

# The Greater Manchester Sexual Health Network

**Sexual Health : Taking Responsibility**  
Friday 11th October

## Conference Report

### Context

As a result of the Health and Social Care Act, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 sexual health services are commissioned by a number of different organisations. Local authorities are responsible for the funding and commissioning Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM), Contraception and Sexual Health Services (CaSH), Sexually Transmitted Infection (including HIV) Testing services, Chlamydia Screening together with complementary promotion and prevention services. NHS England is responsible for HIV inpatient and outpatient treatment services with Clinical Commissioning Groups responsible for abortion services. The Greater Manchester Sexual Health Network covers all these services and is keen for continued coordination and integration, where possible, of the commissioning and provision of these services.

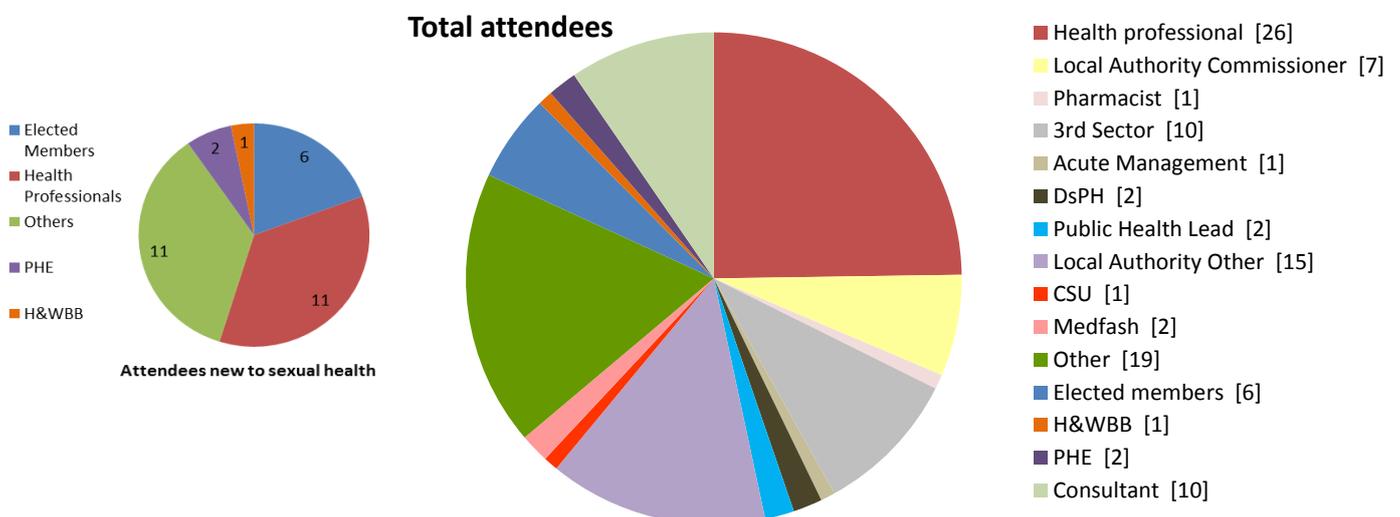
### Aims & Objectives

The aim of this event was to give new commissioners a greater understanding of the value of good access to sexual services for residents; the range of innovative services provided across Greater Manchester and to highlight the culture of continuous quality and cost improvement that has developed through partnership working.

### Attendees

Representatives from all 10 areas of Greater Manchester attended the event with 105 day-time attendees 31 (29%) of which were either new to the Greater Manchester Sexual Health Network and/or new to sexual health. Delegates included:

- Elected members
- Sexual health commissioners from Local Authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Providers from the NHS, independent and 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations
- Health & Wellbeing Board members
- Public Health England



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## Programme

**Councillor John Pantall, Executive Lead Member for Stockport**, welcomed delegates to the conference and explained the aims of the day were to provide an informative, interactive event to help appreciate the value of good sexual health, the challenges and opportunities facing services to meet user needs and showcasing some of the innovative services delivered across Greater Manchester.

**David Regan, Director of Public Health for Manchester and Chair of the Network** explained the new commissioning architecture, the sexual health priorities within the Public Health Outcomes Framework.

**Dr Ashish Sukthakar, a Genito-urinary Consultant and Clinical Director of the Network**, spoke of the breadth of sexual health services available to and accessed by residents. His key message was the importance of having high quality, good value prevention and treatment services.

**Dr Asha Kasliwal, Consultant in Contraceptive and Sexual Health**, explained how services are now modern, accessible and cost effective providing good quality care. Asha emphasised the importance of partnership working and all services working to service specifications in order to standardise care across Greater Manchester.

**Dr Emile Morgan, Consultant in GUM and HIV**, shared his experience of what makes a good integrated service which includes GUM and CaSH provision – a ‘one stop shop’ and how important shared leadership between doctors, nurses and management is in making the service a success.

**Neil Jenkinson, Network Director**, reminded the audience that in 2003 sexual health services were deemed to be in ‘crisis’ and how working in partnership across Greater Manchester had ensured quality and value for money services for users.

**Helen Carroll, CaSH Nurse** and **Kai Wooder, Regional Education Lead**, spoke of the importance of ensuring confidentiality, respect and understanding are given to all young people attending sexual health services and staff being aware of and alerting appropriate services of safeguarding issues.

