



**COUNCILLOR  
JANETTE WILLIAMSON**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

**CABINET**

**Monday, 27 March 2017**

**COMMUNITY PHARMACIES SCRUTINY**

**REVIEW**

**Councillor Janette Williamson, said:**

“It is important Wirral Council does everything possible to understand, scrutinise and assess the impact of contractual and funding changes on residents.

Members of all parties have delivered a detailed review of the implications, bringing a wealth of experience and expertise to a very important subject for Cabinet to consider.”

**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 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The proposals included revised contractual and funding arrangements. A period of formal consultation ended on 24<sup>th</sup> 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 a detailed scrutiny 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. The attached report documents the findings of the members and the conclusions which have been drawn. On 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017, the report was approved by the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee and was referred to Cabinet for further consideration.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

This is not a key decision.

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

Cabinet is requested to note the report and endorse the recommendations of the Community Pharmacy scrutiny review.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

The subject of the Scrutiny Review report has a potential impact on the health and wellbeing of residents in the borough.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Not applicable

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

3.1 New contractual and funding arrangements for community pharmacies were published by the Department of Health on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016. In order to consider the potential impact of the changes on Wirral, an Evidence Day was held on 16<sup>th</sup> 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 the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee have, on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017, approved the report and requested that it be referred to both the Cabinet of Wirral Borough Council and to Wirral Health & Wellbeing Board for noting and any comment. The appropriate minute from the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee is attached as an appendix to this report.

### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial issues arising directly from this report

### **5.0 LEGAL**

There are no legal issues arising directly from this report

### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS**

There are no resource issues arising directly from this report

## 7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not applicable

## 8.0 ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION

Members met with NHS England, Wirral CCG and representatives of Community Pharmacy Cheshire & Wirral Local Pharmacy Committee as part of the scrutiny review.

## 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no equality issues arising directly from this report.

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Alan Veitch  
Scrutiny Support  
0151 691 8564  
email: [alanveitch@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:alanveitch@wirral.gov.uk)

## APPENDICES

**Appendix 1:** Minute from the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017

**Appendix 2:** Community Pharmacy scrutiny report

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date