

Report to:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
Relevant Officer:	Dr Arif Rajpura, Director of Public Health
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Adult Services and Health
Date of Meeting:	5 December 2018

SEXUAL HEALTH STRATEGY UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To provide an update on the implementation of the Sexual Health Strategy and Action Plan objectives to improve poor sexual health in Blackpool and reduce sexual health inequalities.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To note the update on the Sexual Health Strategy and Action Plan.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The Sexual Health Strategy and Action Plan was approved by the Board on the 19 April 2017 and the purpose of the presentation is to update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the progress to date.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience".

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Council has a mandated responsibility to commission comprehensive, open access sexual and reproductive health services. Open access services are essential to control infection, prevent outbreaks and reduce unwanted pregnancies and means that non-residents are entitled to use the sexual health services provided in Blackpool. This includes;

- free testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STI);
- free contraception, and reasonable access to all methods of contraception;
- Notification of sexual partners of infected persons.

5.2 The Sexual Health Strategy and Action Plan 2017-20 approved on the 19 April 2017 (attached at Appendix 4a) aims to improve the sexual health of Blackpool's population by providing clear direction and focus for sexual health improvement. This was built on the recommendations of the sexual health needs assessment carried out in 2016 and follows national policy and guidance. The strategy identified six locally agreed strategic priorities;

1. Reduce unplanned pregnancies among all women of fertile age
2. Reduce the rate of sexually transmitted infections and re-infections
3. Improve detection rate in chlamydia diagnosis in 15-24
4. Reduce onward transmission and proportion of late diagnoses of HIV.
5. Reduce inequalities and improve sexual health outcomes
6. Tackling sexual violence

A presentation will be given to update the Board. The current strategy and action plan is also attached for information at Appendix 4a to this report.

5.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.4 List of Appendices

Appendix 4a: Sexual Health Action Plan (as approved on the 19 April 2017)

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 There are no legal considerations in relation to the implementation of the Sexual health strategy.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 There are no Human Resources implications from the update.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 The aim of this strategy is to improve poor sexual health in Blackpool and reduce sexual health inequalities.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 There are no financial considerations from the update.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 There are no risk management considerations.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 To reduce and tackle the rate of sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) in those at higher risk it is important to work with strategic partners and stakeholders to implement targeted prevention measures. Hence, the plan developed as part of this strategy was informed by a range of stakeholders to ensure that actions were taken to address the specific needs of the population.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 The Government set out its ambitions for improving sexual health in its publication, 'A Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England'. **(Department of Health (2013). A Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England. <http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2013/03/sex-health-framework/>)**

Making it Work. A guide to whole system commissioning for sexual health, reproductive health and HIV (Public Health England, 2014). This framework was published at the same time as changes in commissioning arrangements and provided a supporting framework for joined up service development. The guidance recognises that responsibilities for the commissioning of services are divided across local authorities, NHS England and clinical commissioning groups and is concomitant with the ambitions set out in the 'Framework for Sexual Health Improvement'. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/313866/Guide_to_whole_system_sexual_and_reproductive_health_and_HIV_commissioning_FINAL_DRAFT_2.pdf

