

# MEDICINES MATTER!



**£6 million is wasted every year across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent on medicines that people don't use.** Those medicines end up being thrown away because they can't be used by anyone else. The NHS hasn't got this money to spare. We need every penny to provide healthcare.

We are asking Pharmacies, GP practices and everyone who takes or orders medicines to play their part in making sure that we don't waste money in this way.

Here are the most important things that we can sign up to do to help cut down on this waste and save millions.

## PUBLIC

- ✓ I will check what medicines I have before ordering more.
- ✓ I will check my bag of medicines as soon as it's given to me and hand back any I don't need.
- ✓ I will let my GP practice or Pharmacy know if I don't need any of my medicines.

## PHARMACIES

- ✓ We will check what medicines a patient already has before ordering more.
- ✓ We will ask patients to check their bag of medicines before leaving the pharmacy or on delivery, and hand back any they don't need.
- ✓ We will inform GP practices about medicines that patients no longer order or collect.

## GP PRACTICES

- ✓ We will only add a medicine to a repeat prescription once a patient is stable on it.
- ✓ We will use a 28 day (monthly) repeat prescription for most patients.
- ✓ We will regularly review patients' repeat medicines.



### Working in partnership:

Cannock Chase CCG, East Staffordshire CCG, North Staffordshire CCG,  
South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG, Stafford and Surrounds CCG and Stoke-on-Trent CCG

TOGETHER  
WE'RE BETTER