

DECISION-MAKER:	Health and Wellbeing Board
SUBJECT:	Sexual Health and Reproductive Health Needs Assessment
DATE OF DECISION:	14 th December 2022
REPORT OF:	CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH, ADULTS AND LEISURE

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

N/A

BRIEF SUMMARY

This report provides the Health and Wellbeing Board with a summary of work to understand and improve sexual and reproductive health outcomes and reduce sexual and reproductive health inequalities in Southampton, including arrangements for implementation of actions.

Sexual health in Southampton is influenced by a wide range of universal preventative services and almost every part of our healthcare system. The Southampton sexual health needs assessment used a systematic approach with a combination of quantitative data, service user and staff surveys, qualitative research and stakeholder engagement to understand the sexual and reproductive health needs of the population, together with the assets available to support these needs. The full report is provided in Appendix 1 and published online [here](#).

The needs assessment identified good quality and effective sexual healthcare once people are seen within services. The findings from the needs assessment were grouped into three key themes: prevention, equity, and relationships and system working; these have informed the recommendations. Opportunities were identified to address the high rates of sexually transmitted infections and termination of pregnancy, low uptake of the most effective methods of contraception, and inequalities in sexual health outcomes found for some of our communities. The report recommendations focus on strengthening joint governance and leadership to improve the population impact of services across the city, better collaboration between different parts of the health and care system and with our communities, a stronger focus on equity, improved awareness of and access to services and normalising conversations around sex and reducing stigma as routes to improving sexual health outcomes.

Delivery of improvement activities will be coordinated by a renewed sexual health network. Discussions, including NHSE as HIV service commissioners, are underway to scope the most effective commissioning and governance approaches for integrated sexual health services. The intention is for these to be delivered at Southampton level and, when there is good reason to do so, with partners across Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

	(i)	To consider the findings of the health needs assessment, specifically that implementation of recommendations and clinical joint-working is taken forward through a renewed sexual health network at place level (Southampton).
	(ii)	It is recommended that sexual health and wellbeing is promoted across the city's communities and the health and care system via strong relationships and partnerships; reducing stigma through conversations in the community and at health and care touch points, and improving awareness and access to services when residents need them, will contribute to improving sexual health outcomes.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	Sexual health in Southampton is influenced by a wide range of universal preventative services and almost every part of our healthcare system; alignment of service provision and clinical pathways through a network will be key for effective delivery.
2.	The health needs assessment has identified opportunities to improve health and wellbeing of the local population and reduce inequalities.
3.	Prevention and early intervention are essential to improve sexual and reproductive health outcomes in Southampton; this includes creating an open sexual health culture.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

4.	N/A
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DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

5.	<p>Sexual health services (SHS) are commissioned at a local level to meet the needs of the population on a range of issues such as sexually transmitted infections (STIs), contraception, relationships, and unplanned pregnancy. Local authorities must make provision for comprehensive open access sexual health services (including STI testing and treatment, notification of sexual partners of infected persons and free provision of contraception). Services are provided across general practice, community services, hospitals, pharmacies, and the voluntary sector. Tailored provision is available for young people, and other groups requiring enhanced support to access services such as people with learning disabilities and women who sell sex.</p> <p>Within the needs assessment, the national and local context has been presented, quantitative and qualitative data collated from several sources to include demographics, service data, public and workforce surveys and interviews with individuals representing people with learning disabilities and</p>
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	<p>their carers and people from ethnic minority communities. Further stakeholder engagement included the discussion of findings and recommendations at a workshop as well as those stakeholders commenting on the final draft of the needs assessment.</p> <p>The existing level 3 specialist sexual health service contract ends in March 2024. Collaborative commissioning discussions, including NHSE as HIV service commissioners, are underway to scope the most effective collaborative commissioning approaches for the integrated sexual health service, across Hampshire, IOW, Portsmouth and Southampton.</p>
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RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

6.	No additional funding implications
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Property/Other

7.	N/A
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LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

8.	Local authorities have a statutory duty (Health and Social Care Act 2012) to provide or make arrangements to secure the provision of open access sexual health services in their area. HIV treatment and care, abortion, gynaecology, vasectomy and sterilisation services continue to be commissioned by the NHS.
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Other Legal Implications:

9.	N/A
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RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

10.	N/A
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POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

11.	<p>Southampton City Health and Care Strategy 2020-2025: reducing inequalities, early help and care, improving joined-up and whole-person care and improving mental and emotional wellbeing are aligned with the HNA recommendations.</p> <p>Southampton Children and Young People’s Strategy 2022-2027: alignment with addressing inequalities in teenage conception rates and provide timely access to welcoming and effective sexual health services for all young people</p> <p>Southampton Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2017-2025): supports key strategy elements including encouraging and promoting healthy relationships and wellbeing, reducing the health inequalities gap, improved health experiences as a result of high quality, integrated services and the specific success measure of HIV late diagnosis.</p>
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KEY DECISION?	No
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WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	Southampton Sexual and Reproductive Health Assessment
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Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	No
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Data Protection Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.	Yes approved
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Other Background Documents

Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

None
