

Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council meeting 17 September 2026

OPEN BUSINESS

This meeting will be held in person at Royal College Offices, 44 Melville Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7HJ

OPEN BUSINESS AGENDA 17 September 2026 at 9.00am

Item (approx. start time)	Subject	Purpose	Related papers/slides	Objective	Chair/or lead person
1. (09:00)	Welcome	For noting	No paper/Verbal address	Welcome and introductions	SPAC Chair
	Apologies	For noting	No paper/Verbal address	To note apologies • Josh Miller • Lucy Dixon	SPAC Chair
2.	Declarations of Interests	For noting	26.09.SPAC.02	To note the declarations of interest for Scottish Council members	SPAC Chair
3.	Minutes and matters arising	For decision	26.09.NPAC.03	To approve the Open business minutes of the National Pharmacy Advisory Councils' meeting held in June 2026 and to discuss matters arising from these minutes including Adults with Incapacity (26.09.SPAC.03(i)).	SPAC Chair

4. (09:30)	Public Affairs update	Presentation	Verbal	The first 100 days plan of the new Scottish Parliament.	SPAC Chair and Director for Scotland
5. (10.00)	Ambassadors	For noting	Verbal	To be updated on the plans for the Ambassadors who are covering the regions in Scotland	SPAC Chair and Aisling Kerr
6. (10.20)	Medicines Shortages	For discussion	Verbal	To discuss progress on recommendations and next steps following on from the One Year on report	SPAC Chair
7. (10.50)	Standards and Guidance	Introduction	Verbal	Introduction from Emily Kennedy, Head of Professional Standards	SPAC Chair
11.10 Refreshment break (15 mins)					
8. (11.25)	GB Workplan	For noting		To discuss the outputs from the SPAC working day (16/09/26) and plans for the future workplan	SPAC Chair and Director for Scotland
9. (11.55)	Papers for noting	For noting	26.09.NPB.09 (i), (ii), (iii), (iv)	For the National Pharmacy Advisory Councils to note the following papers: (i)Implementing Country Visions (ii)Professional Issues (iii)Workforce (iv)Strengthening Pharmacy Governance	SPAC Chair

10. (12.00)	Any other business	For noting	verbal	National Pharmacy Advisory Council Members should inform their respective Chair, National Director or Business Manager in writing at least 48 hours before the meeting of any matter that is to be raised under Any other Business.			SPAC Chair
11. (12.10)	Key points for reporting to Royal College members – standing item	Discussion	Verbal	To highlight the key points from the meeting to be reported back to members			PSAC Chair
12. (12.20)	Dates of next meeting	For noting		Dates of meetings below in 2026. Meeting dates for 2027 are still to be confirmed			EPAC Chair
				England	Scotland	Wales	
				5 November (joint meeting)	5 November (joint meeting)	5 November (joint meeting)	
Close of open business – 12.20							
RPS observers requested to leave the meeting							

Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council Declarations of interest

Jonathan Burton

- Community Pharmacist & co-owner, Right Medicine Pharmacy – 2000 onwards
- Previous SPB Board Member, RPS, (incl. terms as Chair and Vice-Chair) – 2012-2021 and 2024-2026
- Previous Assembly Member, Royal Pharmaceutical Society – 2019-2021
- Member, Pharmacy Magazine Editorial Advisory Panel - 2023 –
- Member, Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council – 2026
- Co-Editor of Pharmaceutical Press textbook 'Pharmacy management of Long-Term Medical Conditions
- Assist on sessional basis with workshops & OSCE assessment for Univ. of Strathclyde Independent Prescribing course

Lucy Dixon

- Member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council - 2026
- Pharmacist employee, NHS Highland
- Co-contractor (with husband), Dornoch Pharmacy Ltd
- Co-contractor (with husband), Mitchells Chemist Ltd
- Co-owner, Dornoch Properties Ltd
- Share-holder, Dornoch Pharmacy Ltd
- Share-holder, Mitchells Chemist Ltd
- Secondment to Effective Prescribing and Therapeutics Division of Scottish Government

Paul Forsyth

- Member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council – 2026
- Member, Royal College of Pharmacy, Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council – 2026
- Member, Royal College of Pharmacy
 - Fellow, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (now Royal College of Pharmacy), 2022
 - Consultant Pharmacist Credentialing, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (now Royal College of Pharmacy), 2021
 - Member, Task & Finish Group Member, Advanced Practice Curriculum, Credentialing, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (now Royal College of Pharmacy), 2021-2022
 - Chair (paid), Review of 1st Year Consultant Pharmacist Credentialing Process, Chair of Review Process, Royal Pharmaceutical Society (now Royal College of Pharmacy), 2022
- Consultant Pharmacist, NHS Golden Jubilee
- Consultant Pharmacist (Honorary), NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde

