Bedford Borough
Easy Read
Pharmaceutical
Needs Assessment
2018-2021
Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

Every three years we have to look at pharmacy services in our area.

This is called a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.

We are looking at:

- What pharmacy services Bedford Borough have and where they are

- What pharmacy services Bedford Borough might need in the future.
About Bedford Borough

Bedford Borough includes Bedford, Kempston and the surrounding villages

- About 168,751 people live in Bedford Borough
- Some parts of Bedford Borough are well off and others are poor
- On average we expect people in Bedford Borough to live to about age 82
- By 2026 about 186,000 people will be living in Bedford Borough
- In Bedford Borough people died mainly from cancer, heart disease and stroke.
Community Pharmacies in Bedford Borough

- There are 30 community pharmacies in Bedford Borough and 1 online.

- Bedford Borough has enough pharmacies for the people that live there to use.

- Most people in Bedford Borough can get to a pharmacy within one mile of their home.

- Most pharmacies are open on Saturday morning.

- 7 pharmacies are open on a Sunday.

- Pharmacies in Bedford Borough also offer medicine reviews, flu injections, stop smoking services, sexual health and some support drug users.

- Every month, every pharmacy in Bedford Borough dispenses about 6,378 items.
Pharmacy Services

They include:

- Giving you medicines that your doctor has advised you need
- Selling you medicines
- Giving you advice about how to keep healthy
- Disposing of old medicines safely
- Helping you to go to the right health service for you
- Helping you with advice and medicines to deal with common, not very serious illnesses. Like coughs, colds, earache, and upset tummy.
Some pharmacies also provide:

- Help with emergency contraception
- Help to some people who are addicted to drugs
- Help you to stop smoking
- Help you to stop getting flu by giving you a flu jab.
Lifestyles

- About 25,100 adults smoke in Bedford Borough

- More than a 3rd (35.2%) of Adults in Bedford Borough are drinking more than the recommend 14 units per week

- About 8,118 children aged between 5-11 are obese or overweight

- There are about 73,000 adults in Bedford Borough that are overweight or obese

- There are more adults physically active in Bedford Borough than the England average
Illness

- 24,087 people have high blood pressure that live in Bedford Borough
- We think there are about 18,000 people in Bedford Borough that don’t know they have high blood pressure

Diabetes is when your blood sugar is too high

- 23,661 people have Diabetes that live in Bedford Borough
- We think there are about 2,750 people in Bedford Borough that don’t know they have diabetes
- We think there are about 15,000 people in Bedford Borough that could get diabetes
COPD is a severe breathing disease

- There are about 2,490 people in Bedford Borough with COPD, a severe lung disease which means it is very hard to breathe.

Asthma affects your breathing which means you may need to use puffers and other medicines to help

- About 11,535 people in Bedford Borough are known to have asthma.

Stroke is when blood doesn’t flow to the brain properly, which can cause brain cells to stop working or brain damage

- 2,615 people have had a stroke which is less than the average for England.
What people said

We asked people what they thought about our pharmacies. They told us:

- Most people have a regular pharmacy that they visit
- Most people visit the pharmacy for themselves or an Adult family member
- People mainly use the pharmacy services for general health advice and medicines used check
- 16% of people have used an online pharmacy
- Most people use a car get to the pharmacy
- Most people use the pharmacy to buy other medicines
- Most people don’t have an issue accessing a pharmacy
  - Those that do have access issues say it is mainly due to the opening hours
- Most people have used their pharmacy for advice on e.g coughs, hayfever and sore throats
A good service

- We think that Bedford Borough has a good number of pharmacies
- We think that they provide good services for people.

What should happen

- Carry on checking that our pharmacies are right for everyone by looking at:
  - where the pharmacies are
  - what pharmacy services are provided
  - their opening times
Work to make sure that pharmacies are

- providing a fair service to everyone
- helping people to live more healthy lives
- Look at the problems for people who don’t speak English
- Pharmacies should be more involved in campaigns to help people live more healthy lifestyles
- Pharmacies should be more involved in the plans of local health organisations. They should work more with local health organisations
- We should look at how the best pharmacies work so we can help other pharmacies to learn new ways to do things