

P 39

Ymchwiliad i'r Adolygiad Blaenoriaethau ar gyfer y Pwyllgor Iechyd, Gofal  
Cymdeithasol a Chwaraeon

Inquiry into the Priorities for the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Ymateb gan: Lloyds Pharmacy

Response from: Lloyds Pharmacy

The National Assembly for Wales - Health Social Care and Sport Committee

## **LloydsPharmacy response to the consultation on the priorities for Health, Social Care and Sport Committee**

### **Introduction**

LloydsPharmacy welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Health Social Care and Sport Committee's consultation on its future work programme.

Over the decades of working locally in Wales, we have seen communities evolve and families grow. LloydsPharmacy is placed in 83 pharmacies across Wales, where over 450 health-trained staff have a proven track record in delivering innovative and quality pharmacy services - located where people live, and across 7 Local Health Boards. Community pharmacies are located in the hearts of communities and span the boundaries of health and social care.

We strongly believe that community pharmacy can play a key role in supporting and furthering NHS Wales's priorities as part of an integrated strategy to combat increasing pressures on demand, such as enabling more capacity in GP surgeries or preventing people developing conditions through public health initiatives.

### **Consultation response**

We would encourage the Committee to review and build on the work undertaken by the Health and Social Care Committee in the fourth Assembly through its inquiry into the contribution of community pharmacy to NHS services in Wales. Having considered the scope of the consultation and the outline headings that have been proposed, we would like to suggest that the Committee considers a further review of the role of community pharmacy in supporting the health and social care agenda in Wales and the extended role for the sector.

The Welsh Government has already recognised some of the opportunities available through the community pharmacy network and has recently invested in the implementation of the Choose Pharmacy Platform and the delivery of the national flu vaccination programme through Community Pharmacy.

We believe it would be of interest to the Committee and the National Assembly to review the range of services currently available and explore how they can be maximised to support the plan for primary care for Wales as set out by the Welsh Government. The inquiry could also explore further initiatives which utilise community pharmacies unique position and skills to support the health of the communities in Wales and the sustainability of the NHS.

Not in isolation of the above suggestion, we ask that community pharmacy is considered as a key stakeholder in discussions should the Committee progress with some of the ideas put forward in the consultation, particularly around;

- Alleviating pressure on the NHS and waiting times – community pharmacy has a significant role in providing the right care at the right time in the right place, which can support building capacity in other parts of the system.
- Supporting primary care and the health of communities – working alongside colleagues in general practice, community pharmacists can play a bigger role in the management of medicines for patients with long term conditions and prevention of avoidable hospital admissions.
- Workforce development – opportunities for the development of the pharmacist and community pharmacy team to deliver more integrated care and further support the primary care development plans for Wales.
- Efficiency within NHS and modern management practices – Pharmacy has a significant role to play, utilising the ready-made network and primary locations in service redesign around the provision of community based care, provision of care closer to home and in the most efficient and effective setting.
- Use of antipsychotic medication in care homes – community pharmacies already provide extensive services to care homes and play a role in the appropriate use of medication in this setting.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with the Committee to further scope the terms of a community pharmacy specific review, or indeed to submit responses to other areas of interest around the role that community pharmacy can play.