

**Wiltshire Council**

**Health Select Committee**

**3 September 2019**

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**Chairman's Announcement  
Health Needs Assessment of male and trans/gender non-conforming sex  
workers**

A Health Needs Assessment of Male and trans sex workers was undertaken by the public health team. The project builds on a Wiltshire Police problem profile from 2017 highlighting that although there are numerous male and trans/gender non-conforming people advertising sexual services in Wiltshire, there is little local intelligence about them, their vulnerability and their needs.

Key findings from the report included local estimates of the prevalence of male and trans sex work across the county and revealed that although male and trans sex workers face significant risks of sexually transmitted infections, violence, substance misuse and mental health problems there was no local evidence of this.

Recommendations from this piece of work includes helping to address the gaps in service faced by this group. These include improving how gender variance is recorded by key services, some strategies for improving surveillance of this group, to increase the 'cultural competence' or services to make them gender inclusive, and to recommend referral of sex workers to a local peer-support network.

Officers are available to provide a briefing to members of the Health Select Committee who would like further information on this report *prior to consideration by the Community Safety Partnership on 12 September*. If you are interested in further briefing please contact Steve Maddern, Public Health Consultant, [steve.maddern@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:steve.maddern@wiltshire.gov.uk)