

LEICESTERSHIRE  
*together*

# LEICESTERSHIRE JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT



## CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING

SEPTEMBER 2009



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## 6.1 BACKGROUND

The prevalence of conditions/issues amongst children and young people provides us with an indication of the future health and social care needs of the population. The prevalence of obesity, teenage pregnancy and disability are all areas that will have a long lasting impact on the health/social needs of the adult community if they are not addressed amongst young people. It is, therefore, essential to prioritise resources to combating the effects of the conditions/issues identified here by targeting services at the most vulnerable groups.

## 6.2 KEY HEADLINES

- Between 1993 and 2006 mortality rates amongst children and young people (aged under 15) have steadily reduced, in line with East Midlands and National trends.
- Diagnosis of children (aged 15 years and under) with Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC) has increased ten-fold in the last 10 years.
- Across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, two in every 1,000 people under 20 years old are registered with Mental Health Services. Registration rates are on average three times higher for females.
- Children in care are much more likely to suffer from mental health problems.
- In 2007, Leicestershire's under 18 conception rate increased by 4.3% which was greater than the national average increase of 2.6%.
- Alcohol consumption rates for girls (aged 11-15) are continuing to rise nationally, whilst consumption rates for boys has stabilised. In most areas of Leicestershire girls (aged 11-15) have a higher alcohol consumption rate than boys.
- 18% of Leicestershire pupils in year eight and 10 reported using drugs, which is slightly higher than the national average of 16%.
- In 2006, 14% of 'vulnerable young people' in Leicestershire had either significant or critical issues in relation to substance misuse, with the highest rates being reported in Coalville and Hinckley.
- By 2050, it is predicted that 25% of under 20 year olds will be obese.
- By 2050, it is predicted that 70% of girls could be overweight or obese, with only 30% in the healthy Body Mass Index (BMI) range. For boys, it is predicted that approximately 55% could be overweight or obese, with around 45% in the healthy BMI range.
- For each of the four areas identified as priority areas for children and young people (i.e. mental health, substance misuse, obesity and teenage pregnancy) there is a strong link between deprivation and prevalence. There is therefore a need to consider ways of targeting resources to

further support young people in deprived areas such as Northwest Leicestershire / Charnwood / Melton / and Hinckley & Bosworth, whilst ensuring that young people in other areas also have good access to services. Overall, children and young people in Leicestershire are healthier and safer than national averages.

Information in this chapter has focused on aspects that relate to the health and well being of children. A fuller analysis of all needs of children and young people is available in the 'Leicestershire's Children and Young People's Needs Analysis (2008) which informed the Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011.' This is based on the views and surveys of children, young people, parents and carers, local practitioners, interest groups and research. The following five outcomes were identified by government in 2004 as the outcome areas for children:

- Being Healthy
- Staying Safe
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Making a Positive Contribution
- Achieving Economic Well-being

These are reflected in the Leicestershire Children & Young People's Plan.

### **Children from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups**

A needs analysis of children and young people from Black and Minority Ethnic groups is also available (2008). Further to the health issues highlighted, the analyses of Black and Minority Ethnic groups clearly indicate a link between deprivation and poorer outcomes across all five outcomes. Also, there are certain Black and Minority Ethnic groups who achieve poorer health outcomes than the white British majority. Overall, outcomes are worse for children and young people from the following ethnic groups:

- Black communities (including Black African, Black Caribbean and mixed heritage black groups)
- Bangladeshi communities

This is in line with national trends.

### **One general issue**

Access to services was raised repeatedly through the needs assessment. Some groups said this was because the County was rural and transport for young people was a problem, some said it was because young people did not have enough money to do things.

An updated full needs analysis for children and young people in Leicestershire is due to be carried out during 2010 in preparation for the new Leicestershire's Children and Young People's Plan in April 2011

### 6.3 DEMOGRAPHY

In 2001 there were 150,491 children and young people aged up to 19 years in Leicestershire, constituting 24.7% of the total Leicestershire population. The locality with the greatest proportion of children and young people was Oadby and Wigston (26.3%) followed by Charnwood (25.3%). See Table 1: for further details.

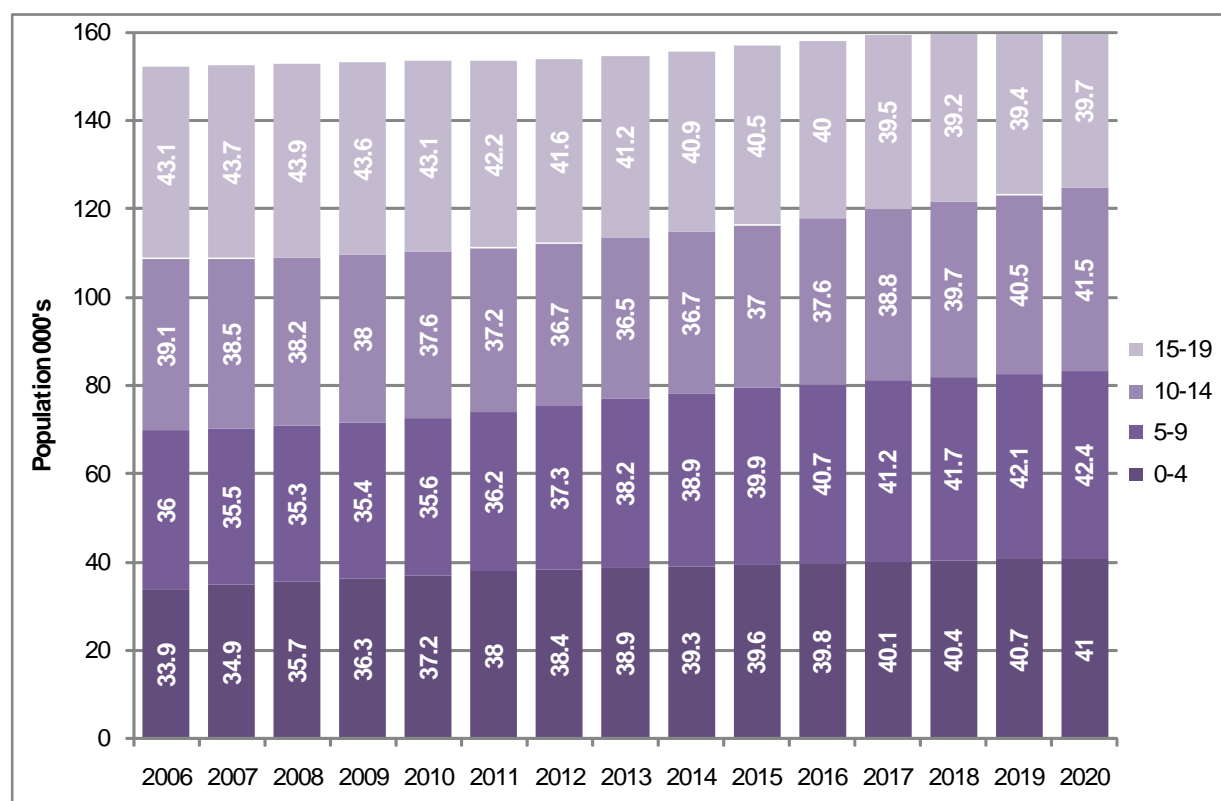
**Table 1: Number and proportion of under 19 years by locality.**

District	All people	Young people aged 0-19	Proportion of young people
Blaby	90,252	22,349	24.8%
Charnwood	153,462	38,860	25.3%
Harborough	76,559	18,801	24.6%
Hinckley and Bosworth	100,141	23,717	23.7%
Melton	47,866	11,609	24.3%
North West Leicestershire	85,503	20,504	24.0%
Oadby and Wigston	55,795	14,651	26.3%
Total	609,578	150,491	24.7%

Source: Census 2001

The total population of young people (0-19 years) is predicted to change in Leicestershire over the coming years, with a drop in the proportion of older teenagers and a rise in the proportion of younger children. Overall, however, the proportion of young people on the whole population will reduce as the population ages. See Figure 1 for further details.

