

**Public Health Team**

Health and Adult Services  
County Hall, Racecourse Lane  
Northallerton  
North Yorkshire  
DL7 8DD

E-Mail: [nypublichealth@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:nypublichealth@northyorks.gov.uk)

15 July 2020

Dear Pharmacy,

The COVID-19 pandemic has meant that we have all had to completely change the way we work and that includes the delivery of Primary Care Public Health Services. As you know all of these services are paid on activity based contracts which means that reducing or suspending these activities is having an impact on Pharmacy incomes.

We would like to support Community Pharmacy through these unprecedented and difficult times to ensure that you are able to maintain a level of service where appropriate, and are in a strong position to mobilise services as part of the next phase.

Since the outbreak we have been working closely with the Community Pharmacy North Yorkshire (CPNY) to explore how we ensure that services continue to be delivered at appropriate and safe levels and patient referral pathways and access to medication is maintained.

The Public Health Team recently presented a COVID-19 Emergency Gateway 4 Supplier Relief Application in relation to the Public Health Commissioned services that we commission via the Approved Provider List (APL) to the 'Supply Chain Resilience Board'. The Board, chaired by Gary Fielding, Director of Finance for North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC), makes decisions on any NYCC payment relief requests. The application presented relates to Q1 2020/21 at this stage.

Thank you for your patience whilst we have worked through this process to establish an offer for Community Pharmacy.

Table 1 below sets out the detail regarding the payment decision made for each individual service area which was approved at the NYCC Supply Chain Resilience Board.

Table 1: Agreed relief payment to Community Pharmacy 1 Apr – 30 June 2020 only.

Service	Detail on payment	Calculation	COVID-19 Service delivery response
Sexual Health (EHC)	Payment is for consultation activity only. Payment for associated medicines via the PGD's will be made via Pharmoutcomes once data is recorded.	The minimum payment you would receive would be equivalent to the average payment that you received over Jan - March 2020 (Q4) unless actual activity processed through Pharmoutcomes has exceeded this amount.	Participating Pharmacies continue to deliver as a priority service, with remote offer and collection, activity is likely to be reduced.
Stop Smoking Services	Payment is for quit outcome activity. Payment for medications dispensed will only be made once data is recorded on the Pharmoutcomes system.	The minimum payment you would receive would be equivalent to the average payment that you received over Jan - March 2020 (Q4) unless actual activity processed through Pharmoutcomes has exceeded this amount.	Pharmacies continue to offer remote access and access to medications associated with Living Well Smoke Free.
Needle exchange (PNEX)	Payment is made on each supply transaction and is remunerated at: £1.60	The minimum payment you would receive would be equivalent to the average payment that you received in 2019/20 unless actual activity processed through Pharmoutcomes has exceeded this amount.	Pharmacies have continued to deliver as a priority service.
Supervised consumption	Supervisions are remunerated at: £1.50 – methadone £2.45 – buprenorphine	The minimum payment you would receive would be equivalent to the average payment that you received in 2019/20 unless actual activity processed through Pharmoutcomes	Pharmacies have continued to deliver as a priority service, where clinical need has determined.

		has exceeded this amount.	
--	--	---------------------------	--

**Additional points to note:**

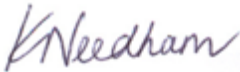
- The Pharmoutcomes system has continued to run as normal and has been adjusted to allow Pharmacies longer periods of grace to input any payment and activity data, as delays are likely during COVID-19 as a result of compromised capacity.

**Next steps:**

- NYCC contracting team will issue eligible individual pharmacies with a variation agreement for signing and returning before any relief payment can be released.
- The payments will be made after July 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 marked as 'relief payment'.
- We are exploring options for transition to the next phase from Q2 onwards with CPNY, which we will need to gain approval for from SCRB. We will communicate with you as soon as possible.
- Pharmoutcomes will remain switched on for data upload and payment, it is important that data is reported in the usual ways.

Thank you for your continued dedication to deliver essential Public Health Services to the North Yorkshire population. If you have any queries regarding the relief payments, please do contact us on the email details above.

Yours sincerely



**Katie Needham**  
Public Health Consultant  
North Yorkshire County Council