

**From:** Roger Gough            Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform  
Graham Gibbens        Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health  
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**To**                            Kent Health and Wellbeing Board

**Subject**                    Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

**Classification**          Unrestricted

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## **1            Introduction**

- 1.1            The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility for the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment from Primary Care Trusts to the Health and Wellbeing Boards on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.
  
- 1.2            The NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 set out the legislative basis for developing and updating PNAs and can be found at: <http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2013/02/pharmaceutical-services-regulations/>
  
- 1.3            Every Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) in England has a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up-to-date, a statement of the need for pharmaceutical services in its area, otherwise referred to as a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA).
  
- 1.4            Each HWB is required to publish its own revised PNA for its area by 1st April 2015.
  
- 1.5            The main aim of the Kent Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is to describe the current pharmaceutical services in Kent, systematically identify any gaps/unmet needs in consultation with stakeholders and make recommendations on assessed gaps and future developments.

The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is a key document used by NHS England and the local area Pharmaceutical Services Regulations Committee (PSRC) to make decisions on new applications for pharmacies and change of services or relocations by current pharmacies. 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 Kent Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment consists of an overarching document explaining the details about pharmaceutical services and how needs are assessed, accompanied by a separate PNA document for each Clinical Commissioning Group area making recommendations for that area.

## **2.            PNA Development**

- 2.1            In November 2013, a paper was taken to the Health and Wellbeing Board seeking

agreement to set up a Steering Group to oversee the production, consultation and publication of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. This was approved.

- 2.2 The steering group is made up representatives of key stakeholders as well as representatives of each of the Clinical Commissioning Groups.
- 2.3 A further paper was presented to the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2014 seeking approval to formally consult on the draft PNA. The H&WB Board approved this.

### **3.0 Consultation**

- 3.1 The County Council consulted with key stakeholders as defined in the regulation and as per KCC guidelines from the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014 until 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

Key stakeholders were sent letters from the interim DPH inviting response to the consultation. Wider consultation was conducted through HealthWatch Kent, via the Kent County Council website and via CCG Patient Participation groups and local networks, and through various patient voluntary groups through HealthWatch Kent.

- 3.2 Publication of the PNA will include results of the consultation and relevant comments.
- 3.3 The PNA has been revised to reflect the consultation results where appropriate and recommendations for each individual area have been discussed in detail by the steering group and are documented in the CCG level PNAs.

### **4.0 Recommendations**

- 4.1 Note the key strategic findings of recommendations of the PNA which are as follows:

- Overall there is good pharmaceutical service provision in the majority of Kent.
- Where the area is rural, there are enough dispensing practices to provide basic dispensing pharmaceutical services to the rural population.
- There are proposed major housing developments across Kent, the main ones being Chilmington Green near Ashford and Ebbsfleet Garden City. This will mean that these areas will need to be reviewed on a regular basis to identify any increases in pharmaceutical need.
- The proposed Paramount leisure site plans in North Kent should be reviewed regularly to identify whether visitors and staff will have increased health needs including pharmaceutical.
- The current provision of “standard 40 hour” pharmacies should be maintained especially in rural villages and areas such as Romney Marsh.
- The current provision of “100 hour” pharmacies should be maintained.

- 4.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board has the responsibility of publishing supplementary statements when the pharmaceutical need and services to an area change

significantly. It is proposed that these are issued every 6 months by NHS England (a member of the Board) as they hold all the relevant data. They will be published on the Council website alongside the PNA.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve the process and timeframe.

- 4.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve the final PNA ready for publication subject to final checking with NHS England on any pharmaceutical service application grants made following the consultation and final tweaks through proofing and editing.

## 5. **Contact Details**

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