



COMMUNITY PHARMACY HEREFORDSHIRE AND WORCESTERSHIRE

GENERAL UPDATE 20th August 2026

Information is subject to change and is as accurate as we can ascertain at date published.

If your pharmacy is part of a larger organisation (CCA, IPA), please consult with your HO in relevant matters.

Pharmacy Bank Holiday Opening Times for 31st August 2026

Please find attached details of pharmaceutical provision across Herefordshire and Worcestershire for 31st August 2026:

Additional pharmacies may also be open on this date, and this can be confirmed via the NHS.UK website, where pharmacies can be located by completing a postcode search [here](#).

Pharmacy premises must exhibit a notice, based on information provided by the Office of the West Midlands, of times when the premises are not open. Where practicable the notice should be legible from outside the pharmacy premises, specifying the addresses of other NHS pharmacies and the days on which and times at which drugs and appliances may be obtained from those addresses.

[Download a printable A4 sheet for Herefordshire and Worcestershire](#)

[Google Maps](#)

Pharmacy contractors are expected to have updated their own NHS UK and DoS profiles. If DoS Profile has not been updated in time, pharmacies will need to request emergency profiling changes by the DoS team by phoning 0300 0200 363.

Christmas & New Year Bank Holiday Pharmacy Cover

NHS England is currently planning pharmacy provision for the following Bank Holidays:

- Christmas Day: 25 December 2026 – £350/hour if directed to open
- Substitute Boxing Day: 28 December 2026 – £275/hour if directed to open
- New Year's Day: 1 January 2027 – £275/hour if directed to open

Pharmacies are asked to complete two forms:

1. Opening Intentions – Please provide your proposed opening times for each of the above Bank Holidays. [Christmas 2026 & New Year's Day 2027 Bank Holiday OPENING INTENTIONS – Fill in form](#)
2. Expression of Interest – Pharmacies can register their interest in opening under Direction on any or all of the Bank Holidays. Please note that submitting an expression of interest does not



guarantee that you will be directed to open. [EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST to open Christmas & New Year 2026 / 2027 Bank Holidays – Fill in form](#)

NHS England has a duty to ensure adequate pharmacy provision on Bank and Public Holidays. Where insufficient provision is available, NHS England may direct one or more pharmacies to open.

Important: Responses must be submitted using the relevant online forms. Please do not reply to the original email. Head Offices/Corporates may submit the requested spreadsheet separately.

Deadline: 31 August 2026

Please ensure all opening intentions and expressions of interest are submitted by this date.

Flexible vaccine delivery dates

Flexible dynamic delivery days have been reintroduced for COVID-19 year-round pathway, 4CMenB time-limited vaccination offers and winter 2026 vaccine deliveries.

From 2pm on 14 August 2026, sites (excluding the Isle of Wight) can select from available delivery dates when placing orders, rather than being restricted to one fixed delivery day each week. This provides greater flexibility to align deliveries with planned clinics, helping teams order little and often, reduce wastage and maximise vaccine shelf life.

No new registration or setup is required. Delivery dates can be selected when placing orders through the [Supply Dashboard](#).

Checking delivery information: COVID-19 vaccine ETAs and proof of delivery (POD) information are available through the Supply Dashboard. 4CMenB ETAs and PODs remain available through Movianto UK's Marketplace, with guidance available in the [Vaccine supply and ordering guidance](#).

Providers receiving both COVID-19 and 4CMenB deliveries on the same day will need to check both platforms, as delivery information is not currently consolidated into one system.

Teams are encouraged to order in line with confirmed and planned clinic activity and select delivery dates as close to clinics as possible to protect vaccine shelf life.

Important Reminder: Secure Storage and Disposal of Medicines Waste

Following the bulletin regarding the theft of medicines intended for destruction circulated to all community pharmacies across the Midlands, we encourage all community pharmacies to review local arrangements and ensure that:



- Pharmaceutical waste bins are kept secure and locked when full.
- Controlled drugs awaiting destruction are stored and disposed of appropriately.
- Robust audit trails and chain of custody processes are maintained.

Any concerns regarding theft, diversion or security vulnerabilities should be reported to the police and your regional CDAO via www.cdreporting.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued vigilance.

New tool to find Smartcard support

NHS England has launched a new Find Your Registration Authority (RA) online tool to make it quicker and easier for pharmacy teams, locums and new staff to find the correct local Smartcard/CIS2 support contact.

The searchable tool replaces the previous A–Z list of RA contact details and is designed to help resolve access issues more efficiently. Users are encouraged to provide feedback through the tool, including on the accuracy of contact information and its ease of use. Registration Authorities are also being asked to review and update their details.

[Find Your Registration Authority – NHS England](#)

Important Dates for 2026

Don't forget to check the CPE website for upcoming important dates [here](#).

Advance payment timetable for 2026

CPE has published an Advanced Payment Timetable for 2026, which you can find [here](#).

Latest Supply Issues: Shortages and SSPs

You can find all the latest supply notifications and SSPs [here](#).



Finally.... WhatsApp Groups Reminder to share the WhatsApp groups with others who work in community pharmacy within Herefordshire and Worcestershire.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Chief Executive Officer:
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USEFUL LINKS:

[CPA Website](#)

[CPHW Website](#)

[CPE Newsletters](#)

[CPE Payment Timetable and Deadline
Tracker](#)

[CPE CPCF Important Dates](#)

[Price Concessions](#)