

**People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Wednesday 1st February 2017**

REPORT TITLE:	Community Pharmacy Scrutiny Review
REPORT OF:	The Chair and members of the Community Pharmacy task & finish group

REPORT SUMMARY

The Government set out initial proposals for community pharmacy in 2016/17 and beyond in an open letter to the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) and other stakeholders on 17th December 2015. The proposals included revised contractual and funding arrangements. A period of formal consultation ended on 24th May 2016, although confidential discussions continued beyond that date.

Following a notice of motion to Council in July 2016, this issue was referred to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee for further consideration. On the advice of NHS England, it was not practical to commence the review immediately as the Government had not, at that time, made a formal response to the consultation nor provided detailed proposals regarding the future contractual and financial arrangements for community pharmacies. Once the Government's final proposals were made public in October 2016, a task & finish group met in November to consider the potential impact of the changes to Wirral. This report documents the findings of the members and the conclusions which have been drawn.

Members of the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to consider the contents of this report and support the recommendations arising from this review.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- (1) Members are requested to support the contents and recommendations of the Community Pharmacy scrutiny report;
- (2) The report be referred to the next appropriate meetings of Cabinet and the Health & Wellbeing Board.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

The Scrutiny Review report is subject to review by Members of the Committee and requires approval to be referred to Cabinet and the Health & Wellbeing Board for consideration of the recommendations made.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

New contractual and funding arrangements for community pharmacies were published by the Department of Health on 21st October 2016. In order to consider the potential impact of the changes on Wirral, an Evidence Day was held on 16th November 2016, including representatives from NHS England, Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Community Pharmacy Cheshire & Wirral Local Pharmacy Committee and Public Health (Wirral Borough Council). The members of the task & finish group were Councillors Moira McLaughlin (Chair), Tom Anderson, Angela Davies, Phil Gilchrist, Treena Johnson, Chris Meaden, Tony Norbury and Tom Usher.

Members agreed that the objectives of the review were:

- To understand the rationale behind the current provision of community pharmacies in Wirral.
- To review the implications for Wirral of the Government proposals for changes to the contractual framework and funding of community pharmacies.
- To ascertain whether action or intervention by the various partners will be necessary to mitigate the impact on services

The attached report documents the conclusions and recommendations which the members have formed, as well as a summary of the evidence base on which those recommendations are based. Members of this Committee are requested to consider the report before referring it to Cabinet and to the Health & Wellbeing Board.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

Not applicable

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not applicable

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not applicable

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no equality issues arising directly from this report

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Community Pharmacy scrutiny report

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date