2025 Lambeth Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

Plain English Summary

What is the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and Why Do We Have It?

The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) is a report about community pharmacies that helps Lambeth Council understand where people go to get their medicine and some health advice, and if the current services are good enough for everyone in the area.

Every three years the council checks if people can easily reach a pharmacy, if there are enough open at different times, and if the pharmacies are offering the right kind of help. This new PNA looks at the years 2025 to 2028.

What Do Pharmacies Do?

Pharmacies are places where people get medicine, health advice, and help with staying healthy. There are three kinds of pharmacy services:

1. **Essential services** – Every pharmacy has to offer these. It includes giving out medicine and advice about how to stay healthy.
2. **Advanced services** – Pharmacies can choose to offer these. They include giving flu jabs and helping people use new medicine properly.
3. **Enhanced services** – These are extra services, like helping people stop smoking, that are chosen based on what a local area needs.

What Did We Look At?

The council talked to local people (online and in person) and pharmacists to find out what's working well and what could be better. They checked where the pharmacies are, when they are open, and if people can get to them easily, including by walking or using public transport.

The council also looked at how many people live in Lambeth, what health problems they have, and what kinds of help they might need now and in the future.

What Did We Find?

- Lambeth is home to more than 323,000 people, many of whom are young but the percentage of people who are over the age of 65 years is increasing.
- People in Lambeth come from lots of different backgrounds.
- Around 18% of Lambeth's population live in the poorest areas of England.
- Many people in Lambeth have health problems or may be at risk of health problems in future.

- There are 59 pharmacies in Lambeth. Some pharmacies, but not all, are open very early, late at night and on the weekends.
- Most people live close to a pharmacy. All parts of Lambeth are within a 6 to 12-minute walk of a pharmacy.
- People in Lambeth can choose between different pharmacies in most areas.
- There are enough services to help people stay healthy, including for those with long-term health problems.
- Lots of pharmacies are offering additional services like flu jabs, new medicine checks, and blood pressure tests.
- There are plans in some areas of the borough for many new homes to be built, so in future we may need to look at whether there are enough pharmacies in those areas.

What Did People Say?

- Most people are happy with their pharmacy and the help they get.
- People said pharmacy staff are friendly and know what they're doing.
- People with disabilities or long-term health conditions mostly said their needs were met.

What Happens Next?

The council thinks no big changes are needed right now. People can get the pharmacy help they need, and the current number and location of pharmacies are working well. But they will keep checking in case things change in the future.