

Teenage pregnancy: support available to local areas to accelerate progress

This paper addresses the support needs identified by local areas in a series of regional conferences during summer 2008. The support needs fell under the following headings:

- i) specialist teenage pregnancy expertise;*
- ii) making effective use of local data;*
- iii) improving sex and relationships education in schools;*
- iv) improving uptake of young people's contraceptive services;*
- v) improving communications to young people and stakeholders, including Lead Members for Children's Services*

Much of the support is free but some needs to be purchased by the local area. If appropriate the support could be included as part of the JISP or negotiated through the RIEP. If a number of areas need help with the same issue, the GO and/or SHA could consider facilitating a cluster of areas jointly purchasing support.

Although this support focuses primarily on prevention, included at the end of this table are key policy documents for improving outcomes for teenage parents. Your Regional Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator can provide more advice on links to other indicators in the NIS and NHS vital signs and the importance of integrating teenage parents support into Targeted Youth Support, Children's Centres and other relevant strategies.

All requests for support should initially be made to the Regional Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator, who will have an overview both of support requests from other areas and support developments nationally. Contact details are at Annex C.

Specialist teenage pregnancy expertise

<p>Regional Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator: support with identifying and addressing strategy weaknesses and sharing good practice within and across GOs/SHAs. (free)</p>
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<p>Teenage Pregnancy National Support Team (DH): provision of expertise and support following either an intensive 3 day or a 'rapid' diagnostic visits. Current capacity limits NST support to high and increasing rate areas and areas significantly off trajectory for LAA targets. (free)</p>

<p>Sector experts: 'peer' advice/support from professionals with expertise on different aspects of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy. For example: Directors of Children's Services, Directors of Public Health, Service Commissioners, IYSS/TYS leads, LA leads, head teachers or governors with expertise on Personal, Social and Health/Sex and Relationships Education, Elected Lead Members for Children's Services, and members of the <i>Teenage Pregnancy Independent Advisory Group</i>. (cost dependent on arrangement with individual sector expert)</p>

Making effective use of local data

TPU 'How to' data guide: practical guidance on effective use of local data for more timely monitoring of progress and improved targeting of young people at risk, including local case studies. Guide publication December 2009, but case studies available from November, with contact details for further information. (free)

Support for implementing 'how to' data guide: available to buy in from CLES (Centre for Local Economic Strategies).

Specialist data advice: tailored advice to address a specific data issue. Initial advice from Dilwyn Sheers (NST/TPU) or East Midlands Public Health Observatory (EMPHO). (Free advice but cost likely for a specific piece of work)

Improving Sex and Relationships Education in schools

Support with implementing school SRE pupil audit tool to review and improve school SRE programmes and provide evidence for Well Being Indicators and Healthy Schools Programme criteria. Free support available from regional and local Healthy Schools Coordinators and PSHE CPD leads. One day training on pupil audit available to buy in from Sex Education Forum through National Children's Bureau Training Department. www.ncb.org.uk or training@ncb.org.uk

Support with PSHE implementation of the secondary curriculum. Lead practitioners with curriculum planning experience for single or groups of schools. Available from SSAT (Specialist Schools and Academies Trust) accessed via www.ssat.org.uk/curriculumdesign. Specialist PSHE support for schools also available from sub regional leads identified by PSHE Association. Contact Kathryn Geels at kathryn@pshe-association.org.uk (0207 843 1914)

Support with development of school based contraception/sexual health services: Information, advice, guidance and good practice available from the Schools and Services email forum; resource packs providing practical guidance on school based services with 4/5 regional dissemination events February/March 2009; information of prevalence of on-site service provision by area. Contact: Lucy Emmerson at Sex Education Forum: lemmerson@ncb.org.uk (free)

Improving young people's uptake of effective contraception

Additional funding for contraception – recurring over 2009/10 and 2010/11. £26.8M has been secured by DH to accelerate improvements in the provision and uptake of effective contraception. All areas need to make maximum use of this additional funding and make sure it is used for its intended purpose.

