

Agenda Item No:	16
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Report to:	Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Date of Meeting:	10 th July 2024
Subject:	Plans for delivery of the Women Living Well Longer Programme
Director Sponsor:	Anja Hazebroek, Executive Director of Communications, Marketing and Media Relations
Author:	Jenny Allott, Strategic Lead – Women Living Well Longer Programme and Penny Gray, Director of Commissioning Strategy

STATUS OF THE REPORT:

Approve Discuss Assurance Information A Regulatory Requirement

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The report outlines a plan for the delivery of the Women Living Well Programme. NHSE Planning Guidance outlines a requirement for the delivery of a Women's Health Hub by July 2024 and a second Women's Health Hub by December 2024.

In Humber and North Yorkshire, the plan is to operationalise Women's Health Hubs through the strengthening of delivery of women's health services in primary care networks. Programme funding will be used for a training programme for clinicians to improve skills in women's healthcare. Clinicians will be trained in Long-Acting Reversible Contraception fitting, ring pessary fitting and menopause care. Improvement work will be undertaken with the PCNs to improve access to women's health services. PCNs will designate a Women's Health Champion.

The programme will be underpinned by the voice of women through engagement work. Women's voices will be used as a call to action across the system, encouraging women's priorities for health to be reflected in service delivery.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members are asked to:

- i) Note the position and next for programme delivery.
- ii) Provide any feedback and input on the programme plan.

ICB STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	
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Managing Today	<input type="checkbox"/>
Managing Tomorrow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Enabling the Effective Operation of the Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Voice at the Heart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IMPLICATIONS

Finance	The report outlines plans for the Women Living Well Longer Programme, for which the ICB has received a two-year budget of £595,000 from NHSE
Quality	The programme will improve the quality of women's health provision through providing high quality information, improved access and equity in health service delivery and improved skills and resilience in the workforce
HR	N/A
Legal / Regulatory	N/A
Data Protection / IG	N/A
Health inequality / equality	The approach to operationalise Women's Health Hubs seeks to reduce health inequalities. Deprivation and health inequality will be used to identify the PCNs to become Women's Health Hubs
Conflict of Interest Aspects	N/A
Sustainability	The plan discounts a centralised Hub model to reduce travel times for women and associated environmental impacts, as well as the risk of increasing health inequalities. The delivery of increased LARC fitting provision within PCNs will also reduce travel required by women to access services.

<p>ASSESSED RISK:</p> <p>Key risks identified include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk that the alternative delivery model through Primary Care Networks is not accepted by NHSE as a Women's Health Hub • Risk to delivering the programme of work during the timescale set by NHSE • Risk that PCNs are unable to participate in the programme due to other pressures and priorities
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- Risk of low demand for Long-Acting Reversible Contraception fitting training due to commissioning arrangements not effectively incentivising delivery of fitting in primary care.

MONITORING AND ASSURANCE:

- Monthly reporting is required by NHSE on delivery of the programme
- Regular monitoring and assurance of the programme will be undertaken by the Clinical and Professional SLT and the Scrutiny, Oversight and Assurance Committee

ENGAGEMENT:

The programme has engaged with over 90 stakeholders to inform the design of the programme.

A programme of engagement work with seldom heard communities forms part of the programme and will underpin the improvement work planned.

The programme will also share women's voices more widely within the system so they can be used to inform future service delivery and development.

REPORT EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

No Yes

If yes, please detail the specific grounds for exemption.

WOMEN LIVING WELL LONGER PROGRAMME

1. INTRODUCTION

Following the publication of the Government's first Health Strategy for Women in England in August 2022, £25 million of investment in the development of women's health hubs was announced.

This funding has been distributed equally to Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) with £595,000 allocated for the establishment of at least one women's health hub in every integrated care system (ICS).

The Health Strategy for Women in England outlines the following principles for delivery of the women's health hubs:

- delivering care closer to home
- improving patient experience
- tackling health inequalities
- reducing pressure on secondary care and waiting lists

A Women Living Well Longer programme plan has been developed, for delivery of Women's Health Hubs within the Humber and North Yorkshire ICS.

