

Review of Out of Hours Pharmacy

Do you use the Out of Hours Pharmacy Service at Litherland Town Hall?

We want your views!



staying local & together

Review of Out of Hours Pharmacy

We are planning some changes to the Out of Hours Pharmacy at Litherland Town Hall Health Centre and we are inviting your views to help us decide how this service should be provided in the future.

This pharmacy operates differently to a regular high street chemist. It was originally set up to support the Out of Hours GP service, which ensures people can see a doctor when their surgery is closed in the evening, overnight, at weekends and Bank Holidays. It means that the pharmacy has restricted and short opening times and is only for use by patients from the Out of Hours GP service.

Because the pharmacy has limited opening times and because there are a number of other chemists close to Litherland Town Hall Health Centre, we are looking at other more efficient ways to provide medicines to Out of Hours GP patients when they need them.

You can read more details about what we want to do later in this leaflet.

To help us, we would appreciate any comments you have about this service and about the changes we are planning by completing the attached form.

About the Out of Hours Pharmacy

The pharmacy was set up in 2004 following a national review about how patients receive medicines outside of normal opening hours. At the time there were limited local options where people could obtain their medicines during the out of hours period, so the former Primary Care Trust, which was in charge of commissioning decided to open the pharmacy.

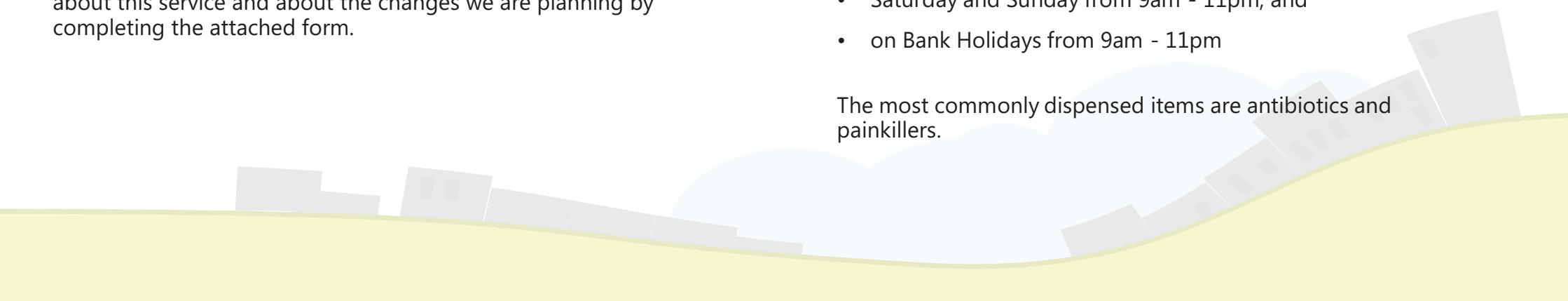
Things have changed since then and there are now many more local pharmacies where people can get prescriptions out of hours. In general, CCGs do not provide an out of hours pharmacy service like this one because there is very little need.

How it works

The Out of Hours Pharmacy is based in the Litherland Town Hall Health Centre and is open:

- Monday to Friday from 6.30pm - 11pm;
- Saturday and Sunday from 9am - 11pm; and
- on Bank Holidays from 9am - 11pm

The most commonly dispensed items are antibiotics and painkillers.



What changes are being planned?

We are responsible for ensuring that the money we receive to buy or 'commission' nearly all of your local health services is spent wisely, representing the highest possible quality and value for money. We must also ensure that we prioritise our budget on the services that south Sefton residents need the most, and which will make the biggest difference to their health and wellbeing.

So, we have been reviewing the Out of Hours Pharmacy at Litherland Town Hall Health Centre to ensure it represents the best value for money in meeting the needs of local patients.

After looking at the service and the available alternatives, we believe it should be discontinued so the money we currently spend can be used more effectively for patient care in other service areas.



What is the reason for this?

We have found from our review that:

- Relatively small numbers of prescriptions are dispensed from this pharmacy there are alternative ways that patients using the GP Out of Hours service can get their medicines with little or no inconvenience to them
- Several pharmacies close to Litherland Town Hall Health Centre are open at similar times to the Out of Hours Pharmacy - these pharmacies are often open longer and are open to all, unlike the Out of Hours Pharmacy.

What does this mean for patients?

If the current Out of Hours Pharmacy Service is discontinued patients can:

- Take their prescription to one of the pharmacies nearby during their opening times (see map and opening time information overleaf)
- Receive their medicines from the Out of Hours GP service directly when these local pharmacies are closed

Alternative pharmacies close by

The pharmacies nearest to the Out of Hours Pharmacy are shown on the map below, followed by a list of addresses, opening times and travelling or walking distance in metres.



Pharmacies with closest match to Out of Hours Pharmacy service

Bridge Road Late Night Chemist, 54-56 Bridge Road Pharmacy

Open: Monday - Friday 7.15am - 11.15 pm. Saturday 8am - 8pm. Sunday 8.15 am - 3pm. (640 metres from Town Hall Practice)

ASDA Pharmacy, 81 Strand Road

Open: Monday Friday 8am-11pm, Saturday 7am-10pm, Sunday 10am-4pm. (2700 metres away from Town Hall Practice)

Other local Community pharmacies and their opening times

Boots Pharmacy, 6 Sefton Road Litherland

Monday - Friday 9 am - 6.30pm. Saturday 9am - 5pm. Closed Sunday. (100 metres from Town Hall Practice)

Rowlands Pharmacy, 106 Sefton Road Litherland

Monday - Friday 9am -1pm and 2pm- 6.30pm. Saturday 9am-1pm and 2pm - 5pm. Closed Sunday. (640 metres from Town Hall Practice)

Whitworths Pharmacy, 93 Knowsley Road Bootle

Monday - Friday 9am - 6.30pm. Saturday 9am - 1pm. Closed Sunday. (1700 metres from Town Hall Practice)

Lloyds Pharmacy, 125 Knowsley Road

Monday - Friday 9am-7pm. Saturday 9am-1pm. Closed Sunday. (1700 metres from Town Hall Practice)

SK Chemists, 516 Stanley Road

Monday - Friday 9am- 6pm, Saturday 9am-1pm, Closed Sunday. (1700 metres)