- £12.8M new funding in PCT 2008-09 baselines; 2009-10 PCT additional funding to be announced at end of November with 2009 NHS Operating Framework.
- £10M new funding allocated through Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) prioritised to: areas (including districts) with high under 18 conception rates; high

percentage of repeat abortions; and with a focus on ensuring equitable access to Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC).

- £1M through SHAs to develop and expand on-site contraception/sexual health services in FE colleges.
- £1.5M for implementation of DH You're Welcome Quality Standards – including standard on contraception/sexual health
- Remainder of funding retained by DH to develop contraceptive publicity campaign to raise awareness of all methods, including LARC, for May 2009.

DH Best Practice Guidance for the Commissioning of Contraception and Abortion Services will be published in December 2008. This will include the economic case for investing in improved contraceptive uptake and will be set in the framework of World Class Commissioning. Additional support with commissioning will be available to individual or groups of areas through the SHA and DH.

Sexual Health Needs Assessment: a how to guide: available at www.dh.gov.uk

FE college on-site services. Support with development of on-site contraception/sexual health services in FE colleges: Mapping of current on-site provision by FE college and area together with advice, guidance and good practice available through the FE and Services email forum. Contact Lucy Emmerson at Sex Education Forum: lemmerson@ncb.org.uk

Preventing repeat conceptions – abortions and births: Repeat conceptions account for an estimated 15% of local area's overall conceptions. Examples of emerging practice available from four Teenage Health Demonstration Sites (Portsmouth, Hackney, Bolton and Northumberland), with contact details for each site for further information. Summary of key ingredients of successful practice available from DH in December 2009.

Support in developing outreach services to reach young people most at risk: *Sexual Health Outreach: why, what and how*, guidance developed by Brook, with support from TPU. www.brook.org.uk

Support with development of condom distribution (c-card) schemes: New guidance from Brook setting out the benefits and the practicalities of establishing multi-agency condom distribution schemes – including links to chlamydia screening programmes. To be published by Brook in December 2008. Implementation supported by free Brook consultancy to 20 high and increasing rate areas with no developed c-card scheme in place – agreed with RTPCs and TPU. Further regional dissemination workshops for local areas in 2009.

Improving communications

Current support for campaign materials for young people

- Free resources from the Teenage Pregnancy National Media campaign for dissemination in schools, FE colleges, youth settings
- RUthinking campaign CD rom from TPU; monthly campaign briefings to all TPCs on forthcoming activity; dedicated campaign website:

www.sexualhealthprofessionals.org.uk

Further support to extend communications to young people

- Regional teenage pregnancy and sexual health campaign workshops for local areas: February and March 2009 – delivered by Forster with TPU and DH. (free)
- Support for improving/extending local campaigns – for an area or cluster of areas – available to buy in from Forster.

Communications with stakeholders and local media: practical guide for local areas on developing effective and sustained communications with all stakeholders; and developing robust reactive and proactive strategies with local media. To be published by TPU in December 2008.

Media training on teenage pregnancy issues: available to buy in via the RTPC.

Lead Members for Children's Services: new briefing on teenage pregnancy aimed at strengthening awareness and engagement of LMCSs in local strategies. Briefing jointly published by Local Government Association (LGA), TPU, TPNST and the TPIAG, at LGA seminar for Lead Members on 19 November 2008.

Improving outcomes for teenage parents

The following policy documents set out the actions local areas should be taking to improve support for teenage parents.

Teenage Parents Next Steps: Guidance for Local Authorities and Primary Care Trusts. DCSF/DH 2007

Multi-agency working to support pregnant teenagers. DCSF/DH 2007

Teenage Parents: who cares?: A guide to commissioning and delivering maternity services for young parents DCSF/DH/ Royal College of Midwives. 2008

Getting maternity services right for pregnant teenagers and young parents DCSF/DH. 2008.

Targeted Youth Support and teenage pregnancy – working together to reduce teenage pregnancy rates and support young parents. DCSF. 2008

Teenage Pregnancy Unit, November 2008