

COUNCIL		
Report Title	Motion 2 in the name of Councillor Kennedy to be seconded by Councillor Till	
Key Decision		Item No.
Ward		
Contributors	Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)	
Class	Part 1	Date: November 23 2016

“Lewisham Borough Council recognises and values local pharmacies as a vital primary care health service and as an integral part of the fabric of local communities. Council notes that;

- Pharmacies offer a range of services such as dispensing prescriptions, disposal of unwanted medicines and supporting self-care.
- Pharmacies play an important role in promoting wellbeing such as healthy eating, smoking cessation, exercise, flu vaccination, sexual health and more.
- Advice and support services are also available to care homes.
- Several local pharmacies are working towards and some have achieved Healthy Living Pharmacies (HLP) status recognising and evidencing their role in improving the health of the local population.

The council is greatly concerned about Government imposed threats to pharmacies as a result of cuts in the budget of £170m nationally to take effect from October 2016. This is a 6% cut in cash terms but could effectively mean a cut of 12% during the financial year which could potentially close up to a quarter of pharmacies with an increased focus on warehousing dispensary and online services. Service cuts in pharmacies put more residents at risk as well as putting pressure on GPs and on hospital services and therefore increasing NHS costs. A fully funded community pharmacy service is cost effective and is in the interest of patients and carers.

The council agrees to write to the Secretary of State for Health, NHS England and the Clinical Commissioning Group detailing our concerns and demanding an immediate reversal of these proposals.”