

Title of meeting:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Date of meeting:	21 st June 2017
Subject:	Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Refresh
Report by:	Director of Public Health
Wards affected:	All
Key decision:	No
Full Council decision:	No

1. Purpose of report

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory responsibility to:

- Publish a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area, referred to as a PNA. This briefing defines what needs to be done and the steps we are taking to ensure this is in place.
- Make a representation to NHS England on consolidation applications of community pharmacies in its area (since December 2016). This briefing notes that a process is being developed to facilitate this requirement.

2. Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

1. Approve the plan to refresh the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for Portsmouth.
2. Note that a process to facilitate the HWB to consider pharmacy consolidation applications within the allotted 45 days is being developed. Approval from the HWB on the proposed process will be sought.

3. Background

Access to a pharmacy has an impact on health. Pharmacies are essential for the supply of medications to the population, but also may offer a wide range of other services in the community that promote health, from medication reviews to smoking cessation services. Pharmacies are independent businesses, commissioned by NHS England.

4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 What is a PNA and what should they contain?

PNAs are used by the NHS to make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies. These services are part of local healthcare and public health and affect NHS budgets. PNAs are also relevant when deciding if new pharmacies are needed, in response to applications by businesses, including independent owners and large pharmacy companies. Applications are keenly contested by applicants and existing NHS contractors and can be open to legal challenge if not handled properly.

The content of PNAs is set out in Schedule 1 to the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013. The PNA must contain:

- A statement of the pharmaceutical services provided that are necessary to meet needs in the area;
- A statement of the pharmaceutical services that have been identified by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) that are needed in the area, and are not provided (gaps in provision);
- A statement of the other services which are provided, which are not needed, but which have secured improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services in the area;
- A statement of the services that the HWB has identified as not being provided, but which would, if they were to be provided, secure improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services in the area;
- A statement of other NHS services provided by a local authority, the NHS Commissioning Board (NHS England), a Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) or an NHS Trust, which affect the needs for pharmaceutical services;
- An explanation of how the assessment has been carried out (including how the consultation was carried out); and
- A map of providers of pharmaceutical services.

4.2 What is the process for preparing a PNA?

Development of a draft PNA has been delegated to a steering group, led by a consultant in public health, which includes representatives from the CCG, NHS England, the Local Pharmaceutical Committee, Healthwatch and analyst support. The steering group is tasked with overseeing the development of a PNA for Portsmouth and also for Southampton (as two separate reports). The first steering group meeting was held on 16th May 2017. This group will map current pharmacy supply against the JSNA and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for each city.

There is also a regulatory duty (NHS (Pharmaceutical & Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 No 349: Part 2: Reg 8) to have a 60 day consultation during the process, ideally on a draft document. This consultation must include pharmacies, dispensing practices, Healthwatch, NHS Trusts, NHS England, Neighbouring HWBs, the Local Pharmaceutical Committee and the Local Medical Committee.

4.3 Will this be straightforward?

We are hoping the refresh process for the PNA will be relatively straightforward. However there are a number of developments in the world of pharmacies that may have an impact on future pharmacy provision. These include:

- Changes in provision of pharmacy services associated with the Internet, resulting in Internet run dispensing pharmacies that operate nationally and may destabilise the local economy.
- Changes in the funding for pharmacies nationally which are likely to put pressure on community pharmacies and may mean some pharmacies are at risk of closing.

4.4 Proposed timetable

- May to September: Steering group to develop PNA.
- 21st June: Present proposals to HWB for approval.
- 20th September: To request approval of draft PNA from HWB for consultation

- Make changes based on HWB feedback.
- 23rd October: Formal 60 day consultation starts.
- 22nd December: Formal 60 day consultation ends.
- Write report on consultation and make changes to draft PNA.
- February 2018: Present final draft PNA to HWB.
- Make final changes based on HWB feedback.
- 1st April 2018: Final PNA published on website.

4.5 What is the recent change to the Regulations requiring the HWB to make a representation to NHS England on pharmacy consolidation applications?

The NHS (Pharmaceutical Services, Charges and Prescribing) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 requires the HWB to make representations on consolidation applications to NHS England (i.e. where pharmacy businesses on two or more sites propose to consolidate to a single existing site). This amendment came into effect on 5th December 2016.

The HWB is asked to provide its opinion on whether, if an application was granted, the proposed removal of premises from the pharmaceutical list would or would not create a gap in pharmaceutical services that could be met by a routine application.

The HWB is given 45 days to make a representation once notified by NHS England. Such proposed consolidations may therefore need to be brought to the attention of the HWB outside the usual schedule of meetings. A process to facilitate the HWB to consider consolidation applications within the allotted timeframe is being developed. Approval from the HWB on the proposed process will be sought.

5. Equality impact assessment

An equality impact assessment will be conducted as part of the PNA.

6. Legal implications

There is a legal duty to undertake this work as part of NHS (Pharmaceutical & Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, which result from the amended Health Act 2009.

7. Director of Finance's comments

Not sought. This work will be undertaken using existing staffing resources and will not incur additional costs.

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Signed by: Dr Jason Horsley, Director of Public Health

Appendices:

None

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: