

**TO: HEALTH & WELL-BEING BOARD
5 MARCH 2015**

**BRACKNELL FOREST PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Strategic Director of Public Health for Berkshire**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment report for Bracknell Forest.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Health & Well-Being Board consider and APPROVE the attached version of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and its recommendations (subject to any revisions suggested by the board).

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

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).

3.2 PNAs provide information on pharmaceutical services in an area and identifies gaps in current provision, taking into account any known future needs.

3.3 Each of the six unitary authorities across Berkshire has developed a PNA for its area and subjected them to consultation. The formal consultation period in Bracknell Forest commenced in September 2014 and ended 16th December.

3.4 The final, approved version will serve as a basis for future commissioning decisions by NHS England, the local Clinical Commissioning Group and Bracknell Forest Council (for example in relation to Public Health services delivered in pharmacies).

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

5.1 From 1 April 2013 every Health and Wellbeing Board in England has a statutory responsibility to maintain and up to date Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. A new version of the PNA must be agreed by April 2015.

5.2 PNA is the statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in a specific area. It sets out a statement of the pharmaceutical services which are currently provided, together with when and where these are available to a given population.

Unrestricted

- 5.3 The PNA is designed as a basis for NHS commissioning decisions as the main commissioner of pharmacy services. The regulations that govern the provision of pharmacy places an obligation on NHS England to put arrangements in place so that drugs, medicines and listed appliances ordered via NHS prescriptions can be supplied to persons.
- 5.4 The needs assessment should also be of interest to Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) and Local Authorities. In relation to the latter, the PNA should be a key driver of decisions to commission 'enhanced' Public Health services.
- 5.5 An initial draft of the PNA was subject to extensive consultation with both professionals (including pharmacists) and residents.
- 5.6 The consultation work included a survey which was sent out across Berkshire, with 2,048 people responding. Proactive promotion of the survey by the Public Health resulted in a total of 390 responses in Bracknell Forest – which represents a higher response rate (per population size) than achieved in any other area.
- 5.7 The consultation work also included a public meeting, hosted by the Public Health team, and attended by residents, community group representatives, pharmacists and other professionals.
- 5.8 The current version of the PNA was produced on the basis of this consultation and is presented in the appendix.
- 5.9 The survey suggested that respondents are generally very satisfied with pharmacy services in the Borough. The majority (98%) are able to access the pharmacy of their choice, with 85% being able to access services within 15 minutes.
- 5.10 Key recommendations from the current PNA include:
 - 5.10.1 Continuation of work with our pharmacy contractors to further develop the Medicines Utilisation Review (MUR) services to widen access and target provision with high priority patient groups (eg: older people).
 - 5.10.2 Widen availability of flu immunisation through pharmacies to all priority groups including older adults.
 - 5.10.3 Develop a system for the dispensing of naloxone therapy through pharmacies. Naloxone is an opioid antagonist medication that can be used to counter the dangerous effects of a drug overdose and in many cases save lives.
 - 5.10.4 Include pharmacists in the new falls prevention pathway, both in relation to identification of those at risk of falling and in work to reduce that risk through advice on adverse medication interactions.
 - 5.10.5 Strengthen use of community pharmacy as information hub for community contact and access to voluntary sector groups.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

6.1 The contents of this report are noted.

Borough Treasurer

6.2 There are no direct financial implications within this report for the Council

Equalities Impact Assessment

6.3 The PNA includes a number of recommendations that directly address health inequality among various groups (eg: older people).

Strategic Risk Management Issues

6.4 None

Other Officers

6.5 None

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

7.1 Residents, health professionals, community groups.

Method of Consultation

7.2 Survey (paper and electronic) plus public meetings.

Representations Received

7.3 None

Background Papers

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (including six appendices).

Contact for further information

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