

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 25 July 2016	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Healthy Communities scrutiny committee
<b>Report title:</b>		Cover report on the London Assembly Health Committee's recent work on ' <i>HIV: how late diagnosis hampers prevention</i> '	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Julie Timbrell – scrutiny project manager	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the committee and roundtable participants note the HIV scoping document produced by the London Assembly Health Committee to assist their recent short inquiry into how late diagnosis of HIV hampers prevention, and the resulting inquiry's recommendations, contained in a letter to the Mayor. Both documents are enclosed.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The London Assembly Health Committee conducted a short inquiry into the 37 per cent of HIV cases in London that are diagnosed late in order to establish why this is the case and the impact on Londoners.
3. The percentage of cases diagnosed late varies from borough to borough, with Islington, the highest performing borough and Croydon the lowest. Southwark has 38% of cases diagnosed late.
4. Late diagnosis disproportionately affects older adults, heterosexuals and black African people. And if people don't find out their HIV status, the risk of unknowingly infecting others increases. The inquiry looked at the barriers that prevent people taking HIV tests and being diagnosed and what can be done to prevent infection in the first place.
5. The London Assembly Health Committee looked at the current landscape of HIV in London and reviewed HIV prevention services and strategies. A meeting on 15 June also addressed HIV awareness, stigma and the future challenges for London. The following experts were questioned :
  - Julie Billett, Public Health Lead on HIV Prevention, The Association of Directors of Public Health (UK)
  - Ian Green, Chief Executive, Terrence Higgins Trust
  - Monty Moncrieff, Chief Executive, London Friend
  - Parminder Sekhon, Executive Director of Programmes, NAZ Foundation
6. Following the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July a letter was sent to the Mayor.