- Visiting Professor, University of Strathclyde
- Member, UKCPA
 - Ex-Chair, Heart Failure Sub-Group, UKCPA
- Member, British Society for Heart Failure
 - Ex-Board Observer, British Society for Heart Failure
- Member, European Society of Clinical Pharmacy
- Member, European Society of Cardiology
 - Member, Scientific Programme Organising Committee, Association of Cardiovascular Nursing & Allied Professions (ACNAP), European Society of Cardiology
- Member, Scottish Heart and Arterial Risk disease Prevention (SHARP)
 - Ex-Trustee, Scottish Heart and Arterial Risk disease Prevention (SHARP)
- Member, Transforming CVD Models of Care Group, Scottish Government
- Member, Heart Disease Task Force, Scottish Government
- Member, Prevention of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease Guideline Stakeholder Group, Joint British Societies and British Heart Foundation
- Member, BHF Implementation Fund Grant Assessment Committee, British Heart Foundation
- Member, Transforming Pharmacy Roles Writing Group, National Pharmacy Workforce Advisory Group, NHS Scotland
- Editorial Board Member, International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy
- Editorial Board Member, Research in Social & Administrative Pharmacy
- Member, Dunblane Sports Club
 - Ex-Trustee & Board Member, Dunblane Sports Club
- Private Ad-hoc Consultancy Work, including previous personal honoraria for scientific advice and/or non-personal educational / research grants from: Astra Zeneca, Bayer, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Pharmacosmos, Servier, and Vifor

Laura Fulton

- Chief Pharmacist, Healthcare Improvement Scotland May 2025 –
- Chair, the National Health Board Directors of Pharmacy Group
- DoP, representative/member on the NHS Scotland Executive Group Quality and Safety Subgroup
- Co-chair, Patient Access Scheme Assessment Group (PASAG)
- Member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council - 2026
- Past member, Scottish Pharmacy Board

Kellie King

- Member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council – 2026
- Senior Educator, Pharmacy Foundation Training Year, Public Services Delivery Scotland.
- Member of GPhC Fitness to Practice Committee
- Member Scottish Menopause Clinical network

Josh Miller

- Advanced Clinical Pharmacist, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council - 2026

- Chair, Area Pharmaceutical Committee NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Member, Area Clinical Forum, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Non-Contractor Member, Pharmacy Practice Committee, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Member, UKCPA

Catriona Sinclair

- Chair, Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council (2026-)
- Member and Vice-Chair, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Board
- Community Pharmacy Scotland Board
- Chair, NHS Highland Area Clinical Forum (NED of NHS Highland Board)
- Chair, NHS Highland Area Pharmaceutical Committee
- Chair, Community Pharmacy Highland
- Director and Superintendent, Spa Pharmacy, Strathpeffer

Jill Swan

- Member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council (2026-)
- Member, Faculty of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (Advanced Stage II)
- Member, UK Pharmacogenetics and Stratified Medicine Network
- Clinical Lead - ANIA Pharmacogenomics Pathway (CYP2C19 testing post stroke)
- Chair - NAPS Clinical
- Due to commence role as Director of Pharmacy, NHS Golden Jubilee from 5th January 2026
- Shall cease role as Principal Pharmacist Clinical Services, NHS Ayrshire & Arran on 4th January 2026
- Member, UKCPA
- Professional Secretary to Directors of Pharmacy (Strategic Framework Development)
- Previous Director of The Brush Bus Ltd (ceased directorship 12/08/22)
– unpaid

Audrey Thompson

- Member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council - 2026
- Past member, RPS Scottish Pharmacy Board
- Past member, RPS Assembly (SPB rep)
- Member NHSGGC pharmacy practices committee 2024
- Member Scottish Practice Pharmacist and Prescribing Advisers' Leadership group 2015 – 2023
- Pharmacist, NHS Forth Valley

National Pharmacy Advisory Council Open Business meeting – 4 June 2026**Present**

England: Claire Anderson (CA), Sarah Baig (SB), Aisling Considine (AC), Mildred Johnson (MJ), Sue Ladds (SL) Claire Nevinson (CN), Tase Oputu (TA), Mahendra Patel (MP) **(Chair)** Katherine Pearson (KP), Bruce Warner (BW), Joseph Williams (JW)

Scotland: Jonathan Burton (JB), Lucy Dixon (:D), Paul Forsyth (PF), Laura Fulton (LF), Kellie King (KK) (on line), Josh Miller (JM) Catriona Sinclair (CS) **(Chair)**, Jill Swan (JS), Audrey Thompson (AT)

Wales: Sarah Brown (SH), Clare Clement (CC), Helen Davies (HD), Liz Hallett (LH) **(Chair)**, Gareth Hughes (GH), Amy Jayham (AJ), Dylan Jones (DJ), Aled Roberts (AR)

