

## Changes to Sexual Health clinics

Sexual Health services across Dorset are being reorganised to meet demand and give people faster, more effective support.

Dorset HealthCare (DHC), Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospital (RBCH) and Dorset County Hospital (DCH) are working together a more seamless, joined-up service designed to meet people's needs.

And, based on feedback from both patients and staff, they are introducing a number of changes at local sexual health clinics to improve access, reduce unnecessary appointments and ensure people seen by the right person, the first time.

The new approach will see most appointments hosted at the service's two main hubs – Trinity Street in Dorchester and The Junction, Bournemouth – on weekdays and evenings.

Individual changes include:

- Due to the high rate of missed appointments (an average of one in five), from the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 Monday evening clinic in Sherborne will move to Trinity Street in Dorchester
- From 30<sup>th</sup> June the St Leonards clinic will close, patients will be able to attend The Junction in Bournemouth for their appointments,
- In line with patient preferences, our Saturday appointments at The Junction will now be available on weekdays and evenings
- Similarly, our Saturday clinic in Dorchester will end on the 30<sup>th</sup> June
- Our Bournemouth University clinic will continue until 29<sup>th</sup> May. After this date you can access online chlamydia screening for under 25s at [www.sexualhealthdorset.org](http://www.sexualhealthdorset.org)
- Our Wednesday evening clinic at Pelhams in Bournemouth will finish on 30<sup>th</sup> June. After this, you will be able to come to The Junction for Wednesday evening appointments.

While support and advice for all basic sexual health needs will be available at the two hubs, there are also plans for 'pop-up' contraception and treatment clinics elsewhere in the county.

The reorganisation is in line with new approaches to care outlined in the recent Dorset-wide NHS Clinical Services Review, and is based on feedback from patient surveys and staff focus groups.

Sarah Brace, Sexual Health Service Manager said: "Our vision is to create an integrated service across Dorset where patients have access to high quality care from the right professional in the right place and at the right time.

"While some might have to travel further to reach our two hub clinics, we will have a broader range of appointment times and expertise to meet people's needs."

For more information on our services and clinics, visit [www.sexualhealthdorset.org](http://www.sexualhealthdorset.org)