

Registered pharmacy inspection report

Pharmacy name: Castle Chemist

Address: 97 King Street, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire, DG7 1LZ

Pharmacy reference: 1042177

Type of pharmacy: Community

Date of inspection: 01/06/2026

Pharmacy context and inspection background

This is a community pharmacy on the High Street of Castle Douglas, Dumfriesshire. The pharmacy's main business is dispensing NHS prescriptions. And it supplies medicines in multi-compartment compliance packs to some people who need help remembering to take their medicines at the right times. It offers a medicines delivery service. The pharmacy's team members also provide the NHS Pharmacy First service and sell over-the-counter medicines.

This was a full intelligence-led inspection of the pharmacy following information received by the GPhC. The pharmacy was last inspected in September 2022 and all standards were met. It changed ownership in May 2024.

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 1.2

- Team members do not keep records of the mistakes they make when dispensing. And they do not carry out regular reviews to spot patterns or trends. So, they may be missing opportunities to

learn when things go wrong and take action to prevent them happening again.

Standard 1.6

- The pharmacy does not keep appropriate records of controlled drugs people return to the pharmacy for destruction. So, the pharmacy can't show who the medicines were received from or when they are destroyed in line with legal requirements.

Standard 4.3

- The pharmacy does not record the temperature of the pharmacy fridges. So, it cannot show that their temperatures remain within the appropriate limits. So, there is a risk that medicines that require refrigeration are not stored appropriately and are not fit for use.

Standards that were met with areas for improvement

Standard 1.1

- Pharmacy team members can demonstrate how they carry out their role safely and there are written procedures for them to follow. But the procedures have not been updated to reflect changes the pharmacy has made to some of its processes. So, team members may not be able to refer to the most up to date instructions.

Standard 4.4

- The pharmacy receives safety alerts and drug recalls, or similar information, however, there is no audit trail of the action taken, to show what the pharmacy has done in response.

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

Summary outcome: Standards not all 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	Not met	
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	Met	
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	Not met	
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 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	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	Met	
2.5 - Staff are empowered to provide feedback and raise concerns about meeting these standards and other aspects of pharmacy services	Met	
2.6 - Incentives or targets do not compromise the health, safety or wellbeing of patients and the public, or the professional judgement of staff	Met	

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 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	Met	
3.3 - Premises are maintained to a level of hygiene appropriate to the pharmacy services provided	Met	
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	Met	

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 not all 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	
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	Not met	
4.4 - Concerns are raised when medicines or medical devices are not fit for purpose	Met	Area For Improvement

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	Met	
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	Met	

What do the summary outcomes for each principle mean?

Finding	Meaning
✓ 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.