**Figure 1: Leicestershire 0-19 population prediction 2007 - 2020**



Source: mid 2007 population estimates

### 6.3.1 Black and minority ethnic populations in Leicestershire

The population of Leicestershire (across all ages) is 94% white British (as recorded in the *Census 2001*). For children and young people (0-19 years) the Black and Minority Ethnic percentage is higher, with only 90.9% being recorded as white British. Overall, the greatest proportions of children from a Black and Minority Ethnic population are in Loughborough and Oadby. In recent years there has also been an increase in European nationals arriving in Leicestershire from European Union accession countries, with a significant proportion being Polish.

## 6.4 PREVALENT CONDITIONS/ISSUES

This section considers a number of conditions / issues for children and young people's health and well being.

### 6.4.1 Physical and learning disability

In the census of 2001, a total of 3.2% of Leicestershire children aged 0-15 were identified as having a long-term illness.<sup>1</sup> This is lower than the percentage reporting long-term illness nationally (4.4%).

In terms of supporting children with disabilities, it is evident that there has been an increase in the number of requests for adaptations in the home.<sup>2</sup> Also, the proportion of pupils in special schools has increased by 0.1% every two years since 2003.<sup>3</sup>

### 6.4.2 Mental health

It is estimated that 8,800 children aged 5-16 in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland have a mental illness.<sup>4</sup> Table 2 provides a breakdown of mental illness according to age and gender.

**Table 2: Prevalence prediction for mental illness (Leicestershire, Leicester City and Rutland)**

Number of 15-16 year olds	Prevalence				
	all ages	Girls (5-10)	Boys (5-10)	Girls (11-16)	Boys (11-16)
91,930	8,800	1,090	2,370	2,430	3,130

*Source: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Strategy 2008*

Across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, two in every 1,000 residents under the age of 20 are registered with the mental health services. Registration rates are on average three times higher for female patients.<sup>5</sup> This equates to approximately 184 children across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. A considerable proportion of children with mental health problems are therefore not receiving formal mental health support.

Children and young people with more serious mental health needs are seen by specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. In the years 2004-06, there was an average of 2,600 – 2,700 referrals a year to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services from across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The majority of these were for females (60.0%).

### 6.4.3 Substance misuse (including alcohol)

Results from the TellUs3 Survey<sup>6</sup> (an online survey of pupils introduced in 2007) report that young people in Leicestershire are reporting drinking more alcohol than the national average, with 83% of questionnaire respondents stating that they had drunk an alcoholic drink (compared to 75% nationally).

In Leicestershire, of those young people who drank alcohol, 7% reported that they had got drunk 'three or more times' in the last four weeks prior to the survey which is broadly in-line with the national figure of 6%.

**Table 3: Tellus 3 survey results, 2008**

	Leicestershire	National
Number reporting having ever had an alcoholic drink	83%	75%
Number reporting getting drunk once or twice in the last month	13%	17%
Number getting drunk three or more times in the last month	7%	6%

Source: Tellus 3 survey

Local figures for the number (per 100,000) of children hospitalised for an alcohol related problem (excluding accident and emergency attendances) between 2002-2005 show that there is a geographical variation across Leicestershire. The locality with the least amount of admissions (per 100,000) is Harborough, whilst the locality with the greatest amount of admissions (per 100,000) is Hinckley and Bosworth. It is evident that a greater number of boys are being admitted for an alcohol related problem in comparison to girls. See Table 4 for further details.

**Table 4: Hospital admission rates 2002 – 2005**

	Rate per 100,000 for alcohol specific admission 2002-05 (not including A and E)		National rank out of 354 areas (the higher the rank the worse the problem)		Gap from national average	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Blaby	17.95	16.33	64	51	-0.11	-0.17
Charnwood	25.61	39.02	106	136	-0.08	-0.08
Harborough	10.06	10.66	18	26	-0.14	-0.19
Hinckley and Bosworth	34.23	39.2	144	138	-0.05	-0.08
Melton	16.59	17.3	25	23	-0.12	-0.17
North West Leicestershire	23.72	52.67	95	180	-0.09	-0.02
Oadby and Wigston	15.5	29.27	38	99	-0.12	-0.12

Source: 2006 NWPFO, Hospital Episode Statistics Safehaven

Results of the 2008 TellUs3 survey found that Leicestershire performed less well than neighbouring authorities in reducing the prevalence of substance misuse amongst children and young people<sup>7</sup>. For example, in Leicestershire 14.3% of school children (who completed the survey) reported either frequent misuse of drugs / volatile substances, in comparison to 11.5% of children across the East Midlands. The survey is only a baseline at this stage and will need to be monitored for future changes, but suggests an area for activity.

Connexions screening of vulnerable young people (2006) has identified that 14% of children in substance misuse treatment have either significant or critical issues in relation to substance misuse. The majority of these children live in the Coalville and Hinckley area. This echoes the higher rates of alcohol related admissions in these areas.

