

**Divisions Affected - Banbury Calthorpe, Bicester Town, Didcot West, Kidlington South, Rose Hill and Littlemore, Witney South and Central and the wider areas of Banbury, Bicester, Didcot, Oxford and Witney**

**Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board**

**29<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Update**

**Report by David Munday. Deputy Director of Public Health**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Health and Wellbeing Board is RECOMMENDED to**

- a) Note the intention of Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd to withdraw all 237 Lloyds pharmacies inside Sainsbury's stores nationwide in 2023, affecting 6 pharmacies in Oxfordshire.
- b) Issue a Supplementary Statement, further to the Oxfordshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022, that records the **closure of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's store, Heyford Hill, Littlemore, Oxford** on 22 April 2023.
- c) Issue a Supplementary Statement, further to the Oxfordshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022, that records the **consolidation of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's store, Bure Place, Bicester, with Lloyds Pharmacy, Old Barn Coker Close, Bicester** and the closure of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- d) Issue a Supplementary Statement, further to the Oxfordshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022, that records the **consolidation of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's store, Witan Way Witney, with Lloyds Pharmacy, Windrush Health Centre, Welch Way, Witney** and the closure of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- e) Note that the further three closures of Lloyds Pharmacies in Sainsbury's stores in Banbury, Kidlington and Didcot do not require a Supplementary Statement.

## **Introduction**

1. The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) assesses the number of pharmacies and access for residents (measured by distance to travel). It does not assess quality or convenience issues.
2. The criteria for general access used in the PNA is for all parts of the urban population to be within 20 minutes' walk or 20 minutes' public transport time of a pharmacy and all parts of the rural population to be within 20 minutes' drive-time or a five mile radius of a pharmacy.

3. The PNA informs the commissioning of essential, enhanced and advanced services from community pharmacies by NHS England and the Integrated Care Board, and the commissioning of services from pharmacies by the Public Health department of the local authority and by other local commissioners.
4. NHS England and the Integrated Care Board exercise the responsibility for using PNAs as the basis for determining 'market-entry' to the local pharmaceutical list.
5. The current Oxfordshire PNA was produced by a partnership-based PNA Steering Group<sup>1</sup> and was approved by the Health and Well Being Board in March 2022. It was published in April 2022 on Oxfordshire Insight at [Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment | Oxfordshire Insight](#)
6. If a significant change takes place in the provision of pharmaceutical services, following the publication of a PNA, this can be noted by the issuing of a 'Supplementary Statement'.
7. Supplementary Statements are factual in nature and do not include comments on the changes which have taken place. However, a Supplementary Statement on a closure can be taken to imply that a gap in the provision of community pharmaceutical services may occur due to the change. A Supplementary Statement on a consolidation can be taken to imply that no gap in the provision of community pharmaceutical services has been identified due to the change.

## **Background**

8. In January 2023, Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd announced the withdrawal of all 237 pharmacies inside Sainsbury's stores in 2023<sup>2</sup>.
9. This change affects 6 pharmacies in Oxfordshire, at Sainsbury's stores in Littlemore (Oxford), Bicester (Cherwell), Witney (West Oxfordshire), Banbury (Cherwell), Kidlington (Cherwell) and Didcot (South Oxfordshire).

## **Supplementary Statements further to the Oxfordshire PNA**

10. In early 2023, the Oxfordshire PNA steering group reformed and assessed the areas affected by these changes, including the presence of other pharmacies using the 20 minute travel time rule. It concluded that three of the six closures in Oxfordshire require a Supplementary Statement to the PNA: Littlemore, Bicester and Witney.
11. **Supplementary Statement on the closure of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's store, Heyford Hill, Littlemore, Oxford.**
  - The PNA Steering Group agreed that the closure of this pharmacy may result in a reduce access to pharmaceutical services for local residents
  - There are alternative pharmacies in neighbouring areas which met the criteria for general access as laid out in the PNA 2022 including a pharmacy in Kennington. However, car ownership is lower than average in

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<sup>1</sup> The Oxfordshire PNA Steering group includes representatives from NHS England, Oxfordshire County Council, Pharmacy Thames Valley and the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board

<sup>2</sup> [LloydsPharmacy to close Sainsbury's pharmacies with up to 2,500 job losses - The Pharmacist](#)

the area and the geography of the area (including the major roads and the river) means that public transport and walking connections to alternative pharmacies are limited.

- The number of prescriptions issued at the Heyford Hill pharmacy (2,000 prescriptions per week) was relatively low volume, but the area is known to experience poorer health outcomes which may be compounded by this change.
- Closure took effect on 22nd April 2023.

