



AGENDA ITEM

2.1.4

QUALITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (PNA) UPDATE

Date of meeting

(22/09/2021)

FOI Status

Open/Public

If closed please indicate reason

Not Applicable - Public Report

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Approving Executive Sponsor

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Report purpose

ENDORSE FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Engagement (internal/external) undertaken to date (including receipt/consideration at Committee/group)

Committee/Group/Individuals

Date

Outcome

PNA Steering Group

(16/08/2021)

SUPPORTED

Executive Team

13/09/2021

ENDORSED

ACRONYMS

PNA

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

1. SITUATION/BACKGROUND

Welsh Government has changed the way in which applications from pharmacies, dispensing appliance contractors and dispensing doctors to provide pharmaceutical services are made and determined by introducing pharmaceutical needs assessments or PNAs.

The NHS (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) Regulations 2020, which introduce PNA in Wales, came into force on 1st October 2020 and place a statutory duty on each health board to publish its first PNA by 1st October 2021. As a result Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) has begun the process of developing its first PNA.

From 1st October 2021, Health Boards will need to use the published PNA when determining applications from pharmacies, dispensing appliance contractors and dispensing doctors to provide pharmaceutical services under these regulations.

The PNA will:

- Look at the health needs of CTMUHB's resident population and those who may be temporarily in its area, both now and in the five year lifespan of the PNA;
- Look at how the provision of pharmaceutical services can meet those health needs;
- Map the provision of pharmaceutical services within the Health Board's area;
- Identify the provision of pharmaceutical services outside CTM's area for example elsewhere in Wales and also in England;
- Identify any gaps in the provision of pharmaceutical services now and in the lifespan of the PNA; and
- Turn those gaps into current and future needs for pharmaceutical services.

The following services fall within the legal definition of pharmaceutical services:

- Essential, advanced and enhanced services provided by pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors, and
- The dispensing service provided by some GP practices.

In addition the PNA will also include services provided by other providers for example hospital and prison pharmacies.

Once the PNA is published it will be used by CTMUHB to determine applications from pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors who wish to open new premises or relocate existing premises. It will also be used to determine outline consent and premises approval applications from dispensing doctors.

The aim of introducing Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments to Wales is to bring about a long term, cost effective and sustainable system which would afford patients appropriate access to pharmaceutical services. It aims to provide contractors with increased certainty, reducing business risk and

allowing them to invest in delivery of wider services. There is an expectation that this will afford more consistent provision of services to a higher standard.

Subsequent PNAs must be published within 5 years as a minimum.

Steering Group

CTMUHB has set up a PNA Steering Group which has overseen the drafting of the PNA and is being supported by PCC CIC (PCC CIC are a company that has experience of drafting PNAs and assisted in the drafting of the Welsh regulations).

The group was established in November 2020 and the purpose of the group was to develop and agree content of a robust pharmaceutical needs assessment that complies with the requirements of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) Regulations 2020 and the needs of the local population. The PNA will also provide an evidence base for future local commissioning intentions.

The Chair of this Steering Group was the Director of Primary Care and Mental Health and the members are representatives from Primary Care, Pharmacy, Public Health, Local Medical Committee (LMC), Communications team, Finance, Planning, Community Health Council (CHC) and Community Pharmacy Wales, also Pharmacy project management support.

2. SPECIFIC MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THIS MEETING (ASSESSMENT)

Process Update

A public/patient survey was circulated to the UHB population at the end of December to mid-January and this received 637 responses. Also, as part of this process all Community Pharmacies have been consulted across Wales and this has resulted in 100% response rate.

The draft PNA (appendix 1) was agreed by the Management Board on 21st April. This document was then part of a consultation process for 60 days from 14th May to 13th July 2021. There is a defined list for consultation that received this document and the draft PNA was published on the UHB website. A summary of the observations and considerations are attached (appendix 2) and seven responses were received and where appropriate the PNA has been updated. The observations have been noted and no changes to the PNA were required except one statement. The overall response to this consultation has been positive and no current or specified need has been identified. The final approved document will be published by 1st October 2021.

The risk throughout this process is not having a robust and approved PNA. A submission to the risk register to identify actions to mitigate this has been agreed and the Executive lead has been identified.

3. KEY RISKS/MATTERS FOR ESCALATION TO BOARD/COMMITTEE

It is important that the PNA identifies where there are specific gaps in pharmaceutical services and that this is proportionate, so as not to destabilize the existing pharmacy establishment by identifying a need where an additional pharmacy is not warranted, which could lead to closures. It is important that the process undertaken meets the requirements as set out in the regulations.

There is a risk in not having an approved PNA in line with the regulatory timescales, which require the PNA to be made available and published on the UHB website by 1st October 2021.

4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Quality/Safety/Patient Experience implications	Yes (Please see detail below)
	The new PNA regulations will change fundamentally how the community pharmacy Control of Entry decisions are made - by shifting from a system that is driven by the contractors and focused heavily on dispensing - to a system led by the NHS that responds to the wider pharmaceutical needs of local communities. This approach should improve access to care, widen the enhanced services provided by community pharmacies and support the inverse care principles of targeting health care provision where there is the greatest need.
Related Health and Care standard(s)	Safe Care
	Also: Staying healthy Effective Care Timely Care Individual Care
Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) completed - Please note	Yes



EIAs are required for <u>all</u> new, changed or withdrawn policies and services.	<p>The PNA will need to incorporate the provision of the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that the assessment of pharmaceutical need considers the protected characteristics under the Act.</p> <p>The equality impact assessment is attached (appendix 3).</p>
Legal implications / impact	Yes (Include further detail below)
	<p>The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017, given Royal Assent on 3 July 2017, places an obligation upon health boards to undertake a pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA).</p> <p>The regulations which came into force in Oct 2020, make it a legal requirement for Health Boards to complete and publish a pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA) by 1 October 2021.</p>
Resource (Capital/Revenue £/Workforce) implications / Impact	Yes (Include further detail below)
	<p>There are potential financial risks of funding additional pharmaceutical contracts if gaps in pharmaceutical need are identified. This will form part of the Health Board planning process and be included in the IMTP if necessary.</p>
Link to Strategic Well-being Objectives	<p>Work with communities and partners to reduce inequality, promote well-being and prevent ill-health</p>

5. RECOMMENDATION

The Committee are requested to **ENDORSE FOR BOARD APPROVAL** the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for publication.