

Southend Health & Wellbeing Board

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Borough Council

to

Health & Wellbeing Board

on

September 2020

Report prepared by:

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Council Children's & Public Health

**Agenda
Item No.**

For discussion	x	For information only	Approval required	
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Teenage Pregnancy and Young Parents Implementation Plan 2020-21

Part 1 (Public Agenda Item)

1 Purpose of Report

To share the implementation plan developed as a result of the deep dive into teenage pregnancy and young parenthood in Southend.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To adopt the Teenage Pregnancy and Young Parents Implementation Plan based on the strategic approach developed by Public Health England for taking a whole system approach to teenage pregnancy prevention and support for young parents and local findings – *(please see Section 5 below)*.
- 2.2 To establish a Teenage Pregnancy and Young Parents Working Group with senior leadership and key elected members to:
 - bring together a full range of services and organisations involved in the delivery and commissioning of the teenage pregnancy and young parenthood pathways
 - deliver a whole system approach to teenage pregnancy prevention and support of young parents
 - adopt a clear governance framework

3 IMPACT OF EFFECTIVE TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION

- 3.1 The Teenage Pregnancy and Prevention Framework is informed by the most up to date international evidence on preventing early pregnancy and the learning from the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy on how to translate the evidence into a whole system approach. Applying the 10 key factors for an effective strategy has been key to reducing rates and continues to be relevant in the current commissioning landscape.
- 3.2 The Framework is designed to help local areas review their local programmes to see what's working well, identify any gaps, and help maximise the assets of all services and practitioners to strengthen the prevention pathway for young people. It is a companion document to the multi-agency 'Framework for supporting teenage mothers and young fathers', published by PHE and LGA in 2016 and updated in 2019.
- 3.3 Strategic leadership and accountability have been central to success in those areas with the highest reduction in under 18 conception rates. A successful decrease in local under 18 conception rates can result in lowering the priority to focus on prevention, and risks rates increasing. Strategic leadership and accountability is required to maintain reduced rates and provide challenge for further reductions.

4. AREAS IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE DEEP -DIVE FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT

4.1 There was clear evidence of best practice, however the deep dive identified elements in all areas of the PHE's 10-point approach to prevention of teenage pregnancy that could be strengthened and improved.

4.2 Areas identified for further work:

- The high number of young parents with emotional wellbeing issues and significant vulnerabilities
- The high level of domestic abuse in families, domestic abuse in young parents relationships and the number of young people who identified abuse in relationship through the SHEU survey
- The number of young people who became parents, where there was issues with education i.e. a history of non-mainstream education provision, poor attendance, moved schools several times
- The high level of young parents not in education, employment or training (NEET) between ages 16-18 years
- The low number of young people reporting through SHEU survey who knew where to access sexual health or contraceptive advice/clinic and who had knowledge about STIs and contraception
- The impact of the changes made to the local Sexual Health Service offer this year, and the current challenges with access

- Lack of marketing and communications of the local sexual health offer to young people
- Reduced access to high street emergency contraception
- Lack of a condom scheme in non-health settings
- Transition issues for young parents when they moved from Children's to Adult services at 18+
- Need for greater multi-agency working and a clear lead agency for teenage parents
- Need to map the two termination of pregnancy pathways alongside the sexual health pathway to ensure timely consistent place based services

5 The 10 KEY FACTORS FOR ADDRESSING TEENAGE PREGNANCY

5.1 Public Health England has identified 10 key factors when addressing teenage pregnancy in a system based way and these have been incorporated into the implementation plan based on learning and insight gained through the deep dive for Southend:



4 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- 4.1 The implementation plan has taken into account the 10 key factors for addressing and the specific findings from the deep dive.
- 4.2 The plan factors in a need to benchmark and map the current position and to work collectively to identify gaps with the ultimate aim to have a clear pathway with transition points
- 4.3 To develop an approach to monitor outcomes and inequalities in this group at a systems level

5 FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None at this stage

6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None at this stage

7 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Pregnancy and maternity are protected characteristic and fall formally under the Equality Act in addition to age. Young Parents face many adversities and there are well recognised inequalities for both young parents and children of young parents.

8 APPENDICES

Please see the attached *Teenage Pregnancy and Young Parents Implementation Plan 2020-2021*