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# Changes to Pharmaceutical Services

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**Report being considered by:** Health and Wellbeing Board

**On:** 11 July 2024

**Report Author:** Gordon Oliver

**Report Sponsor:** John Ashton

**Item for:** Decision

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## 1. Purpose of the Report

This report provides details of proposed changes to pharmaceutical services in West Berkshire 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 note the application for the for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list at Kingfisher Court, Newbury, RG14 5SJ in respect of distance selling premises by Halo Pharmacy Limited.

## 3. Executive Summary

3.1 The West Berkshire Health and Wellbeing Board has a duty to keep its Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) under review in the light of any notifications of changes in provision of pharmaceutical services within the district.

3.2 Notification has been received from PCSE of an application for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list at Kingfisher Court, Newbury in respect of distance selling premises by Halo Pharmacy Limited.

## 4. Supporting Information

4.1 On 19 June 2024, notification was received from PCSE of an application for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list at Kingfisher Court, Newbury, RG14 5SJ in respect of distance selling premises by Halo Pharmacy Limited. A copy of the notification and associated application is provided in Appendix A.

4.2 As a statutory consultee, the Health and Wellbeing Board is invited to submit comments on the application within 45 days of the notification date (i.e., by 3 August 2024)..

4.3 Proposed opening hours are set out below:

	<b>Core Hours</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>
Monday	10:00-18:00	10:00-18:00
Tuesday	10:00-18:00	10:00-18:00
Wednesday	10:00-18:00	10:00-18:00
Thursday	10:00-18:00	10:00-18:00
Friday	10:00-18:00	10:00-18:00

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Saturday	-	-
Sunday	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>40 hours</b>	<b>40 hours</b>

- 4.4 Distance selling pharmacies provide the same services as any other pharmacies, but patients either have to post their prescription to the pharmacy or ask their GP to send it electronically. The pharmacy then dispenses it and sends it to the patient via the post or a courier. There are many such distance-selling pharmacies currently operating across the country. These must provide essential services to anyone, anywhere in England, where requested to do so.
- 4.5 Essential Services will be provided remotely through the deployment of an approved website and patient app to enable any patient anywhere in England to request NHS Essential services without a face-to-face contact. The website, app and all other digital platforms for communication will be available uninterrupted at least during the opening hours of the premises. Full details of how essential services will be provided are set out in the Dispensary Standard Operating Procedures (included in Appendix A).
- 4.6 In addition to Essential Services, the application indicates that the new pharmacy will be accredited to provide the following Advanced and Enhanced Services:
- New medicines service
  - Community pharmacy seasonal influenza vaccination
  - Community pharmacist consultation service (now known as Pharmacy First)
  - Care home service
  - Home delivery service
  - On demand availability of specialist drugs service
- 4.7 Only advanced services that can be provided remotely will be provided. The pharmacy does not intend to provide services that could require service users to come to the premises. If members of staff receive requests from a member of the public for provision of face-to-face services, the NHS Choices website will be used to find suitable service providers near to the patient and contact details will be provided.

## 5. Options Considered

The Board may choose to: respond to the consultation to indicate that it supports the application; that it does not object to the application; or that it opposes the application. Alternatively, the Board may choose not to respond.

## 6. Proposal(s)

- 6.1 Given that distance selling premises are required to serve patients anywhere in England, it is not considered that the application by Halo Pharmacy Limited for distance selling premises to be established at Hambridge Road, Newbury will have a material impact on existing pharmacies in West Berkshire.

- 6.2 A previous application was submitted by Halo Pharmacy Limited in respect of distance selling premises for Ground Floor Flat 1, 4 Hambridge Road, RG14 5SS, which was considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Board agreed that a response be prepared by the Director of Public Health in consultation with the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board to confirm that the Board had no objection to the proposal.
- 6.3 Given that the Board has already responded to the previous application, it is not considered necessary to make a response in relation to the new application.

### 7. Conclusion(s)

The proposed changes in pharmaceutical services have been assessed in accordance with national guidance and relevant legislation.

### 8. Consultation and Engagement

Local Ward Members have been informed of the application.

### 9. Appendices

Appendix A – Application for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list at Kingfisher Court, Newbury, RG14 5SJ in respect of distance selling premises by Halo Pharmacy Limited

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### Background Papers:

[West Berkshire Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2022-2025](#)

[Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments: Information pack for local authority health and wellbeing boards, DHSC, October 2021](#)

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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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