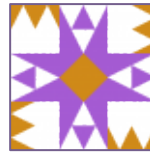




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PATIENT ID

Report Date: Oct 18, 2010

AGATHA ELIOTda

## SURGERY REPORT

Appendix 4

Joint PCT Scrutiny Committee for Stevenage and North Hertfordshire  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2006

### Teenage Pregnancy Report Investigation Into Teenage Pregnancy

#### Background

The joint PCT Scrutiny Committee consists of elected members of Stevenage Borough Council, North Hertfordshire District Council and Hertfordshire County Council. Under scrutiny powers delegated to it by the county council and resulting from the Health and Social Care Act 2001 the committee scrutinises the work of the Stevenage and North Hertfordshire Primary Care Trust.

Members set up three sub groups on 18 June 2003. That for the Children and Young People's aspects of the PCT's Local Delivery Plan was concerned about the local high levels of teenage pregnancy and decided to investigate this as a matter of priority. This is the report of that investigation.

The Government set up the Teenage Pregnancy Unit. Using 1998 as the baseline national targets were set that by 2010 the rate for under 18s would be halved; that a downward trend for under 16s would be firmly established; and the participation of teenage mothers in education and work would be increased to 60% in order to reduce the risk of social exclusion.

#### Scope

It soon became clear that while the services provided by the PCT would be the primary focus that only investigating those services would give a very incomplete picture. In the end the investigation ranged from the causes of high teenage pregnancy to support given to young mothers and their children.

#### Method

The investigation was grounded in hard evidence such as the levels of teenage pregnancy, deprivation and education attainment.

The panel established key lines of enquiry. The twenty structured questions covered the scale of the issue, trends, interventions and involvement and effectiveness.

A major event was held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005 at which an extremely wide range of agencies, voluntary groups and users gave evidence to the scrutiny committee's young persons sub group. The approach was similar to a select