



10 May 2016

PHE Gateway number: 2016-062

Dear colleagues

Future direction of travel for implementation of Level 1 Healthy Living Pharmacies (HLPs)

As Chair of the Pharmacy and Public Health Forum, I am writing to inform you that the Forum has ratified a new process for the implementation of level 1 Healthy Living Pharmacies and this decision is endorsed by Public Health England, to whom the Forum is accountable. As you will be aware, to date, the implementation of HLPs has been commissioner-led. In November 2015, Public Health England announced the intention to move from a totally commissioner-led HLP accreditation system to a profession-led self-assessment process for level 1 HLPs, based on clear quality criteria and underpinned by a proportionate quality assurance process.

Achieving level 1 Healthy Living Pharmacy status will require pharmacies to adopt a proactive health promoting culture and environment within the pharmacy, with all the requirements of the quality criteria satisfied. These include, understanding local public health needs, creating a health and wellbeing ethos, team leadership, communication, community engagement and having a health promoting environment. Local Authorities will continue to lead on implementation and accreditation of level 2 and 3 HLPs and the expectation is that there will continue to be close liaison between community pharmacies wishing to implement level 1 HLPs and their local authorities.

We hope the new process will reduce the workload for local authorities wishing to implement level 2 and 3 HLPs, with commissioned services. We also hope this new approach will help accelerate the rollout of Healthy Living Pharmacies across the country as part of our shared efforts to improve the public's health.

The Pharmacy and Public Health Forum and the pharmacy team within PHE have developed the quality criteria and the self-assessment process. The process for developing the quality

assurance framework is under way and we will make an announcement setting out both the quality criteria and underpinning quality assurance framework in the near future.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan McShane', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Jonathan McShane
Chair of the Pharmacy and Public Health Forum

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