



**Cabinet Report**  
20th January 2016

**Report from Director of Public Health**

For Information

**2015 report of the Director of Public Health for Brent**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 The attached report considers the health of the under 5s in Brent.
- 1.2 The published report will be professionally designed and include the addition of photographic images

**2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to note the report.

**3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 The report considers:
  - Brent's under 5s
  - Mothers and their babies in Brent
  - Smoking and pregnancy
  - Immunisation for mothers and children in Brent
  - Breastfeeding
  - Vitamin D
  - Infant mortality
  - Childhood obesity
  - Children's oral health
  - Parent Champions
- 3.2 The report notes the recent growth in the under 5 population of Brent which currently numbers 24,600 (comprising around 8% of the total population).
- 3.3 After steadily increasing over almost a decade, the number of live births in Brent fell in 2013 and 2014. In 2014 there were 5,078 babies born in the Borough. The overall fertility rate is higher than for England but this varies markedly between wards. In Brent the largest numbers of babies are born to women in their early 30s.

- 3.4 The report details the vaccinations which are recommended for pregnant women and young children and highlights the poor uptake of vaccination in Brent.
- 3.5 The report highlights the high rates of breastfeeding in Brent but draws attention to the importance of vitamin D supplements for pregnant women and young children.
- 3.6 The work of the Child Death Overview Panel and the Lullaby Trust in raising awareness of how parents can reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome is included in the report
- 3.7 The report describes the very high levels of childhood obesity and dental decay which lead to problems now and for the future.
- 3.8 Finally the report highlights the potential for Parent Champions in Brent.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The report will inform the use of the public health grant

#### **5.0 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The production and publication of the report is required under Section 31 (5) and (6) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

#### **6.0 Diversity Implications**

- 6.1 The diversity profile data and implications highlighted in the report will be used to inform future decision-making and service provision.

#### **Contact Officers**

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