

	<u>Agenda Item: x</u>
Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny
Date:	17 March 2020
TITLE:	PRE-CONCEPTION CONVERSATION
Organisation	Public Health, Birmingham City Council
Presenting Officer	Marion Gibbon. Acting Assistant Director, Public Health

Report Type:	Presentation
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1. Purpose:

The purpose of this paper is to inform you of the intention to initiate some work on pre-conception for the city of Birmingham.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the board agrees to the initiation of a piece of work focusing on pre-conception particularly amongst seldom heard communities.

3. Report Body

3.1 Context

Nationally the rate of infant mortality has been declining steadily since the 2001/03 period. This has not been the trend in Birmingham where the infant mortality rate has not been consistently decreasing. In the period 2014-16 it rose to 7.9 per 1,000 and the period 2016 -18 it decreased to 369 per 1,000. This is not a significant difference however; the rate is consistently above that of England.

The number of infants who die between 28 days and less than one year. Infant mortality is an indicator of the general health of an entire population. It is felt that there should be a focus on pre-conception in order to improve infant mortality. Work has been undertaken on implementing, 'just one question' in relation to whether a woman is intending to get pregnant in the proceeding year. This then is able to be used as a stimulus for a conversation that focuses on possible interventions that could be undertaken.

4. Compliance Issues

5.1 Overview and Scrutiny Responsibility and Committee Update
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Undertake in-depth analysis to underpin the development of a Birmingham Infant Mortality Strategy 2) Review the provision of clinical genetics, genetic testing and counselling for families 3) Liaise with other regions in England such as Bradford, Sheffield and Tower Hamlets, that have implemented an approach to respond to the increased genetic risk associated with consanguineous marriage 4) Work with community leaders to agree how to explore the public/ community perspective of consanguinity and service needs with a culturally sensitive approach 5) Report back to the committee once work is undertaken
5.2 Management Responsibility
Marion Gibbon, Interim Assistant Director of Public health

6. Risk Analysis			
Identified Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Actions to Manage Risk
Challenges arising from the sensitive nature of this initiative	Medium	Medium	Ensuring that the system is agreeable to a focus on pre-conception in order to improve infant mortality in Birmingham
Capacity within the public health team	Medium	Medium	Ensure that pre-conception remains priority within the team and that capacity is sourced quickly upon staff turnover.

Appendices

Pre conception report

The following people have been involved in the preparation of this board paper:

Dr Marion Gibbon, Interim Assistant Director of Public Health
Jeanette Davis, Officer, Public Health
Karen Saunders, Public Health England