

**L & SC Integrated Care Board
Primary Care Contracts Sub-committee**

Date of meeting	14 th August 2025
Title of paper	NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB Response to the Draft Lancashire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment
Presented by	Nicola Feeney Pharmacy Delivery Assurance Manager
Author	Nicola Feeney Pharmacy Delivery Assurance Manager
Agenda item	6
Confidential	No

Purpose of the paper				
The purpose of the paper is to Assure the Sub - committee that the PNA has been considered, and a response has been written on behalf of the ICB.				
Executive summary				
The three health and wellbeing boards (HWBs) across pan-Lancashire (Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire County Council) have a statutory responsibility to publish and keep up to date a statement of the needs for pharmaceutical services of the population in its area. This is referred to as a pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA) and needs to be published before 1 October 2025.				
The ICB uses the PNA when determining routine applications to join the Pharmaceutical List and has therefore been asked to comment on the new PNAs as a recognised interested party.				
Recommendations				
The Primary Care Contracts Sub-committee is requested to:				
1.Note the contents of the report				
2.Approve the response as drafted				
Governance and reporting (list other forums that have discussed this paper)				
Meeting		Date		Outcomes
Pharmaceutical Services Group		25 July 2025		Response recommended
Conflicts of interest identified				
Not Applicable				
Implications				
(If yes, please provide a brief risk description and reference number)	Yes	No	N/A	Comments

Quality impact assessment completed			X	
Equality impact assessment completed			X	
Data privacy impact assessment completed			X	
Financial impact assessment completed			X	
Associated risks			X	
Are associated risks detailed on the ICB Risk Register?			X	

Report authorised by:	Jane Cass, Director of Partnerships & Collaboration
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Primary Care Contracts Sub-committee

NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB Response to the Draft Lancashire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

1. Background

- 1.1 Section 128A of the National Health Service Act 2006 (NHS Act 2006) requires each Health and Wellbeing Board to assess the need for pharmaceutical services in its area and to publish a statement of its assessment.
- 1.2 Termed a 'pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA)', the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, as amended set out the minimum information that must be contained within a pharmaceutical needs assessment and outline the process that must be followed in its development. This information includes a clear statement about any current or future needs for pharmaceutical services and any need for additional provision to secure improvements or better access.
- 1.3 The main aim of a PNA is to assess if current pharmacy services are meeting the needs of the people of the local area. A PNA describes community pharmacy services currently being provided in a specific area, identifying where and when these are available; and it assesses the current and future health needs of the local population.
- 1.4 Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire Health & Wellbeing Boards have produced a joint draft PNA outlining services which will help to ensure residents have good access to local pharmacy services. The last PNA was published in September 2022.
- 1.5 A link to a copy of the draft PNA is below:

https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/964067/executive-summary_-draft-pna-2025.pdf
- 1.6 The PNA states that there is currently no identified need for additional pharmaceutical contracts.

2. Lancashire and South Cumbria Response

- 2.1 After considering the PNA it is proposed that the ICB submits the following response to Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Boards:

This response is on behalf of NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB). The ICB received delegated responsibility for the

commissioning of NHS pharmaceutical and local pharmaceutical services from NHS England on the 1 July 2022. The ICB will therefore use the PNA to determine routine applications under the NHS Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Regulations 2013, as amended.

The ICB has reviewed the assessment and would like to thank the Health and Wellbeing Boards for producing a comprehensive PNA and providing the ICB with the opportunity to comment.

The ICB acknowledges that the Health and Wellbeing Boards have not identified any current need for additional pharmaceutical contracts. The ICB is supportive of the assessment.

3. Conclusion

3.1 In conclusion, the ICB is supportive of the PNA assessment.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Primary Care Contracts Sub-committee is requested to:
- 1.Note the contents of the report.
 - 2.Approve the response as drafted.

Nicola Feeney

18th July 2025.