



Health and Wellbeing Board
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PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION

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1. Summary

- 1.1. The Shropshire Health and Wellbeing Board are undertaking a formal consultation on the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is a statutory requirement of Local Authority Health and Wellbeing Boards. The PNA will run from 13 February 2015 until the 15th April 2015 in order to comply with the statutory consultation guidelines. The PNA is a statement of the local need for pharmaceutical services and supports the commissioning of pharmacy services based on local priorities. It is used by NHS England to decide whether there is a need for new pharmacies in the area.
- 1.2. The consultation provides an opportunity to shape the future of pharmacy services in Shropshire. It is important that pharmacies provide high quality services for people in Shropshire, and therefore the views of pharmacists, patients and customers are important.
- 1.3. The draft PNA report can be accessed at the following link:
<http://www.shropshireccg.nhs.uk/pharmacists#PNAC>
- 1.4. The PNA draws on data from different sources including demographics, socio-economic, geographic, pharmacy activity and prevalence data. Two consultations also took place one with the community pharmacies to identify what they provided, opening hours, etc. and one developed in partnership with Shropshire Healthwatch which was asking for the views of patients and the public about local pharmacy services.
- 1.5. All Health and Wellbeing Boards have to make neighbouring Local Authorities and Health Boards in Wales aware of the PNA Consultation in order to comment on services that may dispense to Shropshire patients. To date we have been sent links to the consultation documents for Herefordshire and Telford and Wrekin. There are two pharmacies in Telford & Wrekin and two in Hereford that dispense to Shropshire patients. Therefore, it is important to note that local services commissioned in Hereford and Telford may be different to those commissioned in Shropshire, meaning people would potentially have access to different services that are not available in Shropshire.
- 1.6. The following lists are some of the findings around access and gaps from the PNA:

Access to pharmaceutical services

- As at 31st December there are 53 community pharmacies in Shropshire, located throughout the county in towns, market towns and larger villages.
- The pharmacies are close to GP practices providing choice and convenience for patients.
- Most pharmacies opening times generally mirror those of the GP practices, however most pharmacies also open for at least some of the day on a Saturday. There are 7 pharmacies open on a Sunday.
- Due to the rural nature of Shropshire, many localities are supported by GP practices that dispense to their patients (18). Dispensary opening hours reflect the opening times of the practice. Dispensing doctors offer services to help fulfil the pharmaceutical needs of the patients in these areas.
- There appears to be good access to most services commissioned by Public Health in Shropshire, such as emergency hormonal contraception and smoking cessation services.

Gaps in pharmaceutical provision

- The distribution of pharmacies per head-of-population is lower than the national average. However there seem to be some parts of the county where there is over provision.
- Patient feedback and evidence from community pharmacy questionnaire demonstrates opening hours at weekends and later in the evening are not suitable in some parts of the county.
- There appear to be gaps in provision from 4pm on a Sunday or Bank Holiday until late into the evening.
- Patient access to pharmaceutical services out of hours and at weekends means that many are directed to Shropdoc the out of hours provider for prescribing repeat medicines.
- There appears to be poor coverage across the county for needle exchange services. There is only one pharmacy in Shrewsbury providing needle exchange and none in Market Drayton.
- There are only 100-hour pharmacies in Shrewsbury and Oswestry with no provision elsewhere in the county.
- Some advanced services AUR and SAC are only provided by a small number of pharmacies.
- There is a lack of awareness with some patients to the extent of advice that community pharmacies can provide on the services that they provide.

2. Recommendations

2.1 To note the contents of the PNA and to provide and feedback on the consultation.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

3.1 The PNA is supposed to be published by 1st April 2015. As the consultation process has to be 60 days this deadline will not be met. NHS England has been contacted to identify how any applications for new pharmacies would be processed until the PNA is formally published. The NHS England response was that current regulations would be adhered to and they would continue to refer to the existing PNA until the formal publication date.

4. Financial Implications

N/A

5. Background

The Shropshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) draft for consultation is live on the CCG Website at <http://www.shropshireccg.nhs.uk/pharmacists#PNAC>

6. Additional Information

N/A

7. Conclusions

N/A

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

See above for the link to the draft Shropshire PNA
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Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
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Cllr Karen Calder

Local Member

Appendices
