

Agenda Item 7

		THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE	
Boston Borough Council	East Lindsey District Council	City of Lincoln Council	Lincolnshire County Council
North Kesteven District Council	South Holland District Council	South Kesteven District Council	West Lindsey District Council

Open Report on behalf of Tony McGinty, Interim Director of Public Health

Report to	Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire
Date:	8 November 2017
Subject:	Lincolnshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2018

Summary:

Completion of a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is a statutory duty for Health and Wellbeing Boards to undertake at least every three years. Data contained within the assessment will be used to plan pharmaceutical services in the county to best meet local health needs.

The production of the 2018 PNA for Lincolnshire has commenced, and a draft PNA is being prepared to go to consultation between Monday 11 December 2017 and Saturday 11 February 2018. A final PNA is expected to be published by 1 April 2018.

Actions Required:

The Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire is requested to:

1. note that the process to produce a revised Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) by 1 April 2018 has commenced;
2. receive the project plan timelines from the 'Lincolnshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Steering Group' on the production of the 2018 Lincolnshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment; and
3. initiate a working group to comment on the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment during the 60-day public consultation.

1. Background

The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is a report of the present and future needs for pharmaceutical services. It is used to identify any gaps in current services or improvements that could be made in future pharmaceutical service provision. To prepare the report, data is gathered from pharmacy contractors, dispensing GP practices, pharmacy users and other residents, and from a range of sources (commissioners, planners and others). The report also includes a range of maps that are produced from data collected as part of the PNA process.

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility for developing and updating PNAs to Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs). The NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 set out the legislative basis for developing and updating PNAs.

The first PNA was completed on behalf of Lincolnshire HWB and submitted to NHS England by April 1 2015, as was required by law. The next PNA is due by 1 April 2018.

The HWB has requested Lincolnshire County Council Public Health prepare a revised assessment for 1 April 2018. Lincolnshire County Council has convened a PNA Steering Group to support the development of the PNA.

An external pharmaceutical expert resource, Soar Beyond Limited, has been commissioned to support the preparation of the draft PNA 2018 report. Soar Beyond have extensive expertise in producing PNAs, having produced 8 in 2015, and have been commissioned to support 12 to date in 2017/18.

The PNA Steering Group held its first meeting on 11 July 2017. At this meeting a Terms of Reference for the group and Project Plan (Appendix A) for the PNA were agreed.

Surveys were undertaken with the public, commissioners, dispensing practices and community pharmacy contractors in Lincolnshire, to seek opinion on current pharmaceutical services provided in Lincolnshire.

The PNA Steering Group held a meeting on 19 September 2017 to agree the data to be used for the PNA.

Soar Beyond Limited, are presently preparing a draft assessment, which will be presented to the Steering Group meeting on 1 November 2017.

2. Consultation

A public questionnaire has been produced by the PNA Steering Group to seek views and comments on current pharmaceutical service provision. Supported by community pharmacies, GP practices, libraries, Healthwatch, and the local authority and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) communications teams, the questionnaire has been made available through various channels. A total of 1145 responses have been received from all age groups above the age of 16 years. A summary of the responses has been provided in Appendix B.

In addition, a commissioner questionnaire, pharmacy contractor questionnaire, and dispensing GP practice questionnaire have been compiled, to ascertain current commissioning and provision of services.

Responses have been analysed and will help inform any further public engagement to be undertaken during the consultation and the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA).

A 60-day consultation is a mandatory component of the PNA preparation. The consultation follows a period (June – September 2017) of data gathering on health needs, service provision and views of residents on the existing levels of pharmacy provision. The proposed consultation will be on the findings of the draft PNA, approved by the HWB at its December meeting. It is anticipated that the consultation questions will broadly cover the following:

- To what extent do you agree or disagree with this assessment? (The findings on whether there are gaps or not in pharmaceutical provision)
- To what extent do you agree or disagree with the other conclusions contained within the draft PNA?
- In your opinion, how accurately does the draft PNA reflect each of the following: current provision of pharmaceutical services, current pharmaceutical needs of Lincolnshire's population, future pharmaceutical needs of Lincolnshire's population (over the next three years)?
- Any other comments?
- We will also collect some (optional) basic data about the respondent (in line with Lincolnshire County Council guidance).

The Pharmaceutical Regulations mandate that the consultation must be for a minimum of 60 days. The planned dates for the consultation are from 11 December 2017 to 11 February 2018.

The regulations also list a range of stakeholders whom must be consulted. A stakeholder list has been developed, in conjunction with the Steering Group, and used to help distribute the questionnaires.

The Health Scrutiny Committee is invited to initiate a working group during this time in order to feed into this consultation of the draft PNA.

Additional to its approval of a draft PNA for the HWB to approve, the PNA Steering Group will propose a consultation plan for the draft PNA. The Steering Group has membership of some of the key stakeholders – pharmacy (represented by the Lincolnshire Local Pharmaceutical Committee), health services (represented by the Clinical Commissioning Groups, Lincolnshire Local Medical Committee, and Lincolnshire County Council), residents (represented by Healthwatch, and Lincolnshire County Council and Clinical Commissioning Group engagement leads).

The EIA will be used to identify any vulnerable groups which may need to be targeted. As a minimum, it is envisaged that the draft PNA will be consulted through the following methods:

- Questionnaires: distribution through pharmacies, libraries and other venues and online through Healthwatch, Clinical Commissioning Group newsletters and Lincolnshire County Council website
- Talks: presentations at various groups where dates allow – and then distribution of questionnaires
- Media: traditional and social media communications

3. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The PNA is undertaken in the context of the health, care and wellbeing needs of the local population, as defined in the Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). The JSNA, as well as defining the needs of the local population, also identifies a strategic direction of service delivery to meet those needs, and commissioning priorities to improve the public's health and reduce inequalities. The PNA should therefore be read alongside the JSNA.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) is guided by the JSNA and other relevant sources of information. The commissioning of services to address ill-health is informed by the JSNA. The PNA is informed by the JSNA.

Regulation 9 of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations requires that JHWS, when carrying out assessments for the purpose of publishing PNAs, have regard to:

- the number of people in its area who require pharmaceutical services
- the demography of its area
- the risks to the health or wellbeing of people in its area

Pharmaceutical service providers have the potential to play a greater role in identifying and helping address priority health needs as they are strategically placed in the community and have daily interactions with the local population.

4. Conclusion

The draft PNA 2018 is currently being prepared in close consultation with the external consultants, Soar Beyond Ltd. The draft assessment will be considered by the Steering Group at a meeting on 10 November 2017.

Upon recommendation of a draft PNA by the Steering Group, the assessment will be put to HWB members at the meeting on 5 December 2017 to approve for consultation. Pending approval, it will be made available for a mandatory 60-day consultation.

The results of consultation will be considered by the Steering Group at its meeting on 27 February 2018, and a final PNA produced with recommendation for the HWB to publish, at its meeting on 27 March 2018.

The final PNA must be published no later than 31 March 2018.

5. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Lincolnshire 2018 PNA Project Plan
Appendix B	Summary report on the public questionnaire

6. Background Papers

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013	http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/349/contents/made
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This report was written by Chris Weston, Public Health Consultant, who can be contacted on 01522 553006 or chris.weston@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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