

## Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Update and Timeline

### Report of the Director of Public Health and Communities

---

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

---

#### **1) Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Devon Health and Wellbeing Board notes the proposed development timeline for the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2025-28 for Devon.

#### **2) Background / Introduction**

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 Devon Integrated Care Board (ICB).

The PNA is utilised by the NHS Devon ICB Primary Care Commissioning Team to inform:

- decisions regarding which 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. The last publication was 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

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 authorities, NHS Devon ICB Primary Care Commissioning Team, the Local Medical Committee, and Community Pharmacy Devon.

#### **3) Update on Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Development**

Since the last PNA, Community Pharmacies across Devon have experienced significant changes with many experiencing workforce issues, economic pressures and increase in demand, resulting in a reduction in the total number of pharmacies operating in the area. The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025-28 seeks to ensure that pharmacy provision in Devon is sustainable to future changes and developments.

#### **4) Timeline for completion of Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**

- Production of the Devon PNA 2025-28 led by Devon County Council Public Health Intelligence Team began in July 2024
- Draft for consultation to be shared with the Board by May 2025, marking the beginning of the 60-day consultation period
- Final version of the PNA to be presented and discussed at Board in July 2025
- Publication of the PNA in August 2025.

#### **5) Options / Alternatives**

Nil

#### **6) Consultations / Representations / Technical Data**

Nil

#### **7) Strategic Plan**

The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment as a statutory responsibility of the Health and Wellbeing Board aligns with the Devon County Council Plan 2021 – 2025:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/strategic-plan/> priority of 'Improving Health and Wellbeing'

#### **8) Financial Considerations**

Nil

#### **9) Legal Considerations**

Nil

#### **10) Environmental Impact Considerations (Including Climate Change, Sustainability and Socio-economic)**

Nil

#### **11) Equality Considerations**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is responsible for promoting health equality, and the Pharmaceutical will support the Board in these aims.

#### **12) Risk Management Considerations**

Nil

#### **13) Summary / Conclusions / Reasons for Recommendations**

Nil

**Steve Brown**, Director of Public Health & Communities

#### **Contact for enquiries:**

Donna Lockett / Simon Chant

01392 38300. Email: [donna.lockett@devon.gov.uk](mailto:donna.lockett@devon.gov.uk) / [simon.chant@devon.gov.uk](mailto:simon.chant@devon.gov.uk)