

Kent Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

**NHS Dartford, Gravesham
and Swanley Clinical
Commissioning Group**

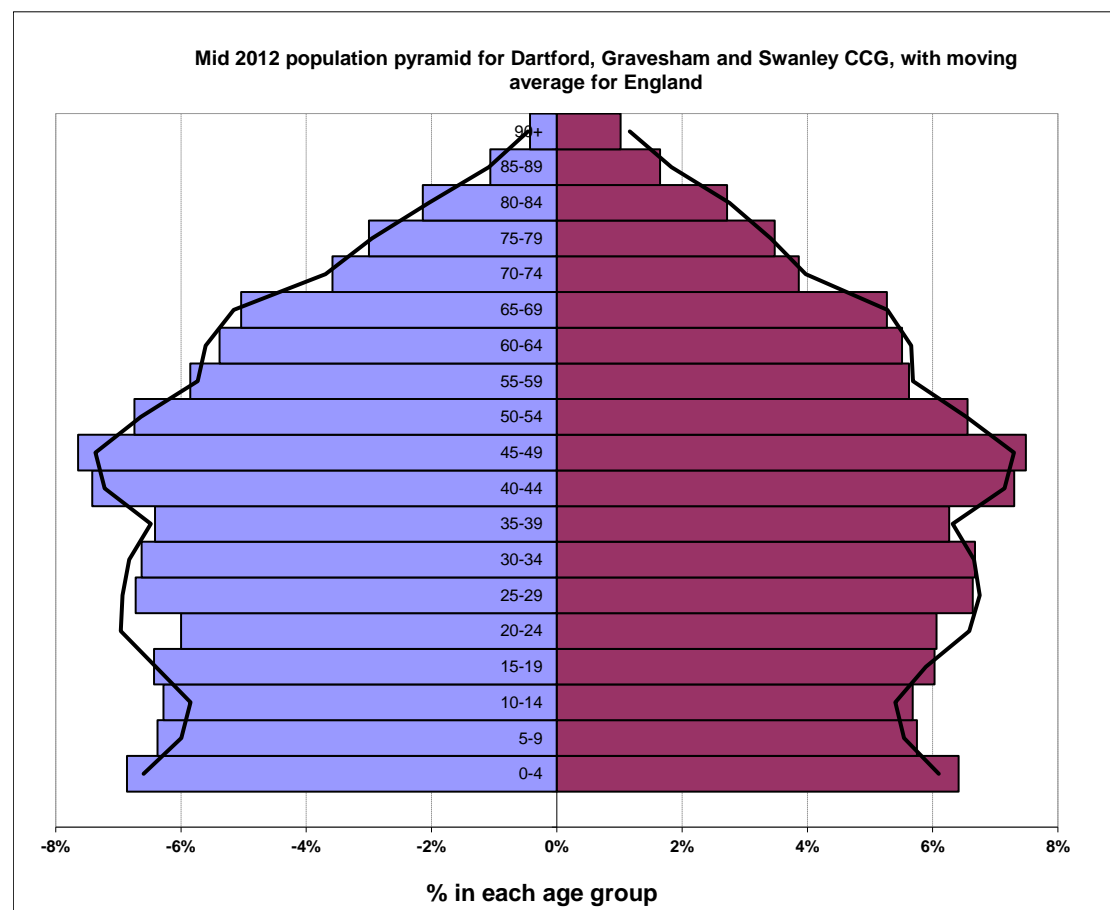
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Introduction

This document has been written as part of the main Kent Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) to allow judgements to be made using local data. This document should be read in conjunction with the main Kent PNA. The CCG area was divided into three separate localities, Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley for the purposes of this assessment.

Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group (DGS CCG) covers patients from 34 practices, with a registered practice population of just under 255,000. The CCG area covers the same area as Dartford Borough Council and Gravesham Borough Council as well as the Swanley area of Sevenoaks District Council



It is important to recognise that patients resident in the CCG area cannot be presumed to be registered exclusively with DGS primary care teams. Generally though, the vast majority of the residents are registered with practices in DGS CCG.

