

Early Intervention & Prevention (Children's Services) Task & Finish Group			
Recommendation to Cabinet (accepted)	Status (RAG)	Information	Contact Officers
<p><b><u>Recommendation One</u></b></p> <p>Family Profiling and family intervention should be prioritised within the Early Intervention and Prevention strategy as these will deliver greater long term savings for the council. Cabinet are requested to provide information on the prioritisation of these elements in the Strategy and anticipated costs/benefits</p>	Green	<p><b><u>Update April 2013</u></b></p> <p>As previously reported, family profiling through assessments is a key part of our Family Focus work through which we are delivering family intervention and the government's Troubled Families programme.</p> <p>Barnet has identified and started working with 322 of our 705 troubled families.</p> <p>We have received agreement that we can work with our full cohort in two rather than three years and our current caseload shows that we are well on track to do that.</p> <p>We have already claimed for 25 outcomes between April and January and hope to be making a further claim for c200 – 250 families in July.</p>	Jay Mercer/ Stuart Collins

Recommendation to Cabinet (not accepted)	Status (RAG)	Information	Contact Officers
<p><b><u>Recommendation Two</u></b></p> <p>The Task &amp; Finish Group recognise the importance of the work of Educational Psychology and express concern that the planned reductions in service might affect the Council's ability to deliver effective Early Intervention &amp; Prevention Strategy and ask that the Cabinet reconsider.</p>	n/a	<p><b><u>Update April 2013</u></b></p> <p>No update required. Recommendation not accepted by Cabinet.</p>	

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<p><b><u>Recommendation Three</u></b></p> <p>The Task and Finish Group recognises Nurture Groups as an important method of intervening early and recommend that Children's Services engage with all primary schools in the Borough to encourage them to utilise their existing resources to develop Nurture Groups, with the outcome of these discussions being reported to the Task and Finish Group at the earliest opportunity.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><b><u>Update April 2013</u></b></p> <p>The Children's Service recognises the value of nurturing approaches as part of its programme to support parents through the Family Focus team. We therefore include Family Link's Nurturing Programme as part of this, and make this available to primary schools and their parents.</p> <p>All parenting programmes including Family Link are advertised on Barnet online, so are accessible to all primary schools and children's centres to promote to parents. Parents and schools refer directly to Family Focus for all parenting programmes.</p> <p>It is an evidenced based programme as researched and recommended by the National Academy of Parenting. Parents who attend can be accredited at a level 1 or 2.</p> <p>4 primary schools have trained and delivered it, Brunswick Park, Northside Primary, Deansbrook Junior School and Manorside Primary. Brunswick Park Primary have twice delivered it in partnership with Family Focus.</p> <p>Family Focus have also delivered it for Woodcroft Primary School. In May we will start another course at Tudor Primary school.</p> <p>3 children's centres have also delivered courses-Underhill, Wingfield and Barnfield. Parkfield Children's Centre delivered a programme at Claremont School.</p> <p>Since 2010 Family Focus have delivered Family Link Nurturing Programme 5 times to 97 parents.</p>	<p>Jay Mercer/ Stuart Collins</p>

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<p><b><u>Recommendation Four</u></b></p> <p>The Task &amp; Finish Group recognise the importance of the work of Child &amp; Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in delivering the Early Intervention &amp; Prevention Strategy and recommend that Children's Service undertake urgent discussions with the Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust about the role of CAMHS and the level of service available to support young people in Barnet.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><b><u>Update April 2013</u></b></p> <p>Early intervention and prevention CAMHS provision is in place in primary and secondary schools across the borough, providing up to 6 weeks of early support to children and young people who require it. The new referral pathway to Tier 3 CAMHS via a CAF is increasing multi-agency working between schools and CAMHS. At 31 March 2013, 86 CAFs have been used as a referral route into Tier 3 CAMHS.</p> <p>There are ongoing discussions with Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust about the level of service available to support young people in Barnet. On 18<sup>th</sup> April Cabinet Resources Committee considered a paper outlining Children's Service future plans for more integrated working with Barnet CCG in relation to CAMHS. The Council and Barnet CCG are committed to ensuring a more integrated approach to commissioning and it is a key aspiration in the Health and Well Being Board Strategy October 2012-2015. The CAMHS service will be re-commissioned during 2013, with a new contract and service in place from 1 April 2014.</p>	<p>Jay Mercer/ Stuart Collins</p>

