**London HIV Prevention Programme**

**Engagement and Outreach services**

The London HIV Prevention Programme (LHPP) was established in 2014 as a city-wide approach to HIV prevention. It is funded by all 33 London local authorities in recognition of London’s highly transient population and to capitalise on the benefits of cross-borough collaboration in public health messaging and engagement.

The programme aims to reduce new HIV diagnoses and preventable HIV deaths in London by providing early access to HIV testing, promoting regular condom and PrEP use, and increased knowledge of U=U (known collectively as HIV combination prevention methods). It directly supports London’s commitment to achieve the Fast-Track Cities (FTC) ‘Getting to zero’ ambition and the objectives of the National HIV Action plan.

Lambeth council hosts the LHPP and acts as the lead commissioner on behalf of the London boroughs (as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Lambeth and individual London boroughs) and governed by the LHPP board. All London boroughs contribute to the LHPP programme based on proportionate local HIV prevalence. The London Leaders Executive committee approved the funding of £1.08m per year for the next three years. The LHPP commissioners are currently seeking to commission a provider of Engagement and Outreach services to deliver the aims and objectives of the programme.

New HIV diagnoses have been declining nationally, and indeed in London over the last ten years. In 2021, there were a total of 883 new HIV diagnoses in London. This represents a 12% decrease when compared with 2020 (955 to 883) and a 66% decrease compared to 2015 (2,564 to 883).

Gay, Bisexual and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) account for 34% of all new HIV diagnoses in the capital, this number continues to decrease year on year. Heterosexual transmission accounted for 36% of all new HIV diagnoses in the capital in 2020, whilst drug users and vertical transmission both accounted for approximately 2%. However, for 28% of new HIV diagnoses in 2021 there was no probable exposure route recorded. Nationally, new HIV diagnoses are decreasing at the fastest rate among white gay GBMSM and those who are born in the UK. Within the GBMSM population, those born outside of the UK and those of ‘Asian/Other’, black African and Caribbean ethnicity are seeing shallower or slower reductions. Proportionally, GBMSM in London are a greater risk of acquiring HIV than any other cohort.

Late diagnosis is a concern due to the increased morbidity and risk of mortality within a year of diagnosis. Late diagnoses in the capital is falling but not in line with overall transmissions – in 2021 39% of new diagnoses were classified as late (a CD4 count of below 350). Heterosexuals are most likely to be diagnosed late.

It is estimated that in London there are approximately 1300 people living with an undiagnosed HIV infection.

Whilst the programme has engaged with the wider GBMSM population in the past, it now needs to concentrate its efforts towards engaging GBMSM with intersectional characteristics who are still facing significant challenges and barriers to seeking good sexual health. This includes recent migrants and those from black, Asian and minority ethnic groups in line with the most recent epidemiological data for London.

The LHPP seeks to respond to the changing demographics of HIV incidences in London to ensure that the ambition of ‘towards zero HIV transmission by 2030’ is realised.

This questionnaire is a follow up engagement following the reduction of the originally anticipated funding available for this service. We are seeking views and feedback from providers who deliver sexual health and HIV services and who may be interested in delivering this service to help inform the focus of the new service specification for the GBMSM outreach and engagement service in London. The new available budget for this service is £275,000 per annum and the contract duration is up to 3 years.

The deadline to complete this brief survey is **Friday 22 March 2024**

**Service Aims:**

To reduce new HIV diagnoses and preventable HIV deaths in London by promoting and providing early access to HIV testing (and Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Testing), regular condom use, increased PrEP use and increased knowledge of U=U (known collectively as HIV combination prevention methods).

**Service Requirements:**

The new Engagement and Outreach service will seek to work closely with the communications function to:

* inform and influence GBMSM populations, especially men with intersectional characteristics including individuals from Black African and Latin American backgrounds across London and their attitudes around HIV testing (and STI Testing), PrEP and condom use and U=U (known collectively as HIV combination prevention methods) by continuing to support London wide ‘Do It London’ campaigns
* support and inform targeted campaigns for population groups of greatest need including specific communities with intersectional characteristics within GBMSM
* Condom distribution to venues frequented by GBMSM, particularly those with intersectional characteristics
* support the delivery of culturally appropriate messages that will include clear calls to action that contribute to increased HIV combination prevention knowledge and awareness and improved health-seeking behaviour
* establish an enhanced engagement service that will seek to meet the HIV prevention needs of segments of GBMSM with intersectional characteristics including those who are not born in the UK, migrants and other racialised communities
* continue to address stigma and discrimination against HIV

This may include:

* face-to-face engagement with target population groups
* provide HIV (& STI) testing, health promotion and education and condom distribution during outreach sessions
* setting up and delivering services that address issues arising from intersectional characteristics e.g. mental health, racism

**ABOUT YOU**

1. **Name:** Click or tap here to enter text.
2. **Role:** Click or tap here to enter text.
3. **Email:** Click or tap here to enter text.
4. **Telephone no.** Click or tap here to enter text.
5. **Provider/business name:** Click or tap here to enter text.
6. **ODS Code:** Click or tap here to enter text.
7. **Have you had experience of delivering a sexual health or HIV prevention engagement and outreach service?** Choose an item.
8. **Please indicate whether you would be interested in delivering this service:** Choose an item.
9. **Commissioners are keen to understand the providers position on delivering the following elements of the service based on the new financial envelope of £68,750 payable per quarter following performance review. In your response, please include the feasibility and practical challenges that you anticipate in the delivery of these:**
	1. Working in partnership
	2. Face-to-face engagement and outreach services (health promotion)
	3. STI/HIV Point of Care tests and condom distributions during outreach sessions
	4. Distribution of condoms and lubes in venues
10. **Is there anything else you would like to tell us about payment for this service?**
11. **Please indicate if you would consider working with other providers in the sector for instance via a Consortia or Partnership and if so, please provide more information below.**
12. **Please use this space to provide any additional information or if you wish to expand on any of the responses within this survey.**

**Thank you & next steps**

Thank you for your time taken to complete this form. Please kindly send this to JBeturin1@lambeth.gov.uk