

## Sexual Health Education, Skills and Growth Overview & Scrutiny Panel

### Reason for review

- Attendance at specialist contraceptive services per 1,000 residents under 25 by gender, in Bracknell Forest, in 2021 placed Bracknell 9<sup>th</sup> out of 16 compared to its statistical neighbours.
- Resident's concern regarding sufficient provision, which was easily accessible, for Tier 1, 2, and 3 services for Bracknell residents.
- The chlamydia detection rate per 100,000 females aged 15 to 24 years in Bracknell Forest was 1,280 in 2022, was poorer than the rate of 2,110 for England.
- The number of new sexually transmitted infections (STIs) diagnosed among residents of Bracknell Forest in 2022 was 535. The rate was 427 per 100,000 residents, lower than the rate of 694 per 100,000 in England, and similar to the average of 430 per 100,000 among its [nearest neighbours](#). ('Summary profile of local authority sexual health: Bracknell Forest, 30 August 2023').

### Objectives/scope

The review will look to:

- Understand the impact, if any, of the current provision of dedicated specialist sexual health services for residents.
- Understand how specialist contraceptive service providers, and their partner organisations, work together to promote and improve services and assess their impact.
- Identify reasons why residents, especially those aged under 25, have issues accessing urgent contraceptive appointments.
- Identify the reasons for the low detection rate of chlamydia and HIV in Bracknell compared to other local authorities.

The review Panel will do this by:

- Carrying out a desk top analysis of public health data, for example information from Public Health Hub Berkshire East, the Joint Needs Strategic Assessment and NHS Digital data available online.
- Visiting services which serve Bracknell Forest residents.
- Interviewing service commissioners and operational delivery managers.
- Interviewing comparator local authorities with better detection rates.
- Talking to residents to capture their views.
- Working with the Bracknell Forest Youth Champions.
- Reviewing PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic) teaching in the boroughs' schools.
- Review complaints to Bracknell Forest Council related to sexual health service provision.

At the conclusion of this work the Panel will produce a report highlighting its findings and propose recommendations to the Executive about how sexual health services could improve and highlight good practice.

<b>Delivery methods:</b> Desk top analysis; evidence gathering sessions, visits and surveys.	
<b>Council theme:</b> Engaged and healthy communities	<b>Council team:</b> Public Health
<b>Review due:</b> 23 May 2024	<b>Proposed by:</b> Cllr Caroline Egglestone, Chair Education, Skills and Growth Panel
<p><b>Equalities Impact Assessment</b>  The Council has a duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to tackling discrimination of persons that share the characteristics protected under Section 4 of the Act; advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not.</p>	
<p><b>Financial and legal implications</b>  There are potentially legal and financial implications of any recommendations arising from this review which will be fully addressed in the review report.</p>	
<p><b>Climate Change and ecological implications</b>  There are no climate change or ecological implications arising from this review.</p>	