

Adults, Wellbeing & Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

15 July 2022

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

2022-25

Ordinary Decision



Report of Amanda Healy, Director of Public Health County Durham, Adults & Health Services

Councillor Paul Sexton, Chair, County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board; Portfolio Holder for Adult and Health Services

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 Under the Health and Social Care Act (2012), the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is responsible for the production of a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) every 3 years.
- 2 The next PNA is due for publication by the HWB on 1 October 2022 at <https://www.durhaminsight.info/pna/> (deferred due to the pandemic) and a draft has been agreed by the PNA Steering Group (Appendix 2). This draft PNA has been submitted for the statutory 60-day public consultation which ran from 16 May to 14 July 2022 (Appendix 3 for the PNA timeline).

Executive summary

- 3 A HWB is required to assess the need for pharmaceutical services in its area and to publish a statement of that assessment (i.e. a PNA) every 3 years.
- 4 A PNA considers the health needs of the population, the current provision of pharmaceutical services commissioned by NHS England and Improvement (NHSE&I) that can meet those health needs, and therefore whether there are any potential gaps in pharmaceutical service delivery over a 3-year period. If gaps are identified, a PNA then describes any needs for, or improvements or better access to specified pharmaceutical services in a specified area. This can then trigger

pharmaceutical applications to NHSE&I to meet those needs or to secure those improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services.

- 5 The HWB is required to publish the next PNA by 1 October 2022.

Recommendation(s)

- 6 Adults, Wellbeing & Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
 - (a) Comment on the draft PNA as part of the consultation process.

Background

- 7 A PNA is an assessment of need for pharmaceutical services in a HWB area. Pharmaceutical services are nationally commissioned services provided by community pharmacies, dispensing appliance contractors, and dispensaries in GP practices.
- 8 A PNA:
 - (a) considers the demographics of the area and any expected changes within the 3-year lifetime of the document;
 - (b) identifies the health needs of the population and which needs can be met by the provision of pharmaceutical services;
 - (c) describes and maps the provision of pharmaceutical services nationally commissioned by NHSE&I.
- 9 A PNA then considers whether there are any potential gaps in pharmaceutical service delivery over a 3-year period.
- 10 If gaps in pharmaceutical services are identified, a PNA then describes any needs for, or improvements or better access to specified pharmaceutical services in a specified area. This can then trigger pharmaceutical applications to NHSE&I to meet those needs or to secure those improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services.
- 11 The PNA for County Durham links to the health needs identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the priorities in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS).
- 12 A PNA Steering Group leads on the development of the PNA as a subcommittee of the HWB (Appendix 2), working to the PNA timeline in Appendix 3.
- 13 The key conclusion of the draft PNA 2022-25 is that there are still sufficient pharmaceutical services across County Durham. This can be demonstrated with the following points in the Executive Summary of the draft PNA (Appendix 4):
 - (a) There is a good distribution of pharmaceutical services in areas of high population density, and in areas with more significant health needs (i.e. areas with a high population density of older people, and in areas of deprivation);
 - (b) A reasonable distribution of pharmacies exists with extended and weekend opening hours in all localities;

- (c) Out of area pharmaceutical services do not provide a necessary dispensing service in County Durham;
 - (d) The estimated builds of future housing developments by 2025 will not require new pharmaceutical services;
 - (e) County Durham has 24 pharmacies per 100,000 population. This is higher than the England average of 21 per 100,000;
 - (f) Public surveys of pharmaceutical services indicate that on average 93% of people who responded stated that they could easily access pharmaceutical services.
- 14 The Executive Summary (Appendix 4) also includes the following key statements:
- a) The provision of all essential and necessary advanced services (New Medicine Service and Community Pharmacist Consultation Service) in County Durham are adequate to meet the current and future needs for pharmaceutical services;
 - b) The provision of the other relevant advanced service, the Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination is adequate however a more equitable provision is required across all localities;
 - c) The widespread provision of the new other relevant advanced services (the Hypertension Case-Finding Service and the Smoking Cessation Service) should be encouraged.

