

Report to:	Health Scrutiny Committee
Relevant Officer:	Claire Grant, Divisional Commissioning Manager
Date of Meeting	25 th September 2014

TEENAGE PREGNANCY UPDATE REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 The Committee to consider an update report and position on Teenage Pregnancy as it is a poor health outcome and indication of health inequality for the population in this age group.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To note the update report, asking questions and making any recommendations that are considered appropriate.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To ensure that Health Scrutiny Committee is aware of the current issues pertaining to Teenage Pregnancy in Blackpool and that appropriate challenge, scrutiny and follow up action is considered.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

- Tackle child poverty, raise aspirations and improve educational achievement
- Improve health and well-being especially for the most disadvantaged

5.0 Background Information

5.1 National – Local Picture

Whilst the emphasis on prioritising the work of Teenage Pregnancy is at a local level commitment remains from Central Government to continue to publish the under-18 conception data on a quarterly basis in order to inform the position locally, so that appropriate measures can be put in place. It also informs Public Health Outcomes Framework and Blackpool Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

5.2 Teenage Pregnancy Rate

When the annual under 18 conception figures were released by the Office for National Statistics at the end of February 2014 (2014 data relates to the reporting year January to December 2012), the rate stands at 42.9 per thousand this is a 26.2 percent decrease on 2013 figure. The Teenage Pregnancy conception rate trend in Blackpool has been a downward one since 2011. Whilst this is good news for Blackpool the rate still remains high when compared Nationally, so the emphasis must remain on continuing to prioritise work in this area.

5.3 Considerable funding and priority continue to be given by Blackpool Council Public Health to support the preventative element of Teenage Pregnancy through interventions such as the WISH Team, Mobile Bus, and Young People’s Sexual Health Services.

5.4 The Teenage Pregnancy work-stream across Blackpool is currently strategically managed at the ‘Teenage Pregnancy Steering Group’. Current key areas of development are improving the sexual health outcomes of Looked After Children, in a bid to prevent Teenage Pregnancy and implement a quality, standardised Personal, Social and Health Education programme across Blackpool that achieves payment by results.

5.5

Improving Sexual Health Outcomes of Looked After Children

Work has been underway to ensure that minimum standards for the health and wellbeing of Looked After Children (including sexual health) are included in contractual agreements with our external providers of residential and leaving care. A minimum health entitlement guidance document is currently being produced to provide advice and guidance to all carers of Blackpool’s Looked After Children population on what minimum health entitlements they should expect to receive, this includes information around sexual health.

5.6

Personal, Social and Health Education Programme

Work is underway as part of a pilot to embed consistent quality Personal, Social and Health Education in all secondary schools across Blackpool. This is in order to provide consistent quality messages to young people in a bid to improve their choices and

health outcomes; these include sexual health. A Health in Schools Engagement Officer has been funded to work with schools to provide a coordinated programme and Personal, Social and Health Education offer. Once schools have a programme up and running that meets the minimum quality standards framework of Personal, Social and Health Education that has been established locally, schools will receive payment by result. Work is underway to collaborate with the National Institute for Health Research to evaluate the effectiveness of this programme.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

None

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 Minimum standards Personal, Social and Health Education programme needs to ensure that it does not discriminate against or disadvantage those schools from being part of the programme whose religious beliefs do not promote contraception.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 If work around Teenage Pregnancy (and improving the Sexual Health Outcomes of young people) does not continue, the Teenage Pregnancy rate, Sexually Transmitted Infection rate and instances of infertility could increase.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 As per 8.1

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Health and Wellbeing Board
Head Teachers forum
Teenage Pregnancy steering group
Personal, Social and Health Education steering Group
Consultation with students in further education at Blackpool Sixth Form around
Personal, Social and Health Education and sexual health.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None