Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services

Operational Readiness Programme

Part of Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership

NHS Greater Manchester

Community Pharmacy Greater Manchester

NHS Greater Manchester Community Pharmacy Provider Board

Programme background and purpose

From Autumn 2026, the NHS Community Pharmacy Prescribing Service becomes part of the CPCF.

National reform

October 2026

The Community Pharmacy Prescribing Service formally joins the CPCF, expanding Pharmacy First and the Pharmacy Contraception Service, and adding new clinical pathways.

New workforce

Summer 2026

Newly qualified MPharm graduates can register directly as Independent Prescribers.

More pharmacists are qualifying as Independent Prescribers.

Aims of the programme

To support contractor readiness to deliver Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services through:

- **Delivering a series of 6 webinars, led by CPGM, CPPB and Allied Health in partnership with the GM ICB.**
- **Developing a Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services Operational Readiness Toolkit to help contractors prepare for the safe delivery of Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services (coming soon).**
- **Providing guidance, references and key actions to be completed to prepare for ICB assurance processes, based on national guidance and supporting documentation.**

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Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services Operational Readiness webinar series

A series of live webinars supporting contractor readiness.

Webinar 1	Mon 2 Nov 2026	Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services – GM Governance Arrangements	Live Registration Link
Webinar 2	Tue 10 Nov 2026	Clinical Governance, Statutory Duties & Prescriber Workforce Assurance	Live Registration Link
Webinar 3	Tue 17 Nov 2026	Prescriber Competence, Scope of Practice & Clinical Risk Management	Live Registration Link
Webinar 4	Tue 24 Nov 2026	Digital Prescribing Systems, EPS, Smartcards & Information Governance	Live Registration Link
Webinar 5	Tue 1 Dec 2026	Operational Go-Live, SOPs, Audit & Incident Management	Live Registration Link
Webinar 6	Tue 8 Dec 2026	GM Care Record	Link to be provided

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Contractor Readiness Webinar

Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services – NHS GM Governance Arrangements

NHS GM Primary care integration team

Part of Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership

Presented by: Alison Scowcroft, Saquib Ahmed and Barry McCann
Date: 02/11/2026

Welcome and Objectives

Today's Session

- Overview of NHS Community Pharmacy Prescribing governance
- National onboarding process
- NHS Greater Manchester governance framework
- Contractor readiness requirements
- Contractor and Prescriber assurance requirements
- Next steps towards service implementation

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Why governance matters

NHS Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services

The introduction of prescribing services in community pharmacy represents a significant development in the clinical role of pharmacists.

Robust governance arrangements are required to:

- Protect patient safety
- Support prescribers
- Ensure clinical accountability
- Maintain service quality
- Meet NHS contractual requirements

Key Message:
All national onboarding requirements and local Governance requirements must be completed and approved before any prescribing activity can commence.

