

MOTION ON NOTICE

Council: 21 November 2016



Cuts to Pharmacy Services

The Council believes in the value of local pharmacies as a key part of national health services that operate at the local level within our neighbourhoods.

This Council notes that:

53 pharmacies across the city of Plymouth offer a wide range of services by recognising and evidencing role in improving in improving the health of local population in addition to the dispensing of medicines and their safe disposal such as the advice and information to promote wellbeing. Examples include healthy eating, flu vaccination, sexual health and the management of obesity. They also provide advice and support to care homes.

As a result of budget cuts nationally of £170m taking effect now this is resulting in a 6% cut in real terms now, but could, by making up for lost implementation time, mean a cut of 12% during this financial year. This could potentially shut down up to a quarter of pharmacies.

Cuts in pharmacies will put more residents at risk in addition to increasing the pressure on GP's and on local hospitals leading to increases in NHS costs and pressures on the wider care community.

This Council therefore agrees to write to the Secretary of State for Health and the Clinical Commissioning Groups serving Plymouth setting out our concerns and requiring an immediate reversal of these proposals.

Proposed by Councillor Tuffin

Seconded by Councillor McDonald

Dated 10 November 2016