

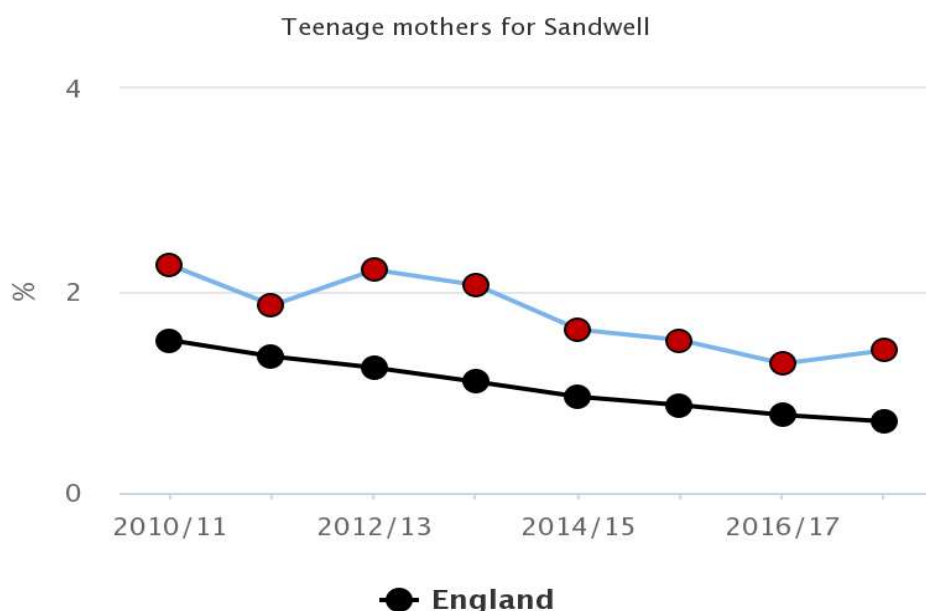
## Teenage Mothers

Percentage of delivery episodes, where the mother is aged under 18 years.

Children born to teenage mothers have 60% higher rates of infant mortality and are at increased risk of low birthweight which impacts on the child's long-term health. Teenage mothers are three times more likely to suffer from post-natal depression and experience poor mental health for up to three years after the birth. Teenage parents and their children are at increased risk of living in poverty (Public Health England).

- In 2017/18, the Sandwell rate of 1.4% is statistically higher than both the West Midlands (0.9%) and England (0.7%).
- There has been a declining trend over a number of years in Sandwell.

**Figure 1.6:**



Source: Public Health England Profiles

Six Sandwell wards are significantly different from the Sandwell average on estimated under 18 conceptions 2015 to 2017 (aggregated):

- Wards with lower under 18 conception rates are Hateley Heath, Old Warley and St. Pauls.
- Wards with higher under 18 conception rates are Friar Park, Princes End and Tividale.