Governance Framework Overview

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Two Complementary Processes

National Requirements

- NHS England onboarding

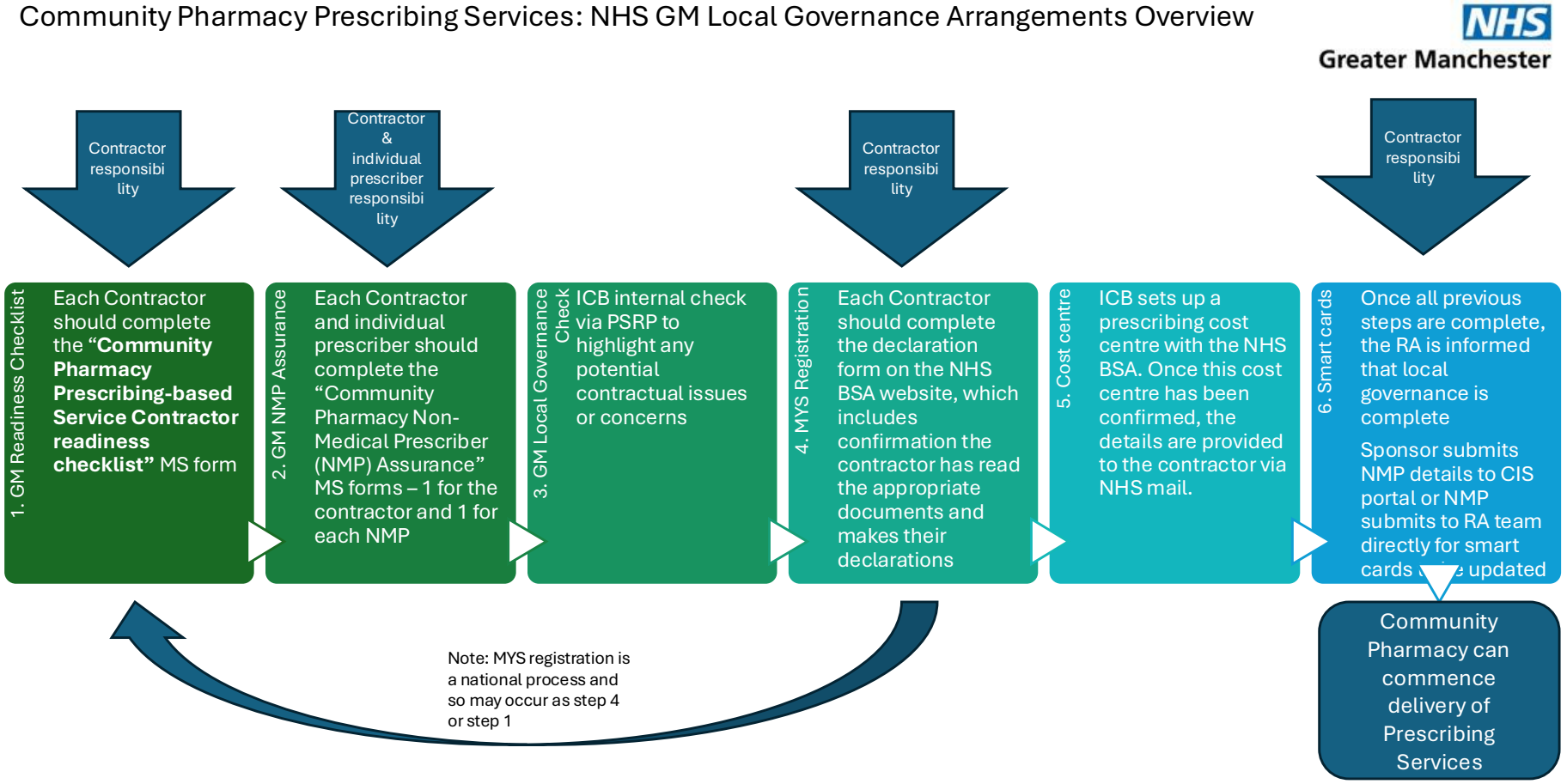
Local Requirements

- NHS Greater Manchester governance approval

Both elements must be completed and approved before service delivery can begin.

Community Pharmacy Prescribing Service Journey

Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services: NHS GM Local Governance Arrangements Overview



NHSBSA Declaration Process

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National Service Onboarding

The full onboarding process is detailed on the NHS BSA website, and Contractors must complete and submit the Prescribing Consultation Claims (PCC) declaration form as part of this process.

By submitting the declaration, you are confirming:

- Service specifications have been reviewed with all elements in place
- Professional assurance framework has been reviewed with all elements in place
- All the declarations contained in the submission
- The pharmacy and identified prescribers are ready to provide the service within their own clinical competence

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Key messages

- The Declaration form must be completed in full
- Incomplete forms will cause delays in the approval process
- Submission of this declaration is confirmation that you meet all the requirements detailed in the declaration tab
- The declaration should only be submitted when all elements are in place

Contractor Readiness Checklist - local

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All communication to contractors will be via NHS shared mailbox – contractors must access and check regularly

