

16 March 2018		ITEM: 6
Health and Wellbeing Board		
Thurrock Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non-key	
Report of: Ian Wake, Director of Public Health		
Accountable Head of Service: Emma Sanford, Strategic Lead – Health and Social Care Public Health		
Accountable Director: Ian Wake, Director of Public Health		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

Every Health and Wellbeing Board has the statutory responsibility to carry out and publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) every 3 years. This is to include information from a number of sources including inputs from local pharmaceutical service providers, local intelligence, references to existing plans and strategies and patient views.

This Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) provides a comprehensive report on the needs for and provision of pharmaceutical services (as defined by legislation) in Thurrock. It will be used by NHS England to decide upon applications to open new pharmacies, change hours, relocate existing pharmacies or merge pharmacies, and will inform commissioners regarding the commissioning of pharmaceutical services.

As PNAs are central to decision-making regarding commissioned services and new pharmacy openings, it is essential that they comply with the requirements of the regulations, that due process is followed in their development and they are kept up-to-date. The existing PNA will cease to be valid from 1st April 2018, and it is proposed that this new PNA will be formally adopted from that date.

Any changes to provision that occur after publication of this new PNA will result in a Supplementary Statement being issued, outlining the details of this change. Depending on the expected impact, this may result in a revised assessment if it is deemed relevant to the granting of any future pharmacy applications. The Health and Wellbeing Board should note that one Thurrock pharmacy has given their 90 days' notice of closure to NHS England, and therefore a Supplementary Statement will be published after this PNA has been adopted.

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 That the contents of the PNA be noted by the Health and Wellbeing Board.**
- 1.2 That the Health and Wellbeing Board approve the publication of this document, thereby fulfilling their statutory obligation.**
- 1.3 That the Health and Wellbeing Board note the upcoming closure of one pharmacy and the need for a future subsequent Supplementary Statement after publication of this document.**

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) provides a comprehensive report on the needs for and provision of pharmaceutical services (as defined by legislation) in Thurrock. It will be used by NHS England to decide upon applications to open new pharmacies, change hours, relocate existing pharmacies or merge pharmacies, and will inform commissioners regarding the commissioning of pharmaceutical services.
- 2.2 Every Health and Wellbeing Board has the responsibility to carry out and publish a PNA every 3 years. This is to include information from a number of sources including inputs from local pharmaceutical service providers, local intelligence, references to existing plans and strategies and patient views.
- 2.3 The previous Thurrock PNA was undertaken during 2014 and formally adopted in early 2015, meaning that the new PNA must be in place by the end of March 2018.
- 2.4 It is stipulated in the [NHS \(Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services\) Regulations 2013](#) that a draft version of the PNA must be released for public consultation for a minimum of 60 days prior to formal publication and adoption. This took place for 61 days between 18th October 2017 and 17th December 2017, and a summary of the responses received can be found in section 9.6 of the main document.
- 2.5 This document was primarily authored by the Public Health team, with wider stakeholder inputs on an ongoing basis from the CCG, LPC (Local Pharmaceutical Committee), LMC (Local Medical Committee) and NHS England. These stakeholders were collectively known as the PNA Steering Group. The PNA Steering Group have confirmed the scope and contents of the PNA are in accordance with the legislative requirements.

3. Summary of key findings

3.1 The main finding of the PNA document was that the current number of pharmacies is sufficient to meet future pharmaceutical needs of residents over the lifetime of this document (3 years).

3.2 Other key points from the PNA include:

- There are 34 pharmacies and 2 distance-selling pharmacies located in Thurrock. The number of high street pharmacies has not changed since the last PNA document.
- In addition, the locations of current pharmacies are distributed relatively evenly across the borough, with those most likely to need pharmaceutical services (e.g. residents in the most deprived areas and older people) having more provision available to them. Pharmacies in Thurrock are accessible to the majority of residents by walking or by bus (70.4% walking and 96% by bus within 30 minutes during the week), and all residents are within a 20 minute car journey of a pharmacy.
- The PNA found that dispensing activity has increased by 9.05% between 2013-14 and 2016-17, but that this has been absorbed in current provision of pharmacy services. An increase was seen in the proportion undertaken by distance-selling pharmacies, with two contractors in Leeds and Peterborough responsible for 15.95% of all out of area activity.
- There was found to be sufficient coverage of Advanced Services [e.g. Medicines Use Reviews, New Medicines Service Reviews and Flu Vaccinations] across Thurrock which particularly benefit the older population and those with long term health conditions.
- Findings from the recent Community Pharmacy Patient Questionnaire (CPPQ) highlighted that patients felt that pharmacies could offer more lifestyle support and advice.
- Information from Thurrock patients indicate that the majority of them choose to visit their particular pharmacy (70%) and Thurrock's pharmacies as a whole have a high public satisfaction rating (90%).

4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 This PNA fulfils a statutory duty set down by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 for all Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) to publish and keep-up-to-date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services for the population in its area.

4.2 The existing PNA will not remain valid after the 1st April 2018, which means the Council will be in breach of its statutory duty after this date.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 The PNA was produced with contributions from key stakeholders as listed in the reports' acknowledgements section.
- 5.2 The draft report was available for public consultation for 61 days between 18th October 2017 and 17th December 2017.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 The PNA aligns with the Council's three new priorities for People, Place and Prosperity by demonstrating the activity and current status of community pharmacies. It shows our commitment to high quality and accessible public services, and partnership working to improve health and wellbeing.
- 6.2 Pharmacy actions also support the delivery of the Thurrock Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21 and the 'For Thurrock In Thurrock' initiative which is jointly run by the Council and CCG, and aims to encourage more neighbourhood-based care.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: Jo Freeman
Management Accountant Social Care

There are no financial decisions that relate to this report.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: Ian Wake
Director of Public Health

There is potential for legal challenges associated with the PNA if the Council had not met its duties around consultation of the draft PNA or from contractors who believe they are affected by the findings of the PNA; however the risk for receiving these challenges is minimal.

Failure to publish a revised pharmaceutical needs assessment by 1st April 2018 would put the Council in breach of Section 128A of NHS Act 2006, as amended by Health Act 2009 and Health and Social Care Act 2012.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: Rebecca Price
Community Development Officer

The PNA outlines the locations of services with respect to key population groups most likely to require them. It also contains information on public views captured from a range of respondents.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Detailed references are given in the main report.

9. **Appendices to the report**

- Thurrock Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2017/18

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