



Reference: RFI 1803072

**Request:**

I would like to please request the following information on the sexual health services council's commission and provide under FOI legislation:

The answers provided are in relation to expenditure funded from the ring-fenced Public Health Grant

- 1 How much do you plan to spend on sexual health services in 2018/19? (Please provide a total figure, this will usually include testing & treatment, contraception, advice and prevention)

The total budget for Sexual Health services in 2018/19 is £2.182m

- 2 Are you planning to reduce your overall spend on sexual health services (this includes testing and treatment, contraception and prevention) in 18/19? If so, please state how much by including figure and percentage.

The total expenditure on Sexual Health services is expected to reduce by £0.092m (4%) in 2018/19, compared to 2017/18.

- 3 Are you planning to cut or reduce any sexual health services in 18/19? Please include things such as cuts to psycho sexual counsellors or a reduction in the number of GUM clinics or opening hours or cuts to access to coils and implants in this answer.

There are no plans to cut or reduce any sexual health services in 2018/19. The expected reduction in expenditure compared to 2017/18, is in relation to the renegotiation of the contract for the commissioned Integrated Sexual Health Service. This includes efficiencies generated from changes to central IT systems, skill mix of new posts, review of sub-contracting arrangements with GPs, and to laboratory testing to be provided in-house.

- 4 How much did you spend on sexual health services for the financial year 17/18?

North Tyneside Council are forecasting to spend £2.274m on Sexual Health services in 2017/18.

- 5 Which sexual health services--to include those targeted at prevention—have you cut or reduced since public health budgets were passed on to local councils in 2013/14?

In response to reductions to the ring-fenced Public Health Grant, it has been necessary to identify efficiencies across the service. This has included moving to a commissioned Integrated Sexual Health Service in October 2015, with annual efficiencies imposed on the service provider in line with contractual arrangements. Changes to service provision have included:

- A cap on the age when emergency hormonal contraception will be available free of charge (25 year olds and under)
- The sub-contract with MESMAC for the delivery of sexual health information, advice and support to Gay and Bi-sexual Men from North Tyneside has ceased, but alternative interventions for this client group have been identified by the provider as part of the commissioned integrated service.
- The Psychosexual Service has ceased.

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