

**Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**

To: Health and Wellbeing Board

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**1.0 PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to summarise the findings of the update the Cambridgeshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2014. The full report is attached for the Board's approval and pages 7-11 provide an executive summary. The report of the public consultation is included in Appendix 7 and a summary of changes made to the draft PNA in response to the consultation is included as Appendix 8.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 All HWB have a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services for the population in its area, referred to as a 'pharmaceutical needs assessment' (PNA).

2.2 The PNA has two key purposes:  
- Firstly, it presents a summary of the number and distribution of pharmaceutical providers in Cambridgeshire and the access and services they provide in the context of local priorities. This information will be used by NHS England when making decisions on applications to open new pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractor premises; or applications from current pharmaceutical providers to change their existing regulatory requirements.  
- Secondly, it provides an overview of locally commissioned services and potential future opportunities for pharmaceutical providers to contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of local residents. This can be used to inform commissioning decisions by local commissioning bodies including local authorities (public health services from community pharmacies), NHS England and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs).

2.3 A PNA was undertaken for Cambridgeshire during June-December 2013. The PNA was undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in regulations 3-9 Schedule 1 of the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013. The final report has also been reviewed by the LGSS legal team.

2.4 In the process of undertaking the PNA the Cambridgeshire HWB sought the views of a wide range of stakeholders to identify issues that affect the commissioning of pharmaceutical services and to meet local health needs and priorities. The PNA was led by a multi-agency steering group comprising

representatives from Public Health, Social care, CCG medicines management, CCC research group, District council representatives, the Local Pharmaceutical Committee and NHS England. The Local Medical Committee was also consulted for their views and a questionnaire distributed to all pharmacy providers in Cambridgeshire including community pharmacies and dispensing surgeries.

- 2.5 A public consultation on the draft PNA document was undertaken from 16 December 2013 to 21 February 2014. During the consultation a total of 227 responses were received from across the county. The feedback gathered in the consultation is reported and presented in Appendix 7 of the attached PNA 2014 report. This feedback was used to review and revise the draft PNA to produce this final report. The PNA Steering group have provided a summary of responses to the consultation feedback received and described how this feedback has been used to change the draft to produce this final PNA report (see Appendix 8).

### 3.0 **SUPPORTING PARAGRAPHS: KEY FINDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (2014)**

#### 3.1 Provision of local pharmaceutical services

- **Cambridgeshire is well provided for by pharmaceutical service providers. The PNA did not identify a current need for any new NHS pharmaceutical service providers in Cambridgeshire.** There are 109 pharmacies across Cambridgeshire, an increase from 101 reported in the previous PNA in 2011. There are 43 dispensing GP practices, unchanged from 2011. There is also adequate access for the dispensing of appliances. There are 24 pharmaceutical service providers per 100,000 registered population in Cambridgeshire. This is slightly more than in 2011 and also slightly higher than the national average of 23 per 100,000.
- **The majority of respondents to the public consultation (88%) felt that the needs for pharmacy services for the population of Cambridgeshire have been adequately identified in this PNA.** 82% (179 out of 218) agreed that currently we do not need more pharmacies in Cambridgeshire and only 5% (13 individuals) suggested that additional pharmacies were required. 89.0% of pharmacies and 88.4% of dispensing GP surgeries responded to the PNA questionnaire about service provision. Of those responding 100% considered provision to be either 'excellent' 'good' or 'adequate'. No responder considered provision to be 'poor'.
- **Review of the locations, opening hours and access for people with disabilities, suggest there is adequate access to NHS pharmaceutical services in Cambridgeshire.** There appears to be good coverage in terms of opening hours across the county. 89% (201 out of 225) respondents to the public consultation agreed that pharmacy services are currently available at convenient locations and opening times, although 14 (6%) suggested that some pharmacies could offer more convenient opening hours at lunchtimes, evenings or weekends. Overall, out of 109 community pharmacies, 50 (46%)

are open after 6pm and 30 (28%) are open after 7pm on weekdays; 87 (80%) open on Saturdays; and 24 (25%) open on Sundays. These findings are similar to those in the 2011 PNA. The extended opening hours of some community pharmacies are valued and these extended hours should be maintained.

- Home delivery services can help to provide medications to those who do not have access to a car or who are unable to use public transport. Many pharmacies and dispensing surgeries have wheelchair access.

### 3.2 Future pharmaceutical needs with population growth and housing developments

- Over the coming years the population in Cambridgeshire is expected to both age and grow substantially in numbers. **An increase in population size is likely to generate an increased need for pharmaceutical services, but on a local level changes in population size may not necessarily be directly proportionate to changes in the number of pharmaceutical service providers required, due to the range of other factors influencing local pharmaceutical needs.** Several large-scale housing developments are in progress and considerations when assessing needs for local pharmaceutical service providers should be based on a range of local factors specific to each development site. These are further described in section 6.5.2 of the PNA report.

