

## **HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **7 FEBRUARY 2017**

## **SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES**

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### **Summary**

1. The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) is to receive an update from Commissioners and Providers of Sexual Health Services in Worcestershire.

### **Background**

2. Sexual Health Services (SHS) are commissioned by Worcestershire County Council and provided by Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust (WHCT).
3. During 2015 a Sexual Health Needs Assessment (SHNA) was undertaken which reviewed sexual health needs, current provision and best practice to identify recommendations to improve sexual health outcomes and inform local commissioning decisions.
4. The SHNA recommended a redesign of SHS based on a lead provider model and focus more activity on prevention and early intervention.
5. Following in year national reductions to the Public Health Ring-Fenced Grant (PHRFG), the Cabinet Member decision on 25 November 2015, announced the budget for the recommissioned Integrated Sexual Health Service had been reduced by 12.5%. In addition, a further provider efficiency of 2% of budgets would also be applied.
6. To facilitate a full tender process, existing contracts with providers were extended until 30 September 2016. Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust were the preferred provider and the new Integrated Sexual Health Services (ISHS) contract began on 1 October 2016 for a period of 3.5 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years.
7. The new service model incorporates a shift in focus towards education, prevention and self-management, with the aim of improving population health outcomes and reducing demand on services in the medium to longer term.
8. During the development of the service specification, a number of historical service elements were reviewed and are no longer provided as the responsibility of these elements has shifted to other agencies. These include:
  - Organic Sexual Dysfunction
  - Community Gynaecology
  - Routine Cervical Screening
  - Pregnancy Advice and Support Service
  - Sexual Health Counselling and Behavioural Intervention Service
  - Psychosexual Therapy.

9. Concerns have been raised that patients could be lost in the system or be put at harm if there is no alternative pathway.

10. Commissioners and WHCT worked closely together on communication to ensure the public and patients are informed of the changes and appropriate signposting is in place.

## **Scrutiny**

11. HOSC were updated on the PHRFG reductions in June 2016 and have received briefing notes throughout the commissioning process. They have received assurance that commissioners and providers were working together to ensure continuation of a safe and effective service.

## **Purpose of the Meeting**

12. Members are invited to consider and comment on the information provided and whether any further scrutiny work is required at this stage.

## **Contact Points**

### County Council Contact Points

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### Specific Contact Points for this report

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## **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the Proper Officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30 June 2016, available on the County Council website [here](#)
- Agendas and Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 23 September 2015, available on the website [here](#)
- Agenda and Minutes of Cabinet on 16 July 2015, available on the website [here](#)
- Cabinet Member Decision on 20 November 2015, available on the website [here](#)