

**Meeting:**

Children's Trust Board

24.09.15**Agenda Item No:****6****Title of paper:**

Children Count Wellbeing Surveys

Summary of paper:

Launched by the Darlington Social Research Unit (DSRU), ChildrenCount Well-being Surveys are a set of tools designed to measure at the local population level, children's health and development from birth to early adulthood – developing a profile of local need.

Through the ChildrenCount framework, the DSRU has already worked with local authorities in the UK, as well as the US, to develop comprehensive datasets on the wellbeing of children and young people in local areas. More recently, they have been approached by a member of the Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS) to develop a proposal for a London-wide data-set, and Barnet has been invited to join the 'early adopter group' to initiate this work.

ChildrenCount Well-being Surveys measure 'key developmental outcomes' and associated risks/ protective factors, not typically available at the local level through existing data. Through a series of targeted surveys, the tools are able to assess local influences upon child outcomes and the degree to which existing services meet local needs.

For Barnet, this would mean an opportunity to compare meaningful local data with geographical and statistical neighbours, and potentially co-invest in strategies to improve outcomes that transgress borough boundaries.

Action required by board:

1. The Childrens Trust Board is asked to comment on the ChildrenCount paper and identify any particular areas the survey should focus on.

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