



PAPER B

Purpose: For Noting

Committee report

Committee	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
Date	27 NOVEMBER 2014
Title	PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Report of	RIDA ELKHEIR, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Since 1 April 2013, every health and wellbeing board (HWB) in England has had a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area, referred to as a pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA). This noting report explains the relevance of this for the Isle of Wight HWB and the plans to ensure that it complies with its statutory duty while producing a PNA which is useful to inform the NHS Commissioning Board with regard to pharmacy services on the Island.

BACKGROUND

2. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility to develop and update PNAs from primary care trusts (PCTs) to HWBs. The PNA is used by NHS England as the basis for determining opening of new pharmacies or extension to hours.

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

3. There are no direct financial implications, however, the development of the PNA will inform commissioning decisions by the council (public health services from community pharmacies) and by NHS Commissioning Board (also called NHS England) and the clinical commissioning group (CCG) with regard to pharmaceutical services on the Island.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4. Under section 128a of the Health and Social Care Act 2012;
Each health and wellbeing board must in accordance with regulations:
 - (a) Assess needs for pharmaceutical services in its area; and
 - (b) Publish a statement of its first assessment and of any revised assessment.

5. Regulations state that each HWB will need to publish its own PNA for its area by 1 April 2015. This will require board-level sign-off and a statutory period of formal public consultation beforehand (60 days).
6. The HWB will need to ensure that the NHS Commissioning Board and its area teams have access to the PNA. Failure to produce a robust PNA could lead to legal challenges because of the PNA's relevance to decisions about commissioning services and new pharmacy openings.

THE PROCESS

7. As per the national guidelines, a steering group has been established consisting of representatives from the council, CCG, NHS England and the Local Pharmaceutical Committee.
8. A draft PNA will be produced for the formal public engagement (statutory 60 days). It is suggested that the consultation will take place for the duration of January and February 2015.
9. Following analysis of the formal consultation the draft PNA will be updated and the final PNA will require sign-off by the HWB prior to being published.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

10. The Isle of Wight Council has a legal duty under the Equality Act 2010 to seek to eliminate discrimination, victimisation and harassment in relation to age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation and marriage and civil partnerships.
11. An initial equality impact assessment will be undertaken on the PNA and data gathered during the statutory consultation period will feed into this as appropriate.

RISK MANAGEMENT

12. The process will ensure the publication of an Island PNA in line with the HWB statutory duty.

PARTNERSHIP ISSUES

13. Partners on whom the PNA will have a direct effect are part of the steering group i.e. the council, CCG, NHS England, Local Pharmaceutical Committee. All other partners will be consulted when the draft PNA is available for public consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

14. That the board notes the steps taken, and those proposed, in order to comply with its statutory requirement to produce a PNA.

FURTHER INFORMATION

15. Department of Health Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment; information pack for local authority health and wellbeing boards.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pharmaceutical-needs-assessments-information-pack>

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