

Committee: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 30th September 2014.

Wards: All.

Subject: Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

Lead officer: Dr Kay Eilbert, Director of Public Health.

Lead member: Councillor Caroline Cooper-Marbiah. Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health.

Contact officer: Barry Causer, Public Health Commissioning Manager.

Recommendations:

- A. Note progress made with the development of the PNA.
 - B. Note the requirements of the statutory consultation period, particularly the requirement to consult with neighbouring Health and Wellbeing Boards.
 - C. That Public Health respond on behalf of the HWB to consultation documents from our neighbouring boroughs.
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update the HWB on the progress of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and set out the initial plan for the statutory 60 day consultation due to start in October 2014.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 includes a requirement that the Health and Wellbeing Board publish a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) by 1st April 2015.
- 2.2. A PNA is a tool for identifying current and future needs at a local level to explore the potential and improve quality and effectiveness of pharmaceutical services. It uses robust, up to date evidence to ensure that pharmacy services are provided in the right place and that local authorities meet the needs of the community that it serves.
- 2.3. It is used by NHS England when making decisions on applications to open new pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractor premises. Such decisions are appealable and decisions made on appeal can be challenged through the courts.
- 2.4. Merton's PNA will also look at the public health services commissioned by locally by Public Health and recommend areas for improvement, expansion and opportunities for the future.
- 2.5. **Progress to date**
 - 2.5.1 Following a competitive process, Merton Public Health commissioned Primary Care Commissioning (PCC) to produce the PNA. This

commissioning was undertaken jointly with Sutton Council, realising savings of around £5,000 for each borough.

2.5.2 A joint Sutton and Merton PNA steering group has been set up to provide support and direction to PCC in producing the PNAs. This steering group has representatives from Merton Council Public Health, Sutton Council Public Health, Merton Clinical Commissioning Group, Sutton Clinical Commissioning Group, Merton Sutton and Wandsworth Local Pharmaceutical Committee, Sutton and Merton Local Medical Council and Sutton Health watch.

2.5.3 It is anticipated that the steering group will sign off the draft Merton PNA at their October meeting, so that the formal 60 day consultation can start on 20th October 2014.

2.4 Consultation

2.4.1 The consultation on the PNA is clearly set out with regulations for the consultation to last at least 60 days and to consult with the following

- Local Pharmaceutical Committee,
- the Local Medical Committee,
- persons on the pharmaceutical lists and any dispensing doctors in the area,
- the LPS chemist in its area,
- the Local Healthwatch,
- any NHS Trust or NHS Foundation Trust,
- NHS England,
- neighbouring HWB's
- and any other patient, consumer or community group in its area who has an interest in the provision of pharmaceutical services in the area.

2.4.2 The draft PNA, consultation questions and cover letter will be available on the Council website, MCCG website and will be sent directly via e-mail and post to named individuals as required by the regulations. It will also be sent to members of the HWB.

2.4.3 Consultation documents will be sent directly to the Chair of neighbouring HWBs alongside the Officer lead for the board. Where Merton HWB is asked to comment on PNAs covering neighbouring boroughs, it is recommended that Merton public health respond behalf of the Merton HWB.

2.4.4 This formal consultation will meet the statutory requirement and will start on the 20th October 2014, ending on the 19th December 2014.

2.4.5 Once responses have been collated, the PNA will be finalised and presented to the HWB in January 2015 for sign off and publication in advance of the statutory deadline of 1st April 2015.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 3.1. Publishing a PNA is a statutory requirement under The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

- 4.1. The consultation on the PNA is clearly set out with regulations as described above.

5 TIMETABLE

- 5.1. The deadline for the HWB to publish a revised assessment is 1st April 2015.

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Commissioning PCC to produce the PNA has cost £32,500 from the Public Health budget.

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. Publishing a PNA is a statutory requirement under The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. The PNA is concerned with delivering a balanced and equitable provision of service throughout the borough. In order to address health inequalities it is important that there is access to accurate data which reflects real needs.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. None.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- None.

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 12.1. The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.

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