Health and Wellbeing Board

18 November 2026

Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Supplementary Statement

For Decision

Cabinet Member:
Cllr M Bell, Public Health, Prevention & Communities

Local Councillor(s):

Senior Leadership Team:
S Crowe - Executive Director, Housing, Prevention and Communities

Report author and job title: Eleanor Jeram, Public Health Intelligence Team Lead
Email: Eleanor.Jeram@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Statutory Authority: The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013

Report status: Public (the exemption paragraph is N/A)

1. Executive summary (maximum of 500 words)

1.1 The Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board has a statutory responsibility to publish and maintain a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA). The PNA informs commissioning decisions and pharmacy market entry applications by assessing whether local pharmaceutical services meet the needs of the population.

1.2 Since publication of the current PNA, several changes to local pharmaceutical service provision have occurred. These changes have been reviewed in accordance with the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 and national guidance.

1.3 The changes affect the availability of pharmaceutical services and should be formally recorded through a supplementary statement. Publication of a supplementary statement is considered a proportionate response and ensures that the PNA remains up to date for commissioners and decision-makers. The changes do not alter the findings or conclusions of the current PNA and do not require a full review of pharmaceutical need.

1.4 The Board is therefore asked to approve publication of the attached PNA Supplementary Statement.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- Note the changes to pharmaceutical service provision that have occurred since publication of the current Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.
- Note that these changes do not alter the findings or conclusions of the current PNA regarding pharmaceutical need.
- Approve publication of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Supplementary Statement attached at Appendix 1.

3. Reason for the recommendation(s)

3.1 Publication of a supplementary statement ensures that the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment remains current, and that NHS Dorset and other decision-makers have access to up-to-date information when considering pharmaceutical service applications and commissioning decisions.

4. The report

4.1 A Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is a statutory assessment of the pharmaceutical services required to meet the needs of the population within a Health and Wellbeing Board area. It informs NHS commissioning decisions and supports the consideration of applications to join or amend the pharmaceutical list. The PNA considers current provision, accessibility, future population needs and any identified gaps in service provision.

4.2 The current Dorset and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole PNA was published in October 2025 following statutory consultation and assessment. The PNA concluded that there was appropriate pharmaceutical service provision across the Dorset Integrated Care System area and identified no current or future gaps requiring additional pharmacy provision during the life of the document.

4.3 Following publication, the Health and Wellbeing Board has an ongoing responsibility to monitor changes to pharmaceutical service provision. The

Regulations recognise that changes can occur during the lifetime of the PNA and provide two potential responses:

- Publication of a revised PNA where significant changes in need are identified.
- Publication of a supplementary statement where changes relate to the availability of pharmaceutical services and a full revision would be disproportionate.

4.4 A supplementary statement is a factual update to a published PNA. It records changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services and becomes part of the PNA once published. The purpose is to ensure that commissioners and decision makers have access to current information when determining pharmacy applications and commissioning decisions. It does not revise the finding of the PNA, and does not identify new gaps in provision.

4.5 Since publication of the current PNA, several changes to pharmaceutical service provision have been formally notified to the Health and Wellbeing Board through NHS Dorset and Primary Care Support England.

4.6 These changes are summarised in Appendix 1 and for Dorset include:

- The opening of a new pharmacy in the Fortuneswell/High Street area of Portland.
- The relocation of 1 pharmacy, with no significant change to provision.
- Change of ownership for 15 pharmacies across Dorset, including those resulting from the closing of JHoots Pharmacies.
- Corrections and updates to opening hours for 6 pharmacies in the Dorset area.

4.7 The potential impact of each change has been assessed against the requirements set out within the Regulations and national guidance.

4.8 The review concluded that the identified changes represent changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services that should be formally recorded through a supplementary statement. However, the changes do not alter the conclusions of the current PNA and do not indicate a need for a full refresh of the assessment. Publication of a supplementary statement is therefore considered the appropriate and proportionate response.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 No action – This option was discounted as the changes would not be formally reflected within the published PNA, resulting in decision-makers having access to out-of-date information.

5.2 Undertake a full revision of the PNA – This option was considered disproportionate as the identified changes do not amount to a significant change in pharmaceutical need and do not warrant full reassessment and consultation.

6. Legal considerations

6.1 The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and the proposed supplementary statement are governed by the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013.

6.2 Regulation 6 allows a Health and Wellbeing Board to publish a supplementary statement where changes to the availability of pharmaceutical services are relevant to the granting of pharmacy applications and where publication of a revised PNA would be a disproportionate response. The supplementary statement becomes part of the PNA once published.

7. Financial implications

7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from publication of the supplementary statement.

7.2 The supplementary statement may assist NHS Dorset in future pharmaceutical commissioning and market entry decisions.

8. Natural environment, climate & ecology implications

8.1 The are no direct natural environments, climate or ecological implications arising from publication of the supplementary statement

9. Well-being and health implications

9.1 Maintaining an accurate PNA supports effective planning and commissioning of pharmaceutical services and helps ensure continued access to medicines and pharmacy services for Dorset residents.

9.2 Publication of the supplementary statement promotes transparency and ensures that changes to local pharmacy provision are formally recognised within the statutory assessment framework.

10. Other implications

10.1 None Identified

11. Risk Implications

11.1 Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:
Current Risk: Low
Residual Risk: Low

12. Equalities

12.1 The supplementary statement records factual changes to service availability and does not alter the conclusions of the existing PNA.

12.2 An Equality Impact Statement is not required.

13. Appendices

13.1 Appendix 1 – Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Supplementary Statement.

14. Background papers

14.1 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025-2028

15. Report sign-off

15.1 This report has been through the internal report clearance process and has been signed off by the Director for Assurance & Governance (Monitoring Officer), the Director for Resources (Section 151 Officer) and the appropriate Cabinet Member(s)