

Supporting statement for application to locate automated prescription dispenser within the grounds of existing pharmacy- Pearn's Pharmacy, Berry Square, Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 3AL.

Automated prescription collection points have been approved by the Welsh Government who have provided subsidy to pilot them. Although my client did not receive government funding, he firmly believes it is a service he should provide for his customers. The customer benefits of such an installation would further reduce their risks of contracting corona virus because:

- patients can maintain a safe physical distance.
- avoid queues.
- are unaffected by reduced pharmacy opening hours.
- support those trying to self-isolate.
- Contact free service

Further general customer benefits include:

- support keyworkers who, due to shift patterns, may not be able to get to a pharmacy during opening hours.
- Simply and securely pick up medicines when it is convenient for the customer
- Reduced waiting time

Advantages for the existing Pharmacy centre around reduced queuing times, freeing-up staff time and divert resource to more valuable activities, such as providing one-to-one healthcare advice.

Environmentally the need for home deliveries would diminish resulting in a reduction in its carbon emissions.

Please refer to figure 1, showing a dispenser situated outside a pharmacy in England. Please note this is not the model we are proposing but serves as a good example.



(Fig.1)