

26 July 2021**Agenda Item:10**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH PERFORMANCE 1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2021

Purpose of the Report

1. To enable Members to scrutinise the performance and quality of services commissioned by Public Health (PH)

Information

2. This report provides the Committee with an overview of performance for Public Health commissioned services funded either in whole or in part by PH grant, in January to March 2021 against key performance indicators related to Public Health priorities, outcomes and actions within:
 - a). the Public Health Service Plan 2020-2021;
 - b). the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Nottinghamshire 2017-21; and
 - c). the Authority's 12 Commitments as set out in the Council Plan 2017-21.
3. A summary of the key performance measures is set out on the first page of **Appendix A**.
4. Appendix A also provides a description of each of the services and it provides a breakdown of some commissioned services at District level.
5. England was in full lockdown for the whole of quarter four and therefore the year ended as it had begun.
6. However, providers had experienced nine months of some form of restriction or another and therefore whilst the country may have been in full lockdown as it had been in the beginning of the year, services were provided in line with Government guidance but with the benefit of that experience and new ways of working.
7. The Public Health team continued to monitor performance and where any issues were identified, officers worked in partnership with providers and wider stakeholders to find solutions to mitigate against the issues. Public health continued to review the challenges on a regular

basis across the County, identifying the pressure points and working collaboratively to support provision of the commissioned services to our residents.

8. Public health officers maintained a close dialogue with providers during this quarter to ensure that the Authority continued to be assured of the best performance in the circumstances and safe practices and that services were being provided in line with emerging and changing guidance.

NHS Health Checks (GPs)

9. Quarter four continued to be a pressured time for GP practices as they responded to the roll-out of the vaccination programme and caught up with inevitable backlogs in demand. Activity on this preventative programme remained at a reduced level in this quarter as part of the response to the pandemic.
10. Payment continued on actual activity delivered in quarter four.
11. The aim of this programme is to help prevent heart disease, diabetes, stroke, kidney disease and certain types of preventable dementia by offering a check once every five years to everyone between the ages of 40 and 74 who has not already been diagnosed with one of these conditions.

Integrated Sexual Health Services (ISHS) (Nottingham University Hospitals (NUH), Sherwood Forest Hospital Foundation Trust (SFHFT) and Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals (DBH)

12. The ISHS is provided by the three NHS Trusts in Nottinghamshire.
13. Emergency and essential sexual health and contraception services including sexually transmitted infection responses (genital warts/molluscum contagiosum) and insertion and removal of long acting reversible contraception (IUD/S and Implants) continued. Pre-procedure consultations were undertaken remotely by telephone to ensure the service user (or anyone living in their household) was free of COVID 19 symptoms and that the service user was suitable for the relevant procedure. The remote consultations helped to reduce the length of time that service users were in the hospitals. Home treatments were given where possible.
14. PrEP medication taken by HIV-negative people to prevent infection continued to be supplied to service users (predominantly men who have sex with men) having previously only been available to those on the PrEP trial, however this is now routinely available to residents via all three NHS Trusts.
15. Social distancing for examinations and the procedures themselves could not be maintained but requisite infection prevention control measures and PPE guidance was followed. All sexual health staff used disposable plastic aprons, disposable latex gloves, fluid resistant masks and face visors and service users were asked to wear fluid resistant masks too. Social distancing in waiting rooms and staggered appointment times helped to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID 19.

16. Alternative means to health promotion were established in quarter four via referrals and some spoke clinic settings were opened.
17. Sexual health staff were asked to support swabbing teams in this quarter and some staff had to isolate at home due to COVID which affected staffing numbers in clinic.
18. During this year, despite the many challenges, the service across the County saw 75% of the numbers of service users seen at the end of last year.

Young People's Sexual Health Service- C Card (In-house)

19. The C-card scheme is a free and confidential advice and condom service for young people living in Nottinghamshire.
20. The service is popular with young people and with the reopening of schools, the service was able to resume some of the service during quarter four.
21. The Authority officer continued to work with pharmacies in Nottinghamshire, providing advice about managing possible increases in demand, possible delays in receiving supplies and minimising contact by preparing bags of condoms in advance. The officer produced weekly on-line guidance and resources for youth workers to enable them to distribute condoms safely in their areas. The website was updated to inform young people how they could access condoms during the pandemic. Furthermore, training was moved on-line and both registration and refresher training sessions have been provided.
22. The officer continued working with our sexual health providers to streamline the provision of condoms by post.

All Age Alcohol and Drug Misuse Services (Change Grow Live) (Jointly funded with the PCC)

23. CGL continued to provide this critical service in line with COVID guidance.
24. The service has dealt with more service users this year than had originally been anticipated when the Council went out to tender.
25. The Provider has been utilising their outreach van to deliver several needle exchange pop ups in various locations where pharmacies are no longer able to provide these services including Eastwood and Harworth.
26. The young people's service has been going from strength to strength even with the challenges of the last year. One young person severely affected by their parent's substance misuse issues and an apparent lack of wider support has recently praised the service "my CGL worker had started regularly meeting with me and the support they have provided has been invaluable. Lockdown would have been a lot harder without them".

