



TRAFFORD
COUNCIL

Trafford Women's Voices

One Voice Raises Another

21st July 2023

Purpose

To share with the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- the background to Trafford Women's Voices,
- the journey so far,
- the next steps.

Four recommendations are made to the Board for consideration.

The National Women's Health Strategy, July 2022

- Dame Lesley Regan, Women's Health Ambassador said the strategy is an opportunity to “*reset the dial on women's health*” after decades of NHS services “*failing*” women.
- Nearly 100,000 women came forward to share their experiences.
- Being Listened To: Women said that they “*persistently needed to advocate for themselves*” and had to push for further investigation to secure a diagnosis.
- The delays often affected their health and quality of life.
- 84% said they often feel ignored or not listened to when they seek help from the NHS.
- The strategy will focus on seven key areas, which relate to conditions or aspects of health.

National Strategy: Areas for Improvement

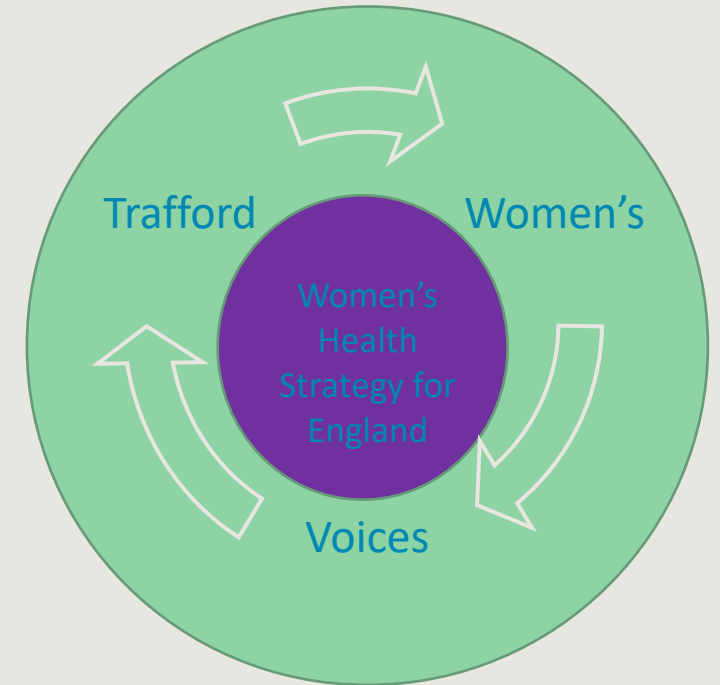
1. Menstrual health and gynaecology
2. Fertility, pregnancy, pregnancy loss and postnatal support
3. Menopause
4. Mental health and wellbeing
5. Cancer
6. Health effects of violence against women and girls
7. Healthy ageing and long-term conditions

Trafford's Approach: One Voice Raises Another

The Department of Health and Social Care's women's health strategy for England gives Trafford an opportunity to seize the moment and enable women's voices in Trafford to be heard in this arena.

There are many women, groups and initiatives in Trafford that are working hard to get the best health, care and services for women. However, we think that there is an opportunity for women's voices to be heard now, by those in positions of power, in order to shape and deliver the women's health strategy in Trafford, with women who live in Trafford.

Work has started to build a platform for women in Trafford to raise their voices, believing one voice raises another and collectively we are stronger than individually.



Trafford's journey so far

- Multi-agency Women's Voice Core Group established, jointly led by Public Health and TLCO.
- Locality leads engaged with the GM programme.
- Trafford Women's Voices event held in December 2022, which brought together local women and systems leaders.
 - The event drew evidence from lived experience and conversations.
 - Outputs were analysed and local themes identified. These are being used to inform a local action plan.
 - Local action plan developed.

What the delegates said....



Trafford Women's Voices Themes

A Better Trained Workforce	Service development	Improved Access	Changing Attitudes
Workforce education/development/CPD (culture, behaviour, language, wellbeing, awareness, inclusivity, open questions)	Service development – trauma informed, every contact counts, reduce assumptions, joined up and female friendly/trauma informed system approach	Choice	Increased education in Schools/college
Workforce recruitment/availability/specific roles improved information	Localised services – not always having to travel out of area for services	Access (easier referral processes, reduce waiting lists)	Promote Inclusivity (all ages, no assumptions)
Better communication/information (online, notes, appointments, interpreter)	Funding/budgets (to develop services)	Buildings/estates (women friendly – safe spaces, confidential, period products, female equipment)	VCFSE/Third sector (value more, reduce competition, collaboration)
Data sharing/governance/joined up care	Improved mental health services		Increased Co-production/opportunities/influence change (values, patient-led outcome measures etc.)
	Specialised services		Promote Lived experience
	Gaps (women's health hub/wellbeing centre, domestic abuse referral service)		More support (women, carers and families)

What do we need to do next?

Create the change

- ✓ Continue the conversation & make the pledge
 - Residents and organisations are being asked to take the pledge
 - Those who have taken the pledge will be encouraged to contribute to 1 of 4 locality-based Women's Alliance Groups
 - The WV Core Group will work collaboratively with Alliance groups to design and develop the next Trafford Women's Voices Conference
- ✓ Develop relationships for change
 - Linking community women with women in leadership (Poverty Truth Commission model)
- ✓ Develop local action plan incorporating national strategy at place

Delivering the change

- ✓ Agree the programme governance
 - Proposal for the HWB Board to be accountable
- ✓ Women's Voices Core Group
 - Are all relevant partners represented? Partners will be contacted to nominate a representative

Making the pledge

By signing and returning this POWER pledge, you will agree and support the following:

Trafford POWER Pledge

- **P**artnership Working to promote health opportunities to underrepresented groups
- **O**ptimize community awareness, participation, and engagement in Women's Health Related Matters and willingness to promote public Health campaigns.
- **W**ork in collaboration with local and Boroughwide Health Equity Initiatives, such as Trafford's Women's Voices and raise the voice of Trafford Women
- **E**mpower Women to have a genuine voice about their health and care
- **R**espect the rights of women to design and develop services that are Women Centred and reflective of their needs.

Recommendations and actions for the Board

Trafford Women's Voices Core Group recommends that Trafford's Health and Wellbeing Board:

- I. commits to the Women's Voices POWER pledge or if not in agreement with the pledges, agrees to collectively review these and send comments or amendments to Berni.Tomlinson@trafford.gov.uk by Friday 27th July.
- II. supports the *develop relationships for change* proposal. This model based on the Poverty Truth Commission model, will link community women with women in leadership to support change at an operational level.
- III. agrees the proposed governance-the Trafford Women's Voice Core Group is accountable to the HWB Board. The Board will receive quarterly reports from the DPH.
- IV. engages in a review of membership of the core group and where partners are contacted for nominations for the group, this nomination is actioned.