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**To: Coventry Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015**

**From: Ruth Tennant, Deputy Director of Public Health**

**Subject: Coventry Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2015-19**

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## **1 Purpose**

As a result of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 the responsibility to develop and update Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments (PNAs) has passed on to the local Health and Wellbeing Board and given the Department of Health (DH) the power to make regulations.

The PNA will be used to inform NHS England in its determination as to whether to approve applications to join the pharmaceutical list. It also considers whether the number of pharmacies will still be adequate in the next four years. The PNA is also a tool used to inform commissioners of the current provision of pharmaceutical services and identify any gaps in relation to local health needs. These gaps can therefore be addressed by improving services or even access to those services in those local areas.

PNA's as a statutory requirement must be updated at least every 3 years, with the first assessment by Health and Wellbeing Boards completed by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. This needs assessment was produced by evaluating the health need of the local population with consideration of the existing services that are provided by pharmacies. The PNA has used the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and other Board approved documents to identify local health priorities.

## **2 Recommendations**

- The board are asked to approve the content of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA), to allow publication before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.
- The board should satisfy themselves of governance arrangements relating to future use of the PNA in determining whether applications to join the pharmaceutical list are approved.
- The board should consider future action on the recommendations for commissioning that have been developed through the PNA process and identify appropriate leads to take these forward.

### 3 Information/Background

The report looks at where pharmacies and dispensing practices are, when they are open and what services they offer. The main findings are that the 91 community pharmacies offer a good provision of pharmaceutical services across Coventry. They are evenly distributed across the city with a higher concentration in the east of the city where the population density is greater. It finds that pharmacies provide a good range of services across the city. This not only includes essential services such as furnishing prescriptions, but also advanced services such as medicines use reviews, and enhanced services such as emergency contraception.

- The conclusion of this PNA is that the population of Coventry currently has sufficient numbers of pharmacy contractors to meet the pharmaceutical needs of the patients and public. This is clearly demonstrated by the following points:
- Coventry has good coverage across the city for pharmaceutical services in terms of choice, access and opening hours, with no gaps in current provision.
- The range of opening hours over 7 days a week is welcome for the delivery of enhanced services and the access to essential services such as dispensing and self-care advice. The presence of several 100 hour service contracts is important to maintain this provision.
- Coventry has slightly better or similar coverage of community pharmacies or dispensing GP practices than the England and West Midlands averages.
- The majority of residents live within a 1 mile radius or a 10 minute drive of a pharmacy.
- Public views on Coventry pharmacy services suggest that the majority of respondents were satisfied with current pharmacy provision.

The recommendations for commissioning from this PNA are as follows:

- To raise awareness around opening times particularly evenings and weekends - Most people are aware that some pharmacies are open late into the evening, early in the morning, at weekends and bank holidays, but only half of those surveyed know where these are located. Work is required to raise awareness of extended hour provision.
- For commissioners of statutory and locally defined services to work with pharmacies to increase awareness of pharmacy services. This would help services to be used more effectively and contribute to the improvement of the health of the local population.
- To increase uptake of enhanced services including the Not Dispensed service, the TB medication supervision service and minor ailments scheme by Pharmacy contractors. In particular the minor ailments scheme would fit in to the objective of reducing unnecessary A & E and/or GP attendance.
- Focus on managing the interface between community, hospital and tertiary care to reduce the risk associated with medicines e.g. palliative care scheme.
- Develop services to support specific diseases appropriate to the needs of Coventry patients e.g. NHS Health Checks for Cardiovascular disease.

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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

**Appendices**

Coventry Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2015-19 – Full Report