

TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD: 18th September 2013

TITLE: Health & Wellbeing Priority Update: Reducing Teenage Pregnancy

REPORT OF:

Clive Jones Assistant Director Family & Cohesion Services, Telford & Wrekin Council
Helen Onions Interim Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing, Telford & Wrekin Council

HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD PRIORITY SPONSOR:

David Evans, Chief Operating Officer, Telford & Wrekin CCG

LEAD CABINET MEMBER – Cllr Paul Watling

PART A) – SUMMARY REPORT

1. SUMMARY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

This report provides the Board with an update on the reducing teenage pregnancy priority, including:

- performance in relation to reducing the under 18 conception rate
- a summary of progress on the development of the Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Strategic Partnership Board and strategy
- an update on sexual health services

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board is asked to note the information in this report and acknowledge the recent developments towards delivery of the teenage pregnancy priority.

3. IMPACT OF ACTION

To ensure the teenage pregnancy and sexual health agenda is owned across partners and services are delivered effectively the Council leads work with a range of stakeholders through the Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Strategic Partnership Board to deliver the a series of outcomes associated with teenage pregnancy, including:

- Increased uptake of Chlamydia screening in sexually active under 25s
- Delivery of modern, high-quality, young people-friendly sexual health services
- Increased numbers of pregnant young women who quit smoking
- Improved breastfeeding rates

4. SUMMARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY IMPACT	Do these proposals contribute to a specific HWB Priority	
	Yes	Reduce Teenage Pregnancy Rates.
	Do these proposals contribute to specific Co-Operative Council priority objective(s)	
	Yes	Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities and address health inequalities.
	Will the proposals impact on specific groups of people?	
	Yes	It impacts on all people in the Borough who may be sexually active, but particularly young people and more vulnerable groups.
TARGET COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE	Ongoing improvement as part of the Health & Wellbeing Strategy	
FINANCIAL/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPACT	Yes	In 2013/14 a £1.05m budget has been allocated to sexual health services as part of the local authority public health grant. This budget consists of commissioned external services of £1.012m and council delivered services for teenage pregnancy of £38k.
LEGAL ISSUES	Yes	The mandatory duty to ensure the provision of sexual health services was transferred to the Council in April 2013. Following a competitive process by the PCT in 2012/13 the Council inherited commissioning of the current contract. Reducing the number of teenage pregnancies is one of the Board's ten priorities, therefore the reduction in the rate in 2011 is welcome news and ties in with the focus to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of the population of Telford and Wrekin.
EQUALITY & DIVERSITY	Yes	There are specific health inequalities associated with teenage pregnancy which are highlighted in the report, see section below
IMPACT ON SPECIFIC WARDS	Yes	Borough-wide impact but the highest rates of teenage conceptions are seen in the most deprived wards in the Borough
PATIENTS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT	Yes	A period of consultation on a draft version of the action plan is planned, with feedback being used to influence the final Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health position statement and action plan.
OTHER IMPACTS, RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES	No	There are key links to other HWB priorities, including smoking in pregnancy

PART B) – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. INFORMATION

1.1 Why is it important?

For some young people, becoming a parent is a positive choice. However, teenage pregnancy is often associated with poor health and social outcomes for both the mother and child. Young mothers are more likely to suffer postnatal depression and less likely to complete their education, more likely to live in poverty and more likely to become teenage parents themselves. In Telford & Wrekin rates of teenage pregnancy have historically been high over the past two decades. Although the recent decline in numbers is promising the rate in 2011 remained significantly worse than the national average for England. As such reducing the number of teenage pregnancies is one of the ten strategic priorities agreed by the Telford and Wrekin Health and Wellbeing Board.

1.2 National Strategic Context

The national focus on teenage pregnancy as a major public health issue began in 1999 with the previous government's Teenage Pregnancy Strategy. This set the ambitious target to reduce teenage pregnancy by half by 2010. Although this ambition wasn't fully met by 2010, the conception rate in England had fallen by 24%. The coalition government has retained a focus on reducing teenage pregnancy as it is identified as one of the four priorities in the national Framework for Sexual Health Improvement¹, published in March 2013. In addition, the new public health outcomes framework includes the under 18 conception rate as a key health improvement outcome indicator for local authorities.

