

SCHEDULE 1

SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS

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Service	Sexual Health Locally Commissioned Service (LCS): Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) for women aged under 25 years old
Commissioner Lead	Senior Commissioner Sexual Health Services – Southampton City Council
Contractor Lead	
Period	1 st April 2019 – 31 st March 2022
Date of Review	

1. National/Local Context

National Context

- 1.1 Under its Public Health responsibilities in relation to the Health and Social Care Act 2012, Southampton City Council is mandated to provide an open access sexual health Service.
- 1.2 In March 2013, a Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England was published by the Department of Health. This framework sets out the need for a continued focus on sexual health across the life course and identifies four priority areas for improvement:
 - 1. Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
 - 2. HIV
 - 3. Contraception and unwanted pregnancy
 - 4. Preventing teenage pregnancy
- 1.3 The national Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) includes three indicators specific to sexual health
 - 1. Under 18 conceptions Rate
 - 2. People presenting with HIV at a late stage of infection
 - 3. Chlamydia diagnostic rate in 15 – 24 year olds:
- 1.4 Emergency Contraception is cost-effective at reducing unintended pregnancies (Trussell et al, 1997, 2001, 2005 and Glasier et al 1998). The Economics of Sexual Health published in 2005 reinforces the cost benefits of providing contraceptive Services. The research highlighted that the NHS in England alone could save £1 billion over 15 years by investing in contraceptive Services and

increasing early access to abortion by just 10 days. (Armstrong and Donaldson 2005).

- 1.5 Up to 50% of pregnancies are unplanned; these have a major impact on individuals and wider society, particularly among young people.
- 1.6 The past decade has seen substantial increases in high risk sexual behaviours in the UK population. National surveys have shown that there are higher rates of new partner acquisition among under 25s and this is reflected in the substantially higher incidence of STIs in this age group.

Local Context

- 1.7 England has some of the highest rates of teenage conceptions in Western Europe and Southampton has significantly higher rates than the England average. In 2013, the under 18 teenage pregnancy rate in Southampton is 36.2 per 1,000; this is significantly worse than the national average and 3rd worst out of 19 ONS regional centres. The under 16 conception rate is the worse out of all Local Authorities in England. The estimated costs per teenage conception that goes onto have a live birth is £15k per annum.
- 1.8 A total of 866 terminations of pregnancy were carried out in Southampton residents during 2013 – this is a cost of approx. £510k (based on £590 per abortion); down from 939 in 2012. This represents only a proportion of unplanned pregnancies and high levels of spend on Emergency Hormonal Contraception. Nationally, it is estimated that around one third of all pregnancies are unplanned.
- 1.9 4,392 women with an SO14-19 postcode had an EHC consultations via the Southampton City Community Pharmacy LCS in 2014/15

2. Aim of Service

- 2.1 To reduce unwanted pregnancies and terminations by providing Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) to women aged under 25 years old, to support women who have had unprotected sex and help contribute to a reduction in the number of unplanned pregnancies.
- 2.2 The Service Provider will also use this opportunity to also:
 - provide advice and signposting regarding the prevention of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and unintended pregnancies, in line with NICE guidance.
 - contribute to reducing health inequalities by improving access to Services for vulnerable groups and improve sexual health outcomes
 - use this opportunity to refer Service Users, especially those from hard to reach groups, into mainstream sexual health Services.
 - raise general awareness of other sexual health issues to promote safer sexual practice and good sexual health.

3. Service Description

- 3.1 The Service Provider shall provide Levonorgestrel Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) at no costs to the appropriate Service Users in line with the requirements of the locally agreed Patient Group Direction (PGD) (Appendix A). The PGD shall facilitate supply to young persons under 16 in appropriate circumstances. Service Users excluded from the PGD criteria will be referred to another local service that will be able to assist them, as soon as possible.
- 3.2 The Service shall provide an open access service preferably to include (where opening hours allow) service provision on Saturdays and Sundays (when other Service Providers are closed) and Mondays (day of high demand for the Service).
- 3.3 The Service Provider shall provide support and advice to Service Users accessing the Service, including advice on the avoidance of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) through safer sex and condom use, advice on the use of regular contraceptive methods and provide onward signposting to Services that provide long-term contraceptive methods and diagnosis and management of STIs.
- 3.4 The Service Provider will link into existing networks for community contraceptive services so that women who need to see a doctor can be referred on rapidly.
- 3.5 Service Users who are perceived as being “at risk” should also be offered a referral to the Sexual Health Specialist Nurse Team, where applicable. This can be facilitated using the online system provided by Pinnacle Health or using Appendix D and emailed to SNHS.SexualHealthOutreachWest@nhs.net via an nhs.net email address.

