

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2021 to 2024

Report of the Director of Public Health

Background

The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is an assessment of the current and future pharmaceutical needs of the local population. The PNA differs from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) as it looks at how pharmaceutical needs can be met by pharmaceutical services commissioned by NHS England.

The PNA is utilised by NHS England to inform:

- decisions regarding which NHS funded services need to be provided by community pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors in Devon
- whether new pharmacies or services are needed
- decision-making about the relocation of existing pharmaceutical premises in response to applications by providers of pharmaceutical services
- the commissioning of locally Enhanced services from pharmacies

Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the Health and Wellbeing Board have a legal duty to ensure the production of the PNA. The Health and Wellbeing Board are required to publish a revised assessment within three years of the previous publication.

In Devon, the PNA is developed in partnership with a Devon-wide PNA steering group on behalf of the Devon Health and Wellbeing Board. This steering group includes representation from Devon, Plymouth and Torbay local authority, NHS England, Devon Clinical Commissioning Group, the Local Medical Committee, and the Local Pharmacy Committee.

PNA format

Historically the PNA has been a large, text document. For the 2021-24 PNA, we will seek to develop a shorter, comprehensive and concise report which will be complimented by data and intelligence within a dynamic and interactive PNA tool.

Timeline

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the requirement to publish renewed PNAs were suspended until October 2022. As such, a draft timeline has been produced to meet the revised deadline:

- Production of the Devon PNA 2021-24 led by Devon County Council Public Health Intelligence Team to begin in July 2021.
- Draft for consultation to be shared at July 2022 board meeting, marking the beginning of the consultation period
- Final version of the PNA to be presented and discussed at the October 2022 board meeting
- Publishing of the PNA on or before the October 2022 deadline.