

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date: 8 March 2018

PHARMACY NEEDS ASSESSMENT (PNA): CONSULTATION REPORT AND APPROVAL OF FINAL DOCUMENT

Report of: Director of Public Health

Cabinet Member: Cllr Veronica Jones - Adult Wellbeing and Health

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to receive an update on the consultation and to ask the Health and Wellbeing Board to approve the final Pharmacy Needs Assessment (PNA) which has been updated as a result of comments received during the consultation.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- 1) Approve the updated Pharmacy Needs Assessment.

Key issues

It is a statutory duty of the Health and Wellbeing Board to publish the updated PNA by 1st April 2018. The draft PNA was considered at the November HWB Board meeting prior to formal consultation.

Consultation took place from 27 November 2017 to 31 January 2018; longer than the statutory 60 days and including the Christmas period with its attendant holidays.

Written responses were received regarding the draft PNA from two pharmacy contractors, the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC), Northumberland CCG, NHS England, Northumbria Healthcare Trust, three parish councils and one surgery patient participation group. There were four responses to the online questionnaire and 306 responses were made to an on line survey about pharmacy services, organised by the Council's Economic and Inclusion Policy Team. Factual inaccuracies have been corrected in the final PNA and consideration has been given to all other issues raised.

The conclusion is that there is adequate provision of NHS pharmaceutical services in Northumberland. The network of extended hour pharmacies are considered essential to meet patients' needs by widening access to pharmaceutical services outside core hours

when other pharmacies are closed. There is scope to consider some pharmacy mergers in market towns.

Background

A paper was considered by the November 2017 Health and Wellbeing Board. This provided the full background to the PNA including the process for collecting information, how the PNA would be used and the services currently commissioned from community pharmacies.

Consultation

The following groups were consulted as instructed by the regulations:

- Local Pharmaceutical Committee
- Local Medical Committee
- All currently on the pharmaceutical list and dispensing doctors
- NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Healthwatch Northumberland
- Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and NTW Mental Health NHS Foundation Trusts
- NHS England
- H&WBs in North Tyneside, Newcastle, Durham and Cumbria;

In addition, the following groups were consulted:

- GP practices
- Parish Councils

The Economic and Inclusion policy team organised a public consultation about pharmacy services.

Written responses were received from NHS England, NHS Northumberland CCG, Northumbria Healthcare Trust, three Parish Councils, Alnwick Patient Participation Group, North of Tyne Local Pharmaceutical Committee, and Wellway Pharmacy Ltd.

The response from Wellway Pharmacy concerned a reduction in opening hours which had taken place in May 2016, but had not been picked up by NHS England. Healthwatch had noted that Wansbeck Primary Care Access Centre had been closed for nearly 12 months, and that North Tyneside Walk in centre closes at 11pm.

Factual inaccuracies were corrected, and any other concerns were considered.

The main issues raised by Parish Councils and the Patient Participation Group concerned a perceived lack of extended opening hours and availability of medicines for terminal care. The main issues raised in the public consultation were:

- Lunchtime access to medicines when the pharmacist is on a lunch break
- A desire for longer opening hours

- Long waits/long queues/lack of privacy
- 48 hour wait to get prescription from doctor to pharmacy.

The full consultation report is contained in Appendix 6 in the final version of the PNA.

Conclusion

The conclusion is that there is adequate provision of NHS pharmaceutical services in Northumberland. The network of extended hour pharmacies are considered essential to meet patients' needs by widening access to pharmaceutical services outside core hours when other pharmacies are closed. There is scope to consider some pharmacy mergers in market towns.

Implications

Policy	Agreement of the final PNA will ensure that the updated document is produced in a timely manner.
Finance and value for money	There are no direct financial implications for the council.
Legal	The council could face legal challenge if the PNA is not in place by 1 st April 2018
Procurement	N/A
Human Resources	There are no specific implications for human resources, but development of the plan could lead to better collaboration and joint working across organisations.
Property	N/A
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Production of the PNA should ensure that disadvantaged groups have easy access to primary care health services from local pharmacies. It also identifies areas of health need which could be met by pharmacy services. Nothing from the consultation suggested the need for a formal EIA.
Risk Assessment	The council is obligated to update the PNA by 1 st April 2018 and then to update it on a regular basis.
Crime & Disorder	Commissioned services to support substance misuse services and harm reduction strategies provided by community pharmacies reduce the crime associated with substance misuse
Customer Consideration	The fundamental aim is to ensure that adequate pharmacy services are available to Northumberland residents.

Carbon reduction	N/A
Wards	All

Background papers

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments; Information Pack for Local Authority Health and Wellbeing Boards. Department of Health May 2013.

Appendix

1. PNA – Final Version

Report sign off

Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:

Finance Officer	N/A
Monitoring Officer/Legal	N/A
Human Resources	N/A
Procurement	N/A
I.T.	N/A
Executive Director	VB
Portfolio Holder(s)	VJ

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