

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
21 JUNE 2018
REDUCING UNPLANNED TEENAGE PREGNANCIES
REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To review work to reduce unplanned teenage pregnancy levels in wards with the consistently highest levels of unplanned teenage pregnancy, including the outcomes of work requested by the Committee to review local activity and provision in the Aspley and Bulwell areas.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to review the progress being made in reducing unplanned teenage pregnancies in the City, with a particular focus on the areas with the highest levels of pregnancy.

3 Background information

- 3.1 In line with the national Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, published in 1999, reducing unplanned teenage pregnancies has been a priority in Nottingham for a number of years, with focused activity to reduce teenage pregnancy rates. Over that time there has been a reduction in the teenage pregnancy rate nationally and locally. In Nottingham the target to halve teenage pregnancy by 2020 was met by 2014, but the England under-18 conception rate remains higher than other Western European countries and the rate in Nottingham is still above the national average. The Council Plan 2015-2019 includes a target to reduce teenage pregnancy by a further third.
- 3.2 In 2017 the Committee decided to review whether the focus and investment in reducing unplanned teenage pregnancies in Nottingham over the previous 16 years had resulted in a sustainable reduction in teenage pregnancy rates. In March 2017, the Committee reviewed the latest data on teenage conceptions; evidence about risk factors associated with teenage pregnancy; the impact of teenage pregnancy and what works to reduce teenage pregnancy; services available in the Nottingham for prevention and early intervention and support; and current challenges, including the findings of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Chapter on teenage pregnancy. The Committee spoke to the Teenage Pregnancy Specialist and the Consultant in Public Health.
- 3.3 At that time, the Committee was informed that if numbers continued to fall at the same rate then the City was on track to reduce teenage pregnancy in line with the ambition of the Council Plan. There had been

a sustained reduction in levels of unplanned teenage pregnancy but there was still more work to do particularly to address variations across the City, for example the Committee noted that the Aspley, Arboretum and Bulwell wards consistently had the highest rates of teenage pregnancy in the City.

- 3.4 Based on a consideration of the information available to it, the Committee recommended that:
- a) colleagues speak to Bristol City Council to identify if any lessons can be learnt for reducing unplanned teenage pregnancies in Nottingham;
 - b) commissioners utilise frontline practitioners e.g. health visitors as a source for gathering local evidence to inform future commissioning decisions;
 - c) a review of local activity and provision to reduce unplanned teenage pregnancies in the Aspley and Bulwell areas is carried out; and
 - d) any evidence about the impact of the Family Nurse Partnership on subsequent pregnancies is reviewed.
- 3.5 The purpose of this meeting is to review the latest data on levels of teenage pregnancy in the City and how this compares with national and core city comparators; and the work which has taken place over the last year to further reduce unplanned teenage pregnancies in the City.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 'Progress on reducing unplanned teenage pregnancy in Nottingham'

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 Council Plan 2015-2019

Report to, and minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 23 March 2017

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Chapter: Reducing unplanned teenage pregnancy and supporting teenage parents (December 2016)

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

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