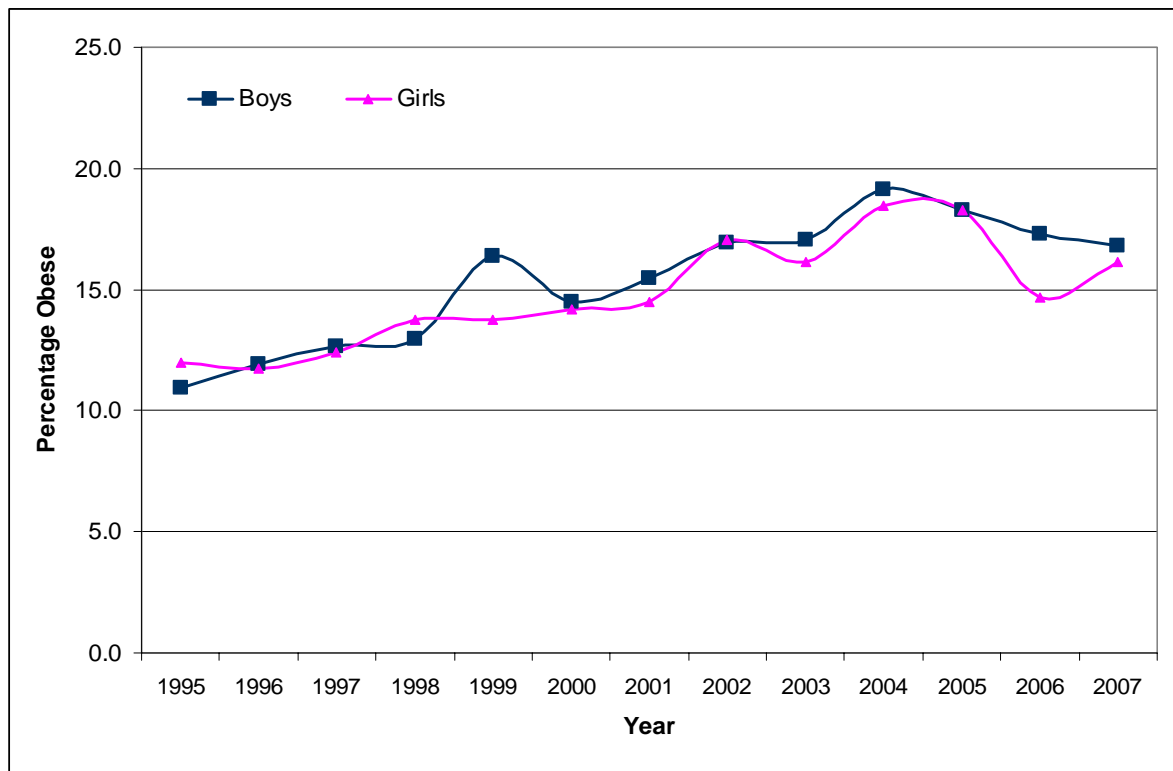
#### **6.4.4 Obesity and physical activity**

The UK has seen dramatic increases in childhood obesity in recent years. Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives: A Cross-Government Strategy for England - a new £372 million strategy to help everyone lead healthier lives - was published on 23 January by Alan Johnson, Health Secretary, and Ed Balls the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families. As a groundbreaking Government strategy, it supports the creation of a healthy society - from early years, to schools and food, from sport and physical activity to planning, transport and the health service.

#### **National prevalence of childhood obesity**

The Health Survey for England 2007 trend data illustrates obesity trends in children between 1995 and 2007. Among boys and girls aged 2-15, the proportion who were obese increased overall between 1995 and 2007 from 11% in 1995 to 17% in 2007 among boys, and from 12% in 1995 to 16% in 2007 among girls. See Figure 2 for further details.

**Figure 2: Obesity trends among children aged 2-15, England, by sex, 1995-2007**



Source: Health Survey for England 2007 Latest Trends - Children Trend Tables

Nationally it is predicted that the proportion of children who are obese in the under 20 age group will rise to approximately 15% in 2025. By 2050, it is estimated that 25% of under 20 year olds will be obese. By 2050, it is predicted that 70% of girls could be overweight or obese, with only 30% in the healthy BMI range. For boys, it is estimated that 55% could be overweight or obese and around 45% could be in the healthy range.

The National Child Measurement Programme is a key part of the Government's work to tackle obesity. The programme aims to record the height and weight of all children in Reception Year and Year 6. This data will help PCTs plan services to support schools and target resources more effectively; it also provides vital data to analyse trends at national and local levels.

The national results for 2008 show:

- In Reception almost one in four of the children measured were classified as either overweight or obese: in Year six this rate was nearly one in three;
- The prevalence of obesity is significantly higher in boys than in girls in both age groups;

The prevalence of obesity is significantly higher in Year six than in Reception.

### Childhood obesity in Leicestershire County and Rutland

In the 2007/08 school year, a total of 12,702 primary school children in NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland were measured through the National Childhood Measurement Programme (NCMP) of whom 1,480 were obese and 3,224 were overweight or obese. Leicestershire County & Rutland has significantly lower levels of obesity (for children in reception and year six) than national levels. In Leicestershire County and Rutland, the prevalence of obesity in Year six is around 1.8 times higher than in reception children. See Table 5 for further details.

**Table 5: Prevalence of overweight and obese, England and NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland, 2007/08**

	Reception		Year 6	
	Obese %	Overweight and Obese %	Obese %	Overweight and Obese %
<b>NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland</b>	8.4%	21.8%	14.8%	28.8%
<b>England</b>	9.6%	22.6%	18.3%	32.6%

Source: National Childhood Measurement Programme

The prevalence of underweight, overweight and obese children by year and gender in NHS LCR is summarised in Table 6.

**Table 6: Prevalence of underweight, healthy weight, overweight and obese children by year and gender LCR, 2007/08**

		Underweight	Healthy Weight	Overweight	Obese	Overweight & Obese	Number measured
Reception	Girls	0.9%	78.3%	13.6%	7.2%	20.8%	3,130
	Boys	0.9%	76.4%	13.1%	9.6%	22.8%	3,156
	<b>Both</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>77.3%</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>6,286</b>
Year 6	Girls	1.4%	72.5%	13.5%	12.6%	26.1%	3,038
	Boys	0.9%	67.8%	14.5%	16.8%	31.3%	3,394
	<b>Both</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>70.0%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>28.8%</b>	<b>6,432</b>

In summary the key findings in Leicestershire County and Rutland are that:

- In Reception, more than one in five of the children measured were either overweight or obese. In Year 6, this rate was more than one in four;
- The percentage of children who are overweight is only slightly higher in Year six (14.0%) than in Reception (13.4%);
- The overall percentage of children who are underweight is similar for both years (around 1%);
- A larger proportion of the boys measured in Reception were obese (9.6% of boys compared with 7.2% of girls).

- In Year six, the difference in prevalence of obesity between boys and girls increases, with 12.6% of girls obese compared to 16.8% of boys

### Local differences

The locality with the lowest number of obese reception girls is Harborough (3.8%) and the greatest is Melton (11.4%). In boys, Oadby and Wigston had the lowest prevalence of obesity (6.7%) and Melton had the highest (12.3%). The prevalence of obesity seen in year six girls ranged from 10.4% in Harborough to 13.8% in North West Leicester. In boys, Blaby had significantly lower prevalence of obesity and overweight and obese children when comparing to the Leicestershire County and Rutland average. The highest prevalence of obesity in boys was seen in Oadby and Wigston (19.6%), overweight and obese in Melton (34.9%). See Table 7 and Table 8 for further details.

