

# The Oversight Group for development of the HIV Action Plan

# Terms of reference

Published 15 July 2021

The government has welcomed the report and recommendations of the independent HIV Commission, led by Terrence Higgins Trust (THT), National AIDS Trust (NAT) and Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF), and chaired by Dame Inga Beale on how to reach zero new HIV transmissions in England by 2030. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has committed to consider the recommendations of the HIV Commission as part of their development of HIV Action Plan on reaching the 2030 target.

The Oversight Group for development of the HIV Action Plan (HIV Oversight Group), chaired by Dame Inga Beale, will ensure that the work undertaken by the independent HIV Commission and continued engagement of the key HIV stakeholders would inform the development of the HIV Action Plan.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the Oversight Group is to:

- ensure continuity between the work undertaken by the HIV Commission and DHSC's development of HIV Action Plan
- provide expert advice on the development of HIV Action Plan and encourage collaborative working between the key HIV stakeholders and DHSC
- consider actions towards the interim target of 80 per cent reduction in HIV transmissions in England by 2025
- ensure that the intersectional voices of people living with HIV are represented during policy development and in the publications

provide guidance on appropriate language (including terminologies)

# Responsibilities

The Oversight Group will provide expert advice to the department which will be reflected in the advice provided to the ministers. The final contents of HIV Action Plan will for a ministerial decision. It is expected that the Oversight Group will provide expertise and advice in relation to the following:

- HIV testing reducing late diagnoses and undiagnosed HIV infection
- Combination HIV prevention and Health promotion
- High quality HIV treatment and care, and improving the quality of life of people living with HIV
- Stigma and discrimination
- · Health and care system, including workforce
- Health inequalities and determinants of health
- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Adoption of technology and innovative ways of working together etc.,

#### Chair

Dame Inga Beale will chair the HIV Oversight Group.

### **Membership**

The membership is as follows:

- National AIDS Trust (NAT) Deborah Gold
- Terrence Higgins Trust (THT) Ian Green
- Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF) Anne Aslett
- One Voice Network Denis Onyango
- Sophia Forum Sophie Strachan

- LGBT Foundation Rob Cookson
- Children's HIV Association (CHIVA) Amanda Ely
- UK Community Advisory Board (UK-CAB) Alex Sparrowhawk
- British HIV Association (BHIVA) Laura Waters
- British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) John McSorley
- Local Government Association (LGA) Paul Ogden
- Association of Directors of Public Health (ADPH) Jim McManus
- The HIV and Sexual Health Commissioners Group for England Isabel Carrick
- NHS England HIV Clinical Reference Group David Asboe
- Representatives from the Department of Health and Social Care, Public Health England and NHS England

Members will not be remunerated for their time.

#### Quorum

A simple majority would constitute as a quorum for the meetings.

## Meetings

It is expected that there will be four 6-weekly meetings of the HIV Oversight Group. The meetings will be held virtually over Microsoft Teams, and each session will last for two hours. Members will be consulted and duly notified in case of any proposed changes to the meeting format.

#### Meetings structure / agenda

The agenda for each meeting will be agreed between DHSC and the Chair and will reflect issues and themes that DHSC would like to seek guidance and inputs on. The agenda and relevant papers will be circulated to the group members prior to the meetings. It is proposed that the following themes/agenda items will be discussed at the HIV Oversight Group meetings.

First meeting:

- The work of the HIV Commission and its recommendations
- Progress towards the 2030 target and what is known about the impact of COVID-19
- Discussion on Terms of Reference, content and scheduling of the meetings, ways of working together and AOB

#### Second meeting:

HIV Testing

#### Third meeting:

- Combination HIV Prevention (Condoms, PrEP)
- Health promotion

#### Fourth meeting:

- Treatment as Prevention (TasP)
- High quality HIV treatment and care, and improving the quality of life of people living with HIV

Cross-cutting considerations for every session during the second, third and fourth meetings:

- Stigma and discrimination
- Health inequalities and determinants of health
- Health and care system, including workforce
- Adoption of technology and innovative ways of working together
- Further evidence and data on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic