Teenage Parents Supported Housing Pilot: Working With Children’s Centres

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This Presentation

- The current context – child poverty, teenage parents and Children’s Centres
- Teenage housing transitions
- The Teenage Parent Supported Housing Pilot
- Findings from the Pilot
- Where to find more information
key partners will have a role to play in tackling child poverty and improving life chances. These include:

...  

- Sure Start Children’s Centres targeting services at the most vulnerable families, and on the particular needs of their communities whilst maintaining a network of centres accessible to all families;

...  

- local service providers for housing, adult social care, regeneration, transport, and leisure services engaging with partners in tackling the potential drivers, and consequences, of child poverty. ...
Key Statistics

Children of teenage mothers are 63% more likely* to be born into poverty

At age 30, teenage mothers are 22% more likely* to be living in poverty

*Than mothers giving birth aged 24 or over
Planned Housing Transitions

Child

Living with parents / ‘Looked after’

Teen

Sharing with friends
Learning life skills

Adult

Living with partner & children

School

College

University

Employment

Children’s Centres Engagement
Fractured Housing Transitions

Child
- Living with parents / ‘Looked after’

Teen
- Pregnancy
- Unsettled
- Evicted

Adult
- Homeless

- Supported Housing
  - YMCA Foyers

- Housing Advice
- Temporary Hostel

Children’s Centres Engagement
The Pilot Model

- Housing Stability Improved
- Life-skills Learned
- Qualifications Achieved

- Conditional Access to Housing
- Support from Peers & Professionals
- Group-work & Taster Courses

- Housing & Housing Advice
- Lead Professionals
- Flexible Education
- Children’s Centres
- Access to Childcare
Nottingham: Peer Mentors in Children's Centres
York: Youth Support in Temporary Accommodation
Wandsworth: Training & Education in children's centres and colleges
Brighton & Hove: Training & Life Coaching in Supported Housing
Blackburn with Darwen: Pathways to Housing based in Housing Advice
Worcestershire: Lead Professionals in Children's Centres
Somerset: Floating Support, Volunteer ‘Buddies’ and Peer Education in schools
The Evaluation

Aims to assess the effectiveness of enhanced support packages on outcomes for teenage parents & their children

University of York
BMRB
London School of Economics
Participants’ Profile

Number of young people

Pilot Location

- Blackburn with Darwen: 107 (Referral), 97 (Participant)
- Wandsworth: 101 (Referral), 80 (Participant)
- Nottingham: 40 (Referral), 80 (Participant)
- Somerset: 171 (Referral), 171 (Participant)
- York: 64 (Referral), 52 (Participant)
- Brighton and Hove: 20 (Referral), 20 (Participant)
- Worcestershire: 428 (Referral), 270 (Participant)
Referral Sources

Number of referrals

Referral source

Midwife: 238 (26%)
Connexions: 147 (16%)
Children's Centre: 82 (9%)
Housing department incl. homelessness: 78 (9%)
Hostel/ supported housing provider: 71 (8%)
Self-referral: 61 (7%)
Health visitor: 59 (6%)
Voluntary sector provider: 49 (5%)
Social services: 40 (4%)
Other: 36 (4%)
School/ college: 16 (2%)
Housing association: 16 (2%)
Pilot project: 10 (1%)
OT: 6 (1%)
Sure Start: 3 (0%)
Barriers to Children's Centres:

- Housing instability – frequent moves
- Need for focus on the parents wider needs
- Fear of judgement

*I don’t really like going to any of the things to do with these kiddie projects, because you get judged don’t you?*  
*(Young mother)*
Children’s Centres & Teen Parents
Key Findings 2

- Staff with dedicated responsibilities for teenagers
- Outreach to young parents prior to engagement
- Programmes that address parents wider needs
- Childcare: Young mothers gained confidence with child-care ‘tasters’

*an important outcome is the role that these services play in tackling isolation, and enabling teenage parents to develop an informal support network through other parents that they meet.*

[Identification of Good Practice in Enhanced Housing Support for Teenage Parents, Foyer Federation]
Children’s Centres & Teen Parents

Key Findings 3

- Multi-agency working
  Children’s services
  Housing advice and providers
  Schools & FE colleges

- Sound housing advice

- Reputation
For Further Information

• TPSH Pilot Evaluation
  http://www.education.gov.uk/publications/RSG/AllPublications/Page1/DFE-RR050

• Synthesis Evaluation

• Foyer Federation Report
  www.foyer.net/pdf/Teenage_Parents_Supported_Housing.pdf

• National Child Poverty Strategy
  http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/child-poverty/