**Table 7: Prevalence of overweight and obese in Reception, Local Authority District, 2007/08**

Year Reception	Girls		Boys		All Children	
	% Obese	% Overweight & Obese	% Obese	% Overweight & Obese	% Obese	% Overweight & Obese
Rutland	7.1	25.0	11.9	23.0	9.5	24.0
Blaby	6.3	20.5	9.6	20.3	8.0	20.4
Charnwood	8.5	22.8	10.1	24.9	9.3	23.8
Harborough	3.8	12.7	8.5	20.7	6.3	17.0
Hinckley & Bosworth	6.3	22.0	11.6	27.8	9.0	24.9
Melton	11.4	24.2	12.3	27.0	11.8	25.5
NW	8.2	21.2	7.6	20.3	7.9	20.7
Oadby &	6.3	19.4	6.7	16.5	6.5	18.1
LCR	7.2	20.8	9.6	22.8	8.4	21.8

*\*\*Significance compared to LCR*

*Source: National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 2007/08*

**Table 8: Prevalence of overweight and obese in Year 6, Local Authority District, 2007/08**

Year six	Girls		Boys		All Children	
	% Obese	% Overweight & Obese	% Obese	% Overweight & Obese	% Obese	% Overweight & Obese
Rutland	12.9	29.3	14.7	31.3	13.9	30.4
Blaby	13.4	27.1	12.5	24.3	12.9	25.6
Charnwood	13.1	27.2	16.6	32.4	15.0	30.0
Harborough	10.4	23.9	16.1	32.5	13.3	28.3
Hinckley & Bosworth	12.2	24.2	17.8	31.6	15.1	28.0
Melton	12.3	25.7	15.5	34.9	13.8	30.1
NW	13.8	25.9	18.9	33.4	16.5	29.9
Oadby & Wigston	12.5	26.8	19.6	30.7	16.3	28.9
NHS LCR	12.6	26.1	16.8	31.3	14.8	28.8

*\*\*Significance compared to LCR*

*Source: National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 2007/08*

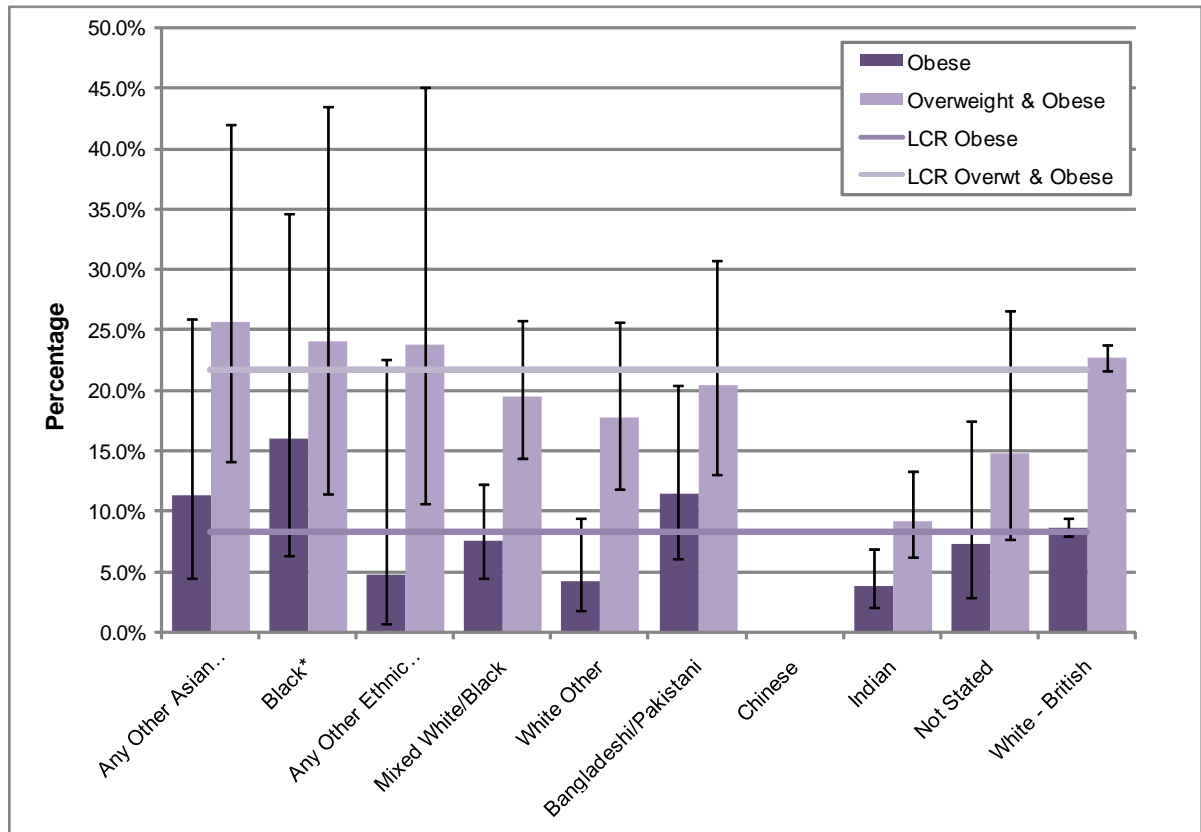
### **Profiling obesity in children in Leicestershire County and Rutland**

Both reception boys and girls in the most deprived areas had higher levels of obesity than those in the least deprived areas. Obesity prevalence in girls was 1.6 times higher among those from the most deprived areas (9.3%) than the least deprived areas (5.7%). Being overweight and obese in girls was 1.2 times higher among those in the most deprived areas (23.9%) than the least deprived areas (19.8%). In boys, there was little variation among the deprivation quintiles, with the most deprived areas experiencing a slightly higher prevalence of obesity (10.2%) than the least deprived areas (9.1%). Being overweight/obese in boys was 1.1 times higher among those in the most deprived areas (23.9%) than the least deprived areas (20.8%).

Both Year six boys and girls in the most deprived areas had higher levels of obesity than those in the least deprived areas. Obesity prevalence in girls was 1.2 times higher among those from the most deprived areas (13.7%) than the least deprived areas (11.5%). There was little difference in the prevalence of overweight obesity across the deprivation quintiles in Year six girls. Obesity prevalence in boys was 1.1 times higher among those in the most deprived areas (16.7%) than the least deprived areas (15.2). There is no apparent relationship between deprivation and overweight and obese in Year six boys.

