

Sexual Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 7 January 2015

Author:	Acting Director of Public Health
Wards:	All
Locality Affected:	All
Parishes Affected:	All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To inform the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) of the Sexual Health JSNA, seek support for its recommendations and raise awareness of the issues surrounding sexual health in Swindon.
- 1.2 The Sexual Health JSNA is an objective analysis of the current and future needs in Swindon. Based on available data, it identifies the current national and local sexual health status and services used. The recommendations from the Sexual Health JSNA together with national guidance, quality standards and good practice will improve sexual health in Swindon.
- 1.3 The Sexual Health JSNA provides information that informs the commissioning of sexual health services and links with the priorities and outcomes identified in the Swindon Health and Wellbeing Strategy and One Swindon.

2. Recommendations

The Board is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the recommendations from the Sexual Health JSNA Bulletin.
- 2.2 Support the development of a Sexual Health Strategy and Action Plan for Swindon.
- 2.3 Commission the established multi agency Sexual Health Executive Group to oversee and monitor the development of the strategy and implementation plan and the recommendations identified in the JSNA.

3. Detail

- 3.1 Sexual health matters to both individuals and communities and is important across the whole life course. It encompasses a wide range of areas including promotion of healthy sexual relationships, avoiding sexually transmitted infections (STIs), teenage pregnancy, safe termination of pregnancy, contraception and sexual offences. STIs are passed from one person to another through unprotected sex or genital contact. Examples of such infections include HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), chlamydia and gonorrhoea.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Cherry Jones, 01793 444681, cherryjones@swindon.gov.uk or Chaam Klinger on 01793 444672, cklinger@swindon.gov.uk

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- 3.2 The World Health Organisation defines sexual health as “a state of physical, mental and social wellbeing in relation to sexuality. It requires a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships, as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sexual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination and violence.”
- 3.3 In 2013, Swindon ranked 72 (out of 326 local authorities in England, with the first in the rank having the highest rates) for rates of new sexually transmitted infections (STIs). 1891 new STIs were diagnosed in Swindon residents (892.3 per 100,000 population, compared to 810.9 per 100,000 for England). 58% of diagnoses of new STIs in Swindon were in people aged 15- 24 years (compared to 55% in England). Swindon Sexual Health services effectively targets and tests those most of risk (for example, high rates of partner notification) and this is reflected in the high STI diagnosis rates.
- 3.4 In 2013 the total abortion rate for Swindon local authority was 16.2 per 1,000 female population aged 15-44 years, compared to 16.6 in England. Of those women under 25 years who had an abortion in that year, the proportion of those who had had a previous abortion was 26.5%, while in England the proportion was 26.9%. Nine out of every ten terminations occur before 10 weeks gestation (87%) this is one of the highest in the country and reduces the risk of complications from the procedure.
- 3.5 In 2012, the under 18 conception rate per 1,000 female aged 15 to 17 years in Swindon was 27.8, while in England the rate was 27.7. The conception rate for under 16s (13 to 15 year olds) is 4.7 per 1000 which is better than both the South West (4.9 per 1,000) and England (5.6 per 1,000) rates.
- 3.6 Swindon Sexual Health (Great Western Hospitals) is the major provider of sexual health services in Swindon. Other providers include General Practice (especially regarding contraception), the school nursing team, the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and voluntary organisations such as the British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) and the Terence Higgins Trust. Swindon Sexual Health Service, contraceptive services provided through General Practice, and the Terence Higgins Trust (THT) are all commissioned by Swindon Borough Council. Abortion services are commissioned by Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The SARC is commissioned by NHS England but jointly monitored by SBC and Wiltshire Council. The School Nursing service is part of SBC's integrated locality team and is jointly commissioned by NHS England and Swindon Borough Council.
- 3.7 The JSNA makes the following 13 recommendations
- 3.7.1 Increase the uptake of chlamydia screening amongst 15-24 year olds.
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- 3.7.2 Improve uptake of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) testing amongst women and heterosexual men with a view to reducing the proportion of late HIV diagnoses.
- 3.7.3 Continue to provide an excellent HPV (human papilloma virus) vaccination programme to ensure high vaccine uptake rates.
- 3.7.4 Continue to provide the majority of abortions during early pregnancy to ensure low complication rates for women.
- 3.7.5 Increase the uptake of Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC). Continue to train more general practitioners (GPs) in LARC insertion and ensure that LARC continues to be available in all General Practices.
- 3.7.6 Conduct qualitative research with service users to better understand the barriers for the uptake of LARC.
- 3.7.7 Increase the number of pharmacies providing emergency hormonal contraception.
- 3.7.8 Work closely with schools and colleges to encourage the use of quality assured packages available for the delivery of Sex and Relationships Education, so that young people are well informed about sexual health and relationships and are aware of where and how to access help should sexual abuse/assault occur.
- 3.7.9 Encourage more organisations within Swindon to achieve the Young People Friendly accreditation.
- 3.7.10 Explore how to provide a specialist psycho-sexual counselling service for Swindon residents.
- 3.7.11 Develop and coordinate a child sexual exploitation (CSE) strategy and action plan, linking with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).
- 3.7.12 Develop and coordinate a female genital mutilation (FGM) prevention strategy and action plan, linking with the LSCB.
- 3.7.13 Ensure cross correlation of data across local partnerships, to ensure that all agencies have the necessary information to protect the vulnerable. The Multi-Agency Risk Panel (MARP) is an example where information sharing is used effectively to prevent harm and protect vulnerable children.

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The above recommendations require a multi-agency and partnership approach and will be monitored through the Sexual Health Executive Group led by public health.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 Not to proceed to develop a Sexual Health Strategy.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications within this report. If the strategy and action plan require additional resources, they will be addressed as part of the agreement of the strategy.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human rights have been taken fully into account in compiling this report. It is considered that the recommendations within this report are compatible with Convention Rights.
- 5.3 In consideration of any future guidance and an understanding of best practice from elsewhere, the council will work with the NHS and other partners in order to ensure that equalities and a respect for human rights are at the heart of the development of the Swindon JSNA and that everyone in Swindon has fair access to services and are free from discrimination.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.4 The Sexual Health JSNA highlights a number of key areas of focus that will provide the opportunity to improve outcomes for residents of Swindon.
- 5.5 The recommendations from this JSNA will inform commissioning and provision of services and actions required to positively impact on health and wellbeing of the residents of Swindon.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.6 A Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA) for Sexual Health Services and Men's Sexual Health has been completed. No adverse impacts were identified based on religion, sexual orientation, marital/civil partnership status, or pregnancy/maternity. A copy of the DIA with more detailed information can be requested from the report author.

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Risk Management

5.7 No specific risks identified at this stage for this report.

6. Consultees

6.1 The Board Director Finance, Revenues, Benefits and Property (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

7.1 None.

8. Appendices

8.1 Sexual health JSNA Bulletin.