

Key sections within a Health Needs Assessment

<p><u>C</u>ommunity <u>P</u>rofile</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of people in the study group e.g. older people in Sunderland who have had a fall • Structure of the group being studied by age, gender, ethnicity, area of residence etc. • Social and economic profile of a geographical area e.g. index of multiple deprivation, level of unemployment, educational attainment • Comparison of GP practice and PCT population profiles • Map of services delivered in the local area 	
<p><u>W</u>ants (felt or expressed need)</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to a local patient/user survey • Comments dropped into a GP practice "Suggestion Box" • Patient Advice and Liaison Service contacts • Results from local service user consultation • Anecdotal evidence from GP consultations • Rapid participatory appraisal • Focus groups 	<p><u>C</u>omparative need</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral rates for other GP practices within the PCT and the average PCT rate • Referral pathways or protocols used in other areas (both within and outwith PCT) • Models of service delivery that are different from local structures • 'Beacons' of best practice e.g. those highlighted in NICE guidance or other national reports
<p><u>E</u>pidemiological or evidence-based need (<u>V</u>alue for money approach)</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) e.g. Sunderland JSNA on Health and Social Care page at www.sunderland.gov.uk • Quality and Outcomes Framework data on prevalence of long term conditions by GP practice, Local Authority and England (www.ic.nhs.uk/qof) • Hospital admission rates (APHO HES Atlas at www.apho.org.uk) • NICE guidance on cost-effectiveness of interventions (www.nice.org.uk) 	<p><u>E</u>xpert opinion (normative need)</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NICE clinical guidance or evidence-based practice reviews (published at www.nice.org.uk) • Views of GPs and hospital consultants • Views of managers of existing services • Views of the local Public Health team • Local policies, protocols or guidelines (published on PCT internet sites e.g. www.sotw.nhs.uk) • National policy documents at www.dh.gov.uk
<p>Appraisal of alternative <u>A</u>ctions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of possible actions should be set out, including what would happen if nothing was done • Actions to be taken forward should be agreed by stakeholders, prioritised and formalised into an action plan. • Measures should be specified to allow evaluation of success • A follow-up audit or evaluation should be planned 	