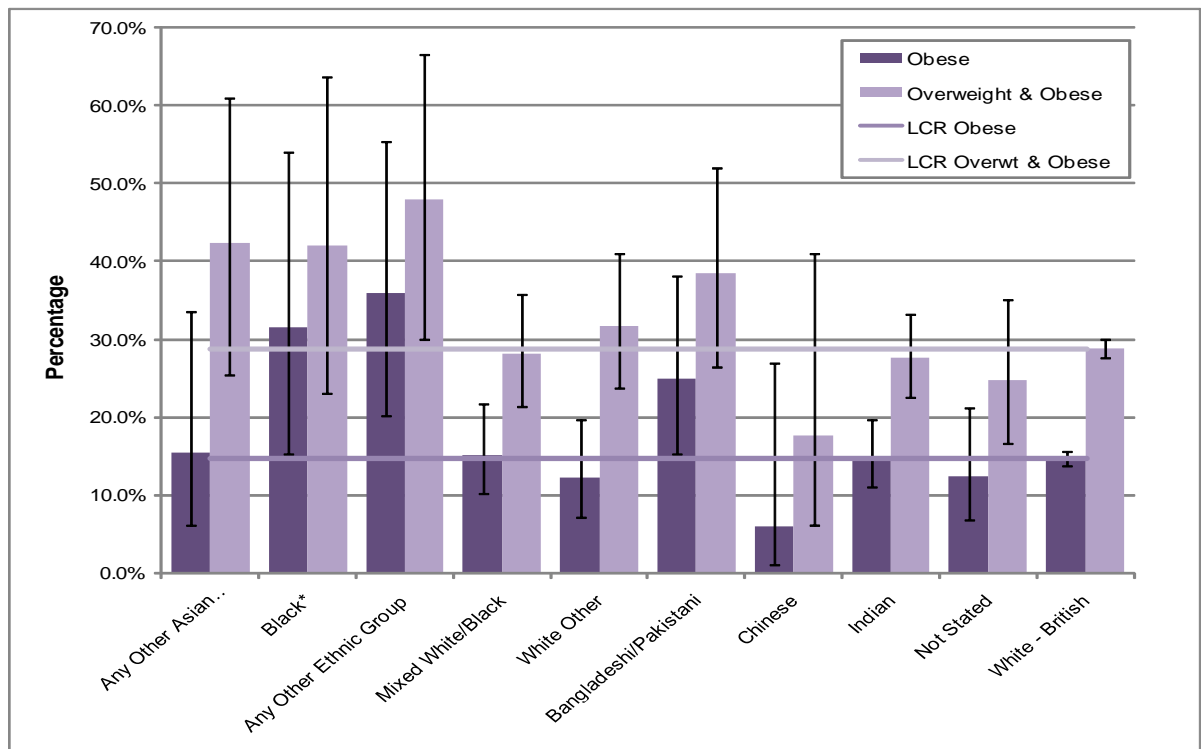
Analysis of the National Child Measurement Programme data by ethnic group is problematic across Leicestershire due to small numbers in some ethnic groups. However, the data displayed in Figure 3 and Figure 4 provides an illustration of some of the variation by ethnic category.

**Figure 3: Prevalence of obesity by ethnic category – Reception**



*large confidence intervals due to low numbers in some ethnic groups.  
Source: National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 2007/08*

**Figure 4: Prevalence of Obesity by ethnic category – Year six**



*Source: National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 2007/08*

### 6.4.5 Dental health

Recent data in this area is not yet available, although figures from 2005 show that, overall, Leicestershire children had lower levels of decayed, filled or missing teeth than national averages at age five.

### 6.4.6 Bullying

The TellUs3 survey (2008) indicated that Leicestershire pupils experienced less bullying than the national average<sup>7</sup>. The survey found that 29% of Leicestershire children who completed the survey worried about bullying compared to 27% nationally. The frequency of bullying in Leicestershire was comparable to the frequency nationally:

- The majority of children nationally and locally that had never been bullied at school, was 56% and 57% respectively.
- Locally, 38% of children had been bullied (ranging from once or more in the last year to most days) compared with 39% nationally.
- A significantly lower percentage of Leicestershire children had been bullied outside of school for the following; once or more in the last year (12% compared with 13%), about once a week (1% compared with 2%).
- A significantly greater number of Leicestershire children believed that their school dealt with bullying quite well in comparison to children nationally (25% compared with 21%).

### 6.4.7 Teenage pregnancy

#### National teenage pregnancy rates

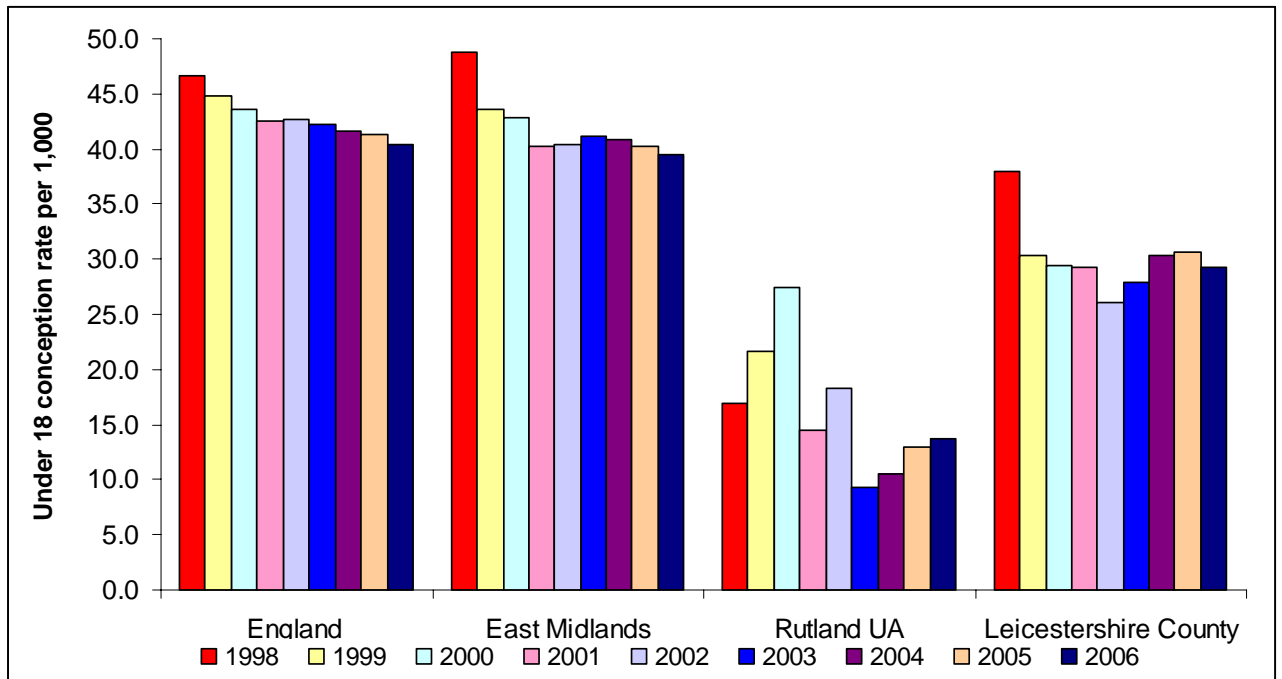
Provisional figures published by the Office for National Statistics show that the under-18 conception rate in England increased from 40.9 conceptions per 1,000 women aged 15-17 in 2006 to 41.9 in 2007. This is the first time since 2002 that the conception rate among women aged under 18 in England has risen. The East Midlands rate also increased, from 39.7 conceptions per 1,000 women aged 15-17 in 2006 to 40.3 in 2007, which represented a total of 3,436 conceptions to under 18s. See Figure 5 for further details.

#### Conception rates in Leicestershire County and Rutland

The national teenage pregnancy rate has slowly declined since 1998, from 47 per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years to 40, whereas the rates in Leicestershire and Rutland have fluctuated over this time period. In 2006 the teenage pregnancy rate for Leicestershire County (29.2), was half the rate for Leicester Unitary Authority (61.2) but more than double the rate for Rutland (13.8).

