



Isle of Wight Council Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment, 2022-2025.

Public consultation headline findings.

Background

Since April 2013 every Health and Wellbeing Board in England has a legal responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area, referred to as a pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA). The PNA looks at existing provision of community pharmacy services across the Island, whether this meets the current and future needs of the population and identifies any gaps in current or future provision.

The PNA has been undertaken in line with the requirements of the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations and the latest guidance published in the information pack for local authority health and wellbeing boards in October 2014 . The Isle of Wight PNA has been in development since September 2021.

The PNA steering group was set up to align with the Integrated Care Board footprint, this ensured that there was a consistent approach across each Local Authority to enable more efficient decision-making at all relevant geographies.

The purpose of the pharmaceutical needs assessment is primarily to be used by NHS England to make market entry decisions. It will be used when applications are received to enter or amend the pharmaceutical list within the Isle of Wight HWB area. It may also be used by local authorities and clinical commissioning groups when commissioning services from pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors, ensuring that services are targeted to areas of need.

The consultation ran for a period of 60 days from 19 May closing at 11.59 on to 17 July 2022.

Conclusion

Following public consultation, the conclusion of the assessment is that the number, distribution, and choice of pharmaceutical services meets the current needs of Isle of Wight's population and future needs within the lifetime of this PNA. There are no identified needs for additional pharmaceutical services or improvements to current arrangements across the island. Local concerns, not considered in the consultation, have been noted and Public Health have discussed these with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (ICB) for their consideration.

Headline findings

A total of 142 completed responses were received via the online form. 94% (n=137) were from members of the public.

In what capacity are you responding to this questionnaire?	Count
In another capacity not listed above	2
Personal view as a member of the public	137
Personal view as a pharmaceutical professional working in a community pharmacy	3
Representing the views of an organisation such as a Health and Wellbeing Board, Local Pharmaceutical Committee, Local Medical Committee, CCG etc	1
Completely blank forms returned, removed from analysis	2
Total	145

Overall the responses were mixed with the majority of responses stating;

- The purpose of the PNA had been explained (64% agreed/strongly agreed)
- Draft PNA reflected the current provision in the area (34% agreed/strongly agreed)
- Draft PNA identified gaps in service provision if appropriate (35% agreed/strongly agreed)
- Draft PNA reflected the needs of the area's population (26% agreed/strongly agreed)
- The draft PNA provides information to inform market entry decisions (50% agreed/strongly agreed)
- The draft PNA provides information to inform how pharmaceutical services may be commissioned in the future (50% agreed/strongly agreed)
- The draft PNA provides enough information to inform future pharmaceutical services provision and plans for pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors. (33% agreed/strongly agreed)
- There are gaps in pharmaceutical services that could be provided in the community pharmacy setting in the future that have not been highlighted (33% disagree/strongly disagree)
- 24% agreed or strongly agreed with the conclusion of the PNA.

There were a large number of comments provided to explain the reasons for these responses. The majority of these were outside the purpose of the PNA and related to staff shortages, queues and short notice changes to opening hours. There were also a number of comments suggesting that people had clicked on an incorrect link and had looked at the Hampshire PNA rather than the Isle of Wight PNA or had struggled to understand the content and purpose of the PNA document. However, there were also comments relating to the lack of provision in Brading and the challenges faced by residents accessing pharmacy services.

Further considerations

The legal responsibility for a pharmaceutical needs assessment was transferred from primary care trusts to health and wellbeing boards with effect from 1 April 2013. At the same time responsibility for using pharmaceutical needs assessments as the basis for determining market entry to a pharmaceutical list transferred from primary care trusts to NHS England and NHS Improvement. There is legislation which outlines the minimum requirements for pharmaceutical needs assessments, location and accessibility for local populations are the key considerations.

The complexity of pharmacy contracts does lend itself to quite a technical document, the scope of which is defined by national guidance which can be challenging to read.

The main purpose of the pharmaceutical needs assessment is to inform the submission of applications for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list, and the subsequent determination of such applications. This legislation does not require specific local data such as staffing and prescribing problems to be considered.

From 1st July 2022, ICBs assumed delegated responsibility for primary medical services (which were previously delegated to Clinical Commissioning Groups). Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICB was an early adopter and took on delegated responsibility for the commissioning of Pharmaceutical Services in their area. Local concerns not considered in the consultation have been noted and Public Health have discussed these with the Integrated Care Board (ICB) for their consideration.

Appendix: Detailed data report

Detailed breakdown of the questions and a summary of the responses are provided below. Blanks have been removed from the analysis

Q1a-Q1d asked to all respondents

Q1a The purpose of the pharmaceutical needs assessment been explained within the draft document

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree	13	9%
Agree	76	54%
Neither agree nor disagree	31	22%
Disagree	8	6%
Strongly agree	5	4%
Don't know	7	5%
Total	140	100%

Q1b The draft PNA reflects the current provision of pharmaceutical services in your area

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree	2	1%
Agree	45	32%
Neither agree nor disagree	31	22%
Disagree	27	19%
Strongly agree	26	19%
Don't know	8	6%
Total	139	100%

Q1c The draft PNA identifies gaps in service provision i.e. when, where and which services are available that have not been identified in the PNA

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree	6	4%
Agree	42	31%
Neither agree nor disagree	32	23%
Disagree	26	19%
Strongly agree	20	15%
Don't know	11	8%
Total	137	100%

Q1d The draft PNA reflects the needs of your area's population

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree	4	3%
Agree	32	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	32	24%
Disagree	35	26%
Strongly agree	25	18%
Don't know	8	6%
Total	136	100%

Q1. Open ended comments

Reasons (48 responses)	Count
Document doesn't relate to Isle of Wight	9
Staffing, queues, short notice closures	21
Concerns relating to lack of provision in Brading	9
Struggled to understand the document	8
Other	2

Q2a-Q2d asked to all respondents except member of the public

Q2a: The draft PNA provides information to inform market entry decisions (i.e. decisions on applications for new pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractor premises)

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree		0%
Agree	3	50%
Neither agree nor disagree	1	17%
Disagree		0%
Strongly agree	1	17%
Don't know	1	17%
Total	6	100%

Q2b The draft PNA provides information to inform how pharmaceutical services may be commissioned in the future

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree		0%
Agree	3	50%
Neither agree nor disagree	1	17%
Disagree		0%
Strongly agree	1	17%
Don't know	1	17%
Total	6	100%

Q2c: The draft PNA provides enough information to inform future pharmaceutical services provision and plans for pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors.

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree		0%
Agree	2	33%
Neither agree nor disagree	2	33%
Disagree		0%
Strongly agree	1	17%
Don't know	1	17%
Total	6	100%

Q2d: There are gaps in pharmaceutical services that could be provided in the community pharmacy setting in the future that have not been highlighted

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree	1	17%
Agree	1	17%
Neither agree nor disagree	2	33%
Disagree	1	17%
Strongly agree	1	17%
Don't know		0%
Total	6	100%

Q4-5 asked to all respondents

Q4: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the conclusion?

Answers	Count	%
Strongly agree	5	4%
Agree	28	21%
Neither agree nor disagree	43	32%
Disagree	27	20%
Strongly agree	25	18%
Don't know	8	6%
Total	136	100%

Q5: Reasons for your answer

Reasons (50 responses)	Count
Document doesn't relate to Isle of Wight	7
Staffing, queues, short notice closures or the pharmacies not actually opening for hours stated, medication shortages	20
Concerns relating to lack of provision in Brading and other rural areas	7
Struggled to understand the document	9
Confidentiality when queuing	2
Other	6