

Health and Wellbeing Board

3rd December 2019

Infant Mortality Strategy - Reducing Risk Factors

Uma Viswanathan – Consultant in Public Health

Esther Higdon – Programme Development and Commissioning Manager



Walsall Council

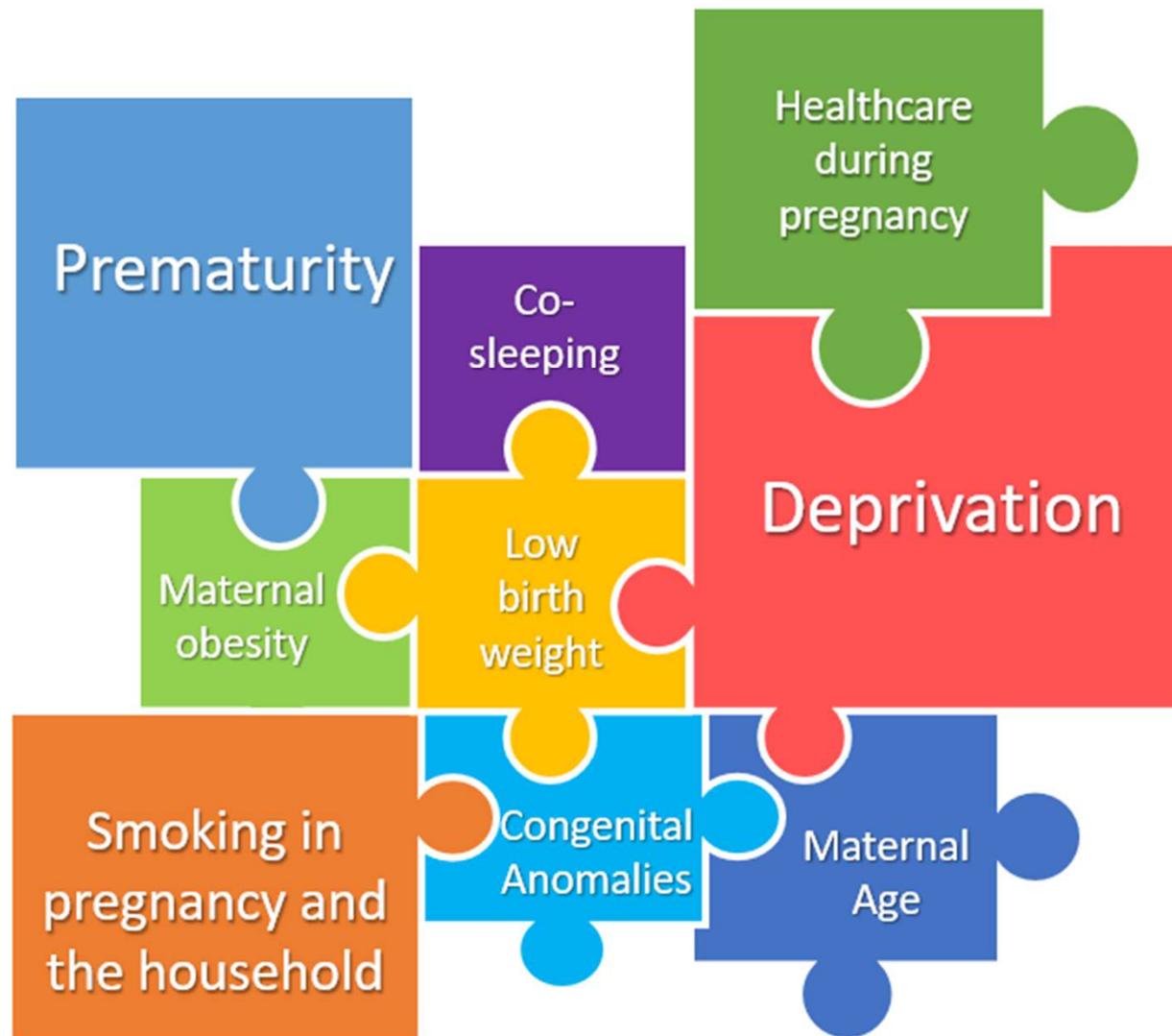
PROUD OF OUR PAST OUR PRESENT AND FOR OUR FUTURE

Recommendations

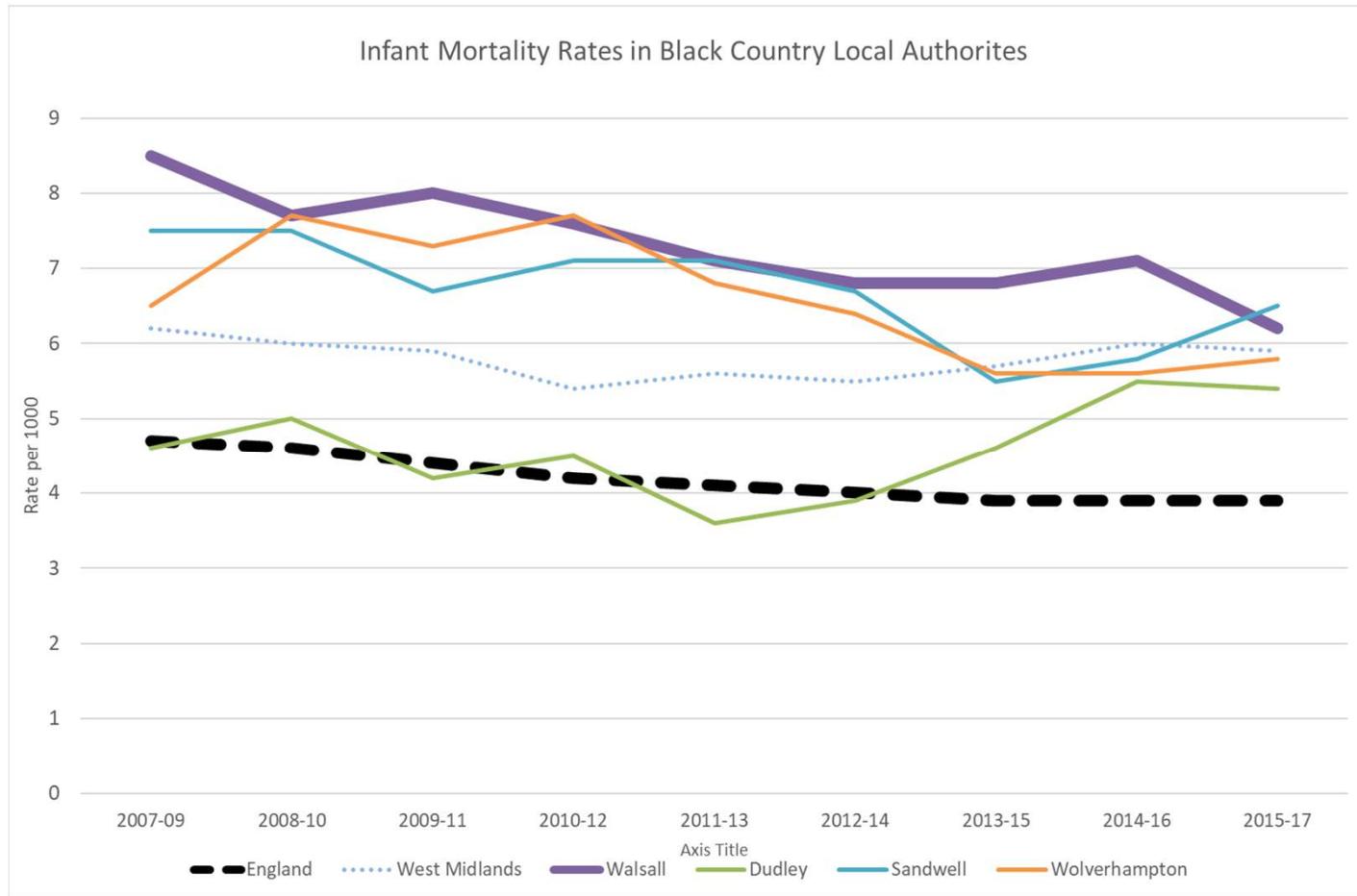
- That the HWB notes the progress made towards the reduction in infant mortality in Walsall.
- That the HWB endorses the partnership activity identified that needs to be continued to reduce the risk factors for infant mortality.
- That the HWB notes the intention to embed infant mortality strategy actions within the Best Start in Life Children and Young People long term plan



Determinants of Infant Mortality



Infant Mortality Rates in the Black Country



Infant Mortality Strategy 2016-2021 Overarching Priorities

Access to high quality, evidence based services

Supporting maternal mental health

Supporting a healthy pregnancy

Identifying and addressing risk factors in pregnancy

Ensuring a safe and caring environment in the first year of life

Supporting vulnerable mothers in pregnancy and beyond

Engaging mothers and families and healthcare professionals through effective communication

Accessing, using and sharing data and intelligence



Infant Mortality Strategy 2016-2021 Future Partnership Activity

- Walsall Together and partners to develop partnership pathways for lower level maternal mental health support
- Primary Care, WHT, Public Health and pharmacists to ensure that the importance of vitamin supplementation is emphasised in all interactions that health care providers and other services have with pregnant women and young children.
- Walsall Together to support in developing pathways around neonatal care
- CCG and Primary Care to ensure that preconception support for women to enter pregnancy a healthy weight or not smoking is promoted at every contact.
- Housing providers to support smokefree home messages

Infant Mortality Strategy 2016-2021 Future Partnership Activity

- WHT midwifery service to achieve Unicef Baby Friendly status
- Black Country Child Death Overview Panel to explore the causes of infant mortality through thematic reviews.
- Explore addressing consanguinity in affected communities



Infant Mortality Strategy – The Future

Walsall Public Health team is in the process of working with partners to develop a 10 year multiagency Best Start in Life for children aged 0-19 which is an integrated approach for children and families in Walsall.

In order to achieve this vision, it is envisaged that all partner strategies will create a whole Borough plan for children, young people and their families with a workforce that is working to the same ultimate aim.

It is planned to embed wider infant mortality priorities within this proposed Walsall Best Start 10 year overarching multiagency programme.



Thank you



Walsall Council

PROUD OF OUR PAST OUR PRESENT AND FOR OUR FUTURE