Primary Care Networks (PCNs) will deliver Women's Health Hubs, with six PCNs to be identified to pilot a programme of activities, including workforce development, improvement around equality and access and provision of high-quality information to women.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Women's Health Hubs and delivering the Health Strategy for Women

The NHSE Planning Guidance requires ICBs to establish and develop at least one Women's Health Hub in every ICB by the end of December 2024 in line with the core specification, improving access, experience and quality of care and sets the expectation that at least 75% of ICBs have a Hub in place by July 2024 that meets minimum requirements, including a virtual option. Detailed guidance provided in a letter from Dame Ruth May (NHSE Chief Nursing Officer) and Ed Waller (NHSE Deputy Chief Financial Officer) specifies that the Hub must deliver two of the 'core' services outlined below by July 2024 and all the core services by December 2024. The core services specified are:

- menstrual problems assessment and treatment
- menopause assessment and treatment
- contraceptive counselling and provision of the full range of contraceptive methods
- preconception care
- breast pain assessment and care
- pessary fitting and removal
- cervical screening
- screening and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and HIV screening

A report to the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Partnership on the 27 September 2023 on Women's Health Strategy and Health Hubs outlined our approach to delivery of Women's Health Hubs. The report outlined an approach working collaboratively across Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs), including the NHS, public health, and the voluntary and community sector.

The report also outlined our ambition in Humber and North Yorkshire that services are provided in a way that best meets population needs and reduces health inequalities.

3. ASSESSMENT

3.1. Principles for delivery of Women's Health Hubs in HNY

The plan for delivery of the Women Living Well Programme in Humber and North Yorkshire has been designed to ensure that developments are sustainable beyond the two-year funding period. The delivery will also ensure that the programme reduces the health inequalities women experience. While some ICBs have created new Women's Health Hubs, this approach is inappropriate to Humber and North Yorkshire's geography.

Mobilisation of a set of new services in a single location would also risk having to decommission these services in summer 2025. A single service location would not promote equal access to women's health services.

3.2. Structures for delivery for Women's Health Hubs in HNY

Women's Health Hubs will be delivered through Primary Care Networks. A questionnaire has been sent to Clinical Directors of Primary Care Networks to identify areas where there are gaps in service or opportunities to strengthen provision and where there is deprivation and women are experiencing health inequalities.

Primary Care Networks will be identified, with input from Place Teams and the Primary Health Care Collaborative, who will be invited to become Women's Health Hubs. These PCNs will nominate a Women's Health Champion. A package of support, including training for clinicians, additional clinical support, improvement work and support around access and equality, will be implemented. Training for additional Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC) fitters will be commissioned. Menopause training for clinicians will also be funded by the programme. Working is ongoing to scope how secondary healthcare can provide support and input to primary care clinicians through a multi-disciplinary team pilot.

3.3. Specific areas of delivery for Women's Health Hubs in HNY

Following engagement with system partners, work in the Women's Health Hubs will focus on the following three areas:

- menopause assessment and treatment
- contraceptive counselling and provision of the full range of contraceptive methods
- pelvic health, including pessary fitting and removal

Over ninety stakeholders have been engaged in initial scoping work informing the design of the programme.

3.4 Women's Voices and wider system change

Underpinning the work with the Primary Care Networks is a stream of work engaging with women in Humber and North Yorkshire. Volunteer research engagement champions from seldom heard communities will investigate experiences of accessing contraception. HealthWatch will be commissioned to look at women's experiences of accessing women's health services. Women's voices will be used to underpin improvement work in the neighbourhoods covered by Women's Health Hubs. An improvement manager from the IRIS team will lead improvement work within the Hubs, focused on improving access and reducing health inequalities.

As the views and voice of women in our communities is collected, the programme will use this as a 'call to action' across the system, encouraging system partners to consider how all health service provision recognises and changes to the specific priorities of women around their health.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1. The Women Living Well Longer programme will see the identification of six Primary Care Networks which can become Women's Health Hubs. Services in these PCN will be strengthened through additional training and funded backfill, improvement work focused on access to contraception and menopause services and additional clinical support through a pilot MDT.
- 4.2. The programme will also engage with women in diverse communities to understand their priorities for women's health. This information will be used to drive wider system change.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1. Members are asked to:

- iii) Note the position and next for programme delivery.
- iv) Provide any feedback and input on the programme plan.