

Primary Care Appeals Panel Members

NHS Resolution is responsible for ensuring the fair and determination of appeals relating to the establishment and relocation of NHS pharmacies and GP dispensing services. The Primary Care Appeals service is responsible for carrying out this function.

A Committee made up of NHS Resolution Officers* and Panel Members determines these appeals in accordance with the NHS Litigation Authority (Functions relating to Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Directions 2013 and functions exercised under the National Health Service Litigation Authority (Pharmaceutical Remuneration – Payment Disputes) (England) Directions 2022. Such appeals will be either determined on the papers or following an oral hearing.

*Officers include but not limited to:

Head of Appeals
Deputy Director of Advice and Appeals
Technical Case Manager

Please find below the names and biographies of Panel Members.

Committee Chairmen

Sheila Hewitt (Surrey)

Born in Pakistan, Sheila is an economics graduate from the London School of Economics and Political Science [LSE]. After an early career in finance in the City, she has held a number of non-executive posts during the past three decades. These have included serving on the Advertising Standards Authority, the Radio Authority [now part of [OFCOM]], and the Legal Services Commission.

Sheila was the first Chairman of Surrey Heartlands NHS Trust when the internal market was introduced into the NHS. She has also chaired for nine years, Fitness to Practise hearings for the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service, and seven years on the NMC Fitness to Practise Panel. Sheila is currently a Magistrate on the Surrey bench and a non legal member of the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal.

Linda Lee (Northamptonshire)

Specialising in regulatory and disciplinary law, Linda is a consultant at national law firm Weightmans. She is a Commissioner and Board Member at the Criminal Cases Review Commission, where she investigates miscarriages of justice and serves as Deputy Chair of its Body Corporate.

A past President of the Law Society of England and Wales (2010-2011), Linda has extensive experience chairing various boards and committees, contributing significantly to the legal profession. She is the current Chair of the Law Society's Professional Indemnity Insurance Committee.

Linda holds several public administrative offices. She chairs hearings for the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service and is a Legally Qualified Chair for the Health and Care

Professions Council. Her public service roles extend to being a member of the Licensing Committee of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority and a panel member for both the East West Rail and HS2's Need to Sell Schemes.

Linda is also dedicated to pro bono work, previously chairing the Solicitors Assistance Scheme, which supports solicitors facing professional and personal challenges. She is a Council Member and former President of the Medico-Legal Society, a director of the Incorporated Council of Law Reporting, and a former President of the Northamptonshire Law Society.

Linda sits as a Deputy District Judge (Civil) and an Assistant Coroner for Coventry and Warwickshire.

Lucy Reid (Conwy)

Lucy has worked in the NHS for nearly 20 years in both England and Wales and across both primary and secondary care. She is an Independent Board Member for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and chairs the Quality and Safety Committee. She is a Tribunal Chair for the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service and a Magistrate for the North Wales Family and Criminal Benches. Lucy has a Masters of Law in Healthcare Ethics and Law (Manchester University) with a particular interest in safety culture and professional regulation. She is also a Chartered Member of the Institute of Internal Auditors and a Certified Internal Auditor.

Jon Whitfield KC (Hampshire)

Jon Whitfield is a senior barrister practising from Doughty Street Chambers in London. He specialises in cases involving offences of terrorism, murder and fraud and, issues of forensic science or mental health. He sits as a Judge in Mental Health Tribunals and is a Legal Assessor/Advisor in professional discipline and regulatory proceedings before the Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service and the General Pharmaceutical Council. Jon is a pension fund trustee responsible for @£10m of assets held on behalf of 140 investors and is a director of Phire Ltd a company he set up to procure best value in medical and support services for self employed legal practitioners. He is a trustee for The Kintampo Trust, a charity dedicated to training an entire generation of mental health practitioners in Ghana.

Committee Members (Pharmacy)

Mike Beaman (West Sussex) - BPharm, MSc, FRPharmS, MCPP, DipPresSci, FRSPH, FellowUH

Mike Beaman registered as a pharmacist in 1970 and has a wide experience in pharmacy practice, mainly in the NHS. In 1989 he became one of the first pharmacists to become a health authority medicines management and pharmacy lead and subsequently became a chief pharmacist in a Primary Care Trust in Hertfordshire prior to his retirement from the NHS in 2007. He now works in a free lance capacity as a pharmaceutical advisor with a particular interest in primary care including public health and medicines management. He has been involved in a number of pharmacy organisations at both local and national level including the Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists, the College of Pharmacy Practice and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society. He was a founder member and first secretary of both the UK Psychiatric Pharmacists Association (1978) and the National Pharmaceutical Advisors Group(1991). He has been a CPPE tutor (1994-2010) and a reviewer for CHI, the Health Care Commission and latterly the Ombudsman's Office. He is a visiting fellow for the University of Hertfordshire and a member of the RPS Panel of Fellows.

Phil Bratley (West Yorkshire) - BScPharm, MSc, MRPharmS

Phil Bratley was for 30 years a community pharmacy proprietor. He has approximately 40 years experience on an LPC, firstly as a member, then as a development officer and then secretary. For over 10 years, he was Pharmaceutical Adviser for PCTs. He was previously a Non-Executive Director on a FHSA, an NVQ pharmacy technician assessor and a member and Chairman of a school Governing Body.