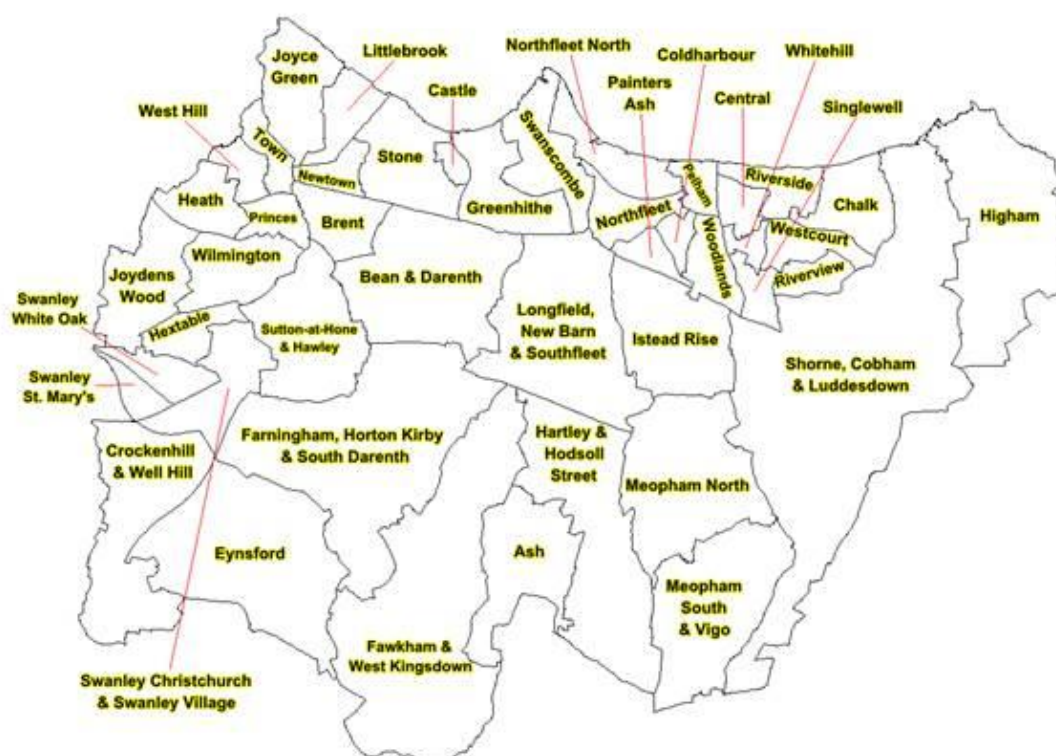
Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley has a higher percentage of under 4 year olds than the national profile but a considerably smaller proportion of those aged between 20 and 24. The largest section of the population in the CCG area are aged between 40 and 55 years old.

Black and minority ethnic (BME) groups form a greater proportion of the population in Dartford and Gravesend, where most wards have at least 3% BME populations and some greater than 10%.

Gypsies and travellers in Kent and Medway mainly live in settled housing, with significant numbers living in Gravesend and the Swanley Housing Estates,

Detailed maps showing the population density, projected population growth and the ethnicity of DGS CCG residents can be found in the supplementary information for DGS CCG in Appendix A.

Practice data¹ shows that out of a practice population of 254,973 there are 33,311 children aged 0-9 living in the DGS area (13.1%), 43,307 people who are over 65 in the DGS area (17.0%), 29.8% of whom are living alone and 3.4% of whom are living in Care homes². These age groups are considered to be the main users of pharmaceutical services.



Prime electoral wards within Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG area

¹ PCIS practice data June 2014

² ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 21 August 2014]

The most deprived wards in the DGS area are Singlewell, Riverside, Northfleet North, Westcourt, Coldharbour and Pelham in Gravesend, Joyce Green, Littlebrook, Swanscombe, Princes and Town in Dartford and Swanley St Mary's in the Swanley area.

The average life expectancy in the DGS area is 80.2 compared to 80.9 for Kent overall and 80.6 for England.

