

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Sexual Health Strategy Half Year Report
November 2006

Introduction

This paper provides a brief update on the progress of work linked to Respect and Responsibility in Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The newly merged NHS Board has been in place since April and now the implementation of the sexual health strategy is being treated as a single process. The parent body for this work is the Sexual Health Planning and Implementation Group which provides strategic leadership on sexual health across Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Below are brief updates on the key areas of activity and spend which have been supported by resources from the national strategy. For further information see the Sexual Health Strategy Annual Report which was completed in May 2006.

1) Sandyford Hub Programme

Development of the Sandyford Integrated Community 'Hub' clinics continues on schedule. There are now three Hubs open at Sandyford South East (Govanhill Health Centre), Sandyford East (Parkhead Health Centre) and Sandyford Inverclyde (Inverclyde Royal Hospital). Each is providing a wide range of sexual health services in local, easily accessible community locations with staff trained and experienced in both GUM and Family Planning and a mixture of drop-in and appointment sessions available across the week.

Details for each of the existing Hubs are as follows.

Sandyford South East (3 day Hub): Opening in October 2005, the hub at Govanhill has just celebrated its first birthday. Numbers attending rose steadily in the first few months and currently around 600 patients attend every month. We have been able in that first year to adapt services to meet the needs of a very ethnically diverse population including the introduction of a Urdu / Punjabi speaking female doctor for a weekly women only session, and a Hub open day specifically for Slovaks at which 100 members of this very new immigrant

community turned up. The first year evaluation of Sandyford South East will report in December 2006.

Sandyford East (4 day Hub): Opened in September 2006 before being officially launched by Health Minister Andy Kerr MSP on 19th September, Sandyford East is already looking like a very busy service. Located next to the Parkhead Forge shopping centre, the Hub is ideally sited for accessibility from most of the east end. Attendance in the first few weeks has exceeded expectations and has been drawn from a diverse group of both males and females, many of whom have never accessed sexual health services before. The design of the Sandyford East facility has attracted attention as well, most recently as the subject of an article in the Sunday Herald magazine (5th November 2006) about how the building's purpose had influenced it's layout, design and decoration.

Sandyford Inverclyde (3 day Hub): The first Hub in Clyde opened on 16th October 2006 on the site of Inverclyde Royal Hospital in Greenock. By the time of the formal launch by Duncan McNeil MSP on 10th November, 254 patients had attended, and numbers are expected to continue to climb steadily in the next few weeks. So far the number of new patients has been higher than return patients who had attended the previously available services, which indicates that we are attracting new people to the Hub. A fair percentage of those attending have been male including a number of gay and bisexual men which is a key target group for the service.

Future Hub developments are planned as follows:-

1. Sandyford North: 3 days per week, Springburn Health Centre, Opening January 2007.
2. Sandyford East Renfrewshire: 2 days per week, initially in existing Barrhead Health Centre but moving to new Health Centre premises which will open circa 2009.
3. Sandyford Renfrewshire: 5 days per week, Russell Institute (Paisley), opening Spring 2007
4. Sandyford South West: 3 days per week, new Pollok Health Centre, opening June 2007
5. Sandyford West Dunbartonshire: 4 days per week, proposed two sites in Clydebank and Dumbarton, Opening late 2007.
6. Sandyford East Dunbartonshire: 2 Days per week, new Kirkintilloch Health Centre opening in May 2008.

2) TOPAR (Termination of Pregnancy Assessment and Referral)

In Dec 2005, the Termination of Pregnancy Assessment and Referral service (TOPAR) was established at Sandyford. Initially this service was aiming to roll-out direct admission Medical TOP across the city. TOPAR is a self referral

service, whereas referral to hospital based TOP had previously to have been via a doctor.

The service has been operational since December 2005 working initially with the Southern General Hospital. Since then the service has grown and been enhanced illustrated by the milestones below.