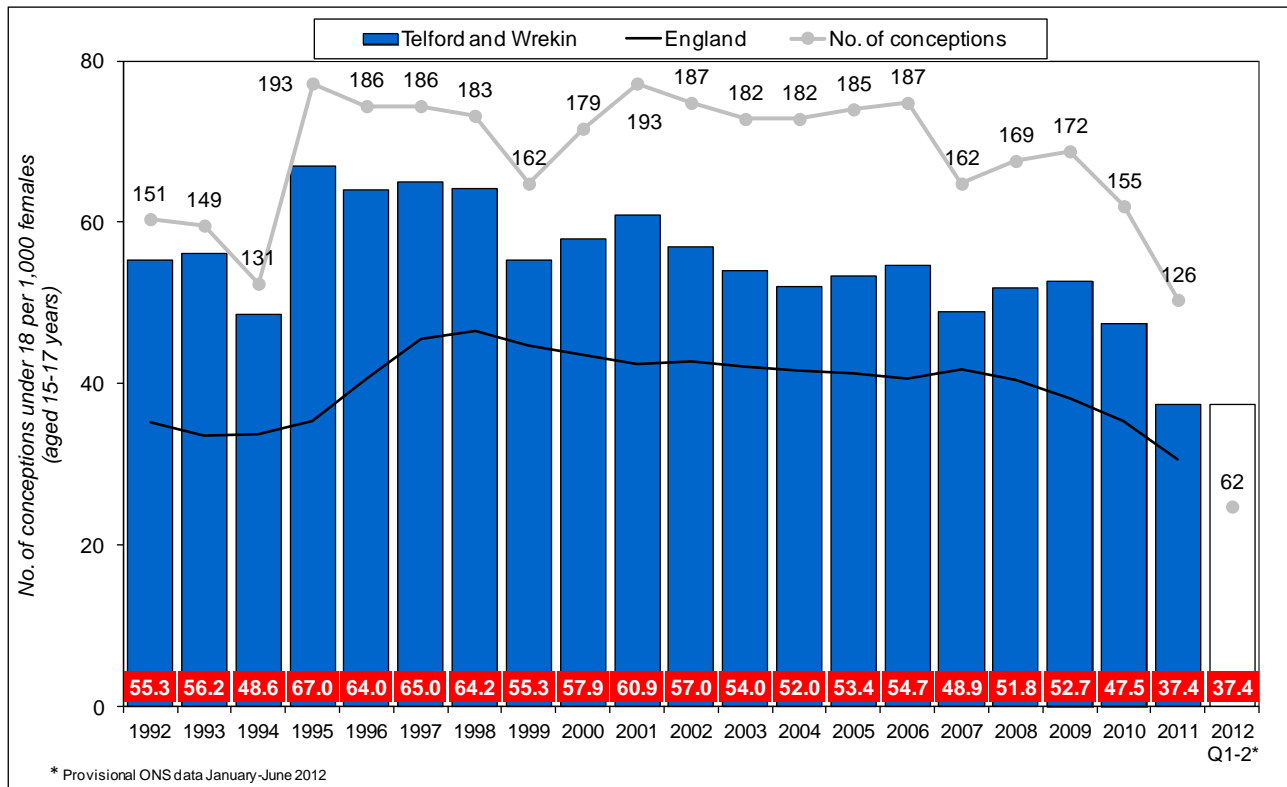
1.3 Teenage Pregnancy in Telford & Wrekin

- During 2011 there were 126 conceptions amongst women under 18 years of age in Telford and Wrekin
- The rate in 2011 (37.4 per 1,000 population) was the lowest rate recorded since local authority-level rates were first published in 1992 (Figure 1)
- This was a reduction of 29 conceptions compared to 2010, when the recorded rate was 47.5 per 1,000 population. However, the rate remained statistically significantly higher than the average for England (30.7 per 1,000 population)
- Provisional national data for January – June 2012 indicates a similar rate to the 2011 picture, i.e. 37.4 per 1,000 population, which equates to 62 conceptions in the first half of the year
- The proportion of women under 18 years in Telford & Wrekin who chose to terminate their pregnancy has consistently been below the national average over the past twenty years. In 2011 41.3% of women who conceived under the age of 18 terminated their pregnancy, compared to 48.8% of under 18s in England as a whole

¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/142592/9287-2900714-TSO-SexualHealthPolicyNW_ACCESSIBLE.pdf

- Nationally teenagers living in deprived areas are four times as likely to become pregnant as those in more affluent areas. In Telford & Wrekin the highest rates of under 18 conceptions are seen within the most disadvantaged wards, including Woodside and Brookside

