

Sexual Orientation - Engagement

Event/Source	Feedback
<p><i>Stockport NHS Foundation Trust consultation for SES</i></p>	<p>Training for staff Key issues for training included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenging assumptions that everyone is heterosexual; • Awareness/ treatment/ rights of and language used to describe same-sex partners; • Supporting disclosure of sexual orientation confidently both in monitoring and providing care – being clear about rationale, language and confidentiality; • Not making assumptions about and responding positively to HIV status <p>Positive messages about sexual orientation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing diverse images on posters and leaflets; • Using rainbow flag to show the Trust is ‘gay-friendly’; • Consider working towards a quality mark, such as the Stonewall Diversity Champions; and • Visible presence at LGBT events (and communicate this through web site/ newsletters, local press, etc) <p>Monitoring of patients’ sexual orientation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultees generally in favour of developing this, providing staff properly trained and rationale/ confidentiality clear.
<p><i>Stockport PCT consultation for SES</i></p>	<p>LGBT (Adult) Only 6 people participated in the consultation aimed at LGBT people, so as these figures are low, the findings can not be assumed to be representative of the experience of all LGBT people in stockpot and therefore more investigation as to the needs of this group is needed.</p> <p>Most participants were satisfied with their health care services, however one responded was unsatisfied with services. When participants were asked how well they felt health care providers understand and have the skills to respond to their needs in relation to their sexual orientation, views were varied. Two people said quite well, one very well, one a little and one not very well. One participant responded that this was extremely varied and that specialist services can be excellent and some GPs are good, whilst others can be “hopeless”.</p> <p>One of the six participants said that they have not accessed a Stockport PCT service that they needed because of their sexual orientation and instead chose to use the gay men’s sexual health clinic at Wythenshawe hospital.</p> <p>Respondents particularly highlighted the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP often making referrals to the HIV consultant for areas which are not related to HIV. When referred for minor procedures he is put to

the last appointment of the day, which is perceived to be a consequence of their HIV status.

- Difficulty in accessing a dentist who will not treat people with HIV or only being offered the last appointment of the day.

Respondents suggested the following as areas for improvement:

- Training of all staff on LGBT issues and basic awareness
- Training for GPs on LGBT - lack of knowledge in this area
- Recognising sexuality in service provision
- Greater confidence amongst staff to ask questions if they don't understand
- GPs and Practice staff need to acknowledge that they have patients who are lesbian or gay and take proactive steps to be welcoming of people's sexuality possible unacknowledged training needs
- LGBT friendly GPs / More openly supportive of LGBT people and issues.
- GP's should have knowledge and understand of fertility options for lesbians
- Lesbian sexual health is an area where providers are badly informed, there needs to be greater education and awareness around Lesbian sexual health and smear tests for Lesbians.
- Stop dentists refusing to accept HIV patients

LGBT (Young People).

Consultation with young people who are Lesbian or Gay took place via 'Base' in Stockport, which is a group that supports young people who are lesbian, gay or bisexual. 9 participants completed a questionnaire. All participants said that they had easy access to information about health needs and felt they had easy access to information about how to access appropriate services.

The main health issues that young people were concerned about smoking and stress.