- Mar 06: establish direct admission service for Medical TOP to Glasgow Royal Infirmary, thus Sandyford can admit any Glasgow client directly for MTOP.
- Mar 06: Establish direct admission to day surgery unit at Victoria Infirmary for Surgical TOP.
- May 06: Surgical TOP expanded to Southern General and Victoria day surgery units
- Sep 06: establish direct admission service to day surgery unit Stobhill hospital for Surgical TOP.

Thus, any Glasgow client presenting to TOPAR service can be admitted directly for either MTOP or STOP as from September 06. Women have a choice of consultation location with TOPAR sessions currently operating from Sandyford Central, and also the Sandyford Hubs at Govanhill and Parkhead.

TOPAR has already delivered real service improvements as follows.

- Waiting Times for medical termination have decreased significantly.
- The number of appointment slots has increased from 100 to 150 per month, (with very low rates of DNA) plus up to an extra 40 in Sandyford Hubs.
- Patients have more choice for treatment, the options being weekday, weekend or next available day. They also have the choice of taking the first part of their treatment at either Sandyford or the hospital.
- A significant reduction in referrals to social Gynaecology clinics from 71 in January 2006 to only 7 in October, resulting in much less pressure on the system as a whole.

Future developments will include negotiations on possible expansion to the Clyde area and further detailed evaluation covering service users from TOPAR, general practice and direct hospital referrals.

3) Pharmacies Emergency Contraception Pilot

The Emergency Contraception in Pharmacy scheme has been operating in Greater Glasgow since January 2005. The aim of the pilot has been to increase accessibility of Emergency Contraception and to still provide sound advice and

signposting around sexual health issues. At present there are 30 pharmacies in Greater Glasgow active in the scheme.

The scheme is available to eligible patients aged from 13 to 19 years (inclusive). Thus it can avoid the purchase age limit of 16 years and the often prohibitive RRP of £26.00. The scheme is very closely tied in with C-Card so that young people can access condoms at the same location.

As of September 2006 there have been 1325 courses of EHC supplied under the Greater Glasgow scheme which gives an average of 64 supplies per month since the scheme was launched, but currently the monthly rate is around 100 supplies.

There is notably more activity in city centre locations, most probably due to perceived anonymity which suits the target age groups over the convenience of more local sites.

Accessibility has been actively improved in terms of opening hours with a full seven day service available from early morning to 11pm at some pharmacy in the city.

For the majority of clients their first use of emergency contraception has been via the scheme which means it is often the first point of contact with any sexual health service.

A marketing strategy for the scheme has been produced and will guide the further promotion of the scheme within the restrictions which are placed on it e.g. not in schools.

The Emergency Contraception pilots in both Glasgow and the former Argyll & Clyde were funded via their respective strategy processes and both schemes had been developing separately until the merger.

The service in Clyde was piloted in Lomond LHCC from 2004 and was extended to other parts of Clyde early this year. This will run as a separate scheme to Glasgow for a period of one year, so as not to delay progress that had been made prior to the merger. In Clyde the age range of those able to access the service is 14 -25 which is different to Glasgow.

So far 55 pharmacy sites have signed up to, and take part in the scheme including a number of rural locations and supermarket pharmacies with long opening hours.

The Clyde scheme provides an average of 99 supplies per month, with activity across all age ranges and locations but the majority being to age 20 – 25. Similar to Glasgow, large urban pharmacies are much more popular than local community sites.

Both schemes will be reviewed with a view to establishing one single scheme incorporating the best practice from each in the future.

4) Male Prostitution Project

The project to improve response to the specific health and support needs for male prostitutes has the following main aims:

- Establish sources of support for men involved in prostitution
- Work with the NHS to enhance their knowledge of male prostitution issues (including training)
- Work with a range of service providers to ensure the needs of men are addressed.
- Undertaking further research into the topic.

Development has gathered pace since the appointment of the project manager in August 2006. The full time support worker will start in December and the project is expected to be fully operational by February 2007 although plans are already well advanced for various interventions including online outreach in internet chat-rooms.

Discussions are also taking place around research with an aim of building up an evidence base on the needs of men involved in prostitution.

