



Report of Jane Robinson, Corporate Director, Adult and Health Services, Durham County Council

Amanda Healy, Director of Public Health County Durham, Adults and Health Services, Durham County Council

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to present the Health and Wellbeing Board with the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for agreement – attached at Appendix 2.
- 2 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.
- 3 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 final draft has been agreed by the PNA Steering Group Members (Appendix 3) following the statutory 60-day public consultation which ran from 16 May to 14 July 2022 (PNA timeline - attached at Appendix 4).

Executive summary

- 4 A Health and Wellbeing Board 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.
- 5 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 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 meet those needs or to secure those improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services.

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

Recommendation

7 Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are recommended to agree the final draft of the PNA 2022-25.

Background

- 8 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.
- 9 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 commissioned by NHSE&I.
- 10 A PNA then considers whether there are any potential gaps in pharmaceutical service delivery over a 3-year period.
- 11 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.
- 12 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).
- 13 The PNA Steering Group leads on the development of the PNA as a sub-group of the HWB, working to the PNA timeline.
- 14 The final draft PNA 2022-25 describes the public views of pharmacy services that were gathered during the preparation of the PNA and then during the statutory public consultation - attached at Appendix 5.
- 15 The key conclusion of the final draft PNA 2022-25 is that there are still sufficient pharmaceutical services across County Durham (including services in rural areas). This can be demonstrated with the following points in the Executive Summary of the final draft PNA 2022-25 – attached at Appendix 6:
 - (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 (i.e. residents are not reliant on pharmaceutical services outside the county);
- (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 92% of people who responded stated that they could easily access pharmaceutical services.

16 The Executive Summary 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.

Main implications

- 17 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.
- 18 A final draft has been agreed by the PNA Steering Group following the statutory 60-day public consultation.

Conclusion

- 19 Members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to agree the final draft of the PNA 2022-25.

Authors

Claire Jones claire.jones2@durham.gov.uk
Glen Wilson glen.wilson2@durham.gov.uk

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: Final Draft - Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment
2022-25**

Attached as a separate document.

Appendix 3: 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	Healthcare Partnership Manager, North of England, Boots UK Limited, Community Pharmacy County Durham
Kate Huddart	Head of Medicines Optimisation, NHS County Durham CCG
Christopher Cunnington-Shore	Chair, Healthwatch County Durham

Appendix 4: 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 for Cllr Hood	September 2022	Briefing for Cllr Hood 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

Appendix 5: Public views of pharmacy services

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

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

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;

Statutory public consultation

The statutory 60-day public consultation then ran from 16 May to 14 July 2022. Regulation and national guidance shaped this consultation process.

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.

Promotion of the consultation with the statutory consultees 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.

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;
- Social media messages.

All responses received are described in Appendix 9 of the PNA. A total of 6 organisational responses were received (including from the Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee), plus comments from 333 residents.

Of the 333 County Durham resident responses received:

- 91% can easily access pharmacy services;
- 31% access pharmacy services at least weekly, and 62% access pharmacy services less than once a week but at least monthly;
- 55% always visit the same pharmacy service, and 40% usually visit the same pharmacy service;
- 59% normally get to their pharmacy by car or taxi;
- 67% use a community pharmacy with 29% use a GP practice dispensary;
- 2% use an internet pharmacy service.

Of the comments received from organisations; these are described below along with the response from the PNA Steering Group (on behalf of the HWB).

Organisation	Summary of comments	PNA Steering Group response
Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Members welcome input of County Durham Healthwatch and the Community Champion network and the survey work undertaken to gauge the experiences of people accessing pharmaceutical services in County Durham. Feedback received from these surveys is mostly positive with a	This concern is noted by the HWB. For the Chester-le-Street locality, public survey results (n=91) indicates that on average 94% of residents can easily access pharmacy services. Pharmacy

