

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**Strategy Review –Sexual Health Strategy****Thursday, 7 September 2023 at 6.00 pm, Via Teams****ATTENDEES**

(Cllr) Diane Mitchell (Cllr) Jon Bamborough (Cllr) Kim Critchley
 (Cllr) Lisette Roe (Cllr) Mel Fenlon (Cllr) Michele Scott
 (Cllr) Paul Galley (Cllr) Jo Farrell
 Judith Mills, Consultant In Public Health (Health Improvement and Adult Public Health),
 Janet Duckworth, Public Health Practitioner (Sexual Health), Public Health
 Brigit Chesworth, Specialty Registrar

DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

DRAFT SEXUAL HEALTH STRATEGY

Brigit Chesworth, Specialty Registrar gave a detailed update upon the background to the previous Blackpool 2017 – 2020 Sexual Health Strategy.

Whilst there had been some improvements following the introduction of the original strategy, there was still a long way to go. The team acknowledged that a number of the previous targets had not been achieved, and the learnings and evaluation of the previous strategy had helped to form the new Blackpool Sexual Health Strategy 2023 – 2026.

Judith Mills, Consultant in Public Health highlighted two main areas of success from the previous strategy:

- Teenage Contraception Rates
- HIV rates

The development of new strategy centered on information gathered from a number of different resources:

- Relevant national strategies, frameworks, guidance and plans
- Health Needs Assessment findings
- Topics arising from stakeholder discussions

The vision::

‘For everyone to be supported to achieve their optimal sexual health and wellbeing, regardless of their circumstances, and to be able to access the sexual health services that they need, when they need them’.

The new Blackpool Sexual Health Strategy 2023 – 2026 introduced six priority areas:

- Priority area 1: Prevent and reduce the transmission of STIs
- Priority area 2: Reduce unplanned pregnancy
- Priority area 3: Improve prevention, testing, treatment and support for people living with HIV
- Priority area 4: Provide young people with the skills, support and services that they need to achieve optimal sexual health

- Priority area 5: Reduce inequalities in sexual health
- Priority area 6: Tackle sexual violence

Brigit explained that there were six guiding principles, which would support the delivery of the strategy:

- Quality
- Accessible
- Collaborative
- Place-based
- Co-produced
- Innovative

Members were advised that a live Strategy Action Plan had been developed with stakeholders, and individual actions had been developed. The document would evolve over time and changes would be made throughout the life of the strategy.

Judith Mills, Consultant In Public Health advised that the document would not be shared publically, however, she was happy to arrange for this to be distributed to Members. She invited Members to contact her directly with any enquiries, and advised that any suggested changes would allow the opportunity for the Members to lead on the individual action.

Members enquired with regards to support from stakeholders and partner agencies and the team provided assurance that they had received support and engagement from everyone involved, and each organization had shown passion and commitment.

CONCLUSION

Members thanked the team for their presentation and their commitment to improving the Sexual Health in Blackpool.

It was agreed that the draft Blackpool Sexual Health Strategy 2023 – 2026 be supported in its current form.