

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Slough Wellbeing Board

DATE: 20th September 2022

CHIEF OFFICER: Stuart Lines, Director of Public Health

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PART I

FOR CONSIDERATION AND COMMENTS

FINAL PRESENTATION OF SLOUGH'S 2022-2025 'PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (PNA)'

1. **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to appraise the Slough Wellbeing Board (SWB) of the conclusions of the Slough Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022-2025. The report is also to ensure the Board acknowledged that sign off of the PNA has been delegated to Stuart Lines, Director of Public Health for Slough Borough Council and member of this Board to ensure the PNA was published by the statutory deadline of the 1st October 2022.

2. **Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

That the Slough Wellbeing Board (SWB):

- 2.1 Acknowledges the Slough PNA 2022-2025 has been signed off for publication by Stuart Lines, Director of Public Health for Slough Borough Council.
- 2.2 Notes that if significant changes occur during the lifespan of the PNA, the SWB will be notified.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five-Year Plan**

The [Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy](#) (SJWS) details the priorities agreed for Slough with partner organisations. The SJWS has been developed using a comprehensive evidence base that includes the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2016-2020.

3a. **Slough Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

Since April 2013 local Health and Wellbeing Board has been given a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area.

Development of PNA across Slough will support and inform the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy (SJWS) priorities.

The SJWS priorities are:

1. Starting Well
2. Integration (relating to Health & Social Care)
3. Strong, healthy and attractive neighbourhoods
4. Workplace health

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

Explain which of the Five-Year Plan's outcomes the proposal or action will help to deliver.

PNA will particularly contribute to the following three outcomes laid in Slough's Five Year Plan:

- Outcome 1: Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful – through direct provision of national and locally commissioned services
- Outcome 2: Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs – through direct provision of national and locally commissioned services
- Outcome 5: Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents - through the securing of appropriate services delivered through ongoing pharmaceutical businesses in the Slough area

4. **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

There are no financial implications of proposed action.

(b) Risk Management (Compulsory section to be included in **all** reports)

There are no risks as this report is for information only.

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications (compulsory section to be included in **all** reports)

There are no Human Rights Act implication.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

An EIA is not necessary, but the result of PNA will augment and strengthen the SBC Equality duty through a refreshed needs assessment of pharmaceutical service provision in the area and the ability it affords to understand current population needs – including the needs of Slough residents with protected characteristics as set out in the Equality Act.

(e) Workforce

The Slough PNA 2022-2025 has been delivered by a commissioned provider, Healthy Dialogues, with support from a PNA steering group chaired by a Consultant in Public Health from the Berkshire East Public Health Hub. Slough Borough Council staff (public health and communications) have been engaged in the planning for and delivery of the public engagement survey and in the consultation but otherwise, delivery has had limited impact on workforce of the council.

Once the PNA is published, it is not anticipated that there will be demands on local public health or wider council involvement over and above existing contributions to work with primary care as part of the Integrated Care System.

There are therefore no workforce implications identified.

5. **Supporting Information**

(a) Background

As outlined in the Health and Social Care Act 2012 – as of the 1st April 2013 every Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) has had statutory responsibility to publish, and keep up to date, a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services in their area. This is referred to as the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). The first PNA had to be published on the 1st April 2015 and revised every three years after that, or sooner if a HWBB is made aware of a need to do so. Otherwise, supplementary statements may be published for small changes. This requirement was updated in statute in response to workforce capacity demands associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing publication of the current revised PNAs by the 1st October 2022, rather than April 2022.

The PNA process is statutorily defined, including details such as when the PNA must be published, the PNA methodology and the requirement to undertake a 60-day consultation process. It is also strongly recommended that a PNA steering group is formed to support the HWBB in delivering the PNA.

Management and delivery of Slough's PNA 2022-2025

Typically, Directors of Public Health (DPH) are delegated as the lead HWBB member responsible for overseeing the PNA. In Berkshire, the two DPHs for the six local authorities in the area agreed to commission the production of the six Berkshire PNAs to a third-party provider. This was to ensure timely delivery, to a good standard, mitigating against the COVID-19 pandemic pressures on local public health teams. The provider was selected based on a three quotes process with a 60:40 quality: price ratio. Healthy Dialogues won the contract and have delivered the six Berkshire PNAs (including for SWB). The service specification that Healthy Dialogues delivered to included responsibility for undertaking the statutory PNA processes and writing of the PNAs.

