

Motion submitted by Councillor Johnson:

To discuss the ongoing issue in regards to the inconsistency of the Saturday opening times of both Rowlands Pharmacies located in Wem.

Back Ground information:

- 1: Both chemists are run by the same company which may not be in Wem's best interests.
- 2: They both close at 12pm on a Saturday
- 3: One or both have over the last few months been closed all day on a Saturday on numerous occasions
- 4: Many residents have contacted me with their concerns regarding this
- 5: Many residents do not have the means to travel outside of the town to collect necessary medical supplies, especially at weekends.
- 6: An alternative may be to close half or all day on a Wednesday as there is no Town Bus that day.
- 7: If there is a shortage of pharmacists, could there be a role for non pharmacists to be trained to do a limited but worth while role like a nurse practitioner who are able to assist Doctors in prescription writing.
- 8: The government are expecting pharmacists to take on an increased role in prescribing medication in the future. Can we ask Rowlands how they going to manage this to ensure Wem is able to offer equitable access to this national initiative to everyone.

Recommendation to formally write to them raising our concerns highlighting the importance of having a 6 day pharmacy service from at least one of the chemists in Wem. Suggestions to include opening at least one of them all day on a Saturday rather than closing at 12pm as is the case currently