

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

TO:	HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD		
DATE:	30 January 2015	AGENDA ITEM:	14
TITLE:	Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment - final document		
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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1. Purpose of this report

This report sets out the outline of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). It states what will be included in the PNA, the methodology that has been used and the timeline for delivery of the project. The Consultation period for the PNA in Reading ended on 16th December 2014 and this report now includes the key issues identified from the consultation and the final amended PNA to be agreed and published.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

2.1 To approve the final document following consultation and revisions

3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility for developing and updating the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments (PNAs) to health and wellbeing boards (HWBs). Responsibility for using PNAs as the basis for determining market entry to a pharmaceutical list was transferred from PCTs (Primary Care Trusts) to NHS England from 1 April 2013. The first HWBs' PNA needs to be published by 1st April 2015. It needs to be kept up-to-date through supplementary updates and fully revised every three years. It should be noted that failure to produce a robust PNA could lead to legal challenges because of the PNA's relevance to decisions about community services and new pharmacy openings.

PNA's are useful for the NHS to help make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies. Their services are part of the local health care and public health and affect NHS budgets.

3.2. Each Health and Well-being Board must in accordance with Department of Health regulations—

- (a) assess needs for pharmaceutical services in its area, and
- (b) publish a statement of its first assessment and of any revised assessment

3.3. The PNA will provide information on the current pharmaceutical services in Berkshire and identify gaps in the current service provisions, taking into account any known future needs.

4.

4.1. Purpose of the PNA

The PNA will be used by NHS to commission pharmaceutical services in Berkshire. It will also be used by the public health team in Reading Unitary Authority to commission local services.

4.2. PNA Consultation in Reading

Each of the six unitary authorities across Berkshire has developed a PNA for its area and have gone out to consultation. The formal second consultation period in Reading commenced in September 2014 and ended 16th December.

It should be noted that the PNA included in its development a survey of users, which informed the draft recommendations of the PNA. In total there were 2048 user responses across Berkshire - with 468 from Reading. The second stage of consultation was focussed on getting views on the document.

As part of the second stage of the consultation process, the PNA and supporting information have been displayed on Reading Borough Council's *Open Consultation* pod online since early November 2014. It is available in easy read and spoken version, and, individuals are provided with a contact number/email address for those requiring a paper copy.

The PNA consultation and supporting information was also displayed at the recent public 'Narrowing the Gap' event, hosted by Reading Borough Council. The event took place on 18th November, was widely advertised and was open to the general public, community and faith groups, not-for-profit organisation, local businesses and service providers. The consultation was displayed on a pod in the main entrance of the event and was attended by 263 participants.

4.3. What to expect in the PNA

There is one PNA document for each UA in Berkshire

The document contains

- 1) Existing pharmaceutical services in Berkshire mapped against population
- 2) A review of the demography and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) - used to identify health needs of the population

- 4) Users' views obtained through a questionnaire for the public using pharmacy services.
- 5) Professional views obtained through questionnaire for the pharmacists
- 6) Key stakeholders input through steering group

The Draft report was sent to the Health and Wellbeing Board for approval before sending it out for stakeholder consultations

The final report with recommendations is presented to the Health and Wellbeing Boards in Berkshire for approval before publication.

The following stakeholders were consulted:

- Local Pharmaceutical Committee for Berkshire
- Berkshire Local Medical Committee
- Berkshire CCGs
- Any persons on the pharmaceutical lists and any dispensing doctors list for Berkshire population
- Any LPS chemist with whom the NHS England has made arrangements for the provision of any local pharmaceutical services for Berkshire population
- Local Health Watch organisations, and any other patient, consumer or community group in Berkshire, which has an interest in the provision of pharmaceutical services in Berkshire
- NHS Trusts
- Thames Valley NHS England Area Team
- Neighbouring Health and Wellbeing Boards

4.5. Timelines:

Milestones	Deadline	Completed?
User and pharmacist surveys	Summer 2014	
Writing first draft and outline paper to HWBB	September 2014	
Consultation period	September - December 2014	
Analysis of consultation results	December 2014	
Final report	January 2015	

4.6 Consultation responses

Whilst the number of written responses were very limited - only 16 - responses were received from the major stakeholders (e.g Local Medical Committee, Local

Pharmaceutical Committee, neighbouring Health and Wellbeing boards. The major areas highlighted in the responses were:

Need to identify and publish the individual opening hours of pharmacies in the area - *this has been included in the final document (see appendix 3)*

Need to give further description on the population growth and specific housing developments - *amendments to demographic profile undertaken*

Need to clarify future needs and any gaps that may occur - *addressed in recommendations*

Need to clarify that the assessment covers community pharmacy, appliance contractors and dispensing doctors - *page 3 amended*

References:

1. Department of Health: Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Information Pack
May 2013

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pharmaceutical-needs-assessments-information-pack> (last accessed on 5th November 2013)

2. UK Legislations: National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/349/regulation/8/made> (last accessed on 5th November 2013)

Appendix 1

Detailed Consultation responses

Only 16 respondents -

Is the purpose of the PNA explained sufficiently within the draft PNA document (section 1)?

93 - yes - no response 7%

One detailed response suggested that further clarity that dispensing doctors were also part of this survey was needed - the scope of the document is clarified by an amendment on page 3

Does the document clearly set out the scope of the PNA (section 4)? -

75% agreed - the comments were focussed on clarifying the range of services addressed in this document and the purpose - both of these issues have been addressed by minor amendments on page 3

Does the document clearly set out the local context and the implications for the PNA (section 5)?

74% agreed that the document did this - the comments suggested that the document should strengthen the potential for pharmacy to improve services and also identify the impact of future housing. Whilst housing growth is not a major issue in Reading the document now included a revised section on population growth and an assessment of pharmacy provision against the national England average

Does the information provide a reasonable description of the services which are provided by pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors in your local authority (section 8)?

Only 33% of respondents thought that the document gave an accurate reflection on the level of services - the major concern was that the document did not include a description of opening hours by pharmacy - this has now been included.

There was concern that the range of services provided by dispensing doctors was under described - again this has been strengthened.

One area of concern was raised regarding the provision of care home support by medicine management in the CCG rather than community pharmacy - this was not addressed in the final document as the document does not set out to evaluate different forms of services but does set out to describe potential impact of community pharmacy. It is the role of the commissioner to decide the most appropriate response to a community need.

Are you aware of any pharmaceutical services currently provided which have not been included within the PNA?

50% of respondents identified that the New medicines review (NMS) service had not been included in the advanced service section - this has now been included.

Do you think the pharmaceutical needs of the population have been accurately reflected throughout the PNA

In this section 10 respondents felt that the needs were not addressed as there was not an accurate reflection of population growth and that access times needed further description - this has now been included in the final document.

Do you agree with the recommendations?

Essential and advanced services - 40% agree - main issue is lack of information on opening hours does not allow any gap in service provision to be identified - final document includes this information.

Local service recommendations - 60% agree - main issue raised in lack of commitment to commissioning the services identified.