Each Contractor wishing to register for NHS Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services must complete the MS form

A self-declaration of readiness checklist where each contractor must declare:

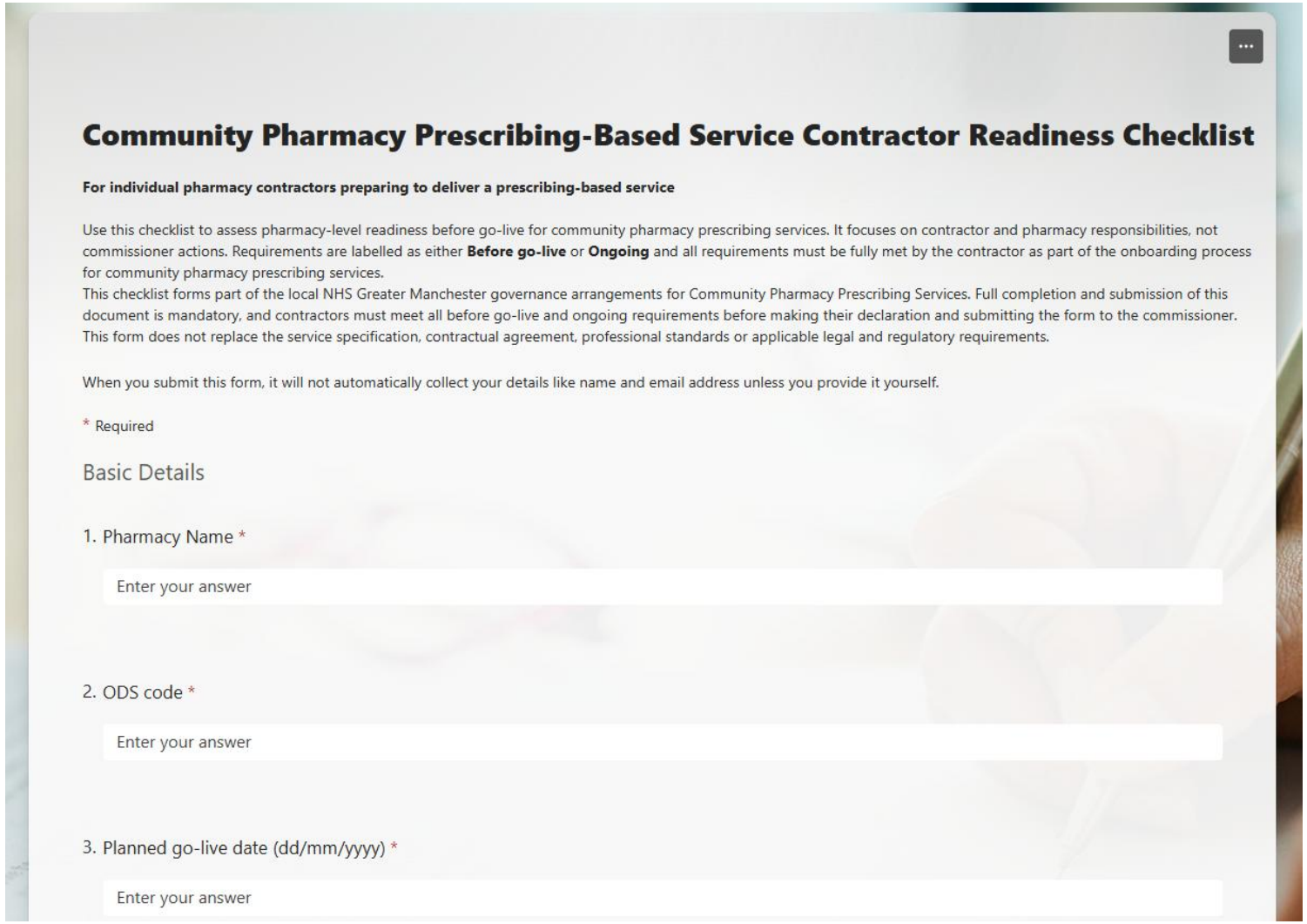
- Service readiness – clinical pathway
- Risk management arrangements
- Standard Operating Procedures and review
- Prescriber Assurance
- Indemnity arrangements
- Premises and equipment, including maintenance
- Information Governance arrangements
- Digital clinical safety
- EPS
- Consultation records
- Access to patient clinical information
- Care identity and Role-Based Access Controls (RBAC)
- Workforce, training and education arrangements
- Clinical pathway delivery ongoing arrangements
- Prescriber support
- Quality assurance and audit
- Patient safety arrangements including LFPSE
- Safeguarding and consent
- Communication with primary healthcare providers