From 1998-2006 the teenage pregnancy rates for Leicestershire and Rutland have been consistently lower than both the regional and national average. Whilst Leicestershire has lower conception rates than the national average, the rate of decline is not consistent and is insufficient to meet the 2010 target of 20.9. See Figure 5 for further details.

**Figure 5: Under 18 Conception Rates from 1998-2006**



Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Online: Available from URL: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/ssdataset.asp?vink=4985&More=Y>

There were over 350 conceptions to women under the age of 18 within Leicestershire County and Rutland Unitary Authority in 2006. Leicestershire County (29.2 per 1,000 women aged 15-17) and Rutland Unitary Authority (13.8 per 1,000 aged 15-17) have teenage conception rates that are significantly lower than the England rate of 40.4 per 1,000 women aged 15-17. See Table 9 for further details.

Leicestershire County has experienced a 23% reduction in their under-18 conception rate between 1998-2006. This is higher than the reduction seen nationally and regionally. Whilst Leicestershire has lower conception rates than the national average, the rate of decline is not consistent and is insufficient to meet the 2010 target. See Table 9 for further details.

**Table 9: Under 18 conception rates for 2006**

Area	Leicestershire	Rutland	East Midlands	England
Number of Conceptions	356	16	3354	39,003
Conception Rate per 1,000 females aged 15-17	29.2	13.8	39.6	40.4
Lower confidence interval	26.4	8.4	38.3	40.1
Upper confidence Interval	32.4	22.3	40.9	40.8
Difference from England rate	Sig lower	Sig lower	Not significant	n/a
% leading to abortion	49	75	43	49
1998-2006 % change in rate	-23.0%	-18.4%	-18.9%	13.3%
2010 Target	20.9	9.3	24.3	23.3

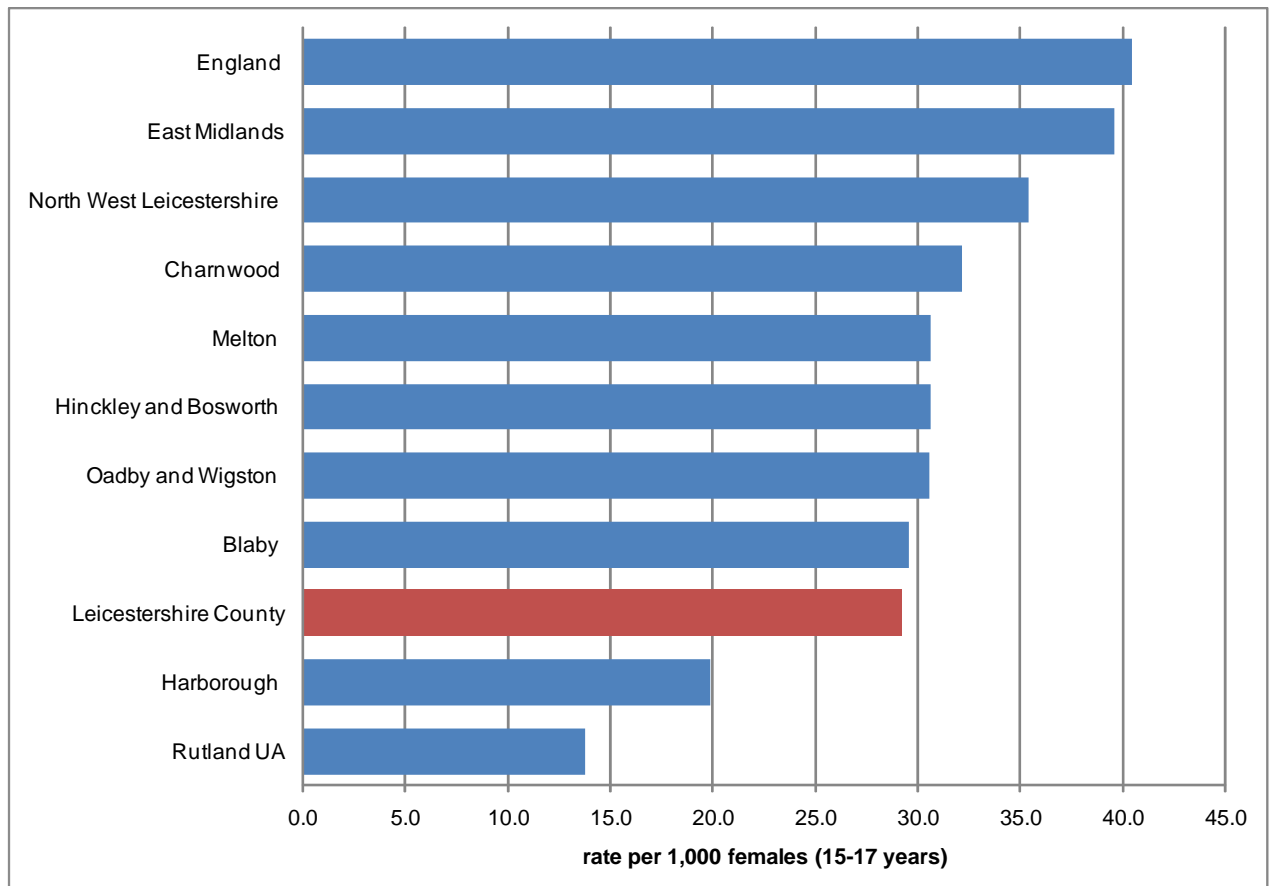
Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) Online: Available from URL: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/ssdataset.asp?vink=4985&More=Y>

Within Leicestershire County and Rutland there is wide variation in the under 18 conception rate for each of the districts, ranging from 13.8 (per 1,000 females aged 15-17) in Rutland Unitary Authority to 35.6 in Harborough. See Figure 6 for further details.

In terms of districts North West Leicestershire has the highest under 18 conception rate of 35.4 (per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years). Rutland has the lowest rate (13.8 per 1,000 females aged 15-17 years), followed by Harborough (19.8 per 1,000 females). All districts have seen a reduction in their under 18 conception rate between 1998-2006 with the exception of Blaby and Oadby & Wigston. The under 18 conception rate has increased in Blaby by 4.2% since 1998, increasing from 28.4 to 29.5. See

Table 10 for further details.

