



The English HIV and Sexual Health Commissioners' Group (EHSHCG) Impact Report 2025/26

English HIV and Sexual Health
Commissioners Group

EXPERTISE

EXPERIENCE

KNOWLEDGE

EHSHCG 2025/26 Impact on a Page



Insight & evidence

Published three insight and research reports

Bringing professionals together

Over 200 commissioning professionals attended at our webinars and events.

Events

94% of respondents rated our Full Group session as excellent or good.

Parliamentary engagement

The ESHCG gave evidence to the Health and Social Care Select Committee in Parliament.

Influencing policy

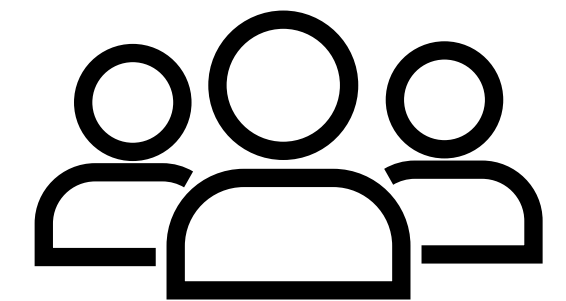
Engaged and contributed to four national policy strategies and plans

Introduction

The English HIV and Sexual Health Commissioners' Group (EHSHCG) provides a strategic forum for those with commissioning responsibility for HIV, sexual health and reproductive services, for improved population and patient level outcomes in sexual health and HIV in England. Our Group members are public health professionals working in Local Authorities.

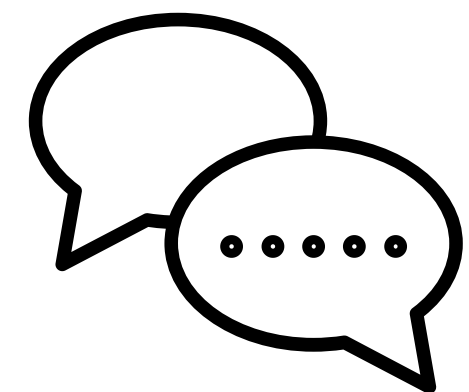
Our vision is to improve outcomes for patients of sexual and reproductive health services, improve public health outcomes and reduce health inequalities across England.

The EHSHCG is supported by funding from the Local Authorities and secretarial support from the Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH). This impact report outlines our work and impact in 2025/26.



The work of the EHSHCG focuses on these strategic areas:

Supporting commissioners
Influencing nationally
Developing evidence and insight
Working together



EHSHCG Executive Committee

The ESHHCG have members on our Executive Committee who represent the regions in England. Our Executive Committee are:

- Chair: James Woolgar – Liverpool City Council (North West)
- Vice Chair: Sue Burridge - Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes (East of England)
- Vice Chair: Sarah Aston - previously Torbay Council (South West)
- Incoming Vice Chair: George Lock - Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council (North West)

London

- Karen Mathieu – Lambeth Council
- Ineala Theophilus – Wandsworth Council
- Aneta Hutek – Newham Council

South East

- Rachael Taylor – Surrey County Council
- Hannah Byrne – Portsmouth City Council

South West

- Gemma Scott – Plymouth City Council
- Filiz Altinoluk-Davis – Bristol City Council

East Midlands

- Clare Mills – Leicester Council
- Mary Hague – Derbyshire County Council

West Midlands

- Fharat Rehman – Birmingham City Council
- Ravi Seehra – Wolverhampton City Council

North West

- Olivia Hastie – Salford City Council

North East

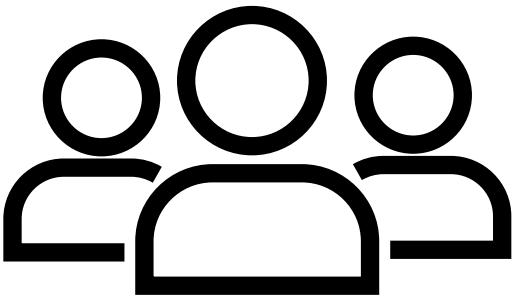
- Rebecca Scott – Public Health South Tees
- Jill Hardie – Public Health South Tees

