

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of project/proposal

Rape Crisis Services

Contact name

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Department

Adult Services

Date to be published on Hantsweb

30 Dec 2016

Purpose for project/proposal

Re-commissioning of services for people who have experienced rape or sexual abuse.

Consultation

Has engagement or consultation been carried out?

No

Statutory considerations

Impact

Age	None
Disability	Medium
Sexual orientation	None
Race	Medium
Religion and belief	None
Gender reassignment	None
Sex	None
Marriage and civil partnership	None
Pregnancy and maternity	None

Other policy considerations

Poverty	None
Rurality	Low
Other factors	Nothing selected

Geographical impact

All Hampshire

Have you identified any medium or high impact?*

Yes

No

Equality statement

The rape crisis services to be re-tendered all work with people aged 18 and over (one works with 16+). Victims of rape and sexual abuse are more likely to be female but all the services have a long history of working with males and make suitable arrangements when males need to access the premises.

The main disability that people say they experience is poor mental health. Outcome measures show a marked improvement in their mental health following therapy. The local Sexual Crime Strategy recognises that more needs to be done to enable people with a learning disability to access the services. Some work has already been undertaken by one of the providers in response to a local increased prevalence of abuse. The need to improve access for people with a learning disability will be written into the service specification.

Most people accessing the services are from a White British background. It has been

recognised by all the 4 providers that further work needs to be done to make the services more accessible to people from other cultures, but it is often very difficult as counselling is not necessarily recognised as an intervention and attitudes towards women and sexual abuse can be very different. Work has been done in one of the services, but not in Hampshire and this again will be written into the service specification. Further work will be done with the other local commissioners and providers of all sexual abuse services in the New Year to use the learning from elsewhere locally and nationally.

In terms of rurality, some people may find it harder to access the services than others due to the distance they live from the workbases. It would not be possible to take the work into other communities without finding appropriate and regularly available counselling rooms. Where this is possible e.g. Alton and Fleet, this has been done. There has not been any feedback from users of the services that indicates this is a problem.

Date to review actions 01 Dec 2019

Final decision date

Final decision date due 05 Dec 2016
Decision to be made by DMT