



NHS North Central London

Meeting:	Date:	Agenda Item No: 5
CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD	24 October 2013	

TITLE OF PAPER: Early Years Review Phase 1 Report
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SUMMARY OF PAPER:

An early years review has been conducted, led by the council but working alongside partners, to identify how we can improve Barnet's early years provision. The key objectives of the review have been to;

1. Understand current early years provision in Barnet.
2. Identify best practice from elsewhere.
3. Develop recommendations for improvement.

The report details the findings of the review and a range of recommendations that can be summarised as follows:

- Create a more joined-up Barnet early years system to identify vulnerable families early and co-ordinate support for them. In particular, a more integrated delivery approach for children's centres and health visitors, along with other health professionals.
- An improved family approach with higher risk adult groups – mental health, drugs, alcohol and domestic violence.
- Simplifying the system for parents and partners.
- Consolidation of support for early years settings.
- A further shift in the balance from universal to targeted services.
- Market development activity in growth areas to ensure there is sufficient childcare across Barnet.

The recommendations have been endorsed by the Early Years Review multi-agency project board.

ACTION REQUIRED BY BOARD:

- Endorse the recommendations of the report, in particular the need for an integrated approach to better take advantage of the opportunity to intervene early and prevent needs escalating for higher risk families.

AUTHOR OF PAPER

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