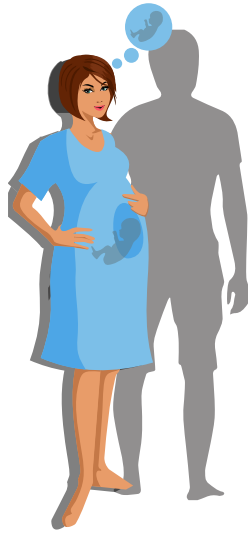


BEGIN BEFORE BIRTH



2.4 MILLION BABIES BY 2020

Every expectant parent and unborn baby should have the support they need to enable a healthy pregnancy. Building relationships for stronger families, communities and generations to come should be a national priority. An investment into them is an investment into our nation.

KEY STATISTICS



Domestic Abuse in Pregnancy

More than 30% of domestic abuse begins in pregnancy and existing abuse may get worse during pregnancy. Domestic abuse during pregnancy puts mum and unborn child in danger, increasing the risk of physical and mental health issues.



Pregnancy and mental illness

Depression and anxiety are the most common mental health problems in pregnancy. This affects about 20% pregnant women and around 10% of expectant fathers.



Pre-natal Education

Prenatal education is an important component of supporting healthy pregnancies. A baby's potential begins in the womb where their physical, senses and brain are growing.

POLICY GOALS



Supporting couple relationships

Ante-natal assessments should be more holistic focussing on the parents physical and mental health as well as equipping parents with tips how to build a positive bond with their baby and understand their development and emotional world post-birth. Every expectant parent should be offered the opportunity to attend.



Improved ante-natal assessment and classes














Supporting the relationship between parents contributes to their impact on their child during pregnancy and potential after birth and throughout childhood. Access to relationship support pre-and post birth is critical to a child's life opportunities, as this is where the highest proportion of relationship breakdown occurs.



Improved workplace culture

Pregnancy discrimination in the workplace is at record levels, fathers to be have less opportunities to attend antenatal classes and there is a greater commitment required to ensure flexible working and support is offered to families with young children to ensure the health and wellbeing of the family.

FETAL GROWTH & DEVELOPEMENT DURING PREGNACY

	0-2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9-12	13-16	17-36	38
 14 days	<4 mm	4-5 mm	7-10 mm	9-14 mm	13-22 mm	21-30 mm	5-8 cm	9-14 cm	15-45 cm	47-52 cm	
 7 days	embryo growth										
 1 day	embryo weight	←	-	-	-	1g	2-14g	23-100g	140-2600g	3080g	

