

REPORT FOR: HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date of Meeting: 19 March 2014

Subject: Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

Responsible Officer: Dr Andrew Howe, Director for Public Health

Public: Yes

Enclosures: None

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the current status of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and the process for engagement and future reporting.

Recommendations:

The Board is requested to:

- Note this update report
- Identify members of the Board who will be on the Steering group

Section 2 – Report

Background

Regulations published in 2010 placed each PCT under a duty to prepare and publish a PNA by 1st February 2011. These first PNAs were required to be reviewed within three years and also to be updated through either the publication of supplementary statements or a full review dependent on the nature of changes. Subsequently, in September 2012 Regulations setting out a new system for pharmacy market entry were published. This system means that applications to open new pharmacies providing NHS pharmaceutical services must be considered against the PNA for the area in which the application relate and PNAs will need to be reviewed no later than 31st March 2015.

The statutory responsibility for PNAs transferred from PCTs to the Health and Well-being Boards on the 1 April 2013, as a result of the changes introduced by the Health and Social Care Act 2012. At the same time, the responsibility for market entry decisions transferred from PCTs to NHS England. The Regulations setting out these responsibilities can be found at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/349>, and specifically Part 2 and Schedule 1 both deal with PNAs.

Current situation

In line with the new responsibilities for undertaking a pharmaceutical needs assessment and the complexity and time-consuming nature of the project, it was decided to commission out the needs assessment. The PNA was put out to tender in September 2013. The tender document specification stated:

The scope of the Pharmaceutical Services Needs Assessment will include carrying out the review, the preparation of a draft report, undertaking a public consultation, writing up the consultation, incorporating the findings into the final Pharmaceutical Services Needs Assessment for each Borough and presenting the final report to the Health & Wellbeing Board for each Borough.

Eight organisations expressed an interest in tendering for it. Five applications were received. Two applicants were discarded in the preliminary questions and the other three were evaluated on the technical criteria.

The highest scoring applicant was then evaluated on the financial criteria. An option was to undertake the PNAs for both Barnet and Harrow simultaneously with a single steering group and a single set of performance management meetings. This option provided a saving on the cost of undertaking the PNA's separately for each borough and this offer was accepted. Individual reports will still be produced for each borough.

The contract has been drawn up and will have been signed by the date of this meeting.

Future plans

The steering group will be established. It will be vital that this steering group includes representatives from both councils (to include planning/regeneration, public health, children's services and adult social care), both CCGs (clinical plus management), both Local Pharmaceutical Committees as well as both Healthwatch organisations.

The Health and Wellbeing board, as the responsible committee for the development of the PNA, are requested to nominate members of their organisation for the steering group.

The high level timetable for the rest of the project is as follows:

Draft PSNA for each Borough to be completed	End May/ early June
Consultation	June - August
Consultation to be completed and final draft produced	September / end October 2014
Both PSNAs to be presented to the Health and Wellbeing boards	November / December 2014

Financial Implications/Comments

The budget for the PNA was identified in the commissioning intentions for 2013-14. Due to having to tender for the work, the start date has been delayed and as a result the budget will be carried forward to 2014-15 to fund the expenditure committed in this respect. The cost of the commissioned work to develop the PNA is £40,000 for Harrow Council.

Legal Implications/Comments

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a duty to deliver a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment before April 2015 under Section 128A of NHS Act 2006, as amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Risk Management Implications

Identify potential key risks and opportunities associated with the proposal(s) and the current controls (in place, underway or planned) to mitigate the risks.

Equalities implications

An equalities impact assessment will be undertaken of the PNA after the consultation phase. The requirements of the contract state that the PNA should take due consideration of the latest equalities legislation.

The PNAs will need to take account of local demography within both Boroughs and ascertain whether there is sufficient choice with regard to obtaining pharmaceutical services in both Harrow & Barnet.

The PNAs will need to reflect the elements of choice set out in the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Information Pack for Local Authority Health & Wellbeing Boards 2013 published by the Department of Health.

The preparation of the PNAs will also need to take account of the JSNA and other relevant strategies such as the Children and Young People's Plan, the local Housing Plan and the Crime & Disorder Strategy in order to prevent duplication of work and multiple consultations with health groups, patients and the public.

Priorities

The PNA is a statutory responsibility. It contributes to the Council's Cleaner, Safer, Fairer priorities in that it will look at the services that are currently provided by community pharmacists and those that could potentially be provided. Community Pharmacy is commissioned to provide services including supervised consumption for people in drug rehabilitation and brief advice service on alcohol. The reduction in drugs and alcohol will contribute to both the cleaner and safer Harrow priorities. The main reason for undertaking the PNA is to ensure that everyone has fair access to community pharmacy which fits with the third priority.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance (Council and Joint Reports)

Name: Donna Edwards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 5 th March 2014		
Name: Caroline Eccles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 10 March 2014		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Carole Furlong, Consultant in Public Health, ext 5508

Background Papers: None