Reviewer's report

Title: Predictors of weight change from before pregnancy to one year postpartum.

Version: 1 Date: 15 November 2010

Reviewer: Rachel Leach

Reviewer's report:

The question posed by the authors is well defined and the methods appropriate and well described. The data appear sound and limitations discussed within the paper. The manuscript is well written and coherent. The tables are relevant and necessary. The limitations are clearly presented and reasonable. The statistics appear appropriate but this is not my strength, a different reviewer may feel more qualified to assess this.

The topic is interesting and current. I would consider the article of importance in its field and I would propose to accept this paper after discretionary revisions.

The discretionary revisions I would propose are to include results & discussion relating to pre pregnancy & post partum distribution of overweight and obesity. E.g. are those retaining #5 kg already overweight and shifting to becoming obese or are those retaining #5kg underweight or at the lower end of normal (pre pregnancy) and shifting to the upper end of normal or slightly overweight (one year post partum)? It is important both as predictor and from a public health intervention/prevention perspective.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests