

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Reference Number:	2245
Author:	Carl Neal
Department:	Children and Families
Contact:	Carl Neal (Job Title: Insight Specialist PH, Email: carl.neal@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: ext 65527)
Subject:	Online Chlamydia Screening Self Testing Kits
Total Value:	£285,000 (£57,000 per annum for 3 years + 2 option to extend) (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Approve spend of £285,000 in total (57,000 per annum for 3 years from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2019, with the option to extend for 24 months until 31 March 20212) Approve authority to go out to tender and approve the outcome in order to appoint a provider to deliver an Online Chlamydia Screening Self-Testing Kits service3) Delegate authority to Interim Director for Public Health, to award the contract to the successful provider4) Delegate authority to the Head of Contracting and Procurement to sign the final contract in respect of the service

The Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) includes 3 sexual health priorities; one of which is to 'Achieve a diagnostic rate of 2,300 per 100,000 for Chlamydia screening (15-24 year olds)'

Key facts regarding Chlamydia

- Chlamydia is the most commonly diagnosed sexually transmitted infection (STI) in the UK; with sexually active young people at the highest risk of infection. Nationally, Public Health England (PHE) estimate that around 70%-80% of young adults with chlamydia will be unaware they have the infection.
- Chlamydia often has no symptoms but can lead to a wide range of complications/ serious health consequences, and represents a substantial public health problem. The prevalence of infection is highest in young sexually active young adults (15 to 24 years olds). Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men are also at risk.
- By offering a range of opportunistic chlamydia screening of young adults who are sexually active and without symptoms, allows for the earlier detection of chlamydia infection which can be easily treated and also reduces onward transmission and the consequences of untreated infection.
- Chlamydia testing in non-genitourinary medicine (GUM) settings can also be cheaper and by offering young people additional choice of testing services increases the normalisation and de-stigmatisation of STI testing, making young people more able to and willing to take responsibility for their sexual health.
- Public Health England (PHE) recommends screening of sexually active young adults, annually or on change of partner.

Key facts for Nottingham City

- In 2013, Nottingham City is ranked 6 out of 326 local authorities in England; (first in the rank has highest rates) for rates of chlamydia infection. (For all sexually transmitted infections, Nottingham is ranked 13 out of 326 local authorities in England)
- In 2013, the chlamydia diagnosis rate in 15-24 year olds in Nottingham City was 2,893 per 100,000. (This is higher than the national target of 2,300 per 100,000 indicating that the City is accurately targeting and testing those most at risk). 31.8% of 15-24 year olds resident in Nottingham City were tested for chlamydia, with a 9.1% positivity rate.
- The Public Health Outcome Framework (PHOF) advises that local authorities work towards a rate of at least 2,300 chlamydia diagnoses per 100,000 population aged 15-24 years; the latest available data for Nottingham City identifies that in 2013, the rate of chlamydia diagnoses per 100,000 young people aged 15-24 years in Nottingham was 2,893.2 compared to 2015.6 per 100,000 in England. (Areas achieving or above the 2,300 diagnosis rate should aim to sustain or increase their rate).
- According to our current online chlamydia screening service, since 2012 9,207 kits have been requests and of those 6,568 have been returned for testing. This represents a 71% return rate.
- An audit our current online chlamydia screening service undertaken on 2014, identified a positivity rate of just over 10% for the current service (indicating that an online service was accurately targeting and testing those most at risk).
- A key outcomes of the current service within Nottingham City is to contribute to the reduction of the prevalence of chlamydia in young people aged 15 to 24 years; provide choice by providing additional access to chlamydia screening (increasing access addresses perceptions of stigma) and increase the awareness of chlamydia in young people.

Other Options Considered: Do Nothing, other than maintain existing provision of chlamydia testing with current provides of sexual health services.
(Note the service is cost effective when compared to other chlamydia testing services commissioned within the City)

Background Papers:

Published Works:

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: n/a

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: EIA not required. No change to citizen access and doesn't relate to a change in an existing policy or function

Regard for NHS Constitution: Local authorities have a statutory duty to have regard to the NHS Constitution when exercising their public health functions under the NHS Act 2006. In making this decision relating to public health functions, we have properly considered the NHS Constitution where applicable and have taken into account how it can be applied in order to commission services to improve the health of the local community.

Decision Type: Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In: Yes

Call In Expiry date: 23/11/2015

Advice Sought: Legal, Finance, Procurement

Legal Advice: This report raises no significant legal issues provided the contract is awarded in accordance with the city's contract procedure rules and Public contracts Regulations. Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 02/11/2015.

Finance Advice: There is current provision for the full cost of the decision within the 2015/16 and ongoing Public Health budget.
The decision aligns with the Public Health objectives setout in the 2015/16-2017/18 Medium Term Financial Plan.
Advice provided by Tania Clayton Perez (Senior Finance Assistant) on 10/11/2015.

Procurement Advice: There are no significant procurement concerns with this decision. The proposed tender for Chlamydia Screening will be managed by the Procurement Team to ensure a robust and compliant process. The recommendation to delegate authority to approve the outcome of the tender to the Director of Public Health to award the contract and to delegate authority to the Head of Contracting and Procurement to sign the contract will enable a timely transition to the new arrangements following the tender process.
Advice provided by Julie Herrod (Procurement Officer) on 02/11/2015.

Signatures

Alex Norris (PH for Adults, Health and Community Sector)
SIGNED and Dated: 13/11/2015
Alison Challenger (Director of Public Health (Interim))
SIGNED and Dated: 11/11/2015