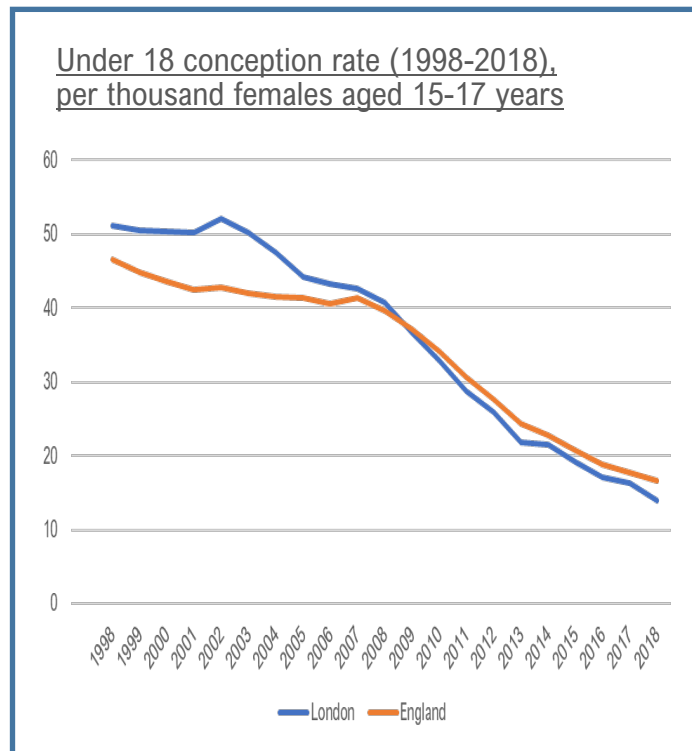


Sexual and reproductive health data

- Data for London, published by Public Health England, shows that an additional 31k STI screens were provided in London during 2018 compared with 2017, a rise of 14%.
- The overall rate of new STI diagnoses in London was 13% greater than in 2017.
- Increased diagnoses of chlamydia, gonorrhoea and syphilis were observed across London, higher than seen across England as a whole. New diagnoses of HIV fell significantly.
- London's rate of new STI diagnoses is more than double the rate for the rest of England, a long running difference due largely to demographic and socio-economic factors.
- London rate of conceptions in under 18 years continued to decline, down by 15% compared to 2017.
- The rate of abortions for all ages, rose by 6% compared to 2017, consistent with the change nationally.

PHE publish more data on sexual and reproductive health for London and its authorities here: www.fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/SEXUALHEALTH



Fast Track Cities: London conference



Paul Steinberg of London's HIV Prevention Programme at the Guildhall reception

Over 700 delegates, from 220 cities world-wide, participated in three days of dialogue about best practice in accelerating urban HIV, tuberculosis, and HCV responses. The conference was held at the Barbican centre in September. The Programme, in conjunction with "Do It London" and London Councils, organised an event for delegates and political leaders showcasing London's innovations and progress in online sexual health services and HIV prevention. This included a fashion show from women at Catwalk for Power who addressed the issues of HIV stigma and gender. London joins Amsterdam and Melbourne in having exceeded UN targets for HIV/AIDS:

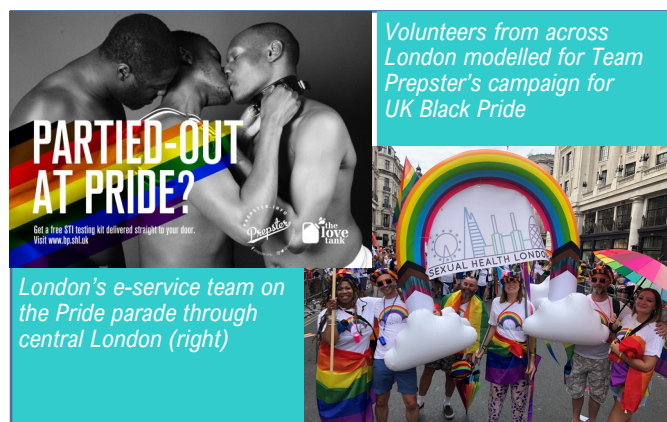
- 95% of Londoners living with HIV infection are diagnosed
- 98% of HIV diagnosed Londoners are receiving treatment
- 97% of Londoners receiving treatment are virally suppressed.

Healthy London Partnership is leading the capital's ambitious programme to achieve zero new HIV transmission by 2030: <https://www.healthylondon.org/our-work/fast-track-cities-initiative/>

Supporting LGBT* Pride season

The e-service team took its inaugural place on the annual pride march, with 1.5m people lining the streets to watch the parade. Great weather was matched by an enthusiastic response from the crowds when they recognised our banner, one group of onlookers even broke into a chant of "shl, shl, shl" as we walked by.

