

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Adults and Health)

Date: 27 June 2017

Subject: Proposed Prescribing Changes: Formal Consultation

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present a range of information associated with proposed changes to local prescribing arrangements; and to seek the Scrutiny Board's view on said proposals.

2 Main issues

- 2.1 At its meeting in April 2017, the former Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Services, Public Health, NHS) considered proposals from Leeds Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) around changes to prescribing in Leeds. In summary the proposals covered the following matters:
- stop prescribing treatments / medicines for short-term, minor conditions/ailments that are available over the counter (in pharmacies or shops) at a price cheaper than an NHS prescription (or where there is insufficient evidence of clinical benefit or cost effectiveness);
 - stop prescribing branded medicines where alternative medicines are available; and,
 - stop prescribing gluten-free foods.
- 2.2 Details of the report and information considered at the meeting in April 2017 are attached to this report. However, following the announcement of the General Election 2017 and the subsequent pre-election period, advice provided to the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) prevented representatives from the CCGs attending to present the proposals and address any questions from the Scrutiny Board.

- 2.3 In addition to the proposals from the Clinical Commissioning Groups, the Scrutiny Board also considered information on the proposals from (also appended to this report):
- Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire (CPWY)
 - Leeds Local Medical Committee (LMC)
 - Leeds' Director of Public Health
- 2.4 Appropriate CCG representatives have been invited to attend the meeting to discuss the proposals, the associated implications and address any specific questions from the Scrutiny Board.
- 2.5 To help inform the further discussion with CCG representatives, the following key areas of discussion were recorded during the meeting held in April 2017:
- Concern about the potential issue of creating a postcode prescribing arrangement.
 - Concern about any potential impact on health inequality if certain items were unavailable on prescription.
 - Concern about greater responsibilities placed on pharmacists and the level of engagement that had taken place.
 - Concern around any local changes within the context of planned work / proposals at a national level (which had been the subject of recent announcements from NHS England).

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Board is asked to consider the information provided and:
- Agree the outline of any formal response to the proposals.
 - Identify any specific matters that may require further scrutiny input/ activity.

4. Background papers¹

- 4.1 None used

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.