

Supplementary information

Supplementary Appendix 1. Outline schedule for teenage mother interview

A) Background demographic

Can you tell me about your current working situation?

What are your present living arrangements? (Prompt: partner, children, renting or owner occupied)

How many children do you have? (Prompt: any pregnancies you could not continue?)

B) Prior to index pregnancy

Were you using any contraception before you became pregnant? (Prompt: which method did you use? Did you have any problems with contraception?)

Were you using contraception when you became pregnant? (Prompt: were you intending to get pregnant?)

How would you describe your general health before you became pregnant? (Prompt: physical, psychological)

Did you know about folic acid?

C) Discovery of pregnancy

When did you first suspect you might be pregnant?

Who did you tell? (Prompt: partner, family, GP, friend)

How did you feel when you found you were pregnant? (Prompt: surprised, pleased, worried)

How did other people respond to your pregnancy? (Prompt: partner, parents, friends)

Were you sure about what you wanted to do about the pregnancy? (Prompt: who helped you make the decision? Did you change your mind?)

D) The index pregnancy and birth

How did you feel when you were pregnant? (Prompt: expectations, complications, procedures)

How did you feel about antenatal clinics? (Prompt: relationships with health professionals, parentcraft)

How did you find the hospital? (Prompt: ultrasound scan, staff)

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How was the birth for you? (Prompts: labour, who was with you? complications)

Did you feel your wishes were met? (Prompt: pain relief, manner of labour, attitude of staff)

E) Other health/lifestyle choices

Did you smoke before you became pregnant? (Prompt: how did you feel about smoking when you were pregnant? Did you want to give up?)

Did you drink much alcohol or take any drugs (including prescribed medication)? (Prompt: could you tell me a little more about that? what was the reason you changed your smoking/drinking? have you smoked since?)

Did you have to make any other changes to your life when you found you were pregnant? (Prompt: education, work, social life)

F) Postnatal period

Can you tell me how you felt about you baby when he/she was born? (Prompt: anxiety, support)

How did you feel in the first few days? (Prompt: physical, baby blues)

How did you feed your baby? (Prompt: what made you decide to use this method?)

Did you go to your postnatal check-up? (Prompt: using contraception)

Did you ever feel low later on?

G) The child

Did you have any problems with the baby's health? (Prompt: accidents, admissions to hospital, who would you ask for advice?)

Did the baby have all the immunizations? (Prompt: did you have any concerns? who would give you advice?)

H) Overall perspective

How do you feel about having had your first child when you did? (Prompt: too young, just right, would you do the same again?)

Do you think having a baby when you did has affected your life? (Prompt: education, employment, relationships)