Staff: Staff: Karen Baxter (KB) CEO, Ross Barrow (RB) Public Affairs Manager Scotland, Elspeth Boxall (EB) Clinical Fellow (Scotland), Corrine Burns (CR) News Correspondent for the Pharmaceutical Journal, Yvonne Dennington (YD) Business Manager for England, Amandeep Doll (AD) Director for England, Alwyn Fortune (AF), Practice and Policy Lead for Wales, Iwan Hughes (IH) Public Affairs Manager Wales, John Lunny (JL) Public Affairs Manager England, Fiona McIntyre (FM) Practice and Policy Lead for Scotland, Geraldine McCaffrey (GM) Director for Wales, Carolyn Rattray (CR) Business Manager for Scotland, Laura Wilson (LW) Director for Scotland, , Heidi Wright (HW), Practice and Policy Lead for England (on line),

Invited Guests: Justine Scanlan (starting in post as the Director of Pharmacy on 29 June 2026)
Faith Adebimpe
Kay Bhatara

Royal College of Pharmacy member observers: one member attended

Apologies: England: Ciara Duffy (CD)
Scotland: no apologies
Wales: Eleri Schiavone (ES)

Item No	Minute	Chaired
26.06.NPAC .01	Welcome The Chair welcomed all to the first formal meeting of the Council. Apologies Apologies were received from:- EPAC: Ciara Duffy WPAC: Eleri Schiavone	SPAC
26.06.NPAC 02	Declarations of Interests Council members noted papers 26.06.NPAC.02(E/S/W). Council members were asked to forward any changes to declarations of interest to their Business Managers. YD reported that she had received an update from CA. LF gave a declaration of interest for item 7 – she had been a former Director for Scotland for the GPhC. Action 1: Declarations of Interest to be updated by Business Managers	SPAC
26.06.NPAC 03	Minutes and Matters arising English Pharmacy Advisory Council <u>Minutes</u> The English Pharmacy Advisory Council approved the minutes of the English Pharmacy Board meeting, held on 25 February 2026. (paper: 26.06.NPAC.03) <u>Amendments</u> There were no amendments. Proposed by: Sue Ladds and seconded by: Tase Oputu <u>Matters arising and actions:</u>	SPAC

	Action1 - closed Action 2 – GB workplan – on the agenda for today – remains open Action 3 – open – bring back to a future meeting Action 4 – Closed Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council <u>Minutes</u> The Scottish Pharmacy Advisory Council approved the minutes of the Scottish Pharmacy Board meeting, held on 25 February 2026 (paper: 26.06.NPAC.03), subject to the following amendment – page 8 CPD should read CD. Proposed by: Audrey Thompson and seconded by: Jill Swan <u>Matters arising and actions:</u> Action 1 – ongoing Action 2 – closed Action 3 – closed Action 4 - closed Welsh Pharmacy Advisory Council <u>Minutes</u> The Welsh Pharmacy Advisory Council approved the minutes of the Welsh Pharmacy Board meeting, held on 25 February 2026 (paper: 26.06.NPAC.03) <u>Amendments</u> There were no amendments. Proposed by: Gareth Hughes and seconded by: Aled Roberts <u>Matters arising and actions:</u>	
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	Action 1 – closed Action 2 – Closed Action 3 – closed Action 4 - closed	
26.06.NPAC 04	Code of Conduct Council members noted paper 26.06.NPAC.04. The Chair introduced this item saying that the policy has already been reviewed by the Trustee Board and that comments are being invited from Council members before finalising the policy. Council members were broadly in agreement with the policy, there was a short discussion and some of the points raised were:- • The inclusion of the word fairness – not everyone agreed with this as “fairness” can be subjective • UK to be changed to GB (as policy does not include NI) Action 2: KB to update policy with GB	SPAC
26.06.NPAC 05	Campaigns and Political Activity Policy (Lobbying Policy) Council members noted paper 26.06.NPAC.05. The Chair introduced this paper and asked for comments from Council members. There was some discussion from Council members and some of the points raised were :- • Always adhering to taking a neutral political stance and being evidence based – this is also a requirement of having Charity status.	SPAC

