

Consultation Summary on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022

Every Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is required to produce a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). There is also a requirement to reassess and revise the PNA within three years of its previous publication. However, the HWB must make a revised assessment as soon as it is reasonably practicable after identifying any changes that have occurred since the previous assessment that may have an effect on the needs of pharmaceutical services. Due to the COVID-19 (C-19) pandemic the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) postponed the requirement for all HWBs to publish until 1 October 2022.

This mapping of pharmaceutical services against local health needs provides a framework for the strategic development and commissioning of services. It will enable the local pharmacy service providers and commissioners to:

- Understand the pharmaceutical needs of the population
- Gain a clearer picture of pharmaceutical services currently provided
- Make appropriate decisions on applications for NHS pharmacy contracts
- Commission appropriate and accessible services from community pharmacies
- Clearly identify and address any local gaps in pharmaceutical services
- Target services to reduce health inequalities within local health communities

This draft PNA has been produced through the PNA Steering Group on behalf of Camden HWB by London Borough of Camden (LBC) with authoring support from Soar Beyond Ltd.

NHS pharmaceutical services in England

NHS pharmaceutical services are provided by contractors on the 'pharmaceutical list' held by NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE&I). Types of providers are:

- Community pharmacy contractors, including Distance-Selling Pharmacies (DSPs)
- Dispensing Appliance Contractors (DACs)
- Local Pharmaceutical Service (LPS) providers
- Dispensing doctors

Pharmaceutical service providers in Camden

Camden has 63 community pharmacies which includes one DSP (as of 23 March 2022 from NHSE&I) for a population of around 277,684 (ONS 2020). Camden has an average of 22.8 community pharmacies per 100,000 population compared with 20.6 per 100,000 in England.

Conclusions

The PNA is required to clearly state what is considered to constitute Necessary Services as required by paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013.

For the purposes of this PNA, Necessary Services for Camden are defined as Essential Services (ES).

Current Provision of Necessary Services

Necessary Services – gaps in provision

In reference to Section 6, and required by paragraph 2 of schedule 1 to the Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013:

- ***Necessary Services – normal working hours***

There is no current gap in the provision of Necessary Services during normal working hours across Camden to meet the needs of the population.

- ***Necessary Services – outside normal working hours***

There are no current gaps in the provision of Necessary Services outside normal working hours across Camden to meet the needs of the population.

- ***Future provision of Necessary Services***

No gaps have been identified in the need for pharmaceutical services in specified future circumstances across Camden

Improvements and better access – gaps in provision

Advanced Services are considered relevant as they contribute toward improvement in provision and access to pharmaceutical services.

Enhanced Services are defined as pharmaceutical services that secure improvements or better access to, or that have contributed towards meeting the need for pharmaceutical services in Camden.

Locally Commissioned Services (LCS) are those that secure improvements or better access to or that have contributed towards meeting the need for pharmaceutical

services in Camden, and are commissioned by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) or Local Authority (LA), rather than NHSE&I.

- **Current and future access to Advanced Services**

Based on current information no current gaps have been identified either now or in the future (in the next three years) which would secure improvements or better access to Advanced Services in Camden.

- **Current and future access to Enhanced Services**

Based on current information no current gaps have been identified either now or in the future (in the next three years) which would secure improvements or better access to Enhanced Services across Camden.

- **Current and future access to Locally Commissioned Services**

Based on current information no current gaps have been identified in respect of securing improvements or better access to Locally Commissioned Services, either now or in specific future (in the next three years) circumstances across Camden to meet the needs of the population.