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# Pharmacy Closures - FEJ88 and FVP85

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<b>Report being considered by:</b>	Health and Wellbeing Board
<b>On:</b>	20 April 2023
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<b>Report Sponsor:</b>	April Peberdy
<b>Item for:</b>	Decision

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## 1. Purpose of the Report

This report provides an analysis of the impacts of the notified closures of the Lloyds pharmacies at the Sainsbury's superstores in Calcot and Newbury and advises the Health and Wellbeing Board on the implications for the West Berkshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- (a) note the receipt of the NHS notification of the termination of the contract and subsequent closure of the following pharmacies on 22 April 2023:
  - FEJ88 – Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd (in Sainsbury), Bath Road, Calcot, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 7SA
  - FVP85 – Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd (in Sainsbury), Hectors Way, Newbury. Berkshire RG14 5AB
- (b) note the assessed impacts of the closures;
- (c) agree that a supplementary statement be issued in relation to the closure of FEJ88; and
- (d) agree that no action is needed in relation to the closure of FVP85.

## 3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 The West Berkshire Health and Wellbeing Board has received closure notifications for Lloyds Pharmacies located in Sainsbury's in Calcot and Newbury. The Board has a duty to keep its Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) under review in the light of any notifications of changes in provision of services within the district.
- 3.2 This would bring the total number of closures of pharmacies listed in the PNA to three. FXR54 – Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd, 7 Kingsland Centre, The Broadway, Thatcham, RG19 3HN having closed in August 2022 just prior to the publication of the PNA.
- 3.3 The implications of the closure of FEJ88 and FVP85 have been assessed in accordance with national guidance and legislative requirements.

## 4. Supporting Information

### Background

- 4.1 The Health and Social Care Act 2012 established health and wellbeing boards and made them responsible for developing and updating PNAs with effect from 1 April 2013. The NHS Act 2006, amended by the Health and Social Care Act 2012, sets out the requirement for health and wellbeing boards to develop and update PNAs. The NHS (Pharmaceutical Services and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 (the 2013 regulations), as amended, set out the minimum information that must be contained within a PNA and outline the process that must be followed in its development.
- 4.2 PNAs are used and referred to by those wishing to open a new pharmacy or dispensing appliance contractor premises. They are used by NHS England and NHS Improvement to determine applications, and NHS Resolution refer to them when applications go to appeal.
- 4.3 Following publication of a PNA, health and wellbeing boards must assess the impacts of any changes in provision of pharmaceutical services in their area and determine whether the changes warrant refreshing the PNA or publishing a supplementary statement to the existing PNA in accordance with national guidance and legislation, or if no action is required because the changes do not create a gap in provision.

### Pharmacy Closures

- 4.4 NHS England formally notified the Health and Wellbeing Board Chairman, the West Berkshire Council Public Health Team and Principal Policy Officer on 31 January 2023 that they had been notified by Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd that they will permanently close the following pharmacies:
- Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd (in Sainsbury), Bath Road, Calcot, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 7SA (ODS Code: FEJ88) - effective from COP on 22 April 2023.
  - Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd (in Sainsbury), Hectors Way, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5AB (ODS Code: FVP85) – effective from COP on 22 April 2023.

### Essential Services

- 4.5 Essential services are offered by all pharmacy contractors as part of the NHS Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework. All pharmacy contractors are required to deliver and comply with the specifications for all essential services. These are:
- Dispensing Medicines
  - Dispensing Appliances
  - Repeat Dispensing
  - Clinical governance
  - Discharge Medicines Service

- Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles
- Signposting
- Support for self-care
- Disposal of Unwanted Medicines

4.6 The closure of the two pharmacies (FEJ88 and FVP85) would see a reduction in the overall availability of essential provision in the district. The closures will also lead to an increase in the average number of items dispensed in other pharmacies. In 2020/21, West Berkshire pharmacies dispensed an average of 7,867 items per month, which is more than the national average of 6,675 per month. However, the current PNA indicates that existing contractors have spare capacity, and it is considered likely that current service provision will provide sufficient coverage.

### **Advanced Services**

4.7 Advanced services are NHS England commissioned services that community pharmacy and contractors and dispensing appliance contractors can provide subject to accreditation as necessary. As of January 2022 these included:

- New medicines service
- Community pharmacy seasonal influenza vaccination
- Community pharmacy consultation service
- Hypertension case-finding service
- Community pharmacy hepatitis C antibody testing service

4.8 Also, in early 2022, a stop-smoking service was introduced in pharmacies for patients who started their stop-smoking journey in hospital.

4.9 In addition, there are two appliance advanced services that pharmacies and dispensing appliance contractors may choose to provide:

- Appliance use reviews,
- Stoma appliance customisation.

4.10 Both FEJ88 and FVP85 provide:

- New medicines service
- Community pharmacy seasonal influenza vaccination
- Community pharmacy consultation service

4.11 The current PNA findings indicated that there was strong coverage of these services within West Berkshire and in pharmacies just beyond the local authority boundary. Closure of FEJ88 and FVP85 is therefore unlikely to significantly affect overall availability of this provision. The following is a summary of the impact to those

residents in the immediate vicinity of FEJ88 and FVP85 who are most likely to be affected by the closures.