	- The policy does not cover any guidance on when elected members cease to be an elected member – KB gave assurance that this has been picked up when reviewing the draft and is being worked on. - Council members need to be clear on which ‘hat they are wearing’ and when and clearly state that - this needs to be clear in the policy – it is recognised that Council members are often employed by other organisations. Action 3: Policy to be reviewed to include points about what happens when Council members cease to be elected members and also to be clear on whether the person is acting as a Council member or as a representative of another organisation.	
26.06.NPAC 06	Aesthetics – draft position statement Council members noted paper 26.06.NPAC.06. The Chair introduced this item saying that the purpose of this item was to seek Council members’ views and feedback on the draft updated position statement on Aesthetic Practice and Pharmacy. Elspeth Boxall, the Scottish Pharmacy Clinical Leadership Fellow will describe the reasons why this position statement update has been prioritised and the methodology used. The paper states 3 areas for consideration. The position statement was first published in 2019 and since then there has been a lot of changes in this area – i.e. government legislation, regulatory guidance updated, expanding industry and the potential for an increasing number of pharmacists getting involved in this area of practice. The methodology involved a literature search, stakeholder engagement, focus groups, questionnaire, which has culminated in this first draft. Some key themes have emerged from the stakeholder engagement:- lack of standardisation of training, lack of training, complications management, delegation and remote prescribing and planning for emergency situations.	EPAC

	EB highlighted the key recommendations from the draft and asked for feedback from Council members. Council members had a lengthy discussion on this issue and some of the points raised to be considered were:- • General agreement with the key recommendations but some areas need to be strengthened - Clearer that pharmacists are responsible for complications management - Need to be over 18 to undergo procedures • Premises are a grey area – re CQC and GPhC – needs to be strengthened – there are certain practices that cannot be undertaken – should policy state “only in a clinical environment”? • Try to align new legislation with Scottish legislation • Is there a plan to expand on this work as it is a growing area? • More focus needed on risk assessment – put at front of statement • Link everything to professional judgement and standards • Include what is mandatory and what is recommended • Ensure practitioners do not only do initial education and training – it is about continued learning and ongoing assessment of competency • Position statement is not patient/public focused – could there be a summary that talks directly to patients/public? • Be more explicit around anaphylaxis – but there is a problem around stock holding • Take a more holistic view around safeguarding and mental health • Does the Royal College need to do additional work around this, i.e. identifying gaps and any further work that might be required? LW added that we are hoping to publish the revised statement and work with The Joint Council for Cosmetic Practitioners (JCCP) in identifying any gaps. This is the start of this work to ensure pharmacists work as safely as they can for patient and public benefit. EB and LW clarified that the scope of this work was to update the College’s position statement on Aesthetics, any requests for additional work in this area will need to be considered as part of the work planning process later in the year.	
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	The Chair thanked Council members for their comments and engagement in this topic and said that the position statement will be strengthened based on those comments to make it more rigorous with a focus on informed consent, risk assessment and safety, whilst keeping in mind how these procedures are advertised with a view to psychological harm and vulnerable patients. The Chair thanked EB for her presentation. Action 4: EB to review and update draft position statement based on feedback from Council members, to be signed off by Council Chairs over summer. National Directors to bring Council member proposal for additional work on Aesthetics back to NPACs as part of work planning cycle in September/November 2026.	
26.06.NPAC 07	GPhC Consultation response on International Education and Training Council members noted paper 26.06.NPAC.07. The Chair introduced this item saying the purpose was to seek the Councils' views and feedback for inclusion into the Royal College's consultation response. Views will also be sought from a wide range of stakeholders. Two guests were invited to give their views to help given some background, they were Faith Adebimpe(FA) and Kay Bhatara(KB) (online). AF and FMc introduced the item setting out the proposals from the GPhC consultation. An overview of the current route to registration was given which involves 4 stages over two years and the proposed 3 stage route which is reduced to one year and now includes independent prescribing.	EPAC

