



Children's Trust Board Sponsor: Dr Kate Allen

FAMILY NURSE PARTNERSHIP EXPANSION

Purpose of the Report

1. To update colleagues on progress to date on the delivery of the Family Nurse Partnership Programme (FNP) in Nottinghamshire
2. To update colleagues on the proposed expansion of the FNP programme, including investment proposals and recommendations for targeting of additional resources

Information and Advice

Background summary

3. FNP is a licenced, evidenced-based, intensive nurse led prevention and early intervention programme for vulnerable first time young parents and their children. FNP commenced delivery in February 2013 and is currently available for a maximum of 200 clients.
4. The referral and acceptance criteria for FNP is as follows:
 - all first time mothers aged 19 years and under at Last Menstrual Period (up to 18yrs 11 months)
 - resident within Nottinghamshire
 - clients are preferably notified by 16 weeks to the FNP team but no later than 24 weeks gestation and recruited to FNP no later than 28 weeks.
5. A report was presented to the Children's Trust Board at the 8 December 2014 meeting, detailing the positive progress that had been achieved since the programme's inception. The report also highlighted the gap between the service capacity and the eligible population. At the time of the report, 287 eligible clients had been turned down or not considered for the programme. The original programme commissioned locally provided coverage to just 14% of the eligible population compared to 25% nationally.
6. A recent review of parenting programmes by Nottinghamshire County Council's Children's, Families and Cultural Services Department recognised the strong evidence-base for FNP and in recognition of this and the limited capacity, FNP has been identified as a priority area for additional investment.

Additional investment

7. Funding from the Supporting Families programme totalling £1.5m has been identified to enable the expansion of the current programme in Nottinghamshire. Confirmation of this funding is subject to approval from the Children's and Young People's Committee.
8. Further funding of £142k has also been secured by NHS England North Midlands (previously NHS England Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Area Team) to support the expansion, including training and programme deliver costs.
9. Subject to final confirmation of costs from the NHS England national unit, the funding is expected to provide between 150-175 extra places over the next 3 ½ years and increase coverage to approximately 25%, in line with the national coverage.

Expansion options

10. Discussions between Local Authority and provider managers have taken place to consider options for the proposed expansion. It is recognised that despite the additional investment, the service will still only be available to 25% of the eligible population and targeting options have been explored.
11. Consideration was given to revising the referral and acceptance criteria (see paragraph 4) to further target the most vulnerable young parents. Options included reducing the age to under 18s, prioritising priority groups such as looked after children, and targeting those mothers with fewer than 5 A-C GCSEs. Colleagues, however, concluded that such factors did not necessarily increase vulnerability.
12. The national FNP Unit have also shared their concerns regarding further targeting. They reiterate that the evidence-base for FNP is based on the referral and acceptance criteria and deviation from this may impact on the efficacy of the evidence. The programme must also be delivered in accordance with the licence which is strictly monitored.
13. Equity of current programme resources and staffing has been considered and this has highlighted potential inequity. Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) originally provided funding for the programme i.e. 2 Family Nurses in each CCG area, however, this was not based on need / teenage pregnancy rates. This means, for example, rates of teenage pregnancy are highest in Mansfield and Ashfield though the coverage is the lowest. Colleagues proposed that additional investment should be able to enable equity of provision across all localities.
14. It is therefore recommended that:
 - a. current referral and acceptance criteria remains the same in line with the evidence-base
 - b. additional investment is distributed in an equitable way to enable 25% coverage across all localities, and to support the establishment of teams in the north and south.

Approval and implementation timescales

15. A report will be presented to the Children and Young People's Committee in April 2015 for approval of the proposed expansion and investment.
16. Due to the nature of the recruitment and training to new Family Nurses, the programme will not commence recruitment to the programme until October 2015 (subject to approval from the Children and Young People's Committee). Family Nurses will grow caseloads to a maximum of 25 clients over a 12-month period, in line with the programme licence requirements.

Recommendations

That Members of the Board:

1. Note progress to date on the delivery of FNP.
2. Note the investment proposals.
3. Endorse the recommendation to retain the current referral and acceptance criteria and to distribute additional investment in an equitable way to enable 25% coverage across all localities.

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Background Papers and Published Documents

Family Nurse Partnership Progress Report, Nottinghamshire Children's and Young People's Committee, 8 December 2014

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/DMS/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=BNKqr18VJMB4s2A2bnKqLgTNwP7XU0AciQFQRiIH%2Bwv4rwFSadhuyw%3D%3D&rUzwRPf%2BZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3D%3D=pwRE6AGJFLDNih225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2FLUQzqA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3D%3D&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnlq%3D%3D=hFfIUdN3100%3D&kCx1AnS9%2FpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3D%3D=hFfIUdN3100%3D&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2BAJvYtyA%3D%3D=ctNJFf55vVA%3D&FgPIIEJYlotS%2BYGoBi5oIA%3D%3D=NHdURQburHA%3D&d9Qij0ag1Pd993jsyQJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNJFf55vVA%3D&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNJFf55vVA%3D&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCpMRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNJFf55vVA%3D>