**Figure 6: Under 18 Conception Rate – 2004-2006<sup>2</sup>**



Source: Office for National Statistics and Teenage Pregnancy Unit

**Table 10: Under 18 Conceptions, 2006**

Area	No. of Conceptions in 2004-06	2004-06 Rate (per 1,000 females, 15-17 years)	1998-2006 % change in rate
<b>Hinckley and Bosworth</b>	181	30.6	-23.5%
<b>Harborough</b>	91	19.8	-15.3%
<b>Charnwood</b>	286	32.1	-7.4%
<b>Melton</b>	84	30.6	-2.5%
<b>North West Leicestershire</b>	170	35.4	-0.5%
<b>Blaby</b>	153	29.5	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>Oadby &amp; Wigston</b>	110	30.5	<b>4.8%</b>

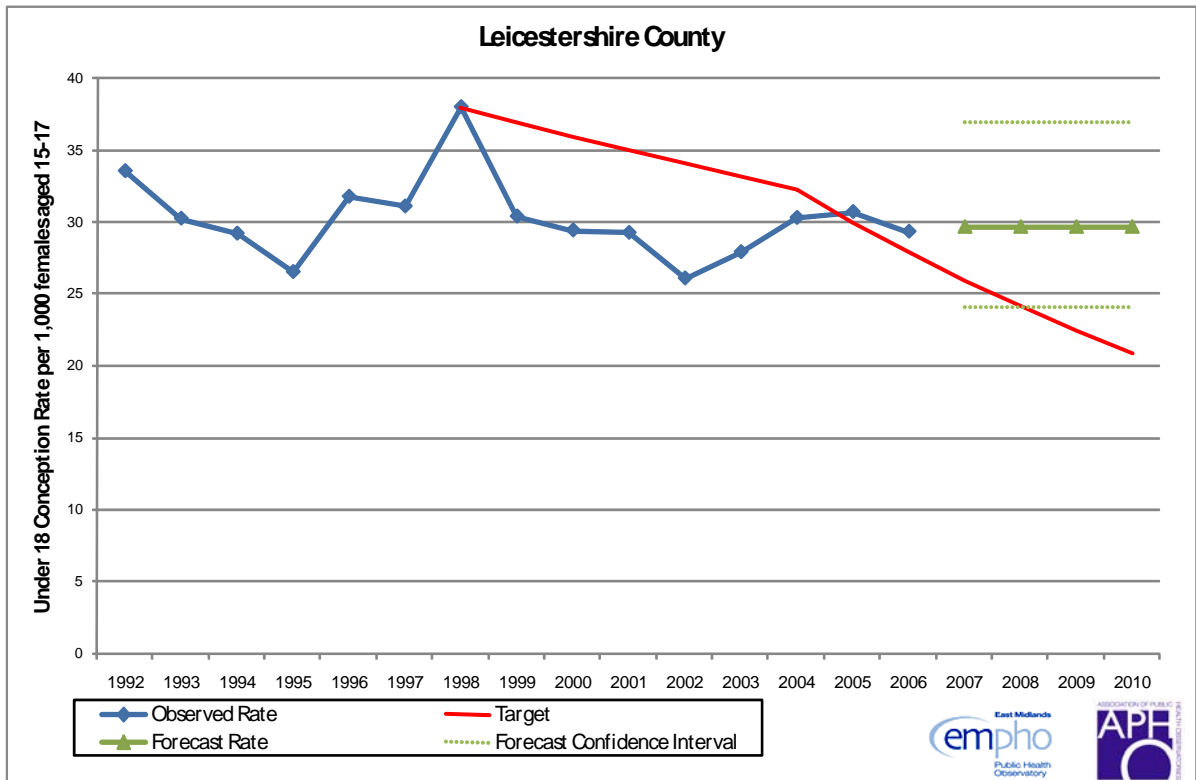
\*(provisional data)

Source: Office for National Statistics and Teenage Pregnancy Unit

### Future trends in teenage conceptions

Forecasts have been produced for under 18 conception rates up to 2010 and charted against their targets. The data used in these forecasts was 1992 to 2006 (final) rates. All forecasting was produced using Holt's method (i.e. Holt Winter's exponential smoothing with no seasonality). In order to meet the specified targets a considerable reduction, than that forecast, in the under 18 conception rate needs to be achieved.

**Figure 7: Forecast of under 18 conceptions for Leicestershire County 2010**



Source: East Midlands Public Health Observatory and Association of Public Health Observatories

**Influencing factors**

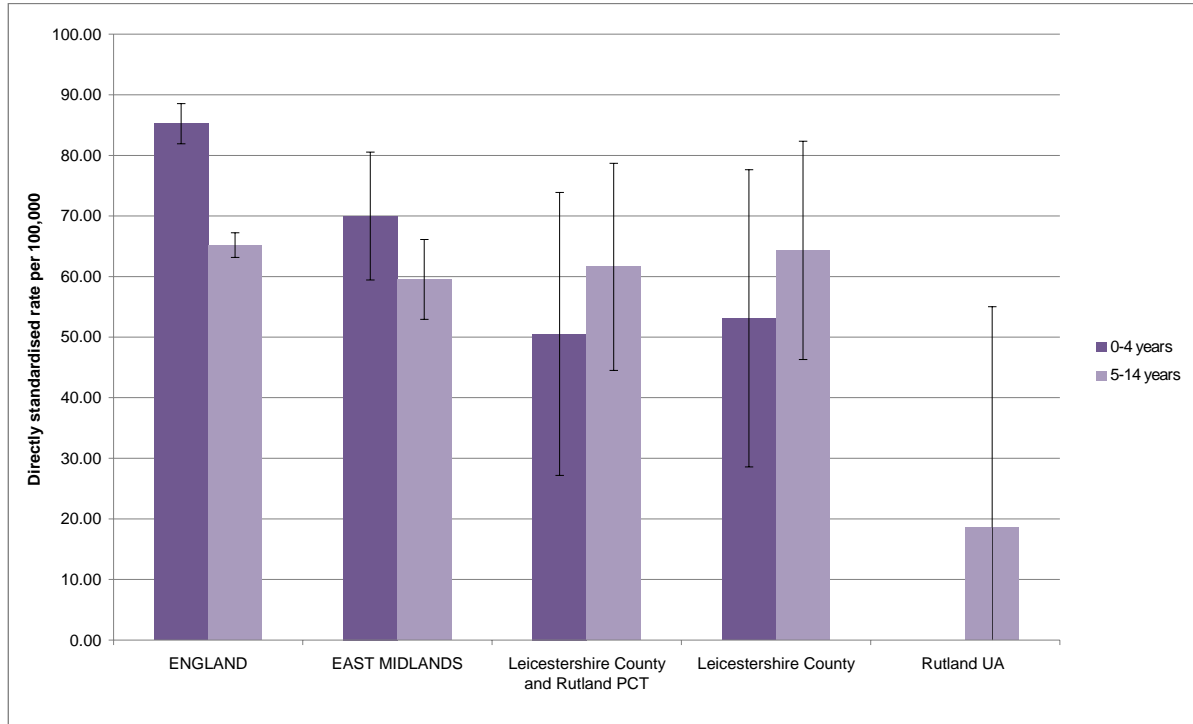
The Social Exclusion Unit report a number of risk factors for under 18 conceptions including:

- Poverty – the risk of becoming a teenage mother is almost ten times higher in social class five (most deprived) than social class one (least deprived).
- Being in care – nearly half of women leaving care were mothers within 18-24 months of leaving care.
- Daughters of teenage mothers are more than one and a half times more likely to become a mother themselves.
- Educational problems – various studies show low educational attainment and school exclusions to be associated with greater risk of teenage pregnancy.
- Post-16 participation – those not participating in education, work or training post-16 are more likely to become teenage mothers.
- Sexual abuse – several studies have suggested a link between sexual abuse in childhood and teenage pregnancy.
- Mental health – a number of studies have suggested a link between mental health problems and teenage pregnancy.

