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# Pan-Lancashire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2018

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## Acknowledgements

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The three health and wellbeing boards across pan-Lancashire would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the stakeholders and members of the public and thank them for their participation in the consultation and development of the PNA.

## Executive summary

The three health and wellbeing boards (HWBs) across pan-Lancashire have a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area. This is referred to as a pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA) and needs to be published before 1 April 2018.

This PNA describes the needs of the citizens of the pan-Lancashire area for pharmacy services.

This PNA includes information on

- pharmacies across pan-Lancashire and the services they currently provide
- maps of providers of pharmaceutical services across the pan-Lancashire area
- pharmaceutical contractors in neighbouring HWB areas
- potential gaps in provision and likely future needs for the population of pan-Lancashire
- opportunities for existing pharmacies to providing local public health services and join the healthy living pharmacy scheme

Decisions on whether to open new pharmacies are made by the NHS England - North (Lancashire and South Cumbria). When making the decision NHS England is required to refer to the local PNA. As these decisions may be appealed or challenged via the courts, it is important that PNAs, both in their content and in the process of their construction, comply with regulations and that mechanisms are established to keep the PNA up-to-date. In accordance with these regulations, the PNA will be updated every three years.

## 1. Context

The PNA for the pan-Lancashire area is undertaken in the context of the needs of the local population. The health and wellbeing needs of the local population are described in the Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire joint strategic needs assessments (JSNAs). The PNA does not duplicate these detailed descriptions of health needs and should be read in conjunction with the three JSNAs across pan-Lancashire.

Deprivation in Lancashire is higher than the national average and approximately 21% children live in poverty. Life expectancy in pan-Lancashire for both men and women is lower than the England average. Additionally, there are considerable inequalities across the area.

To ensure that pharmaceutical services are commissioned in line with population need, the health and wellbeing boards and their partners will monitor the development of major housing sites and will provide supplementary statements if necessary in accordance with regulations.

## 2. Process

This PNA was undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in regulations 3-9 Schedule 1 of the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.

Undertaking the PNA, the pan-Lancashire (Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire) steering group sought the views of stakeholders to identify issues that affect the commissioning of pharmaceutical services and to meet local health needs and priorities. A

survey was administered as part of this PNA, targeting pharmacies, to collect information on the services they provide.

A 60-day public consultation was undertaken to seek the views of members of the public and other stakeholders, on whether they agree with the contents of this PNA and whether it addresses issues that they consider relevant to the provision of pharmaceutical services. The feedback was gathered and logged and all necessary changes made to the PNA document.

### 3. Findings

There is currently no need for any further additional pharmacies, as current pharmaceutical service provision is deemed adequate across pan-Lancashire.

Providers of pharmaceutical services have an important role in improving the health of pan-Lancashire citizens. They are easily accessible and are often the first point of contact, especially for those who might otherwise not access health services.

There are 383 pharmacies overall across pan-Lancashire, representing under a 2% reduction in the number of providers since the last publication of the PNA in 2015.

The number of pharmaceutical service providers per population has remained unchanged during the same period. The last PNA showed that there were 26 pharmacies per 100,000 registered population, when the national figure for England was 22 and the average for the North of England was 24. There remain 26 pharmaceutical service providers per 100,000 registered population in pan-Lancashire, with the average in England being 21 and the average for the North of England being 24.

Pharmacies can be a useful first point of contact to health care and for some public health services. Pharmacies can either provide the relevant service or signpost citizens to the most appropriate provider.

Many pharmacies are open long hours, but finding information about the nearest such pharmacy can be a challenge.

Across the pan-Lancashire area there is a good coverage of pharmacies and over 98% of the population has access to a pharmacy within a 20-minute drive.

The majority of citizens are aware of the different services available at the pharmacy, although most people are only able to mention a few of them ([“Your Voice Pharmacies in Lancashire, November 2017” - Healthwatch](#)).

It is acknowledged that pharmacies have a role in supporting urgent and emergency care services such that patients receive care in an appropriate setting, eg minor ailment schemes and support to self-care.

87% of pharmacies deliver dispensed medicines free of charge on request.

More than 80% of pharmacies and dispensing surgeries have wheelchair access to their consultation area.

Of the pharmacies across pan-Lancashire signed up to local improvement service (LIS) agreements, 268 pharmacies have signed up to LIS agreements to provide emergency hormonal contraception without prescription.

Community pharmacies can contribute to the health and wellbeing of the local population in a number of ways, including motivational interviewing, providing information and brief advice, providing ongoing support for behaviour change and signposting to other services.

In Blackburn with Darwen and across the twelve localities in Lancashire County Council stop smoking services operate a Pharmacy NRT Voucher Scheme.

Many pharmacies across the area provide dispensing for prescriptions issued for the management of substance misuse, supervised consumption of prescribed medication, and needle and syringe exchange.

A Lancashire Healthy Living Pharmacy Programme prospectus has been drawn up that local pharmacy contractors are invited to sign up to. Healthy living pharmacy (HLP) is an identified priority in the Local Professional Network (Pharmacy) (LPN) work plan.

Pharmacies displaying the Lancashire Healthy Living Pharmacy logo give advice and offer services to improve the health of citizens. Healthy living pharmacies do these alongside with their core services. It should be recognised that the elements highlighted above are also possible from non-HLP accredited pharmacies, who may not be recognised with the HLP quality mark.

Local authority public health commissioned services available across pan-Lancashire, as of June 2017, are listed below.

### **Blackburn with Darwen**

- Needle and syringe exchange service
- Supervised consumption
- One to one stop smoking level two
- Nicotine replacement voucher scheme
- Emergency hormonal contraception

### **Blackpool**

- Needle and syringe exchange service (via provider)
- Supervised consumption (via provider)

### **Lancashire**

- Emergency hormonal contraception (Includes Chlamydia)
- Nicotine Replacement Therapy: NRT Voucher Scheme
- One to one stop smoking level two (specific uptake)
- Supervised self-administration of methadone and buprenorphine
- Integrated substance misuse service pharmacy needle and syringe programme

## 4. Recommendations

- 1) The pan-Lancashire area is well provided for by pharmaceutical services and there is no need for additional pharmaceutical contracts. However, additional services negotiated with Community Pharmacy Lancashire (CPL) from existing pharmacies would benefit the population.
- 2) The range of services pharmacies provide may not be fully known to citizens. There is an opportunity for all pharmacies and social and healthcare agencies to publicise and promote pharmacy services.
- 3) The extended opening hours of community pharmacies are valued and these extended hours should be maintained. All pharmacies and healthcare agencies should be encouraged to publicise and promote pharmacy services.
- 4) Commissioners are recommended to commission services in pharmacies around the best possible evidence and to evaluate any locally implemented services, ideally using an evaluation framework that is planned before implementation.

In conclusion, this Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2018 identifies that the PNA should be the basis for all future pharmacy commissioning intentions, pharmacies provide a wide range of services above core contracts and there was no identified need for additional pharmacies.