
Meeting	Health and Well-Being Board
Date	27 June 2013
Subject	Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment
Report of	Director of Public Health
Summary of item and decision being sought	This paper informs the Health and Well-Being Board of its responsibility for Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment; the status of the current document and the plans for the next Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

Officer Contributors	Carole Furlong, Public Health Consultant
Reason for Report	The Health and Well-Being Board is asked to note the plans by the Barnet and Harrow Public Health team to refresh the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment
Partnership flexibility being exercised	N/A
Wards Affected	All
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1. RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 That the Health and Well-Being Board notes its responsibility to undertake Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment as detailed within the report.
- 1.2 That the Health and Well-Being Board approves the plans by the Public Health team to refresh the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS AND WHERE HELD

- 2.1 None

3. LINK AND IMPLICATIONS FOR STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP-WIDE GOALS (SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY; HEALTH AND WELL-BEING STRATEGY; COMMISSIONING STRATEGIES)

- 3.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is the document that the NHS uses when deciding if new pharmacies are needed and to make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies.
- 3.2 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is informed by the Sustainable Communities strategy plans. It can however be used as part of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to inform future commissioning strategies.

4 NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment will be marked as 'inadequate' by NHS England for not fully covering the protected characteristics in the Equalities Act. Although the current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment may have considered equalities legislation, it was not explicit in the report. The new Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment will cover the equalities legislation by reporting on the age, gender and ethnicity of pharmacists; the protected characteristics of those stakeholders and service users in the consultation; and any issues raised with regards to protected characteristics and service delivery, access and potential new services, if any, will be identified.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 N/A.

6. LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Health and Well-Being Boards are statutorily required to produce a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. These requirements are set out in Section 128A of the NHS Act 2006, as amended by Section 206 of the 2012 Health and Social Care Act. The Department of Health has laid regulations for undertaking Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments in Regulations 3 - 9 and

Schedule 1 of the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.

7. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS- FINANCE, STAFFING, IT ETC

- 7.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is a statutory function of the Health and Well-Being Board. The budget OF £60k for carrying out the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment has been included in the Public Health grant from Department of Health.

8. COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT WITH USERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 8.1 Full communications plan and stakeholder engagement will be undertaken as part of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. The Regulations require that consultation take place with a specified list of persons and bodies.

9. ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT WITH PROVIDERS

- 9.1 Provider engagement will be undertaken as part of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. The Regulations require that consultation take place with a specified list of persons and bodies.

10. DETAILS

- 10.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is a new requirement for local authorities and must be completed by end of March 2015.
- 10.2 The current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment, completed by Barnet PCT in 2011/12, will be on Barnet Council's website by July 2013. NHS England has undertaken an independent assessment of the current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment but the Public Health team do not yet have the full results. The Public Health team believe the current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment has been assessed as being 'mostly good' or 'adequate', but that it will be marked as 'inadequate' for not fully covering the protected characteristics in the Equalities Act. Although the current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment may have considered equalities legislation, it was not explicit in the report. The new Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment will cover the equalities legislation by reporting on the age, gender and ethnicity of pharmacists; the protected characteristics of those stakeholders and service users in the consultation; and any issues raised with regards to protected characteristics and service delivery, access and potential new services, if any, will be identified.
- 10.3 The Public Health team will lead on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and aim to have the revised version completed by April 2014.
- 10.4 Funding for the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is covered by the public health ring-fenced grant.

10.5 Background

The Health and Social Care Act (2012) changed the responsibilities for commissioning of pharmaceutical services to meet the new provider landscape. From April 2013:

- The Department of Health will continue to have the power to make regulations
- The NHS Commissioning Board – now NHS England – has the responsibility to commission pharmaceutical services taking into account the local need for services. If someone wants to provide NHS pharmaceutical services, they are required to apply to the NHS to be included on a pharmaceutical list and must prove they are able to meet a pharmaceutical need. This is commonly known as the NHS “market entry” system.
- Local Health and Well-Being Boards (HWBBs) have the responsibility to undertake Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments.

10.6 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment is the document that the NHS uses when deciding if new pharmacies are needed and to make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies.

10.7 As a valuable and trusted public health resource with millions of contacts with the public each day, community pharmacy teams have the potential to be used to provide services out of a hospital or practice environment and to reduce health inequalities¹. In addition, community pharmacies are an important investor in local communities through employment, supporting neighbourhood and high street economies, as a health asset and as a long term partner.

10.8 The preparation and consultation on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment should take account of the JSNA and other relevant strategies. However, the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment cannot be subsumed as part of these other documents (but can be annexed to them).

10.9 The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 came into force on the 1st April 2013. These Regulations are made under s.128A of the National Health Service Act 2006 (see Appendix 1). Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBBs) will be required to produce the first Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment by the 1st April 2015 with revised assessments within three years thereafter. If there are significant changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services since the publication of its Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment within this time, the HWBBs are required to publish a revised assessment as soon as is reasonably practical unless it is satisfied that making a revised assessment would be a disproportionate response to those changes. The HWBBs can if necessary, publish supplementary statements to the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment as necessary.

¹ “*Healthy lives, healthy people*”, the public health strategy for England (2010)

10.10 The Current Barnet Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

The current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment was undertaken and published by Barnet PCT in 2011/12. It has not been altered since this time but at least two supplementary statements have been published to reflect some minor alterations either in population need or in pharmacy provision.

10.11 NHS England has commissioned an independent company to look at the quality of the current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments to ensure that they comply with the legal guidance. This report has not yet been circulated but the public health service has reviewed the content of the existing Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. We expect that NHS England will grade the majority of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment as 'good' or 'satisfactory'. There may be one area where the report is inadequate and that is on the compliance with the Equalities Act (see 10.2).

10.12 Future Plans

The current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment will be uploaded to the Barnet Council website together with an updated map of local pharmacy services.

10.13 The Public Health team will commission an expert company to develop the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment prior to the deadline in 2015. It will be undertaken simultaneously with the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for Harrow. This will be managed as a single project which will reduce the management costs.

10.14 The high level plan for the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (led by the Public Health team) is as follows:

- Agree scope by July 2013
- Develop specification by August 2013
- Commission a company to undertake the assessment by October 2013
- Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment finalised by April 2014.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

Legal- CE
CFO- AD

Appendix 1: Section 128A of NHS Act (2006), as amended by Health Act (2009) and Health and Social Care Act (2012)

128A Pharmaceutical needs assessments

- (1) Each Health and Well-being 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.
- (2) The regulations must make provision--
 - (a) as to information which must be contained in a statement;
 - (b) as to the extent to which an assessment must take account of likely future needs;
 - (c) specifying the date by which a Health and Well-being Board must publish the statement of its first assessment;
 - (d) as to the circumstances in which a Health and Well-being Board must make a new assessment.
- (3) The regulations may in particular make provision--
 - (a) as to the pharmaceutical services to which an assessment must relate;
 - (b) requiring a Health and Well-being Board to consult specified persons about
 1. specified matters when making an assessment;
 - (c) as to the manner in which an assessment is to be made;
 - (d) as to matters to which a Health and Well-being Board must have regard when making an assessment.