

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
THURSDAY, 5 MARCH 2015 AT 10.00 a.m.**

HERTFORDSHIRE PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Report of: Deputy Director of Public Health

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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 Midlands¹) as the commissioners of NHS Pharmaceutical Services, to inform decisions on applications to open new community pharmacies. The document also provides information for all commissioners for the commissioning of enhanced or locally commissioned services from community pharmacy contractors.
- 2.2 The Hertfordshire PNA (published January 2011) is extant with the subsequent updating of maps giving locations of all pharmacies and providers of pharmaceutical services (some have opened / closed/moved 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 and publish their first PNA by 1 April 2015.

¹ to be merged with NHS England (Leicestershire and Lincolnshire) area team from April 2015 to become Central Midlands (Sub –region).

- 2.4 With due regard to HCC quotation procedures the contract to undertake the Hertfordshire PNA was awarded to Central Eastern Commissioning Support Unit (CECSU) Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation 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 hosts the relevant Pharmacy Team.
- 2.6 Production of the PNA included a statutory period of consultation of the draft PNA from 7 October 2014 – 7 December 2014.
- 2.7 Meetings with key stakeholders were held on 11 December 2014 to review responses to the consultation and on 27 January 2015 to agree the final version.
- 2.8 The Hertfordshire PNA is now ready to be ratified by the Health and Wellbeing Board prior to being published and adopted for use from 1 April 2015.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board agree to ratify the Hertfordshire PNA for publication, prior to its adoption for use from 1 April 2015.

4. Background

A) Introduction and legislative background²

If a person wants to provide NHS “pharmaceutical services” in a community pharmacy they are required to apply to the relevant NHS England area team who compile and maintain a “pharmaceutical list³”. 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 clearly defined by national directions and may be provided subject to accreditation including Medicines Use Reviews, the New Medicines Service and Appliance Use Reviews; and

² Pharmaceutical needs assessments – information pack for local authority Health and Wellbeing Boards. Department of Health. May 2013.

³ Includes pharmacy contractors, dispensing appliance contractors, dispensing doctors and local pharmaceutical services contractors.

- **“enhanced services”** which by definition in the NHS Pharmaceutical Services Regulations 2013 are commissioned by NHS England eg Seasonal flu vaccination services

Services commissioned by other commissioners (eg CCGs, LA etc.) and not NHS England, are designated as “locally commissioned” pharmacy services and fall outside the definition of enhanced NHS pharmaceutical services in the directions e.g. stop smoking services and sexual health services.

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 all commissioners regarding the commissioning of enhanced services and locally commissioned services from pharmacies. NHS England’s decisions may be appealed to the NHS Litigation Authority’s Family Health Services Appeal Unit and may also be challenged via the courts⁴.

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 publish their first PNA by 1 April 2015 and a revised assessment within three years of publication of their first assessment.

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 / moved 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)

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

Hertfordshire PNA (January 2011 version)

<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>

⁴ <http://www.pcc-cic.org.uk/article/pharmaceutical-needs-assessments-right-service-right-place>

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 (CECSU) Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation Team. When the CECSU ceased trading on 30 September 2014 the contract was transferred to East & North Herts CCG - who now employ 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 included a statutory period of consultation which was from 7 October 2014 – 7 December 2014.

During and following the consultation, meetings of key stakeholders were held on 22, October 2014, 11 December 2014 to review responses to the consultation and on 27 January 2015 to agree the final version of the PNA.

The final version of the PNA will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 5 March 2015 for ratification prior to being published and adopted for use from 1 April 2015.

Report signed off by	Health and Wellbeing Board
Sponsoring HWB Member/s	Jim McManus
Hertfordshire HWB Strategy priorities supported by this report	Enhancing quality of life for people with long term conditions and reducing the harm from tobacco.
Needs assessment	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 provide to address these needs.
Consultation/public involvement	PNA consultation was from 7 Oct – 7 Dec 2014.
Equality and diversity implications	The PNA may identify gaps in service or unmet needs relating to particular groups or geographic areas.
Acronyms or terms used.	
Initials	In full
PNA	Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment
CECSU	Central Eastern Commissioning Support Unit
PCT	Primary Care Trust