

Cabinet

15 April 2015

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)



Report of Corporate Management Team

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Councillor Lucy Hovvels, Portfolio holder for Safer and Healthier Communities

Purpose of the Report

1. To present the completed Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for information following the statutory consultation phase (13 October 2014 to 12 December 2014).

Background

2. The PNA looks at the current provision of pharmacy services across County Durham and whether there are any potential gaps to service delivery.
3. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred the responsibility for developing and updating PNAs from Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) to Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs). All HWBs must produce an updated PNA by 1 April 2015. The PNA will be used by NHS England in its consideration of applications to join the pharmaceutical list, and by commissioners of community pharmacy enhanced and locally commissioned services.
4. The public health department of Durham County Council (DCC) led the development of the PNA on behalf of the HWB.
5. A statutory public consultation was undertaken from 13 October 2014 to 12 December 2014 to seek the views of the public and other stakeholders. Any comments and feedback obtained from the consultation have been reflected in this final revised PNA report.
6. The key conclusion from the PNA is that there are sufficient numbers of pharmacies in County Durham. This can be demonstrated using the following points:
 - County Durham has 24 pharmacies per 100,000 population. This is higher than the England average of 21 per 100,000.
 - More than 90% of the items prescribed by GP practices in County Durham in 2013-14 were dispensed by pharmacies in County Durham.
 - There is a good distribution of pharmacies and dispensing practices in areas of high population density and within the 30% most deprived areas.

- A good distribution of pharmacies exists with extended and weekend opening hours in all localities.
 - There are limited short term future housing developments which are relatively small and would not require a new pharmacy contract due to satisfactory cover from already existing pharmacies.
7. However, there is scope to further develop advanced, enhanced and locally commissioned services from the existing service providers in order to further support targets in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS). These services should particularly focus on the growing elderly population; on the expansion of community pharmacy based public health services particularly in the deprived areas across the county and exploring innovative ways in which pharmacists and pharmacies can support the wider priorities in the JHWS.
 8. The Health & Wellbeing Board agreed the PNA at an extraordinary meeting on 28 January 2015.
 9. The PNA will be downloaded onto the council website and hard copies will be distributed to relevant stakeholders and organisations.

Recommendations

10. Cabinet is recommended to:
 - Note the final PNA report
 - Note that the Health & Wellbeing Board has agreed the PNA for publication.

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Background papers: Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2015

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

No financial Implications

Staffing

No financial implications

Risk

No risk identified

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

The PNA demonstrates that there is good coverage and provision of pharmacy services and dispensing in the 30% most deprived areas. The majority of pharmacies (110 out of 125) have good wheelchair access and the remaining 15 have made reasonable adjustments for residents with a disability.

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Human Rights

None

Consultation

PNA has been consulted on through key stakeholders and the public.

Procurement

None

Disability Issues

None

Legal Implications

None