

## **Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board, 17 July 2014**

### **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment – a report on progress**

#### **Introduction**

1. As reported in March 2014 The Health and Social Care Act (2012) gave Health and Wellbeing Boards the statutory duty to develop and publish Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments (PNA) for their areas by 1 April 2015.
2. A steering group has been established to oversee this work, comprising partner organisations of the Health and Wellbeing Board along with representatives of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee and Local Medical Committee. A management group led by Public Health is making sure all operational details are on track.
3. A procurement exercise was carried out through open tender. A contractor (Primary Care Commissioning) has been appointed jointly with Buckinghamshire County Council. The contractor will undertake the work to produce needs assessments for each county. The joint contract is more cost effective for both counties than working separately.
4. The work includes the following elements
  - A community pharmacy questionnaire (using a national template)
  - Data analysis to identify population need for pharmacy services.
  - Production of a draft PNA document for consultation
  - A wide ranging public consultation with key local stakeholders for a minimum of 60 days
  - Collation of the consultation responses into a report
  - Production of a final PNA report.
  - Recommendations for how the PNA will be maintained and updated in the future
  - A map of premises at which pharmaceutical services are provided in the county, as well as further maps covering current commissioned services in pharmacies, access and relevant demography
  - A template for supplementary statements after publication
5. The work is on track and regular management meetings are taking place.
6. Work is currently underway to analyse local data and consult the public on the use of existing pharmacies. This will result in a draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment by September. It is a statutory requirement that this draft is subject to public consultation for at least 60 days. All partners will be consulted, along with a range of other stakeholders.

7. This statutory consultation period is scheduled for October – December 2014 and the draft document has to be approved by the Board before consultation. As the Health and Wellbeing Board will not meet again until November, it is suggested that authority could be delegated to the Director of Public Health, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice - Chairman of this Board, to approve the draft document so that it could be released for consultation. Delaying the consultation until after the November Board meeting will leave too little time to carry out the consultation before the report is due in March 2015.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

8. **The Health and Wellbeing Board is RECOMMENDED to note progress with this work and to delegate the authority to approve the draft PNA document for consultation to the Director of Public Health, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice - Chairman of this Board.**

Dr Jonathan McWilliam  
Director of Public Health

Background papers: None

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