

Report to:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Item number:	5
Relevant Officer:	Liz Petch, Public Health Specialist, Blackpool Council Stephen Gough Local Professional Networks Lead, NHS England

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) Update

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To update the Board on progress of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for Blackpool.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To note the update and consider any further actions or issues relating to the ongoing development of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 On 1st April 2013, statutory responsibility for publishing and updating a statement of the need for pharmaceutical services passed to Health and Wellbeing Boards. This statement of need is referred to as a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). Health and Wellbeing Boards must ensure Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments are updated and published by April 2015.

3.2 Alternative Options:

As outlined it is a statutory requirement for the Board to ensure Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments are updated and published.

4.0 Background Information

4.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment has a number of key purposes:

- It is used by NHS England to make decisions on applications to open new pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractor premises
- It can support Health and Wellbeing Boards to work with providers to target services in areas where they are needed and limit duplication of services where provision is adequate.
- It will inform interested parties of the pharmaceutical needs in Blackpool and enable work to plan, develop and deliver pharmaceutical services for the population.
- It will inform commissioning decisions of local authorities, NHS England and Clinical Commissioning Groups.

In April 2013, the Board received a report which outlined the new responsibilities of Health and Wellbeing Boards in relation to the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment . At that meeting it was agreed that further discussions should take place between the Board and NHS England Local Area Team (Lancashire) to clarify the process and resource arrangements.

In November 2013 a pan-Lancashire working group was established to co-ordinate the production of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Boards across the three localities of Lancashire, Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen.

Membership of the group currently includes representatives from the local authority (leads from each area), Public Health Specialist / Intelligence Teams, NHS England (Local Area Team) Local Pharmaceutical Committee, Healthwatch, Local Professional Network and Health and Wellbeing Board support officers.

The group's primary role is to develop structures and processes in order to support the preparation of a comprehensive and up to date Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments for each locality; building on expertise from across the local healthcare community. A key aspect is to ensure that the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments integrate with the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, becoming an integral part of the commissioning process which fully reflects the future needs of Lancashire's populations.

The group has devised a project plan to ensure all key components needed to inform the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment are in place and developed a communication plan so that the widest possible range of stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute to the development of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and inform the process at regular intervals throughout the year.

An inaugural event took place on 28th March 2014 at the Gujarat Centre in Preston, which brought together members of the three Health and Wellbeing Boards, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Pharmacies, GPs, health professionals and practitioners to learn about the work of the group and to share their views and opinions to start to shape the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for the three localities.

4.2 Next Steps

The group is currently collecting and consolidating data to be used in the PNA's working closely with intelligence teams in each area and NHS England (Local Area Team).

A Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment questionnaire has been disseminated to community pharmacies – the information submitted will be used to ensure that all data held about the pharmacy and the services provided by the pharmacy are correct. This data will be included in the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments when they are published. The questionnaire will also help to identify gaps in service provision as part of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment process.

Drafting of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments for each locality will commence in June 2014 and preparations for a second stakeholder event to launch a formal 60 day consultation on the draft documents will take place in Autumn 2014.

4.3 List of Appendices:

None

5.0 Legal considerations:

5.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment forms the basis on which community pharmacy applications from businesses, including independent owners and large pharmacy companies are considered by NHS England under the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013. Health and Wellbeing Board's will need to ensure Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments comply with regulations and that mechanisms are established to keep the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment up-to-date as decisions can be contested and open to legal challenge if not handled properly.

6.0 Equalities considerations:

6.1 To ensure due regard is given to equality and the Public Sector Equality Duty an Equality Impact Assessment of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for each area

will be undertaken.

7.0 Financial considerations:

7.1 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments are used by the NHS to make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies. These services are part of local health care and public health and affect NHS budgets. Health and Wellbeing Board's will need to ensure that the data which underpins the PNA is well researched and update to date to ensure that the right services are commissioned to meet local needs.

8.0 Background papers:

8.1 None