

**DATE: 21 February, 2023**

**Procurement of Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) services  
across the West Midlands**

**Ward(s)** All

**Portfolios:** Cllr G. Flint – Health and Well Being  
Cllr. K. Pedley – Adult Social Care

**Report:**

The West Midlands Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) services offer support and healthcare to all survivors of sexual assault and/or abuse at any hour of the day or night. It is available to people seven days a week. Forensic and clinical care, as well as access to psychological therapy sessions is provided, in addition to advice and training to local partners such as healthcare providers, social care teams and universities.

**Current services**

The current SARC service is commissioned through two separate contracts we call 'Lots' which come to an end in March 2024:

- Lot 1 - Staffordshire and West Midlands
- Lot 2 - Warwickshire and West Mercia

**The procurement process**

In partnership with our SARC co-commissioners, we will soon begin a re-procurement process which will be issued to the market in April 2023 and concluded by 31 March 2024, to ensure we continue to offer the best care to our survivors. Feedback has been requested from providers on whether the current arrangement of lots or another model such as a single contract across the region is favoured.

Whichever model is decided upon, we want to ensure you that:

- A SARC location will be maintained in each of the 4 Police Force areas
- 24/7 hours of operation will remain unchanged.

## **Your feedback**

As part of this procurement process, we welcome your feedback and comment on your experiences of the existing care and service, or on the planned procurement process. Please see **Appendix A** for further information on SARC.


## **Recommendations:**

### **That:**

- **The Committee provide feedback on the procurement of Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) services which will be relayed to NHS England as part of its consultation.**
- **That the Committee note the report.**

## **Contact Officer:**

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