More information is available in the DGS CCG Health Profile which can be found [at http://www.kmpho.nhs.uk/jsna/](http://www.kmpho.nhs.uk/jsna/)

Care Homes

There are a number of care homes in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area. Patients who are looked after in a care home setting are often high users of medicines. However because of the nature of their care, they rarely access pharmaceutical services individually, leaving this to be carried out by the care home staff. More recently care home organisations do not use local pharmacies for this service, favouring the large “hub” or “internet” pharmacies which specialise in this type of one-stop service. Therefore there is not considered to be any relationship between the number of care homes and the need for local pharmaceutical services.

Pharmaceutical Services in NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG

There are two ways that patients can access pharmaceutical services within the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG area. They are through community pharmacies or through a dispensary within a GP practice (dispensing practices). Appliances can be obtained through both of these methods or through a specific appliance contractor. Appliance contractors usually provide a service nationally and there are two based in the Kent area.

Patients can also request to have their prescriptions (especially repeat prescriptions) sent electronically (EPS) to a pharmacy of their choice, such as one close to their work place or near their home. This means that positioning a pharmacy next to a GP practice is no longer as important.

Ratio of number of pharmaceutical service (community Pharmacies and GP dispensing practices) providers per 100,000 population			
Locality	Number of providers	Practice Population	Ratio/100,000 population
NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG	59	254,973	23
Kent			22
England	-	-	23

Community Pharmacy

There are 51 community pharmacies who are registered on the Kent NHS pharmaceutical list as providing the full range of NHS pharmaceutical services and located within the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG area.

NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG - Community Pharmacies	
Total number of Community Pharmacies providing NHS pharmaceutical services	51
Number of standard 40 hour pharmacies	46
Number of 100 hour pharmacies	5
Number of mail order/internet pharmacies	0
Number of appliance contractors	1
Number of pharmacies offering electronic prescription service (EPS)	50

A list of all the pharmacies located within Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG can be found in Appendix B.

Standard 40 hour community pharmacies.

These are pharmacies which are registered as providing at least 40 'core' pharmacy hours per week. These hours are usually 8 hours daily, Mon – Fri but are agreed at the time of application to join the register.

Pharmacies cannot change their 'core' hours without prior agreement with NHS England.

Many of these pharmacies also provide supplementary opening hours, often opening slightly later in the evening and on Saturdays and Sundays.

Pharmacies can change their supplementary hours if they so desire, as long as NHS England receives the statutory 3 months' notice.

100 hour pharmacies

These are pharmacies which have to be open for a minimum of 100 hours per week with the hours being agreed with NHS England.

Mail order/internet pharmacies

These are pharmacies which provide pharmaceutical services via mail order or the internet. They are not accessible to the general public. There are no mail order/internet pharmacies based in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area

A review of all opening times was carried in May 2014 using data provided by NHS England which is available on NHS Choices. It was considered that there is adequate provision of pharmaceutical services through pharmacies and dispensing surgeries for the majority of the day between 8am and 6.30pm. Services between 6am and 8 am and between 6.30pm and 11pm are provided at strategic points across the area. Out of Hours providers of medical services provide access to urgent medical care including urgent medicines between 11pm and 7am.

Subsequent changes to opening times since May have been taken into account and the opening times of all pharmacies along with the additional services that they offer can be found on NHS Choices. NHS England has the responsibility for maintaining NHS Choices.

<http://www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/Pharmacy/LocationSearch/10>

Appliance contractors

Appliance contractors provide appliances only, which are defined in Part IX of the Drug Tariff (e.g. ostomy, colostomy appliances) and these often require tailoring to meet the need of individual patients. There is one appliance contractor located in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG area.

Essential Small Pharmacy Local Pharmaceutical Services (ESP LPS) scheme.

The ESP LPS scheme provided financial assistance to pharmacies which are deemed to be essential for the provision of pharmaceutical services to a local population, but would otherwise be unviable.

