



Title of Paper:	Women's Health in Bristol
Author (including organisation):	Millie Collins, Bristol City Council
Date of Board meeting:	24th November 2022
Purpose:	Information and discussion

1. Executive Summary

This paper enables a better understanding of the health needs of women in Bristol. It has been produced in light of the first ever national [Women's Health Strategy](#) and seeks to fulfil three key aims:

1. To build a comprehensive view of women's health needs in Bristol – *what do we know?*
2. To recognise current initiatives with regards to women's health – *what are we doing?*
3. To identify any gaps and make recommendations for future work – *where are the gaps?*

Cross cutting themes are identified, including the significant disparities between women within Bristol relating to health outcomes, access to services and experience of services. Different groups that are at increased risk of poor health are discussed, and inequalities data has been integrated throughout.

2. Purpose of the Paper

The purpose of the paper is to understand the health needs of women in Bristol. It has been produced in the light of the first ever national Women's Health Strategy and provides a local, evidence based comprehensive analysis, which informs the Bristol Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

3. Background, evidence base, and what needs to happen

Although women usually live longer than men, they spend considerably more time in poor health. Moreover, health needs that are specific to women, or that disproportionately affect women, need additional focus. This is recognised by the national Women's Health Strategy released earlier this year, and it is important to understand the picture locally in order to effectively tackle issues.

This paper explores the breadth of women's health needs in Bristol, with a focus on disparities between women. It identifies local issues relating to women's health that need more focus, as well as shining a light on issues on which we currently have limited information. A wide range of key findings and recommendations for future research and action are set out.

4. Community/stakeholder engagement

Various stakeholders within the health sector in Bristol have been engaged with to produce this rapid paper, including within the Public Health team and Bristol Women's Commission Health Task Group. A range of internal and external expertise has been utilised, and much

of the information drawn on has been the subject of public consultation. Implementation of the recommendations will require further public engagement.

5. Recommendations

We ask that the Health and Wellbeing Board members and partners review the report, provide views/commentary and endorse the findings and recommendations set out in the document.

6. City Benefits

The report builds a comprehensive view of the health needs of women in Bristol, highlights current initiatives, and identifies gaps and makes recommendations for future work and areas of focus.

7. Financial and Legal Implications

There are no direct financial or legal implications.

8. Appendices

The Women's Health in Bristol report is appended.