



Haringey Council

Report for:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Item number	
Title:	Scrutiny Review Sexual Health and Teenagers (March 2010) - Update		
Report authorised by :	Jeanelle de Gruchy Director of Public Health		
Lead Officer:	Susan Oti Assistant Director of Public Health		
Ward(s) affected: All	Report for Non Key Decision:		

1. Introduction

A review was undertaken by an Overview and Scrutiny Review Panel in 2010. Fifteen stakeholders from across the borough gave evidence to the committee including; NHS commissioner, service providers and a local GP, council service providers, further education providers and voluntary sector service providers

The terms of reference for the review were:

“To consider actions currently undertaken by NHS Haringey, the Council and other relevant partners to prevent sexually transmitted infections and re infection and conceptions amongst teenagers through the promotion of good sexual health within the Borough and make recommendations on how this might be improved”

The review panel undertook its work through:

- Interviewing key stakeholders to obtain their views
- Obtaining the views of service users, both potential and actual
- Considering relevant documentary and research evidence
- Looking at best practice elsewhere

This paper provides an update on the recommendations from the review.

2. Background



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Haringey Council has been through major organisational change due to reduced funding from central government. A three year efficiency savings programme was introduced in April 2011. The Children and Young People's Service has lost capacity both in terms of funding (to commission programmes) and workforce (staff who have direct contact with young people with a remit to promote wellbeing) and this has had an impact on sexual health programmes particularly the teenage pregnancy programme, the Healthy Schools programme and activities led by the Youth and Participation Service.

The local health services is going through a major programme of organisational change that started in the autumn of 2010 and resulted in the Health and Social Care Bill 2012. The organisational change has had an impact in Haringey with efficiency savings from April 2011 resulting in the loss of the full time NHS Haringey Sexual Health Commissioner post, two full time Public Health Officer posts and efficiency savings in provider services. In April 2011 responsibility for Haringey's sexual health commissioning moved to NHS North Central London and has been operating with significant reduced capacity.

The provider landscape has also changed, local community health services merged with Islington Community Services and Whittington Hospital to form Whittington Health.

3. Update following the Scrutiny Review

The significant organisational change across Haringey's statutory organisations (Haringey Council and the local NHS) has had an impact on the ability of both organisations to implement all the scrutiny review recommendations.

Strategic

1¹. That the Children's Trust be requested to specifically raise the issue of the importance and value of the involvement of all secondary schools in programmes to promote good sexual health and the avoidance of conceptions with school governing bodies (C&YPS)

This was taken forward by the council's Healthy Schools Team and a Public Health Officer who were responsible for supporting schools in developing their Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programmes within the national curriculum including promoting the national healthy schools programme. Due to efficiency savings the NHS Public Health Officer post was lost in January 2011 and the council's Healthy Schools Team was lost in May 2011. The national healthy schools programme is a well respected evidence based programme and the Director of Public Health did not want to lose the productive and effective relationship with Haringey's schools to support reducing teenage pregnancy and improving young people's sexual health. Following a capacity review the Public Health Directorate took on

¹ The numbers are not sequential but relate to the recommendation in the original scrutiny review report



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responsibility for co-ordination and supporting schools through a revised Healthy Schools programme. The DPH presented this revised programme to the secondary Head teachers in October 2011.

Reducing teenage pregnancy and improving sexual health are key priorities within the soon to be published Health and Wellbeing Strategy and a training session will be offered as part of the School Governors Support Training programme later in 2012.

Haringey's Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator continues to work closely with all secondary schools and the post was transferred from the council's Children & Young People's Service to the Public Health Directorate in August 2011.

Information on the importance of teenage pregnancy prevention and sexual health are sent to Head teachers regularly via 'Educomms' as well as notification of the distribution of Sex and Relationship Education resources for use with pupils, parents and school staff. Professional development meetings are held once a term with secondary school PSHE Co-ordinators.

6. That an information champion be identified from amongst C&YPS and NHS Haringey commissioners to take the lead in ensuring that young people are well informed about sexual health services. (C&YPS/NHS Haringey)

Until March 2011 the NHS Haringey information champion was the sexual health commissioner. Up to August 2011 the CYPS information champion was the Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator.

The Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator is now the information champion across both organisations and liaises regularly with all service providers.

9. That current work to establish more accurate data on spending on sexual health be welcomed and that, once more accurate data is available, a benchmarking exercise be undertaken to determine whether current levels of spending are appropriate to levels of local need, consistent with levels of statistical neighbours and providing good value for money. (NHS Haringey)

The sexual health commissioner completed the work on financial data before the post was lost in the NHS reorganisation in March 2011. Unfortunately the benchmarking exercise has not been done as the capacity (sexual health commissioner) has been lost.

Service providers



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2. That the school nurse service be flagged up as a priority area when future decisions on funding are made by NHS Haringey. (NHS Haringey)

During 2010/11 and 2011/12 and going forward into 2012/13 the priority for the Head of Children's Commissioning has been to ensure during the time of efficiency savings that the School Nursing Service did not result in dis-investment. Alongside this the focus of the School Nursing Service has been to support the safeguarding agenda and action plan.

Commissioners

3. That service commissioners consider the potential benefits of re-allocating some of the joint funding provided for teenage pregnancy initiatives to the school nursing service in order to facilitate a more proactive role for them in addressing sexual health issues. (C&YPS/NHS Haringey)

Capacity issues as well as the need for the School Nursing Service to prioritise the safeguarding agenda meant that this recommendation has not progressed however the school nurses are involved in the swift signposting to sexual health services where appropriate.

The 4YP Contraception and Sexual Outreach Nurse Team was expanded in 2009 until Haringey Council teenage pregnancy funding was reduced in 2010 and ended completely in 2011. Funding opportunities are currently being sought by Public Health to reintroduce this nurse outreach service.

4. That NHS Haringey undertake specific work to engage with young people at CoHENEL and especially recent arrivals to the UK, in order to increase awareness of local NHS services including GPs. (NHS Haringey)

Close partnership working with CoHENEL has ensured that local health services are promoted regularly at college 'Fresher's Events'. Health related training opportunities and information is provided regularly to CoHENEL's Student Welfare and Learner Support Department, its staff and student peer support teams, as well as utilising the college intranet.

To reduce the impact of the loss of the 4YP Contraception and Sexual Outreach Nurse based at CoHENEL in 2011, weekly 4YP Youth Worker led sessions were introduced to provide registration to the free condom (C-Card) scheme and advice on sexual health. Recent developments include CoHENEL commissioning weekly sessions with a 4YP Contraception and Sexual Outreach Nurse.

5. That the proactive approach and specific initiatives to address teenage



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pregnancy undertaken by many schools, such as the use of models of babies at Woodside High School, be commended and, where possible, extended. (C&YPS).

The Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator continues to work with and support the secondary schools. The 'Baby Think It Over' scheme used in Woodside High School was coordinated by the YMCA's Family Matters programme. YMCA ended this programme in 2010/2011. One set of dolls from a similar and improved programme was purchased as a pilot for use at the Secondary Pupil Referral Unit (The Octagon). Efficiency savings and lack of evidence base for their impact means that this scheme is operational. The Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator has signposted purchase information on the company providing the dolls to two schools who made an enquiry about them.

7. That full integration of sexual health services be supported and NHS Haringey be requested to provide an update on progress with its integration programme and an action plan as part of the response to the scrutiny review. (NHS Haringey)

NHS Haringey Sexual Health Commissioner worked with the Whittington Health Head of Service to strengthen the integration agenda within the 2011/12 contract. From October 2011 Whittington Health Sexual health Services has been fully integrated with all sites offering both contraception and sexual health advice and treatment.

The integration agenda will progress further with the introduction of the London wide sexual health tariff in July 2012.

8. That joint working with sexual health commissioners in neighbouring boroughs and particularly those where significant numbers of Haringey resident's access services, such as Hackney, be further developed. (NHS Haringey)

Joint working with colleagues in Hackney and Enfield have been maintained and developed further including the C-Card Scheme and Emergency Hormonal Contraception Scheme. Recent developments include the introduction of the Enfield and Haringey Sexual Health Partnership Board and joint development of young people's health and wellbeing promotion materials (mobile app) with Hackney.

