

	<u>Agenda Item: 13</u>
Report to:	Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board
Date:	28th March 2024
TITLE:	Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) Update – Supplementary Statement
Organisation	Birmingham City Council
Presenting Officer	Rebecca Howell-Jones

Report Type:	Approval
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1. Purpose:
1.1. To provide an update on the changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services in Birmingham.

2. Implications (tick all that apply):		
Creating a Bolder, Healthier, City (2022-2030) – Strategic Priorities	Closing the Gap (Inequalities)	
	Theme 1: Healthy and Affordable Food	
	Theme 2: Mental Wellness and Balance	
	Theme 3: Active at Every Age and Ability	
	Theme 4: Contributing to a Green and Sustainable Future	
	Theme 5: Protect and Detect	
	Getting the Best Start in Life	
	Living, Working and Learning Well	
	Ageing and Dying Well	
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		✓

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. Note the changes to pharmaceutical provision since the publication of the PNA and agree to publish a supplementary statement.
- 3.2. Agree to re-establishing the PNA Steering Group (details and terms of reference will be presented to Health and Wellbeing Board).

4. Report Body

Background

- 4.1. A PNA is a statutory requirement of Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWB) in England; its purpose is to assess the current provision of pharmaceutical services in an area and the 'need' for such services now and in the future.
- 4.2. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 outlines the duty of local authorities, through the local HWB, to produce a PNA for their population. The PNA should be informed by the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) process and any other relevant needs assessments that identify a role for pharmaceutical services in addressing health needs.
- 4.3. Birmingham HWB and Solihull HWB made joint arrangements for their PNA which was published last year: [Birmingham and Solihull PNA 2022 to 2025 | Birmingham City Council](#).
- 4.4. The assessment concluded that there were no gaps in provision at the time or in the future (over the next three years) for pharmaceutical services.

Updating of PNAs and Supplementary Statements

- 4.5. Birmingham Health and Wellbeing Board is required to produce a new PNA if it identifies changes to the need for pharmaceutical services, which are of a significant extent. This could be due to changes to¹:
 - the number of people in the area who require pharmaceutical services,
 - the demography of the area, or
 - risks to the health or wellbeing of people in the area (both residents and visitors).
- 4.6. Supplementary statements are statements of fact; they do not make any assessment of the impact the change may have on the need for pharmaceutical services. They are an update of what the PNA says about the availability of pharmaceutical services. An assessment of need can only be achieved through a review of the PNA.

Changes to provision across Birmingham

- 4.7. There have been changes to pharmacy provision across Birmingham compared with the published PNA. These changes can be categorised into four areas (full details in Appendix 1):

¹ [PNAs: Information pack for local authority health and \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

- Opening or closing of pharmaceutical premises - There have been ten pharmacy closures. The total number of community pharmacies is now 263 (down from 273 when the PNA was published).
- Non-significant changes in the location of service provision - There have been six relocations of service provision.
- Changes in ownership or trading name - 32 pharmacies changed their ownership or trading name.
- Notification to change of core opening hours - 22 pharmacies changed their core hours from the pharmaceutical list. In terms of total weekly hours, some have increased and some have decreased.

4.8. Pharmacies that have closed are in areas that are relatively well served and accessible by car and public transport. There are still more pharmacies per 100,000 people (23.1 down from 23.8) than in England (20.5 in 2022). There are now 263 community pharmacies in Birmingham.

4.9. Local systems are unable to procure or commission new pharmacies. Opening new pharmacies depends on contractors coming forward to apply to open a premises.

4.10. The HWB is required to explain changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services in Birmingham.

4.11. It is thought that producing a new PNA would be a disproportionate response to these changes. However, it is recommended that Health and Wellbeing Board issues a supplementary statement explaining the change in pharmacy services. This is based on the following guidance: [Pharmaceutical needs assessments: Information pack for local authority health and wellbeing boards \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

4.12. Producing a new PNA would have financial implications, including identifying a budget to outsource a provider through a competitive tender process to conduct a new PNA on behalf of the HWB. It would also involve identifying capacity to support the procurement and commissioning process and the monitoring and overseeing of the development of the new PNA.

4.13. Once published, the supplementary statement becomes part of the PNA and is referred to by NHS England when it determines applications for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list. Therefore, supplementary statements are published alongside the PNA.

4.14. The supplementary statement is included in Appendix 1.

4.15. Unless the PNA needs to be produced sooner (see 4.5), the development of the next update (2025-2028) will commence in 2024. Therefore, it is recommended that the PNA Steering Group should be established based on the terms of reference published in the most recent PNA: [Birmingham and Solihull PNA 2022 to 2025 | Birmingham City Council](#). Full details and an updated terms of reference will be presented to Health and Wellbeing Board for approval.

5. Compliance Issues
5.1. HWBB Forum Responsibility and Board Update
None.
5.2. Management Responsibility
The Birmingham HWB has a statutory duty to publish a PNA every three years and update the PNA as required.
5.3. Finance Implications
There are no financial implications. Any costs relating to risks that the board needs to consider can be met from within ringfenced public health grant. The PNA supports NHS England to make decisions about market entry.
5.4. Legal Implications
<p>5.5. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 established health and wellbeing boards. It also transferred responsibility to develop and update pharmaceutical needs assessments from primary care trusts to health and wellbeing boards with effect from 1 April 2013. At the same time responsibility for using pharmaceutical needs assessments as the basis for determining market entry to a pharmaceutical list transferred from primary care trusts to NHS England and NHS Improvement.</p> <p>5.6. The NHS Act 2006 (the “2006 Act”), amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, sets out the requirements for health and wellbeing boards to develop and update pharmaceutical needs assessments and gives the Department of Health and Social Care powers to make regulations. The relevant extract from the 2006 Act can be found below.</p> <p>5.7. 128A Pharmaceutical needs assessments</p> <p>(1) Each Health and Well-being Board must in accordance with regulations—</p> <p>(a) assess needs for pharmaceutical services in its area, and</p> <p>(b) publish a statement of its first assessment and of any revised assessment.</p> <p>(2) The regulations must make provision—</p> <p>(a) as to information which must be contained in a statement;</p> <p>(b) as to the extent to which an assessment must take account of likely future needs;</p> <p>(c) specifying the date by which a Health and Well-being Board must publish the statement of its first assessment;</p> <p>(d) as to the circumstances in which a Health and Well-being Board must make a new assessment.</p> <p>(3) The regulations may in particular make provision—</p> <p>(a) as to the pharmaceutical services to which an assessment must relate;</p> <p>(b) requiring a Health and Well-being Board to consult specified persons about specified matters when making an assessment;</p> <p>(c) as to the manner in which an assessment is to be made;</p> <p>(d) as to matters to which a Health and Well-being Board must have regard when making an assessment.</p>

Source: [Pharmaceutical needs assessments: Information pack for local authority health and wellbeing boards \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

5.8. Equalities Implications (Public Sector Equality Duty)

No negative impacts regarding groups with protected characteristics were identified in PNA. The closure of pharmacies may have people certain groups, such as disabled people, older adults, and those with pregnancy and maternity characteristics. However, Health and Wellbeing Board cannot mitigate this beyond publishing a supplementary statement.

6. Risk Analysis

Identified Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Actions to Manage Risk
Changes in pharmacy provision may affect patients' access to pharmaceutical services.	Medium	Medium	Continue to monitor the number of closures, relocations, and changes in core hours.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Birmingham PNA Supplementary Statement (February 2024)

Background Papers

[Birmingham and Solihull PNA 2022 to 2025 | Birmingham City Council.](#)

The following people have been involved in the preparation of this board paper:
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