

Barking & Dagenham Partnership

NI 112 – Under 18 conception rate

Responsible Owner *Justin Varney*

National Indicator Rationale

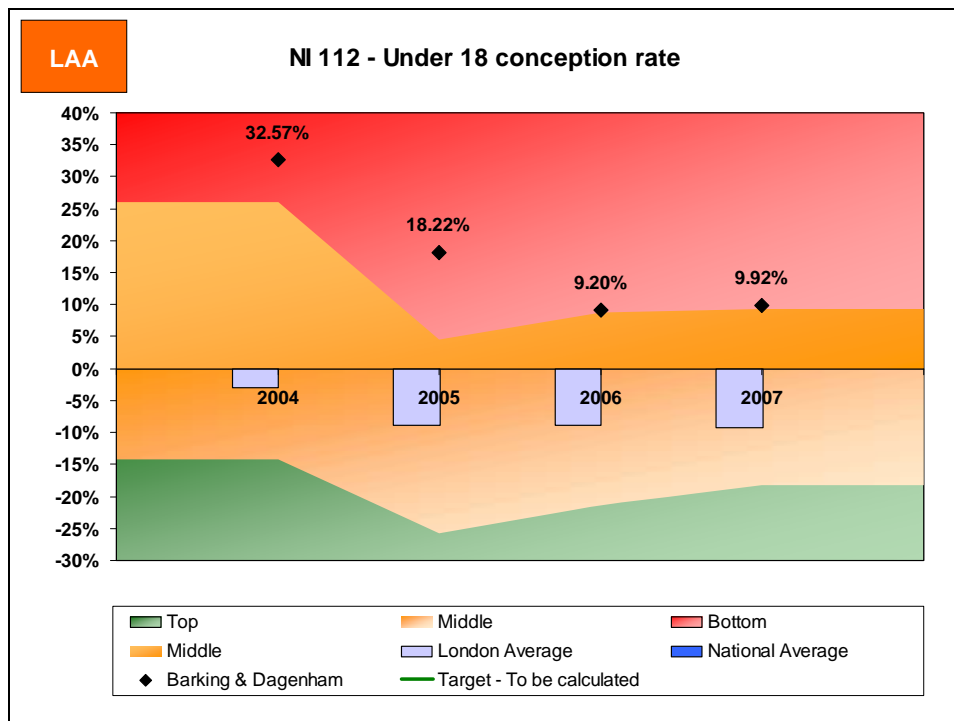
There is a national target to reduce the under 18 conception rate by 50% by 2010 (compared to the 1998 baseline rate) as part of a broader strategy to improve sexual health. (Target shared between the Department of Health and the Department for Children, Schools and Families.)

The rate includes all conceptions under 18 but uses the Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid-year population estimates for females aged 15-17 as a denominator to calculate the rate (as 95% of under 18 conceptions occur within this age group).

Current Performance

Performance against Target

n/a



Current Performance Commentary

The latest available data is for 2007 due to the (approximately 18 month) time-lag in reporting date. It shows an increase in comparison with the 1998 baseline of 9.9%. This is in stark contrast with a national reduction of 10% over the same period. The local rate per 1,000 based on this data is 60 compared to the national average of 40.

Key Issues:***Specific reasons for underperformance, including equalities / area issues where relevant***

1.	Baseline figure (1998) was an abnormally low year for teenage conceptions in LBBD and remains a challenging target to meet.
2.	Deep rooted social and cultural challenges amongst white working class community, (particularly southern localities)
3.	Weak data collection and analysis structures so have not been able to target resources to need.
4.	Very weak community based provision of contraceptive and reproductive health services for young people. Many local clinics have been based outside of the borough or not easily accessible for those most in need.
5.	Proportionately high levels of female NEETs, teen pregnancy, smoking and domestic violence all point to a community where women and girls are all too often undervalued, especially by themselves

Key Projects:***Areas of current /planned projects should focus on reasons for underperformance and link to the Key Issues listed above***

Key Issue No.	Project Title	Key Milestones / Date	Project Lead	Project Details
1/3	Teenage Pregnancy Research and data analyst role	SLA Agreed	Christine Pryor	To provide real time data and performance management
4	Barking Child and Family Centre /Upney /Parsoles Clinics	Part of integrated services SLA	Victor Ferreira	New/extended hours/practices sited on the Barking Hospital site, at Parsloes Park, and at Barking Town Centre, extending access to a range of contraceptives
2	Healthy Children, Healthy Futures-	Investment only in clinical services. Further investment declined by CSP.	Victor Ferreira	Long term primary prevention aimed at better life choices and sexual health for you. Will be providing additional investment (equivalent to £125K) to support substantial growth in prevention activity through education in schools, outreach to high risk groups and roll out of the Project 500 risk assessment tool.
Key Issue No.	Project Title	Key Milestones / Date	Project Lead	Project Details
5.	Revised Sex and Relationship	In Place	Jane Hargreaves	Spiral curriculum for PSHE and SRE with supported training and development of

	Education (SRE) Programmes			PSHE teachers through Chris De Winter Program and CPD programme.
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Key Risks:

Risks may relate to specific projects or to performance in general

- Have had recurrent issues around capacity of clinical services to provide access to contraception in the community.
- Deep rooted and cultural values may take time to change.

Actions for Improvement (To be used for Quarterly Reporting):

Plans for further interventions must be robust and show clear prospects for improving performance

- Restructure of team and responsibilities across Children's Trust with clear accountability, performance management and responsibilities.
- Dedicated joint integrated youth services group manager with responsibility for prevention aspects of teenage pregnancy strategy and action plan performance management.
- Revising Emergency Hormonal Contraceptive (EHC), Locally Enhanced Services with primary care contracting
- Ensure young people have access to full range of contraception, including LARC and EHC in each of the 6 localities.
- Health Advisers to establish 3 drop in sessions per week per secondary school.
Develop sexual health services on 3 secondary schools sites or co-located children's centres.
- Adopt and use the NEET risk register and the CAF to identify young people at risk
- Provide training to staff working with young people to develop their knowledge, skills and abilities in talking to young people about SRE issues.