

Turning Point Community Pharmacy Substance Misuse Services in Herefordshire

Introduction

From the 1st April 2021, Turning Point will be delivering the substance misuse services in Herefordshire. Our organisation has a very long history of providing drug and alcohol services both locally and nationally and we are looking forward to developing an excellent working relationship with local pharmacies. To this extent we have been in discussion with your Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) and aim to present our offer moving forward below.

We continue to work in challenging times as we navigate our way through a global pandemic. In addition, similar to community pharmacy, drug and alcohol services have seen considerable cuts in funding during this long period of austerity. Our aim with the offer below is to maintain funding for community pharmacy. During the first six months of the contract we will actively engage with the LPC, service users and other stakeholders and undertake a needs assessment of services. Following this we will aim to have a revised contract of services in line with the needs assessment from 1st October 2021.

We have summarised the remuneration package and some additional details below and the Locally Commissioned service Agreements (LCSAs) are available in the Expression of Interest document attached.

Established Locally Commissioned services – Needle and Syringe Programme (NSP)

- A transaction fee of £2.00
- A quarterly payment of £75 per pharmacy

Established Locally Commissioned services –Supervised Consumption

- £2.00 for Espranor® oral lyophilisates and methadone
- £2.75 for generic buprenorphine.

Training and Engagement

Support for our pharmacy colleagues remains an essential element of our service. Prior to starting the service we will deliver an engagement event to discuss the services and how we will work together. Previously this has been a face-to-face event delivered locally and often with our GP colleagues to support shared learning. However, we anticipate that this may be an online event in March 2021 due to the current restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Training will be a mixture of locally (or online) delivered Turning Point training and mandated national training. This will include:

- CPPE Substance Use and Misuse e-learning (mandatory for responsible pharmacist in each pharmacy delivering NSP and/or supervised consumption services)
- Local training through Turning Point (which may be delivered online) focussing on
 - Enhanced support and knowledge for delivering supervised consumption and harm reduction services
 - Menu of substance misuse training which pharmacy staff may want to engage with to support their learning. For example, Blood Borne Virus training, OTC and POM misuse training. A full list of optional modules will be made available during the first six months of the contract.

We will also be engaging with the LPC regularly to understand the training and support needs of pharmacy staff and will arrange an annual stakeholder event to discuss services, quality framework audit work, client service needs and locally enhanced service contracts. Turning Point and other stakeholders, for example Vernacare supplies, will also aim (subject to Covid-19 restrictions) to visit each pharmacy delivering locally commissioned services to support the transition.

Pharmacy monitoring platform

Turning Point will be working with NEO360 to support the monitoring of interventions. NEO360 is an intuitive system that allows accurate and quick recording of interventions for our community pharmacy colleagues.

Payments will be made monthly via BACS through a consolidated billing arrangement.

NEO360 have a number of videos which take you through the simple process of recording interventions and their staff will be more than happy to support you during the transition period. They will also present their system at the joint Pharmacy and GP event in March 2021.

NEO360 will also be in touch with community pharmacies that will be delivering the locally commissioned services for their details to allow monthly payments to be made.

Next Steps

- All pharmacies that currently provide supervised consumption and/or needle and syringe programmes will be invited to continue providing this service. LCSAs will be sent out to pharmacies by the end of January 2021 to be returned by Friday 19th March 2021. The LCSAs will be embedded in the Expression of Interest (EOI) document
- We will also undertake an Expression of Interest programme with all community pharmacies in the Herefordshire area with support of the LPC in **February 2021**.
- Once we have received back all Expression of Interest forms we will assess the responses and map the need **during March 2021** with the support of the LPC and local commissioners and stakeholders.
- We will contact new pharmacies and invite them to participate in our services in **during quarter 2 2021 (April 2021 to June 2021)** and also invite them to be part of our service provision. LCSAs will be sent out following this needs assessment