

Title of Report	Consultation on the proposed City and Hackney Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy (2023-2028)
For Consideration By	Health and Wellbeing Board
Meeting Date	29 June 2023
Classification	Open
Ward(s) Affected	All (population wide)
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Is this report for:

- Information
- Discussion
- Decision

Why is the report being brought to the board?

This report is being brought to the Board to ask for approval of a formal 12-week consultation to be held on the proposed five-year sexual and reproductive health strategy for City and Hackney, to commence on 1 July 2023.

Has the report been considered at any other committee meeting of the Council or other stakeholders

The draft strategy and a high-level summary have previously been shared for initial feedback with commissioned services, Public Health colleagues, Cllr Kennedy, and place-based partnerships, as well as City of London based colleagues/stakeholders.

1. **Background**

The London Borough of Hackney and the City of London have a statutory responsibility to protect and promote the sexual and reproductive health of our local

populations. We invest over £8m per year in clinical services as well as services to promote good sexual health.

Although significant improvements have been achieved in improving sexual health, in partnership with the NHS and the voluntary sector, City and Hackney continue to have a high level of unmet need with significant inequalities in sexual and reproductive health, both within communities and compared to other areas in London and across England.

A five-year strategy for City and Hackney will ensure a coordinated approach that brings together commissioned services and explores linkages with other services and providers, including the NHS and the voluntary sector as well as cross-local authority initiatives, to highlight and address the most pressing issues and gaps in provision and uptake of care. As such, this strategy will lay the foundation for the reimagining and (re)commissioning of sexual and reproductive health services that are comprehensive and inclusive, recognising synergies with other services and providers, and contributing to better sexual and reproductive health outcomes for all residents.

The strategy is organised around five key thematic areas of which four also inform the NEL Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) strategy, ensuring alignment with the priorities of other local authority areas in North East London that have similar types and levels of SRH need within their populations.

The five overarching themes are:

- a) Healthy and fulfilling sexual relationships
- b) Good reproductive health across the life course
- c) STI prevention and treatment
- d) Getting to Zero new HIV transmissions
- e) Vulnerable populations

Implementation

The intention is for the strategy to be accompanied by an annual action plan to ensure implementation and delivery on key priorities.

It is suggested the first action plan will be developed in tandem with the consultation process and be presented at the September HWBs for City and Hackney. That action plan would then cover the remainder of the financial year 2023/24 as well as 2024/25. During 2024/25, a new action plan will be developed for 2025/26. The intention is that currently commissioned providers will all be involved in this process, with active involvement by other stakeholders from within the ICS and local resident bodies and representation, including young people.

To monitor implementation of the strategy, a sexual health dashboard will be developed by the Public Health Intelligence Team (PHIT). This will include and collate quarterly data from key sources and platforms such as Pathway Analytics, Preventx and Pharmoutcomes that are used to reflect activity by Homerton Sexual Health Services, SHL and pharmacies. It will also incorporate GUMCAD, SPLASH and Fingertips data and updates. Lastly, where relevant and possible, it will include performance data derived from KPI reports submitted by commissioned services.

Include any asks/recommendation for HWB

The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to endorse the development of this strategy and is asked to approve a formal 12-week consultation on the strategy to be held, starting 1 July 2023.

As part of resident engagement during the consultation process, the Public Health team would liaise with a range of partners and stakeholders, including Healthwatch City and Hackney, Hackney CVS, Community Champions and other specific groups.

A North East London wide sexual and reproductive health strategy is being developed concurrently. As the four main themes in the NEL strategy are the same as in the City & Hackney strategy, the period of consultation would also inform the NEL strategy.

The Board is further asked to endorse a process of action planning during the 12-week consultation period, to result in an action plan for implementation of the strategy for the financial year 2023/24 and 2024/25. For the years after, an action planning process would be held annually.

If approved, the consultation and action planning process will be reported on to the September Board meeting.

1.1. Policy Context:

Please detail which, if any, of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy priorities this report relates to?

- Improving mental health
- Increasing social connection and
- Supporting greater financial security
- All of the above

Please detail which, if any, of the Health & Wellbeing Ways of Working this report relates to?

- Strengthening our communities
- Creating, supporting and working with volunteer and peer roles
- Collaborations and partnerships: including at a neighbourhood level
- Making the best of community resources
- All of the above

1.2. **Equality Impact Assessment**

Has an EIA been conducted for this work?

- Yes
- No

1.3. **Consultation**

Has public, service user, patient feedback/consultation informed the recommendations of this report?

- Yes
- No

Have the relevant members/ organisations and officers been consulted on the recommendations in this report

- Yes
- No

1.4. **Risk Assessment**

Sexual and reproductive health are often highly sensitive, personal and emotive subjects, where culture and religion can play an important role.

Whilst the consultation process will aim to be mindful of this and respectful of all opinions, the local authority has a legal obligation to provide services that allow each resident to have the best possible sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing, and open access to the services that support this from a clinical care and wellbeing perspective.

1.5. **Sustainability**

Having a five year strategy will help us to work in closer partnership with other organisations with legal duties to commission SRH services, such as the North East

London Integrated Care Board (NEL ICB), NHS partners, neighbouring local authorities, and other place-based partners within the Integrated Care System (ICS).

With a reduction in resources available for public health (the PH grant for 23/24 was not increased and considering inflation a reduction in real terms), collaboration and partnership working are important to ensure continued delivery of high quality services that contribute to better sexual health and wellbeing outcomes of all residents.

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Appendices	