**Jayne Littler** and **Michael Priestley, Public Health Commissioners** explained evidence-based interventions required to reduce teenage conceptions, emphasising the importance of continuing sex & relationship education (SRE); CaSH services and both universal and targeted approaches.

**Diane Cordwell, Programme Lead RUclear?** and **Geoff Holliday, Public Health Manager**, briefly outlined the role of the Chlamydia Screening Programme and that it is key to have access to Chlamydia and gonorrhoea testing in core services and via online facilities.

**Sarah Doran, Deputy Network Director** and **Diane Cordwell**, presented the Network’s child sexual exploitation work including developing a standardised CSE risk assessment tool for under18s and vulnerable adults and the Network’s involvement in the GM multi-agency Phoenix Project.

**An HIV Positive Speaker** relayed her personal journey of living with HIV and expressed her appreciation for the quality of service she had received from GM Sexual Health services.

**Dr Vinay Bothra, Consultant in Communicable Diseases** and **Jon Dunn, Public Health Commissioner**, felt their key message would be to shift more resources in to the evidence-based prevention arena in order to reduce the numbers of those acquiring HIV.

**Ruth Lowbury, Chief Executive, MedFASH**, informed delegates of the ‘Halve It’ campaign aimed at reducing the late diagnosis of HIV by 50% as per the Public Health Outcomes Framework.

**Sarah Doran** and **Debra Malone, Public Health Consultant**, explained the new commissioning landscape and the advantages of increasing partnership working through collaborative commissioning arrangements.

**Atiha Chaudry, Chief Executive, BME Network**, described how a Health Equity Audit had led to a deeper understanding of BME communities’ needs and consequently better informed commissioning.

**Aneet Kapoor, Manchester Local Pharmacy Committee**, explained how pharmacies improve access to sexual health by providing a broad range of services locally during alternative hours.

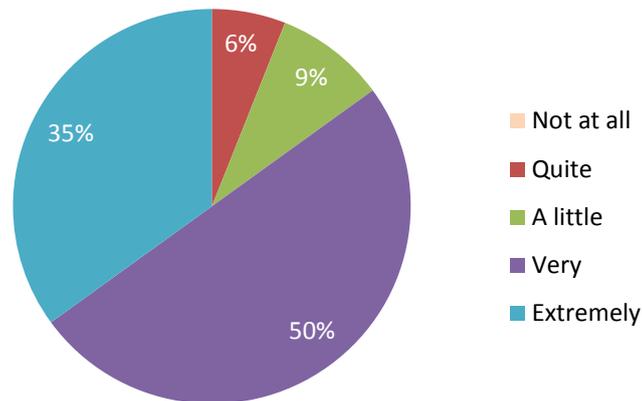
**Jon Dunn, Public Health Commissioner**, pronounced the launch of a new interactive sexual health website for Greater Manchester – a resource portal to enable residents to improve knowledge of and increase personal responsibility for their sexual health wellbeing.

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## Feedback

1. How useful did you find the event in increasing your understanding of sexual health services?



2. What did you find most useful?

“Great speakers, important information, good networking opportunities” - Elected Member

“Finding out how successful the Network has become and how we should all try to work together – Health Professional

“Any event such as this can only cover a limited amount of possible areas of information. With this in mind, I think the programme was well structured and covered a wide range of topics” – Local Authority Commissioner

“Awards – a chance to celebrate and share good practice” - Health Professional

“Really enjoyed the whole event. Found it very informative and useful to find out some of the wider context to sexual health commissioning” - Local Authority Commissioner

“An enjoyable and useful event, thank you for your hard work and effort – otherwise feel as though working in isolation but it’s useful to know I’m working on the right lines and to get re-motivated” - Local Authority Representative

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## Award Categories & Winners



- **The Glen Berry Excellence in Commissioning -** Commissioning the Greater Manchester Abortion Services  
Sarah Doran, Mohammed Abas, Mui Wan & Carol Kubicki

- **The Pat McCormack Sexual Health Professional**  
Dr Ashish Sukthankar

- **Sharing Sexual Health Good Practice -** Development of a network of HIV pharmacists in the NW and a clinic to manage complex problems  
Brongah McBrien



- **Patient Engagement & Involvement –** ARISE Project for the high quality of support offered to people from BME communities living with HIV  
Nigel Richards

- **Sexual Health Hero/Heroine**  
Charlotte King

- **Primary Care Sexual Health Services**  
Bodey Medical Practice



- **Sexual Health Project –** The evaluating and implementing of “non-invasive” STI testing  
Dr Catherine Stewart

- **Sexual Health Prevention –** Barnardo’s Targeted Sexual Health Intervention Service  
Kate Hornsby & Paula Hulme; and  
Raising awareness of FGM in both professionals and the Bolton Community  
Kathryn Burke



- **Working Together in Partnership –** Collaborative working between the Sexual Health Services in Bolton & Wigan with the Parallel Young People’s Centre Brook Young People’s Services  
Renata Hewart

- **Sexual Health Poster –** Gonorrhoea:Hard to Spell, Easy to Catch  
LGF

### Acknowledgements

- South Manchester Private Clinic
- RUClear? Chlamydia Screening Programme
- Marie Stopes International
- LGF
- Brook
- MedFASH – Halve it Campaign

### With thanks to:



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