	FA was requested to give feedback on her work with internationally trained pharmacists. She said there had been a conference a week ago where discussion took place and some of the things discussed had been around:- - Maintaining patient safety - The one-year route is highly appreciated but prescribing adds another layer of responsibility - Queries around integration gap - Lack of direction and point of contact for support - Financial pressures – lack of support – put at risk of exploitation by employers who offer the visa - Poor return on investment - Workplace dissatisfaction and isolation (different system in NHS – no support) - Lack of sense of professional belonging (employers do not help with this) - Language barriers – interpretation - Mentors for IP KB said she was a OSPAP provider at Aston University and explained that:- - Numbers are growing – 4 years ago there were 35 on the course – two years later doubled to 70 and last year was 140 – so there is demand for the programme - An impact of the change could be a reduction in numbers as placements need to be arranged - Lots to include in one year including IP – both practice and academic study - Financial implications could be significant for students – programme does not attract funding, and inclusion of additional clinical placements will increase costs - Study currently allows students to work a part time job whereas a one-year course would not allow time for this – financial implications - Students can already have significant commuting time and costs to university and to placements, which may not be close to where they live. This burden may increase under the proposal. - Two-year course is already very intense Council members added their comments to what was presented:-	
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	- The new proposal will do a disservice to students, will add additional financial pressures and does not offer flexibility - Medical colleagues have a structured training pathway with supervision - Agree current system needs to change but the proposal including IP is too much – no reason why IP cannot take place at a later date - Support is needed – it is hard to find placements for our own university students – including IP is probably too much in one year - Cost of commuting can be an issue especially in Wales and Scotland - There might be alternative models to consider – need to think of scenarios - Could be similar to the apprenticeship model - Questions around the validity check – who is doing the mapping? - DPP availability is an issue - Do not understand what the driver for change is – what problem needs to be fixed? – not feasible to incorporate two years into one and add prescribing – patients need to be kept safe and that cannot be done by lowering the bar. - There are points that need addressing by employers - This strategy will add risk - Pathways need to be established before introducing additional prescriber. - Public confidence needs to be considered. - Consultation is a confusing and ambiguous document – top down rather than bottom up approach – if studies are not completed are there financial penalties? - Cannot ignore ‘domino effect’ – especially around supervision The Chair thanked all for their input into this discussion. The team will collate the points made to formulate a robust and concerning response to the consultation including points made on validity checks, availability of DPPs, public safety, cost implications for students, equity and fairness, and employers role in supporting transitional experience. Any further comments/thoughts to be fed back to AF and FMc before 21st July and to share widely among colleagues and help encourage a stronger objection. A meeting with the GPhC would help in developing the response.	
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	FMc added that she has spoken with some senior pharmacists during stakeholder engagement who do support the change. Action 5: Policy leads to utilise feedback from the NPACs in formulating the College's response to the GPhC Consultation response on revised standards for the education and training of internationally-qualified pharmacists, due 21st July 2026. Further comments to be fed back to AF and FMc before 21st July,	
26.06.NPAC 08	Papers for noting Council members noted papers 26.06.NPAC.08. (i) Implementing country visions (ii) Professional Issues (iii) Workforce (iv) Strengthening Pharmacy Governance	EPAC
26.06.NPAC 09	Any other business JM highlighted that in Scotland there had been a MSP motion to formally recognise the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's transition into the Royal College of Pharmacy. JM congratulated the Scotland team in achieving this recognition for the Royal College.	EPAC
26.06.NPAC 10	Key points for reporting to Royal College Members– standing item The 3 key points to highlight from today's meeting to the members were discussed to be:- Aesthetics - strengthening the statement with risk/advertising issues/ongoing degree of assessment/looking at vulnerable patients/looking at harm issues and our ongoing work with JCCP	EPAC

	GPhC consultation - robust Council discussion, there will be wide stakeholder engagement/ response will be of good quality - confirmed growing area of concern and will include the patient safety angle Recognising that at this first meeting there was a change in focus - public and patient safety as a cornerstone of what was discussed	
26.06.NPAC 11	Date of next meetings EPAC: 22/23 September and joint meeting on 5 November (day before RCoPharm annual conference) SPAC: 16/17 September and joint meeting on 5 November (day before RCoPharm annual conference) WPAC: 24 September and joint meeting on 5 November (day before RCoPharm annual conference)	EPAC

Action List

Previous actions from February 2026	Action	By whom	Comments /open/closed
EPB	Action 3: Country Teams to do some more work in this area (Foundation numbers) and bring a paper back to the next meeting.		Open – will bring back to a future meeting when more information is available

Actions from June 2026			
26.06.NPAC 02	Action 1: update decs of interest	Bus Managers	Open
26.06.NPAC 04	Action 2: Code of Conduct Policy: KB to update policy with GB	KB	Open
26.06.NPAC 05	Action 3: Campaigns and Political Activity Policy: to be reviewed to include points about what happens when Council members cease to be elected members and also to be clear on what hat Council members are wearing.		
26.06.NPAC.06	Action 4: EB to review and update draft position statement based on feedback from Council members, to be signed off by Council Chairs over summer. National Directors to bring Council member proposal for additional work on Aesthetics back to NPACs as part of work planning cycle in September/November 2026.	EB/LW	Open
26.06.NPAC.07	Action 5: Policy leads to utilise feedback from the NPACs in formulating the College's response to the GPhC Consultation response on revised standards for the education and training of internationally-	Policy Leads	Open

	qualified pharmacists, due 21 st July 2026. Further comments to be fed back to AF and FMc before 21 st July,		
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National Pharmacy Advisory Council
meeting – September 2026

26.09.NPAC.09(i)

Title of item	Implementing Country Visions
Author of paper Position in organisation Telephone E-mail	Laura Wilson, Amandeep Doll, Iwan Hughes, Heidi Wright, Alwyn Fortune, Emily Kennedy, Geraldine McCaffrey
Headline summary of paper	To give a progress update on the following areas: Pharmacist Prescribing Environmental Sustainability Genomics Reducing Health Inequalities
Purpose of item	This paper is for noting only and will not be discussed at the meeting. Questions can be submitted to the author ahead of the meeting.
Risk implications	• Alignment with UK government and NHS initiatives • Capacity to deliver across multiple workstreams
Resource implications	• Internal staff time • Ongoing prioritisation across multiple workstreams • Potential need to review capacity if additional opportunities or asks emerge.

