

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

**Delegated authority to approve pharmaceutical needs assessment
supplementary statements**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval from the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) for the Director of Public Health (DPH) to have delegated authority to consider, approve and publish pharmaceutical needs assessment supplementary statements.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA) is a statutory document that states the pharmacy needs of the local population. This includes dispensing services and other health related services that pharmacies may provide. It is used by NHS England and NHS Improvement as the framework for making decisions when granting new contracts and approving changes to existing contracts as well as for commissioning pharmacy services.
- 2.2 A PNA also details the current pharmaceutical services available in the area and where changes may be required in the future.
- 2.3 PNA normally covers a 3-year period¹. However, once a pharmaceutical needs assessment has been published, the HWB may be required to produce a revised assessment sooner, if it identifies that changes (eg a new housing development) are so significant that it warrants a new PNA being written.

¹ All local authorities have recently been offered a one-year extension to complete the PNA, in recognition that there has been reduced capacity to within public health teams due to the pandemic.

- 2.4 However, not all changes will result in the need for a new PNA to be produced. Where the HWB is satisfied that producing a new pharmaceutical needs assessment would be a disproportionate response to the changes, they may publish a supplement statement, which will accompany the existing PNA.

Supplementary Statements

- 2.5 A supplementary statement is to be published to explain changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services where:
- (a) the changes are relevant to the granting of an application or applications for inclusion in the pharmaceutical list for the area of the health and wellbeing board's area; and
 - (b) the health and wellbeing board is satisfied that producing a new pharmaceutical needs assessment would be a disproportionate response to those changes or it is already producing its next pharmaceutical needs assessment but is satisfied that it needs to immediately modify the existing document in order to prevent significant detriment to the provision of pharmaceutical services.
- 2.6 Once published the supplementary statement becomes part of the pharmaceutical needs assessment and will be referred to by NHS England and NHS Improvement when it determines applications for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list.
- 2.7 The HWB should have in place a system which allows it to identify any changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services and then determine whether or not it needs to issue a supplementary statement. This responsibility could be delegated to a committee or sub-committee or could remain with the board.
- 2.8 Supplementary statements are statements of fact; they do not make any assessment of the impact the change may have on the need for pharmaceutical services

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1.1 **Option 1:** That the Board grant the Director of Public Health (DPH) delegated authority to consider, approve and publish pharmaceutical needs assessment supplementary statements, in consultation with the Chairman.
- 3.1.2 Where the DPH believes it is necessary to rewrite the PNA, rather than produce a supplementary statement, the DPH will formally referred the matter to the HWB for discussion and decision.

- 3.2 **Option 2:** For the HWB to consider, approve and publish pharmaceutical needs assessment supplementary statements.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 **Option 1:**

- 4.1.1 This option offers the greater flexibility to consider supplementary statements in a timely and pragmatic way, as there is no requirement to wait for the next meeting of the HWB for a decision to be made.
- 4.1.2 If necessary, the DPH can convene a meeting with partners to discuss the proposal, which will help determine if a supplementary statement is appropriate.
- 4.2.3 The DPH will report to the Health and Wellbeing Board where any supplementary statement has been considered and approved.
- 4.2.4 Where the DPH believes that a revised PNA is required, the matter will be formally reported to the HWB for discussion and decision.

4.2 **Option 2:**

- 4.2.1 The HWB will collectively consider, approve and publish pharmaceutical needs assessment supplementary statements.
- 4.2.2 This option allows board members to participate in the discussion around publishing supplementary statements.,
- 4.2.3 This option will reduce the time HWB members have to discuss other agenda items.

5. **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

- 5.1 None

6. **OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

- 6.1 None

7. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

- 7.1 Not applicable

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 None

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board approve option 1: That the Board grant the Director of Public Health (DPH) delegated authority to consider, approve and publish pharmaceutical needs assessment supplementary statements, in consultation with the Chairman
- 9.2 That the DPH update the Health and Wellbeing Board on outcomes of any decisions relating to supplementary statements, where appropriate.

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