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| PSNC Newsletter |
| Friday 11th November 2022 |

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|  | This newsletter from PSNC is sent on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. It contains important information for those that work in the community pharmacy sector.In this update: Parliamentary drop-in event on Hypertension Service; PSNC comments on temporary closures data; TAPR Progress Report; Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey deadline.PSNC to host Parliamentary drop-in event on Hypertension ServiceOn Tuesday 15th November, PSNC will be hosting a Parliamentary drop-in event for MPs. The event will last for roughly two hours, during which MPs will have the opportunity to drop-in and have their blood pressure measured by a fully qualified pharmacist.This event will be a great opportunity to talk to MPs from across the political spectrum about the incredible work pharmacies are doing up and down the country, to demonstrate the Hypertension Case-Finding Service and to discuss the frontline role pharmacists play in delivering vital services and free, expert advice.There's still time to invite your MP to attend this event. To do so, please complete the following [**template**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=b48244e829&e=d19e9fd41c) and email it to your MP. You can find your local MP's contact address using the [**Find Your MP**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=6d32ff49ba&e=d19e9fd41c) function.[**Find out more about the event**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=f166e985ab&e=d19e9fd41c)Temporary closures dataNew data has revealed that there have been more than 20,000 instances of pharmacies closing temporarily in the past year. [**Chemist+Druggist**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d60677f1e5&e=d19e9fd41c) has published statistics which reveal that staffing issues, such as problems finding locum cover and staff sickness, are the primary reasons for these closures.**PSNC Chief Executive Janet Morrison** commented:"Any closure of a community pharmacy, however temporary, is cause for concern and will have a detrimental impact on local patients needing help or urgent medicines. Closures are an absolute last resort for contractors, and the huge numbers of them now happening are testament to the crippling effect that the current workforce shortages and other pressures on community pharmacy are having.The findings match those of our [**Pressures Survey**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=d4840e87a0&e=d19e9fd41c) earlier this year in which 91% of contractors reported staff shortages, with 23% saying they had been forced to close temporarily because of these. We know that locum costs are also growing rapidly, and that some pharmacies have had to permanently reduce their opening hours to cope with the current situation. This paints a bleak picture for the future both for pharmacies and for the patients and communities they serve. We have raised all of these issues with Ministers and will continue to do so – these findings make clear just how much the sector now needs Government and the NHS to work with us on a long-term workforce plan as well as on ensuring sustainable funding."PSNC publishes TAPR Progress ReportPSNC is continuing to make progress on addressing the Review Steering Group (RSG) proposals and has today published a series of resources to update contractors and LPCs on this work.The resources published include an update on the Transforming Pharmacy Representation (TAPR) workstreams, a programme timeline and infographic, and a briefing document setting out how PSNC plans to use the additional levies that will start to be directed to it from April 2023 onwards.[**See all the TAPR update documents**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=afe55ddc41&e=d19e9fd41c)Have you completed the mandatory workforce survey yet?Community pharmacy contractors are reminded of the mandatory requirement to complete the 2022 Community Pharmacy Workforce Survey, managed by Health Education England (HEE), **by 30th November 2022**.The NHS Business Services Authority sent an email to contractors on 6th October 2022 containing a link to the survey. In some cases, e.g. Company Chemists' Association member companies and other larger multiple pharmacy groups, head offices will complete the survey centrally. If you are not sure whether the survey will be completed centrally, please ask your head office for guidance.[**Find out more about the survey**](https://psnc.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=86d41ab7fa4c7c2c5d7210782&id=df99a5d01e&e=d19e9fd41c) |  |
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| Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee    14 Hosier Lane, London, EC1A 9LQTel: 0203 1220 810 | Email: **info@psnc.org.uk**  |
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