Yorkshire and Humber

- Alison Critchell – Wakefield Council
- Sarah Atkinson – City of Doncaster Council
- Rebecca Gunn – Kirklees Council

East of England

- Rob Bacon – Hertfordshire County Council



Bringing professionals together

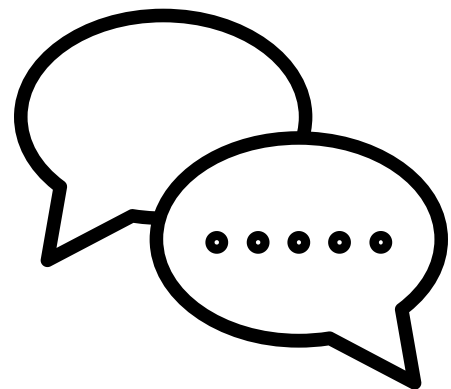
Over the past year, the ESHCG has continued to strengthen knowledge-sharing and professional development alongside commissioners across the country. More than 200 professionals participated in our activities, with an average of 155 attendees joining our three Full Group Meetings.

**“Very
informative,
educative and
eye opening
sessions today.”**

**“Good to have
national leads
linking visibly
with local
commissioners.”**

**Supported
200+
commissioning
professionals**

**Average of 155
attendees to
our meetings**



The three key areas of impact for commissioners of our webinars and meetings are:

Receiving relevant information
Sharing information and advice and networking
Seeing new ways to develop commissioning practice

Additional events and support for commissioners

Alongside the Full Group Meetings, the ESHCG also delivered a series of shorter update sessions designed to provide timely intelligence on key topics.

These events included:

- Full Group Session: Presented global perspectives on sexually transmitted infections (STIs), updates from UKHSA, and information on 4CMenB and Mpox vaccinations. 94% of respondents rated the session as excellent or good.
- 10-Year Plan Engagement Session: Brought together 108 attendees to explore how sexual and reproductive health (SRH) can align with the three shifts outlined in the 10-Year Plan for the NHS.
- CAB-PrEP Information Sharing Webinar: Attracted 145 participants and launched discussions among key stakeholders on the clinical and commissioning implications of PrEP delivery and NHSE's role.

