

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Services, Public Health, NHS)

Date: 20 December 2016

Subject: Provision of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) – update

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to formally update the Scrutiny Board on NHS England's announcement to fund an extension to the national HIV prevention programme led by Public Health England.

2 Main issues

- 2.1 Earlier in the municipal year, the Scrutiny Board agreed to consider proposed changes to the provision of anti-retroviral drugs for the prevention of HIV, known as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) – with NHS England stating it was not responsible for commissioning/funding the treatment.
- 2.2 NHS England previously announced that Local Authorities should fund PrEP, as the responsibility for preventative health lies with them through local Public Health teams.
- 2.3 Subsequently, NHS England lost its appeal over a High Court ruling that it has the legal power to commission PrEP, with NHS England then confirming it had the ability but not the obligation to commission the treatment. The High Court advised NHS England it could fund the treatment because it was inaccurate to classify PrEP as preventative, given it acts in the body to treat infection.
- 2.4 Earlier in December 2016, NHS England announced that it would fund a major extension to the national HIV prevention programme, led by Public Health England.

- 2.5 This new joint HIV initiative between NHS England and Public Health England will start its first phase of implementation by launching a large scale clinical trial in early financial year 2017/18. This trial will answer any outstanding implementation questions highlighted by Public Health in regards to using PrEP on substantial scale in England.
- 2.6 A briefing note produced by NHS England is appended with this report for information. These details have been forwarded to the Director of Public Health who has been requested to provide details of any specific implications for Leeds, which will be reported to the Scrutiny Board in due course.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider the information provided and determine any further Scrutiny activity that may be required.

4 Background papers ¹

None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.