

<b>Committee(s):</b> Health and Wellbeing Board	<b>Dated:</b> 02/02/2024
<b>Subject:</b> Director of Public Health Annual Report (2023). "Sexually Healthy" & announcing the Director of Public Health Annual Reports (2024 & 2025) on Social Capital.	Public
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	1, 2, 3, 4
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	N
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b> Dr Sandra Husbands, Director of Public Health for The City of London and London Borough of Hackney.	For Information
<b>Report author:</b> Sandra Husbands, Director of Public Health Chris Lovitt, Deputy Director of Public Health Danny Turton, Public Health Registrar <i>All City &amp; Hackney Public Health Service</i>	

### Summary

The Director of Public Health annual report 2023 'Sexually Healthy: working hand-in-hand to improve the sexual and reproductive health of young people in the City of London and Hackney' has now been published.

The Board is asked to take note of the recommendations and continue their support of work in the field of sexual and reproductive health.

The Director of Public Health (DPH) has a statutory responsibility to prepare an annual report on the health of the local population.

This is an independent report, with the DPH responsible for its content and structure. It is an opportunity to draw attention to an aspect of the local population's health and to consider areas where further action might be recommended.

Members are also asked to note that the topic for the upcoming DPH reports for 2024 and 2025 will be on Social Capital in the City of London and Hackney.

## **Recommendation(s)**

Members of the City of London Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to:

- Note this year's DPH annual report and the recommendations it contains
- Consider what actions may be taken to contribute to the implementation of the report's recommendations
- Support dissemination of the DPH report to appropriate partners
- Be aware of the topic for the upcoming DPH reports for 2024 and 2025 on social capital and to make any observations or suggestions pertaining to this topic for the City of London
- Suggest potential representatives from the City of London for the project advisory group

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. The 2023 report looked at sexual and reproductive health (SRH) with a particular focus on young people under 30 and on testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs).
2. The report was developed in liaison with stakeholders across the City of London and Hackney, including local and regional NHS partners and voluntary sector organisations
3. The recommendations were tested at the City of London's Community and Children Services Directorate Leadership Team (CCS DLT) meeting on 1 March 2023 and an early draft was shared with stakeholders for their comments.
4. The report benefited from the SRH Needs Assessment 2023 and the development of a five year SRH Strategy for 2023-2028.

### **Current Position**

5. The Sexually Healthy DPH Report recommendations are as follows:
  - a. Community involvement is essential to providing high quality services: health providers and commissioners should reconfirm, and put into action, their commitment to collaborate with young people in the co-production of services.
  - b. Services must be easily accessible to young people: refine existing SRH services and explore new initiatives in collaboration with young people to make accessing services as easy as possible.
  - c. Young people must be aware of when and how to access support: improve young people's awareness of services and their willingness to access them.

- d. Focus on enhancing collaboration and partnership working: continue to develop collaborative working practices across SRH and beyond to mitigate pressures on services and improve user experiences.
- e. Continue to identify and address inequalities in SRH: ongoing research and audit, undertaken in collaboration with communities, is recommended to identify inequalities and communicate findings to all concerned partners. Such research should be coupled with a commitment to address inequalities that are identified.

## **Proposal**

6. The 2024 and 2025 DPH reports will focus on the topic of social capital. A two year project was proposed due to the complexity of the topic, the breakdown for the two years is as follows
  - a. In the first year, the work will be focused on the evidence base of how to build social capital at the community level and the role that the public health team and the wider system can play in doing so.
  - b. The second year will then look at working with the City of London and Hackney community to turn that evidence into an action plan that can have a practical impact on the health and wellbeing of our population.
7. Across the two year period we will also run two supporting groups to aid the production of the DPH reports. The first will be a focused working group to guide logistical planning and finalise content. The second will be a wider advisory group to seek insights from interested partners. We are actively seeking further members to the advisory group to ensure the City of London is represented.

## **Conclusion**

8. The members of the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the recently published 2023 DPH annual report and the proposal for the upcoming 2024/2025 reports.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 - [Director of Public Health Annual Report \(2023\). Healthy Sexually: working hand-in-hand to improve the sexual and reproductive health of young people in the City of London and Hackney](#)