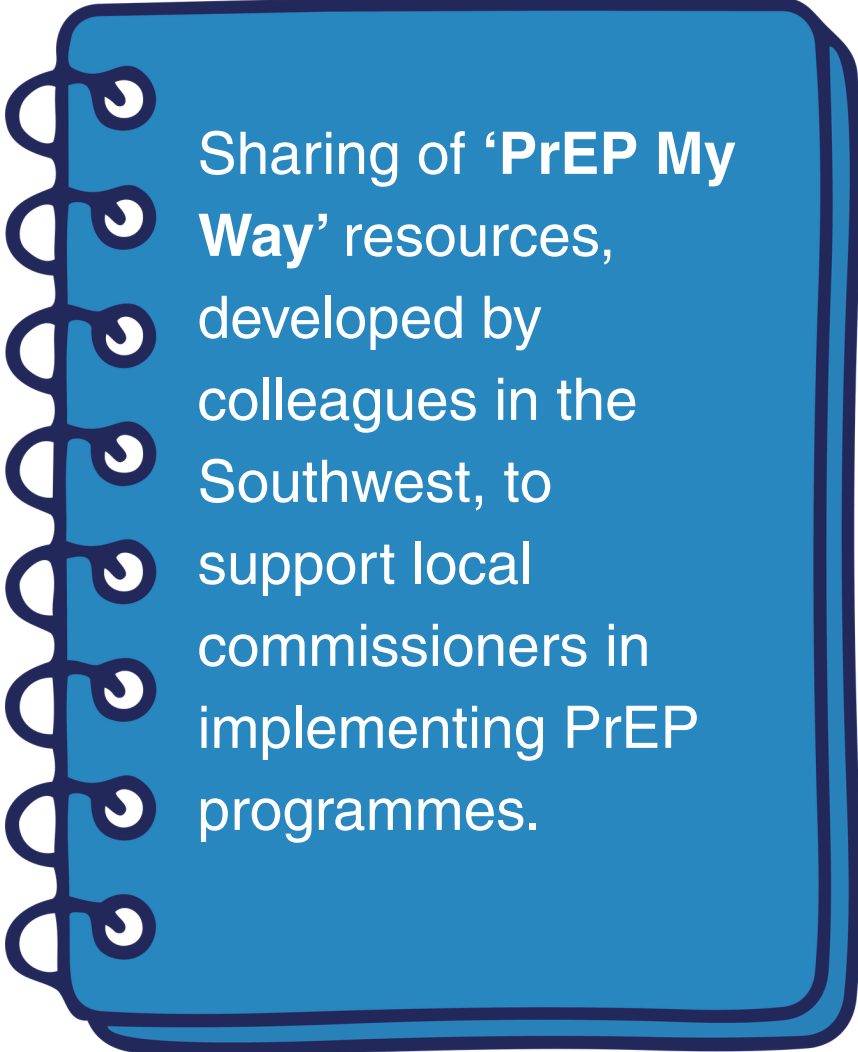
**94% of
professionals
rated our
sessions as
excellent or
good**