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Contractor Readiness Checklist - local

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- MS forms submission
- All requirements must be fully met before submission
- Incomplete submissions will delay the approval process
- Awaiting final NHS GM approval
- Resource pack will be communicated when ready



Community Pharmacy Prescribing-Based Service Contractor Readiness Checklist

For individual pharmacy contractors preparing to deliver a prescribing-based service

Use this checklist to assess pharmacy-level readiness before go-live for community pharmacy prescribing services. It focuses on contractor and pharmacy responsibilities, not commissioner actions. Requirements are labelled as either **Before go-live** or **Ongoing** and all requirements must be fully met by the contractor as part of the onboarding process for community pharmacy prescribing services.
This checklist forms part of the local NHS Greater Manchester governance arrangements for Community Pharmacy Prescribing Services. Full completion and submission of this document is mandatory, and contractors must meet all before go-live and ongoing requirements before making their declaration and submitting the form to the commissioner. This form does not replace the service specification, contractual agreement, professional standards or applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

Basic Details

1. Pharmacy Name *

Enter your answer

2. ODS code *

Enter your answer

3. Planned go-live date (dd/mm/yyyy) *

Enter your answer

Non-Medical Prescriber Assurance - local

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Two declarations are required:

Contractor Declaration

- Completed by the pharmacy contractor.

Individual Prescriber Declaration

- Completed by each prescribing pharmacist delivering the service.

Both declarations are mandatory

MS forms submissions

Incomplete forms will delay approvals

Awaiting final NHS GM approval

Resource pack will be communicated when ready

Non-Medical Prescriber Assurance - local

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NHS GM Non-Medical Prescriber (NMP) Community Pharmacy Annual Assurance Declaration

The following declaration is intended to:

- **Provide NHS Greater Manchester with assurance that the community pharmacy has appropriate governance in place regarding non-medical prescribing.**
- **Provide NHS Greater Manchester with assurance that the community pharmacy will inform the NMP Lead whenever NMPs join or leave**
- **Confirm current NMPs prescribing for the Community Pharmacy**

- **Non-medical prescribing (NMP) is the term used to describe prescribing by a healthcare professional other than a doctor or dentist. NMPs working in primary care include nurses, pharmacists, physiotherapists and paramedics. NMPs may be directly employed, locums, contracted as part of a commissioned service, or have other contractual relationships with the community pharmacy.**
- **The Human Medicines Regulations 2012 stipulate that prescriptions must contain "an indication of the kind of appropriate practitioner giving it", meaning the profession of the prescriber. NMPs cannot be allocated spurious codes or be set up as locums. All NMPs should prescribe under their own professional credentials.**
- **NHS Business Services Authority needs to be notified, by an authorised signatory, of all NMPs prescribing for a community pharmacy, even if it is for a short period or for infrequent sessions. This allows prescribing to be correctly attributed, which ensures transparency, appropriate governance, correct budget allocation, and appropriate monitoring. It also helps support the requirements of the GPHC. The ICB Place NMP Lead is the authorised signatory for NMPs working in community pharmacy.**
- **NHS England have published a professional assurance framework. Compliance and discharge of these standards is mandatory for any contractor/employer and professional undertaking to provide NHS England or Locally Commissioned NMP services. NHS England » Professional assurance framework for delivering NHS community pharmacy clinical services**

