

## Health and Wellbeing Board

22 January 2024

### Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022-25 update



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

Amanda Healy, Director of Public Health, Durham County Council

### Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

### Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) of the forthcoming presentation, describing an update on pharmacy services in County Durham.

### Executive summary

- 2 Community pharmacies in County Durham deliver a range of services to their patients in addition to their core role of dispensing medicines. The presentation, to be introduced by Claire Jones, Public Health Pharmacy Adviser and then delivered by Greg Burke from Community Pharmacy North East Central (CPNEC), will provide a brief overview of those services, demonstrating the contribution pharmacies already make to improving people's health and wellbeing. The presentation will conclude with a short animation outlining the national vision for community pharmacy.

### Recommendation

- 3 The HWB is recommended to:
  - (a) Receive the forthcoming presentation at the HWB meeting on 22 January 2024, and provide comment as necessary.

## **Background**

- 4 Under the Health and Social Care Act (2012), the HWB is responsible for the production of a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) every 3 years, which considers the provision of pharmaceutical services across County Durham, and whether there are any significant gaps in service delivery. Pharmaceutical services are services commissioned by the NHS that are provided by community pharmacies, dispensing appliance contractors, and dispensaries in GP practices.
- 5 The HWB is also then responsible for monitoring ongoing changes to NHS pharmaceutical services in County Durham to determine whether any of these changes could leave significant gaps in service delivery.
- 6 Community pharmacies deliver an increasing range of services to their patients in addition to their core role of dispensing medicines. It is important that HWB members are aware of these services to support and encourage the appropriate use of community pharmacies and prevent the unnecessary use of other NHS services. It is therefore essential that HWB members receive regular pharmacy updates to ensure they are aware of the latest changes to pharmacy services, can encourage the use of pharmacy services, and can appreciate the challenges that pharmacies may face.

## **Conclusion**

- 7 HWB members will receive an update on pharmacy services and will have an opportunity to discuss pharmacy service provision with key leads.

## **Author**

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

The HWB has a statutory duty to publish a PNA every 3 years. Pharmacies operate under The Terms of the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations.

### **Finance**

Potential financial implications if new pharmacy services are implemented.

### **Consultation and Engagement**

The PNA process includes a statutory 60-day public consultation.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Pharmacies routinely make reasonable adjustments for disabled patients.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

None.

### **Staffing**

Potential staff implications if new pharmacy services are introduced, or existing services are discontinued.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

Pharmacy closures / consolidations could affect the overall adequate provision of pharmaceutical services in an area.

### **Procurement**

National pharmacy services are procured by the NHS.