Appendix

Table 1 - Number of records linked using each method

		2003/04 Cohort N=567,347		2013/14 N=634,293	
		N % of Cohort		N	% of Cohort
Deterministically		271,111		413,870	
linked	Valid IMD	269,719	47.5	410,870	64.8
Probabilistically		210,011			
linked	Valid IMD	209,020	36.8	-	-
IMD – baby		37,150	6.5	165,754	26.1
Final		515,889	90.9	576,624	90.9

Table 2 - Linking Variables

Variable		Deterministic	Probabilistic
Provider Code	procode	✓	✓
GP practice	gpprac	✓	√
Maternal Age	matage	√	✓
Birth Weight	birweit	√	✓
Gestation	gestat	✓	✓
Birth Order	birordr	✓	✓
Baby Sex	babysex	✓	✓
Estimated delivery date	opdte/birthdate	Х	√
First Antenatal Assessment data	anasdate	Х	√
Gestation at first antenatal	anagest	Х	✓
assessment			
Delivery method	delmeth	X	✓
Intended delivery place	delinten	Х	✓
Actual Delivery place	delplac	Х	✓
Method to induce labour	delonset	Х	✓
Anaesthetic given during labour/delivery	delprean	Х	✓
Anaesthetic given post labour/delivery	delposan	Х	✓
Status person conducting delivery	delstat	Х	√
Birth status	birstat	Х	✓
Resuscitation method	biresus	X	✓
Ethnic category	ethnos	Х	✓
Postcode district	postdist	Х	✓
Episode start Date	epistart	Х	✓
Episode end Date	epidend	Х	√

Table 3 - Completion rate of variables of important linking variables

		2003		2013			
	All	Included	Not Included	All	Included	Not Included	
	N=576,347	N=515,889	N=51,458	N=634,293	N=576,624	N=57,669	
Provider	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Code							
GP Practice	99.7%	99.7%	99.7%	99.9%	99.9%	98.9%	
Maternal	61.4%	64.7%	28.7%	66.3%	71.1%	18.8%	
age							
Birth	58.3%	60.8%	32.7%	82.4%	82.6%	80.3%	
Weight							
Gestation	55.6%	58.6%	26.6%	76.7%	79.8%	45.2%	
Birth Order	65.7%	68.5%	37.4%	81.9%	82.7%	73.8%	
Baby Sex	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	

Table 4 – Cohort Characteristics

			2003		2013		
		Included	Not Included	Included	Not Included		
		N=515,889	N=51,458	N=576,624	N=57,669		
Maternal	Valid N	333,851	14,745	409,701	10,827		
age (years)	Mean (SD)	29.3 (6.0)	28.8 (6.0)	29.5 (5.8)	30.1(5.9)		
Gestation	Valid N	302,030	13,669	460,297	26,069		
(weeks)	Mean (SD)	39.1 (2.5)	38.6 (3.0)	39.0 (2.4)	39.0 (2.4)		
Birth	Valid N	313,723	16,827	476,423	46,277		
Weight (g)	Mean (SD)	3297.5 (652.2)	3130.3 (832.5)	3338.7 (597.3)	3313.6 (604.1)		
Ethnicity	White	250,062 (48%)	27,912 (54%)	407,586 (71%)	35,079 (61%)		
	Black	13,576 (3%)	1,438 (3%)	23,703 (4%)	2789 (5%)		
	Asian	27,488 (5%)	2,147 (4%)	60,993 (11%)	6702 (12%)		
	Mixed	8,384 (2%)	1,062 (2%)	26,506 (5%)	2951 (5%)		
	Other	12,723 (2%)	1,383 (3%)	20,383 (3.8%)	2057 (4%)		
	Missing	203,656 (39%)	17516 (34%)	37,453(6%)	8091 (14%)		
Region of	North East	25,974 (5%)	549 (1%)	29,812 (5%)	50 (<1%)		
Hospital	North West	72,749 (14%)	2,403 (5%)	76,114 (13%)	5,190 (9%)		
	Yorkshire and the Humber	55,564 (11%)	1,924 (4%)	58,455 (10%)	2,373 (4%)		
	East Midlands	31,911 (6%)	9,109 (18%)	37,836 (7%)	6,510 (11%)		
	West Midlands	60,748 (12%)	3,801 (7%)	55,208 (10%)	15,051 (26%)		
	East of England	44,699 (9%)	14,048 (27%)	59,894 (10%)	7,347 (13%)		
	London	98,439 (19%)	11,057 (21%)	113,207 (20%)	13,805 (24%)		
	South East	79,789 (15%)	6,969 (13%)	90,385 (16%)	6,933 (12%)		
	South West	46,016 (9%)	1,598 (3%)	55,713 (10%)	410 (1%)		

Table 5 - Comparison to ONS National Statistics

		2003		2013	
		ONS	Cohort	ONS	Cohort
Maternal age (Years)	Mean	29.4	29.3	30.0	29.5
Birth Weight(g)	Under 1500	1.3 %	1.9 %	1.1%	1.1%
	1500-1999	1.6 %	1.4 %	1.4%	1.4%
	2000 – 2499	4.8 %	4.7 %	4.6%	4.6%
	2500-2999	17.2 %	17.4 %	16.3%	16.6%
	3000-3499	35.6 %	35.7 %	35.3%	35.7%
	3500+	39.3 %	38.9 %	40.3%	40.7%
IMD	1 – Most deprived	14.6%	15.0%	14.3%	14.4%
	2	12.4%	12.8%	13.0%	13.2%
	3	10.9%	11.2%	12.0%	11.9%
	4	9.9%	10.0%	10.8%	10.9%
	5	9.3%	9.3%	9.6%	9.8%
	6	8.8%	8.8%	9.2%	8.9%
	7	8.5%	8.4%	8.3%	8.2%
	8	8.5%	8.3%	8.1%	7.8%
	9	8.5%	8.2%	7.7%	7.7%
	10 – Least	8.5%	7.9%	6.9%	7.2%
	Deprived				

ONS data obtained from ONS website

ONS. Number of live births by Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), 2003 to 2020, England 2022 [Available from:

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ONS. Characteristics of Birth 1, England and Wales, 2013 Edition 2014 [Available from: https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/livebirths/datasets/characteristicsofbirth1englandandwales.