

EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025-2028

Responsible Officer

Toyin Sosanya - AH Public Health

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)

Ellen Schwartz - AH Public Health

Type of Activity

Service Change

No

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

No

Commissioning/Procurement

No

Strategy/Policy

Strategy/Policy

Details of other Service Activity

No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Adult Social Care and Health

Responsible Service

Public Health

Responsible Head of Service

Ellen Schwartz - AH Public Health

Responsible Director

Anjan Ghosh - AH Public Health

Aims and Objectives

Aim and objective:

The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is a key document used by the National Health Service (NHS) to make decisions on new applications for pharmacies and change of services or relocations by current pharmacies (market entry). It is also used by commissioners reviewing the health needs for services within their particular area, to identify if any of their services can be commissioned through pharmacies.

The aim of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is to identify the current providers of pharmaceutical services, where they are, the population that they serve and systematically identify any gaps or unmet pharmaceutical needs in consultation with stakeholders. And to make recommendations on future pharmaceutical services where necessary.

The PNA is to ensure equitable access to pharmaceutical services across all communities, support the reduction of health inequalities, and reflect demographic trends, particularly the ageing population, deprivation levels, and needs of vulnerable groups.

Equality Recommendations:

Ensure continuous monitoring and engagement with underserved and vulnerable communities (e.g.,

coastal communities, ethnic minorities, disabled people) to prevent emerging gaps in access.

Sections 4 and 7 highlights requirement for pharmaceutical providers to comply with the Equality Act (2010) and suggests recommendation to support improved compliance.

Section 7 also provides recommendations to support the reduction on health inequalities through targeted pharmacy services.

Section B – Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes

It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?

Yes

Is there national evidence/data that you can use?

Yes

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

Yes

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

Representatives from local organisations that have an interest in the provision of pharmaceutical services have been involved in development of the PNA; representatives from the following organisations are members of the PNA Steering group:

- Kent and Medway ICB
- Local Pharmaceutical Committee
- Local Medical Committee
- Healthwatch Kent
- NHS England

A public, pharmacy contractor and dispensing GP engagement exercise (questionnaires) was conducted November-December 2024 and received over 1100 responses. The engagement was promoted through the following channels:

- KCC communication channels including:
 - o Let's Talk Kent and e-newsletter was sent to 9,240 registered users
 - o Postage of an engagement promotion poster to all pharmacies across Kent
 - o Internal communication platform (Viva Engage and Viva Engage Equality, Diversity and Inclusion)
 - o Corporate social media channels including Facebook, Nextdoor, X and LinkedIn
 - o Family Hubs Team – for onward sharing and also on social media Facebook
 - o Gypsy, Roma, Traveller team – for onward sharing
 - o District and Borough comms network
 - o Residents' e-newsletter
 - o Media release
 - o Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC)- for inclusion in December newsletter and promotion across their channels
- Kent and Medway ICB network including GP and KAM news bulletins
- Kent Local Medical Committee weekly practice bulletin
- Kent Local Pharmaceutical Committee weekly bulletin
- Healthwatch Kent network including website, newsletter and mental health voice updates

A formal statutory consultation will run for 60 days, statutory consultees include the following:

- Kent Local Pharmaceutical Committee
- Kent Local Medical Committee

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any persons on the pharmaceutical lists and any dispensing Doctors in Kent LPS Chemist in Kent Kent Healthwatch Any NHS Trust or NHS Foundation Trusts in Kent Kent and Medway Integrated Care Boards Neighbouring HWB <p>The Health and Wellbeing board has also chosen to consult with others with an interest in the provision of pharmaceutical services in the Kent area, including Kent residents, ahead of finalising the PNA. Harder to reach communities were also engaged, including Armed Forces Network, Kent Equality Cohesion Council and Gypsy, Roma, Traveller team for onwards sharing.</p>
Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?
Yes
Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?
Yes
Section C – Impact
Who may be impacted by the activity?
Service Users/clients Service users/clients
Staff Staff/Volunteers
Residents/Communities/Citizens Residents/communities/citizens
Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?
Yes
Details of Positive Impacts
<p>Improved planning of pharmaceutical services to meet local needs, particularly in areas with higher deprivation, older populations, and coastal communities.</p> <p>Service access supports self-care and management of long-term conditions, especially for the elderly, disabled people, and those with mental health issues.</p> <p>Commitment to continuous service development/ monitoring to match population growth and housing expansion.</p>
Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions
19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age
Are there negative impacts for age?
No. Note: If Question 19a is "No", Questions 19b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of negative impacts for Age
Not Completed
Mitigating Actions for Age
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age
Not Completed
20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability
Are there negative impacts for Disability?
No. Note: If Question 20a is "No", Questions 20b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for

approval
Details of Negative Impacts for Disability
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Disability
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Disability
Not Completed
21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex
Are there negative impacts for Sex
No. Note: If Question 21a is "No", Questions 21b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of negative impacts for Sex
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sex
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Sex
Not Completed
22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
No. Note: If Question 22a is "No", Questions 22b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
Are there negative impacts for Race
No. Note: If Question 23a is "No", Questions 23b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Race
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief
No. Note: If Question 24a is "No", Questions 24b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief
Not Completed
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
No. Note: If Question 25a is "No", Questions 25b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for

approval
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No. Note: If Question 26a is "No", Questions 26b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
No. Note: If Question 27a is "No", Questions 27b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No. Note: If Question 28a is "No", Questions 28b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed