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1 Introduction

1.1 Background
It is a statutory requirement under the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 for a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) to be developed and published every three years (or earlier where significant changes have occurred) by each area covered by a Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). The last PNA was published in 2015.

1.2 Purpose of the PNA
The purpose of the PNA is to plan for the commissioning of pharmaceutical services and to support the decision-making process in relation to new applications or change of premises of pharmacies.

As such, it is required to cover the following:
- what services are necessary to meet the needs of the local population
- which services have improved and/or have better access since the publication of the last PNA
- what provision is currently available, highlighting any immediate or future gaps in services
- any impact other NHS services have on pharmaceutical services
- how the assessment was carried out and the resulting conclusions.

This information is held by NHS England to maintain a pharmaceutical list for the local area. This list is used to consider applications for new pharmacies as well as the relocation of existing pharmacies and to commission additional services.

The PNA bases its assessment on current and predicted demographics as well as analysing the health needs of the local population.

1.3 Scope of the PNA
The PNA covers local pharmaceutical providers, dispensing doctors and appliance contractors. It does not cover pharmaceutical services in hospitals or prisons.

The minimum requirement for PNAs include the following:
- a statement of the pharmaceutical services currently provided that are necessary to meet needs in the area
- a statement of pharmaceutical services that have been identified by the HWB that are needed in the area, and are not provided (gaps in provision)
• a statement of the other relevant services which are provided, which are not needed, but which have secured improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services in the area
• a statement of the services that the HWB has identified as not being provided, but which would, if they were to be provided, secure improvements or better access to pharmaceutical services in the area
• a statement of other NHS services provided by a local authority, the NHS Commissioning Board (NHS England), a Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) or an NHS Trust, which affect the needs for pharmaceutical services
• an explanation of how the assessment has been carried out (including how the consultation was carried out)
• a map of providers of pharmaceutical services
• consultation. HWB must consult the bodies set out in Regulation 8 at least once during the process of developing PNA. The minimum consultation period required is 60 days.

1.4 Process for developing the PNA
A Steering Group of key stakeholders was set up to oversee the PNA process. Terms of reference for the group are at Appendix I – Terms of Reference.

An open tender process selected the Public Health Action Support Team (PHAST), a not for profit social enterprise company to develop the PNA.

The activities of the process and timescales are set out in the project chart in Appendix J – Gantt. This involved:

• updating information and evidence since the previous PNA, including latest priorities
• setting the scene for pharmacy services
• updating information on the population of and latest health information
• conducting surveys of pharmacies, of pharmacy users and of particular interest groups who may have specific needs
• preparing a draft for consultation.

Following this consultation, the comments will be assessed by the steering group and the final PNA will be published early in 2018.
1.5 Localities for the purpose of the PNA

This PNA analyses services by locality, as set out in Figure 1. These specified areas are the health and social care communities agreed localities for place based provision of services.

Figure 1 Barking & Dagenham localities and wards
### Table 1: Localities in Barking & Dagenham

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<td></td>
<td>Eastbrook</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Goresbrook</td>
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<td>River</td>
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<td>Chadwell Heath</td>
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