



Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee 29th January 2013

Report from the Director of Strategy, Partnerships and Improvement

Wards Affected:
ALL

Role of Community Pharmacists in improving Health and Wellbeing

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Councillors have asked for a report on community pharmacists and how they can play more of a role in the community, how their role in delivering health services can best be utilised and how different elements of the Health Service work with pharmacists in the borough.
- 1.2 The report makes the case that community pharmacies in the UK have a huge potential to tackle health inequalities but that these are being under-utilised. It argues that community pharmacies can contribute to Out of Hospital Care and reduce the number of inappropriate visits to health services including A&E departments.
- 1.3 The report outlines possible ways that community pharmacies could contribute to the Brent Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012-15 and claims that the commissioning of NHS minor ailment schemes and implementation of an electronic prescription service will each free up capacity in GP services by up to 20%.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider the report and question representatives from Brent and Harrow Local Pharmaceutical Committee on its recommendations.

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