

# Hull Sexual Health Needs Assessment 2026

## Summary

This is a short summary of the Hull Sexual Health Needs Assessment 2026.

The full report is available at [Sexual and Reproductive Health](#).

## What is sexual health?

Sexual health is about more than infections or pregnancy.

It includes:

- healthy and respectful relationships
- preventing infections passed on through sex
- preventing unplanned pregnancy
- getting advice and support when needed
- feeling safe, informed and respected

Sexual health services should be easy for everyone to use.

## Why was this assessment done?

Hull City Council completed this assessment to better understand sexual health needs in Hull.

The assessment looked at:

- the main sexual health issues affecting people in Hull
- which groups may find it harder to get support
- where services are working well
- where services could be improved

The assessment will help with future planning and service improvement.

## What information was used?

The assessment used different types of information, including:

- public health data
- service data
- information about poverty and disadvantage
- national guidance
- views from service providers
- feedback from communities and people with lived experience

No single source of information tells the whole story. Different sources were used together to build a balanced picture.

## What is a needs assessment?

A needs assessment looks at information from different sources to understand what people need.

It helps answer questions such as:

- What are the main health issues?
- Who may need more support?
- Are services reaching the people who need them?
- Where could services be improved?

A needs assessment does not give every answer. It gives the best picture possible using the information available at the time.

### **What did the assessment find?**

The assessment found that:

- sexual health needs are not the same for all communities in Hull
- some people may face more barriers to getting support
- poverty, disadvantage and wider life circumstances can make it harder to use services
- online services work well for many people, but not for everyone
- stigma, trust, transport and digital access can affect whether people seek help
- late HIV diagnosis and teenage pregnancy remain important areas of concern

### **What services are already available?**

Hull already has a range of sexual health services. These include:

- free sexual health clinics
- online testing services
- contraception services
- HIV testing, treatment and prevention
- work with communities to support people who may not use clinic-based services
- health promotion and education
- joint work between the NHS, Hull City Council and voluntary organisations

This assessment aims to build on the good work already happening. It also shows where services could improve and where extra support may be needed.

### **Important to know**

- Like all needs assessments, this report has some limits.
- Some local information was not available, especially for communities that may face more barriers to services.
- Where local information was limited, national evidence and wider research were used to help understand possible issues.
- This means the assessment gives the best overall picture available, but it may not capture everyone's experience.

### **Which groups may face more barriers?**

Some groups may need different ways of working or extra support to make services easier to use. These include:

- young people
- people living in more deprived areas
- LGBTQ+ communities
- migrants and people who do not speak English as a first language
- people experiencing homelessness
- people facing more than one disadvantage
- people who struggle to use online services

These groups are not all the same. Different people may need different types of support.

### **What are the main priority areas?**

Author Thiru Murugappan, Hull CC

The assessment found seven areas for future improvement:

1. Build on existing work to improve access in deprived and underserved communities.
2. Improve online services, while keeping face-to-face and telephone support available.
3. Improve awareness of, and access to, longer-acting contraception methods.
4. Continue work to reduce stigma and cultural barriers.
5. Build on existing HIV prevention, testing and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services. PrEP is a medicine that can help reduce the chance of getting HIV.
6. Work more closely with communities and partner organisations.
7. Strengthen work with young people to improve sexual health information and pregnancy prevention.

These areas are intended to support discussion and future planning.

### **What happens next?**

The findings are being discussed with:

- sexual health service providers
- public health teams
- partner organisations and community groups
- wider system partners

This will help Hull build on current work, improve services and reduce inequalities.

### **Why is this important?**

Good sexual health is an important part of overall health and wellbeing.

By understanding local needs and listening to communities, Hull can continue to improve services and make sure support reaches the people who need it most.

### **Where can I read the full report?**

[Sexual and Reproductive Health](#)