Integrated Wellbeing Service (ABL - Your Health Your Way (YHYW))

27. In recognition of the variation in health risk behaviours across the county, ABL is incentivised to deliver 60% of service outcomes in the 40% most disadvantaged communities. In Quarter four out of a total of 3378 referrals into the service, 2063 (62%) were from the 40% most deprived areas of Nottinghamshire. In 2020-2021 out of a total of 11453 referrals into the service, 6908 (60%) were from the 40% most deprived areas of Nottinghamshire.
28. The total number of contacts recorded since the start of the contract is 152,369, with a third of these contacts being made in this last quarter. Furthermore, external referrals in this last quarter have increased. Both these developments are promising as we move forward.
29. Service Users have needed additional time and support in their contacts as many wanted an opportunity to talk about their wider experiences under lockdown and have been supported by staff with this.

Illicit Tobacco Services (In-house)

30. In quarter four, officers resumed visits to make test purchases at premises about which intelligence had been received on the sale of illicit tobacco products. Eleven premises were visited.
31. Officers had three successful test purchases, two from shops that had not been visited previously. Two further inspections resulted in nearly £4000 worth of cash and cigarettes being confiscated from a car being used in Worksop and a delivery mechanism in a shop being discovered with a concealed chute behind an extractor fan cover leading to the flat above.

Domestic Abuse Services (Notts Women's Aid, JUNO Women's Aid and Equation) (Jointly commissioned with the Police and Crime Commissioner)

32. The Domestic Abuse service continues to be challenged by the complexity and numbers of cases in quarter four as further detailed below.
33. Together with the higher volume of calls, the calls themselves are getting longer as the complexity of need increases. There has also been an increase in service users with English as a second language. Providers are holding survivors in their services for longer, which means that waiting lists are growing and staff are overwhelmed and exhausted. The situation has not been helped by delays in the court system. Waiting lists have increased and plans have been put in place to address these in 2021/22.
34. The prevention promotion and training service continued on-line during this fourth quarter to improve the domestic abuse information available for professionals and young people across the County.
35. The services were ready for face to face contact, with children and young people finding remote delivery challenging but had to resume remote contact in line with government guidance.

Healthy Families (Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust)

36. This service provides help and support to families with children from birth to 19 years of age to ensure the health and well-being of children and young people. The healthy child programme provides a framework to support collaborative work and a more integrated service delivery.
37. The Provider has continued to work innovatively to overcome challenges in the 'new normal' continuing to deliver all elements of the service using a blended approach of face to face contacts, telephone and digital platforms to support the most vulnerable children, young people and their families as well as deliver all the universal and targeted elements of the core offer.
38. The Provider has worked hard to improve and sustain performance for this quarter. Overall, New Birth Visits have been completed within timescales, this stands at 96.42% improving by 1.2% on quarter three and for the second consecutive quarter achieving the National target of 95%.
39. The number and percentage of infants totally and partially breast fed has seen an increase for this quarter to 45.34%. The Healthy Family Teams have proactively promoted the virtual Babes groups and contacting breast feeding mothers earlier after discharge from hospital.

Oral Health Promotion Services (Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust)

40. Nottinghamshire's specialist Oral Health Promotion Team works to improve oral health within local communities and among vulnerable groups by delivering training for the health, social care and education workforce, a supervised tooth-brushing programme in targeted primary schools (with linked nurseries) and health promotion activities such as the provision of tooth-brushing packs to one-year olds.
41. Whilst the numbers of frontline staff trained in child related oral health brief advice was at 92% of the numbers achieved last year, the adult related training remained low due to the lack of attendees as care staff continued to focus on Covid-related work.

Homelessness (Framework)

42. The service provides intensive support in short term hostel accommodation (up to 18 weeks) and less intensive support in Move On accommodation (typically for six months, and up to a maximum of 12 months) aimed at enabling the service user to achieve a range of outcomes including self-care, living skills, managing money, motivation and taking responsibility, social networks and relationships, managing tenancy and accommodation, reducing offending and meaningful use of time.
43. Framework had to revise the service provision substantially during this year, however service users were moved on from hostel accommodation by a higher percentage than last year and those exiting the move on accommodation was only down 8% with numbers of service users remaining fairly static.

Other Options Considered

44. None

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

45. To ensure performance of Public Health services is scrutinised by the Authority

Statutory and Policy Implications

46. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

47. Robust performance and quality reporting ensures that financial implications are monitored and reviewed effectively to minimise financial risk to the council.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

48. Monitoring of the contracts ensures providers of services comply with their equality duty. Equality performance is a standing agenda item of review meetings and providers are asked to provide case studies celebrating success and showing how complaints, if applicable, are resolved.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

49. Safeguarding is a standing item on contract review meeting agendas and providers are expected to report any areas of concern allowing the Authority to ensure children and adults at risk are safe.

Implications for Service Users

50. The management and quality monitoring of contracts are mechanisms by which commissioners secure assurance about the safety and quality of services using the public health grant for service users.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee considers whether there are any further actions it requires arising from the information in this report.

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Constitutional Comments (CEH 29/06/2021)

51. Adult Social Care and Public Health Committee have the delegation under its terms of reference to consider this report and the recommendation.

Finance Comments (DG 28/06/2021)

52. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All