

**CHESHIRE EAST HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**  
Reports Cover Sheet

<b>Title of Report:</b>	Cheshire East Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022-2025: Final version following consultation
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	27 September 2022
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**Executive Summary**

<b>Is this report for:</b>	Information <input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion <input type="checkbox"/>	Decision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Why is the report being brought to the board?</b>	The purpose of this paper is to provide the Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB) with a final version of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022-2025 for approval prior to publication by 1 October 2022.		
<b>Please detail which, if any, of the Health &amp; Wellbeing Strategy priorities this report relates to?</b>	Creating a place that supports health and wellbeing for everyone living in Cheshire East <input type="checkbox"/> Improving the mental health and wellbeing of people living and working in Cheshire East <input type="checkbox"/> Enable more people to live well for longer <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Please detail which, if any, of the Health &amp; Wellbeing Principles this report relates to?</b>	Equality and Fairness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessibility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Integration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quality <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Key Actions for the Health &amp; Wellbeing Board to address. Please state recommendations for action.</b>	The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is asked to approve the final version of the PNA for publication on the Cheshire East Council website by 1 October 2022.		
<b>Has the report been considered at any other committee meeting of the Council/meeting of the CCG board/stakeholders?</b>	The report has been considered by the Cheshire East Council Adults, Health and Integration Directorate Management Team, and the Cheshire East Council Corporate Leadership Team. The minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) are submitted to Cheshire East Council's Adults and Health Committee.		

<p><b>Has public, service user, patient feedback/consultation informed the recommendations of this report?</b></p>	<p>Yes – The draft PNA underwent formal public consultation 1 April 2022-10 June 2022. Following this, findings were considered and actioned to ensure further detailed explanation as to the rationale for the conclusions drawn within the PNA.</p>
<p><b>If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit? Detail benefits and reasons why they will benefit.</b></p>	<p>The PNA provides a comprehensive overview of current and future pharmaceutical need, and pharmaceutical provision across Cheshire East that can be referred to by a wide range of stakeholders, including the NHS.</p> <p>PNAs are used by the NHS to make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies. These services are part of local health care and public health and affect NHS budgets. PNAs are also relevant when deciding if new pharmacies are needed, in response to applications by businesses, including independent owners and large pharmacy companies.</p>

## 1 Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide the Health & Wellbeing Board (HWB) with a final version of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022-2025 for approval prior to publication by 1 October 2022.
- 1.2 The final version of the PNA includes findings from public consultation and a summary of amendments made to the report following this.

## 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board approves the final version of the PNA for publication on the Cheshire East Council website for 2022-2025.

## 3 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory responsibility to publish an up-to-date statement of pharmaceutical needs every 3 years.
- 3.2 PNAs are used by the NHS to make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies. These services are part of local health care and public health and affect NHS budgets.
- 3.3 Health and Wellbeing Boards need to publish revised PNAs for their area every three years. The last PNA was signed off by the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 27 March 2018. The deadline for this latest PNA has been extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic and this must be published by 1 October 2022.
- 3.4 The final version of the PNA (2022-2025) incorporates feedback from the consultation and amendments made after considering an analysis of the responses received.

## 4 Impact on Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

- 4.1 The production of the PNA supports three outcomes from the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-21:
- Create a place that supports health and wellbeing for everyone living in Cheshire East
  - Improving the mental health and wellbeing of people living and working in Cheshire East
  - Enable more people to live well for longer.

## 5 Background and Options

- 5.1 Cheshire East Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory responsibility to publish an up-to-date statement of pharmaceutical needs. A revised PNA must be published by the 1 October 2022. This represents an extended deadline due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board approved delegation of the day-to-day authority for the development of the revised PNA to the Director of Public Health on 23 November 2021 at minute number 31.
- 5.3 The PNA covers community pharmacy opening times, services delivered from community pharmacies, and accessibility.
- 5.4 The production of the PNA was overseen by the Cheshire East PNA Steering Group, which included representation from:
- Cheshire East Council Public Health
  - Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group (from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 part of NHS Cheshire & Mersey Integrated Care Board)
  - Healthwatch
  - The Chair of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee and of the Local Pharmaceutical Network
  - Local Medical Committee representatives
  - East Cheshire NHS Trust
  - Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.
- 5.5 The production of the draft PNA involved:
- Analysis of data relating to pharmaceutical need and demand from wide and varied sources
  - Regular consultation with members of the Cheshire East PNA Steering Group