We also supported an eye-catching campaign organised by Team Prepster to encourage testing by people attending UK Black Pride. The event was held in Hackney for the first time and attracted over 10,000 visitors.



Volunteers from across London modelled for Team Prepster's campaign for UK Black Pride

London's e-service team on the Pride parade through central London (right)

Keeping in touch

If you have questions, or would like to sign up for our newsletter, email us sexualhealth@cityoflondon.gov.uk or visit www.londonsexualhealth.org



LONDON SEXUAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

summary 2019

Introduction from Jonathan O'Sullivan, programme director

After a successful launch at the start of 2018, the London e-service has established itself as a valued component of the capital's clinical sexual health service network: increasing convenience for many Londoners and helping clinics to prioritise residents with the most complex needs. Data published by Public Health England shows STI testing in London increased in 2018 compared with the previous year, suggesting that the programme is succeeding in its aim of widening access to sexual healthcare by using limited resources efficiently and effectively. Trend data on diagnoses of sexually transmitted infections, a further significant fall in new HIV diagnoses, highlights the importance of access to testing as part of strategies to address the sexual health needs of Londoners.

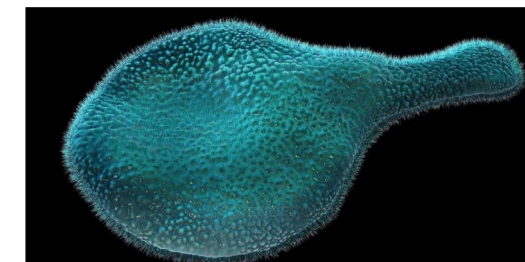
During 2019 we said farewell to Mike Cooke (CEO of Camden Council) who chaired the programme's strategic board and Penny Bevan (DPH for City and Hackney) who chaired the Clinical Advisory Group, both provided leadership for the programme through a key stage of mobilisation of the new service models. Melanie Smith (DPH for Brent) now chairs both groups providing the programme with a new phase of guidance and leadership, focused on the needs of Londoners.

Testing for a new sexually transmitted infection

Mycoplasma genitalium (called M-gen for short) is a relatively new sexually transmitted infection that most people have never heard of. Like chlamydia and gonorrhoea, the bacteria Mycoplasma genitalium:

- Can be symptom free or have painful symptoms
- Is treated with antibiotics
- Is resistant to *some* forms of antibiotic treatment
- Is more common in gay and bisexual men but affects all groups

National guidelines on M-gen testing were published in 2019 and the programme's Clinical Advisory Group developed a clinical tariff pathway for clinics to cover the cost of providing this test to residents who need it.



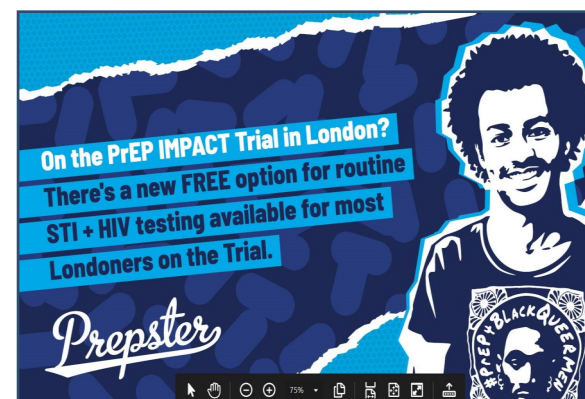
Mycoplasma Genitalium was the first organism to be computationally modelled: enabling virtual experimentation, speeding up intracellular research.

Supporting the PrEP Impact Trial

Over half of the 26,000 of the national PrEP Impact Trial places were allocated to London's clinics. Cumulatively this meant tens of thousands of extra STI tests but no additional resources were made available

The Programme worked with the authorities and London's clinics to release additional trial places to residents at high risk of acquiring HIV. We also worked with the Impact Trial Team and Public Health England to ensure that trial participants could have the option to do routine tests online and for their test results to feed into the research.

Community activists at Team Prepster developed an eye-catching campaign about the online testing option.



London authorities working together

Barking and Dagenham, Barnet, Bexley, Bromley, Brent, Camden, City of London, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Hammersmith and Fulham, Hackney, Haringey, Harrow, Havering, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Kingston, Lambeth, Lewisham, Merton, Newham, Redbridge, Richmond, Southwark, Sutton, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, and Westminster



Positive and reactive results

Nearly half of chlamydia diagnoses were made in under 25 year olds. Reactive results for syphilis, hepatitis, and HIV are confirmed in clinic and a proportion will be previously diagnosed infections.