	<p>high percentage of respondents stating that they can easily access pharmacy services.</p> <p>Lack of pharmacy services in certain areas is a concern particularly the absence of any 100-hour pharmacies, pharmacies with core opening hours after 6pm weekdays and any with core opening hours on a Sunday in the Chester-le-Street locality.</p> <p>Committee notes and supports the statements in the draft PNA.</p> <p>Whilst outside the scope of the PNA process, the Committee would like the current supply chain issues raised with appropriate bodies including CPCD.</p>	<p>services with evening and Sunday opening times are available in the near by Durham City and Birtley.</p> <p>Residents in Chester-le-Street can access between 1 and 4 pharmacies within a 20-minute walk, and on average over 50 pharmacies within a 20-minute drive.</p>
<p>Horden Parish Council</p>	<p>Horden North Ward has a significant population with health challenges and no pharmacy services within the ward, with some residents, particularly the "Crossroads Estate" having a significant walk to access services.</p>	<p>This concern is noted by the HWB.</p> <p>For the Easington locality, public survey results (n=97) indicates that on average 91% of residents can easily access pharmacy services.</p> <p>Residents in Horden North can access 2 pharmacies within a 20-minute walk, and over 40 pharmacies within a 20-minute drive.</p> <p>As described in section 4.4, residents have a choice of how to access pharmaceutical services.</p>

Coxhoe Parish Council	Coxhoe Parish Councillors are pleased that Coxhoe has a chemist, and they would not want to lose it.	
Community Pharmacy County Durham	<p>Information in the PNA provide a definite case that no more community pharmacies are required to secure the adequate provision of pharmaceutical services. CPCD fully supports the key conclusion that there are sufficient pharmaceutical services across Co Durham. For clarity and consistency this statement should be included in the PNA 2022.</p> <p>CPCD notes that in paragraph 3.3.2 the draft PNA states CPCD should encourage as many pharmacies as possible to provide the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenza vaccination service • Hypertension case finding service • Discharge smoking service <p>One of CPCD's roles is to make pharmacies aware of the community pharmacy services that are commissioned, either locally or nationally, and to support those pharmacies which wish</p> <p>to sign up to, and provide, those services. Pharmacies will make a decision to engage based on their own individual circumstances.</p> <p>With regards to providing the influenza vaccination service, County Durham pharmacies have been willing and very active providers, a pattern which</p>	<p>The HWB notes the comments on the influenza vaccination service. A more equitable provision across County Durham is encouraged where appropriate.</p> <p>Summary of changes made to the PNA:</p> <p>Statement of sufficient pharmaceutical services across County Durham included in Executive Summary.</p> <p>In paragraph 3.3.2 a recognition that pharmacies will make a decision to engage in services based on their own individual circumstances.</p> <p>Section added describing information on forthcoming pharmaceutical services.</p>

	<p>has continued with the Covid vaccination service since 2020.</p> <p>As at 20 June 2022, 48% of County Durham pharmacies have signed up to provide the hypertension case finding service.</p> <p>Community pharmacy activity under the Discharge Smoking Services relies on referrals to pharmacy from Trusts. Currently, the Trusts have not had chance to implement the necessary processes to facilitate referrals. When this happens, and referrals are frequent and in sufficient numbers, it is anticipated that more pharmacies will register as providers.</p> <p>Add an additional section which includes information about forthcoming services.</p>	
Boots UK Limited	<p>Recent changes in opening hours of a number of Boots pharmacies have not been reflected in the draft PNA.</p> <p>Remove significant from section 4.1.1 description of Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland Boots pharmacy closure.</p>	<p>Opening hours in Appendix 8 checked (reflects information provided by NHS in October 2021, with subsequent changes up to May 2022).</p> <p>Wording altered for consistency in section 4.1.1.</p>
Deerness Valley Nursery	<p>There is only one pharmacy in Ushaw Moor for Ushaw Moor, New Brancepeth, Bearpark, Broompark</p>	<p>This concern is noted by the HWB. For the Durham locality, public survey results (n=173) indicates that on average 88% of residents can easily access pharmacy services.</p>

	Provision of healthy start vitamins by pharmacies.	<p>Residents in this area have access to Ushaw Moor Pharmacy and over 70 pharmacies within a 20-minute drive.</p> <p>As described in section 4.4, residents have a choice of how to access pharmaceutical services.</p> <p>In 2022, a locally commissioned pharmacy service to supply healthy start vitamins is being considered.</p>
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Appendix 6: Executive summary in final 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
- will need to be provided in specified circumstances to meet a future need

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

- would currently secure improvements or better access
- would, if they were provided in specified future circumstances, secure future improvements or better access.

The key conclusion of the PNA 2022-25 is that there are sufficient pharmaceutical services across County Durham. 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 92% 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/>.