

Registered pharmacy inspection report

Pharmacy name: Longthornes Chemist

Address: 779 London Road, WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA, Essex, SS0 9SU

Pharmacy reference: 1031467

Type of pharmacy: Community

Date of inspection: 11/08/2025

Pharmacy context and inspection background

This is a community pharmacy on a parade of shops in a largely residential area of Westcliff-on-Sea. It provides NHS services such as the New Medicine Service, the Pharmacy First service and the Hypertension Case Finding service. It supplies medicines in multi-compartment compliance packs to people who need this support. And it delivers medicines to some people's homes. It also provides supervised administration of certain medicines.

This was an inspection of the pharmacy which focused on the core Standards relating to patient safety. Not all the Standards were inspected on this occasion. The pharmacy was last inspected in May 2016.

Overall outcome: Standards not all met

Required Action: Improvement Action Plan

Follow this link to [find out what the inspections possible outcomes mean](#)

Standards not met

Standard 2.2

- The pharmacy does not always ensure that its team members have completed or are doing the required training for the activities they are undertaking, including dispensing prescriptions. This

means the pharmacy can't provide adequate assurances that team members have the right skills and knowledge to work safely.

Standard 3.2

- The pharmacy has a consultation room but it is cluttered and not used for consultations. People were instead brought into the dispensary for consultations. This increases the risk of disclosing sensitive information.

Standards that were met with areas for improvement

Standard 1.1

- The pharmacy has standard operating procedures and team members can access them. But the procedures have not been reviewed recently. And they do not cover all the relevant topics. For example, the arrangements which are to apply during the absence of the responsible pharmacist from the premises and the circumstances in which a member of pharmacy staff who is not a pharmacist may give advice about medicinal products. This means that team members may not always be working safely in line with current best practice.

Standard 1.2

- The pharmacy identifies dispensing mistakes made during the dispensing and checking processes, but it doesn't currently record them. So, it may make it harder for team members to identify patterns and take effective action and help minimise the chance of similar mistakes.

Standard 1.6

- The pharmacy generally keeps the records it is required to. But it does not undertake regular audits of certain medicines. So, this means that the pharmacy is less able to identify any errors or loss of these medicines

Standard 4.2

- Overall, the pharmacy manages its services safely. But it doesn't routinely highlight prescriptions for higher-risk medicines. So, it may be missing opportunities to provide further advice to people receiving these medicines to help them take their medicines safely. And not all staff know how long some prescriptions are valid for so there is an increased chance that these might be handed out when the prescription is no longer valid.

Principle 1: The governance arrangements safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 1: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 1

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
1.1 - The risks associated with providing pharmacy services are identified and managed	Met	Area for improvement
1.2 - The safety and quality of pharmacy services are regularly reviewed and monitored	Met	Area for improvement
1.3 - Pharmacy services are provided by staff with clearly defined roles and clear lines of accountability	Met	
1.4 - Feedback and concerns about the pharmacy, services and staff can be raised by individuals and organisations, and these are taken into account and action taken where appropriate	Standard not inspected	
1.5 - Appropriate indemnity or insurance arrangements are in place for the pharmacy services provided	Met	
1.6 - All necessary records for the safe provision of pharmacy services are kept and maintained	Met	Area for improvement
1.7 - Information is managed to protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services	Met	
1.8 - Children and vulnerable adults are safeguarded	Met	

Principle 2: Staff are empowered and competent to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: Standards not all met

Table 2: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 2

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
2.1 - There are enough staff, suitably qualified and skilled, for the safe and effective provision of the pharmacy services provided	Met	
2.2 - Staff have the appropriate skills, qualifications and competence for their role and the tasks they carry out, or are working under the supervision of another person while they are in training	Not met	
2.3 - Staff can comply with their own professional and legal obligations and are empowered to exercise their professional judgement in the best interests of patients and the public	Met	
2.4 - There is a culture of openness, honesty and learning	Standard not inspected	
2.5 - Staff are empowered to provide feedback and raise concerns about meeting these standards and other aspects of pharmacy services	Standard not inspected	
2.6 - Incentives or targets do not compromise the health, safety or wellbeing of patients and the public, or the professional judgement of staff	Standard not inspected	

Principle 3: The environment and condition of the premises from which pharmacy services are provided, and any associated premises, safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: Standards not all met

Table 3: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 3

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
3.1 - Premises are safe, clean, properly maintained and suitable for the pharmacy services provided	Met	
3.2 - Premises protect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of patients and the public who receive pharmacy services	Not met	
3.3 - Premises are maintained to a level of hygiene appropriate to the pharmacy services provided	Standard not inspected	
3.4 - Premises are secure and safeguarded from unauthorized access	Met	
3.5 - Pharmacy services are provided in an environment that is appropriate for the provision of healthcare	Standard not inspected	

Principle 4: The way in which pharmacy services, including management of medicines and medical devices, are delivered safeguards the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 4: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 4

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
4.1 - The pharmacy services provided are accessible to patients and the public	Met	
4.2 - Pharmacy services are managed and delivered safely and effectively	Met	Area for improvement
4.3 - Medicines and medical devices are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; supplied to the patient safely; and disposed of safely and securely	Met	
4.4 - Concerns are raised when medicines or medical devices are not fit for purpose	Met	

Principle 5: The equipment and facilities used in the provision of pharmacy services safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public

Summary outcome: **Standards met**

Table 5: Inspection outcomes for standards under principle 5

Standard	Outcome of individual standard	Area for improvement/ Area of good or excellent practice
5.1 - Equipment and facilities needed to provide pharmacy services are readily available	Met	
5.2 - Equipment and facilities are: obtained from a reputable source; safe and fit for purpose; stored securely; safeguarded from unauthorized access; and appropriately maintained	Standard not inspected	
5.3 - Equipment and facilities are used in a way that protects the privacy and dignity of the patients and the public who receive pharmacy services	Standard not inspected	

What do the summary outcomes for each principle mean?

Finding	Meaning
✓ Excellent practice	The pharmacy demonstrates innovation in the way it delivers pharmacy services which benefit the health needs of the local community, as well as performing well against the standards.
✓ Good practice	The pharmacy performs well against most of the standards and can demonstrate positive outcomes for patients from the way it delivers pharmacy services.
✓ Standards met	The pharmacy meets all the standards.
Standards not all met	The pharmacy has not met one or more standards.