

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD  
TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2014 AT 10.00 a.m.**

**HERTFORDSHIRE PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Report of the Director of Public Health

Author: Joel Bonnet

Tel: 01992 556884

**1. Purpose of report**

- 1.1 The report describes the background and legislative framework to the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA).
- 1.2 The report gives an update of the current situation regarding the production of the PNA in Hertfordshire.

**2. Summary**

- 2.1 The PNA is the key document for NHS England (Hertfordshire & South Midlands) to inform decisions on applications to open new pharmacies and the commissioning of enhanced services from pharmacies.
- 2.2 The Hertfordshire PNA (published January 2011) is extant with the subsequent updating of maps giving locations of all pharmacies (some have opened / closed since initial publication).
- 2.3 Responsibility for development and updating of the PNA transferred from Primary Care Trusts to Health and Wellbeing Boards on 1 April 2013. It is a statutory duty for Health and Wellbeing Boards to produce their first PNA by 1 April 2015.
- 2.4 With due regard to HCC quotation procedures the contract to undertake the PNA was awarded to Central Eastern Commissioning Support Unit (CSU) Pharmacy and Medicines Team in February 2014.
- 2.5 Central Eastern CSU ceased trading on 30 September 2014 and the contract to produce the PNA was transferred to East & North Herts CCG - who host the relevant Pharmacy Team.

2.6 Production of the PNA includes a statutory period of consultation of the draft PNA which runs from 7 October 2014 – 7 December 2014. The final version of the PNA will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 5 March 2015.

### **3. Recommendation**

3.1 That the Board note the contents of this report, in particular, that the PNA will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 5 March 2015.

## **Background**

### **A) Introduction and legislative background<sup>1</sup>**

If a person wants to provide NHS “pharmaceutical services” they are required to apply to the relevant NHS England area team who compile and maintain a “pharmaceutical list<sup>2</sup>”. The person must prove they are meeting a pharmaceutical need set out in the local PNA. Exceptions to this include applications for needs not foreseen in the PNA or providing distance selling pharmaceutical services.

“Pharmaceutical services” in relation to PNA includes:

- “essential services” which every community pharmacy providing NHS pharmaceutical services must provide including dispensing of medicines, promotion of healthy lifestyles and support for self care;
- “advanced services” are provided subject to accreditation including Medicines Use Reviews and Appliance Use Reviews; and
- “locally commissioned services (known as enhanced services) e.g. anti-coagulation monitoring and the provision of advice and support to residents and staff in care homes in connection with drugs and appliances.

The PNA is a key document for the NHS England area team as it informs its decisions on applications to open new pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractor premises and informs the commissioning of enhanced services from pharmacies. These decisions may be appealed to the NHS Litigation Authority’s Family Health Services Appeal Unit and may also be challenged via the courts<sup>3</sup>.

In April 2013 responsibilities for development and updating of PNA transferred from Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) to Health and Wellbeing Boards who are required to produce their first PNA by 1 April 2015 and a revised assessment within three years of publication of their first assessment.

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<sup>1</sup> Pharmaceutical needs assessments – information pack for local authority Health and Wellbeing Boards. Department of Health. May 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Includes pharmacy contractors, dispensing appliance contractors, dispensing doctors and local pharmaceutical services contractors.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.pcc-cic.org.uk/article/pharmaceutical-needs-assessments-right-service-right-place>

## B). Situation in Hertfordshire

The current Hertfordshire PNA was produced by Hertfordshire PCT Medicines Management team and published in January 2011 with subsequent updating of maps giving the location of all pharmacies at 31 March 2013 (some have opened / closed since publication of the main document) together with an ongoing update listing changes. All documents are available on a publically accessible website:

Hertfordshire PNA Summary (May 2013 - 2 sides of A4)

<http://atlas.hertslis.org/IAS/Custom/Resources/PharmaceuticalSummaryPDF.pdf>

Hertfordshire PNA Version 1 (January 2011)

<http://atlas.hertslis.org/IAS/Custom/Resources/PharmaceuticalDetailedPDF.pdf>

Updated Hertfordshire PNA pharmacies maps (March 2013)

<http://atlas.hertslis.org/IAS/Custom/Resources/PharmaceuticalMapsPDF.pdf>

Regular updates to pharmacy lists

<http://atlas.hertslis.org/IAS/Custom/Resources/PharmaceuticalChangesPDF.pdf>

In order to commission a revised PNA, a service specification was produced and four contractors identified to seek quotations. Two responses were received and following evaluation the contract was initially awarded to Central Eastern Commissioning Support Unit (CSU) Pharmacy and Medicines Team. When the CSU ceased trading on 30 September 2014 the contract was transferred to East & North Herts CCG - who now host the relevant Pharmacy Team.

The process of production of the PNA has followed a timeline previously agreed in the service specification and is being monitored by a Pharmacy Consultant working in the Public Health team. The process includes a statutory period of consultation on which runs from 7 October 2014 – 7 December 2014.

The final version of the PNA will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 5 March 2015.

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| <b>Report signed off by</b>   | Health and Wellbeing Board   |
| <b>Sponsoring HWB Member/s</b>  | Jim McManus  |
| <b>Hertfordshire HWB Strategy priorities supported by this report</b> | Reducing the harm from tobacco and enhancing quality of life for people with long term conditions  |
| <b>Needs assessment</b>   | The PNA is an assessment of pharmaceutical needs. It considers NHS pharmaceutical services and identifies unmet needs of the local population and service gaps and identifies services which community pharmacies could be asked to address these needs. |
| <b>Consultation/public involvement</b>                                | PNA consultation runs from 7 Oct – 7 Dec 2014.   |
| <b>Equality and diversity implications</b>                            | The PNA may identify gaps in service or unmet needs relating to particular groups or geographic areas.   |
| <b>Acronyms or terms used.</b>  |  |
| Initials  | In full  |

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| PNA | Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment |
| CSU | Commissioning Support Unit      |
| PCT | Primary Care Trust              |