Key achievements so far are as follows

- Contact and relationship building with a large range of partners agencies including
 - Social Work: Addictions, Leaving Care, Child protection
 - Sandyford: Base 75, Glasgow Archway, Thrive, Steve Retson Project
 - Services for the Homeless
 - Streetwork: THT Scotland, Barnardos, Simon Community Outreach
 - Strathclyde Police
 - Routes Out of Prostitution
- Project Manager chairs Glasgow Male Prostitution network, (including most of the above agencies).
- Project premises established in Glasgow LGBT centre with new accommodation secured in new LGBT centre from March 2007.
- New branding currently being established including permanent name for the project

- Tender process being undertaken for project website.

5) Glasgow City Council led projects

The Young Peoples Sexual Health Steering Group facilitated by Glasgow City Council supports three projects funded by respect and responsibility as follows.

a) Parents Support

The Parent's Support Project is called Talk 2 and will be hosted by Cultural and Leisure Services (CLS) allied to the lifelong learning agenda and the city's' emerging parenting framework.

A Project Coordinator is due to take up post in the second week of November. Since the last report additional funding has been found by NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde to increase the capacity of the 2 project workers to full time posts. One of these has been recruited with a second due to be filled by the end of 2006.

The project will go live in January 2007.

It will test out a range of models in supporting parents including

- Direct Groupwork Provision by Talk 2 workers to groups of parents
- Training For Trainers from Talk 2 staff to other CLS and Social Work staff
- Facilitation of possible models of peer support where parents are supported to talk to other parents

This will be complemented by work around providing written information including web based information and liaison with libraries.

A project steering group has been established and initial discussions with Scotland's Health at Work (SHAW) to explore promotion through workplaces have taken place.

NHS Health Scotland has supported the project by funding a project evaluation, tenders for which are currently being considered.

As previously reported there will be work with general groups of parents however there will be targeted work particularly focussing on local priorities such as fathers, parents of young people with disabilities and parents of young people from BME/African communities

b) Maternity Project Midwife – Teenage Pregnancy

The post holder is coming to the end of the first year of a two year initiative. The programme is going to plan. Amongst other things, the first year has been spent:

- gathering statistical information on teenage pregnancy, including how teenage parents fare on key national health strategies and targets
- identifying existing models of provision and outcomes and assessing how well they engage with users
- identifying existing community-based supports and how effectively they engage and support young parents
- identifying gaps in current provision
- assessing models of good practice throughout Scotland and elsewhere in the UK
- finding out the views and experiences of young pregnant women/mothers
- finding out the views and experiences of young fathers/fathers-to-be
- finding out the views of a range of relevant professionals including midwifery staff, GP's, Health Visitors etc

The post is overseen by a small multi-agency steering group and by the Strategic Manager – Young People's Sexual Health. It regularly links into existing maternity structures and has reported to the Maternity Services Liaison Committee (MSLC). An annual report of the first year of activity will go to the Young People's Sexual Health Steering Group in December 2006 and to the MSLC thereafter. A report from the consultations will be produced by February 2007.

The second year will be focused on planning and implementing change and supporting/training existing staff.

c) Education Re-Integration Officer Post

Numerous discussions with Glasgow City Council Education Services have taken place about this new post which aims to put in place systems to support young parents to remain in education.

The context in which a post would sit has not moved to an implementation phase. However, with the recent arrival of the new Depute Director with responsibility for

this project, a proposal about the use of this money is to be circulated at the end of November with a view to spending it within this financial year.

6) Developments in Clyde area

With a newly merged NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, there is now joint responsibility for sexual health strategies and associated funding in both Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Prior to dissolution, NHS Argyll & Clyde had secured its own funding from Respect & Responsibility, and good progress is now being made after reviewing proposals in both Glasgow and Clyde in light of the merger.

The strategy in Clyde is being implemented in a context of great change in services and planning. The main strategic and operational challenge has been the integration of GUM and Family Planning services in Clyde, and the merger of sexual health services in Clyde and Glasgow. This has all been overseen by the Clyde Co-ordination and Integration Group with membership drawn from local Clyde services and Sandyford.

