

**Appendix B:
Service Changes**

**Vasectomy (*this proposal only applies to patients registered with a GP in west Hertfordshire*)
A proposal for public consultation as part of 'let's talk'.**

Organisation	Herts Valleys CCG and East and North Hertfordshire CCG
Lead manager & contact details	Key contacts: Juliet Rodgers. Juliet.Rodgers@hertsvalleysccg.nhs.uk
Description of service variation	<p>Herts Valleys CCG has recently adopted an interim policy which has stopped routine funding for male sterilisation (vasectomy) but allows funding in the exceptional circumstances listed below. We are proposing that this interim policy will be permanently adopted so that the NHS in west Hertfordshire will no longer routinely pay for vasectomy treatment except in exceptional circumstances when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are safeguarding concerns • there are mental health issues to be taken into account • the patient is unable to use other forms of contraception due to the harm they would cause and the only other clinical option is female sterilisation. <p>Applications for funding in these circumstances will be considered through a process called an Individual Funding Request.</p>
Reasons for service variation i.e. Case for Change	By implementing these proposals we estimate that around £150,000 could be saved each year.
Impact on the Wider Community (e.g. transport, accessibility)	None in particular
Number of Patients/Carers Affected	Around 586 vasectomies were performed in the Herts Valleys area in 2016/17.
Changes in Methods of Service Delivery	If Herts Valleys CCG stopped the routine funding of vasectomies, men would need to consider alternative methods of contraception for themselves and their partners. These include 'long

	acting' options which are available from GPs or Hertfordshire sexual health services. Alternatively, if they could afford to do so, men could pay to have the procedure performed privately.
Impact on other Services (e.g. health, social care, voluntary sector)	Changes in contraception availability could impact on sexual health and GP services
Impact on different communities (e.g. age, gender, locality)	Please see link to initial equality assessment. Links to go live 8 July: www.healthierfuture.org.uk/nhsletstalk
Date due at Health & Wellbeing Board	Herts Valleys financial turnaround plans discussed at HWBB 19 May 2017 Programme as a whole presented at HWBB conference 30 June
Proposed Engagement	This is one of the proposals that form part of the major 'let's talk' consultation programme that both CCGs are conducting over the summer months.