



Public Health  
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

# HIV Prevention Innovation Fund

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# Overview:

## **In this session we will:**

- Provide an overview of the HIV Prevention Innovation fund.
- A brief description of the projects we funded in 2015/16 and 2016/17
- How we plan to evaluate the projects and the fund.
- Three case studies from our first cohort.

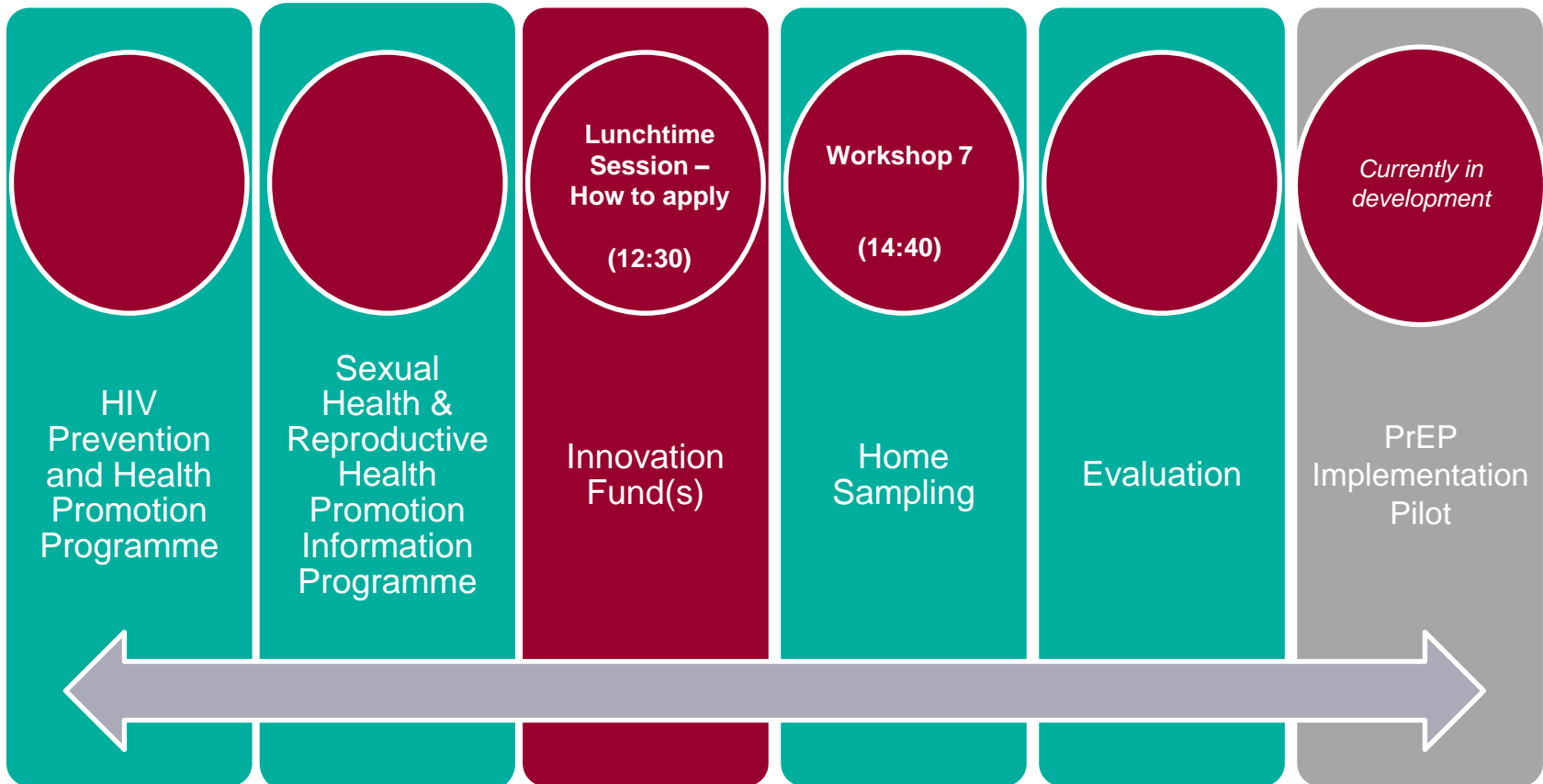
# Prevention and Health Promotion Programme

## **Improve the sexual health of the nation by supporting:**

- National and local health promotion activities to reduce HIV incidence in the most at-risk populations
- Dissemination of high quality information on sexual health outcomes to general population
- Measuring impact using an integrated evaluation framework

# Prevention and Health Promotion Programme

The new programme designed with 6 key components;



# Innovation Fund

## So why an innovation fund?

- HIV remains a major public health issue in England.
- Innovative, community led interventions have had a significant role to play in limiting the HIV epidemic in England.
- Public Health England wanted to further support the potential for the voluntary sector to develop effective ways to address HIV prevention in communities at increased risk of HIV.
- HIV Prevention Innovation Fund was established.