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

1. Pharmacist NMPs are registered as independent prescribers, with the appropriate annotation in the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) register

◯ Yes

NHS Greater Manchester Community Pharmacy Non-Medical Prescribers Declaration

- As part of the broader national onboarding process, the following information is requested to give NHS GM assurances regarding the governance of Community Pharmacy non-medical prescribers (NMPs).
- The information provided is used to assign Community Pharmacy NMPs the correct role for each Pharmacy they wish to provide prescribing services for.
- **The NMP must not start prescribing until they have received confirmation that their smartcards have been updated to include the required roles for the pharmacy they wish to prescribe at.**
- This form must be submitted annually and updated before any changes are made to prescribing practice.
- Please see the NHS GM website for full privacy notice: https://gmintegratedcare.org.uk/about/our-principles/keeping-your-information-safe/

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

Non-Medical Prescriber details

1

Name of person completing the form (including title) *

Enter your answer

2

Is the same name as on the professional register? *

You must ensure that the name you practice in is the same as the professional register, if you change your name, please contact your NMP Lead.

◯ Yes

Pharmaceutical services regulations panel (PSRP) - local

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All applications will be sent to PSRP	Confirmation that the contractor is in ‘good standing’ with the commissioner	Consideration of general matters and pre-conditions in the directions	Consideration of Compliance with essential services and clinical governance
Outcomes	Approval	Approval pending completion of actions	Further information required

Prescribing Cost Centre Allocation - local

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Following Approval of all previous steps

- NHS GM Authorised signatories send request to NHSBSA
- Prescribing cost centre creation by NHSBSA
- NHS GM Notification to contractor via NHSmail

A prescribing cost centre must be established before prescribing activity can commence.

All prescribers intending to prescribe from that cost centre must be registered with the cost centre by the NHSBSA.

Smartcard Requirements - local

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Following approval of all previous steps

Prescribing pharmacists will require:

- Appropriate prescribing roles
- Sponsor request via Care Identity Service portal
- Prescribers without a sponsor can request directly from the registration authority at gmss.smartcards@nhs.net

This access will only be granted following completion of all the prior governance process.

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Confirmation to commence

- All local governance steps reviewed and approved
- All national onboarding requirements reviewed and approved
- Ready to commence with NHS community pharmacy prescribing
- Contractors will be informed via NHSmail
- Service cannot commence until you have received this confirmation

Frequently Asked Questions - local

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Can prescribing begin once the NHSBSA declaration is submitted?
No. All local governance approval stages must be completed.



Do all prescribing pharmacists need to complete declarations?
Yes. They must complete the NMP assurance declaration for prescribers.



Is assurance a one-off process?
No. Assurance arrangements are reviewed periodically. NMP declarations (pharmacies and pharmacists) must be submitted on an annual basis.



Can multiples submit one form covering all branches?

No. All forms must be submitted for individual branches. A responsible person should be delegated to complete at branch level.

Next steps for commissioner

Comms – Primary care communications to brief that all national draft documentation is now live on the NHSBSA website

Sign off – Local governance documentation requires NHS GM approval – anticipated early December

Comms – Once approved, a contractor resource pack will be communicated with links to all the required documentation and detailed process

Approve – Review and approve any NHSBSA declarations that are received

Next Steps for contractors and prescribers

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Actions for Contractors

- Attend all upcoming CPGM contractor readiness webinars
- Review all information on NHSBSA website
- Review PCC form
- Implement any actions to meet all requirements of the declarations in PCC form
- Submit PCC form once all elements are in place
- Await formal communications from commissioner with all details for local governance requirements
- Complete all elements of the local governance arrangements once released
- No prescribing to take place until all local and national governance is approved

Contact



Contact the NHS GM primary care integration team with any queries in relation to the local governance requirements



gmicb-old.medicines.primarycareintegration@nhs.net

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Questions and Discussion

NHS GM primary care integration team

Thank you for attending