

**Sandwell Health and Wellbeing Board**  
**21<sup>st</sup> September 2022**

<b>Report Topic:</b>	Sandwell Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Dr Lina Martino, Consultant in Public Health</b>
<b>Link to board priorities</b>	<p>Please include in your report how your work links to one or more of our board priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>1. We will help keep people healthier for longer</b></p> <p>Poorly managed chronic illnesses can lead to increased morbidity and premature mortality. Pharmacy services play a key role in supporting people with long-term health conditions and in detecting long-term health conditions such as hypertension and diabetes. For pharmacies to support Sandwell residents, pharmacies need to be accessible and provide the right services to support the pharmaceutical needs of the population. The Sandwell PNA 2022 provides an update to the prior PNA published in 2018 to ensure that services are meeting the needs of local people.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>2. We will help keep people safe and support communities</b></p> <p>Health services can be difficult to navigate, and sometimes there are gaps or duplication of services by different providers. It is therefore important to know what services are currently provided by pharmacies and where these services are located to support commissioners with service planning. The Sandwell PNA 2022 will support commissioners and other stakeholders by informing decisions regarding the award of new pharmacy contracts and developing pharmaceutical services for patients.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>3. We will work together to join up services</b></p> <p>The public need to be involved in the design and monitoring of services to ensure they are appropriate and deliver what people need. The views of Sandwell residents on the accessibility and provision of pharmacy services have been sought and used to inform recommendations in the PNA report.</p> </li> <li> <p><b>4. We will work closely with local people, partners and providers of services</b></p> <p>The PNA has been produced in partnership with NHS partners, Sandwell LPC and Healthwatch Sandwell, and through consultation with wider partners and stakeholders, including the public.</p> </li> </ol>

<p><b>Purpose of Report:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To present the final draft of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022 to Health &amp; Wellbeing Board. This is due for publication in October 2022.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For Health &amp; Wellbeing Board to approve the final draft for publication.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Discussion points:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The PNA is a document which describes the current provision and location of pharmacy services across Sandwell</li> <li>The purpose of the report is to ensure that there are enough pharmacies, in the right locations, providing the right services to support the pharmaceutical needs of Sandwell residents</li> </ul> <p>The report is also used by commissioners and other stakeholders to inform decisions regarding new pharmacy contract applications and developing pharmaceutical services for patients.</p> <p>A draft PNA went out for public consultation from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022. Feedback received was used to refine the draft to produce the final version.</p> <p>This report makes the following recommendations to strengthen the provision of pharmaceutical services in Sandwell:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pharmacies should be knowledgeable of which advanced and enhanced services are offered by pharmacies in neighbouring wards/localities in order to sign post patients to appropriate service providers when needed.</li> <li>Where a service has been stopped due to COVID-19, it is important that pharmacies can sign post residents to another service provider.</li> <li>Pharmacies should support young people in accessing emergency contraception by ensuring they are aware of where they can access this service for free without a prescription.</li> <li>Pharmacies should support young people seeking emergency contraception by signposting them to their GP to discuss non-emergency contraceptive options</li> <li>The role of pharmacies in the management of CVD risk factors could be strengthened through the commissioning of related services and by promoting the wider role of pharmacists (e.g. providing lifestyle advice) to residents.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pharmacy workforce capacity building should be considered in order to meet the additional demands for pharmaceutical services.</li> <li>• Further targeted engagement of groups underrepresented in the residents' survey is recommended to ensure needs are currently being met.</li> </ul>
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**Implications (e.g. Financial, Statutory etc)**

It is a statutory requirement for HWBBs to update their pharmaceutical needs assessments once every three years. The last PNA was published in June 2018, due to the increased demand on pharmacies during the COVID-19 pandemic, the deadline for updating PNAs has been extended nationally until October 2022.

<p><b>What engagement has or will take place with people, partners and providers?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A draft PNA for consultation was approved by HWBB in April 2022. This was produced in partnership with Sandwell's Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC), NHS Black Country &amp; West Birmingham CCG, and Healthwatch Sandwell. The draft PNA was informed by a questionnaire sent to Sandwell pharmacy contractors about the services they provided, and by resident feedback via a public survey.</li> <li>• Sandwell residents were asked to provide feedback on pharmacy services across several channels:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Patient Participation Groups via Healthwatch Sandwell</li> <li>○ Sandwell Council twitter and Facebook accounts</li> <li>○ Via networks available to the PHDO's and Covid-19 Vaccine Leaders.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A 60-day consultation period from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022 sought feedback on the draft PNA report from key stakeholders such as NHSE, Sandwell LPC, neighbouring HWBB's and LPC's, Sandwell pharmacy contractors and SWB CCG. Feedback received has been used to shape the final version.</li> </ul>
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