

Committee(s) Health and Wellbeing Board	Dated: 02 February 2024
Subject: City & Hackney Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy, Action Plan and Consultation Report	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	<p>2) <i>People enjoy good health and wellbeing.</i></p> <p>3. <i>People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.</i></p> <p>4. <i>Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.</i></p>
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	Not at this stage
If so, how much?	To be determined
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Sandra Husbands, Director of Public Health	For Decision
Report author: Froeks Kamminga, Senior Public Health Specialist Chris Lovitt, Deputy Director of Public Health	

Summary

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 a) approve the strategy b) approve the action plan and c) confirm the partnership and reporting process.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Note the consultation report
- Review and approve the revised strategy
- Review and approve the first year action plan
- Confirm the partnership and reporting process

Main Report

1. Background

- 1.1. 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.
- 1.2. 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.
- 1.3. 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 relationship 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
- 1.4. 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.
- 1.5. 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. STIs 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

- 2.1. 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:
- 2.1.1. Co-production is a central part of the strategy but is an approach that requires time and resources
 - 2.1.2. Relationship and sex education elements of the action plan are still being confirmed as an approach with Young Hackney
 - 2.1.3. Lack of engagement from NHS place on wider commissioning and alignment of services
 - 2.1.4. London SH and HIV programmes not delivering on wider commissioning alignments
 - 2.1.5. Other NEL LAs taking a different approach to commissioning of specialist clinical services using the newly approved Provider Selection regime (PSR)
 - 2.1.6. Increased “ambition” against a backdrop of Public Health savings and inflationary increases not reflected in the PH grant allocation to Local Authorities
- 2.2. 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.
- 2.3. 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 <i>(joint subgroup for C&H HWBs)</i>	<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	All Public Health teams involved in implementation of the action plan as leads or partners	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 for discussion

3.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- 3.1.1. a) approve the strategy
- 3.1.2. b) approve the action plan and
- 3.1.3. c) confirm the partnership and reporting process.

4. Corporate & Strategic Implications

- *Strategic implications*

1. Contribute to a flourishing society
2. People enjoy good health and wellbeing
3. People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential
4. Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.

- *Financial implications*

None. Within the allocated Public Health grant

- *Resource implications -*

- *Legal implications -*

- *Risk implications -*

- *Equalities implications -*

The strategy highlights that inequalities exist in access to services and health outcomes based on ethnicity, age and sexual orientation. The action plan includes appropriate actions to address and reduce inequalities.

- *Climate implications*

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

- *Security implications -*

5. Conclusion

5.1. The five year City & Hackney strategy for sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and action plan offer a comprehensive and ambitious intention to strengthen partnership working and foster a joint, system wide approach to improving outcomes in sexual and reproductive health.

5.2. The Board is asked to review and approve the strategy and the action plan and to confirm the proposed partnership and reporting process through a joining HWB sub group.

6. Appendix

- Appendix 1 - A presentation on the Sexual & Reproductive Health Strategy consultation
- Appendix 2 - The draft City & Hackney Sexual & Reproductive Health Strategy Consultation Report
- Appendix 3 - The draft City & Hackney SRH Strategy January 2024

Froeks Kamminga

Senior Public Health Specialist

E: froeks.kamminga@cityoflondon.gov.uk