

# Sexual Health Dorset

## Service Update - December 2021

### Celebrating One Year of Integration!

**On 1 October 2021, Sexual Health Dorset (SHD) celebrated one year of our integrated service for Sexual Health and HIV.**

It has now been a year since we have brought together contraception, genito-urinary medicine, sexual health and HIV together as one pan Dorset service under Dorset HealthCare. This has enabled us to provide continuity of care for patients and the ability for patients to have their sexual health needs met in one clinical setting.

Through integration we now have two main Hubs based in **Bournemouth** and **Weymouth** and satellite clinics in **Blandford**, **Bridport**, **Poole** and **Portland**.

Please note that we no longer operate out of Royal Bournemouth Hospital.



Bournemouth Hub



Weymouth Hub

Information on what services are offered at each of these clinics is available on our website:

**[www.sexualhealthdorset.org](http://www.sexualhealthdorset.org)**

It certainly has been an incredibly difficult eighteen months for everyone across the NHS. Our team have demonstrated real commitment and dedication by retaining a focus on prioritising patient care and maintaining access to services amidst all the service organisational changes alongside Covid-19 pressures.

### LARC Pressures

Sexual Health Dorset Contraception and Sexual Health (CASH) have been receiving an increased level of referrals from general practice for long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) procedures. This has led to significant pressures on access and waiting lists for these services. The referring practices are a mix of commissioned and non-commissioned providers which we recognise is likely to be due to residual capacity issues because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We are working with our mutual commissioner, Public Health Dorset, to understand whether this will be a short, medium or longer term change in demand.

Of course, patient choice remains an important consideration, but you may find it useful to know that GP commissioned providers are able to see non-registered patients for LARC. Patients can be signposted to these practices using the list of providers on the Public Health website:

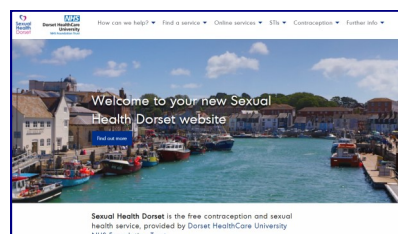
<https://www.publichealthdorset.org.uk/provider-resources/where-to-access-services.aspx>

### New Sexual Health Dorset Website

To coincide with the one year anniversary of the Integrated Sexual Health and HIV Service we have recently launched our newly updated website. The website has included a comprehensive update of all our sexual health information, resources and contact information for individuals and professionals.

Key improvements to design have been made following the engagement with local young people to incorporate their ideas and recommendations into the latest refresh. This includes improved functionality on mobile phones and overall site navigation to promote an improved user experience.

Please check out our new website at:  
**[www.sexualhealthdorset.org](http://www.sexualhealthdorset.org)**



## Contact Us

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