Gail Curphey (Isle of Man) - MRPharmS, Bsc, Dip Presc.Sci

Gail Curphey qualified as a Pharmacist from Manchester University in 1985, starting her career in hospital and then community pharmacy practice. She spent the last 22 years within Primary Care Organisations in Cheshire being responsible for the Medicines Management Team, supporting GP prescribing and the Community Pharmacy contract. Gail was a member of the English Pharmacy Board for its first 3 years and is a strong supporter of enhanced service delivery via Community pharmacists. Gail left the NHS, having attained the position of Associate Director of Medicines Management and Pharmacy, following the recent NHS re-organisations. She is now a self employed pharmacist consultant "with portfolio". As well as being a Pharmacy Panel member, she is a GPhC Associate, CPPE tutor and undertakes varied project work.

Paul McGorry (East Yorkshire) BSc (Hons) MRPharmS FRSPH

Paul McGorry registered as a pharmacist in 1991. While his wide pharmacy practice experience is primarily within the community, he also has also worked in GP prescribing support and joint working with hospital teams and held several senior management roles within a multiple setting. He has a particular interest in primary care and public health, while being a passionate supporter of enhanced service delivery by Community pharmacists within the evolving integrated NHS. He has been involved in a number of pharmacy organisations locally and regionally, a former RPS Pharmacy Development Group chairman, and has almost 20 years' experience on LPCs as an active member. As well as being a Pharmacy Panel member, he is the Chief Executive Officer of Community Pharmacy Humber LPC.

Michael Smith (Surrey) - BSc, MRPharmS

Michael Smith has served as a Panel Member since the inception of the Control of Entry Regulations. He was a community pharmacy proprietor until 2000 and then did occasional locum work until relinquishing his GPhC registration in 2010. He is currently a Borough Councilor and Chairman of the Planning Committee, a Secondary School Governor and a Governor of two NHS Foundation Trusts.

Committee members (lay)

Paul Chapman (Tyne & Wear)

Paul Chapman is a retired NHS Manager with over 20 years' experience in various aspects of Primary Care Development from quality management to the management of professional performance. Paul has extensive knowledge of the systems and processes involved with the determination of pharmacy applications and the general application of the Pharmacy regulations. Paul was a founder member of the Department of Health's Pharmacy Regulations and Guidance User Group serving on the group between 2005 and 2011. In 2013 Paul was appointed as a Lay Representative by Health Education North East and plays an active role in the assessment of doctors' progression through training, sitting as a member of Appeal Panels and participating in Quality Assurance visits of NHS Training Trusts.

Stephen Chappell (Derbyshire)

Stephen Chappell is a solicitor. He has spent the majority of his legal career in the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS). His last role in the CPS was as Chief Crown Prosecutor for CPS

East Midlands. Since leaving the CPS in late 2015 Stephen has developed a portfolio career developing an interest in professional conduct issues. Stephen had worked for the Bar Standards Board (the regulatory arm of the Bar Council) and is a Legally Qualified Chair of Police Misconduct Hearings. In addition, Stephen has been appointed by the Lord Chancellor to be a lay committee member for the Leicestershire & Rutland Advisory Committee which appoints magistrates to the Bench. He is also a Chair of Valuation Tribunals dealing with council tax and non-domestic rates appeals.

Madhu Kakar (Merseyside)

Madhu Kakar has experience of legal and quasi-legal work. She has served as a Magistrate on Liverpool bench and as a member of fitness to practise panels for GMC and BACP. Madhu served as non-executive director of South Liverpool Primary Care and Merseyside Probation Trust and currently serves as member of PPG in local GP practice.

Catharine Limm (Worcestershire)

Catharine Limm is a former senior civil servant. Her career included policy work relating to health and social services and social security. In the mid-1990s she led an overhaul of social security decision making and appeals legislation. She was a non-executive director of an acute NHS Trust Board from 1997-1999. From 2007 until 2013 she was Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer for a large Parish Council in Worcestershire.

Victoria Smith (Monmouthshire)

Victoria began working in the law in 1998 as a Trainee Legal Advisor advising Magistrates on the law, practice and procedure in the Magistrates' Court. She qualified as a Solicitor in 1997 and worked in the Magistrates' Court as a Principal Legal Advisor advising Magistrates on the law until 2006. She left the Court service to join a leading national law firm as a practicing Solicitor which she combined with part time A level teaching. Victoria left private practice in 2016 to pursue a portfolio career, she is currently an Independent Member of the Ministry of Defence Service Complaints Panel, a lay panel member with the Statutory Regulators The General Pharmaceutical Council and the Health and Care Professions Council and is a professional advisor to the Department of Education on legal education.

Linda Summers (West Yorkshire)

Linda Summers is a solicitor. She has worked in private practice, where she was a partner specialising in family law, and in the public sector, where she was a Regional Director for the Legal Services Commission. More recently, she has worked in professional regulation, initially as Assistant Director, Investigation, at the General Medical Council and currently as a lay panel member hearing fitness to practise cases at the Nursing and Midwifery Council and (as Chair) at the Health and Care Professions Council. She holds voluntary positions as a governor, and Chair of the Audit Committee, at a Sixth Form College, and as a public co-optee on the Scrutiny Panel of Kirklees Metropolitan Council.

Document Control - Change Record

Date	Author	Version	Reason for Change
29/01/2025	Head of Appeals	12	Update to Linda Lee Retirement of Alan Lyon