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| | <u>Agenda Item: 12</u> |
| Report to: | Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board |
| Date: | 17 March 2020 |
| TITLE: | PRE-CONCEPTION CONVERSATION |
| Organisation | Public Health, Birmingham City Council |
| Presenting Officer | Marion Gibbon. Acting Assistant Director, Public Health |

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| 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. |

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| 2. Implications: # Please indicate Y or N as appropriate] | | |
| BHWB Strategy Priorities | Childhood Obesity | N |
| | Health Inequalities | Y |
| Joint Strategic Needs Assessment | | N |
| Creating a Healthy Food City | | N |
| Creating a Mentally Healthy City | | N |
| Creating an Active City | | N |
| Creating a City without Inequality | | Y |
| Health Protection | | N |

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| 3. Recommendation |
| 3.1 That the board agrees to the initiation of a piece of work focusing on pre-conception particularly amongst seldom heard communities. |

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| 4. Report Body | |
| 4.1 Context | |
| 4.1.1 | 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. |
| 4.1.2 | 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. |

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| 5. Compliance Issues | |
| 5.1 HWBB Forum Responsibility and Board Update | |
| 5.1.1 | An annual update brief to be provided to the Health and Wellbeing Board on progress to ensure steady progress and any issue or risks highlighted that may hinder required outputs and outcomes. |
| 5.1.2 | An annual progress delivery Report will be presented on activities of the Forum to the Health and Wellbeing Board and Full Council, at their request, on the progress regarding infant mortality in Birmingham. |
| 5.2 Management Responsibility | |
| Marion Gibbon, Interim Assistant Director of Public health | |

| 6. Risk Analysis | | | |
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| 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. |

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| Appendices |
| None |

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

Dr Marion Gibbon, Interim Assistant Director of Public Health with involvement from Karen Saunders, Public Health England.