

TITLE OF REPORT: Gateshead Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022

Purpose of the Report

1. For the Health & Wellbeing Board to approve the final Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022 for publication.

How does the report support Gateshead's Health & Wellbeing Strategy?

2. The development and publication of a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is a statutory responsibility of the Health and Wellbeing Board under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Background

3. The purpose of the PNA is twofold:
 - a. To determine if there are sufficient community pharmacies to meet the needs of the population of Gateshead.
 - b. To determine other services which could be delivered by community pharmacies to meet the identified health needs of the population.
4. A PNA describes the population's health needs and the pharmaceutical services which exist or could be commissioned to address these. It is also used to identify any gaps in pharmaceutical services which could be filled by new community pharmacies. The previous PNA was produced and implemented in 2018 with the requirement that the HWB must publish a statement of its revised assessment within 3 years of publication. This was extended by a further 18 months because of the Covid-19 pandemic.
5. The attached draft PNA has been developed through a steering group including representatives from the Council's Public Health team, the CCG, the Local Medical and Pharmaceutical Committees, and Healthwatch.
6. The draft PNA highlights the provision of core and extended pharmacy services across Gateshead and makes a number of recommendations (Appendix 1). It also reflects on progress on the recommendations from the 2018 report.
7. Final consultation with relevant stakeholders on the draft PNA took place from 29th June to 27th August 2022. A total of 20 comments were received from stakeholders and the public, and several minor amendments (typically wording) have been made to the PNA as a result (Appendix 2). In addition, NHSE&I were in broad agreement with the PNA and submitted a letter saying they had no further comments.

8. Furthermore, following the PNA consultation process, there have been several minor changes to some pharmacy opening hours (PNA 2022 Appendix 11). These changes do not have a significant impact on the findings or recommendations of this PNA

Proposal

9. It is proposed that the amendments made to the draft PNA are accepted.

Recommendations

10. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve the revised Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for publication.

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Gateshead Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022

Conclusions and Key Points

- There are 46 pharmacies in Gateshead, located primarily in areas of higher population density with 98% of the population being within 1 mile of a community pharmacy.
- There is more than one pharmacy in most villages and urban areas within Gateshead, allowing patient choice and access to enhanced services.
- In addition, there is one 100-hour pharmacy, three distant selling pharmacies, and one rural general practice provides dispensing services to some of their patients.
- There is adequate provision of pharmacies across Gateshead Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. However, as in previous years services continue to be more limited in weekday evenings and over weekends.
- On Saturdays, 67% of pharmacies are open in the mornings and 30% are open on Saturday afternoons, allowing working residents to access pharmacy services. Sunday and evening provision across Gateshead is more limited. Access to pharmacies that are open for longer during the day and the weekend is greater in the Central, Inner West and South localities of Gateshead with the East and West localities having limited Saturday morning and no Sunday access within the locality.
- Although there has been a reduction in pharmacy provision in Gateshead since the last PNA, there continues to be adequate access to community pharmacies during the weekdays and weekends, although this is more limited in the evenings and on Sundays.
- The longer hours of access to pharmacy services are provided by the one 100-hour pharmacy provider and a number of community pharmacies provide extended hours including 9 community pharmacies that provide services for between 51 - 60 hours per week and 5 that provide services between 61-99 hours per week.
- Services currently commissioned from pharmacies in Gateshead include emergency contraception, smoking cessation, needle exchange, supervised consumption of methadone, minor ailments, and specialist palliative care drugs. There is adequate provision of all these services across Gateshead.
- Although the more rural areas in the West of Gateshead have a more limited pharmacy provision, the findings regarding access to services by foot and public transport include these areas and demonstrate there is adequate access to services in terms of travel time for all the population of Gateshead.
- The areas of Gateshead that are within the 30% most deprived areas in the country account for 52% of the areas in Gateshead. However, the majority of pharmacy services are seen to be located near to or in these areas. From this information, although there is adequate access to community pharmacy services across the area, the east and west localities of Gateshead are less well served both with pharmacy premises and also the range of pharmacy opening hours.
- The finding described in this PNA is that there continues to be a good delivery of Pharmacy Advanced Services across Gateshead. All pharmacies provide the CPCS and NMS services and many indicated their intention to commence the hypertension case finding service. Provision of support for people requiring Appliances and Stoma care is

more limited in the area but this may be a reflection of the required needs of the local community.