- A public survey, and incorporation of 2 questions regarding pharmacies as part of broader Healthwatch conversations
  - A dispensing doctors survey
  - A community pharmacy contractors survey.
- 5.6 Within the draft PNA, provisional findings indicated that current pharmaceutical provision across Cheshire East borough was assessed as adequate in terms of location, opening hours and pharmaceutical services offered to the population.
- 5.7 The draft PNA underwent public consultation from 1 April 2022 to 10 June 2022. This involved invitations for all key stakeholders to feedback. Key stakeholders were identified by the Cheshire East PNA Steering Group through examination of the national guidance<sup>1</sup> and of the local Equality Impact Assessment. The consultation was also widely publicised via: media release through local and regional media channels; and on the Council's website, Facebook and Twitter channels.
- 5.8 A total of 105 completed responses were received. There were also 354 partial responses: a partial response is where a person has started to complete the survey but never hit the submit button on the final page.
- 5.9 Findings from a comprehensive analysis of the consultation is summarised at Appendix 1. This analysis resulted in a variety of clarifications and provision of additional details in the final version of the PNA (Appendix 2). However, after careful consideration of the analysis of the consultation responses this did not change the overall conclusions of the PNA. The consultation report is also included at Appendix G within the final full PNA document (Appendix 2). In addition, the short Plain English Summary of the PNA has been updated to provide further clarity following consultation (Appendix 3).
- 5.10 The draft PNA concluded that pharmaceutical provision within Cheshire East is currently adequate, only 28 out of 105 respondents (27%) agreed with this statement, 13 of whom strongly agreed. Considerably more respondents disagreed with this statement than during the last PNA consultation conducted in 2018, with 55 out of 103 respondents disagreeing (53%). Further analysis of the full responses showed that a large proportion (59%, 61 responses) were from residents of one area, we refer to this as Area A. This disproportionate representation from one area was skewing the analysis of both the closed questions and the concerns raised in the open questions.
- 5.11 A total of 76 respondents gave additional detail in response to the open questions included in the consultation questionnaire: 52 were residents of Area A, a further 8 responses related to the provision in that area, and only 16 related to the rest of Cheshire East (21%). Of the themes raised within the open questions, 73% related

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Health and Social Care (2021) Guidance. Pharmaceutical needs assessments: information pack Available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pharmaceutical-needs-assessments-information-pack> (Accessed 25 July 2022).

to performance issues. Concerns raised regarding specific pharmacies via this consultation process have been raised with NHSE who manage the pharmacy contracts. The performance and quality of community pharmaceutical providers are outside of the scope of the PNA. However, it is important for residents to raise these concerns, particularly if they affect patient safety. An appendix showing the steps residents can take to complain has been developed and included within the full PNA document 'How to complain' at Appendix H (see Appendix 2 of this paper for the full PNA document). A link will also be provided on the webpage where the PNA will be held once published, and the same information has been provided within the short Plain English Summary) (Appendix 3).

- 5.12 Other concerns raised through the consultation have been summarised in Table C of the consultation report (Appendix 1). This table also summarises actions taken to address this feedback. All concerns raised have been duly considered and where necessary, appropriate actions taken and documented in a formal action log. These have involved additional wording within the PNA. The purpose of this additional wording is to clarify any conclusions drawn and as outlined in Table C of the consultation report.
- 5.13 Following an analysis of the consultation responses, the overall conclusions of the PNA remain the same: pharmaceutical provision is adequate, and the PNA has not identified current or anticipated future need for new NHS pharmaceutical service providers in Cheshire East over the time frame of this latest PNA.

Nevertheless, over the lifetime of this PNA, the public health intelligence team will actively consider pharmacy issues and need on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board. They will regularly consider the need for additional (supplementary) statements to update on any substantial changes that emerge.

## **6 Access to Information**

- 6.1 The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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