

Report of Director of Children and Families

Report to Scrutiny Board (Children and Families)

Date: 6th March 2019

Subject: Scrutiny inquiry - is Leeds a child friendly city?



Outcome: Children and young people enjoy healthy lifestyles

Focus areas:

1. Sexual Health
2. Teenage Pregnancy

Healthy lifestyles

Story behind the baseline and turning the curve story

- Children and young people have a right to enjoy healthy lifestyles, which should include positive relationships and age appropriate, good sexual health.
- Young people are at greater risk of poor sexual health outcomes. 16-24 year olds are more likely to have an STI than the rest of the population and are more likely to become re-infected after treatment.
- Teenage pregnancy is a cause and consequence of educational, social, economic and health inequalities for young parents and their children, therefore reducing rates of under 18 conceptions is an ambition for the city.
- Provision of high quality, comprehensive sex and relationships education linked to improved access to and use of contraception are areas where strongest empirical evidence exists on impact on teenage pregnancy rates. An increase in LARC (long acting reversible contraception) use alongside consistent condom use should lead to a reduction in rates of unintended pregnancy and STIs.
- Leeds under 18 conception rates are continuing to decline year on year. Chlamydia testing rates continue to increase, ensuring unknown infections are treated. Young people can access free sexual health advice and treatment at a range of clinical and non-clinical settings across the city.

Summary of the journey

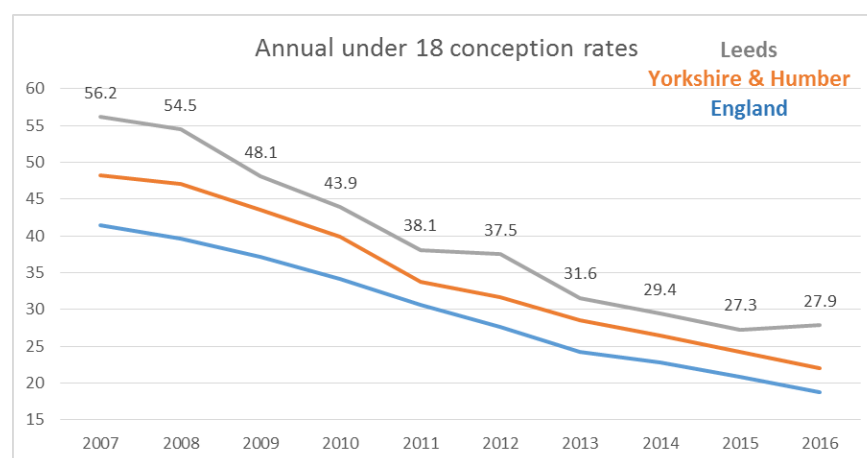
Narrative/
key milestones

- **Leeds Sexual Health:** In 2015, a new integrated sexual health service for Leeds opened: Leeds Sexual Health (LSH). Clinics are provided at a city centre hub, with four spoke clinics across the city. The young people only Citywise clinic was closed, but young people are able to use the universal LSH clinics as well as under 18s only, youth work-staffed clinic times. www.leedssexualhealth.com website was also refreshed to include information and signposting to all sexual health services available and educational content on relevant topics. Users can book appointments online, live chat with a health advisor and order STI screening kits.
- **3 in 1 Scheme:** Professionals working with 13-24 year olds in the community are trained to offer a confidential drop in service. Approx. 750

people have been trained to deliver the scheme since 2011. The scheme provides support and advice on relationships and sexual health, a condom demo and free condom products from a large number of venues. Pregnancy tests and self-screening chlamydia/gonorrhoea kits are also offered. Despite a fall in sites offering the scheme, new sites continue to join.

- **Enhanced sexual health pharmacies:** City-wide pharmacies are commissioned to provide fast, free emergency hormonal contraception without a prescription and chlamydia/gonorrhoea postal testing kits (for 16-24s). The average use in under 18s of 50 consultations per month will have positively impacted on conception and termination rates in the city.
- **LARC:** GP services across the city are commissioned to fit LARC to women of all ages. The Leeds rate of GP prescribed LARC has been significantly above the national rate since 2011. However, the number of under 18s accessing LARC from their GP, rather than other methods, has been slowly reducing over time since 2013. LARC fittings in under 18s provided by LSH clinics have also declined since mid-2015. The average number of LARC fittings in under 18s have reduced by half from 2011/12 to 2017/18. LARC uptake in over 18s is however on the increase. The reduction in LARC uptake in young people could in part be due to issues around knowledge or access, as new services become established but may also reflect some changes or delays in teenage sexual behaviour.
- **Training, marketing & Campaigns:** the Public Health Sexual Health Team have developed, influenced and delivered a range of workforce training and promotional campaigns, including: impact of sexualised imagery/pornography; training teaching staff to deliver on contraception; Speakeasy training for parents & foster carers to initiate relationships, puberty & sexual health conversations; training for residential care staff/social workers on issues pertinent to CLA; Mystery Shopping of services; promotion of services on a range of media and events; working closely with the Public Health Resource Centre to provide resources for professionals.
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Performance measures 2011 to 2018



- Leeds under 18 conception rates have been declining since before 2011. Rates are still higher than the national and regional averages, but are following the same downward trend (see graph above).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under 18 termination rates have also been in decline since before 2011, following the national decline in the under 18 conception rate. • The Leeds chlamydia detection rate (in 15-24s) has been steadily increasing since 2012. High detection rates are positive in that they eventually lead to lower prevalence rates. Leeds has the highest rate in the region and is significantly higher than the England average and recommended target. The Leeds chlamydia detection rate increased by 33% from 2012 to 2017. Online ordering of home screening test kits continues to increase rapidly. • The My Health, My School survey findings show a reduction in the percentage of Year 11 pupils reporting ever having had sex, from 39.9% in 2011/12 to 26.2% in 2016/17. However, of those who had sex and responded, the number reporting using a condom has reduced since 2011 and the number reporting using no protection at all has increased.
Universal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All young people in Leeds can access free sexual health advice and treatment at a range of clinical and non-clinical settings across the city. • The Children & Young People Support & Prevention Service (part of the School Wellbeing service) can support Leeds primary and secondary schools with effective Sex & Relationships Education delivery.
Vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSH clinics, enhanced sexual health pharmacies and most 3 in 1 sites are located in areas of most need: the most deprived areas and where teenage conceptions/termination rates are highest. • LSH have a dynamic outreach team able to meet the needs of vulnerable young people. Professionals are able to fast track young people into appointments and clinicians can meet/treat young people in alternative, non-clinical locations. The service has robust safeguarding protocols and procedures in place for working with young people.
Children looked after	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The workforce supporting children looked after have access to tailored sexual health training to meet the needs of these young people. • The dynamic outreach team and fast tracking system available at LSH ensures that children looked after are seen promptly and have any additional needs/concerns met. Robust safeguarding procedures are in place.
Next stage of our journey	
Future aspirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of young people choosing LARC over other contraception methods, through increased awareness and access. • Ensure data sharing protocols in all Leeds sexual health services help identify and protect young people from trafficking and CSE, in light of recommendations from Operation Sanctuary. • Support schools with sexual health aspects of SRE, in the development of the new statutory curriculum. • Continue to train and encourage community organisations to deliver 3 in 1 to young people and to encourage condom use – particularly in FE settings, where there have been losses of staff able to offer sexual health support and guidance.