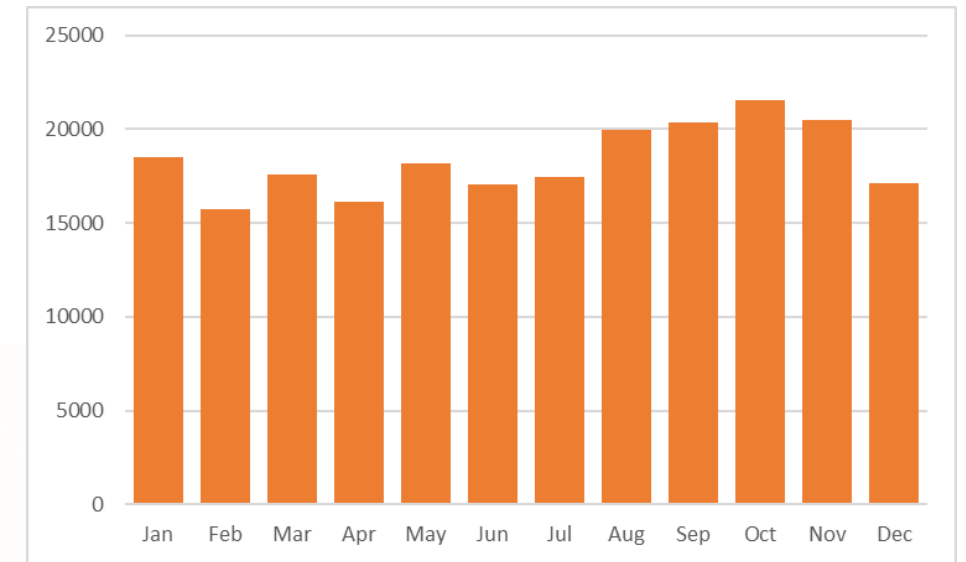
Conditions tested	Tests performed	Positive and/or reactive results	Positivity rate
Chlamydia	216,915	9,533	4.4%
Gonorrhoea	216,918	3,785	1.7%
Syphilis	159,140	329	0.2%
HIV	159,199	837	0.3%
Hep B	29,257	357	1.2%
Hep C	26,510	95	0.4%

Key achievements of 2019

277k test kits requested
81% of kits returned
15k positive test results
4k treated remotely
99% approval rating

Monthly kit requests

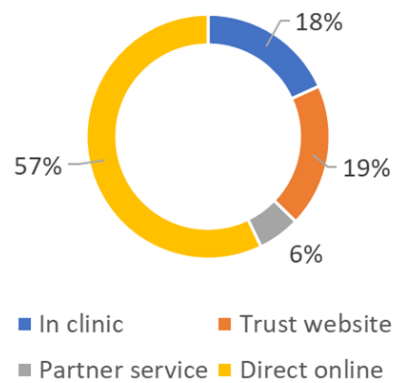
Mondays are the busiest day of the week for kit requests. Over half of people testing are returning users.



Tests performed by authority of residence

Referrals by channel

Over a third of referrals continue to come from NHS trusts, the proportion coming to us directly has increased as more people return directly to us without trying to go to a clinic first.