This scheme finished in 2011 but has been extended by the Department of Health for current ESPLPS contracts although our understanding is that it is due to finish completely on 31st March 2015.

There is one ESPLPS pharmacies in Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG which is located in the Northfleet area.

NHS England local Area Team will be reviewing the need for extra support to this pharmacy.

Dispensing practices.

NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG – Dispensing practices	
Total number of GP surgeries providing pharmaceutical services to their patients	7
Total number of sites(including branches) providing pharmaceutical services to their patients	8

A list of all the dispensing doctors located within Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG can be found in Appendix C

Dispensing doctors have rights to provide limited pharmaceutical services to their patients with the patient's permission. This is mainly for patients in rural (controlled) areas where the most rural of patients would have problem accessing medicines. The surgery has to be registered to provide pharmaceutical services and can only dispense to their own patients who must be resident in an area which is rural in character, known as a controlled locality, at a distance of more than one mile (1.6km) from a pharmacy's premises. Surgeries must always give these patients the choice of obtaining their medicines through the GP dispensary or being allowed to take their prescription to a community pharmacy of choice.

Patients who live within the 1.6km radius who are unable to access the pharmacy and wish their GP surgery to dispense their medication can, in exceptional circumstances, apply for consideration as a serious difficulty case. All applications for 'serious difficulty' must be made to NHS England

Controlled localities

A 'controlled' locality is an area which is deemed to be rural in character. Until 1 April 2013, PCTs determined whether areas were rural in character, and published maps with any such rural areas (controlled localities) delineated on those maps.

Any areas determined to be controlled localities (or not controlled localities) cannot be considered again for a period of five years. On 1 April 2013, NHS England took over the maps produced by PCTs and became responsible for determinations of controlled localities. An explanation of controlled and not-controlled localities, rurality reviews and definitions of rural and urban can be found in the main Kent PNA document

Maps showing the controlled areas and the 1.6km boundaries around pharmacies in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG location, can be found in Appendix A.

The pharmaceutical services which are provided by community pharmacies and by dispensing doctors are laid down in statute in the NHS Pharmaceutical Services Regulations 2013. Pharmaceutical services from community pharmacies comprise of essential, advanced and enhanced services. Explanations of these services can be found in the main Kent Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. Pharmaceutical services from Dispensing practices do not have to provide all the 'essential' services. They mainly provide dispensing services and the advanced service of Dispensing review of the Use of Medicines (Drums).

All Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley pharmacies must provide the Essential services and a map showing which ones provide the advanced services of Medicine Use reviews (MURs) and New Medicines Service (NMS) can be found in Appendix A.

Pharmaceutical services out of hours

The Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG area currently has five 100 hour pharmacy, two in Swanley, 2 in Gravesham and one in Dartford. These provide access to pharmacy services from early in the morning until late at night Monday to Saturday and are open on a Sunday

Access to medicines via 100 hour pharmacies is considered to be especially important in areas which are deprived, especially if there is a high number of children aged 0-9 and/or elderly people over 65 who are living alone with no family/carer support.

Access to medicines outside these times, is commissioned from the local out-of-hours medical services provider, who has available essential and urgently needed medicines, as agreed in the *National Out of Hours Formulary* and are supplied where the need for them cannot wait until the 100 hour pharmacy opens.

Walk in centres

There are walk in centres at Gravesham Community Hospital and White Horse Surgery which treat minor injuries / ailments. These services are open from early in the morning until late in the evening.

Rota services

NHS England manages a voluntary rota service for days when there are no pharmacies open at all. This is usually Christmas Day and Easter Sunday but may include other Public and Bank holidays if required.

Public Health services provided through pharmacies.

Many community pharmacies are also commissioned by local authorities to provide public health services on a 'needs' basis. These are not classed as pharmaceutical services as they are provided by other healthcare providers as well.

Examples of these are smoking cessation, NHS Healthchecks and sexual health.

For completeness we have included maps showing where these services are available and published them alongside the PNA.