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<p><b><u>Recommendation Five</u></b></p> <p>The Children’s Service review the effectiveness of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and the Multi-Agency Group (MAG) in Barnet and report its findings to the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee within the next 6 months</p>	<b>Green</b>	<p>The Children’s Service has recently reported the effectiveness of the CAF and the MAG to its SLT and no risks have been highlighted.</p> <p>There will be significant increased CAF activity from the new Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, (MASH), due for launch in summer 2013.</p> <p><b><u>CAF</u></b></p> <p>Overall the total number of open CAFs has increased by 66% since the same time last year, which indicates that the CAF process has become more embedded across the workforce. This has probably been assisted by the localising and simplifying of the CAF Form at the end of 2011, and by the fact that the CAF is now used as a referral as well as a multi-agency assessment tool to access a number of targeted services.</p> <table><tr><th colspan="2">(CAFs) Between 01/10/12 – 31/03/13</th></tr><tr><td>Numbers of CAFs stepped-up to Children’s Social Care</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Numbers of CAFs closed as needs have been met</td><td>51</td></tr><tr><td>Numbers of CAFs stepped-down from Children’s Social Care to CAF arena *</td><td>72</td></tr></table>	(CAFs) Between 01/10/12 – 31/03/13		Numbers of CAFs stepped-up to Children’s Social Care	15	Numbers of CAFs closed as needs have been met	51	Numbers of CAFs stepped-down from Children’s Social Care to CAF arena *	72	Jay Mercer/ Stuart Collins
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		<p>Pastoral care staff within Schools are by far the highest CAF initiators (388 or 52% of all open CAFs) and Lead Professionals on the same number. This is to be expected given that schools are a universal service and are well placed to identify and support children with additional needs. The second highest initiators are Intensive Family Focus Workers who use the CAF as their main assessment tool, and thirdly Children's Centres.</p> <p><b><u>MAGs</u></b></p> <p>Since December 2012, there have been three further MAG meetings held. The meetings are attended by managers from all key partner agencies and relevant teams within Children's Service with an aim to trouble-shoot CAFs which have become stuck, or where there is professional difference. They are chaired by Assistant Directors.</p> <p>Out of the CAF cases brought to the MAGs since January 2013 (a total of 12 cases), half of them will not need to return to the next meeting, as they are now deemed to be back on track (for example, an appropriate Lead Professional has been appointed, or the young person is no longer NEET, or the professionals seem clearer of their role, and the right agencies are now involved).</p>	
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<p><b><u>Recommendation Six</u></b></p> <p>Children's Services consider how children and families exit the early intervention process by developing criteria for agreed exit strategies</p>	Green	<p><b><u>Update April 2013</u></b></p> <p>Family Focus plan exit strategies for families fully. We make significant use of volunteer community coaches to maintain contact.</p> <p>Phase 2 of the Community Coaches initiative was developed in January 2012 to establish whether a community coaching scheme could meet the needs of some of Barnet's most vulnerable families.</p> <p>Key priorities for the council and the children's service are enabling families to maintain good levels of health and wellbeing for longer, (e.g. when exiting family intervention programmes), enabling communities to support vulnerable people and reducing the need for paid services, whilst also improving their physical and mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The phase 2 prototype demonstrated that Community Coaches could help people;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (re)connect with family, neighbours and the community more widely,</li> <li>• help people find out about and engage with different community groups and access universal services,</li> <li>• find ways to use their skills and knowledge e.g. intergenerational work – reading in schools, sharing experiences, teaching skills</li> <li>• regain confidence and plan how they would maintain and maximise their independence</li> <li>• assist with specific issues such as housing</li> </ul> <p>A commissioning strategy group was set up in June 2012 - membership</p>	Jay Mercer/ Stuart Collins

		<p>included officers in Early Intervention and Prevention as well as representatives from youth support, complex needs, children's social care and the voluntary sector.</p> <p>This group developed the specification for the phase 3 community coaches initiative with the primary aim to support the wider early intervention agenda across the Council, and a budget of £440,000</p> <p>The outcome of the tender process was considered at April's Cabinet Resources Committee.</p>	
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