

Title of Report	City & Hackney Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy, Action Plan and Consultation Report
For Consideration By	Health and Wellbeing Board
Meeting Date	25 January 2024
Classification	Open
Ward(s) Affected	All
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Is this report for:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Information
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discussion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Decision

Why is the report being brought to the board?

Following an in-depth and extended consultation period the draft five year City & Hackney strategy for sexual and reproductive health (SRH) has been finalised, alongside an action plan for the first year, covering the financial year 2024-2025.

The strategy and action plan are ambitious in the intention to strengthen partnership working and foster a joint, system wide approach to improving outcomes in sexual and reproductive health.

An oversight mechanism will be needed to assess progress of implementation and to support the annual preparation of the next year's action plan.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to approve a) the strategy b) the action plan and c) to confirm the partnership and reporting process.

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

Public Health Senior Management Team

1. **Background**

Following approval by the Health and Wellbeing Board in June 2023, the draft five year City & Hackney strategy for sexual and reproductive health (SRH) went out for consultation, with an action planning process taking place alongside it.

The consultation on the strategy consisted of an online survey (1 July-20 September 2023, 102 responses), an Easy Read survey (13 responses), and a range of online and in-person engagement events (July-November 2023, total of 94 participants), and two workshops (23 participants) with commissioned providers and other key partners. Considering the life course nature of sexual and reproductive health, and the variety in need between different population groups and demographics, it was important that the consultation was as inclusive as possible.

The consultation findings and feedback are captured in a consultation report, with a process overview captured in a presentation, both of which are attached to this report as appendices. Some key findings from the consultation include:

- strong agreement on all themes and priorities identified
- affirmation of the importance of relation and sex education in schools
- lack of knowledge of and access to services named as key barriers
- stigma and shame attached to sex and STIs, and HIV, persist
- services remain fragmented across the wider sexual and -especially- reproductive health pathway, often due to fragmented commissioning responsibilities

The consultation was done in tandem with an action planning process. Consultation feedback, recurring themes as well as suggestions from commissioned services and key partners were taken into consideration and shaped the action plan and the revised strategy. The strategy and action plan are attached to this paper as appendices.

Issues and topics that were suggested or expanded on include:

- a central online resource for SRH to provide information, advice and signposting to all relevant SRH services in City and Hackney with booking links where possible, linked with:

- a communications and engagement strategy, and a SRH awareness campaign
- stronger focus on co production of materials/resources/ campaigns with specific population groups and/or service users, in relation to e.g. STI testing or contraception
- joint working and (re)commissioning in areas of e.g. young people and education, substance misuse, communication and health literacy, inclusion groups
- strengthening of the inclusion communities and complex needs theme
- fertility and assisted conception
- sexual assault referral centres (SARC, also known as Havens)
- increased focus on living well with HIV

2. **Current Position**

The finalised strategy and first year action plan are the culmination of an extended period of engagement and consultation, while at the same time being the starting point of a new approach to delivering services in a more joined up way to improve outcomes in sexual and reproductive health. This approach is not without risks, and it is important to recognise these risks, such as:

- Co-production is a central part of the strategy but is an approach that requires time and resources
- Relationship and sex education elements of the action plan are still being confirmed as an approach with Young Hackney
- Lack of engagement from NHS place on wider commissioning and alignment of services
- London SH and HIV programmes not delivering on wider commissioning alignments
- Other NEL LAs taking a different approach to commissioning of specialist clinical services using the newly approved Provider Selection regime (PSR)
- Increased “ambition” against a backdrop of Public Health savings and inflationary increases not reflected in the PH grant allocation to Local Authorities

To ensure oversight of the implementation of the action plan and its continuous alignment with the strategy, as well as the management of the aforementioned risks, it is important to have a partnership and reporting process in place. This would involve regular meetings to assess progress against the key outcomes as well as at least one annual planning exercise to agree the next year’s action plan for submission to the Board.

Considering this new approach to delivering on sexual and reproductive health, it is suggested this process be flexible and adaptable to the demands.

Mechanism	Membership	Purpose
City & Hackney Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy and Action Plan Sub Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Health team members - Commissioned services representation - ICB and other place-based system partners (Place Based Delivery Group) - Wider services such as ToPs, Fertility, Havens and HIV treatment services - CVS partners such as Healthwatch (City & Hackney) and Hackney CVS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overseeing action plan implementation (with dedicated ToR - to be developed) - Prepare end of year progress report - Prepare new action plan for the subsequent (financial) year - Quarterly meetings - One annual planning meeting
Public Health Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All Public Health teams involved in implementation of the action plan as leads or partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress report to Public Health Senior Management team annually, at the end of Q1 - Joint planning exercise during Q3 (in conjunction with the Sub Group)

3. Recommendations

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to a) approve the strategy b) approve the action plan and c) to confirm the partnership and reporting process.

4. Policy Context:

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Improving mental health
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Increasing social connection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Supporting greater financial security
<input type="checkbox"/>	All of the above

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strengthening our communities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creating, supporting and working with volunteer and peer roles
<input type="checkbox"/>	Collaborations and partnerships: including at a neighbourhood level
<input type="checkbox"/>	Making the best of community resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All of the above

4.1. Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

Has an EIA been conducted for this work?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

4.2. Consultation

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

4.3. Risk Assessment

Risks have been addressed in the body of the text.

4.4. Sustainability

Service providers are required to address sustainability as a key issue in procurement and delivery of services.

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Appendices	Consultation overview (Presentation) Consultation report Strategy Action Plan