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- There is also adequate provision of the locally commissioned services by the CCG across Gateshead with many other pharmacies willing to provide the service if commissioned.

Consultation on the Draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

The formal consultation on the draft PNA for Gateshead ran from 29 June to 27 August 2022 in line with the guidance on developing PNAs and section 242 of the Health Service Act 2012, which stipulates the need to involve Health and Wellbeing Boards in scrutinising Health Services.

In keeping with the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations (2013) the following stakeholders were consulted:

- Gateshead Local Pharmaceutical Committee
- Gateshead Local Medical Committee
- All persons on the pharmaceutical lists and all dispensing doctors list in Gateshead
- LPS chemists in Gateshead with whom NHS England has made arrangements for the provision of any local pharmaceutical services.
- Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group
- Gateshead Healthwatch
- Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust, and Northumberland, Tyne & Wear Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
- NHS England
- Neighbouring HWBs in Newcastle, Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland.
- General Practitioners
- ICS
- Letters will be sent to all consultees informing them of the web site address which contained the draft PNA document.
- Additionally, comments from the public will be sought via the Council's on-line consultation portal.

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Three specific consultation questions were asked:

1. whether the PNA reflects the current pharmaceutical provision in Gateshead;
2. whether there are sufficient community pharmacies to meet the needs of the population; and
3. whether other services could be delivered by community pharmacies.

Consultation outcome.

1. Respondents stated that they felt that the pharmaceutical provision in Gateshead is good and sufficient with little changing but that growing needs must continue to be recognised and addressed.
2. There were similar responses to Q1 received in terms of the housing developments with additional comments regarding opening hours of pharmacies to meet changing needs. The PNA review has recognised that there are times of the day when access to pharmacy services is more limited, in particular in the evenings and at weekends.
 - a. *HWB board recommends that discussions and review of the pharmacy services out of hours are recommended.*
3. Respondents reflected a desire for community pharmacy services to be more involved in prescribing, treatment, and diagnosis. In addition, one respondent specifically requested that more pharmacies could offer support to stoma patients.

- a. *In general terms, the HWB acknowledges the direction of travel for community pharmacies to become more integrated into the treatment and diagnosis of conditions and recognises that new and existing services such as CPCS, NMS, Hypertension case finding, self-care and the UTI PGD Pilot will continue to develop role of pharmacy in the healthcare landscape.*

Key themes of additional comments received in the consultation process included:

- Concern raised about access to GP practice services rather than specifically about community pharmacy services as well as recognition of possibly staffing pressures across the NHS

HWB response: The PNA process is intended to focus on community pharmacy services and not GPs, however the report does describe how pharmacies can support the health landscape and to enable improved access for public of appropriate healthcare advice

The HWB acknowledges the current staffing pressures on all healthcare services including GPs and also community pharmacies. Some of the newer services and initiatives described in the PNA have been established to help to alleviate the pressures on the healthcare landscape but there is a risk that this adds to the pressures experienced by community pharmacies.

- Underestimation of the ethnic minority & refugee numbers currently residing in Gateshead

HWB response: The information within the Gateshead PNA was based on current information, Census 2021 data, which will be released later this year (expected after October 2022), will provide the basis for an up-to-date evaluation of ethnic diversity in Gateshead.

- Respondents identified that they were not aware of the broad range of services accessible via community pharmacies but expressed support for the new initiatives, specifically the CPCS and UTI PGD services

HWB response: The HWB recognises that there is a need to support awareness by the NHSE&I and local commissioners to encourage engagement and provision of these and any future services. The new services will contribute to reinforcing the role of community pharmacy in supporting accessible healthcare in the community

List of changes made to the PNA following completion of the consultation process:

Section	Summary of change
1.4.4 and through document	CCG / ISB changes implemented 1.7.22 – wording amended across document
Section 6.4 Pharmacy opening hours	Changes to pharmacy opening hours, based on NHSE changes that occurred during the consultation process – minor changes regarding supplementary hours, no significant impact
8.3.1	UTI PGD service went live in August 2022, updated information from LPC included in main body of PNA
11.2	Summary of Consultation findings
Appendix 2	Consultation results – added to PNA document
Appendix 11	Changes to pharmacy opening hours – based on NHSE changes that occurred during the consultation process Include information following notice of change of hours with "no significant impact" – decision to be made in October 2022 after publication of PNA
	Other minor wording and accuracies identified during the consultation process have been amended