Implementing Country Vision

Pharmacist Prescribing (Laura/Heidi)

Highlights

- RCPPharm co-hosted a DPP roundtable with NPA on 1 July 2026

Next Steps

- A meeting is set up with CPE to discuss the issue of enabling newly qualified pharmacist prescribers to use their prescribing skills as part of service specifications
- The purpose and scope of the DPP roundtable has been reviewed, the focus of the group will be discussed at the next DPP roundtable.
- Another DPP roundtable is planned for 14 October 2026

Environmental Sustainability (Iwan)

Highlights

- Continued to promote and market the greener pharmacy toolkits and respond to queries from users.
- Met with Greener NHS and AXIA (technology partner) to discuss future plans for the toolkits.
- Continued to engage and support the work of the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change including supporting a letter expressing our concerns about the removal of the climate duty on NHS England and current proposals for future accountability.
- Contributed to stakeholder event and Public Health Wales Report on Environmentally Sustainable Medicines Management in Wales.

Genomics (Geraldine / Emily)

Highlights

- RCPPharm continues to attend the NHSE Pharmacy Workforce Group for genomics
- Following the publication of the *Pharmacogenomic Resource: Supporting the Competency Framework for All Prescribers*, endorsements from stakeholders including NHSE, RCGP and Pharmacy Schools Council have been confirmed and added to the website.

Next Steps

- Evaluation of the *Pharmacogenomic Resource: Supporting the Competency Framework for All Prescribers* to commence in early 2027, led by the Science and Research team.
- Publication of the Pharmacogenomics Delivery Plan in Wales is anticipated in Autumn 2026. Team Wales will identify opportunities to support.
- Work ongoing for RCPHarm to host *A genomic and pharmacogenomic competency framework for UK pharmacy undergraduates* at the request of the framework authors. The framework aligns to the relevant GPhC learning outcomes and has been approved by the Pharmacy Schools Council.

Reducing Health Inequalities (Aman/Iwan)

Highlights

- Work is nearing completion on a statement setting out our focus and commitments on health inequalities as a Royal College. This work has considered where we can have the greatest impact, how our commitments can be delivered effectively, and how our approach compares with the activity of longer established Royal Colleges in this area. The statement will provide clarity and direction for our role, priorities and responsibilities, and will form the core text for a new health inequalities hub page on our website.

Next Steps

- Publish new webpage
- Scope with the national councils a specific topic of focus for health inequalities

Polypharmacy in cancer (Heidi/Aman)

Highlights

- Working in partnership with Macmillan, a multidisciplinary roundtable was held on 4 August to build on the polypharmacy in cancer survey launched in May. The roundtable brought together multidisciplinary polypharmacy and cancer experts to produce recommendations on tackling polypharmacy in cancer.
- A first draft of the roundtable report is being developed and will be circulated for comments to stakeholders and roundtable attendees.

Next Steps

- A parliamentary event is being planned in collaboration with Macmillan for December 2026 to launch the findings and recommendations from the report

Patient Information Leaflets (Aman/Laura/Kate)

Highlights

- Members of RCPHarm staff are contributing to a series of workshops which form part of the MHRA [Improving Patient Information - GOV.UK](#) project. The aim of the project is to ensure that patient information for medicinal products is clearer, inclusive, and easier to understand. A major focus of this work will be improving access to patient information leaflets in the UK through the use of digital solutions.

Next steps

- To continue to engage with this project across GB

National Pharmacy Advisory Council
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26.09/NPAC/09(ii)

Title of item	Professional Issues
Author of paper Position in organisation Telephone E-mail	Fiona McIntyre, Amandeep Doll, Heidi Wright, Alwyn Fortune, Ross Barrow, Laura Wilson, Geraldine McCaffrey, Dafydd Rizzo, Emily Kennedy, John Lunny
Headline summary of paper	To give a progress update on the following areas:- Artificial Intelligence and Digital Capabilities (Fiona/Heidi) Palliative and End of Life Care (Ross/Geraldine) Medicines Shortages (Aman/Alwyn) Assisted Dying (Ross/Laura) Quality Assurance of Aseptic Preparation Services (Emily/Dafydd) Access to Medicines (Alwyn/John) Consultations List (Policy Leads)
Purpose of item	This paper is for noting only and will not be discussed at the meeting. Questions can be submitted to the author ahead of the meeting.
Risk implications	• Capacity to deliver across multiple workstreams
Resource implications	• Internal staff time • Ongoing prioritisation across multiple workstreams • Potential need to review capacity if additional opportunities or asks emerge.

