

PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report has been produced to inform the Scrutiny Committee about a consultation on a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for Sunderland.

2. Background

- 2.1 All Primary Care Trusts are required to develop and publish a PNA for their area by the 1 February 2011. A draft PNA has been developed for each area served by the NHS South of Tyne & Wear and feedback is now sought on the proposals within the drafts.
- 2.2 The White Paper 'Pharmacy in England: Building on strengths – delivering the future' was published by the Department of Health in April 2008. It highlighted the variation in the structure and data requirements of PCT PNAs and confirmed that they required further review and strengthening to ensure they are an effective and robust commissioning tool which supports PCT decisions. These decisions relate to both where new pharmacies could be needed and the commissioning of new services from existing pharmacies e.g. sexual health services.
- 2.3 The PNA is meant to be very strongly linked into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) which drives PCT commissioning priorities. The PNA is a key tool for identifying what is needed at a local level to support the commissioning intentions for pharmaceutical services and other services that could be delivered by community pharmacies and other providers. The world class commissioning assurance framework provides an opportunity to fully integrate pharmaceutical services into the work of the wider NHS.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 NHS South of Tyne & Wear has requested views on the PNA by 17 January 2011. In particular views are being sought on:
- The accuracy of the mapping of services
 - Whether Members agree with the conclusions on needs identified
 - Any needs that may have been missed
- 3.2 A summary of the PNA is attached as Appendix 1. The following link takes you to the full report, which is very lengthy:
<http://www.sotw.nhs.uk/yoursay/pna/>

4. Consultation

4.1 The consultation will run from 15 November 2010 to 17 January 2011. The outcomes of the consultation will be published in a report as part of the final PNA by 1 February 2011. The final PNA documents will enable the PCT in the future to consider applications to provide pharmaceutical services and will inform how the services may develop in line with the needs of the local population.

4.2 The consultation questions are:

Q1: Do you think that the information contained in the PNA is accurate?

Q2: Do you think there are any gaps in the information included in the PNA?

Q3: In reading the PNA do you think there are any gaps in pharmaceutical services that have not been identified in the document?

Q4: Does the PNA cover all of the pharmaceutical services that you need?

5. Recommendation

5.1 Members are asked to comment on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment based on the questions outlined in paragraph 4.2 above.

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NHS South of Tyne & Wear

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

Draft for Consultation November 2010 – January 2011

Executive Summary

Introduction

The *NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) Regulations, 2010*, were laid before Parliament on 26 March, 2010 and came into force on 24 May, 2010. These amended regulations introduced the requirement for all Primary Care Trusts (PCT) to prepare and publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) on or before 1 February, 2011.

The regulations set out clear criteria for the development of the PNA. There is a requirement to revise the PNA at least every three years and to refresh the document should there be possible changes to the provision of services in the interim.

Across NHS South of Tyne and Wear, which includes Gateshead and South Tyneside PCTs and Sunderland Teaching PCT potential contractors can apply to deliver pharmaceutical services through the Control of Entry process. This process will be replaced by new regulations and in the future the PCT will use the PNA as the basis for determining market entry to NHS pharmaceutical services provision.

Health needs

The population of Sunderland has been falling over the past 20 years. However, this decline has recently levelled off and the population is forecast to remain fairly constant over the next 15 years. In the early 1990's Sunderland's population was close to 300,000. It stood at 270,000 in 2007 and is forecast to stay at this level until 2025. Compared to England the population of Sunderland has a similar proportion of older people. 16% of the population is currently aged 65 years and over, compared with 16% across England and 17% across the North East. Older people use health and social care services more intensively than any other population group and so the absolute number of older people in Sunderland as well as the percentage of the total population has strong implications for the planning of health and care services.

It is evident that levels of deprivation, including child poverty, remain high, particularly in certain parts of the city. Lower than average educational attainment, housing and in particular fuel poverty are all key themes that have been identified. The shifting demographic of an increasingly older population, and a decline in the number of people aged 18-64 also provides key challenges.

Determination of localities

For the purpose of the PNA, Sunderland's 25 electoral wards have been adopted as localities. This approach is in line with the data available from the JSNA however, the TPCT is mindful of the specific needs within the sub-areas of each ward.

Current provision

In Sunderland, there are currently 58 pharmacies made up of 54 Non exempt category pharmacies, one distance selling pharmacy, one Essential Small Pharmacies Local Pharmaceutical Services (ESPLPS) and two hundred hour pharmacies. There are no dispensing doctors.

In addition to this, Sunderland TPCT also commissions a number of local enhanced services with community pharmacy contractors. There is a good uptake of these services and where services are not currently commissioned by the TPCT, there is willingness by community pharmacy contractors to deliver these in the future.

Stakeholder engagement

During August and September 2010, the views of the public were gathered in the form of a *Views on Pharmacy Services* survey. In particular, the PNA development group were interested in gathering the views of those groups of people who are frequent users of the pharmaceutical services or whose views are seldom heard, to inform the development of the PNA formal consultation.

The survey identified that: the majority of people, who responded, visit their pharmacy at least six times or more a year; 92% use the same pharmacy all or most of the time and; the top five services used are dispensing of prescriptions, buying over the counter medicines, repeat dispensing, advice from the pharmacist and disposing of waste.

The PCT is required to consult on the draft PNA at least once during its development for a minimum period of 60 days. The formal consultation on the draft PNA will run from 15th November, 2010, to 17th January, 2011, the outcomes of which will be considered as part of the final document.

Future provision

Following an assessment of the information available within the PNA, Sunderland TPCT has concluded that access to necessary pharmaceutical services within Sunderland is adequate for the needs of the population.