ICS. **Confused?! Have a watch of the explainer video** below to see where community pharmacy fits into this wider local system.[BSW ICS Explainer - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PjRzwwL9vvk) |

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| **Independent Prescribing**Are you interested in becoming an independent prescriber but **struggling to find a DMP/DPP**?  More opportunities are becoming available locally to support with this, as part of a BSW ICS system approach. If you are interested as a pharmacist or as a contractor, please be in touch with us at the LPC so we can keep you up to date. |

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| **Save the date**Swindon Borough Council (SBC) Substance Use Disorder Team are running an in-person pharmacy evening on **Wednesday 23rd November**, for all pharmacies in Swindon with a public health contract.  This will be a great opportunity for training, updates and sharing experience.  There will be a focus on a new Alcohol Brief Intervention Service that is planned to be delivered through community pharmacy.  All pharmacy staff are invited, come along and find out more. Food will be provided!   If you are interested in attending this event please register by emailing Mussah Dube-Manungo to **book your place by 14thOctober 2022**.  |

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| **Stoptober**This month is **Stoptober,** the national stop smoking campaign encouraging smokers to kick the habit for good. In Swindon some pharmacies are commissioned for the public health stop smoking service, and Stoptober offers a great opportunity to encourage people to access this service. Within any pharmacy it is an opportunity to start conversations with the public, and help them start their quit journey. Please see some relevant resources/information (provided by SBC) to encourage as much support as possible for the campaign across Swindon & Wiltshire.  * Accessing a [Personal Quit Plan](https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/quit-smoking/personal-quit-plan/), a self-help tool that can help plan a quit and access the right support
* Downloading the [NHS Smokefree app](https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/quit-smoking/), which is free to download and helps track progress, money saved and access to daily support
* A Stoptober [Facebook group](https://www.facebook.com/stoptober/) is available for contact with other smokers also attempting a quit
* If you are talking to smokers about making a behaviour change, you can access a free virtual training module on how to make every contact count [here](https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/making-every-contact-count/)

Talking to smokers about quitting can often provide an opportunity to signpost people to other resources for support, such as support with finances or help with mental health. To find out what support is available for residents, try a free signposting website [MECC Link](https://www.mecclink.co.uk/banes-swindon-and-wiltshire/) with key signposting to better health and wellbeing across Swindon and Wiltshire.   |

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| **Pharmacy Minister Visit**At the end of September, the new pharmacy minister [Will Quince](https://twitter.com/willquince), met the team at Gompels Pharmacy in Melksham, Wiltshire. Will said ‘It gave me an opportunity to discuss Our Plan for Patients and how pharmacists are playing a bigger role in providing care for patients and freeing up GP appointments’. As an LPC we were pleased that there was this opportunity for the minister to visit one of our pharmacies in Wiltshire to see the incredible work happening every day in, and to consider some of the current pressures facing community pharmacy. |

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| **The Wiltshire Life Awards are back!**Last year pharmacist Aga Janowska from Trowbridge, was shortlisted for the Local Hero of the Year Wiltshire Life Award Participating in the Wiltshire Life Awards allows an opportunity for recognition of a pharmacy/staff member’s contribution to the Wiltshire community. Why not nominate a community pharmacy colleague? Closing date is 14thOctober 2022. **To enter or see the list of categories click**[**here**](https://www.wiltshirelifeawards.co.uk/2023-categories)**.** |

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| **Research Opportunity for Contractors** Researchers working on the [PRESSURE](https://bristol.ac.uk/primaryhealthcare/researchthemes/pressure-study/) study at the University of Bristol have found that healthcare professionals experience domestic abuse at high rates, and they are keen to improve the support available for these staff. One of their first tasks, is to identify whether there are any staff policies currently in place in primary and community healthcare settings (including pharmacies) in England. They anticipate that few organisations/practices will have such a policy but want to confirm this. As contractors, if your pharmacy has a staff domestic abuse policy the PRESSURE study team would really appreciate it if you could be in touch with them (email: alison.gregory@bristol.ac.uk). The team will also be carrying out a survey later in the year to find out about healthcare professionals’ own experiences of domestic abuse – more details will follow once the survey has been launched.  |

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| **HEE Workforce Survey**From 1st October 2022, completion of the HEE annual community pharmacy workforce survey has become a mandatory requirement for pharmacy contractors, under their terms of service. The 2022 survey is expected to launch in the next couple of weeks, so please look out for the announcement of this.As an LPC we are hearing and seeing the impact that workforce pressures are having on community pharmacy, and this survey will help ensure we all have high quality workforce data to tackle the widespread staffing challenges the sector currently faces.More information can be found here:-<https://psnc.org.uk/quality-and-regulations/annual-workforce-survey/> |

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| **Reminder**Pharmacy staff, can book their COVID-19 booster vaccinations through the [National Booking Service](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/). Eligible staff are encouraged to book an appointment for a booster dose as soon as possible, provided it has been at least three months since their last dose of the vaccine. |

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| **Controlled Drugs**Pharmacy teams should have robust processes for reporting CD-related incidents within community pharmacy.  The lead Controlled Drugs accountable Officer at NHS England & NHS Improvement for the Swindon & Wiltshire area is **Jon Hayhurst**.  Pharmacy staff can contact Jon and his team for advice and guidance at england.southwestcontrolleddrugs@nhs.net.  Controlled Drugs incidents or destruction requests should be reported/requested via [www.cdreporting.co.uk](http://www.cdreporting.co.uk/).**The most recent newsletter from the Controlled Drugs Team is available here and is particularly useful for shared learning**. |

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| **Communication**Are you a new contractor or member of staff working in Community Pharmacy in Swindon & Wiltshire? Join our new CPSW [Telegram group](https://t.me/%2BhsyuInTpmOo4NWI0) to keep up to date and in touch with CPSW staff and committee members.***Do you want to know more about Swindon & Wiltshire LPC and the work we are doing?***Why not visit our website and find out…[About us – Community Pharmacy Swindon & Wiltshire](https://swindonwiltshire.communitypharmacy.org.uk/about-us-2/)If you wish to attend an LPC meeting to discuss an issue, or have an item included in the agenda, please feel free to contact us./var/folders/jt/ssf8xjds2p9ghbc3vkj05ypw0000gn/T/com.microsoft.Word/WebArchiveCopyPasteTempFiles/dfdfb1c2-b609-4c0f-93db-dc8a051c75d8.jpg |

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