

Committee(s)	Dated:
Health and Wellbeing Board – For decision	27/11/2015
Subject: London Sexual Health Transformation Project	Public
Report of: Commissioning and Performance Manager (Public Health)	For Decision

Summary

From April 2013, local authorities have been mandated to provide comprehensive sexual health services to their residential population. To date, the City of London Corporation has been working with local authorities across London to look at the potential of commissioning a Pan-London sexual health service which represents value for money for all authorities involved.

The vision for this service has now been set, with a specification currently being written by the authorities. This report presents Members with information on the vision and proposals for the new service, along with proposals for the future commissioning of these services.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- a. Agree to take part in a joint procurement process organised on a sub-regional basis to commission sexual health GUM services;
- b. Agree to join a pan London procurement of a web based system to include a front end portal for advice, guidance and access to services including access to home/self-sampling kits for sexually transmitted infections;
- c. Agree to join a pan London procurement of a confidential partner notification system.

Main Report

Background

1. Local authorities took responsibility for commissioning sexual health services in April 2013, as part of changes under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
2. Members will remember from approvals given in July 2015 that The City has been a part of a Pan-London group of local authorities negotiating with providers

of Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM), services for the screening and treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), to negotiate GUM payments for 2015.

3. In addition the City has been a part of the London Sexual Health Services Transformation Programme which has brought together 26 local authorities based in London to deliver a new collaborative commissioning model for open access sexual health services across much of the capital, including GUM and Sexual and Reproductive Health Services (community contraceptive services). The aim of this programme is to lead the transformation of the service model to deliver measurably improved and cost effective public health outcomes and meet the increasing demand.
4. Procurement for the new services will commence in February 2016, with the new contract(s) awarded by the end of the year to allow for an April 2017 start.

The Case for Change

5. There are five main reasons why this project is necessary:
 - a. The need for sexual health services in London is significantly higher than the England average, and has risen significantly in recent years.
 - b. There are noticeable variations in access and activity across London boroughs, with high numbers of residents from across London accessing services in Central London.
 - c. Given London's complex pattern of open access services, there are important advantages for London boroughs to transform and commission services together.
 - d. We must continue to ensure strong clinical governance, safeguarding and quality assurance arrangements are in place for commissioning open access services.
 - e. We want to respond to current and future financial challenges and ensure we are making the best use of resources available.

The Vision for Sexual Health Services in London

6. The front door into services will be web based, a single platform providing patients with information about sexual health, on line triage, signposting to the most appropriate service for their needs and the ability to order self-sampling tests.
7. There will be fewer major centres for people with more complex sexual health needs, but the services that are commissioned will be open longer hours and will be properly linked with a network of integrated one stop shops at local level which will be able to meet many people's needs. They will also work closely with primary care. Transport links will be a critical element of determining locations for

clinics. There will also be improved data to help better identify and address need for prevention and specialist services, including new and emerging trends.

8. All major clinics will offer patients the opportunity to triage and self-sample on site and all services will be required to ensure that routine STI screen results are available electronically to patients within 72 hours. Patients who are diagnosed with an STI will be offered a fast track appointment, ideally within 24 hours or will be fast tracked if they present to a walk in services. Improved systems for identifying and notifying contacts of patients with an STI will ensure that resources are targeted at the highest need groups.
9. The whole system will be designed to ensure that evidence about best practice drives changes, and resources will be focused on groups with the highest risk.

Proposals

10. In order to secure the value for money and improved services for City residents, Members are asked to approve recommendations to:
 - a. Take part in a joint procurement process organised on a sub-regional basis to commission sexual health GUM services;
 - b. Join a pan London procurement of a web based system to include a front end portal for advice, guidance and access to services including access to home/self-sampling kits for sexually transmitted infections;
 - c. Join a pan London procurement of a confidential partner notification system.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

11. The proposals within this report support the following strategic aims from the Department of Community and Children's Services Business Plan:
 - a. Priority Two – Health and wellbeing: Promoting the health and wellbeing of all City residents and workers and improving access to health services in the Square Mile.
 - b. Priority Five – Efficiency and effectiveness: Delivering value for money and outstanding services.

Implications

12. The proposals continue to fulfil legal requirements to pay for cross-charging GUM services through tariff negotiations to ensure the City is achieving value for money.

Conclusion

13. The proposals to Committee are the best way to ensure that City residents get access to services while ensuring the best possible value for the City.

Appendices

- None

Background Papers

- Sexual Health GUM (Genito-Urinary Medicine) Payment By Results Contracts – 10th July 2015

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