

Kingstons Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025

Summary



This is an Easy
Read summary on
the draft
Pharmaceutical
Needs Assessment.



Introduction



- Health and Wellbeing Boards must check pharmacy needs every three years.
- Kingston's last check was in September 2022. This has also been updated when things change.



- This 2025 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) will be published in September 2025.
- This helps to plan pharmacy services.



- The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) helps understand what pharmacy services people need.
- It shows what services are already there.
- It helps people decide on new NHS pharmacy contracts.
- It finds gaps in services. It helps make services fair for everyone.



- Soar Beyond helped Kingston Council to do a PNA.
- A Steering Group watched over the work. They made sure everything was done the right way and followed NHS rules.

How was this done



- The Kingston Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to make a group.
- This group is called the Kingston PNA Steering Group.



- The Kingston PNA Steering Group was set up. They talked about what each person in the group would do and how long it would take to make the plan.



- The group collected information. They looked at pharmacy services, how many people live in Kingston, and what health services people need.



Pharmacy

- They checked what services are already there. They also looked at services in nearby areas to see what is missing.



- The group asked people what they think. The people's views were included in the draft report to share with everyone.

National Health Service (NHS) pharmaceutical services in England



- The NHS has different types of pharmacy services.
- These services are run by organisations on the pharmaceutical list held by NHS England (NHSE).



- **Community pharmacies** are one type.
- They give medicines and advice to people in their area. Some of these pharmacies also send medicines by post.



- Another type is **Dispensing Appliance Contractors**.
- They give advice and deliver medical equipment to homes. But they do not give out medicines. They help people who need special medical tools.



- **Local Pharmaceutical Services** are special pharmacies.
- They work with the NHS to help people in their area. They have their own agreements with the NHS.



- **Dispensing doctors** are GPs who can give out medicines.
- They give medicines to their own patients.



- The NHS has pharmacy services.
- There are three main types of pharmacy services.
- These are called Essential, Advanced, and Enhanced Services.



- **Essential Services** are things every NHS pharmacy must do.
- This includes giving out medicines, getting rid of old medicines, and helping people live healthier lives.



- **Advanced Services** are extra services. Pharmacies can choose to do these if they have been approved.
- This includes giving medicines for sore throat, checking blood pressure and giving flu jabs.



- **Enhanced Services** are special services.
- NHS England asks pharmacies to do these to help improve care in the community. Pharmacies can choose to do these services.



- Sometimes, NHS England does not ask for a service. In these cases, local groups such as the **council** or **Integrated Care Board** might ask for it.
- These local services are called Locally Commissioned Services.
- Pharmacies can choose to do these services too. They are part of the Pharmacy Needs Assessment (PNA).

About Kingston



- There are 28 pharmacies in Kingston.
- This is less than before. In 2022, there were 31.



- In Kingston, there are 16.4 pharmacies for every 100,000 people.
- This is less than the England average.



- Pharmacies are spread out well in Kingston.
- Most people can walk to a pharmacy in 20 minutes. Everyone can drive to one in five minutes.



- Kingston has good transport. This helps people visit pharmacies in nearby areas like Sutton, Merton, Wandsworth, and Surrey.



- **We recently asked how you use pharmacies in Kingston.**
- Your answers have helped us understand what people need from pharmacy services and how easy they are to access.
- There were a total of 284 responses.

You told us:



- There was no favourite day to visit a pharmacy.
- Sunday was the least favourite day. Only a few people liked going on Sunday.



- Most people went to the pharmacy to get prescriptions. They got them for themselves or someone else.
- Many bought medicines over the counter. Some people asked the pharmacist for advice.



- Most people walked to the pharmacy. Some drove a car.
- Nearly everyone could get to a pharmacy in 30 minutes. People told us it was easy for them to get there.



- People chose a pharmacy for different reasons:
- They wanted to make sure the pharmacy had the medicines they needed.
- They liked good service. They also liked a pharmacy close to them.
- Good customer service was important too.

Conclusion



- There are no missing services in Kingston. But the report suggests ways to make services better.

- The Kingston Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment 2025 looked at health services.
- It found that there are enough NHS services for people now and in the next three years.

- Services are available at different times of the day.
- People can get help even when they are not working.

- The PNA talks about people using Advanced and Enhanced Services.
- This includes Pharmacy First, finding high blood pressure, and the New Medicine Service. **Some places need to know more about these services.**

- It is important to keep checking how these services are working. This helps make sure they meet local health needs.

- In the future, working together more is important. Integrated Care Boards and community pharmacies should work closely.



- The goal is to make health services better for everyone. This means helping people stay healthy and get the right care.



- **Right now, there are no missing services in Kingston.**
- This means people can get the help they need. In the next three years, this will stay the same.
- People will still have good access to services.



- Kingston Council and South West London Integrated Care Board work together.
- They offer extra services to help the NHS. These services are for local people. They want to make it easier for people to get the help they need.



- These services are made to fit what local people need. They want to make sure everyone can use them.



- They want to make sure everyone knows about these services. They think more people will use them if they know about them.



- **Right now, there are no problems with getting better services in Kingston.**
- People can get the help they need. This is true now and for the next three years.
- Services are planned well for everyone. Kingston is doing a good job.



- **We recently asked how you use pharmacies in Kingston.**
- Your answers have helped us understand what people need from pharmacy services and how easy they are to access.



- We have now written a draft report called the **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**.
- This report looks at what is needed now and what should be improved in the future.



How to share your views:

- We would like you to read the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and tell us if anything is missing or needs changing.
- Fill in a short questionnaire (takes about 5 minutes).



- The **survey will close on 25 May 2025.**
- If you want to take part in this survey and need help please contact Healthwatch Kingston, by telephone **0203 326 1255** or email **info@healthwatchkingston.org.uk**