



Consultation Summary on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022

Every Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is required to produce a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). There is also a requirement to reassess and revise the PNA within three years of its previous publication. However, the HWB must make a revised assessment as soon as it is reasonably practicable after identifying any changes that have occurred since the previous assessment that may have an effect on the needs of pharmaceutical services. Due to the COVID-19 (C-19) pandemic the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) postponed the requirement for all HWBs to publish until 1 October 2022.

This mapping of pharmaceutical services against local health needs provides Barnet HWB with a framework for the strategic development and commissioning of services. It will enable the local pharmacy service providers and commissioners to:

- Understand the pharmaceutical needs of the population
- Gain a clearer picture of pharmaceutical services currently provided
- Make appropriate decisions on applications for NHS pharmacy contracts
- Commission appropriate and accessible services from community pharmacies
- Clearly identify and address any local gaps in pharmaceutical services
- Target services to reduce health inequalities within local health communities

This draft PNA has been produced through the PNA Steering Group on behalf of Barnet HWB by London Borough of Barnet (LBB) with authoring support from Soar Beyond Ltd.

NHS pharmaceutical services in England

NHS pharmaceutical services are provided by contractors on the pharmaceutical list held by NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I). Types of providers are:

- Community pharmacy contractors, including Distance-Selling Pharmacies (DSPs)
- Dispensing Appliance Contractors (DACs)
- Local Pharmaceutical Service (LPS) providers
- Dispensing doctors

Pharmaceutical service providers in Barnet

Barnet has 75 community pharmacies (as of March 2022) for a population of around 401,230, which includes an LPS pharmacy and one Distance-Selling Pharmacy. Combining these, Barnet has an average of 18.7 community pharmacies per 100,000 population, compared with 20.6 per 100,000 in England.

Barnet has one Dispensing Appliance Contractor providing services.



Conclusions

The Steering Group provides the following conclusions and recommendations on the basis that funding is at least maintained at current levels and or reflects future population changes.

The PNA is required to clearly state what is considered to constitute **Necessary Services** as required by paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013.

For the purposes of this PNA, **Necessary Services** for Barnet HWB are defined as Essential Services (ES).

Advanced Services are considered **relevant** as they contribute toward improvement in provision and access to pharmaceutical services.

For the purpose of this PNA, Enhanced Services are defined as pharmaceutical services that secure improvements or better access to, or that have contributed towards meeting the need for pharmaceutical services in Barnet HWB area.

All three of the above services are commissioned by NHSE&I.

Locally Commissioned Services (LCS) are those that secure improvements or better access to or that have contributed towards meeting the need for pharmaceutical services in Barnet HWB area, and are commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) or local authority, rather than NHSE&I.

Current provision of Necessary Services

Necessary Services are Essential Services that are described in Section 1.4.1.1. Access to Necessary Service provision in Barnet is provided by locality in Section 6.2.

In reference to Section 6, and required by paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013:

Necessary Services – gaps in provision

- Necessary Services – normal working hours

There is no current gap in the provision of Necessary Services during normal working hours across Barnet to meet the needs of the population.

- Necessary Services – outside normal working hours

There are no current gaps in the provision of Necessary Services outside normal working hours across Barnet to meet the needs of the population.

Future provision of Necessary Services

No gaps have been identified in the need for pharmaceutical services in specified future circumstances across Barnet.

Improvements and better access – gaps in provision

- Current and future access to Advanced Services

There is reasonable provision and access to Advanced Services within Barnet. The HWB would like to see improved coverage by more of the existing network of community pharmacies signing up to services supported by commissioners and providers to secure improvements or better access.

- Current and future access to Enhanced Services

There is reasonable provision and access to Enhanced Services within Barnet. The HWB would like to see improved coverage by more of the existing network of community pharmacies signing up to services supported by commissioners and providers to secure improvements or better access.

- Current and future access to Locally Commissioned Services

With regard to Locally Commissioned Services (LCS), the PNA is mindful that only those commissioned by NHSE&I are regarded as pharmaceutical services. The absence of a particular service being commissioned by NHSE&I is in some cases addressed by a service being commissioned through the council or local authority; these services are described in Section 4 and their provision by locality is discussed in Section 6.2.

There is reasonable provision and access to Locally Commissioned Services within Barnet. The HWB would like to see improved coverage by more of the existing network of community pharmacies signing up to services supported by commissioners and providers to secure improvements or better access.