**6.4.8 Accidents**

Children and young people in Leicestershire are less likely to be admitted to hospital for accidents than the national average. See Figure 8 for further details.

**Figure 8: Hospital episodes: Serious accidental injury relating to hospital admissions**



Source: Department of Health, Clinical and health outcomes knowledge base, June 2008

Previous analysis has also shown that rates of hospital admission for serious injury across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland in 2003-05 were closely related to deprivation (i.e. more deprived areas showing significantly higher rates of hospital admission).

Figures show that Leicestershire County and Rutland have comparatively higher mortality rates from land transport accidents than England for those aged one to four. Leicestershire, however, has a lower rate of mortality from land transport accidents than East Midlands for the five to 15 age group. See Table 11 for further details.

**Table 11: Mortality from land transport accidents 1-4, 5-14 year olds**

	Age 1-4	Age 5-14
England	1.0	1.4
East Midlands	0.5	2.1
Leicestershire County and Rutland NHS	1.2	1.7

Source: Department for transport

#### 6.4.9 Immunisation

In comparison to East Midlands as a whole and East Midlands NHS Trusts, Leicestershire achieves higher rates of vaccination for young children. See Table 12 for further details.

**Table 12: Percentage immunised by their first birthday**

	DTaP/IPV/Hib %	MenC2 %	PCV2 %
East Midlands	94.0	93.5	93.8
Derby City NHS	94.5	94.2	94.0
Derbyshire County NHS	96.1	95.6	95.9
Leicester City NHS	92.9	92.3	93.9
Leicestershire County & Rutland NHS	95.7	95.6	95.8
Lincolnshire NHS	92.9	91.6	92.5
Northamptonshire NHS	99.2	99.0	99.5
Nottingham City NHS	83.1	82.5	82.3
Nottinghamshire County NHS	91.8	91.5	91.2

Source: COVER statistics

Nb: DTaP/IPV/Hib refers to: diphtheria (D), tetanus (T), pertussis (whooping cough) (P), polio (IPV - inactivated polio vaccine), Hib (haemophilus influenzae type b)

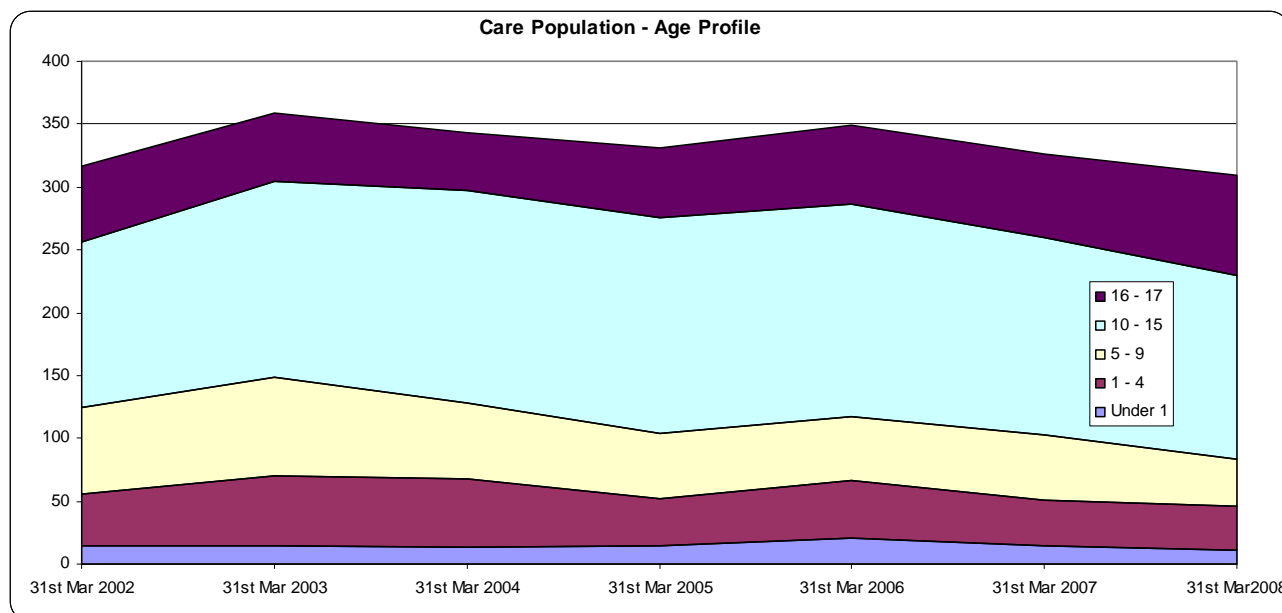
Men C refers to: Meningococcal Conjugate (MenC)

PCV2 refers to: pneumococcal vaccine

### 6.4.10 Children in care

Leicestershire has a lower proportion of children in care than comparator authorities. However, the majority of these children are older children (aged 10-15), see Figure 9 for further details. Services provided to children in care therefore need to ensure the needs of teenagers are met.

**Figure 9: Age of care population in Leicestershire, 2002-2008**



Source: Children's Specialist Services data, Feb 2009

In the two years from December 2006 to December 2008, the numbers of children subject to a child protection plan increased from 162 to 222<sup>11</sup>.

### 6.5 SERVICE/BENEFIT USE

The priority areas of mental health, substance misuse, obesity and teenage pregnancy are covered significantly in universal services offered through health services (GPs, health visitors, hospitals) and schools.

The Healthy Schools programme covers the four areas above throughout the years in education. Leicestershire has one of the highest participation rates in the Healthy Schools Programme of any local authority (98% schools participating by December 2008 with 74% having achieved Healthy Schools status). In terms of tackling obesity, the number of schools with children participating in at least two hours of sport a week has increased substantially over the past few years. The proportion of children undertaking sport in Leicestershire schools had previously been lower than national levels, however, has improved and is now in line with national levels.

## **6.6 VALUE FOR MONEY**

In 2008 / 2009, Leicestershire County and Rutland NHS spent £55.6 million on services for children and young people <sup>12</sup>. In 2007 / 2008, a total of £6 million was spent on specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and in 2008 / 2009 there was a planned spend of £7.3 million showing a 21% increase in investment. This is supported by a Local Authority grant of over £500,000. The budget available for young person's substance misuse for 2009 / 10 is £363,211.

## **6.7 REFERENCES**

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<sup>1</sup> Office of National Statistics. Census 2001. [Online]. Available from URL: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/census/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> Leicestershire County Council (2008) Children's Specialist Services information , Leicestershire County Council.

<sup>3</sup> Leicestershire County Council (2008) Pupil Census analysis 2003-2008. Leicestershire County Council.

<sup>4</sup> Leicestershire County Council (2008) Leicestershire Children's Trust Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Well Being Strategy 2008-2011, Leicestershire County Council.

<sup>5</sup> Leicestershire County Council (2006) Health Needs Assessment 2006/07., Leicestershire County Council.