Service Outline:

- 3.6 The Service Provider shall provide a sufficient level of privacy and safety and the consultation will be in a private room in line with the Medicines Use Review (MUR) premises requirements¹
- 3.7 A Service Provider shall assess the need and suitability for a Service User to receive EHC, in line with the PGD. Where appropriate, a supply shall be made. Where a supply of EHC is not appropriate, advice and referral to another source of assistance shall be provided. The Council has commissioned Pinnacle Health to provide an online tool to facilitate recording of consultations.
- 3.8 Appendix C - Consultation Record Form can be used to record data but it must be transferred to the online tool for audit and payment and then destroyed as confidential waste.
- 3.9 The Service shall be provided in compliance with Fraser guidance² and Department of Health guidance on confidential sexual health advice and treatment for young people aged under 16³.

¹ <http://psnc.org.uk/Services-commissioning/advanced-Services/murs/mur-premises-requirements/>

² Fraser Guidelines – based on a House of Lords Ruling; A health professional can give advice or treatment to a person under 16 without parental consent providing they are satisfied that;

- The young person will understand the advice;
- The young person cannot be persuaded to tell his or her parents or allow the doctor to tell them that they are seeking contraceptive advice;

- 3.10 The Service protocols should reflect national and local child and vulnerable adult protection guidelines.
- 3.11 Advice on the avoidance of STIs and the use of regular contraceptive methods will be provided to the client. Free condoms will be available to Service Users who have signed up to the C-Card Scheme (this is dependent on whether the Service Provider is signed up to C-Card scheme), including advice on their use. A free STI kit can be ordered by Service Users from the following link
<http://www.letstalkaboutit.nhs.uk/page.asp?fldArea=1&fldMenu=1&fldSubMenu=0&fldKey=387>
- 3.12 The Service Provider must make the Service available to Service Users during its opening hours. In event of the Service Provider temporarily unable to offer the Service (e.g. due to annual leave or sickness), Service User must be promptly referred to another Service Provider (ensuring beforehand that an accredited provider of the Service is available) or referred to another Service Provider. An updated list is on the Hampshire & Isle of Wight LPC website
<http://www.hampshirelpc.org.uk/node/550>
- 3.13 The Service Provider may need to share relevant information with other health care professionals and agencies, in line with locally determined confidentiality arrangements, including, where appropriate, the need for the permission of the Service User to share the information.
- 3.14 The Council may arrange, with reasonable notice, at least one Service Provider meeting per year and the Service Provider must attend, to promote service development and update the knowledge of Service Providers, as appropriate.

Sexual Health Assessment

- 3.15 Consideration must be given to obtain consent and determine competence using the Fraser Guidelines in patients under the age of 16.
- 3.16 The Service Provider shall provide advice on risk of STI and HIV and where to access testing and advice and appropriate referral to Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) provision in Southampton Sexual Health Services for high risk patients.
- 3.17 Contact details for Safeguarding and the Specialist Sexual Health Nurse Team are attached as appendix E

4. Eligibility to Provide the Service

- 4.1 The Service Provider has a duty to ensure its Personnel involved in the provision of the Service has relevant knowledge and are appropriately trained in the operation of the Service, including sensitive, client centred communication skills.

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- The young person is likely to begin or continue having unprotected sex with or without contraceptive treatment; and
 - The young person's physical or mental health is likely to suffer unless he or she receives contraceptive advice or treatment.

³ Guidance available at: www.dh.gov.uk/sexualhealth

Requirements to provide this Service are detailed below:

- Open access Service
 - Delivered in a Southampton City community venue
 - Registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC)⁴ or equivalent
 - Hold a signed version of the Southampton City Councils Patient Group Directive (PGD)
 - Adequately trained as per the Competencies and Training Framework (Appendix B) and update this on a 3 yearly basis.
 - Hold a signed version of the Declaration of Competence for Emergency Contraception
 - Awareness of the differences between Southampton and Hampshire's PGD's (appendix F)
- 4.2 The Service Provider will review its standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the Service on an annual basis, and following any significant untoward incidents related to the Service.
- 4.3 The Service Provider will participate in any organised audit of the service provision.
- 4.4 The Service Provider co-operates with any locally agreed assessment of Service User experience.
- 4.5 The Service Provider has a duty to ensure that staff involved in the provision of the Service are aware of and operate within local protocols.

5. Monitoring and Reporting

- 5.1 Consultations shall be recorded using the online tool provided by Pinnacle Health. This will facilitate automated claims, which will be sent to Southampton City CCG on a monthly basis. A two month grace period is in place for retrospective claims.

6. Unit Costs

- 6.1 The Service Provider will receive the following unit costs:
- Payment per EHC consultation for women aged under 25 year old, whether or not this results in an EHC supply being made
- Reimbursed for the cost of Levonelle 1500® at Drug Tariff price plus VAT at 5% provided to women aged under 25 years old.

Cost of the drug will be based on costs within the British National Formulary (BNF)

<https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/formulary/bnf/current/7-obstetrics-gynaecology-and-urinary-tract-disorders/73-contraceptives/735-emergency-contraception/hormonal-methods/levonorgestrel/levonelle-1500>

⁴ The General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) is the independent regulator for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmacy premises in Great Britain.

7. Exceptions

- 7.1 The Service Provider will receive **no** payment for:
- EHC consultation(s) to women aged 25 years and over
 - Cost of EHC drug costs (Levonelle 1500®) provided to women aged 25 years and over