The public consultation

- 15 Part of the process of producing a draft PNA for statutory public consultation is to gather public views at an early stage. This was done by using the results of Healthwatch and Community Champion surveys in 2020 and 2022, respectively. These are summarised as:

Healthwatch

- 16 Healthwatch County Durham carried out an online survey at the beginning of 2020 to gain an initial insight of the experiences of people accessing pharmaceutical services in County Durham. Of the 260 responses received:
- 94% can easily access pharmacy services;

- 54% access pharmacy services at least monthly;
- 55% always visit the same pharmacy service;
- 62% normally get to their pharmacy by car or taxi;
- 72% use a high street pharmacy with 25% use a GP practice dispensary;
- 15% have used an online / internet pharmacy.

Community Champions

- 17 In January 2022, the Community Champion network promoted an online survey to their local communities. Of the 629 responses received:
- 92% can easily access pharmacy services;
 - 6% access pharmacy services at least weekly, and 55% access pharmacy services less than once a week but at least monthly;
 - 57% always visit the same pharmacy service, and 35% usually visit the same pharmacy service;
 - 52% normally get to their pharmacy by car or taxi;
 - 55% use a community pharmacy with 41% use a GP practice dispensary;
 - 3% use an internet pharmacy service;
- 18 The statutory 60-day public consultation ran from 16 May to 14 July 2022. Regulation (Appendix 5) and national guidance shape this consultation process.
- 19 The PNA online consultation at <https://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation> contained an overview (e.g. how to obtain a paper copy), the draft PNA and links to maps of pharmaceutical services, plus a link to reply either directly to pnaconsultation@durham.gov.uk or to respond to an online survey (as at 29 June 2022, a total of 289 responses had been received).
- 20 Promotion of the consultation with the statutory consultees (Appendix 5) was via:
- Email from consultations@durham.gov.uk to Community Pharmacy County Durham, Local Medical Committee,

Healthwatch, NHS England, neighbouring HWBs, and hospital trusts;

- HWB letter to all pharmacies and dispensing doctors in County Durham.

21 Promotion of the consultation to the public included:

- Durham County News article in the summer edition;
- Briefing sent out to e.g. Area Action Partnerships, Community Champions, Healthwatch, Voluntary Groups, etc (Appendix 6);
- Social media messages.

Main implications

22 The HWB is responsible for the production of a PNA every 3 years, and the next PNA is due for publication by the HWB on 1 October 2022 (deferred due to the pandemic).

23 A draft has been agreed by the PNA Steering Group and has undergone the statutory 60-day public consultation from 16 May to 14 July 2022.

Conclusion

24 Adults, Wellbeing & Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is asked to comment on the draft PNA that has undergone the statutory 60-day public consultation.

Background papers

- Draft PNA 2022-2025 (separate document – Appendix 7)

Other useful documents

- None

Author(s)

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

It is a statutory duty of the HWB to publish a PNA in line with The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013).

Finance

No significant implications.

Consultation

A statutory 60-day public consultation is required by legislation in line with The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013).

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

It is a requirement to consider the implications of the Equality Act 2010.

Climate Change

No significant implications.

Human Rights

It is a requirement to consider the implications of the Equality Act 2010.

Crime and Disorder

No significant implications.

Staffing

No significant implications.

Accommodation

No significant implications.

Risk

The publication of the next PNA must be achieved by the HWB by 1 October 2022.

Procurement

No significant implications.

Appendix 2: PNA steering group members

Name	Role
Claire Jones	PNA Lead, Public Health Pharmacy Adviser, Public Health, DCC
Glen Wilson	Chair, Consultant in Public Health, Public Health, DCC
John Mitchell	Research and Consultant Officer, Research and Public Health Intelligence, DCC
John Russell	Senior Policy Officer, Spatial Policy Team, Regeneration and Local Services, DCC
Julie Bradbrook	Partnership Team Manager, Neighbourhoods and Climate Change, DCC
Emma Morris	Community Pharmacy County Durham
Kate Huddart	Head of Medicines Optimisation, NHS County Durham CCG
Christopher Cunnington-Shore	Chair, Healthwatch County Durham

