

## Hackney and City Oral Health Prevention and Promotion Service

### Update for Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission meeting, 16th November, 2022

1. **Oral health in Hackney and City of London:** Hackney and City Public health team had carried out an Oral health needs assessment in 2021-22 <sup>1</sup> and below are some of the key findings:

#### 1.1. Epidemiology of oral health in Children in Hackney

- Hackney and City had 27% of five year old children with dental decay in 2015, which decreased to 22.9% in 2017 and then increased to 28% in 2019.
- Hackney and City has a higher percentage of five year olds with dental decay than Islington, Haringey and Waltham Forest, but lower than Tower Hamlets, and Newham in the 2019 survey.
- Hackney has a higher rate of hospital admissions for dental caries amongst five year old children as compared to England.
- The mean decayed, missing or filled tooth per child aged 5 years in Hackney and City has increased from 0.97 in 2014-15 to 1.10 in 2018-19, with a reduction during 2016-17 to 0.74. These are similar to that of London and England.
- There were 432 Looked After Children in Hackney and 25 in the City of London as of 31st March, 2020.
- 69% of the Looked After Children and young people in Hackney had a dental check in 2019-20, which has dropped from 87% in 2014-15. During 2020-21 the number of Looked After Children who had a dental check dropped during quarters 2 and 3 due to the impact of Covid.
- During the 12 months prior to 2019-20, 30,817 which is 41% Hackney and City children and young people in the age-group of 0-19 years accessed dental care, whereas in the 12 months prior to 2020-21, this number dropped to 10,409 which is 14.6% based ONS population estimates. (Access is measured by the number of distinct patients seen during the 12 month period. This is based on NICE guidelines of 12 months being the maximum recommended dental recall time for children).
- 6 out of 10 five year old children in the Charedi community had tooth decay compared to 3 out of 10 in Hackney during 2017-18. 4 out of 10 children had incisor decay compared to 1 in 10 in Hackney.

#### 1.2 Epidemiology of oral health adults

- In the 24 months prior to 2019-20, 59403 Hackney and City residents accessed dental care, with an access rate of 27.5%, similar to the London access rate of 28.8% but lower than the England rate of 37.8%. Whereas in the 24 months prior to 2020-21, this number dropped to 27,836 with an access rate of 12.9%. (Access is measured by the number of distinct patients seen by dentists during the 24 month

---

1

<https://www.cityhackneyhealth.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Hackney-and-City-Oral-Health-Needs-Assessment-2022-5.pdf>

period. This is based on NICE guidelines of 24 months being the maximum recommended dental recall time for adults).

### **1.3. Oral health of older adults**

- Older people 65 years and above, living in deprived wards of Hackney and City were adversely affected in accessing dental services during 2020-21.
- 48.2% of the mildly dependent older adults living in supported accommodation in Hackney and City of London had not seen a dentist in the last two years of the survey conducted in 2016. Of these, 11% said they found it difficult to go to and from the dentist, while 7.4% said they couldn't afford NHS charges. 14.3% of the mildly dependent older adults had an urgent need for treatment.

## **2. Current Oral Health Prevention and Promotion Service in Hackney and City of London:**

Currently, Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust has been commissioned to provide oral health promotion and prevention services in the London borough of Hackney and City of London. The main services include:

- Oral health promotion and awareness raising on oral health amongst parents, carers, older and vulnerable adults;
- Oral health training of children and vulnerable adult workforce
- Distribution of fluoride toothpaste and brushing for life packs to children and older and vulnerable adults
- Supervised Tooth Brushing Programme in Special Schools and Orthodox Jewish nurseries
- Fluoride Varnish Programme in primary schools
- Fluoride Varnish Programme in Orthodox Jewish Independent Schools

## **3. New Oral health prevention and promotion service to start from January 2023:**

Hackney and City Public health has recommissioned a new Oral health prevention and promotion service, which will continue to be provided by Kent Community NHS Foundation Trust. The new service has been commissioned based on findings from the oral health needs assessment and learnings from the current service and stakeholder engagement and underpinned by national guidance. The new services will include the following:

### **3.1. Universal services will include:**

- Training of children and adults' as well as wider workforce using the train the trainer and Making Every Contact Count approach
- Oral health promotion and distribution of fluoride toothpastes and toothbrushes amongst children, adults and older populations
- Strategic work and partnership building

### **3.2. Targeted interventions will include:**

- Supervised toothbrushing programme amongst 2-4 year old children in nurseries including Orthodox Jewish nurseries and childminding day nurseries; all children in Special Education schools and Pupil referral units.
- Fluoride Varnish programme amongst all primary schools (including independent schools) to children in Reception and Year 1 (4-6 years of age)
- Fluoride Varnish programme amongst all Orthodox Jewish primary schools to children in Reception and Year 1 (4-6 years of age)
- Targeted oral health promotion amongst the Orthodox Jewish communities to be delivered by Orthodox Jewish organisations, including children, parents and carers as well as teachers.
- Supporting care homes and supported living settings in the implementation of Oral health Care homes NICE Quality Standard QS151. <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs151>