Figure 1 Trends in Under 18 Conceptions



Source: Office for National Statistics, <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/vsob1/quarter-conc-to-women-und-18/q2-2012/index.html>

1.4 Partnership Arrangements: Teenage Pregnancy & Sexual Health Strategic Partnership Board

The multi-agency teenage pregnancy strategic partnership board has been re-launched this year to include a broader sexual health remit. In July 2013 the board organised an asset mapping workshop, which contributes to the health and wellbeing strategy development process. The workshop was attended by 35 stakeholders across a number of partner agencies. David Evans, Chief Officer for NHS Telford & Wrekin Clinical Commissioning Group and HWB sponsor for teenage pregnancy launched the event. The aim of the workshop was to consider and agree the high level priorities for the strategy, which are as follows:

- Priority 1: To provide early intervention for young people who are deemed to be at increased risk of teenage pregnancy and poorer sexual health
- Priority 2: To ensure the needs of people who come under the remit of the Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Action Plan are understood and addressed through effective use of local data

- Priority 3: To increase access to high-quality contraception and sexual health services so that young people have easier access and greater choice of contraception methods available and supported by care pathways
- Priority 4: To ensure children, young people and their parents/carers benefit from high quality relationship and sex education provision, advice and guidance
- Priority 5: To protecting the future health and wellbeing of teenage parents and their children
- Priority 6: To ensure workforce training across key organisations includes the ability of staff to identify young people at risk as a way to ensure young people and families have access to professionals who can effectively support them

The workshop discussions also considered outcomes, identifying what success will look like and the key areas for local improvement, these were agreed as follows:

- Acknowledge the power of social media and to be more social media aware as a way to communicate with young people
- The need to link sexual health services to other local services i.e. Children's Centre Services
- Map the delivery of relationship and sex education provision and develop a systematic, high quality core offer across schools so all young people can benefit
- Development of a professionals network to share best practice
- Improve support for young fathers
- Develop support for mums, dads and carers to gain the confidence to talk to their child about sex and relationships
- Map training and develop standards for professionals on key teenage pregnancy and sexual health messages

The priorities and emerging areas for improvement agreed at the asset mapping workshop are due to be considered by the Teenage Pregnancy & Sexual Health Strategic Partnership Board on 11 September 2013. The next phase will be a period of consultation on a draft local action plan, this will ensure that public and service user feedback influences the final teenage pregnancy and sexual health position statement and action plan.

1.5 Update on Sexual Health Services in Telford & Wrekin

The HWB Board received an update on the new contract for integrated, community-based sexual health services in Telford and Wrekin at their meeting in May 2013. On-going contract monitoring of all sexual health services is in place. During April-June 2013 there were a total of 1,770 Telford and Wrekin attendances at sexual health services provided by Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Partnership Trust, which is in line with the target set out in the contract. Of these 345 were planned appointments and 1,425 were walk-ins. Feedback from service users on the new hub located at Aqueduct has been positive with comments that the reception area is much more confidential. A new free phone number has also been launched.

Sixteen of the 22 GP practices in Telford & Wrekin have Locally Enhanced Service contract agreements in place with the Council for the provision of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception. During April – June 2013 a total of 418 patients visited their GP for this service.

Across Telford & Wrekin 10 of the 15 pharmacies have Locally Enhanced Service contract agreements in place with the Council to provide Chlamydia screening and Testing, Emergency Hormonal Contraception and the Condom Distribution Scheme. During April – July 2013 a total of 210 people accessed a local pharmacy for Emergency Hormonal Contraception and for the same period a total of 27 people aged under 25 years of age were been screened at their local pharmacy for Chlamydia.

A small working group has been convened to develop a communications and marketing plan to publicise sexual health services. The aim of the plan is to ensure high quality information and advice and key messages are publicised comprehensively and consistently across the borough. The plan will also include website development and other social media approaches and innovative campaign programmes.

2. IMPACT ASSESSMENT – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Measures to reduce teenage conceptions and improve sexual health services will help to reduce the health inequalities and social exclusion impact of teenage parenthood. Efforts to improve outcomes for teenage mothers and young fathers will, in turn, reduce the chances that children born to teenage mothers and young fathers become teenage parents themselves, because they are less likely to experience some of the factors associated with teenage pregnancy.

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Health & Wellbeing Board Meeting 15th May 2013

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- No previous minutes specifically relevant to this report

Report prepared by: Stacey Norwood – Commissioning Specialist, Telford & Wrekin Council, Telephone: 01952 388910.