

Strategy Boards & Committee(s):		Date(s):
Safer City Partnership Strategy Group	For information	25/05/2021
Subject: Community and Children's Services Update		Public
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services Author: Scott Myers, Strategy Officer, Community and Children's Services		For Information
<p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <p>This report provides and update of relevant data and activity from the Department of Community and Children's Services.</p> <p>Recommendation(s)</p> <p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report 		

Main Report

Background

1. This report summarises ongoing developments in several areas, including recent strategy developments, expansion of a support service for Commercial Sex Workers and engagement with businesses regarding Covid-19 safety measures.

Current Position

Strategy Development

1. The City Corporation's Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2021 (CYP) expires this year and a new plan covering the years 2021-2024 is currently being developed and will be published towards the end of 2021.
2. The new CYP will be developed after a period of engagement and consultation with children and young people, as well as key stakeholders and services of the City Corporation.

3. The City Corporation is also developing a new and updated Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWBS) for 2021-24 following a similar period of engagement and consultation with key stakeholders.
4. The JHWBS reviews the needs of our population and reflects the priorities set by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) for that strategic period. The JHWBS is of particular importance as its priorities span all City of London Corporation departments, the voluntary and community sector, and the Integrated Care Partnership.

Expansion of Open Doors' support service for Commercial Sex Workers (CSWs)

5. The Open Doors service for Commercial Sex Workers (CSWs), which is delivered by Homerton Sexual Health Services on the CoL/LBH's behalf, has expanded its operations to provide support and outreach to off-street CSWs in the City and Hackney, in addition to on-street CSWs
6. The health and social care need of on- and off-street CSWs can vary, as the contexts in which they live and work are usually quite different. With the growth of use of digital platforms in commercial sex work, as well as the impacts of COVID-19 in terms of reduced footfall in the City, it was deemed necessary to establish dedicated resource within the existing service to support CSWs who work in off-street locations, too.
7. This new element of service provision has been funded through a grant for PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis), provided to Local Authorities by the DHSC.
8. This new element of service provision has been funded through a grant for PrEP (Pre-exposure Prophylaxis), provided to Local Authorities by the Department Health and Social Care. This work supports the promotion of PrEP and improving access to the treatment, as well as wider HIV prevention, such as increasing availability to condoms and testing. PrEP is a treatment taken by people at risk of contracting HIV through sex or injection use. It is a highly effective way to prevent HIV.
9. Open Doors works closely with local partners, such as substance misuse service Turning Point, the City of London Police and Licensing team, and as part of multi-disciplinary teams such as the Street Users Outreach Meeting (SUOM) and the Met Police's Sex Worker Advisory Group (SWAG), to ensure that service users are supported in the most appropriate and holistic way possible.

City business engagement around COVID-19 safety measures

10. City businesses and workers alike are being encouraged to undertake twice-weekly rapid COVID-19 testing, to ensure that those who may have COVID-19, but not show any symptoms, can be aware and self-isolate promptly, thereby reducing the risk of onward transmission of the virus.

11. There are a number of routes that businesses and their workforce can use to access the free rapid tests. These are outlined on the City Corporation's [website](#), and include the ability for businesses to collect a number of rapid home testing kits to provide to their staff, from the centre at 65A Basinghall Street. In addition, all Boots pharmacies in the City are also serving as a collection point for the rapid kits.
12. Businesses of a range of sizes were also able to register with the DHSC to make available rapid tests to their staff from their workplace itself, either through providing on-site testing facilities, or by distributing home testing kits. As of early May 2021, 580 businesses in the City had signed up to this option, with 92% of sites already live.

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