

IRIS IN 7 BOROUGHES PROGRAMME

STATUS UPDATE: Sept 2021

BACKGROUND:

The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) as part of the Mayor's Office for Police and Crime in London (MOPAC) and IRISi launched the IRIS in 7 Boroughs programme in January 2020. IRISi was commissioned by the VRU to deliver a 12 month programme in 7 boroughs in London.

Initially the programme was to have a hard finish on 31st of March 2021. After COVID-19 caused delays and resulted in a change in delivery approach [i.e. from face to face to mainly online training and advocacy/support], the VRU agreed to extend the delivery timeframe and budget to allow the finish to be by 31st March 2022, with agreement that the 12 months IRIS programme had to have been delivered at each site within this period. With final reports and evaluation to be presented by April 2022.

Phase 1 sites launched just before the 1st lockdown and delivered an adapted programme for 6 months [April – September 2020] and then the 4 x Phase 2 sites were brought out of hibernation and launched just before the 2nd lockdown. All 7 sites were then set to complete the 12 month [blended] IRIS programme and delivery was to be complete by 31st Jan 2022 at the latest and all other threads of work to be completed by June 2022.

In June 2021 the VRU agreed another extension of budget to ensure all sites ended operational activity at the same time - on the 31st of March 2022 and not before. With final reports and evaluation by June 2022.

This means each site will have had different lengths of contractual periods by programme end.

The table below gives an overview of phases, sites/boroughs and what we are delivering and by when.

Phase 1	Site 1	Tower Hamlets Delivery by Solace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilised by 31/3/20 • Adapted programme delivery April – Sept 2020 • Blended programme Oct 2020 – Sept 2021 • Extension Oct 2021– March 2022
Phase 1	Site 2	Croydon Delivery by BCWA and FJC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCWA Mobilised by 31/3/20 • Adapted programme delivery April – Sept 2020 • FJC and BCWA Blended programme Sept/Oct 2020 – Aug/Sept 2021 • Extension Sept/Oct 2021– March 2022
Phase 1	Site 3	Barking and Dagenham Delivery by nia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilised by 31/3/20 • Adapted programme delivery April – Sept 2020 • Blended programme Oct/Nov 2020 – Nov 2021

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension Dec 2021- March 2022
Phase 2	Site 4	Brent Delivery by Advance and AWRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To mobilise Oct – Dec 2020 • Blended programme 12 months ends Nov 2021 • Extension Dec 2021- March 2022
Phase 2	Site 5	Ealing Delivery by Advance and AWRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To mobilise Oct – Dec 2020 • Blended programme 12 months ends Nov 2021 • Extension Dec 2021- March 2022
Phase 2	Site 6	Hammersmith and Fulham Delivery by Advance and AWRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to mobilise Oct – Dec 2020 • Blended programme 12 months ends Nov 2021 • Extension Dec 2021- March 2022
Phase 2	Site 7	Westminster Delivery by Advance and AWRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to mobilise Oct – Dec 2020 • Blended programme 12 months ends Nov 2021 • Extension Dec 2021- March 2022

Programme stages: In Q2 Sept 2021 we are in Stage 3

Stage 1 Launch and Mobilisation:

- Promotion and stakeholder engagement
- Partner agency recruitment and contracts signed
- Clinical Lead [CL] recruitment
- Advocate Educator [AE] recruitment [12 month contract]
- Training for trainers [T4T]

Stage 2: Set up and delivery starts

- Local IRIS team - Set up and implementation locally
- Operational set up: e.g. steering groups, NHS email accounts for referral pathway, etc.
- Promotion and engaging general practices
- Training GPs begins – partially trained GPs can refer into the AEs
- Sustainability planning with IRISi

Stage 3: Delivery

- Engaging and Training GPs continues – trained surgeries referring into IRIS service
- No. of referrals of survivors into IRIS programme increases
- Consultancy and support to GPs provided by AEs
- Sustainability planning with IRISi

Stage 4: Close out

- Sustainability next steps; Programme close/continuity plan
- Operational delivery ends March 2022
- Survivor consultation report May 2022

- Evaluation concludes and End of programme report May/June 2022

Programme Status in Q2 July - Sept 2021:

- Phase 1 and 2 – all sites are in Delivery stage
- Survivor consultation continues
- Evaluation continues
- Discussions around recommissioning continue

Summary:

As Phase 1 sites approach their 12 month mark and Phase 2 sites gain momentum in delivery of IRIS training in their 3rd quarter, it is evident that partner agencies are busier than ever. However there are ongoing challenges faced by our AEs and Clinicians in every borough. For example:

The vaccine drive continues for primary health care providers, but they also now face a huge backlog of non-COVID cases with many patients presenting with much more complicated issues which is adding to time pressures. There are also many clinicians experiencing what is being called COVID burnout after 18 months of continuous pressure.

Opportunity for a face to face consultation varies widely from borough to borough and practice to practice and is very much dependant on things like waiting room space, practice capacity, and rate of COVID locally e.g. The delta variant is playing a huge part in preventing GPs from opening up, especially in certain boroughs in London.

Therefore access to many general practices is still via remote consultation which continues to be a barrier to disclosures and to getting referrals from GPs.

Due to the generosity and ongoing support for the VRU we are able to continue delivery for another 2 quarters after this one and we are hoping that we can increase the number of identification and referrals into the service whilst there is funding and AEs in post, and we are working hard to ensure re-commissioning happens at all 7 sites so that the referrals pathway remain open to all patients.