

North East England Local Maternity Systems (LMS) System Leadership Prevention Priorities



LMS
Darlington, Tees, Hambleton,
Richmondshire and Whitby
Northumberland,
Tyne and Wear and Durham
Local Maternity Systems

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INTRODUCTION

Prevention is central to achieve Better Births in the North East of England. Both LMS boards, with the North East of England Association of Directors of Public Health, agreed seven 'must-do' priorities to improve population health within maternity services. Focussing on tobacco, alcohol, breastfeeding, perinatal mental health, healthy weight, immunisations & making every contact count (MECC), a funded LMS Prevention Coordinator has been leading the work with Heads of Midwifery to embed priorities into clinical pathways.

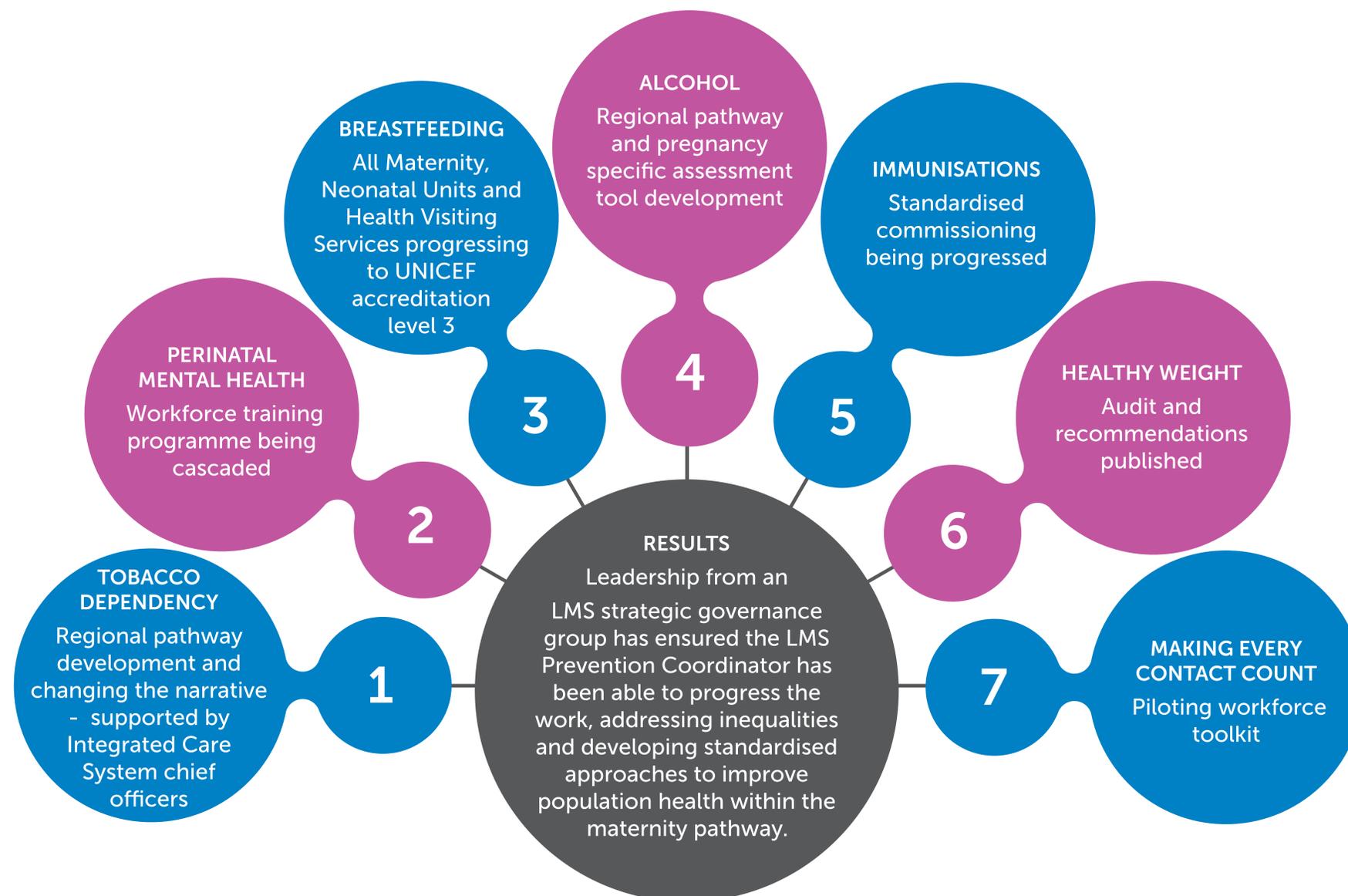
APPROACH

Audits were completed for the seven 'must-do' priorities using NICE guidance/alternative evidence frameworks establishing a baseline.

A regional LMS prevention conference was held focusing on smoking and alcohol. Audit findings and recommendations were shared so delegates could consider progression and implementing improvements.

The LMS Prevention Coordinator has guided all maternity providers to devise locality level plans. Partnership working has been essential: maternity staff, 13 Local Authorities, 7 Foundation Trusts, 11 Clinical Commissioning Group's, 4 Integrated Care Partnership's, Health Visiting, private and voluntary sectors.

Support was gained from the Integrated Care System Leads which focused on changing the mindset of caring for women with tobacco dependency in pregnancy by improving ownership, the language/script and treatment pathway within multifaceted systems.



NEXT STEPS

Continue development of existing workstreams with multi systems approach. Embedding of pathways and approaches at local level through local bespoke maternity plans.

Improving Maternity staff access to public health training, resources and support through a Virtual Training Hub and launch of a Public Health Midwives Network

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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