



Barnet Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4 December 2017

Title	Children and Young People's Oral Health in Barnet
Report of	Public Health Consultant for Children and Young People
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix A: Children and Young People's Oral Health – Recommendations from the Oral Health Working Group Appendix B: Oral Health Data Paper
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Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Barnet Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) with information on the oral health of children and young people in Barnet. The report also includes opportunities to improve rates of decay in children. A summary of the discussion by the Oral Health Working Group and the emerging recommendations are highlighted in Appendix A. The working group was established in response to the high rates of tooth decay in young children.

Recommendations

1. That the Committee note the report.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

This report is a response to a request to update the Committee on the findings from the newly established Oral Health Working Group in Barnet.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Report provides the Committee on the challenges and opportunities to improve child oral health in Barnet.
- 2.2 The deep dive data highlighted three areas of concern in relation to the oral health of children in Barnet:
- 2.2.1 There is a high rate of tooth decay in young people and children leading to a lower Quality of Life (QoL).
- 2.2.2 There are increasing rates of hospital-based tooth extraction requiring general anaesthesia. This is more costly in terms of healthcare resources in Barnet.
- 2.2.3 The number of children visiting a dentist in Barnet over the last 12 months was lower than the London and national averages. NICE Guidelines recommend that children visit the dentist at least twice a year.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 Not Applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The views of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be considered by the Oral Health Working Group in their next meeting.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.11 The Corporate Plan 2015 2020 Indicates that the Council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is the place:
- Of opportunity, where people can improve their quality of life
- Where people are helped to help themselves
- Where responsibility is shared, fairly
- Where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the Taxpayer
- 5.1.1 The Oral Health Working Group's recommendations correspond with the themes of Barnet's Health and Wellbeing strategy 2015-2020:
 - Preparing for a healthy life Improving outcomes for babies, young children and their families
 - How we live
 - Encouraging healthier lifestyles

- 5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)
- 5.2.1 NHS England commission all dental practices and inpatient services in Barnet. The total dental patient charge for Barnet CCG was £2,814,875 for the 16/17 financial year¹.
- 5.2.2 Children and Young People's Oral Health has a budget of £59,000 within the 2017/18 ringfenced Public Health Grant.
- 5.2.3 There are no additional financial implications of the recommendations.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 Not Applicable.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 Section 244 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013/218; Part 4 Health Scrutiny by Local Authorities provides for the establishment of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees by local authorities.
- 5.4.2 The Council's Constitution (Article 7)sets out the terms of reference of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee as having the following responsibilities:

"To perform the overview and scrutiny role in relation to health issues which impact upon the residents of the London Borough of Barnet and the functions services and activities of the National Health Service (NHS) and NHS bodies located within the London Borough of Barnet and in other areas."

5.5 Risk Management

The Units of Dental Activity (UDAs) have been fixed since 2005, yet the population of Barnet's 0-19 year olds has increased dramatically. The population is expected to increase over the next 25 years. This will be a challenge to dentists in the borough to treat residents if UDAs are not changed in line with the population increase.

5.6 **Equalities and Diversity**

- 5.6.1 Equality and Diversity issues are a mandatory consideration in decision making in the Council pursuant to the Equality Act 2010. This means the Council and all other organisations acting on its behalf must fulfil its equality duty when exercising a public function. The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality and good relations into day to day business, requiring equality considerations to be reflected into the design of Policies and the delivery of services and for these to be kept under review. There is an explicit difference between most and least deprived children and levels of tooth decay.
- 5.6.2 The specific duty set out in s149 of the Equality Act is to have due regard to

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¹ NHS Digital, Dental Statistics, 2016/17

need to:

Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

5.6.3 The relevant protected characteristics are – age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation. Health partners as relevant public bodies must similarly discharge their duties under the Equality Act 2010 and consideration of equalities issues should therefore form part of their reports.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 This paper provides an opportunity for the Committee to be updated on children's and young people's oral health in Barnet

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Report to Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Oral Health in Barnet, 3 July 2017 https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=179&Mld=9289& Ver=4
- 6.2 Report to Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Healthwatch Barnet Dental Report, 29 September 2015 https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=179&Mld=8372&Ver=4