



Brent Teenage Pregnancy Toolkit

*Tailoring
services to local
needs*

Aims

The Brent Teenage Pregnancy Unit commissioned Mayhew Harper Associates to develop a Teenage Pregnancy Risk Analysis and Predictive Toolkit. The toolkit is to provide a single resource on teenage conception data and its analysis and interpretation, to monitor the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy. Presently, data are only available at the ward or national level with delays in releasing the information. Alternative, more detailed data sources and modelling techniques were required. Applying neighbourhood knowledge techniques allows local administrative and health datasets to be linked together to understand the risks associated with teenage pregnancy.

What we did

Working with partners in Brent PCT and the London Borough of Brent, for Phase I of the project Mayhew Harper Associates set up a database of girls in Brent who conceived or gave birth as a teenager from 1/10/2006 to 31/3/2008. This included data on the mother and child from CIS and HES data. The address of the mother was used to assign socio-economic household variables and to locate the mother in Brent and to their PCT Locality. Terminations data were added to create complete conception rates data. These numbers could then be compared to official sources, and the database used to risk assess teenage mothers against the factors of living in social

group	FSM in GCSE year	SEN in any year	exclusion in GCSE year	no GCSE or <5 A-Gs	odds of teenage maternity	% of all girls analysed
1	Y	Y	Y	Y	54.4	0.0
2	Y	Y	Y		29.9	0.1
3		Y	Y	Y	20.2	0.2
4	Y		Y	Y	19.0	0.0
5	Y	Y		Y	14.0	0.8
6		Y	Y		11.1	0.5
7	Y		Y		10.5	0.3
8			Y		7.7	0.8
9	Y	Y			7.7	4.1
10			Y	Y	7.1	0.0
11		Y		Y	5.2	9.8
12	Y			Y	4.9	0.4
13		Y			2.9	9.1
14	Y				2.7	8.4
15				Y	1.8	29.9

housing, living in a single adult household and being on benefits. Phase II of the project linked School Census and achievement data to each teenage mother. In particular, GCSE results, Free School Meal eligibility, Special Educational Needs and exclusions.

Outputs

Table 1: The risk of teenage maternity for girls in their GCSE year in Brent

Teenage girls in Brent were assessed on their risk of teenage pregnancy by population, school, GP practice and neighbourhood. At a community and GP Practice level, living in social housing or in single adult homes increases the odds of a teenage maternity 5 or 6 times, and interestingly if not in a household on benefits. School based risk factors were found to be even stronger, up to 50 times (although small numbers), with SEN and school exclusion being important factors (see table 1). As well as noting that being black, white or of mixed ethnicity was an important risk factor in teenage maternity cases, we also found that English as mother tongue also put girls at greater risk. Conversely, being an Asian girl is a low teenage maternity risk. The results can be used to tailor communication strategies with girls at most potential risk in the most appropriate forum.