

Pharmacy Practices Committee

Minute of meeting recording the decision of the **Pharmacy Practices Committee of Orkney NHS Board** held in the **Board Room, Garden House, Kirkwall** on **Wednesday 24 February 2010** – Part three

Present: Craig Spence, Chair
James Sinclair, Lay Member
Anna Lipinska, Lay Member
Margaret Dakers Thomson
Mary Mcfarlane, Pharmacist
John McNulty, Pharmacist Contractor
Gareth Dixon, Pharmacist Contractor

In Attendance: Chris Nicolson, Director of Pharmacy
Michelle Manzie, Primary Care Service Manager
Emma West, Committee Clerk (Minute taker)
Joy Tait, Minute Taker

546 The Committee considered all the documentation that had been submitted and the information that had been presented and discussed at the hearing along with the information gained from the site visits.

The Chair invited the Committee to discuss the application and the representations made, having regard to the legal test.

Neighbourhood

The Committee discussed where the boundaries should be set to define the neighbourhood. They agreed that the national speed limit signs on entry to the village no longer marked the edge of Dounby as the village had expanded. Members suggested that the last house should be the boundary.

The Committee noted that the neighbourhood put forward by the applicant and interested party were stated as Dounby village.

The Committee unanimously agreed that neighbourhood for all purposes was Dounby village as defined by the inner blue circle on the map supplied by the applicant.

Adequacy of Existing Pharmaceutical Provision

The Chair stated that there were no existing pharmacies in the neighbourhood that had been defined, but Dounby Surgery provided a dispensing service. Generally it was agreed that the Surgery did not provide the services as defined by the pharmacy contract but that pharmacy services were available in the population centres of Kirkwall and Stromness.

Concerns were raised that prescriptions issued were generally not checked by a doctor and that both the Area Medical Committee and the Area Pharmaceutical Committee agreed that it was right to involve a pharmacist in the dispensing process. Members stated that only one dispenser had a reasonable level of training and this was concerning in terms of training and sustainability.

Dispensers were not trained to challenge a doctor in terms of correct dose and correct medicine.

The Committee agreed by majority that, as there was no pharmacy within the neighbourhood, pharmaceutical services were not adequate.

Necessity and Desirability

The Committee discussed whether the granting of the application was necessary to ensure adequate provision of pharmaceutical services to the neighbourhood.

The Committee noted that the dispensing services provided by Dounby Surgery were used by over 99% of patients with less than 1% getting their prescriptions dispensed elsewhere. The Committee noted that 96% of patients surveyed were satisfied with Dounby Surgery.

Concerns were raised regarding the quality and accuracy of the information that had been provided by the applicant, the lack of preparation and the lack of a business case. The Committee noted that it would have liked to have seen more financial information.

Regarding the premises members felt that the disabled access, both internally and externally, and parking facilities were inadequate and had concerns over the issue of privacy and the location of the proposed consultation area. However, most members felt that the plans, although not ideal, were adequate and could be improved on.

Concerns were raised in relation to the ability of the applicant to secure staffing for the pharmacy, the applicant had not given adequate assurances on this.

The Committee also had concerns regarding the viability of the pharmacy especially if the dispensing profile of Dounby Surgery was to change in the future. It was noted that the viability of the Dounby Surgery and the proposed Pharmacy were closely linked.

Gareth Dixon withdrew from the meeting.

The Chair asked the remaining non-voting member of the Committee to leave the room.

The Chair asked the Committee to vote on the application by NorsePharm Limited to provide pharmaceutical services at Vetquoy Road, Dounby, Orkney, KW17 2HT (previously trading as 'Headwest').

The Committee agreed by majority that the granting of the application was not necessary or desirable to secure adequate provision of pharmaceutical services to the neighbourhood.