1. **Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Health and Wellbeing board to agree the revised Lewisham Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA).

2. **Recommendation**

The Board is recommended to approve the revised Lewisham PNA.

3. **Policy Context**

3.1 From 1st April 2013, every Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) in England has a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area, referred to as a pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA).

4. **Background**

4.1 PNAs are used by the NHS to make decisions on which NHS funded services need to be provided by local community pharmacies. These services are part of local health care and public health and affect NHS budgets. PNAs are also relevant when deciding if new pharmacies are needed, in response to applications by businesses, including independent owners and large pharmacy companies.

4.2 Applications are keenly contested by applicants and existing NHS contractors and can be open to legal challenge if not handled properly. “Healthy lives, healthy people”, the public health strategy for England (2010) says: “Community pharmacies are a valuable and trusted public health resource. With millions of contacts with the public each day, there is real
4.3 Community pharmacy is an important investor in local communities. As local small businesses they provide employment and support neighbourhood and high street economies.

4.4 A 60 day consultation period was concluded on 8th March 2015 on the revised Lewisham PNA. The comments arising from this consultation have been addressed in the final report. The report can be found at http://lewishamjsna.org.uk

4.5 The revised PNA has been completed, fulfilling The Director of Public Health’s statutory responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services in Lewisham.

4.6 The process for undertaking this included a PNA steering group with representation from the CCG and the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC); a review of recent policy guidance and evidence and a visioning/stakeholder event after which priorities for the future development of pharmacy services was generated. There was also a 60 day consultation between January 8 to March 8 2015.

5. The Current Lewisham PNA

5.1 Lewisham Primary Care Trust undertook the first PNA in 2005. This original PNA was reviewed, and after consultation, a revised PNA was published in 2011. The regulations required the PCT to consider the need for pharmaceutical services in terms of:

- Services currently commissioned that are necessary to meet a current demand.
- Services that are currently commissioned which are relevant but do not constitute a “necessary service”.
- Services not currently commissioned that may be necessary in specified future circumstance.
- Services not currently commissioned that would secure improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services.

5.2 The 2011 PNA concluded that all existing national and locally commissioned services were necessary and relevant, and made the following recommendations regarding the future development of pharmacy services in Lewisham:

- Further extension of sexual health services considering
  - Chlamydia screening
  - Extension to the current range of oral contraceptives
  - Administration of longer acting contraceptives
- Support of the current chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) pathway
  - Screening to allow earlier intervention
  - Improvement in concordance with current therapy
- Support of influenza vaccination for at risk groups where current provision is limited
- Support through raising awareness and where relevant screening, for the range of public health issues including obesity, alcohol use etc.
- Support for the pathway redesign process which will allow patients to access relevant therapies, services or equipment from appropriately trained healthcare professionals more locally.

5.3 All of these recommendations have been implemented to a greater or lesser extent. In addition to these services, the Local Authority and CCG have jointly commissioned the Healthy Start Vitamin D scheme for mothers and babies from community pharmacies. Another development has been the establishment of the Healthy Living Pharmacy Programme, which develops the pharmacy workforce around health improvement and making every contact count. Lewisham is at the forefront of this initiative nationally.

6. Financial implications

6.1 It is not possible to assess the financial implications at this point.

7. Legal implications

7.1 It is not possible to assess the legal implications at this point.

8. Equalities Implications

8.1 The access provided by community pharmacy help to address health inequalities.

9. Conclusion

9.1 As described above the publication of a PNA is statutory responsibility for the London borough of Lewisham by 1st April 2015. The revised PNA will meet this responsibility and further inform priorities for the future.

If there are any queries on this report please contact Dr Danny Ruta,
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