10. That the Panel supports the aspiration of service providers to develop a clinic aimed specifically at young men and requests that commissioners give consideration to the identification of funding of such provision. (NHS Haringey)

Whittington Health received additional funding in 2011/12 for a number of



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initiatives however a clinic specifically for young men was not one of them. Once the London wide sexual health tariff is introduced this year this may be an area for development.

11. That commissioners consider the relocation of the 4YP clinic to a venue which is less stigmatising, more accessible and more attractive to teenagers as part of work on how best to reach relevant young people. (NHS Haringey/C&YPS)

It is for Whittington Health to decide where to locate their services based on the needs of the population and feedback from service users. The clinical 4YP+ for females only is held at Lordship Lane Health Centre which is accessible to those young women in the east who do not want to travel to the St Ann's Clinic.

NHS Haringey commissions community pharmacists to provide sexual health services (Chlamydia screening and Emergency Hormonal Contraception)

12. That the proposal by service commissioners to change the opening hours of the 4YP afternoon clinic at St Ann's so that it they are more convenient for young people be supported and that the Committee be provided with confirmation that this will be implemented as part of the 2010/11 commissioning process. (NHS Haringey/C&YPS)

NHS Haringey stipulated in the 2011/12 Whittington Health service specification a minimum of two specialist young people's clinics per week (out of school time starting at 4pm), these are operational.

13. That NHS Haringey routinely provide access to free condoms for all GPs providing appropriate sexual health services at their surgeries. (NHS Haringey)

NHS Haringey commissioned Whittington Health Contraception and Sexual Health Service to deliver sexual health training to GPs and practice nurses (the SHiP programme²) including access to free condoms.

14. That all GPs should be encouraged by NHS Haringey to provide a range of sexual health services and that, as part of the re-accreditation process for GPs, it be made a contractual obligation. (NHS Haringey)

As part of the national GMS contract all practices are expected to provide essential and those additional services they are contracted to provide to all their patients. There is a national enhanced service within the GMS contract

² SHiP programme – Sexual Health in Practice training programme for GPs and practice nurses to give them the skills and resources to deliver sexual health intervention



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that outlines a more specialised sexual health service to be provided. The specification of this service is designed to cover the enhanced aspects of clinical carer of the patient, all of which is beyond the scope of essential services.

Accreditation is part of the GMS contract specialised sexual health services.

15. That NHS Haringey commissioners work with GP surgeries and primary care service providers to encourage them to obtain “You’re Welcome” accreditation for their services and that a GP champion be appointed to promote the “You’re Welcome” initiative within GP surgeries in Haringey. (NHS Haringey)

The “You’re Welcome” initiative is not part of the GMS contract. The “You’re Welcome” initiative has been discontinued by the Department of Health.

16. That NHS Haringey works with service providers to ensure that the importance of dealing sensitively and confidentially with patients is included as part of training for relevant reception and nursing staff in primary care and clinics. (NHS Haringey)

This issue has been part of the SHiP training programme and is available to nursing staff in primary care.

17. That the proposed introduction of a young persons health check to be offered through CoHENEL and sixth forms and undertaken by a nurse or health adviser be supported. (NHS Haringey/C&YPS)

Health services for young people are promoted as described in Recommendation 4. Close partnership working with Haringey Sixth Form Centre has meant all support and activities provided to CoHENEL is replicated there as well. Haringey Sixth Form Centre are currently looking into commissioning weekly sessions with a 4YP Contraception and Sexual Outreach Nurse. All other Sixth Forms within Secondary Schools are provided with information on sexual health and related services including drugs and alcohol support and mental health and emotional wellbeing. Links to the Teen (13 - 19) Health Check is promoted on Youthspace website.

18. That commissioners’ work with service providers to ensure that all patients are made fully aware of the specific tests that had been undertaken on them for STIs by providing appropriate written information for them. (NHS Haringey)

Whittington Health provides in-depth written information to all patients outlining the tests that will be undertaken, how the results will be shared with the patients and treatment options.



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4. Conclusion

Following the publication of the scrutiny review in March 2010 the NHS and local government have been through and continue to go through significant organisational change and efficiency savings programmes.

The majority of the recommendations have been implemented others have not due to efficiency savings and loss of workforce capacity.