



Cabinet Report

Date **8 JUNE 2023**

Title **INTEGRATED SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICE**

Report of **DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES AND HOUSING, PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOMELESSNESS**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval from the Isle of Wight Cabinet to:
 - (a) Spend in respect of Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service an amount up to a maximum value of £8.5M over nine years. Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service includes the following elements with system leadership and Innovation embedded throughout:
 - i. L3 Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service
 - ii. Sexual Health Promotion and Prevention
 - iii. Psychosexual Counselling
 - (b) Delegate authority to the Director of Public Health to award a contract for an Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service (elements i to iii in paragraph 1 (a)) for a maximum of nine years, let on the basis of an initial period of seven years with the option to extend this period by a further period of two years.
2. This report outlines the mandated requirements and commissioning strategy for the procurement of Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Provision for Isle of Wight residents.

RECOMMENDATION

3. That the Isle of Wight Cabinet approve:
 - (a) Spend in respect of Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service an amount up to a maximum value of £8.5M over nine years.
 - (b) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Director of Public Health to award a contract for Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service for a maximum of nine years, let on the basis of an initial period of seven years with the option to extend this period by two years.

BACKGROUND

4. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 divided responsibility for commissioning sexual health, reproductive health, and HIV services with a number of statutory bodies. Since 2013, these services have been commissioned by Local Authorities, Collaborative Commissioning Groups, (latterly Integrated Care Boards (ICB), and NHS England (NHSE) as part of a whole system approach.
5. Local authorities are mandated to commission comprehensive open access sexual and reproductive health services, including free STI testing and treatment, notification of sexual partners of infected persons and advice on, and reasonable access to, a broad range of contraception; and advice on preventing unplanned pregnancy funded under the terms of the Public Health Grant.
6. Local authorities are also responsible for funding activity for their own residents who receive sexual health testing and treatment outside their area of residence. This is out of scope for this paper. A separate allocation from the ring-fenced public health budget is used for this purpose.
7. The Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service (ISRHS) will enable delivery against the five main population sexual and reproductive health Public Health Outcomes Frameworks measures:
 - i. Under 18 conceptions.
 - ii. Chlamydia detection rate.
 - iii. New STIs diagnosis (excluding chlamydia in the under 25s).
 - iv. Prescribing of long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) excluding injections (females aged 15 to 44).
 - v. People presenting with HIV at a late stage of infection.
8. An Isle of Wight Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs Assessment was completed in December 2022 which has informed the commissioning strategy outlined in this report. **Appendix 1** provides a summary of key findings and recommendations which underpin this commissioning strategy.

Current Service Model and Commissioning Strategy

9. The current Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service contract will formally end on the 31st of March 2024.
10. To provide comprehensive, clinically safe, efficient, and effective provision the Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service is collaboratively commissioned to provide services for the Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Portsmouth, and Southampton residents with commissioning responsibilities outlined in Table 1, Isle of Wight Council commissioning responsibilities are shown in **bold**:

Table 1: Isle of Wight and Hampshire Sexual and Reproductive Health System	
Commissioning Authority	Responsibilities
Isle of Wight Council	Integrated Sexual Health Service including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. System Leadership and Network Management ii. L3 Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service. iii. Sexual Health Promotion, and Prevention. iv. Psychosexual Counselling
Hampshire County Council	Integrated Sexual Health Service
Portsmouth City Council	Integrated Sexual Health Service
Southampton City Council	Integrated Sexual Health Service
NHS Hampshire & Isle of Wight ICB	Termination of Pregnancy Vasectomy Services
NHS Frimley ICB	Termination of Pregnancy Vasectomy Services
NHSE	HIV Treatment and Care GBMSM HPV Vaccination Cervical Screening

11. This collaborative approach brings together the combined provision of sexual and reproductive health services joining the responsibilities of commissioning authorities as set out above. This means that Isle of Wight residents do not have to move between services and can access the service at a place of their convenience.
12. The new service is required from 1st April 2024. Commissioning authorities have agreed to work together in an open, transparent, and collaborative manner to procure a high quality, effective and outcome focussed sexual and reproductive health services across Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Portsmouth, and Southampton system, this enables efficiency of provision and variety of provision options for residents.
13. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board and NHS Frimley Integrated Care Board will conduct a separate procurement exercise and are committed to ensuring a whole system approach and integration of services across the system.
14. An options appraisal for the commissioning of Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Services was approved by the Director of Public Health in conjunction with equivalent Directors for Southampton City Council and Portsmouth City Council on

17 March 2023. The recommendation to support the procurement of Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service by competitive open tender was agreed in principle at this time.

