

Bolton Council

Report to: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 22nd October 2014

Report of: Wendy Meredith, Director of Public Health

Report No:

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Report Title: **Pre-Consultation Draft of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**

Non Confidential: This report does not contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public

Purpose: To present the pre-consultation draft of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) to the Health and Wellbeing Board for approval before the consultation period begins.

Recommendations: The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Approve the pre-consultation draft for the statutory consultation period
2. Recognise the consultation period will last 60 days and involve copies being sent to those outlined within this report
3. Note that the deadline for publishing a final draft is April 2015.

Background Doc(s): Bolton Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2014 and appendices as published on Bolton's Health Matters:
<http://www.boltonshealthmatters.org/content/pharmacy-needs-asesment-0>

Background

Health and Wellbeing Boards are required to undertake Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments (PNAs) every three years.

The purpose of the PNA is to assess the provision of pharmaceutical services across Bolton, ascertain whether the system is appropriate to meet the needs of our population and identify any potential gaps in the current service delivery. The PNA will be used by NHS England to inform decisions regarding applications to join Bolton's pharmaceutical list.

The recent increases in the number of pharmacies (from 49 in 2005 to 62 in the last PNA to 73 today) means that though the number of dispensing items continues to increase, the dispensing rate per pharmacy has reduced; this suggests Bolton's physical provision is sufficient to meet demand - in fact it can likely accommodate a future increase in dispensing activity.

Such an increase should be anticipated by local contractors as a result of the increasing and ageing population of Bolton. These increases will not be uniform and will cause associated growths in particular health conditions, many of which are central to Bolton's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the wider work of the Health and Wellbeing Board to mitigate local health inequalities.

With this in mind, the focus in the short-term should not be on filling gaps in current provision – of which nothing major has been highlighted – but rather on increasing the enhanced and locally commissioned services delivered by contractors designed to impact the health topics pertinent to the Bolton population.

From the survey conducted as part of this assessment, key to achieving this ambition is greater training for the workforce.

Delivery should be encouraged in light of the principles guiding Bolton's local health and social care integration work.

The Consultation

The deadline for publishing Bolton's final draft PNA is April 2015, following a statutory consultation period of 60 days. The draft, which has been aligned with Bolton's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Health & Wellbeing Strategy, can be found online at:

<http://www.boltonshealthmatters.org/content/pharmacy-needs-assessment-0>

With the Boards approval, consultation will take place with bordering Health and Wellbeing Boards, through a public survey, and comments sought from all interested parties in accordance with the Regulations set out in the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Approve the pre-consultation draft for the statutory consultation period
2. Recognise the consultation period will last 60 days and involve copies being sent to those outlined within this report
3. Note that the deadline for publishing a final draft is April 2015.