

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
THURSDAY, 1 MARCH 2018 AT 10:00AM**

HERTFORDSHIRE PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Report of the Director of Public Health

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1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To provide an update on progress for the Hertfordshire 2018 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA).

2. Summary

- 2.1 'Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments' or 'PNAs' are a special assessment of pharmaceutical services provision in an area. The PNA includes information on current pharmaceutical service provision, information on health and other needs, and an assessment on whether current provision meets current or future needs of the area.
- 2.2 Producing the PNA is a mandatory exercise. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility for developing and updating PNAs to Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs). The NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 set out the legislative basis for developing and updating PNAs¹.
- 2.3 The PNA is the key document for NHS England (Midlands and East) to inform decisions on applications to open new pharmacies and the commissioning of services from pharmacies and it must be completed and approved by the HWB before 1 April 2018.
- 2.4 The responsibility for completing the PNA moved to the 'Hertfordshire PNA Steering Group' which first convened on 14 September 2016 to commence the process of preparing the PNA on behalf of the HWB. Terms of reference and a project plan were agreed by the steering group.
- 2.5 Expert external assistance was sought to help enable the work to be completed on time and to be carried out in accordance with national

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/349/contents/made>

requirements. An external group ('Soar Beyond' <http://www.soarbeyond-ltd.co.uk/>), were contracted to support the work.

- 2.6 A mandatory minimum 60-day consultation on a draft PNA, took place between 18 September 2017 and 17 November 2017. The consultation included the following elements:
 - E-mailed PNA and online questionnaire to all mandatory consultees (including pharmacists and neighbouring Health and Wellbeing Boards)
 - Emailed PNA and online questionnaire to local stakeholders, e.g. the University of Hertfordshire, local libraries, parish councils
 - Consultation documents and questionnaire available through the Hertfordshire website Consultation Page.
- 2.7 The steering group convened on 10 January 2018 to review the responses of the consultation and agree the final version for publication. This is available for viewing at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/JSNA
- 2.8 The final PNA must be published no later than 31 March 2018.
- 2.9 A summary of the consultation findings is detailed in the appendices of the PNA.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board should note the contents of this report and approve the Hertfordshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment prior to its adoption for use from 1 April 2018.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is a report of the present and future needs for pharmaceutical services. It is used to identify any gaps in current services or improvements that could be made in future pharmaceutical service provision. To prepare the report, data is gathered from pharmacy contractors, dispensing GP practices, pharmacy users and other residents, and from a range of sources (commissioners, planners and others). The report also includes a range of maps that are produced from data collected as part of the PNA process.
- 4.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board delegated the work to publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment by 1 April 2018 to Hertfordshire Public Health Directorate and a PNA Steering Group was convened to undertake this work.
- 4.3 The PNA Steering Group held its final meeting on 10 January 2018. At this meeting, the responses to the consultation were reviewed.
- 4.4 The Final PNA 2018 was approved by the Steering Group on 10 January 2018 and is being presented to the HWB for approval.

4.5 The final PNA must be published no later than 31 March 2018.

5. Scope of the PNA

5.1 For the purposes of this PNA, 'pharmaceutical services' has been defined as those which are/may be commissioned under the provider's contract with NHS England.

5.2 A PNA is required to measure the adequacy of pharmaceutical services (Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013) in the HWB area under five key themes:

- Necessary services: current provision
- Necessary services: gaps in provision
- Other relevant services: current provision
- Improvements and better access: gaps in provision
- Other services.

5.3 Community pharmacies operate under a contractual framework agreed in 2005 which sets three levels of service (essential, advanced and enhanced services) and for the purposes of this PNA necessary services are defined as essential and advanced services.

6. Conclusions of adequacy of pharmaceutical services

Necessary services: current provision

6.1 No gaps have been identified in the provision of essential and advanced services during and outside of normal working hours across the whole HWB area.

Necessary services: gaps in provision

6.2 No gaps have been identified in essential and advanced services that if provided either now or in the future would secure improvements or better access to essential services across the whole HWB area.

Other relevant services: current provision

6.3 Based on current information no gaps have been identified in respect of securing improvements or better access to other NHS services either now or in specified future circumstances across the whole HWB area.

Improvements and better access: gaps in provision

6.4 No gaps have been identified in necessary services that if provided either now or in the future would secure improvements or better access to essential services across the whole HWB area.

Other services

- 6.5 Based on current information no gaps have been identified in respect of securing improvements or better access to other NHS services either now or in specified future circumstances across the whole HWB area.

Report signed off by	Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Sponsoring HWB Member/s	Jim McManus
Hertfordshire HWB Strategy priorities supported by this report	Improving health and wellbeing across the life course and tackling the social determinants of health.
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 address these needs.
Consultation/public involvement	PNA consultation was from 18 September – 17 November 2017.
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