Management of the contract with Healthy Dialogues was delegated to the Berkshire East Public Health Hub. There is also a Berkshire West Public Health Hub that supports Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire local authorities, however for the purpose of managing the PNA provider, one of the hubs was nominated.

It is considered best practice to establish a PNA steering group early in the PNA process to advise on and quality assure the PNA production process and comment on draft versions of the PNA report, particularly pre consultation. Healthy Dialogues were therefore supported by a single Berkshire PNA steering group.

Members of the Berkshire PNA steering group included Thames Valley Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC), a Consultant in Public Health from the Berkshire East Public Health Hub; a regional representative from NHS England; Healthwatch (all six Healthwatch teams were invited to attend); a representative from Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care System (ICS) and one from Frimley ICS, and a patient and public representative (a volunteer from one of the Healthwatch teams).

The Consultant in Public Health was the conduit between Healthy Dialogues and the local authority public health teams, responsible for updating the teams on the delivery and quality of the PNAs as they were developed. The Consultant also signposted Healthy Dialogues to staff in each local authority to ensure the public survey was appropriately targeted to the local community, especially local priority groups relevant to the PNA.

Healthy Dialogues produced a PNA delivery plan, which was signed off by the PNA steering group and the group met approximately once every six weeks to discuss the PNA assessment process at each stage. Key decisions of the steering group have included:

- A request for Healthy Dialogues to produce a public engagement survey relevant to each local authority's population.
- Approval for Healthy Dialogues to apply two commonly used measures to assess the adequacy of access to pharmacies within each local authority area, including a one mile walk and a 20-minute drive of a pharmacy. The former measure is typically used in urban areas and the latter is more often used in rural areas. There is no statutorily defined access measure, nor are any indicated in national guidance; the measures used need to balance the need at a population level for good access to pharmacy services, with the population size within a given radius to sustain a community pharmacy service.
- Approval of the draft PNAs to be published for their 60 day consultation, following a period of feedback from the PNA steering group to enhance the quality and accuracy of the reports.

In addition to this governance mechanism, the Health Intelligence leads for each of the Berkshire public health hubs reviewed the draft PNAs relevant to their local authority areas for accuracy of the population demographic and health needs.

It is under the oversight of these governance mechanisms that the Slough PNA was produced. The methodology applied by Healthy Dialogues followed the mandated stages for PNA development, including gathering of health and demographic data, public and contractor engagement, gathering information about pharmaceutical services currently in place in the local authority area, analysis and drafting of the PNA report, review by the PNA steering group and sign off as draft for the 60 day consultation, delivery of the consultation and, refining of the PNA based on consultation feedback to finalise for the SWB.

(b) Conclusions of the Slough PNA 2022-2025

This process has led to the following conclusions in the Slough PNA:

- Slough is well served in relation to the number and location of pharmacies. There are 31 community pharmacies within the borough and 1 distance selling pharmacy. There are a further 7 community pharmacies located within a mile of Slough's border.
- There are no gaps in the provision of: essential, advanced (NHSE commissioned) and other pharmacy (locally commissioned) services in Slough.

6. **Comments of Other Committees**

NA

7. **Conclusion**

SWB's PNA 2022-2025 was delivered by a commissioned provider, Healthy Dialogues, with a Berkshire PNA steering group as the main governance mechanism to ensure the quality of the process and contents of the final PNA.

The Slough PNA 2022-2025 is complete and concluded that there are no gaps currently or foreseeable gaps in the lifetime of the PNA regarding access to essential, advanced (NHSE commissioned) and other pharmacy (locally commissioned) services in Slough.

The PNA required sign off and publication by 1st October 2022. This took place through delegated responsibility to the Director of Public Health for Slough and lead member of SWB for the PNA to ensure publication by 1st October 2022.

8. **Background Papers**

Slough PNA 2022-2025 Final (Appendix A)
Slough PNA Survey Engagement Plan (Appendix B)