15. Hampshire County Council have agreed to act as procurement lead and will manage this procurement on behalf of Isle of Wight Council, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and NHSE England. A Joint Working Agreement is in place between all authorities for collaborative and financial working arrangements to cover this procurement and future contract management.
16. An early market engagement PIN (Prior Information Notice) was published on 17th March 2023. The early market engagement event was held on 19th April 2023 and was attended by providers with interest, experience, capability, and capacity to deliver sexual and reproductive health services as part of an Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Portsmouth, and Southampton system.
17. The Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service includes the following elements:
 - a) System Leadership and Network Management
 - b) Specialist Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service
 - c) Sexual Health Promotion and Prevention
 - d) Psychosexual Counselling
18. A lead Provider model is required for these services and the services listed in paragraph 18 below to ensure a fully Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service.
19. NHS England will commission the following services for Isle of Wight residents as part of this procurement:
 - a) HIV Treatment and Care
 - b) GBMSM HPV Vaccination
 - c) Cervical Screening with Sexual and Reproductive Health Services
20. The Council will have its own contract with the provider. Each commissioning authority will hold its own separate contract with the Provider, with a single specification across each local authority area for the Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service. NHS England will hold its own contract with the Provider. This model will ensure a lead provider and a single service across Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Portsmouth, and Southampton. This will improve access and outcomes for Isle of Wight residents.
21. The proposed contract period for the Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service for Isle of Wight residents will be for seven years with the option to extend for a further two years subject to performance, Public Health priorities, Council priorities and Public Health Grant allocation.

Performance

22. Sexual and reproductive health is good for Isle of Wight residents (see Appendix 1: Isle of Wight Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs Assessment Summary). However, there are variations in outcomes for some individuals, groups, and communities. Variation may be a consequence of knowledge, access, and uptake

of sexual and reproductive health services which can create and widen health inequalities.

23. The provision of Integrated Specialist Sexual Health Services will directly support improvements in the performance of the Council in relation to the five Public Health Outcome Indicators.
24. Performance and quality within the current contracted Level 3 Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service is good with performance and quality targets being achieved for the majority of our locally specified key performance indicators and information reporting requirements.
25. The new contract will improve access to services for Isle of Wight residents by prioritising prevention to improve population health outcomes and reduce health inequalities for people at higher risk of poor sexual and reproductive health.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Responding to climate change and enhancing the biosphere

26. A full assessment of climate change vulnerability was not completed as the initial vulnerability assessment showed that the project is at minimal risk from the climate vulnerabilities. However, consideration will be given to ensure that locations of Sexual and Reproductive Health Services will promote and enable active travel to mitigate carbon risk.

Economic Recovery and Reducing Poverty

27. The ISRHS will not contribute directly to economic recovery and reducing poverty, however, by providing good employment and seeking to reduce unplanned pregnancies there are likely to be indirect benefits.

Impact on Young People and Future Generations

28. Nationally and locally, young people are at increased risk of STIs, for the Isle of Wight just under half of all diagnosed STIs occurred in people aged 14 to 25 which is similar to the England figure. Whilst the rate of under-18 conceptions has reduced in recent years, it is important to continue to ensure that young people have access to good quality relationships and sex education and that people of all ages and backgrounds are able to access sexual health services that are targeted appropriately to their needs. A high quality ISRHS focussed on prevention will positively impact on young people and future generations.

CONSULTATION

29. No formal public consultation has been undertaken. However, this commissioning strategy has been informed by the Isle of Wight Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs Assessment (**Appendix 1**) which included a programme of consultation with Isle of Wight residents.

FINANCIAL / BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

30. Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Services are mandated Public Health services with an identified funding stream within the Public Health Grant Allocation.
31. The required funding is affordable within the existing Public Health Allocation.
32. The indicative annual contract value is £938,400. The annual contract value is subject to Public Health grant allocation, Council and Public Health priorities.
33. The indicative total spend for Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Provision for the whole contract period (including extensions) is up to a maximum of £8.5M. This indicative total includes 2% population growth.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

34. Legal advice has been sought from the Isle of Wight Council procurement team in the development of this approach. The collaborative procurement of the contract is subject to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The procurement teams of all participating contracting authorities have been engaged, including the council's own procurement and contracts team, to ensure they are content with the approach being taken.
35. Hampshire County Council is acting as the lead contracting authority and is providing all specialist procurement and legal advice in accordance with the Joint Working Agreement.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

36. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has been completed and no adverse impacts were found regarding this proposal. There are likely to be positive impacts for some groups with protected characteristics. Please see **Appendix 2** for further details.

OPTIONS

37. An options appraisal has been completed. Options to secure a future contractual arrangement for service delivery that have been considered were as follows;
 - (a) Section 75 partnership agreement
 - (b) Direct award
 - (c) Competitive tender with prior market engagement
 - (d) Provider Selection Regime (currently not enacted).
38. The preferred option (c) is compliant with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

RISK MANAGEMENT

39. A risk assessment and log have been completed as part of the Procurement Project Plan.

EVALUATION

- (a) That the Isle of Wight Council approve the spend in respect of the provision of an Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service an amount up to a maximum value of £8.5M over nine years.

APPENDICES ATTACHED

Appendix 1: Isle of Wight Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs Assessment:
Executive Summary

Appendix 2: EIA Integrated Sexual Health Service

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