

	<p>and make changes to the service based on the new strategy. This will also be alongside co-commissioning with the Integrated Care Board (ICB) who are responsible for termination services, vasectomy services, GP, and pharmacy services as part of the wider sexual health system.</p> <p>The Trust have been commissioned to provide sexual health services under the current contract for seven and a half years. They have established pathways, processes and relationships which have been built up over that time. The sexual health service receives the highest patient satisfaction scores within the Trust. A change of provider through open market tendering may lead to a need for new premises, new staff and new pathways to be established. Although current staff would fall under TUPE regulations, they may decide they do not wish to move or may leave their current roles due to uncertainty, as happened during the previous tender. This would not only impact the ability to provide a future service but also is likely to impact the current service.</p> <p>If a new provider was not able to mobilise in time, recruiting sufficient staff arranging suitable premises and obtaining required equipment and tests then the sexual health service in Worcestershire would come to a stop, breaching our statutory duty, and causing significant risk of harm to our residents.</p> <p>A market intel report has been produced. Within the West Midlands, 13 out of 14 LA contracts are provided by the local NHS Trust. Some as a lead provider and some in partnership for smaller service elements such as online testing.</p> <p>This is not a service that can be ceased, nor can the Authority directly deliver; therefore requires commissioning, preferably in collaboration with partners as there are different responsibilities for the commissioning of Sexual Health in Worcestershire. To ensure an improved sexual and reproductive health system and seamless joined up services for residents a direct award to the Trust will enable integration across the full range of NHS services.</p>
--	--

**Joint Equality,
Public Health, Data
Protection and
Sustainability
Impact
Assessments
carried out**

Reference/Date Published	03/2024
Delegation check	Yes
Legal / Finance Check	CT / PR
Monitoring Officer Review needed	No