Professional Issues (Policy Leads)

Artificial Intelligence and Digital Capabilities (Fiona/Heidi)

Highlights

- The findings of the RCPHarm survey of pharmacists - exploring awareness, use, perception and support needs relating to AI in pharmacy practice across Great Britain - published on our website [[Summary-Report-Pharmacist-AI-Use_publish-version-UPDATED-FINAL.pdf](#)]
- Supported MHRA Commission on AI in healthcare with pharmacy stakeholder engagement and this was acknowledged

Next Steps

- Planning in hand for two further workshops
 - The use and learning of AI in pharmacy education and training (24th September 2026)
 - Application of AI in pharmaceutical science, research and clinical trials (date to be confirmed early Nov)
- Review themes from all 3 meetings and translate into recommendations for any further work on policy, professional standards and guidance or education
- Continue to identify opportunities for collaboration with stakeholders to maintain our position as a convener of good practice opinion on safe and effective AI deployment in pharmacy practice.

Palliative and End of Life Care (Ross/Geraldine)

Highlights

- Royal College of Pharmacy has been working in partnership with Marie Curie to create and promote the Daffodil Standards to support pharmacists to provide an excellent standard of palliative and end of life care.
- Over 1000 pharmacists / pharmacy teams have signed up to receive a free daffodil standards pack.

Next Steps

- We are currently reviewing our partnership agreement and future collaborative work plans with Marie Curie.
- We're also planning political activity across the 3 nations to celebrate and promote the 1000 sign ups landmark.

Medicines Shortages (Aman/Alwyn/John)

Highlights

- We have continued to raise awareness and promote both the work and the topic with key stakeholders, including through featuring on the Medicines UK podcast series, 'Medicines Matter'.
- We attended and informed the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Pharmacy (APPG) Inquiry into Medicines Shortages in England: One Year On.

Next Steps

- Review any recommendations or key areas of focus that come from the Pharmacy APPG one year on report and respond accordingly.
- Contribute and participate in government work across the nations on medicines shortages, as well as the work of the Pharmacy APPG.
- Continue to work with key stakeholders including DHSC to highlight the ongoing challenges patients and pharmacists are experiencing with medicines shortages.
- There was appetite from the advisory group to reconvene periodically to maintain the momentum of the group and to promote collaboration across the supply chain

Quality Assurance Aseptic Preparation Services (QAAPS) (Dafydd/Emily)

Highlights

- NHS England Specialist Pharmacy Services, alongside RCPharm, are editing the updated standards to ensure alignment with other RCPharm standards e.g., the hospital standards.
- The edit is due to be completed early September; the NHS Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance (QA) Committee and lead author will then review this final edit.

Next steps

- A 3-week consultation will be conducted. The updated standards will be published prior to the implementation, by 10th December 2026, of the new supervision legislation which will allow pharmacy technicians to supervise the preparation, assembly and dispensing of medicines in hospital aseptic facilities.
- The standards will be published alongside signposting to existing relevant guidance.

- A locally printable PDF version is being created for aseptic units and auditors to utilise, as the 6th edition will not be available to purchase in a print version.
- Part B of the 5th edition of QAAPS will be made available digitally, however has not been updated as a part of this commission. This will be highlighted on the webpage.
- We are working to update the definitions of '*supervision*' and '*delegation*' in an unlicensed hospital aseptic unit context. We are working with the GPhC, DHSC and NHS QA Committee to update these definitions in line with the new regulation 4A in the Human Medicines Regulations 2012 and a parallel exemption to the section 10 exemption of the Medicines Act 1968.

Assisted Dying (Ross/Laura)

Highlights

- Consolidation of learning and reflection from parliamentary engagement across GB.

Next Steps

- Refresh RCPHarm Assisted Dying policy, publish ahead of re-introduction of Assisted Dying legislation at Westminster (Autumn 2026).

Access to Medicines (Alwyn/John/Aman)

Highlights

- We attend NHSE led meetings focusing on the Single National Formulary.
- Oral and written evidence presented to House of Lords select committee inquiry on medicines security.
- Importance of pharmacy leadership highlighted in House of Commons Health and Social Care Select Committee session on workforce and Neighbourhood Health.

Next Steps

- As part of a review of our wider policies, we will review the access to medicines policy, but is not an immediate identified priority.
- We will continue to engage with NHSE discussions on proposed Single National Formulary.
- Build on discussions with key stakeholders, including around 10-Year Plan delivery and Life Sciences Sector Plan.