Enhanced services managed by NHS England

Various enhanced services which were commissioned by the former PCTs are currently being reviewed by NHS England. These services include various bespoke services such as warfarin monitoring and access to palliative care drugs. These services are not necessarily pharmacy specific and are therefore may not be considered to be pharmaceutical services. These are not being assessed as part of the PNA until the results of the review are complete.

For completeness we have included maps showing where these services are available and published them alongside the PNA.

CCG services provided through community pharmacies.

These are not necessarily pharmaceutical services and therefore not considered as part of the PNA. However for completeness we are including maps of such services where the information is available.

Currently we have not been informed of any services that Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG commissions through community pharmacies

Non NHS and private services

Pharmacies also provide many other services to the public which are not part of NHS pharmaceutical services and therefore not paid for by the NHS or Local Authority. These can include delivery services, provision of medicines in multi-compartment aids, travel medicines and the sale of over the counter (OTC) medicines. All of these services may attract an additional charge. These services will not be included as part of the PNA.

Healthy Living Pharmacies

Please see the main Kent PNA for an explanation of the concept of Healthy Living Pharmacies. Becoming accredited as a Healthy Living Pharmacy is not mandatory and is not a pharmaceutical service and therefore not considered as part of the PNA.

Currently Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG has 9 community pharmacies who have met the accreditation as a Healthy Living Pharmacy. Please see map in Appendix A for details.

Housing

Like most of Kent, considerable new housing is expected to be built in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area over the next 20 years.

Ebbsfleet Garden City

A major housing development is planned for the Ebbsfleet area, to be known as Ebbsfleet Garden City, with up to 15,000 homes initially. This area is marked on a map in Appendix A. This development has the potential to significantly increase the health needs of the area over time. Although it is not expected to have a major impact in the life time of this PNA, it is important that this development is reviewed regularly.

Paramount Leisure Park

There is also a major leisure and retail park being proposed for the Swanscombe peninsular. The influx of tourists and staff to run this development will affect current health services. This area will also need to be reviewed regularly.

West Kent PNA 2011.

As part of this assessment, reference was made to the previous one carried out in 2011 by West Kent Primary Care Trust. It was noted that this assessment stated the following. (*wording in italics*)

Across the whole PCT area.

There is no immediate need to commission more services, but rather to target the commissioning of current services more appropriately according to need.

Review the PNA regularly in the light of refreshed Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and publication of other relevant data.

Maintain and look to extend access to '100 hours' pharmacies.

Review controlled and non-controlled localities specifically those that are undetermined.

And for the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area in particular

Monitor and review provision of pharmaceutical services in Ebbsfleet, as plans for new housing develop.

We have looked at these recommendations again and note.

Rurality

All the areas in NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley have now been reviewed and are designated as either controlled or not controlled

Pharmacy Contracts

There has been a slight increase in the provision of pharmaceutical services since 2011.

The pharmacies serving outlying areas such as West Kingsdown, Higham, Meopham and Vigo are considered to be essential to these areas and must be preserved especially where the population of these areas are under 10 or over 65 and likely to need more pharmaceutical services.

Housing

The housing developments are still mainly in the planning stage.

Conclusions and recommendations

We therefore recommend that for the NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG area:

The current provision of pharmaceutical services is good and provides the pharmaceutical needs of the population on the whole.

The provision of '100 hour' pharmacies needs to be maintained.

The provision of rural/outlying pharmacies needs to be preserved.

The provision of new housing in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area especially around Ebbsfleet Garden City needs to be reviewed regularly.

The plans for the proposed theme park on the Swanscombe peninsula must be reviewed regularly.

Document Version Control

Version	Date	Author(s)	Comments
Draft 1	25/08/14	Cheryl Clennett	1 st draft
Draft 2	27/08/14	PNA Steering group	Minor amendments made after meeting of PNA SG
Draft 3	17/09/14	KCC HWB	Changes after HWB meeting
Draft 4	27/09/14	K&M LAT	Minor changes by K&M LAT
Draft 5	18/02/15	PNA Steering Group	Changes post consultation
Final Version	20/03/15	PNA steering Group	Final checks prior to publication after approval from HWB