# Innovation Fund (2)

## What were we looking for?

We invited proposals from voluntary sector organisations to deliver projects, up to 12 months in duration, that explore new ways to address high risk behaviours in those communities most affected by HIV.

### ***All projects have to:***

- target at risk groups,
- deliver innovation in HIV prevention
- build local authority backing and partnerships,
- describe feasible and achievable plans
- deliver effective monitoring and evaluation
- have the ability to replicated and scaled
- present value for money when achieving defined deliverables

# Innovation Fund : The call

## What were we looking for?

In 2015/16 we had a generic HIV prevention call for the fund. The 2016/17 call was more focused. This year we are asking for projects on the following;

- prompt diagnosis of both HIV and other STIs, especially among MSM
- stigma associated with HIV
- wider determinants of high risk behaviour such as mental health, drug and alcohol misuse, etc.
- integration of HIV prevention into health promotion and service delivery in other health areas
- knowledge, awareness of PrEP especially in currently underserved populations (e.g. higher-risk heterosexuals, BAME MSM and trans communities)

# Innovation Fund: Applying

## **Supporting the local system;**

- Vital to the fund was a focus on national fund supporting local activity and not duplicating work.
- Applications needed to demonstrate the involvement of the appropriate local authority(s) - through either their endorsement or partnership working.
- We expected successfully funded projects will help strengthen partnership working, either with local sexual health and HIV services, other voluntary sector collaborators or both.
- Projects should ensure they're designed to complement the current national HIV Prevention England (HPE) Programme and any locally delivered programmes.



# HIV Prevention Innovation Fund

## 2015 / 2016 (500k available)

- Over 90 project applications received (7 projects funded)
- Funding limits £50,000-£100,000 per project

## 2016 / 2017 (600k available)

- Over 100 projects applied (13 projects selected for funding)
- Funding limits £25,000-£100,000 per project

## Evaluation panel and process

- Representatives from DH, LGA, PHE, DsPH and chairs of APPG on HIV/AIDS and Sexual health Forum read all applications and scored
- Shortlisting of projects with larger panel
- Interviews of shortlisted projects with smaller selection panel
- Launch of the fund and winners in parliament.
- Quarterly meetings with projects throughout life course
- Evaluation

# Funded Projects 2015/16

- **NAZ for Testing Faith** - Bradford, Luton and London
- **LGBT Foundation for the Talk and Test – Tackling late HIV diagnosis amongst MSM and Black African Communities** *in* Greater Manchester
- **Trade Sexual Health for the My Sauna Online Assessment Project** *in* the East Midlands
- **Well for Living and partners for the HIV and Health at work - M1 Corridor Distribution centre project** - *in* the East Midlands
- **SXT for the 'interactive digital contact slip'** *in* Lambeth
- **NAZ for Let's stop HIV** - *in* 5 London boroughs
- **GMFA/SIGMA Research for My HIV Prevention Strategy Tool** - across England

# Case Studies 2016/2017

The Martin Fisher Foundation and partners are piloting the use of digital vending and HIV self-testing in an MSM sex on premises location.

## What is involved



Sauna patrons will self-select as higher risk as the sauna is a sex-on-premises venue. Brighton sauna sees about 400 clients each week, where high levels of sexual risk-taking and low levels of HIV-testing have been observed by the sauna staff.

This project uses secure online video conferencing to enable HIV prevention support for marginalised communities in rural Hampshire.



## What is involved

The rural nature of Hampshire means that for many, access to services can be challenging. The associated costs and time needed to engage with special support for HIV prevention and HIV treatment and care can be prohibitively difficult so while successful 1:1 support programmes and treatment and care support is available, many do not take up these offers.

# Case Studies

This project will see targeted community pharmacists delivering HIV testing in their local high street.



## Summary

In 2015, Cumbria was highlighted as an area of high risk for late diagnosis of HIV following a number of serious complications, including 2 deaths, which could have been prevented with earlier diagnosis. 66.7% of all HIV diagnoses in Cumbria are late. Research clearly shows that those who don't know they have HIV are at higher risk of transmitting HIV; reducing the pool of undiagnosed individuals, improves HIV prevention efforts.

Cumbria is challenged by its geography. Small localities inhibit access to testing where people do not want their GPs to test their HIV status, nor do they wish to attend sexual health clinics. Equally, there are complexities for some individuals receiving postal kits to their home or work address.

# Evaluation

## **Whole programme evaluation;**

- Each project has established its own monitoring and evaluation methods.
- The HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Promotion programme aims to complete an evaluation of the full programme, incorporating the innovation fund.
- An evaluation partner for the fund was commissioned in 2017, they're taking forward an evaluation process;
  1. 2015-16 evaluation report due Summer 2017.
  2. 2016-17 evaluation will be available in early 2018



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# Thank you

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