

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

Subject Heading:

Pharmacy Integration Fund - Community Pharmacy **(for information)**

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The subject matter of this report deals with the following priorities of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

- Priority 1: Early help for vulnerable people
- Priority 2: Improved identification and support for people with dementia
- Priority 3: Earlier detection of cancer
- Priority 4: Tackling obesity
- Priority 5: Better integrated care for the 'frail elderly' population
- Priority 6: Better integrated care for vulnerable children
- Priority 7: Reducing avoidable hospital admissions
- Priority 8: Improve the quality of services to ensure that patient experience and long-term health outcomes are the best they can be

SUMMARY

To support the transformation outlined in the Five Year Forward View, and to contribute to the Government's required efficiencies, a new Pharmacy Integration Fund (PhIF) was set up in October 2016. The PhIF is the responsibility of NHS England and is separate to any negotiations related to the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework (CPCF). It will be used to validate and inform any future reform of the CPCF going forward.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The board is asked to note the PhIF update.

REPORT DETAIL

Beginning in December 2016, NHS England will be working to embed pharmacy into the NHS urgent care pathway by expanding the services already provided by community pharmacies in England for those who need urgent repeat prescriptions and treatment for urgent minor ailments and common conditions.

This will be piloted in two work streams to run in parallel from December 2016 to April 2018:

- An urgent medicines supply service –This will involve a direct referral from NHS 111 to community pharmacies. This will speed up access for those needing urgent repeat prescription medicines because they will no longer need a GP out-of-hours appointment, and it will route patients away from A&E who might otherwise attend to request urgent medicines. The aim is to manage more efficiently the approximate 200,000 calls per year to NHS 111 for urgent repeat prescription medicines. The usual NHS prescription charges and exemptions will apply to this service;
- Urgent minor illness care - from December 2016 to April 2018, NHS England will test the technical integration and clinical governance framework for referral to community pharmacy from NHS 111 for people who need immediate help with urgent minor ailments where this is appropriate for community pharmacy. This will develop an evidence-based, clinical and cost effective approach to how community pharmacists and their teams contribute to urgent care in the NHS, in particular making the referral of people with minor ailments from NHS 111 to community pharmacy much more robust. Minor ailments services are already commissioned by clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) across many parts of the country and ultimately NHS England will encourage all CCGs to adopt this joined-up approach by April 2018, building on the experience of the urgent and emergency care vanguard projects to achieve this at scale. It should be noted that NHS England London region commissions Minor ailments schemes for Barking and Dagenham and Havering.

In addition to the urgent care work streams, the PHiF will include a workforce development package for community pharmacy professional teams, deployment of pharmacy teams into care homes, and development of the pharmacist role in integrated urgent care clinical hubs, such as NHS 111.

Relevant interdependencies

In delivering the Five Year Forward View there are five Vanguard types (out of the 50 national sites):



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- a) Multispecialty community providers (MCPs) (14) – moving specialist care out of hospitals into the community. MCP common model and contract framework in place- comments on draft MCP contract documents by 20 January 2017
- b) Integrated primary and acute care systems (PACs) (9) – joining up GP, hospital, community and mental health services. Framework and contract under development.
- c) *Enhanced health in care homes (EHCH)* (6) – offering older people better, joined up health, care and rehabilitation services working closely with the NHS, local authorities, the voluntary sector, carers and families to optimise the health of their residents. The EHCH care model is an adjunct to the other new care models that are delivering whole population healthcare. It will become a core element of the MCP and PACS models.
- d) Urgent and emergency care (8) – new approaches to improve the coordination of services and reduce pressure on A&E departments
- e) Acute care collaborations (13) – linking local hospitals together to improve their clinical and financial viability, reducing variation in care and efficiency.

Relevance to London Borough of Havering

The fund is aimed at the integration of pharmacy across primary care with a key project involving pharmacy professionals supporting care home residents. (More details about the care homes project will follow sometime this year). It is envisaged that pharmacy professionals will link into the EHCH model cited above supporting the care home residents in Havering.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no immediate financial implications and risks.

Public Health England is developing a “value proposition” to inform the local commissioning of community pharmacy services by local authorities as referenced in the December 2015 letter. NICE is expected to publish a guideline in 2018 about the role of community pharmacy in promoting health and wellbeing. This work is separate to the PhIF but will inform the future local commissioning of services for public health services from community pharmacy.

Legal implications and risks:



There are none pertaining to this report.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are none pertaining to this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

There are none pertaining to this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.



Pharmacy
Integration Fund Br

2.



Pharmacy Urgent
Care Briefing .pdf

3. NHS England website about the Pharmacy Integration Fund and associated slides

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/primary-care-comm/pharmacy/integration-fund/>

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