

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DRAFT NEWHAM PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (PNA) 2022.



Report for public consultation
Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022

WE ARE NEWHAM.

Executive Summary

It is a statutory requirement for a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) to be developed and published every three years (or earlier where significant changes have occurred) by each area covered by a Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). The purpose of the PNA is to plan for the commissioning of pharmaceutical services and to support the decision-making process in relation to new applications or change of premises of pharmacies.

This PNA has been undertaken during a time of uncertainty around how pharmacy services will develop over the next three years. The NHS Long Term Plan (LTP) states that “Pharmacists have an essential role to play in delivering the “Long Term Plan”. They state that “The funding for the new primary care networks will be used to substantially expand the number of clinical pharmacists” and “To make greater use of community pharmacists’ skills and opportunities to engage patients, while also exploring further efficiencies through reform of reimbursement and wider supply arrangements”. The LTP also includes ways in how community pharmacy and pharmacists can support the changes.

Since the last Newham PNA was published in 2018, no major changes to pharmaceutical provision have been observed and provision is generally good. There are 70 community pharmacies in Newham (as of April 2022) for a population of 355,266. This is an average of 19.7 pharmacies per 100,000 population, lower than the London (20.7) and England (20.5). All localities have at least thirteen community pharmacies, however the rate varies across the borough with North East locality having a higher number per resident compared to the rest of the borough.

The adult population is 75% of the total population at 256,100 for resident population and 249,000 for registered population. The estimated projections based on natural change (births and deaths) and internal and international migration suggest an increase of 15% for adult population from a baseline of 256,200 in 2016 to 294,000 in 2026.

The expected housing developments in parts of the borough will have a great impact on the population size and structure and this information should be kept under review.

Overall access is good. By using a car, 100% of residents can access to their nearest pharmacy within 4 minutes, and for 80% of residents, the nearest pharmacy can be reached within 5 minutes of walking. There are three 100-hour pharmacies across the borough and at least four pharmacies provide Sunday opening, of which one opens from 8am to 9pm. Demand for community pharmacies is likely to increase due to national policy and population growth. Current national policies highlight the potential of community pharmacies delivering enhanced community-based healthcare thereby reducing demand on urgent and primary care services.

Since the 2018 PNA was published, both the resident population and GP registered population of Newham borough has increased. Analysis of housing data shows that there are likely to be population increases in parts of the borough, with population projections showing an increase of 21.5% of population increase by 2032. As these developments take place there will be an increasing requirement for pharmacy services, although as a locality which is quite densely populated, current pharmacies are likely to remain accessible.

PHAST have identified pharmacies in Newham have been adequately responding to the changing needs of the community it serves. We have also identified pharmacies in Newham are willing to provide many additional services if commissioned. Many are also willing to provide additional services privately and some are already doing so.

Throughout COVID, Newham Community Pharmacies remained open and went above and beyond to support their local community. They had a number of pharmacy vaccination sites step up and administer COVID vaccinations. This has shown what Community Pharmacy can deliver when it is commissioned and remunerated appropriately.

The current climate post COVID shows the value of Community Pharmacy within their community. Community Pharmacy is often the gateway to the NHS for many patients and you don't need to make an appointment to see them, you can just walk in. They are accessible with respect to location and opening hours as many pharmacies open extended hours. In London there are a high number of pharmacies within a small area and a low number of prescriptions being issued compared to areas outside of London. Newham is rapidly developing and we know that there will be an increase in the population in the future. According to the CEO of the NEL LPC all pharmacies currently have the capacity to take on an additional workload with respect to services and prescriptions.

A review of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWS) identified that there may be scope for pharmacies to support local health needs. Priority areas identified by Newham's Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) in which there are potential roles for pharmacists are as follows:

- A better start in life
- Strong engaged inclusive and well-connected communities
- Housing and the environment enable all people of Newham to be healthy
- Mental well-being and good mental health are seen as a drivers of health
- Get more people more active more often
- A stronger focus on prevention
- The right people in the right place at the right time

Other areas that pharmacists could play a role in include: collaborating with initiatives aimed at increasing cancer screening coverage; improving the number of people offered an NHS health checks; supporting people to recover from the effects of the pandemic; delivering more proactive and preventative services that focus on long-term conditions; preventing childhood and adult obesity; improving vaccination coverage and promoting screening for aortic aneurysm by signposting.