Feedback on social media

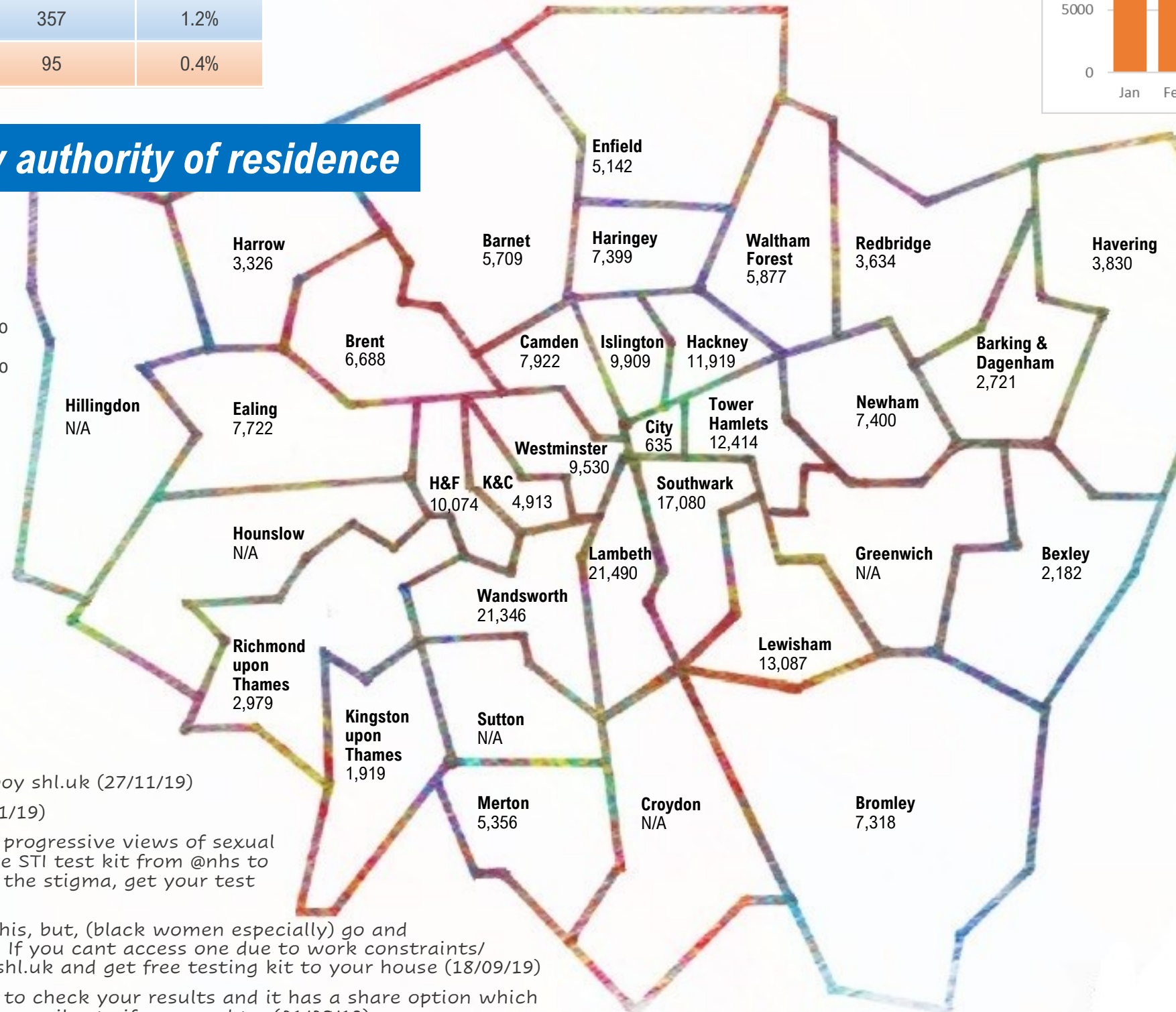
Free + home delivery w this bad boy shl.uk (27/11/19)

Shl.uk they make life easier (06/11/19)

Im grateful for sex positivity and progressive views of sexual health. Just finished my free home STI test kit from @nhs to stay current and informed. Break the stigma, get your test here. shl.uk (06/11/19)

I don't know who needs to hear this, but, (black women especially) go and get a sexual health check-up sis. If you cant access one due to work constraints/ other access barriers then go on shl.uk and get free testing kit to your house (18/09/19)

I use shl.uk its dope cz you log in to check your results and it has a share option which can be forwarded to Whats app or emails etc if you need to. (01/08/19)



Gender and sexuality

Almost 1.4k Trans* people registered with the service in 2019, up from just 200 the previous year, helped by improved reporting options.

Women are *slightly* more likely to use the service than men.

1 in 5 service users is gay or bisexual .

Ethnicity of users

Compared with census data, these ethnic groups were over represented among e-service users: Black African, Black Caribbean, White other, White British and *all* the mixed ethnicity groups. As with clinics, Asian ethnicities were *all* under represented, except for Chinese people.

Ethnicity of new registrations		2018	2019
White	British	48.6%	46.8%
	Irish	2.4%	2.1%
	Other White	16.7%	17.5%
Mixed	White and Black African	1.1%	1.2%
	White and Black Caribbean	2.8%	2.8%
	White and Asian	1.5%	1.5%
	Other Mixed	2.5%	2.5%
Asian	Bangladeshi	0.5%	0.6%
	Indian	2.2%	2.4%
	Pakistani	0.7%	0.8%
	Chinese	1.5%	1.4%
	Other Asian	1.8%	1.9%
Black	African	6.1%	6.9%
	Caribbean	6.8%	6.6%
	Other Black	0.8%	0.8%
Other	Any other	2.2%	2.1%
	Not known/stated	0.0%	1.0%