

Consultation Summary on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022

The NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 require each Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) to assess the needs for pharmaceutical services in its area and publish a statement of its assessment. This document is called a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). There is also a requirement to reassess and revise the PNA within three years of its previous publication. The last PNA for Sutton was published in June 2018. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Department of Health and Social Care postponed the requirement for all HWBs to publish until 1 October 2022.

This mapping of pharmaceutical services against local health needs provides Sutton HWB with 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 Sutton HWB by Sutton Council 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

The Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework is made up of three types of services:

- Essential Services
- Advanced Services
- Enhanced Services

This PNA is based upon the HWB defining Essential Services as Necessary Services and the Advanced and Enhanced Services as being relevant.

Pharmaceutical service providers in Sutton

Sutton has 42 community pharmacies, including one DSP and one LPS pharmacy (as of 29 March 2022) for a population of 207,707. Sutton has an average of 20.2 community pharmacies per 100,000 population, compared with 20.6 per 100,000 in England. There is also one DAC in Sutton.

Conclusions

The Steering Group provides the following conclusions and recommendations on the basis that funding is at least maintained at current levels and/or reflects future population changes.

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 Sutton HWB are defined as Essential Services.

Current provision of Necessary Services

Necessary Services – gaps in provision

Necessary Services are Essential Services, which are described in Section 1.4. Access to Necessary Service provision in Sutton is described in Section 6.2.

- Necessary Services – normal working hours

There is no current gap in the provision of Necessary Services during normal working hours across Sutton 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 Sutton 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 Sutton.

Improvements and better access – gaps in provision

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

Locally Commissioned Services are those that secure improvements or better access to or that have contributed towards meeting the need for, pharmaceutical services in the Sutton HWB area, and are commissioned by the Integrated Care Board or local authority, rather than NHSE&I.

- Current and future access to Advanced Services

There are no gaps in the provision of services at present or in the future that would secure improvements or better access to Advanced Services in Sutton.

- Current and future access to Enhanced Services

No gaps have been identified that if provided either now or in the future would secure improvements or better access to Enhanced Services across Sutton.

- 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 circumstances across Sutton to meet the needs of the population.