The new NHS GG&C Sexual Health Planning and Implementation Group (SHPIG) provides strategic guidance to all CHPs on local action plans etc, with each of those in Clyde having a seat directly on the PIG.

Each of the Clyde CHPs has, or soon will have, in place a local action group for sexual health including representation from Sandyford and the Sexual Health Promotion team. The groups are tasked with developing an action plan incorporating the CHP, Local Authority and Voluntary sector, and reflecting their responsibilities under Respect and Responsibility and also at NHS Board and local level.

These groups are the main interface to involve the Local Authorities in sexual health, the key interests from which are Education, Social Work and Community Education / Youth Work functions.

Integration

Historically, managerial responsibility and funding for sexual and reproductive health was highly devolved and services have been disparately managed and financed under different NHS Trusts, Divisions and LHCC's

There is now one management structure and budget for sexual and reproductive health in Clyde. The Clyde administrative structure has been re-designed and is now managed through Sandyford Support Services. Clinical staff are also

managed through Sandyford and the Director of Sandyford is accountable for the combined budget for all sexual health services in both Clyde and Greater Glasgow.

Youth Partnership

A Lead Nurse for youth sexual health across Clyde has been appointed and took up post in August 2006. They have a responsibility to liaise with key agencies in youth work across Clyde (voluntary sector, education, social work etc) and ensure that local Sandyford services are meeting the needs of young people. They combine a co-ordinating role and involvement in a number of projects with clinical leadership for issues such as child protection. The post links closely with the new Consultant for young people's sexual health, and also the BNSF funded youth development worker for Inverclyde who is now based at the Sandyford Inverclyde Hub.

Sandyford Inverclyde Hub (See Hubs section 1 for details)

Staff Skills Audit

An I.T. skills audit which is being undertaken has led to the development of a training programme for all staff. Support is also being provided for Clyde staff to allow them the opportunity to attend training and education at Sandyford Central.

Protocols and Procedures

Work is underway to integrate all Glasgow & Clyde protocols and procedures. This includes clinical (both GUM and FP) and administrative processes. This ongoing work is looking at adopting best practice from each area, and will include development and communication of the new policies, and a rolling programme of staff training as required.

I.T. Systems

There is an on-going programme to link I.T systems in Clyde and Greater Glasgow, to allow easier access to records and central processing of results. Clinic Pro 2 is used in all main Sandyford sites in Greater Glasgow and is currently being rolled out across Clyde. Sandyford Inverclyde is the first area in Clyde to fully utilise Clinic Pro 2 and become 'paperlite'. It is anticipated that both GUM and FP in Renfrewshire will have full CP2 access by early 2007, and new Hub locations will come on stream as they are developed. An A+C Grade 4 I.T.

liaison post has been appointed to work across Clyde and Greater Glasgow supporting the developments in clinical IT systems.

Other Projects

Both pre-merger Health Boards had distinct projects covering a number of services. Working groups have been, or soon will be, convened to look at best practice exchange leading to joint planning and integrating work on the following areas

- Telephone Helpline: New centralised helpline for patients and professionals
- Sexual Health Website: merging and update of two existing websites (yoursexualhealth.org.uk and sandyford.org.uk) into one integrated new website (online March 2007) for Greater Glasgow and Clyde building on the distinct strengths which each of the existing sites has.
- C-card: A review of existing C-card arrangements in both areas looking at commonalities and sharing best practice and resources where possible.
- Emergency Contraception in Primary Care: (see above section 3)

NHS Highland SLA

With Argyll and Bute transferring to NHS Highland last April, there was a need to ensure continuity of service in what was formally part of NHS Argyll & Clyde. A service level agreement is being negotiated to oversee the arrangement where Sandyford provides staff for clinics in Dunoon, Helensburgh and Islay. Current service arrangements and staffing will be maintained until plans are finalised with NHS Highland.