

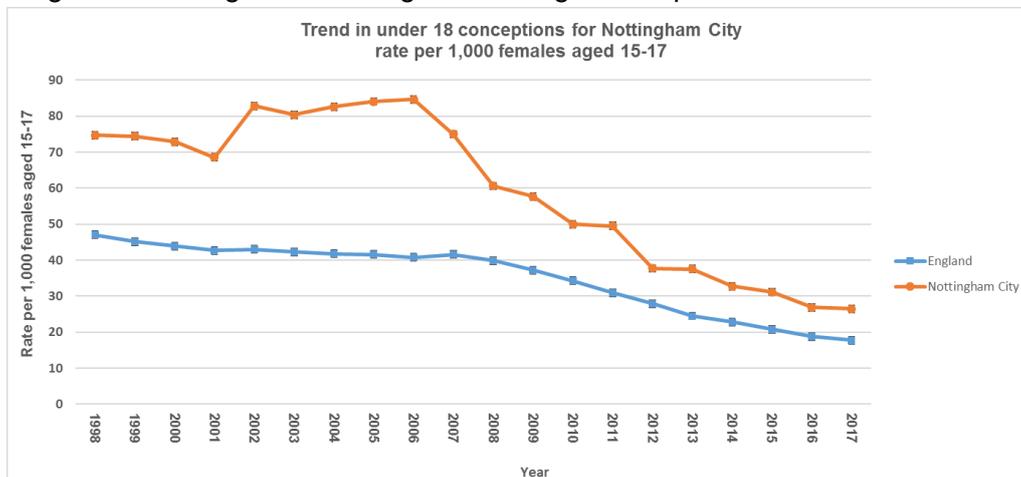
Progress toward reducing unplanned teenage in Nottingham: A report for Nottingham City Council Health Scrutiny Committee

12 September 2019

1 Teenage pregnancy in Nottingham

In Nottingham in 2017, the most recently available annual conception data, there was a decrease in the number of under-18 conceptions from 127 in 2016 to 125 in 2017 – a 1.6% decrease. During this 12 month time period the conception rate decreased from 26.9 per 1000 girls aged 15-17 to 26.5; a 1.5% decrease.

Figure 1: Nottingham and England teenage conception rate trend 1998-2017



Source: Office for National Statistics (2019) 2017 Conception Statistics England and Wales

The Nottingham under-18 conception rate has decreased significantly, by 64.5%, since the baseline year of 1998 when the under-18 conception rate was 74.7 (Figure 1).

However, Nottingham's under-18 conception rate is still higher than the England average rate of 17.8 conceptions per 1000 girls aged 15-17 in 2017 and the Core Cities average of 23.4 per 1000. Nationally, and locally, around 80% of teenage conceptions are to 16 and 17 year olds and approximately 20% are to 13-15 year olds.

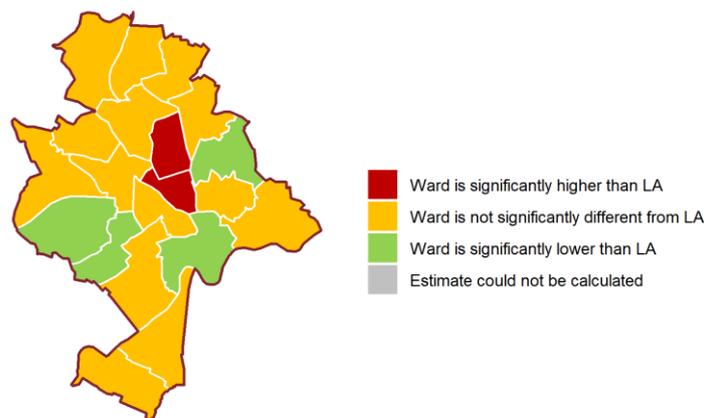
Figure 2 shows the teenage conception rates for individual wards. The aggregated data for the three years from 2015 to 2017 shows that the two wards of Berridge and Arboretum had rates that were significantly higher than the Nottingham average. This has changed from the last data reported, 2014 to 2016, when Berridge, Arboretum, Aspley and Bilborough all had rates significantly higher than the Nottingham average.

Work to tackle unplanned teenage pregnancy in Nottingham is delivered through universal services for children, young people and families as well as through targeted support for those most at risk.

Over the past few years we have directed some of our council commissioned services to work in Aspley due to the stubbornly high rates of teenage conceptions. Therefore, we cautiously hope that the targeting of services is having an impact as, for the first time in many years, Aspley does not have a rate significantly higher than the Nottingham average.

Figure 2:

Estimated teenage conceptions 2015-2017 by ward, benchmarked against Nottingham



Source: Public Health England (2019) Estimated ward conception rates for local authorities in England

2 Teenage pregnancy prevention and support services

Primary prevention services

- Nottingham City's Integrated Sexual Health Services for young people deliver accessible and integrated sexual health services within the community offering advice and support whilst offering the full range of contraceptive services.
- The C-Card scheme provides free condoms to young people aged between 13 and 24 at 37 registration points and a further 50 pick-up points across the City.
- General Practitioners provide information and contraception, including Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC).
- Pharmacies across Nottingham provide a range of services including emergency contraception and pregnancy testing.
- The Public Health Nursing for school-age children and young people service (formerly known as the School Nursing Service) provides information and practical support through a suite of options including the delivery of 'clinic in a bag'.

- The delivery of effective Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is encouraged in all schools as an evidence-based approach to reducing teenage pregnancy rates Nottingham City Council.
- Family and Community Teams have staff trained to deliver sexual health, contraceptive and positive relationships advice for young people aged 13-25.

Early intervention and support services

- Termination of pregnancy services include counselling and support whilst making a decision and after the decision has been made.
- Accommodation services for vulnerable teenage parents and their children are available within bespoke self-contained hostel accommodation in the City.
- The Family Nurse Partnership programme provides support and guidance for up to 200 pregnant girls and mothers each year. It is an intensive health visiting programme that visits the teenager from early on in her pregnancy until the child is two years old enabling teenagers to have a healthy pregnancy, improve their child's health and development as well as plan their own futures and aspirations.
- The Education Officer for Teenage Pregnancy provides one-to-one support for pregnant teenagers and teenage parents to engage in education. The officer monitors the participation and attainment of all pregnant teenagers and school-age parents assisting them to overcome barriers.
- The Teenage Pregnancy Midwifery Service is available to support all pregnant under-18s offering flexible one-to-one care for teenage parents to increase self-esteem, promote a sense of self-worth and boost their confidence as parents.

What we have done since the last Scrutiny meeting to reduce teenage pregnancy?

- Mapped service provision at Medium Super Output Area (MSOA) level alongside conception rates. The latest versions of the maps will be available for consideration at the meeting.
- Improved equitable access to relationships and sex education (RSE) and successfully rolled out Nottingham's annual RSE Day nationally.
- Targeted resources toward reducing conceptions in the under-16 age group and within high-rate wards, for example, through meeting with the Heads of high-rate schools.

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