12. **Supplementary Statement on the consolidation of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's store, Bure Place, Bicester, with Lloyds Pharmacy, Old Barn Coker Close, Bicester.**

- The PNA Steering Group agreed that general access to pharmacies in Bicester after the consolidation would be at a satisfactory level (within 20 minutes walk or public transport time). The second Lloyds pharmacy (which will remain) is close to the GP health centre. Residents will still have a good choice of alternative pharmacies in Bicester.
- The application for this consolidation was granted at the Integrated Care Board Pharmaceutical Services Regulations Committee meeting held 29th March 2023.
- The closure of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's store Bure Place Bicester took effect on 10th June 2023.

13. **Supplementary Statement on the consolidation of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's store, Witan Way Witney, with Lloyds Pharmacy, Windrush Health Centre, Welch Way, Witney.**

- The PNA Steering Group agreed that general access to pharmacies in Witney after the consolidation would be at a satisfactory level.
- Lloyds intends to sell the consolidated business (the regulations allow this to take place during or after the consolidation) to another party who already runs other pharmacies in Oxfordshire. The remaining pharmacy is near to the health centre and community hospital which is an appropriate location.
- The application for this consolidation was granted at the Integrated Care Board Pharmaceutical Services Regulations Committee meeting held 26th April 2023.
- The closure of the Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's Witan Way Witney took effect on 13th June 2023.

**Changes to pharmacy provision where a Supplementary Statement is not required.**

14. There are three closures of Lloyds Pharmacies in Sainsbury's stores where a Supplementary Statement is not required: Banbury, Kidlington and Didcot. In each of these cases the closure is considered to leave good or satisfactory pharmacy cover in the local area.
15. **Banbury:** Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's Oxford Road Banbury is due to close on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023.

- The PNA Steering Group agreed that general access to pharmacies in Banbury after the closure would be at a good level. Peak Pharmacy in South Bar Street is relatively close and has a car park. Housing developments to the south of Banbury however could increase the workload of this pharmacy and the Steering Group may have to give this further consideration in the future.
16. **Kidlington:** Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's Oxford Road Kidlington closed on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023.
- The PNA Steering Group agreed that general access to pharmacies in Kidlington after the closure would be at a satisfactory level with two other pharmacies in the local area and a further pharmacy in nearby Yarnton.
17. **Didcot:** Lloyds Pharmacy in Sainsbury's Central Drive, Didcot closed on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023.
- There was general agreement in the PNA Steering Group that general access to pharmacies in Didcot would be at a satisfactory level after the closure, and after the new pharmacy had opened in the north of the town.
  - The closure would leave one pharmacy in the centre of Didcot (Boots), but there were pharmacies in the south east of the town (Tesco), in the south west (Lloyds, Woodlands Medical Centre), and one in the expanding area to the west. A further pharmacy would open in the north of Didcot later in 2023 and this would also be able to serve the new estate being built nearby at Ladygrove.
  - The PNA 2022 had noted that further discussions might be required about the service needs of the western and southern expansion of the town in the future, but this issue was not directly relevant to the question of provision in the centre of Didcot.

## **Corporate Policies and Priorities**

18. The recommendations are intended to promote the health and well-being of residents of the county and the issue of health inequalities have been borne in mind.

## **Financial Implications**

19. There are no financial implications for Oxfordshire County Council arising from this paper.

## **Legal Implications**

20. There are no legal implications for Oxfordshire County Council arising from this paper. In issuing the Supplementary Statements the NHS's regulatory framework for pharmaceutical services is being adhered to. This framework is overseen by the ICB and NHS England.

## **Staff Implications**

21. There are no staff implications for Oxfordshire County Council arising from this paper.

## **Equality & Inclusion Implications**

22. Perspectives of health inequalities and of social deprivation have been taken into account in the formulation of these recommendations.

## **Sustainability Implications**

23. There are no implications for climate-related issues arising from this paper.

## **Risk Management**

24. There are no elevated risks associated with this paper. The Council is required to fulfil its public health responsibilities in facilitating PNA processes and providing analysis of the health needs of the population.

## **Consultations**

25. The Oxfordshire PNA 2022 was published after a full public and professional consultation. The results of this have been taken into consideration.

## **NAME**

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Annex: Three Supplementary Statements included as an annex to this report.

Other Documents: The Oxfordshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022 is available on the Oxfordshire Insight webpages: <https://insight.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/PNA>

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