### 3.3 The role of pharmacy in improving the health and wellbeing of the local population

- **Providers of pharmaceutical services have an important role to play in improving the health of local people.** They are easily accessible and are often the first point of contact, including for those who might otherwise not access health services. Community pharmacies can contribute to the health and wellbeing of the local population in a number of ways, including direct service provision, for example Emergency Hormonal Contraception, along with providing ongoing support for lifestyle behaviour change through motivational interviewing, providing information and brief advice, and signposting to other services.
- **Local commissioning organisations should consider pharmacies among potential providers when they are looking at the unmet pharmaceutical needs and health needs of the local population, including when considering options for delivering integrated care.** Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board consider community pharmacies to be a key public health resource and recognise that they offer potential opportunities to commission health improvement initiatives and work closely with partners to promote health and wellbeing. Commissioners are recommended to commission service initiatives in pharmacies around the best possible evidence and to evaluate any locally implemented services, ideally using an evaluation framework that is planned before implementation.

- **Chapter 5 of the PNA considers pharmaceutical services and support to encourage healthy lifestyle behaviours.** This includes: community pharmacy smoking cessation services; sexual health services (testing and treatment of chlamydia and the provision of advice and Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC)); needle exchange services for people who use illicit drugs.

  - Several opportunities exist for providers to encourage a healthy weight such as providing advice, signposting services and providing on-going support towards achieving behavioural change for example through monitoring of weight and other related measures.
  - There is also potential for pharmacies to offer advice on barrier contraception methods for both males and females and for raising awareness of HIV, chlamydia and other sexually transmitted infections. Opportunistic alcohol screening and provision of brief advice is another area where pharmacies could potentially contribute to improving the health of the local population.
  
- **In the community, pharmacists should work with GPs and nurse prescribers to ensure safe and rational prescribing of medication.** Staff work with patients to help them understand their medicines, offering advice and support through the provision of Medicine Use Reviews (MURs), Dispensing Review of Use of Medicines (DRUMs), clinical screening of prescriptions and identification of adverse drug events dispensing. This also ensures that medicines are not omitted unnecessarily and that medication allergies and dose changes are clearly documented and communicated. Pharmacy providers are also involved in part of the public advice and campaign network to increase public awareness of antibiotic resistance and the rational approach to infection control matters regarding, for example, MRSA and *C difficile*.
  
- **Pharmaceutical providers can play a key role in providing integrated, co-ordinated, patient-centred services.** The minor ailments service in Cambridgeshire aims to provide greater choice for patients and carers and improve access to health care professionals, by utilising the expertise of the pharmacists, so they become the first port of call for minor ailments. This can complement other medical services provisions and educate patients in self-care, thereby reducing the impact on GP consultations. The Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) recommends that pharmacists collaborate with each other, and with other healthcare professions, to develop models of care. These will enable commissioners to deliver integrated patient pathways and ensure patients have consistent access to support with medicine use as they move between care settings.
  
- **Community pharmacies can support self-care where appropriate, as well as referring back to the GP service or signposting clients to other appropriate services.** Many patients receive a range of different medications and up to 50% of patients do not take their prescribed medicines as intended. Pharmacists can help with this, particularly for those who have complex medication regimens or have problems with taking their medication

regularly. This could be particularly relevant for frail older people and those with multiple or complex conditions.

- **Pharmacy staff can play a role in promoting awareness of good mental health, for example signposting to information about local support networks, mental health helplines etc.** Community pharmacists can also help by promoting simple mechanisms to help people understand and take their medicines as intended.
- There is also potential to draw on experiences from areas where community pharmacies have worked innovatively to address key local public health challenges and benefit local communities. Section 5 of the PNA report describes a number of case studies and learning from around the country.

#### **4.0 ALIGNMENT WITH THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY**

- 4.1 The PNA for Cambridgeshire is undertaken in the context of the needs of the local population. Health and wellbeing needs for the local population are described in the Cambridgeshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). The PNA does not duplicate these detailed descriptions, and should be read alongside the JSNA.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 In accordance with the requirements set out in regulations 3-9 Schedule 1 of the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment will be repeated and reviewed in three years.
- 5.2 Over the coming years the population in Cambridgeshire is expected to both age and grow substantially in numbers. Several large-scale housing developments are in progress and a number of factors may influence the potential need for additional pharmaceutical service providers. To facilitate commissioning of pharmaceutical services responsive to population needs the Health and Wellbeing Board partners will, in accordance with regulations, monitor the development of major housing sites and produce supplementary statements to the PNA if deemed necessary, to ensure that appropriate information is available to determine whether additional pharmacies might be required.

#### **6.0 RECOMMENDATION/DECISION REQUIRED**

- 6.1 a) The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve the final PNA submitted by the multi-agency PNA Steering Group.
- b) Commissioners are asked to note the findings and the areas which are highlighted for further engagement and collaboration with pharmaceutical providers to improve the health and wellbeing of local residents.

Background documents attached.