

TITLE OF REPORT: **Notification of Removal from the Pharmaceutical List & Changes to Pharmacy Opening Hours**

Purpose of the Report

1. To notify the Health and Wellbeing Board of the closure of Lloyds Pharmacy Limited t/a Lloyds Pharmacy (FMG80), Inside Sainsburys, Eleventh Avenue, Team Valley Trading Estate, Gateshead, NE11 0NJ

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

2. Provision of local Pharmaceutical Services is a statutory responsibility of the Health and Wellbeing Board under the Health and Social Care Act 2012

Background

3. A notification from NHS England and NHS Improvement – North East and Yorkshire, dated 26th January 2023 that NHS England had received notice that Lloyds Pharmacy Limited will cease to provide pharmaceutical services on 22nd April 2023 and will be removed from the pharmaceutical list for the area of Gateshead Health and Wellbeing Board with effect from that date.
4. NHS England have been working closely with the pharmacy and has been given assurances that all measures have been taken to ensure patients will not be adversely affected by this closure.
 - a. Patients and Care Homes will be informed
 - b. The pharmacy will put arrangements in place for the transfer/disposal of excess stock on the day of closure
 - c. The pharmacy will ensure all owings are dispensed for patients and no prescriptions where full stock is not available are dispensed. Please note - If there are still outstanding owings, the GP practice will be informed so new prescriptions can be issued where necessary
 - d. The pharmacy will ensure that all patients with prescriptions awaiting collection are contacted and, if necessary, deliver the medication to patients' home
 - e. The pharmacy will return any prescriptions remaining in the pharmacy uncollected to the prescribing practice

- f. The pharmacy will submit all dispensed prescriptions to the PPD for payment and any enhanced service claims to relevant organisation
 - g. The pharmacy will ensure that premises are left secure
5. Lloyds Pharmacy (FMG80) has been situated within the Sainsbury's Supermarket at the south end of the Team Valley Trading Estate in the south locality of Gateshead. The pharmacy is contracted by NHS England to provide a 40 hour pharmacy but in addition has provided longer opening hours to this as, most recently, an additional 38 supplementary hours resulting in an extended opening time on weekdays and over weekends.
6. In the most recent Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA), published October 2022, the south locality was well served by 11 community pharmacy services. In addition of the 3 distance selling pharmacies in Gateshead, one is also located in the Team Valley Estate.

Pharmacy accessibility as a result of the closure of the Team Valley Lloyds pharmacy:

Pharmacies per population

7. Table 1 (below) demonstrates that the impact of the closure on proportion of pharmacies per population is such that the south locality remains well served by pharmacy services and the average number of pharmacies per 100,000 population remains higher than the figures for England as a whole.
8. Table 1: Average number of pharmacies per 100,000 population, PNA Oct 2022 (data taken in March 2022)

Information from PNA 2022	Persons per pharmacy	Pharmacies per 100,000 population
South (11)	4,047	24.7
Gateshead (46)	4,390	22.8
England	4,875	20.5
Impact of closure of Lloyds (FMG80)		
South (10)	4,452	22.46
Gateshead (45)	4,488	22.28

9. Evening and weekend opening access

10. The impact of the closure of this pharmacy is likely to be noticed in terms of access to pharmacies in the evening and weekends, in particular on Sundays where there will only be 6 pharmacies open across the Gateshead area although the existing 100 hour pharmacy is in the south locality (Durham Road, Birtley).

11. Pharmaceutical needs assessment 2022

12. The PNA 2022 identified that:

13. "While 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 reduced in the evenings and on Sundays which limits the ability to access essential services, advanced services such as the community pharmacy consultation service (CPCS) or the new medicine service (NMS) and self-care medicines as well as placing more demand on urgent and emergency care services."

14. Also in the recommendations of the PNA 2022:

15. "Concerns remain from the previous PNA about the accessibility of pharmacy services outside normal hours, which remains largely unchanged. This is particularly the case in the East and West localities. Access to essential and advanced pharmacy services in the vicinity of the urgent care provision in Gateshead appears adequate, however, better access to these services would be secured by the review of provision on weekday evenings and weekends. The HWB continues to recommend local discussions with the LPC regarding possible support to evening or weekend opening to ensure patients with minor ailments and/or require medication to be dispensed following consultation with and extended access service, out of hours GP or referral by 111 for emergency medication can access pharmacy support"

16. Therefore, although the closure of the Lloyds pharmacy (FMG80) sited in Sainsbury's at Team Valley does not create a gap in community pharmacy services in Gateshead, it further influences the need to discuss access to services in evenings and weekends.

Proposal

17. It is proposed that out of hours and weekend provision be reviewed and is added into the PNA2022 as a supplementary statement.

Recommendations

18. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve a review of Pharmacy provision specifically in relation to out of hours and weekend hours

Contact: Edward O'Malley, HDRC & PHI Lead, Gateshead Council,
edwardomalley@gateshead.gov.uk