

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING WITH CABINET MEMBER, HEALTH AND COMMUNITIES

14 April 2015

Report of the Director of Public Health

UNDER 18 CONCEPTIONS 2013

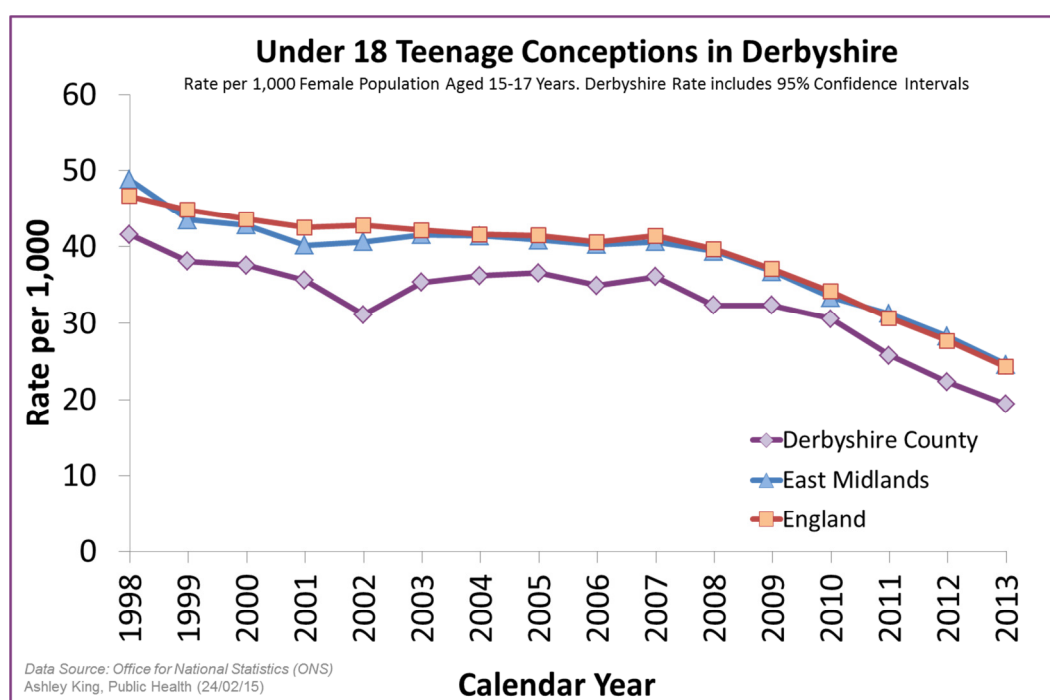
1. Purpose of the report:

To provide an update on the recent publication of the 2013 under 18 conception data and annual trends since 1998.

2. Information and analysis:

Teenage Pregnancy is a significant public health issue. There are a number of long term effects associated with teenage parenting for mothers including poor emotional health. In addition, both teenage mothers and their children are at greater risk of poor health, poverty, low educational attainment and unemployment.

Under 18 conceptions in Derbyshire have fallen by 53.4% since 1998 (the national baseline year for the measurement of teenage pregnancy) to a rate of 19.4 per 1,000 female population aged 15 – 17 years in 2013. Derbyshire reflects national decreasing trends and is statistically, significantly lower than both England and East Midlands:



Conceptions in females aged 13 – 15 years also show a decline. Under 16 conceptions in Derbyshire have fallen by 28.6% since 2008-10 (national measurement <16 commenced 2008) to a rate of 4.5 per 1,000 female population in 2011-13 (<16 data pooled for 3 years due to low numbers).

This declining trend is very much a success for the Council and can be attributed to a range of partnership and public health interventions including:

- Increased provision and uptake of Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC), through general practice, contraception services and abortion services
- High quality, open access, young people friendly contraception and specialist sexual health promotion services
- Sexual health promotion delivered by wider partners working with young people such as Multi Agency Team workers and school nurses
- Sex and relationships education in schools
- Programmes targeted at building self-esteem among young people including those at risk of teenage pregnancy, for example the RAISE project, which formed a key element of the Bolsover Raising Aspirations programme.

Whilst the declining trend is a significant achievement, the Council must maintain efforts to achieve further progress, as the majority of teenage conceptions continue to be unplanned pregnancies. In 2013 there were 270 under 18 conceptions (15 – 17 years) of which 40% led to abortion. In addition, differences in under 18 conception rates across the County persist, with the highest rate in the High Peak and the lowest rate in Derbyshire Dales:

District	2011-13		% change 2007-09 to 2011-13
	Rate	Number	
Amber Valley	19.5	133	-41.9%
Bolsover	25.9	112	-35.6%
Chesterfield	26.7	153	-35.4%
Derbyshire Dales	11.0	43	-44.1%
Erewash	24.9	155	-30.0%
High Peak	27.7	140	-18.5%
North East Derbyshire	18.2	94	-38.8%
South Derbyshire	24.6	132	-21.9%

Data Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

To further reduce under 18 conceptions across the County and narrow the gap between districts the Council needs to continue to promote, support and invest in:

- Easy access young people friendly contraception services
- High quality sex and relationships education
- Specialist sexual health promotion targeted towards localities and individuals at highest risk of teenage pregnancy
- Making teenage pregnancy everybody's business to universally promote good sexual health and wellbeing to all young people living in Derbyshire.

3. Other considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

4. Background papers:

King, A 2013. Under 18 Conceptions in Derbyshire County: Version 1.0.

LGA 2013. Tackling teenage pregnancy: Local government's new public health role.

Office for National Statistics 2014. Quarterly Conceptions to Women Aged Under 18 - England and Wales, Q4 2013.

5. Key Decision:

No

6. Call-in:

Is it required that call-in be waived for any decision on this report?

No

7. Officer's Recommendation:

To note the significant declining trends in under 18 conceptions and the Council's contribution to continuing to decrease rates and narrow the gap between districts and boroughs.

Elaine Michel
Director of Public Health