



Bristol Health and Wellbeing Board

Title of Report	Fast Track Cities Initiative
Author (including organisation):	Jo Copping, Bristol City Council
Date of meeting:	25th September 2019
For:	Decision

1. Purpose of this Paper

Bristol has a high rate of HIV and a high percentage of individuals presenting at a late stage of infection. The Fast-Track Cities Initiative (FTCI) aims to strengthen existing HIV programmes and focus resources to accelerate locally coordinated, city-wide responses to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. In order for a city to become a Fast Track City, the Mayor is required to sign the Fast Track Cities Paris Declaration. There is already an aspiration in the Bristol One City Plan for 2030 that HIV care and prevention is improved in line with the global Fast Track City Initiative.

We are asking the Health & Wellbeing Board to endorse the decision for Bristol to sign up to be a Fast Track City to drive forward work to address HIV prevention, care and stigma in our city.

2. Executive Summary

In order for a city to become a Fast Track City, the mayor is required to sign the Paris Declaration, which pledges to attain the following targets by 2030:

- 90% of people living with HIV knowing their HIV status
- 90% of people who know their HIV-positive status on HIV treatment
- 90% of people on HIV treatment with suppressed viral loads
- To reduce stigma and discrimination for people living with HIV

The UK government recently set the goal of eradicating HIV transmission in England by 2030 and becoming one of the first countries to reach the United Nations zero infections target by 2030. There is already an aspiration in the Bristol One City Plan that HIV care and prevention is improved in line with the global Fast Track City Initiative. Signing up to become a Fast Track City will help us to achieve these ambitious national targets at a local level.

3. Recommendations

We request that the Health & Wellbeing Board consider the following recommendations:

- That Health & Wellbeing Board Members are made aware of the Fast Track City Initiative and endorse Bristol's intention to become a Fast Track City.
- That Health & Wellbeing Board Members are made aware of the plan to consult around the FTCI action plan on 22nd October.
- That Health & Wellbeing Board Members promote and disseminate Fast Track City Initiative information to their respective organisations throughout the life of the project.

- For the Health & Wellbeing Board to acknowledge that the Fast Track Cities Initiative is part of the One City Plan and therefore comes under the oversight of the Health & Wellbeing Board.

4. Evidence Base

In 2017 there were 47 new HIV diagnoses in individuals aged 15 years and above in Bristol. The diagnosed HIV prevalence was 2.6 per 1,000 population aged 15-59 years. This is considered to be an area of high HIV prevalence (above 2.0 per 1,000) according to NICE Guidelines.

Furthermore between 2015 and 2017, 49% of HIV diagnoses were made at a late stage of infection compared to 41.1% in England. Individuals diagnosed at a late stage of infection have poorer treatment health outcomes and also increases the risk of onward HIV transmission in the population.

IAPAC (International Association of Providers of AIDS Care) are one of the Fast Track Cities Initiative global partners. They have produced guidelines for optimising HIV care pathways to improve outcomes at a local level. Signing up to this initiative will enable Bristol to draw upon these evidence based resources and to consult with other Fast Track Cities across the world to improve our response to HIV locally. This will also enable Bristol to review our current HIV prevention and treatment work, and ensure that all our stakeholders are aligned and working together to achieve our agreed Fast Track City HIV targets.

Bristol City Council's Public Health Team has recently completed a HIV Needs Assessment that has informed recommendations in the draft Fast Track City Action Plan that will be consulted on over the next two months prior to the Mayor signing.

5. City Benefits

Signing up to be a Fast Track City will benefit Bristol by tackling health inequalities through the targeting of specific populations that are at a higher risk of acquiring HIV and AIDS among groups.

Some demographic groups are disproportionately affected by HIV. Black African communities collectively contain the largest number of people with *undiagnosed* HIV infection (13,000) in the UK (PHE, 2014d), and this is mirrored in Bristol. Men who have sex with men (MSM) continue to be the group most affected by HIV infection (Public Health England, 2014). In 2013, an estimated 43,500 MSM were living with HIV in the UK; this is equivalent to 59 per 1,000 MSM aged 15-59 years.

Signing up to be a Fast Track City will enable Bristol to bring key partners together to deliver a collaborative approach to tackling these health inequalities. This will be done through the targeting of these demographic groups (and others dependent on need) to reduce stigma, optimise HIV treatment & support and improve the health of the Bristol population.

By diagnosing and treating earlier, there will be significant cost savings to health and social care services.

6. Financial and Legal Implications

None

7. Appendices

None