Consultations List (Policy Leads)

Highlights

- In the period from 1st June to 25th August 2026 we responded to 10 consultations across a number of stakeholders including Scottish Parliament, NHS Wales, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, MHRA, DHSC, GPhC and FIP
- All consultation responses published [here](#) on the RCPHarm website.

Next Steps

- Continue to identify and respond to relevant consultations, horizon scanning across external stakeholders including government, regulators and others.

National Pharmacy Advisory Council
meeting – September 2026

26.09/NPAC/09(iii)

Title of item	Workforce
Author of paper Position in organisation Telephone E-mail	Heidi Wright, Amandeep Doll, Laura Wilson Fiona McIntyre, John Lunny Heidi.Wright@rcpharm.org Amandeep.Doll@rcpharm.org Laura.Wilson@rcpharm.org Fiona.McIntyre@rcpharm.org John.Lunny@rcpharm.org
Headline summary of paper	To give a progress update on the following areas: Workforce Wellbeing (Heidi) Access to DPP (Heidi/Laura) Workforce Hot Topics 2025/26 (Fiona) I&D (Aman) Differential Attainment (Aman)
Purpose of item	This paper is for noting only and will not be discussed at the meeting. Questions can be submitted to the author ahead of the meeting.
Risk implications	Capacity to deliver across multiple workstreams
Resource implications	- Internal staff time - Ongoing prioritisation across multiple workstreams - Potential need to review capacity if additional opportunities or asks emerge.

Workforce

Workforce Wellbeing (Heidi)

Highlights

- We met with Pharmacist Support to discuss future working and Workforce Wellbeing surveys
- We are developing a paper to reflect back on the work we have undertaken to date in the area of Workforce Wellbeing and highlight areas of focus

Next Steps

- We are planning to run a Workforce Wellbeing survey with Pharmacist Support in 2027

Workforce Hot Topics (Fiona)

Highlights

- Scoping of workforce issues continues
- Established workstreams on wellbeing, inclusion and diversity, digital innovation and prescribing all progressing
- Responded to the GPhC consultation on proposals for standards for internationally-qualified pharmacists education and training

Next Steps

- Developing a briefing paper on current and emerging risks surrounding Pharmacist Foundation Training Capacity across GB

I&D (Aman)

Highlights

- RCPPharm walked in London Pride Parade alongside APTUK and BPSA colleagues
- In collaboration with Kingston University pharmacy team, we delivered two cultural competency and health inequalities sessions
- Delivered two neurodiversity training sessions in partnership with PWDS
- Presented at the GPhC anti-racism roundtable
- Celebrated South Asian Heritage Month in July

Next Steps

- Confirming plans to celebrate East and South East Asian Heritage and Black History Month in September and October
- Confirming plans for future ABCD meetings
- Continuing to work with the GPhC on embedding antiracism principles across pharmacy

Differential Attainment (Aman)

Highlights

- Working closely with GPhC on aligning the College led differential oversight group and GPhC awarding gap steering group
- Working with oversight group members to take identified actions forward

Next Steps

- Planning the next differential attainment oversight group meeting

National Pharmacy Advisory Council
meeting – September 2026

26.09/NPAC/09(iv)

Title of item	Strengthening Pharmacy Governance
Author of paper Position in organisation Telephone E-mail	Laura Wilson, Amandeep Doll, Emily Kennedy, Geraldine McCaffery Emily.Kennedy@rcpharm.org Laura.Wilson@rcpharm.org Amandeep.Doll@rcpharm.org Geraldine.McCaffery@rcpharm.org
Headline summary of paper	To give a progress update on the following areas: Supervision Responsible Pharmacist (RP) /Superintendent Pharmacist (SP) /Community Pharmacist (CP) Guidance
Purpose of item	This paper is for noting only and will not be discussed at the meeting. Questions can be submitted to the author ahead of the meeting.
Risk implications	There is a risk of differing definitions and interpretation of the legislation, which is being mitigated through stakeholder engagement and planned review before publication
Resource implications	This work will require existing staff resource to review stakeholder feedback, finalise guidance and support publication. No additional financial resource is anticipated at this stage

Strengthening Pharmacy Governance (Aman/Laura)

Supervision (Emily)

Highlights

- Review of supervision descriptions to support implementation of Human medicines (Authorisation by pharmacists and supervision by pharmacy technicians) order 2025
- Engagement with GPhC, APTUK and Quality Assurance committee for input

Next Steps

- Discussion with councils for input and agreement

Responsible Pharmacist (RP) /Superintendent Pharmacist (SP) /Community Pharmacy (CP) Guidance

Highlights

- Implementation guidance for RP following pharmacy supervision legislation changes due in December 2026 is being developed. Views sought from APTUK, DHSC, PSNI and CPE, CPW, CPS following engagement with CPEAG and GPhC.

Next Steps

- Gather feedback and review in order to publish guidance before legislation changes.