

Steve Maddox,
Chief Executive,
Wirral Borough Council

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Friday 11th October 2008

Dear Steve,

Teenage Pregnancy National Support Team (NST) - Follow Up Support

Thank you for arranging for members of your senior management team to meet with the Teenage Pregnancy NST on Wednesday 1st October 2008 to review and agree the actions needed to implement the recommendations made during our recent visit to Wirral, and the support we will provide to you in achieving these. It was a very useful and productive meeting and I wish to congratulate you on the progress made already in such a short timescale.

The document attached provides an outline of our discussion, highlighting the NST support and actions that we agreed. The support will be led and co-ordinated by Sue Jablonskas, Teenage Pregnancy NST Associate Delivery Manager. Sue will ensure that relevant National Support Team members and consultants will be available to offer the appropriate support and guidance on their areas of expertise. Sue will also work closely with Wendy Nicholson, your Regional Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator.

Sue's contact details are:

Mobile: 07826 874 955, Email: sue.jablonskas@dh.gsi.gov.uk

However, please do contact me directly if you would like to discuss anything further.

Please find attached the actions and support agreed at our recent meeting. We look forward to continue working with you over the coming months.

Very best wishes,

Yours sincerely



Dr Avril Howarth
National Delivery Manager
Mobile: 07776 244 485
Email: avril.howarth@dh.gsi.gov.uk

c.c. Howard Cooper, Director of Children's Services, Wirral Borough Council
Julia Hassall, Head of Branch – Children's Social Care, Wirral Borough Council
Wendy Nicholson, Regional Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator, GONW
Wendy Nulty, Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator, Wirral Borough Council

Meeting on Wednesday 1st October 2008

Attendees:

Steve Maddox, Chief Executive, Wirral Borough Council
 Kathy Doran, Chief Executive, Wirral Primary Care Trust
 Howard Cooper, Director of Children's Services, Wirral Borough Council
 Marie Armitage, Director of Public Health, Wirral Primary Care Trust
 Julia Hassall, Head of Branch – Children's Social care, Wirral Borough Council
 Avril Howarth, National Delivery Manager, Teenage Pregnancy National Support Team
 Sue Jablonskas, Associate Delivery Manager, Teenage Pregnancy National Support Team

Progress, Actions and Support Agreed:

NST PRIORITY ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS & PROGRESS	FURTHER ACTION AND SUPPORT
<p>Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We strongly recommend that the current teenage pregnancy structures be reviewed, led by the Strategic Leadership Group to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teenage Pregnancy prevention is integrated into the wider agenda including Joint Commissioning processes, LAA performance monitoring, and the proposed Performance Management Sub Group, • Interconnectedness at a strategic level with a clear accountability and performance management framework, that empowers middle management to deliver the action plan, • Intelligent use of data analysis to monitor performance outcomes and make investment decisions leading into commissioning, • Clarification of the role, function, location and management arrangements of the Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator (TPC). • We recommend a process of raising awareness and empowering all elected members, including lead members to be confident champions for Teenage 	<p>Examples of performance monitoring and management processes requested. NST referred to the GONW work on Outcomes Based Accountability. Julia will discuss this with Wendy Nulty and contact Sue Jablonskas if further support is required.</p> <p>Avril forwarded information on the National LGA event to be held on 19th November for Elected Members. A briefing paper for elected members is to be launched at this event. A</p>

<p>Pregnancy prevention.</p> <p>Progress The Strategic Leadership Group has been established and has met. It will continue to meet monthly. The group has worked through the priority actions and has reviewed the leads for each, engaging people at the right level within organisations.</p>	<p>local event will be planned after this date and NST will support this and suggest Members from other areas who could contribute to this event. Wirral will consider other opportunities of raising awareness of members e.g. Health and Social care Scrutiny.</p>
<p>Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We recommend that ongoing and routine data sharing processes across agencies are established. The Performance Management Sub Group should facilitate this process. These data should be used to identify indicators for performance monitoring and to inform targeted interventions. <p>Progress The Performance Management Sub Group has been established.</p>	<p>Sue Jablonskas to send electronic copies of the National and NW data toolkits. Sue will also provide information on the work commissioned by GONW with CLES so that Wirral can access one of the sessions on offer.</p>
<p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We recommend the development of a specific Teenage Pregnancy Communication Strategy and Action Plan, linked to a broader Children and Young People’s communications strategy using the Health and Wellbeing Charter. <p>Progress A LA Communications lead has been identified to take this work forward and to work with Communications lead from the PCT. Additional resources have been identified for this work. Local young people will be involved in developing this work.</p>	

Implementation

Contraception/Sexual Health Advice & Services

- We recommend that there needs to be a clear Contraception and Sexual Health Joint Commissioning plan, developed in partnership and informed by an up-to-date young people's Sexual Health Needs Assessment. This plan should feed into the 0-19 years joint commissioning framework.
- There needs to be designated young people's services with an emphasis on positive sexual health and wellbeing. These should be delivered in a variety of settings, including outreach and domiciliary settings, available 7 days a week and in hotspot areas with an emphasis on school and FE based services by January 2009.
- The draft Sexual Health policy needs to be urgently updated in light of recent guidance, and operational by September 2008.

Progress

2 people identified to lead on this work and will link with joint commissioning. 'You're Welcome' standards will be incorporated into all services.

The PCT PEC has allocated £20,000 per school to develop holistic health services, including contraceptive services.

The SH policy is complete.

Delivery of Sex and Relationships Education (SRE)/Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education

- We recommend senior strategic level leadership and direction of SRE in the LA and PCT to ensure a borough-wide Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) approach incorporating policy, training and schemes of work, is further developed.

Progress

Senior lead identified.

The area will consider whether they would like some input from Gill Frances into an event for Schools, which NST would support.

The area asked the NST to suggest appropriate titles for the Senior Strategic lead for SRE

Targeted Work

- We recommend that the risk factors related to Teenage Pregnancy are explicitly included in holistic risk assessments. There needs to be greater synergy between the Teenage Pregnancy strategy, Safeguarding and other strategies addressing risk taking behaviours to ensure a consistent and co-ordinated approach to early identification of risk. This needs to be clearly communicated across the whole workforce to ensure accurate targeting.
- We recommend that access to sexual health services for Children in Care and for Care Leavers is improved. The role of Corporate Parent should explicitly include promotion of positive sexual health and wellbeing.

Progress

A Strategic Director has been identified to lead this work. A resource pack is being developed for children in care.

Workforce Training

- We recommend jointly commissioned workforce training is established as part of the corporate Children's Workforce Strategy.

Progress

This work has been integrated into the work of the well established Workforce Group. Some training has gone out for tender. On-site training will be delivered in the 11 MALTS. SH/TP training starts on 20th November 2008.

Sue Jablonskas will send an electronic copy of the 'risk factors' document.

The area requested information on work with boys and young men and Sue Jablonskas has provided Wendy Nulty with information and contacts in other areas.

The area requested examples of work on re-integration of school age mothers.

Sue Jablonskas will provide information and contacts.

Howard asked Avril to present at the Learning Together Partnership event on 9 January 2009. Avril has accepted this and contact has been made with Professor David Cracknell