### Access

- 4.12 Within the current PNA, accessibility of services was determined by whether the population resided within 1 mile radius of a pharmacy for urban areas, or within 20 minutes' drive to a pharmacy for rural areas. Both FEJ88 and FVP85 are located within urban areas.
- 4.13 Closure of FEJ88 will result in 2,990 additional residents being excluded from being within a 1-mile radius of a pharmacy, including parts of Calcot, Beansheaf and Fords Farm. It should be noted that there are additional challenges affecting walking journeys to the nearest pharmacies, with residents having to cross the A4 and / or M4 or negotiate the steep hill to Tilehurst. The affected area contains one Lower Super Output Area that is within the 40% most deprived areas in the country, which includes part of Tilehurst Birch Copse ward. This neighbourhood is one of the 10% most deprived in West Berkshire. There is a Branch practice to Theale Medical Centre providing GP services located within this area.
- 4.14 Closure of FVP85 will not exclude any additional residents from being within a 1-mile radius of a pharmacy. Although there are a number of residential developments planned within the area which will bring additional population not currently accounted for in this analysis.
- 4.15 After the closure 18 community pharmacies would remain within the district. This equates to 1.1 community pharmacies per 10,000 residents in West Berkshire, the national average is 2.2. The closure will decrease the ratio, although noting earlier comment about additional capacity being available within the system. Local analysis and discussion with the Local Pharmaceutical Committee confirms this remains the position.
- 4.16 FEJ88 opens 8.30am to 9pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm on Saturdays and 10am to 4pm on Sundays, totalling 80.5 hours per week. There are 5 other pharmacies within a 2-mile radius of this site, which are in Theale and Tilehurst (including those in neighbouring Reading Borough). These offer the same advanced services as FEJ88. Late evening opening is covered by one pharmacy within this radius, no pharmacy provides Sunday opening. Asda Pharmacy (FT293) in Reading Borough is just outside a 2-mile radius and provides coverage in the evenings and on Sundays. Travel times from FEJ88 to the nearest pharmacy located in Theale are: 20 minutes walking; 5 minutes driving; and 10-15 minutes by public transport.
- 4.17 FVP85 opens 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm on Saturdays and is closed on Sundays, totalling 72 hours per week. There are 5 other pharmacies within a 2-mile radius of this site, which are in Newbury town centre, Greenham and Wash Common. Of these, Boots (FP041) at the retail park and Tesco (FK567) at Pinchington Lane are both open evenings and on Saturdays, while Boots (FJV60) on Northbrook Street is open on Saturdays. All pharmacies provide the same advanced services as FVP85.
- 4.18 Compared to numbers stated in the PNA, the closure of FEJ88 and FVP85 in addition to the closure of FXR54 will result in the following reductions in numbers within the district.

	Stated in PNA	From 22 April 2023	Loss
Total community pharmacies	21	18	3
Late evening opening	10	8	2
Sunday opening	6	4	2
Saturday opening	19	16	3
New medicine service	20	17	3
Community pharmacy seasonal influenza vaccination	19	16	3
Community pharmacist consultation service	21	18	3
Needle exchange	18	15	3
Supervised consumption	19	16	3
Pharmacy emergency hormonal contraception service	20	18	2

## 5. Options Considered

The options available to the Health and Wellbeing Board are:

- (a) to refresh the PNA;
- (b) to issue a supplementary statement;
- (c) to do nothing

## 6. Proposal(s)

Public Health officers consider that the closure of FVP85 will not create a gap in provision of pharmaceutical services in the Newbury area, and so no further action is required. However, the closure of FEJ88 will create a small gap in provision of pharmaceutical services affecting residents of Calcot, Beansheaf and Fords Farm, which will be exacerbated by local factors affecting access. This will impact residents of one of the district's most deprived neighbourhoods. Therefore, it is proposed that a supplementary statement should be issued in relation to this site. It is considered that refreshing the PNA would not be a proportional response to the closures.

## 7. Conclusion(s)

The closures of FEJ88 and FVP85 have been assessed in accordance with the national guidance and relevant legislation.

## 8. Consultation and Engagement

The following parties have been consulted on this report:

- Health and Wellbeing Board Steering Group,

- Local Pharmaceutical Committee (Pharmacy Thames Valley); and
- Local ward members.

## 9. Appendices

### Appendix A – Pharmacy Access Mapping

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#### Background Papers:

[West Berkshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022-2025 Information Pack for local authority health and wellbeing boards](#)

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#### Health and Wellbeing Priorities Supported:

The proposals will support the following Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities:

- Reduce the differences in health between different groups of people
- Support individuals at high risk of bad health outcomes to live healthy lives
- Help families and young children in early years
- Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all children and young people
- Promote good mental health and wellbeing for all adults

The proposals contained in this report will support the above Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities by ensuring that there are sufficient pharmaceutical services in the District to meet the needs of the local population.

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# Appendix A