

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022 Update

SUMMARY

The updated PNA was published on 1st October 2022.

Subsequent to its publication there have been a number of changes that the Stockton-on-Tees HWB need to be aware.

- Closure of a pharmacy within Sainsbury's at Whitehouse Farm
- Proposed consolidation of two pharmacies in Billingham town centre
- An application for a new pharmacy at Elm Tree Centre, Stockton-on-Tees

Nationally there has also been a change to the Pharmacy Regulations which will allow 100-hour pharmacies to reduce their opening time to a minimum of 72 hours / week.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note the closure of the pharmacy within Sainsbury's at Whitehouse Farm and to agree that no supplementary statement will be issued and that an updated map of pharmaceutical services will be published.
2. To approve the publication of a supplementary statement and an updated map of pharmaceutical services in relation to the consolidation of the two pharmacies in Billingham once the consolidation date is known.
3. To note the application for a new pharmacy at Elm Tree Centre
4. To note the change in regulations that allows a reduction in 100 hour pharmacies core opening hours

DETAIL

1. The Stockton-on-Tees Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is responsible for producing and maintaining the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for Stockton on Tees. The PNA was last updated and published on 1st October 2023. It is due for renewal by 1st October 2026. At the time of publication pharmaceutical services in Stockton-on-Tees were provided by 39 pharmacies and one dispensing doctor practice. This includes one 'distance selling' (DS) pharmacy.
2. The legislation that describes the HWB's duties in this regard is *the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013*ⁱ (as

amended). As well as describing what each PNA was required to consider when they were first developed and published, these 2013 Regulations also describe how each local Assessment must be maintained by the HWB.

3. The purpose of this paper is to update the Health and Well Being Board of changes that have occurred since the PNA was published. Where appropriate actions taken and recommendations for any action required are stated.
4. On 3rd March 2023 we were notified by NHS England that the following pharmacy was to close on 2nd June 2023, Lloyds Pharmacy Limited within Sainsbury's, Whitehouse Farm Shopping Centre, Stockton on Tees TS19 0QB. This is a change to the availability of pharmaceutical services so the health and wellbeing board need to consider whether the change is relevant to the granting of an application for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list. In making this decision the HWB need to consider when the pharmaceutical needs assessment was written, if the pharmacy had not been there would it have been identified as a gap in the provision of pharmaceutical services? There has been a pharmacy on this site for over 20 years. Since it opened a number of other pharmacies have opened in Stockton on Tees including the two pharmacies closest to this site, Fairfield Pharmacy and Norton Glebe Pharmacy. In addition 8, 100 hour pharmacies have opened in Stockton on Tees since this pharmacy opened. Maps within the PNA have been considered residents of the area surrounding the Sainsbury's site are still within a 20-minute walk rather than a 15 minute walk of an alternative pharmacy. A site visit of this pharmacy and access to nearby pharmacies has also been undertaken on behalf the HWB. Having considered this change to the availability of pharmaceutical services it is not considered that had this pharmacy not existed at the time that the PNA was written that a gap would not have been identified in the provision of pharmaceutical services. The recommendation to the HWB is therefore that the closure is noted, no supplementary statement issued and an updated map of pharmaceutical services is published.
5. On the 10th March 2023 we were notified by NHS England about a request to consolidate 2 pharmacies in Billingham onto the site at Queensway Health Centre, Queensway, Billingham, TS23 2LA of Rowlands Pharmacy already at that site and Rowlands Pharmacy currently at 39 Queensway, Billingham, TS23 2ND. Schedule 2, paragraph 19(5) of the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 requires the Health and Wellbeing Board to make representations on consolidation applications to NHS England. On behalf of the HWB and in line with delegated powers the Director of Public Health, Sarah Bowman-Abouna responded on behalf of the HWB. *The Stockton-on-Tees Health and Wellbeing board considered the above consolidation application. Having regard to the Stockton-on-Tees Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022 and the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 Part 4 Reg 26A, the HWB determined that the consolidation would not create a gap in pharmaceutical services provision that could be met by a routine application.* We have now had confirmation that NHS England has granted permission for this consolidation to occur on 13th June 2023. The contractor has 6 months from this notification to enact the consolidation and is required to give 30 days' notice of the actual consolidation date to NHS England. Once we have been advised of the actual consolidation date the HWB will publish a supplementary statement and an updated map of pharmaceutical services.
6. On 28th May 2023 the HWB was notified that NHS England have received an application for a 40-hour pharmacy in Elm Tree Centre. The HWB is able to comment on this application and has until 12th July to do so. If approved the applicant would have up to 12 months to open the pharmacy from the date approval is granted and must provide 30 days notice of commencing to provide pharmaceutical services. If the applicant did not open within that timeframe the application would be considered expired. The applicant is

applying on the following basis 'Application offering unforeseen benefits at Elm Tree Centre, Elm Tree Avenue, Stockton-on-Tees TS19 0UW'. The recommendation to the HWB is to note the application and await NHS England's determination.

7. On 27th April 2023, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) introduced regulatory changes. The changes are contained within The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 and add to and amend the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 (PLPS regulations). The regulatory changes take effect on 25th May 2023. These changes allow existing 100-hour pharmacies to apply to reduce their hours to a minimum of 72 hours / week subject to certain restrictions. Any existing core opening hours must remain that are: - Monday to Saturday between 5pm and 9pm; - Sunday between 11am and 4pm, and - Sunday's total opening hours (i.e., the existing, total core opening hours on Sundays must remain). The impact of these changes is as yet not known as we have not as yet received notice of any applications to reduce 100-hour pharmacy hours. There are 8, 100-hour pharmacies in Stockton on Tees.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. No direct financial implications

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The NHS Act (the "2006" Act), amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, sets out the requirements for HWBs to develop and update PNAs and gives the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) powers to make Regulations.

RISK ASSESSMENT

10. See legal implications above.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

11. The aim of the PNA is to assess the pharmaceutical services required to meet the needs of the local population, taking account of demographic change and the current and future health needs in Stockton-on-Tees.

COUNCIL PLAN POLICY PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

12. The PNA will be reviewed with due consideration of the Stockton-on-Tees Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Council Plan.

CONSULTATION, INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

13. Not applicable

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ⁱ Available at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/349> and hereafter referred to as the Regulations