**NHS 10-Year
Plan
Engagement
Session**

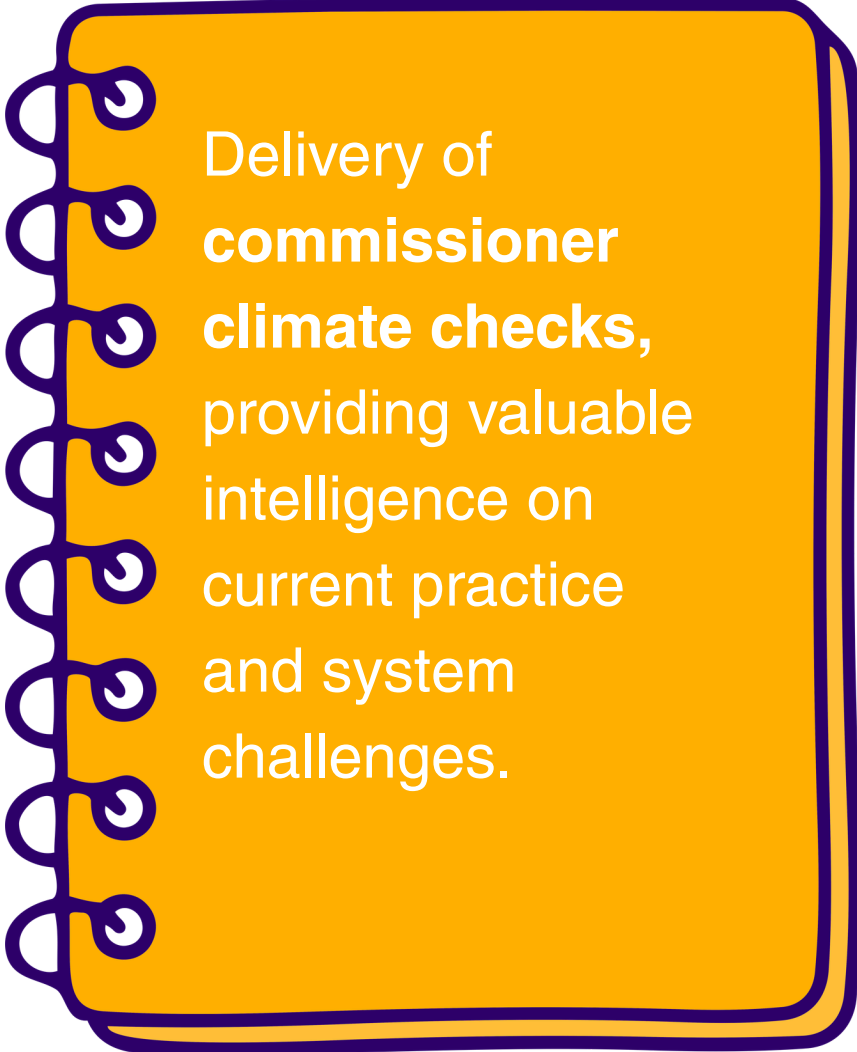
**145 attendees
at CAB-PrEP
session**

Developing evidence-based policy and practice

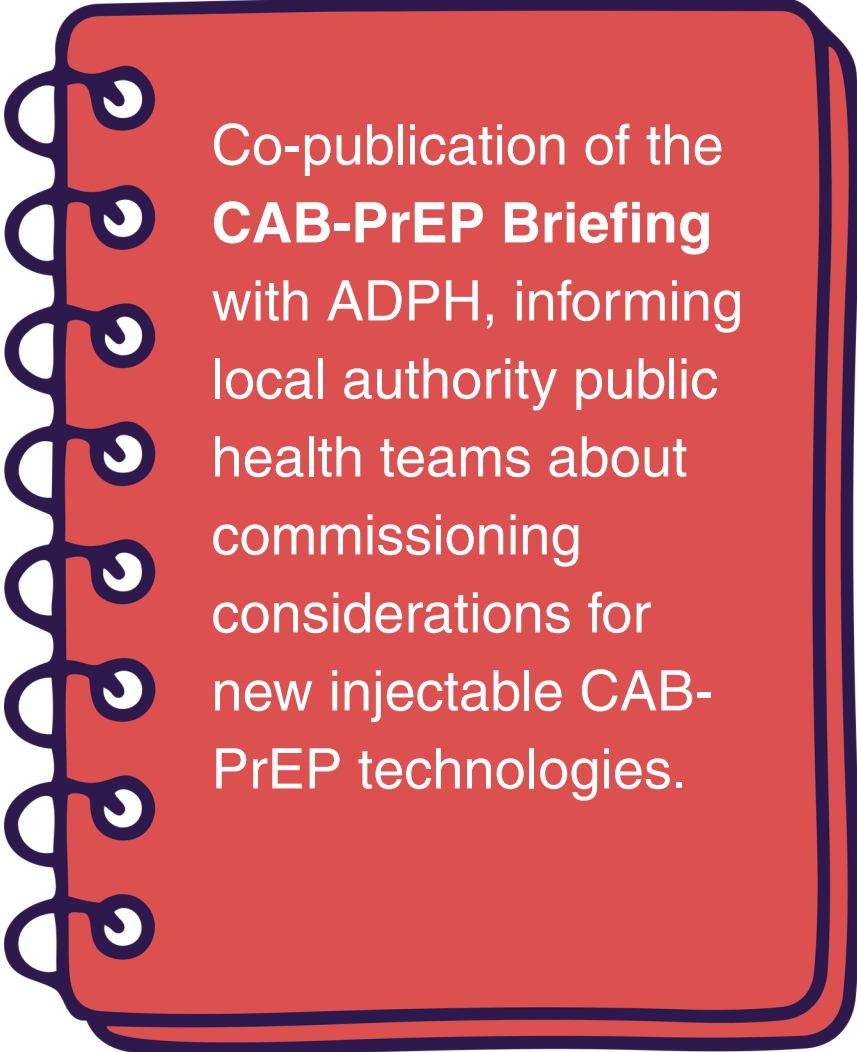
This year, the ESHCG supported the continued development of national sexual health and HIV policy by contributing evidence and insights to a range of workstreams. Key evidence and insights developed included the below.



