

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

12 MARCH 2015

MEDWAY PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Report from: Dr Alison Barnett, Director of Public Health

Author: Dr Alison Barnett, Director of Public Health

Summary

Every Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) in England has a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up-to-date, a statement of the need for pharmaceutical services in its area, otherwise referred to as a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). Each HWB is required to publish its own revised PNA for its area by 1 April 2015.

The draft PNA came to the HWB in October for approval to carry out the statutory consultation. This consultation was carried out between 25 November 2014 and the 23 January 2015. A report on the results of the consultation is attached at Appendix D.

The draft PNA has been amended as a result of the consultation and is attached at Appendix 1. The key findings from the assessment are on page 26 of the draft PNA.

The Board is asked to endorse these findings and give its approval for the PNA to be finalised and published on or before the 31 March 2015.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1 It is a statutory duty of the HWB to publish the PNA by 1 April 2015. This duty is imposed by Regulation 5 of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.
- 1.2 Funding for community pharmacies is held by NHS England.

2. Background

- 2.1 If a person (a pharmacist, a dispenser of appliances, or in some circumstances and normally in rural areas, GPs) wants to provide NHS pharmaceutical services, they are required to apply to the NHS to be included on a pharmaceutical list. Pharmaceutical lists are compiled and held by NHS

England. This is commonly known as the NHS “market entry” system. Under the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services Regulations (“the 2013 Regulations”), a person who wishes to provide NHS pharmaceutical services must apply to NHS England to be included on a pharmaceutical list. Decisions on granting or refusing applications to this list are made using the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

- 2.2 Previously PNAs were published by NHS primary care trusts (PCTs) and every PCT was required to have published their PNA by February 2011. Responsibility for using PNAs as the basis for determining market entry to a pharmaceutical list transferred from PCTs to NHS England from 1 April 2013 and PNAs are key reference documents when reviewing the development and improvement of pharmaceutical services.
- 2.3 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 established Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWB) within each upper tier authority. The NHS Act (the “2006” Act), amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, sets out the requirements for HWBs to develop and update PNAs well as giving the Department of Health (DH) powers to make regulations.
- 2.4 Every Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) in England has a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up-to-date, a statement of the need for pharmaceutical services in its area, otherwise referred to as a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). Each HWB is required to publish its own revised PNA for its area by 1 April 2015.

3 Advice and analysis

- 3.1 The key findings and recommendations in the PNA are:
 - 3.1.1 Overall there is good pharmaceutical service provision in the majority of Medway. The majority of residents can access a pharmacy within a 20 minute walking distance and there is adequate choice of pharmacy. Access to pharmaceutical services outside normal opening hours is adequately covered with 8 ‘100 hour’ opening pharmacies spread out across the area.
 - 3.1.2 Communication about the services pharmacies provide and the times that they can be accessed needs improvement.
 - 3.1.3 Where the area is rural, there are enough dispensing practices to provide pharmaceutical services to the rural population. Most of the patients who live in the rural areas can access a community pharmacy within a 20 minute car drive if necessary.
 - 3.1.4 There are proposed major housing developments in Medway, the main one being Lodge Hill. There is also a proposed development in Peter’s Park which is in Kent but close to the Medway border in Wouldham. These developments

will not have an impact on pharmaceutical need for at least 3 years (the life of this PNA); however these areas will need to be reviewed on a regular basis to identify any increases in pharmaceutical need.

3.1.5 The current provision of “standard 40 hour” pharmacies should be maintained especially in rural villages and areas such as the Hoo peninsula.

3.1.6 The current provision of “100 hour” pharmacies must be maintained.

3.1.7 The Health and Wellbeing Board has the responsibility of publishing supplementary statements when the pharmaceutical need and services to an area change significantly. It is proposed that these are issued every 6 months by NHS England as they hold all the relevant data. They will be published on the Council website alongside the PNA.

3.2 NHS England who have to use the PNA to make decisions were part of the PNA steering group. During consultation they felt that the document was fit for purpose.

3.3 A Diversity Impact Assessment was published as part of the consultation.

4 Engagement activity

4.1 The 60 day consultation was with key stakeholders and the public as described in Appendix D of the PNA. The consultation was carried out in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 8 of the 2013 Regulations.

5 Risk management

Risk	Description	Action to avoid or mitigate risk	Risk rating
PNA does not reflect local needs	PNA does not adequately identify local pharmaceutical needs and existing services	Steering group ensured input from relevant stakeholders, consultation ensured input sought from stakeholders, HWB to ensure PNA is updated to reflect changing needs.	
Not publishing by 1 April 2015	HWB have a statutory responsibility to publish	Approve draft for publication	

6. Consultation

6.1. The consultation took place between 25 November 2014 and 23 January 2015

7. Financial implications

7.1 None. Funding for community pharmacies is held by NHS England.

8. Legal implications

8.1 The legal responsibilities of the Health and Wellbeing Board are contained in section 128A National Health Service Act 2006 and the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013. The applicable provisions are referred to in the body of the report.

9 Recommendations

9.1 To accept the key findings and recommendations in the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and approve for publication.

Lead officer contact

Dr Alison Barnett, Director of Public Health,
01634 334308
Alison.barnett@medway.gov.uk

Background papers

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Final Draft

Results of the PNA consultation