

# Review Steering Group: A Five-Point Guide

- ## 1 The Review Steering Group is working for all community pharmacy owners in England.

The Pharmacy Review Steering Group (RSG) is working to bring about change to LPCs and national negotiator PSNC so that community pharmacy contractors get the best service possible from their local and national representatives. This will mean more consistent support for contractors across the country, as well as the best outcomes for the sector on funding and services. It should also mean that we reduce duplication between local and national organisations.
- ## 2 The RSG is looking at new models for the functions and structures of local and national representative bodies.

The RSG is looking at LPCs and PSNC, exploring the issues with their structure and functions (as identified in the Wright review), and finding ways to improve. This is complex work: the RSG is first examining what the functions of the national and local representative bodies should be, and once we are clear on what jobs need to be done (the 'what'), then we can work out what the best structures will be to deliver that work (the 'how').
- ## 3 Significant changes are on the way: this should lead to improvements for pharmacy owners without costing them any more money.

An overriding principle of the RSG is to deliver best value: we want contractors to pay an equitable levy for the same service levels, and to avoid costs rising. The RSG wants a strengthened national representative body to set a direction for pharmacy; improve its negotiation outcomes; have a stronger voice; and better support the LPCs. We also want strong local bodies who can represent pharmacies locally, influence local relationships, negotiate local contracts and services, and provide guidance and support on local matters.
- ## 4 The RSG will hold a contractor vote either later in 2021 or early in 2022.

Any changes proposed by the RSG will need to be accepted (or rejected) by community pharmacy owners. Approval will be sought via a vote later this year (avoiding the busy Christmas period). We are looking at how the voting system will work, including principles such as the number of times contractors will be asked to vote, whether they will be asked a binary question, and fair vote weighting and analysis of results.
- ## 5 You can have your say now on what you want your representation to look like by working with the RSG: get in touch, join the Contractor Forum or take part in our events

The RSG has regular meetings with the three contractor trade bodies to talk through its ideas, and we have also held a series of online focus groups and events for LPCs and contractors. Sign up for our emails; look out for more events in September; register to join our Contractor Forum; and share your feedback by email on an ongoing basis.