

APPENDIX A

Conclusions and Recommendations

The main conclusions and recommendations of the Review Group are as follows:

The Review Group concluded that:

Social and Economic Determinants of Health Amongst Women in Lewisham

1. For the Children and Young People Select Committee to monitor how the 'Healthy Eating' initiatives and Sex Education in schools are being delivered to help improve young women's health for the future.
2. That the Healthier Communities Select Committee monitor progress of the social marketing work taking place in Evelyn Ward by Lewisham PCT in respect of smoking cessation and investigate the use of social marketing for alcohol cessation.

Cardiovascular Disease

3. The Healthier Communities Select Committee monitor the North Lewisham Plan to ensure that it delivers on its key targets, particularly in the areas of premature mortality in respect of cardiovascular disease which is a particular issue for women in the borough.
4. Lewisham PCT develop ways to improve follow-up procedures for women who have received Health Checks for early identification of those at risk of cardiovascular disease in North Lewisham.
5. Lewisham PCT provide more information to women patients on financial assistance in funding prescription costs. This has been seen as a particular concern for patients who have to take a lot of medication to keep their blood pressure low.
6. Lewisham PCT should recruit cardiac instructors to ensure delivery of the Active Heart Programme.

Maternity Services

7. For the Healthier Communities Select Committee to monitor the implementation of University Hospital Lewisham's Maternity Services Strategy and Action Plan.
8. UHL and Lewisham PCT to periodically report to the Healthier Communities Select Committee on progress against the Maternity Services Strategy and Action Plan.

9. The Healthier Communities Select Committee take an active role in considering proposals for the reconfiguration of Maternity Services in South-East London

Mental Health

10. The Council and Lewisham PCT should look to expand the Book Prescription Scheme, developed by Lewisham Library Services in partnership with Lewisham PCT, to improve the excellent service it is currently providing to residents.

11. Lewisham PCT should report to the Healthier Communities Select Committee improvements in access to cognitive behavioural therapy or equivalent psychological therapy treatment while it develops community care, to ensure there is appropriate early intervention for acute episodes where admission is required.

12. That Lewisham PCT ensures that access to psychological therapies is a priority.

Domestic Violence

13. The Council should support the establishment of a Special Domestic Violence Court in Greenwich which will also represent cases originated in Lewisham.

14. The Council actively encourage all schools in the borough to participate in the Westminster Domestic Violence Project.

Sickle Cell Disease

15. That Lewisham PCT explore with health partners the setting up of a Sickle Cell Register in the borough.

16. The Healthier Communities Select Committee monitor the implementation of the Sickle Cell Society's '2008 Report: Standards for Clinical Care of Adults with Sickle Cell Disease in the UK' by Lewisham PCT.

Cancer

17. The Council take a pro-active approach in promoting the use of sunscreen in all schools and also to promote the reduction in the use of sun-beds generally and the removal of unmanned sun-beds in council property.

18. The Healthier Communities Select Committee monitor Lewisham PCT's progress in increasing cancer screening coverage for breast cervical and bowel cancer.

19. The Council should also promote uptake in cancer screening coverage for breast, cervical and bowel cancer through its communications and events, such as in Lewisham Life and at local assemblies.

20. The Healthier Communities Select Committee should monitor the Council and health partners' tobacco control 'smokefree' agenda to ensure that it is effective in stopping men and women of all ages from starting to smoke, as well as an effective 'stop smoking' service.

Growing Older in Lewisham

21. The Cabinet Member for Older People ask Job Centre Plus to provide expert employment advice to older people in the One-Stop Shop.

22. The Cabinet Member for Older People should review the Lay Visitors Scheme after 12 months, with a view to including the use of unscheduled visits by Lay Workers..

23. Lewisham PCT must ensure that all GP surgeries publicise National Screening Programmes.