

	<p style="text-align: center;">Barnet Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 October 2020</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Title</p>	<p>Barnet Breastfeeding Peer Support Service</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of</p>	<p>Director of Public Health and Prevention</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Enclosures</p>	<p>Appendix A: Update Report from CLCH and LBB Appendix B: Barnet Breastfeeding forum action plan Appendix C: Pathway for care of feeding concerns in Barnet</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Officer Contact Details</p>	<p>Clare Slater-Robins clare.slater-robins@barnet.gov.uk</p>
<p>Summary</p>	
<p>The Committee had received updates on a Member’s Item in the name of Councillor Alison Cornelius on 24 May and 18 October 2018 and requested a further update to be supplied detailing the breastfeeding support services model and breastfeeding rates in Barnet. The document attached in Appendix A provides this report. Appendix B details the action plan the breastfeeding forum has compiled and Appendix C outlines the pathway to be followed after identification of feeding concerns.</p> <p>Following co-design work in 2019 and the Healthy Child Programme services transformation, significant improvements in the accuracy of data capture for breastfeeding rates have been made at the 6 – 8 week health visitor review and are now above England average. A breastfeeding forum was established including service users and stakeholders and is working to an action plan to increase breastfeeding in the borough. The forum has drafted a care of feeding concerns pathway to ensure a consistent approach for service users.</p>	

Recommendations

1. That the Committee note the report and progress made in breastfeeding services.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

The Committee have requested to receive a further report on Breastfeeding Support Services at October 2020 meeting. Due to retendering the Healthy Child Programme services, a 2019 update was not possible, and the July 2020 HOSC meeting was cancelled.

The benefits of breastfeeding are clear. As well as health benefits to mother and baby, increased breastfeeding rates can contribute to reducing health inequalities through improved outcomes. Financially, high rates of breastfeeding not only result in savings to family budgets, but also to the public purse due to reduced service costs associated with dealing with health problems which occur more frequently when babies are not breast fed.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The report provides the Committee with the opportunity to be briefed on this matter. They are empowered to make further recommendations should they wish.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The breastfeeding forum will continue to implement and monitor the action plan to improve breastfeeding incidence in Barnet.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.11 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's principles and strategic objectives set out in the Corporate Plan 2015 – 2020.

The strategic objectives set out in the 2015 – 2020 Corporate Plan are: –

The Council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is the place:

- Of opportunity, where people can further 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

5.2 **Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

5.2.1 The Breastfeeding peer supporter service is funded within the Healthy Child Programme from Public Health Grant and there are no other financial implications for the Council.

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**

5.6 No risks have been identified.

5.7 **Equalities and Diversity**

5.7.1 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.

5.7.2 The specific duty set out in s149 of the Equality Act is to have due regard to 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.

5.7.3 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.

5.8 **Consultation and Engagement**

Not applicable.

5.9 **Corporate Parenting:**

Not applicable.

6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 18 October 2018 HOSC minutes



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