

**7 September 2022****Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH****APPROVAL OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (PNA) 2022-2025****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board's approval of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for 2022-2025 and authorise its publication for the regulatory date of 1 October 2022.

**Information****Background**

2. The Health and Wellbeing board (HWB) has a statutory duty to assess needs for pharmaceutical services in its area and publish a statement of its assessment, as mandated by the National Health Service Act 2006 (NHS Act 2006). The last Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for Nottinghamshire covered the years 2018 – 2021, with this report seeking approval for an updated assessment of pharmaceutical need for 2022 – 2025.
3. The PNA looks at the demographics and health needs of the population of Nottinghamshire and how they will change within its three-year lifetime. The current provision of pharmaceutical services by pharmacies, dispensing appliance contractors and dispensing doctors both within and outside of Nottinghamshire has been analysed and mapped so that any current gaps in provision can be identified. In addition the PNA considers whether any gaps will arise in the time period 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2025. These gaps are then articulated either as a need for a particular pharmaceutical service, or range of pharmaceutical services, or as improvements or better access to an existing pharmaceutical service or range of pharmaceutical services.
4. "Pharmaceutical services" are defined as the essential and advanced services provided by pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors, any enhanced services commissioned from pharmacies by NHS England and the dispensing service provided by some GP practices.
5. All pharmacies are required to provide the seven services that fall within the definition of "essential services". The dispensing service is the most commonly known of these services. The dispensing appliance contractors provide a smaller range of core services, with dispensing again being the most commonly known.

6. Pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors may choose to provide one of the advanced services, and if they do so must be fully compliant with the essential services requirements and the national system of clinical governance, as well as meeting the specific requirements of the advanced service or services they provide.
7. NHS England may choose to commission a range of enhanced services from pharmacies based on local needs.
8. Whilst Nottinghamshire County Council and NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board commission services from pharmacies, they do not fall within the legal definition of “pharmaceutical services” but have been included within the assessment of the population’s needs and how these can be met.

### **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for 2022-2025**

9. The majority of the prescriptions written by a prescriber in Nottinghamshire are dispensed within the county. The PNA has, however, also identified where prescriptions are dispensed outside of the county and by whom.
10. The PNA has identified the housing developments that will generate new housing within its lifetime, as well as the general increase in the population due to the birth rate and aging population.
11. A steering group was established to oversee the development of the PNA with representatives invited from the two clinical commissioning groups (Bassetlaw & Nottingham and Nottinghamshire), NHS England, Nottinghamshire Local Pharmaceutical Committee and Nottinghamshire Local Medical Committee. Views on the provision of services by pharmacies were sought from the public to help inform the PNA’s conclusions.
12. A formal 60-day consultation on a draft of the PNA was conducted and all the organisations required to be consulted with were emailed and provided with a link to the document. The Health and Wellbeing Board will be pleased to note that the response to the consultation was very positive. No concerns were raised regarding non-compliance with the regulatory requirements, no pharmaceutical services provision have been missed and the conclusions are agreed with.
13. As of July 2022, there are 163 pharmacies of which 22 are open for 100 hours per week<sup>1</sup> and seven are “distance selling premises<sup>2</sup>”, and six dispensing appliance contractors<sup>3</sup> within Nottinghamshire. 12 GP practices dispense to eligible patients.

### **Conclusion**

14. The main conclusion of the PNA is that there are currently no gaps in the provision of pharmaceutical services. When taking into account the predicted growth in population it is anticipated that the current spread of pharmacies, dispensing appliance contractors and

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<sup>1</sup> These can be known as “100 hour pharmacies”.

<sup>2</sup> These are better known as internet pharmacies; these pharmacies provide the essential services remotely to people who live anywhere in England.

<sup>3</sup> Dispensing appliance contractors may only dispense valid NHS prescriptions for appliances such as catheters and stoma bags. They also tend to provide pharmaceutical services remotely, delivering dispensed items to people’s homes.

dispensing practices both within the county and in neighbouring areas will be able to meet the increase in demand.

15. The PNA also looked at access to pharmacies outside the normal opening hours of 09.00 to 17.00 Monday to Friday. It has noted that the vast majority of the population lives within a 20-minute drive of one of the 100 hour pharmacies. However, as one such pharmacy closed during the drafting of the PNA, the steering group looked at whether access would worsen if any other 100 hour pharmacy closed. As a result the PNA has identified one future need for the provision of essential services and the community pharmacist consultation service on Sundays in Retford between the hours of 10.00 and 16.00 should there be a total and permanent loss of pharmacy core opening hours on Sundays in Retford.
16. The NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 set certain minimum requirements for the PNA. These include information that must be included and matters that the Health and Wellbeing Board is to have regard to when drafting the assessment;
  - a map showing where pharmaceutical services are provided.
  - the requirement to undertake a consultation on a draft of the document for a minimum of 60 days.
  - a series of statements regarding the current provision of services, and gaps in provision.
17. The PNA has been assessed against these requirements and the Health and Wellbeing Board can be assured that it meets them. The PNA is included in **Appendix 1**, which includes an additional appendix providing the pharmacy and dispensing appliance contractor opening hours (**Appendix 1a**).

### **Other Options Considered**

18. As the Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board is under a statutory duty to publish a new PNA by 1 October 2022 no other options were considered.

### **Reasons for Recommendation**

19. The Health and Wellbeing Board is under a statutory duty to publish its next PNA by 1 October 2022.
20. The draft 2022 PNA meets the requirements of the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.
21. An extensive list of organisations have been consulted on a draft of this PNA and no concerns or issues were identified.
22. Members of the public have been invited to submit their views on the provision of pharmaceutical services and these have been taken into account in the drafting of the PNA.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

23. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human

rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

24. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Nottinghamshire Health and Wellbeing Board is asked:

- 1) To approve this Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for 2022-2025 and authorise its publication by 1 October 2022.

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## **Constitutional Comments (CEH 15/08/22)**

24. The Health and Wellbeing Board has responsibility for preparing, publishing and maintaining a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

## **Financial Comments (DG 15/08/22)**

25. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013  
Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/349/contents>
- The Nottinghamshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2018 – 2021  
Available at: <https://nottinghamshireinsight.org.uk/research-areas/jsna/summaries-and-overviews/pharmaceutical-needs-assessment/>

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All