Appendix 3: Timeline for the development of the PNA

Meeting	Date	Purpose
PNA Steering Group	By the beginning of April	To agree first draft to send to Management Teams
Public Health Senior Management Team	27/04/22	For comment
PNA Steering Group	06/05/22	Agree consultation draft for statutory consultation
Briefing on PNA with Cllr Sexton	April 2022	Briefing for Cllr Sexton on PNA consultation
Statutory 60-day consultation	16/05/22 – 14/07/22	Public consultation
Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	15/07/22	Consultation
PNA Steering Group	28/07/22	To agree final draft to send to Management Teams and HWB
Public Health Senior Management Team	03/08/22	Revised PNA following consultation
Adults and Health Services Senior Management Team	11/08/22	Revised PNA following consultation
Corporate Management Team	17/08/22	Revised PNA following consultation
Briefing on PNA with Cllr Sexton	August 2022	Briefing for Cllr Sexton on PNA before comes to Health and Wellbeing Board
Officer Health and Wellbeing Group	05/09/22	Revised PNA following consultation

Meeting	Date	Purpose
Health and Wellbeing Board	28/09/22	Formal agreement of PNA
Publication on DCC website	1/10/22	Content required at https://www.durhaminsight.info/pna/ : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final PNA document • Section for supplementary statements • Pharmaceutical services listing and map
Cabinet report	12/10/22	Final PNA for information

Appendix 4: Executive summary in draft PNA 2022-25

County Durham is a predominantly rural county with a total population of approximately 533,000 people. The County has a large and increasing aging population. The County experiences higher levels of deprivation than the national average, and hence significant health inequalities.

A Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is an assessment of need for pharmaceutical services in a Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) area. It is used by NHS England and Improvement (NHSE&I) in its consideration of applications to join the pharmaceutical list.

A PNA considers the health needs of the population, the provision of pharmaceutical services commissioned by NHSE&I that can support health needs, and therefore whether there are any potential gaps in pharmaceutical service delivery over a 3-year period.

The PNA for County Durham links to the health needs identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the priorities in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS).

Potential gaps in pharmaceutical services could be for:

1. Geographical gaps in the location of premises.
2. Geographical gaps in the provision of services.
3. Gaps in the times at which, or days on which, services are provided.

Once any gaps are identified they are articulated as needs for pharmaceutical services (which can include a range or one specific pharmaceutical service) in a specified area at a specified time; or improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services (which can include a range or one specific pharmaceutical service) in a specified area at a specified time. This can then trigger applications to meet those needs, or to secure those improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services.

The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013¹ require PNAs to include statements of the pharmaceutical services that the HWB has identified that are not provided within its area but which the board is satisfied:

- need to be provided to meet a current need

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/349/contents>

- will need to be provided in specified circumstances to meet a future need
- would currently secure improvements or better access
- would, if they were provided in specified future circumstances, secure future improvements or better access.

The PNA includes information on the following:

- The number and geographical distribution of pharmacies and dispensing GP practices in County Durham. In December 2021, there are 127 pharmacies and 13 dispensing GP practices in County Durham. These are presented in 6 localities. There are no dispensing appliance contractors in County Durham.
- There is a good distribution of pharmaceutical services in areas of high population density, and in areas with more significant health needs (i.e. areas with a high population density of older people, and in areas of deprivation).
- A reasonable distribution of pharmacies exists with extended and weekend opening hours in all localities.
- Out of area pharmaceutical services do not provide a necessary dispensing service in County Durham.
- The estimated builds of future housing developments by 2025 will not require new pharmaceutical services.
- County Durham has 24 pharmacies per 100,000 population. This is higher than the England average of 21 per 100,000.
- Public surveys of pharmaceutical services indicate that on average 93% of people who responded stated that they could easily access pharmaceutical services.

The PNA contains the following statements:

The pharmaceutical services that the HWB has identified as services that are necessary to meet the need for pharmaceutical services are:

- All essential services
- The following advanced services:
 - New Medicine Service
 - Community Pharmacist Consultation Service

The other relevant pharmaceutical services that the HWB has identified as not being necessary to meet the need for pharmaceutical services but will secure improvements or better access are:

- The following advanced services:
 - Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination

- Hypertension Case-Finding Service
- Smoking Cessation Service

The pharmaceutical services that have been identified as services that are not provided but which the HWB is satisfied need to be provided to meet a current or future need for pharmaceutical services are:

- Current need: The provision of all essential and necessary advanced services in County Durham are currently adequate to meet the needs for pharmaceutical services.
- To meet a future need: The provision of all essential and necessary advanced services in County Durham are adequate to meet the future needs for pharmaceutical services.

