Cervical Screening in the Community – a pilot

Delivering **walk-in** Cervical Screening clinics: **with** the community, **in** the community
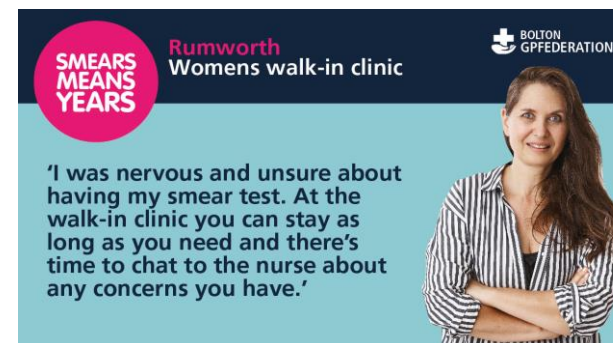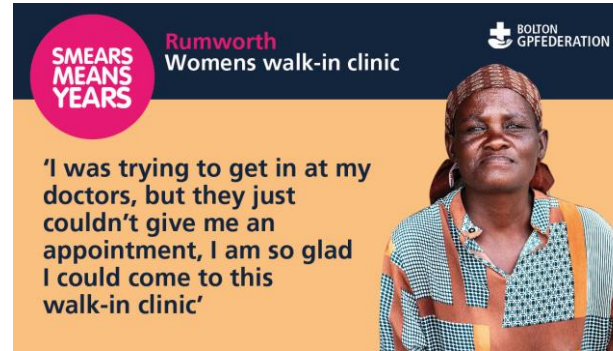
THE WHY

The reason:

Cancer screening rates in **Rumworth Primary Care Network (PCN)** are amongst the lowest in Bolton and Greater Manchester. There are lots of barriers, including:

- Appointments restrictive / not convenient

- Patient can't get to the GP practice

- Embarrassed

- Worried about the procedure and / or the results

The pilot aims:

- ✓ Increase uptake of cervical screening

- ✓ Improve confidence of women accessing screening

- ✓ Educate women on the importance of screening

SMEARS MEANS YEARS — Rumworth Womens walk-in clinic — BOLTON GPFEDERATION

'I was trying to get in at my doctors, but they just couldn't give me an appointment, I am so glad I could come to this walk-in clinic'

SMEARS MEANS YEARS — Rumworth Womens walk-in clinic — BOLTON GPFEDERATION

'I would have booked the appointment and then not gone because I would have got myself worked up about it. The only reason I am here today is because I have walked in and not had time to over think things. I just want to get it done now'

SMEARS MEANS YEARS — Rumworth Womens walk-in clinic — BOLTON GPFEDERATION

'I was nervous and unsure about having my smear test. At the walk-in clinic you can stay as long as you need and there's time to chat to the nurse about any concerns you have.'

The insight:

A detailed survey carried out by **Healthwatch Bolton** recommends to:

- Offer more **flexible appointment** times

- Increase **education** & understanding of cervical cancer

- Work closely with women of **BAME communities**

- Highlight the need for **unmarried women** from BAME communities to attend

- **Educate men** of the need for women to attend

- Ensure **female health practitioners** are available to do the smear tests

- Ensure patients are **treated with dignity and kindness**

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THE HOW

The approach:

- ✓ Survey of local women
- ✓ In a place in the community, where they feel comfortable
- ✓ At a time that's convenient, no appointment needed
- ✓ With someone they trust and time to talk

The **Partnership** around the pilot

Primary Care Network
Clinical Director
Practices
Healthwatch Bolton
Patients
Answer Cancer GM
Bolton Foundation Trust
Bolton CCG – Engagement Team
Bolton Council of Mosques (BCOM)
Bolton Council – Public Health
Community Champions

