

Title: Torbay Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022 - 2025
Wards Affected: All
To: Health and Wellbeing Board **On:** 8 September 2022
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1. Purpose

- 1.1 2022 - 2025 update of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The following narrative is considered for approval, with issues discussed.

3. Supporting Information

3.1 What is a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA)?

A PNA is a comprehensive assessment of the current and future pharmaceutical needs of the local population for community pharmacy, dispensing appliance contractors, and dispensing doctors in rural areas (where relevant).

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred the responsibility to develop and update PNAs from Primary Care Trusts to Health and Wellbeing Boards (H&WB) from 1 April 2013.

This means that Torbay's H&WB has a legal duty to ensure the production of a PNA for Torbay.

The H&WB were required to publish their first PNA by 1 April 2015 and publish a statement of its revised assessment within 3 years of its previous publication or sooner if changes to the need for pharmaceutical services are identified which are of significant extent. The publication of the PNA was postponed from April 2021 to October 2022 for all H&WBs due to the COVID pandemic.

3.2 What's in the PNA and what is a PNA used for?

The PNA for Torbay 2022-2025 presents a picture of community pharmacy need and provision in Torbay, and links to Torbay's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

The PNA is used by NHS England to inform:

- decisions regarding which NHS funded services need to be provided by community pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors in Torbay

- whether new pharmacies or services are needed
- decision-making about the relocation of existing pharmaceutical premises in response to applications by providers of pharmaceutical services
- the commissioning of locally enhanced services from pharmacies

Providers of pharmaceutical services will also use the PNA to inform their applications to provide pharmaceutical services by demonstrating that they are able to meet a pharmaceutical need as set out in the PNA.

3.3 **Developing the PNA**

Torbay's PNA was developed in partnership with the Devon-wide PNA Steering Group on behalf of Torbay's H&WB.

This was to ensure that production of the PNAs for Plymouth, Devon and Torbay followed the same process and format but with locally relevant information.

Partners included:

- Torbay Council
- Devon County Council
- Plymouth City Council
- NHS Devon CCG
- NHS England
- Devon Local Pharmaceutical Committee
- Devon Local Medical Committee

3.4 **Main conclusion of PNA**

There have been no gaps identified in pharmaceutical provision within Torbay, the number of pharmacies in Torbay fell from 37 in 2018/19 to 31 in 2021/22, often through mergers of pharmacy premises in close proximity to each other. Torbay still has more pharmacies per head of population than the South West and England.

Going forward, close attention will be paid to housing developments within Collaton St Mary which could lead to a significant population rise in that area.

3.5 **Consultation**

The consultation period ran from 1st July to 29th August.

The survey questions were designed to gather feedback on whether the requirement of the PNA had been met and to offer the opportunity to highlight any gaps.

3 responses to the online consultation survey were received for Torbay.

Overall consultation feedback regarding the PNA was positive.

There was a specific comment on unscheduled closures of pharmacies at short notice which is a particular problem if commissioned to provide a 'supervised consumption service' for patients being provided with buprenorphine and methadone

3.6 **Next steps**

The recommendation is for the Health & Wellbeing Board to:

1. Formally accept the Torbay PNA for 2022-25
2. Agree to its publication on the Torbay Council website