The pharmaceutical services that have been identified as services that would secure improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services, either now or in the future are:

- Current improvements or better access: The provision of the other relevant advanced service, the Community Pharmacy Seasonal Influenza Vaccination is adequate however a more equitable provision is required across all localities.
- In specified future circumstances to secure improvements or better access: The widespread provision of the new other relevant advanced services (the Hypertension Case-Finding Service and the Smoking Cessation Service) should be encouraged.

Other NHS services that affect the need for pharmaceutical services are also described.

The PNA and accompanying maps, the up-to-date map of pharmaceutical services, and any supplementary statements can be found at <https://www.durhaminsight.info/pna/>.

Appendix 5: Regulation 8: Statutory public consultation process

8 (1) When making an assessment for the purposes of publishing a pharmaceutical needs assessment, each HWB must consult the following about the contents of the assessment it is making:

- a) any Local Pharmaceutical Committee for its area (including any Local Pharmaceutical Committee for part of its area or for its area and that of all or part of the area of one or more other HWBs);
- b) any Local Medical Committee for its area (including any Local Medical Committee for part of its area or for its area and that of all or part of the area of one or more other HWBs);
- c) any persons on the pharmaceutical lists and any dispensing doctors list for its area;
- d) any Local Healthwatch organisation for its area, and any other patient, consumer or community group in its area which in the opinion of HWB has an interest in the provision of pharmaceutical services in its area; and
- e) any NHS trust or NHS foundation trust in its area;
- f) the NHS Commissioning Board; and
- g) any neighbouring HWB.

8 (2) The persons mentioned in paragraph (1) must together be consulted at least once during the process of making the assessment on a draft of the proposed pharmaceutical needs assessment.

8 (3) Where a HWB is consulted on a draft under paragraph (2), if there is a Local Pharmaceutical Committee or Local Medical Committee for its area or part of its area that is different to a Local Pharmaceutical Committee or Local Medical Committee consulted under paragraph (1)(a) or (b), that HWB:

- a) must consult that Committee before making its response to the consultation; and
- b) must have regard to any representations received from the Committee when making its response to the consultation.

8 (4) The persons consulted on the draft under paragraph (2) must be given a minimum period of 60 days for making their response to the consultation, beginning with the day by which all those persons have been served with the draft.

8 (5) For the purposes of paragraph (4), a person is to be treated as served with a draft if that person is notified by HWB of the address of a website on which the draft is available and is to remain available (except due to accident or unforeseen circumstances) throughout the period for making responses to the consultation.

8 (6) If a person consulted on a draft under paragraph (2):

- a) is treated as served with the draft by virtue of paragraph (5); or
- b) has been served with copy of the draft in an electronic form, but requests a copy of the draft in hard copy form, HWB must as soon as is practicable and in any event within 14 days supply a hard copy of the draft to that person (free of charge).

Appendix 6: Briefing wider stakeholders



Your view counts!

What do you think of the pharmacies and GP practice dispensaries in County Durham?

Pharmacies and, in rural areas GP practice dispensaries, are an integral part of our community and to ensure that they continue to meet our residents' needs, we are inviting you to tell us what you think about them, so we can use your feedback to help shape services over the next three years.

From 16 May to 14 July 2022, we are holding an online consultation with residents, which is part of a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). Producing a PNA is a legal responsibility of our Health and Wellbeing Board and considers how accessible pharmaceutical services (i.e. services from pharmacies and GP practice dispensaries) are for our residents and the types of services that are available.

The draft PNA for 2022-25 that we are now consulting on has already taken into account the results of public survey work conducted by Healthwatch and through our Community Champions network.

Your views are important during this consultation to help shape pharmaceutical services now and in the future. Your response could influence your local pharmaceutical services.

To take part, please read through the draft assessment for 2022-25 and submit your comments at <https://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation> or send your feedback to pnaconsultation@durham.gov.uk

The consultation closes at 5pm on 14 July 2022.

