

Reducing Teenage Conceptions - Targeted Work - Localities – November 2009 Update

Raising the aspirations of children, young people, parents/carers and families

The Raising Aspirations task and finish groups in inner east and inner south have identified 4 postcode areas which they are now focusing on to try out new ways of improving integrated working with children, young people, parents/carers and families. The learning from this work will be utilised across other postcodes in east and south in due course.

The 4 postcode areas are;

South: LS10 4.. and LS11 6..

East: LS8 3.. and LS14 1..

We need colleagues that work with children, young people, parents/carers and families in these postcode areas to work with us to help shape improvements in integrated working so we can move to a situation where the outcome of our work is 'more than the sum of its parts'. *If you are a frontline worker or a manager working in any of these postcodes and would like to get involved then please contact Jenny Midwinter, Locality Commissioner for Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood at jenny.midwinter@educationleeds.co.uk, who can put you in touch with the relevant task and finish group lead for each postcode. Or join us at the LS8 3.. and LS14 1.. network meeting at the Stable Courtyard (Temple Newsam) at 1.00 to 2.15 on 2nd November (directly after the services event detailed below, which includes lunch).*

Improving access to contraceptive services

A strong theme coming out of the big teenage pregnancy events held in inner east and inner south earlier this year was that many frontline workers and their managers felt they lacked information about teenage pregnancy related services that young people could access. The Improving Access to Services Task and Finish Groups in east and south have been supporting the development of service maps for these localities and also the design of 2 local events for 1st and 2nd December where the local children's workforce can meet with the local service providers, including the staff from the new outreach contraception clinics located in parts of hotspot wards lacking such services for young people. The service maps and events are also intended to contribute to reducing the seasonal increase in teenage pregnancies associated with the Christmas period. *To book your place at one of these events contact Maggie Duffton at maggie.duffton@nhsleeds.nhs.uk.*

Improving sex and relationship education

Primary schools, SRE and transition

The SRE Task and Finish Groups in east and south have been considering how we can ensure that all primary school children get good SRE, and how we can make sure that when pupils arrive at secondary school, the school isn't faced with a situation where some Year 7 pupils have good prior learning whereas others seem to have received little SRE. A locally targeted initiative to tackle this in the south is being commissioned through teenage pregnancy funding.

Parents and carers

Another issue we have been looking at is how we can help parents and carers to talk to their children about sex and relationships. A shortage of trained facilitators available to run accredited 'Speakeasy' courses with parents and carers was identified, and we are now using teenage pregnancy funding to commission targeted training and delivery in inner east and south. A Speakeasy Steering Group has been set up in the south and training for facilitators from within the local workforce will be starting soon. *If you are a frontline worker interested in becoming a facilitator, or a manager that thinks Speakeasy might fit into your team's work, please get in touch with Kerry Swift, Teenage Pregnancy & Parenthood Project Officer at kerry.swift@educationleeds.co.uk, who is currently chairing this sub-group.*