Decisions concerning the promotion of pharmacist led services for these programmes will need to be based on more focused health needs assessments and commissioning strategies.

Newham should be congratulated on achieving 100% pharmacy survey response and a very good public survey response rate. In addition, they should be congratulated in the way they targeted key populations with relevant protected characteristics to achieve a more representative sample.

Conclusions

The Newham HWB has updated the information in relation to pharmacy services in its borough as well as information regarding changes in pharmacy services. In addition, the HWB has reviewed the current health needs of its population in relation to the number and distribution of the current pharmacies in the borough and those pharmacies in neighbouring boroughs adjoining the borough of Newham. The PNA is required to clearly state what is considered to constitute necessary services as required by paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 1 to the Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013.

For the purposes of this PNA, necessary services are defined as essential services.

The advanced, enhanced and locally commissioned services are considered relevant services as they contribute towards improvement in provision and access to pharmaceutical services.

When assessing the provision of necessary services in Newham, the following have been considered:

- The maps showing the location of pharmacies within Newham and the Index of Multiple Deprivation
- The number, distribution and opening times of pharmacies within Newham
- Pharmacy locations across the border
- Population density in Newham
- Projected population growth
- The ethnicity of the population
- Neighbourhood deprivation in Newham
- Location of GP practices
- Location of NHS Dental contractors
- Results of the public questionnaire
- Proposed new housing developments.

Based on the latest information on the projected changes in population of the HWB area within its geographical area over the next three years, alongside the latest information regarding building plans and expected additional population increases during this time, the HWB has concluded that the current pharmacy services are adequate and have a good geographical spread, particularly covering those areas of higher population density.

The detailed conclusions are as follows (key types of pharmacy services are specifically detailed below).

Essential Services

No gaps have been identified in Essential services (essential services) that if provided either now or over the next three years would secure improvements, or better access, to essential services across the whole borough.

- There is no gap in the provision of essential services during normal working hours across the whole borough.
- There are no gaps in the provision of essential services outside of normal working hours across the whole borough.

Advanced Services

- No gaps have been identified that if provided either now or in the future would secure improvements, or better access to advanced services across the whole borough.
- There are no gaps in the provision of advanced services across the whole borough.
- It should be noted that no pharmacies reported they were providing stoma appliance customisation; this could be seen as a gap in Advanced services; however, 6 pharmacies said they were able to do so if there was a need.

Enhanced Services

- No gaps have been identified that if provided either now or in the future would secure improvements, or better access to enhanced services (relevant services) across the whole borough.
- There are no gaps in the provision of enhanced services across the whole borough.

Locally Commissioned Services

- There are no gaps in the provision of locally commissioned services (relevant services) at present or over the next three years that would secure improvement or better access to locally commissioned services across the whole borough.
- There are no gaps in the provision of locally commissioned services across the whole borough.

The conclusions reached in this PNA report include assessments that have addressed relevant protected characteristics of groups living in the borough localities in relation to access to pharmacies. The assessments show no evidence of any overall differences between or within the localities in Newham.

Whether there is sufficient choice of pharmacy in Newham has been reviewed, it was decided there was sufficient choice of pharmacy in Newham. London boroughs have a greater choice of pharmacy provider compared to many other areas in England.

Newham recognises that there may continue to be developments in pharmacy provision that is different from the high street pharmacies, for example, online prescriptions or pharmacists working more closely with primary care.

Key to Services

- **Essential services** are commissioned by NHS England and are provided by all pharmacy contractors. These are services which every community pharmacy providing NHS pharmaceutical services must provide and is set out in their terms of service – these include the dispensing of medicines, promotion of healthy lifestyles and support for self-care. Distance-selling pharmacy contractors cannot provide essential services face to face at their premises.
- **Advanced services** (relevant services) are commissioned by NHS England and can be provided by all contractors once accreditation requirements have been met. These services include Appliance Use Review (AUR), New Medicine Service (NMS), Stoma Appliance Customisation (SAC), Flu Vaccination Service, Hepatitis C Testing, Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS), Hypertension Case-finding and Smoking Cessation Advanced Service.
- **Enhanced services** (relevant services) commissioned by NHS England are pharmaceutical services, such as London flu service, Bank holiday service – Christmas and Easter Sunday, Bank holiday service – other bank holidays, Covid-19 vaccination service.
- **Locally commissioned services** (relevant services) are commissioned by local authorities and ICBs in response to the needs of the local population.