Sharing of '**PrEP My Way**' resources, developed by colleagues in the Southwest, to support local commissioners in implementing PrEP programmes.



Delivery of **commissioner climate checks**, providing valuable intelligence on current practice and system challenges.



Co-publication of the **CAB-PrEP Briefing** with ADPH, informing local authority public health teams about commissioning considerations for new injectable CAB-PrEP technologies.

Influencing national policy

The ESHCG continues to provide strong commissioner representation in national discussions, ensuring local system perspectives inform national policy. Highlights include:

- Contributions to the next phase of the HIV Action Plan.
- Engagement in the Syphilis Action Plan workshop, including discussion on new epidemiological trends.
- Commissioner input into the Pharmacy First Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) delivery programme and proposed pharmacy contract reforms.
- Input into proposed changes to pharmacy contracts and the national contraception offer, with specific advice on the movement of EHC.
- ESHCG East of England representative Rob Bacon gave oral evidence to the Health and Social Care Select Committee in Parliament during their inquiry into sexual health services. Rob discussed prevention, services fragmentation and data and brilliantly represented the ESHCG and commissioners.

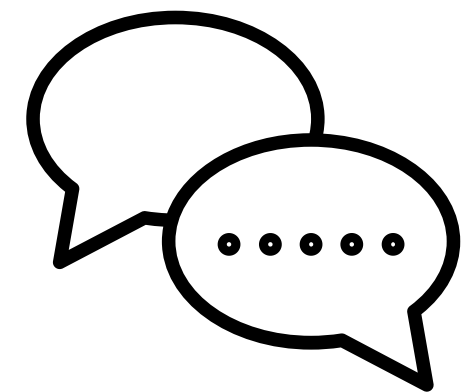
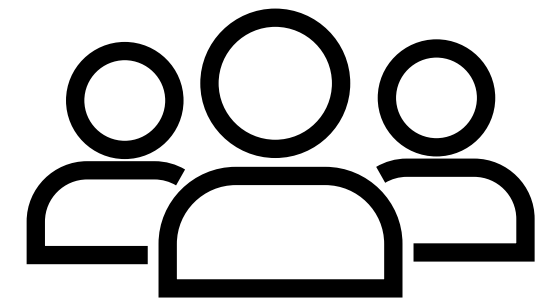


Rob Bacon at the House of Commons
Health and Social Care Select Committee

Working in collaboration

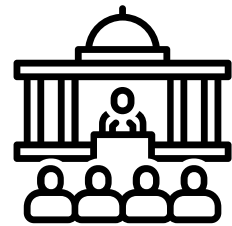
Partnership remains at the heart of ESHCG's approach. This year, the Group:

- Contributed to the CoSRH Hatfield Vision work, influencing priorities around primary prevention, access to contraception, and Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) pathways.
- Played an active role in the Advisory Group on Contraception (AGC), strengthening peer networks and strategic coordination.
- Supported the development of the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Framework, alongside the Association of Directors of Public Health and the Local Government Association, ensuring alignment with broader sexual and reproductive health commissioning priorities.



Priorities for 2026/27

Next year the ESHCG will continue to provide a programme of engagement, policy influence, and collaborative working to support commissioners across England. In addition to our programme of webinars and practice sharing, priorities will include:



Influence national SRH & HIV policy - including the development of the new Sexual Health Framework



Strengthen regional relationships and roles to facilitate commissioner voice



Supporting the implementation of innovative approaches in sexual health / HIV (e.g. doxyPEP, injectable PrEP)



Produce a chemsex toolkit to support local commissioning approaches

Thank you to our partners



English HIV and Sexual Health
Commissioners Group

July 2026



www.adph.org.uk/englishhivandsexualhealthcommissionersgroup/



EHSHCG [LinkedIn page.](#)