



## HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD THURSDAY 13 MARCH 2025

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>WIRRAL PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (PNA) 2025 – 2028 DRAFT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) has responsibility for the publication and update of the local Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

The Director of Public Health, as a full member of the HWBB, has acted on behalf of the Board and undertaken the necessary steps to produce an updated Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. This report provides that draft.

Once approved by the HWBB, this draft will go out to statutory public consultation. Public consultation is scheduled to take place between April and June 2025.

A further report, which will include any amendments made as a result of public consultation, will come to the HWBB for final approval, ahead of publishing the final Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment for 2025 – 2028 for Wirral on or before 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

The proposed actions affect all wards within the borough.

The decision requested is not a key decision.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Approve the draft Wirral Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (2025 to 2028) to go out to the required statutory public consultation, which is scheduled to take place between April and June 2025.
2. Request the Director of Public Health to produce a final report for the board in September 2025 prior to the mandatory publication of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment on or before 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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

- 1.1 As stipulated in the Health and Social Care Act 2013 , the Health and Wellbeing Board has responsibility for the publication and update of the local Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) and this needs to be done every 3 years.
- 1.2 As outlined in the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, the draft PNA must undergo public consultation, for a minimum period of 60 days.
- 1.3 Following that consultation, any required amendments will be made, and a final report will be brought back to Health and Wellbeing Board for approval prior to publication on or before 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 There are no other options as this is a mandatory process as required by the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 From April 2013, Health and Wellbeing Boards became responsible for the publication and update of the local PNA. The PNA provides a detailed review of pharmaceutical need and provision in the borough. The PNA is used primarily by NHS Pharmacy Commissioners when reviewing applications from contractors to provide community pharmacy services.
- 3.2 There is a legal requirement for the Wirral Health and Wellbeing Board to publish an updated Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment on or before 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025. The Public Health Intelligence Team has led on the necessary work to produce this PNA and has liaised with local and sub-regional partners via a PNA Working Group to ensure a robust and collaborative approach to the development of the PNA.
- 3.3 To ensure that the HWBB Members are fully sighted on their role in the development and oversight of the PNA, Public Health and colleagues in Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) Pharmacy team provided engagement sessions with HWBB Members in October 2024 (process and approach) and January 2025 (draft PNA).
- 3.4 Wirral's current PNA (2022-2025) (see links in subject history below) was produced in 2022 and concluded that the borough is well served in terms of spread of community pharmacies. There was one pharmacy for every 3,907 residents, which compared favourably to the national average of one pharmacy for every 5,040 residents.
- 3.5 This new draft PNA (2025-2028) (attached as Appendix 2) concludes that the borough is adequately served in terms of geographic location of community pharmacies. There is now one pharmacy for every 4,188 residents in Wirral. This compares favourably to the national average of one pharmacy for every 4,981 residents. However, this draft PNA also concludes that there is a need for a minimum of essential pharmaceutical

services on Sundays, between 4.00pm and 10.00pm and Monday to Saturday, between 9.00pm and 10.00pm.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Council.
- 4.2 NHS England (Cheshire and Merseyside) will use the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment as a control of entry document to support in the review of pharmacy applications and associated related commissioning decisions related to community pharmacy services in Wirral.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There is a statutory requirement for the local Health and Wellbeing Board to produce a PNA every three years.

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

- 6.1 There are no additional resources required to complete the PNA. Acting on behalf of the HWBB, the work is led by the Council's Public Health Team which convened a local PNA Development Group. This Group has representation from internal and external partners which helps to ensure that there is a robust process in place to produce the Wirral PNA. In developing the PNA, the Public Health Team work with colleagues across Cheshire and Merseyside local authorities, to ensure consistency of approach and best practice in PNA production, and to maximise best use of officer time.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

- 7.1 The key risk is that the new PNA is not delivered within the required timeframe i.e. published on or before 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025. This risk has been mitigated via a detailed project plan and collaborative working.

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

##### **8.1 Pharmacy Survey – Contractors and provision - Complete**

A survey was undertaken with local Pharmacy contractors between June and September 2024. The aim was to understand contractor views and experience by gathering information on services they provide, access and capacity, and any future service intentions. The information helped to contextualise other data and provide a comprehensive picture of provision. The survey was completed by 66 Pharmacy Contractors. Responses were collated and incorporated into this final draft.

##### **8.2 Public Survey – Pharmacy Services - Complete**

A survey of Wirral residents was undertaken from Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November to Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024. This survey was publicised widely and sought to understand the views and experience of local residents and pharmacy users. Analysis of responses formed part of the data used to inform this PNA, Information obtained has helped to contextualise other data and provide a comprehensive picture of provision. The survey was completed by 736 Wirral residents. Analysis of responses was undertaken, and themes are incorporated into this final draft.

### 8.3 **Formal consultation on a new draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**

There is a mandatory requirement to consult with a range of stakeholders on the final draft PNA ahead of publication. Appendix 1 to this report details the list of consultees. The consultation period will last for a minimum of 60 days, between April and June 2025. This will be undertaken using the council engagement platform, 'Have Your Say'. Appendix 1 also provides an overview of the steps that will be taken to raise awareness of the consultation. Following consultation, responses will be collated and reported to the HWBB in September 2025, along with detail of any changes made to the PNA as a result of feedback received.

## 9.0 **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

9.2 There are no equality issues arising directly from this report.

9.3 The equality issues that could be envisaged from the consultation of this report have been recorded, and actions to mitigate incorporated, into an EIA and this is published at <https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

## 10.0 **ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Wirral Council is committed to carrying out its work in an environmentally responsible manner, and these principles guide the development and publication of the PNA.

10.2 The new PNA is expected to have no significant impact on the emissions of greenhouse gases. It is anticipated that the majority of the consultation will be done online to reduce the environmental impact.

## 11.0 **COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The PNA does not directly impact community wealth building, but it does direct NHS England commissioning intentions, and as such the level of community pharmacy services in Wirral.

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## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 Stakeholders for Statutory Consultation

Appendix 2 Full Draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (2025-2028)

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. The Health and Social Care Act 2013
2. The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/349/contents/made>

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

(a) To develop and update the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 5 years)

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b> <a href="#">Wirral Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2025 – 2028: Process and Production</a> (Item 20)	<b>19<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b> <a href="#">Wirral Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022 – 2025: Final version for publication</a> (Item 31)	<b>29<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b> <a href="#">Wirral Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022 – 2025: draft for public consultation</a> (Item 73)	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b> <a href="#">Wirral Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022 – 2025: Process and approach</a> (Item 29)	<b>29<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing Board</b> <a href="#">Pharmaceutical Needs Analysis</a> 2022 – 2025 development and publication	<b>11<sup>th</sup> March 2020</b>