CLINIC DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS	LOCAL						REGIONAL
	GP FED	THE PCN	HEALTH-WATCH	FT	PRACTICES	BCOM	ANSWER CANCER
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT	✓						
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
PATIENT INSIGHT		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
COMMUNICATIONS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PATIENT CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
IMPACT ASSESSMENT	✓		✓				✓
PILOT EVALUATION	✓		✓				✓
DATA REPORTING & ANALYSING	✓		✓				✓
FINANCIAL PLANNING	✓						
QUALITY & GOVERNANCE	✓		✓				
TRAINING & COMPETENCIES	✓	✓			✓		
ESTATES		✓	✓		✓	✓	
OPERATIONAL LEADERSHIP	✓						
CLINICAL PROCEDURES	✓						
CLINICAL LEADERSHIP	✓	✓					
ACCESS TO CLINICAL RECORDS	✓	✓			✓		
CLINICAL SUPPLIES	✓				✓		
WORKFORCE & VOLUNTEERS	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

The **Rumworth Pilot workforce**

Lead Nurse
Experienced Nurses
Project Manager
Admin
Volunteer 'meeters and greeters'
Interpreters
Community Champions
Cancer Champions

SMEARS MEANS YEARS
Why live just for today?
Rumworth Womens walk-in clinic
Wednesday 2 March 10am-2pm
Bolton Council of Mosques (BCOM)
1 Vicarage Street, Bolton, BL3 5LE
Got a question ahead of the clinic? Email our Chief Nurse:
kath.arrowsmith@boltongpfed.co.uk
BOLTON GPFEDERATION

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THE RESULTS

ANSWER CANCER

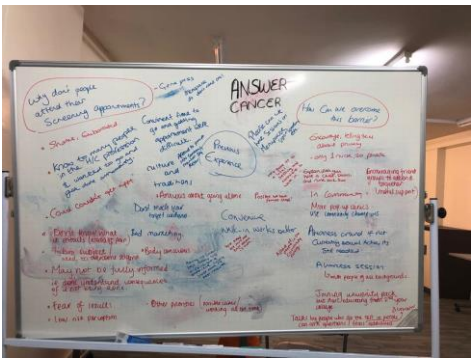Two drop-in pilot clinics have been held in the community at a GP Practice and a community centre (BCOM)

22 patients seen
10 smear tests carried out
3 smear tests not yet due
7 blood pressure checks done
2 Covid boosters given
4 BMI checks done
22 conversations to address concerns and alleviate nervousness

1 lady was overdue by 2 years following a 12-month recall
1 lady in her late 30s had never had a smear test before
2 ladies were overdue by more than 10 years

ALL 10 SMEAR TESTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS NORMAL

The innovation: *the things we did differently / non-traditionally*

- Drop-in: no appointment needed.
- At a time and place defined by the community.
- Lots of time to chat – discuss concerns, build confidence.
- Provide refreshments and a relaxed, informal atmosphere.
- Opportunistic health checks (including BMI and blood pressure).
- Opportunistic Covid vaccines.
- Direct read and write to clinical records utilising GP Fed access.
- A different comms approach 'Smears Means Years'
- Offering direct access to the lead nurse for patients (no receptionist)
- Local women's charity providing free sanitary and hygiene products

Practice Manager: *"We have seen an increase in ladies coming in for their smear tests, saying they had seen the posters about the Rumworth clinic and it had spurred them on to get theirs booked in."*

The cost:

One-off:	Design / posters / social media assets	£720
Per clinic:	Room hire	£100
	Refreshments for staff / patients + lunch for staff	£40

The feedback:

- I liked the white feedback board
- Friendly environment
- Excellent experience
- Very good she calmed me down, relaxed
- Felt very comfortable and was made to feel welcome
- Was anxious at the time but that was to be expected
- It was really positive and friendly
- Didn't feel any pain
- Calmed me down, very gentle

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Key lessons learnt

- The need for admin support with understanding of and access to the various clinic systems is imperative.

- All smear samples should be triple checked to ensure documentation is present and correct and labelling is correct and legible before sending them off.

- Utilise the Standard Operating Procedures of the screening team.

- Clinics should run until later in the day and into the evening, especially when nights are lighter.

- Utilising existing GP Fed staff and resources made available via the PCN practices, we were able to keep costs down.

What next?

Utilise this model and the learning from this pilot to develop bespoke, Bolton-wide, community–based cervical smear clinics for people with Learning Disabilities in partnership with the Learning Disability Team.

Use this approach to provide a non-clinical health and wellbeing offer in the community, in partnership with the community (for example, with BRASS for refugee and asylum seekers)