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| Pharmacy Review Update |
| Tuesday 19th October 2021 |

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|  | This update from the Review Steering Group (RSG) contains information on its work to try to improve community pharmacy contractor support and representation.  In this update: Pharmacy Show 2021, ****Focus group update, Contractor voting process****  ****RSG at the Pharmacy Show 2021, Birmingham****The RSG delivered a progress update at the Pharmacy Show on 17th October, with a repeat session on 18th October. Sandeep Dhami, James Wood and Deep Sen Gupta presented in person to a well-attended Keynote Theatre, with a highly informed and constructive audience Q&A afterward. Slides from the session are [**now available**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b245fd0120&e=d19e9fd41c) to view on the RSG website. We emphasised to the audience that in January 2021, the RSG was tasked with producing a contractor-led and designed decision-making process for the proposals to be put to the sector. A key pillar of RSG ways of working was to collaborate with the sector in the development of the proposal. We have committed to do so in an iterative and consultative manner in order to produce a proposal that would have broad support, with direct involvement and open feedback from contractors. In summary, the following were the key messages delivered at the Pharmacy Show:1. **Programme plan:** The programme is on track to deliver [**against the timeline.**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=2d8de1ff5b&e=d19e9fd41c) In October it is taking and collating key input from stakeholders on the subject of representative future structures (see Focus Groups section below)
2. **Engagement:** Overall engagement from across the sector has been impressive, with over 5,000 people reading our emails, and 11,500 visits to the RSG website. We would always like more, and encourage you to take the opportunity to register your views
3. **Role of future local organisations:** We shared updates from the focus group feedback in the summer where representatives across the sector came together to give their views on the roles of local and national representative organisations. Key takeaways from those sessions can be found in full [**here.**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=53f75c20ce&e=d19e9fd41c)
4. **On NHS ICS alignment and LPCs:** RSG has received overwhelming feedback supporting the alignment of a future LPC network to ICS in the new NHS structures. Aligning pharmacy representation with NHS structures will maximise community pharmacy influence at system level including positioning it as a key frontline healthcare provider and recognised contributor to achieving NHS targets
5. **Representation:** Now that we have defined the roles, RSG will start to explore, with the input of focus groups, how contractors should be represented in the new organisation; and what wider structure and governance is needed to ensure the local and national organisations are set up to deliver the best possible services to contractors.
6. **Contractor vote:** An update on the voting process (see below).

  ****Reminder: Last chance to sign up for Focus Groups****The Review Steering Group is holding a second round of online focus groups, this time discussing representation and structure. A successful session was held last Thursday with the final two happening this Wednesday and Friday.  Now that we have defined the roles of local and national representation, we are starting to explore what wider structure and governance is needed to ensure the local and national organisations are set up to deliver the best possible services to contractors. We’ll be considering how they interact with other bodies and how contractors’ views should feed into them.  At the focus groups the RSG will also be able to offer updates on the contractor voting process and on some of the analysis we have been doing around the wider NHS landscape and how that is relevant to contractor representation and support.  Contractors, LPCs, PSNC Members and contractor trade body representatives are being invited to attend one of the two remaining focus groups scheduled in October, taking place over Zoom:  **Dates**20th October, 19.30 – 20.3022nd October, 13.00 – 14.00  To register your attendance at the focus groups, please click [**here**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=8a4d3f90fb&e=d19e9fd41c).If you cannot attendIt is important that we hear from as many contractors as possible and we hope that having daytime and evening sessions makes these events more accessible for everyone. However, if you can’t attend any of these meetings, there is still an opportunity to submit feedback online.Those contractors unable to attend one of the focus groups are encouraged to [**read these slides**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=97582804f7&e=d19e9fd41c) and share their views via **review@pharmacy-review.org** before **Sunday 31st October**.  ****RSG releases its working plan for the Contractor Voting Process****The Pharmacy Review Steering Group (RSG) has today published its [**working plan for the contractor vote**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=21e8e163fb&e=d19e9fd41c) that will be held early in 2022 on the future of community pharmacy representation and support.  Whatever the proposal looks like, the final decision to take forward the changes will be for contractors only to make, and a contractor vote will be held early in 2022. The paper sets out the RSG’s plan for that vote. In developing this, as in all its work, the RSG has sought to be as inclusive as possible and it has settled on a plan that will not reinforce divisions within the sector.   Contractors are encouraged to share their views with the RSG by attending the current round of [**focus groups**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=001455d273&e=d19e9fd41c), or further questions or feedback can be emailed to **review@pharmacy-review.org** |  |
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| Pharmacy Representation Review Steering Group (RSG)The Pharmacy Representation Review Steering Group (RSG) is taking forward work to improve community pharmacy contractor representation and support. |

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