



## Bristol Health and Wellbeing Board

Title of Report:	<b>Bristol Fast Track City Update</b>
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Date of Board meeting:	<b>18/03/2021</b>
Purpose:	information and discussion

### 1. Executive Summary

Bristol signed up to become a Fast Track City (FTC) at the end of 2019 to accelerate work to end HIV. The FTC Steering Group has developed 3 workstreams to take forward actions identified through the HIV Needs Assessment. Significant challenges remain if we are to attain the goal of ending HIV and addressing inequalities.

### 2. Purpose of the Paper

To update the Health and Wellbeing Board on the recent and future work of the Bristol Fast Track City Initiative including progress towards the One City Plan goals, and to seek views and support on how to achieve the challenging FTC goals we have signed up to.

### 3. Background and evidence base

In September 2019 the Health & Wellbeing Board endorsed the decision for Bristol to sign up as a Fast Track City to accelerate work to address HIV. Members also agreed to promote FTC to their respective organisations throughout the life of the project. Subsequently, the Mayor signed the FTC Paris Declaration with a pledge to attain the following 2030 targets:

- 95% of people living with HIV know their HIV status
- 95% of people who know their HIV-positive status are on HIV treatment
- 95% of those on HIV treatment have suppressed viral loads
- To reduce stigma and discrimination for people living with HIV

These are reflected in the One City Plan and thus under ownership of this board. In addition, the UK government set the goal of eradicating HIV transmission in England by 2030.

Since signing the declaration, the Bristol FTC Steering Group has brought key partners across a wealth of organisations together to deliver a collaborative approach to tackling HIV. We published an extensive HIV Health Needs Assessment [HIV Health Needs Assessment 2020 \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/hiv-health-needs-assessment-2020), developed and consulted on a Bristol FTC action plan for 20/21, and created 3 workstreams to take this work forward.

In March 2020 Bristol was visited by the national HIV Commission to inform their report to Government on what was needed to achieve zero new HIV transmissions by 2030. The recommendations were published in December 2020 with a strong focus on normalising HIV testing and reducing stigma. The Government will publish their national action plan this year.

Despite Covid, FTC workstreams have continued to meet and progress the action plan. For example, a successful Undetectable= Untransmittable campaign took place in the summer, we developed a FTC website, a new free PrEP (Pre Exposure Prophylaxis) service was set up, and we contributed to developing and delivering a 2 day national FTC conference. Notably, we were successful in a highly competitive bid in conjunction with African Voices

Forum to The Health Foundation for a new project. Common Ambition Bristol was launched in February and takes a co-production approach, working with people of African and Caribbean Heritage to address HIV inequalities.

Recently updated HIV data can be found in the JSNA [JSNA 2020/21 - HIV \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/jsna-2020-21-hiv). Whilst we are performing reasonably well on the FTC 95/95/95 targets and late diagnosis of HIV appears to have reduced, it remains unacceptably high. We still have around 70 people unaware of their diagnosis and a number of people with HIV are not engaged in treatment. Bristol is considered a high prevalence city for HIV and in 2019, 47 Bristol residents were newly diagnosed. Inequalities within HIV remain, with men who have sex with men and Black African people disproportionately affected.

The FTC Steering Group have recently held a workshop to consider the year 2 action plan. Proposed actions include taking forward NICE recommendations for HIV testing in primary care and the Emergency Department, exploring vending machines for HIV tests, undertaking a stigma survey, developing training for GPs and workplaces, co-ordinating HIV research, continuing to engage with all partners and delivering Common Ambition Bristol. Commissioning of HIV is complex, and funding for these proposals is not established.

Although Bristol FTC has been commended for its strength of partnership work, tackling the significant inequalities and getting to zero new transmissions remains challenging. We already have the tools to end HIV, and the potential to be the first city to achieve this.

#### **4. Community/stakeholder engagement**

The voluntary sector, academia, the NHS, the council, Public Health England, and the public are represented on the FTC Steering Group and workstreams. Significant public engagement took place for the HIV Needs Assessment and action plan development and in the development of the Common Ambition Bristol bid and launch. The community will be at the centre of this new project.

#### **5. Recommendations**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- 1) Note the progress made by Bristol Fast Track Cities and plans for future action including Common Ambition Bristol.
- 2) Consider how to support FTC in getting to zero new transmissions and stigma.

#### **6. City Benefits**

Fast Track City is bringing key partners together to deliver a collaborative approach to tackling HIV inequalities. This includes the reduction of stigma through education, and normalising testing, whilst targeting testing, care and support for specific groups.

#### **7. Financial and Legal Implications**

N/A

#### **8. No Appendices**