



## Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Tuesday 10 December 2013 at 7.00 pm**  
Boardrooms 3, 4, 5 and 6 - Brent Civic Centre,  
Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ

### Membership:

#### Members

Councillors:

Mitchell Murray (Chair)  
Matthews (Vice-Chair)  
Aden  
Al-Ebadi  
Arnold  
Gladbaum  
Kansagra  
CJ Patel

#### First alternates

Councillors:

Daly  
Sneddon  
Oladapo  
Jones  
Krupa Sheth  
S Choudhary  
Baker  
Leaman

#### Second alternates

Councillors:

Ogunro  
Clues  
Harrison  
RS Patel  
Hossain  
Hector  
Colwill  
Green

#### Statutory Co-optees

Alloysius Frederick  
Elsie Points  
Nardia Sullivan  
Vacancy

#### Non-statutory Co-optees

Mrs Hawra Imane  
Dr J Levison

#### Observers

Ms J Cooper  
Mrs L Gouldbourne  
Ms C Jolinon  
Brent Youth Parliament  
representatives

**For further information contact:** Bryony Gibbs, Democratic Services Officer  
020 8937 1355 [bryony.gibbs@brent.gov.uk](mailto:bryony.gibbs@brent.gov.uk)

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**The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting**

# Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

Item	Page
<b>1    Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests</b>	
Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting any relevant financial or other interest in the items on the agenda.	
<b>2    Deputations (if any)</b>	
<b>3    Minutes of the last meeting held on 10 October 2013</b>	1 - 10
<b>4    Matters arising</b>	
<b>5    Brent Youth Parliament update</b>	
The committee will receive an oral update on the work of the Brent Youth Parliament.	
<b>6    Education Standards in Brent 2013</b>	11 - 22
This report comments on the standards achieved in Brent schools in 2013.	
<b>7    School Places update</b>	
A verbal update will be provided to the committee.	
<b>8    Working with Families update</b>	
The committee will receive a presentation on the Working with Families initiative.	
<b>9    Children's Centres Update</b>	23 - 60
This paper provides an overview of the progress of Brent Council in securing sufficient integrated early childhood services through children's centres.	

## **10 Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 61 - 66**

The Work Programme is attached.

## **11 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny meeting is scheduled for 5 February 2014

## **12 Any other urgent business**

Notice of items raised under this heading must be given in writing to the Democratic Services Manager or his representative before the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 64.



- Please remember to *SWITCH OFF* your mobile phone during the meeting.
- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public.

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## **MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday 10 October 2013 at 7.00 pm**

PRESENT: Councillors Aden, Al-Ebadi, Arnold, Gladbaum, Kansagra, CJ Patel, Mr A Frederick, Ms E Points, Dr Levison, Sullivan, Ms J Cooper and Brent Youth Parliament representatives

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillor Matthews, Mrs L Gouldbourne and Ms C Jolinon

### **1. Election of Chair for the meeting**

In the absence of the Chair or Vice Chair of the committee, nominations were sought for a Chair for the duration of the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Gladbaum be elected Chair for the duration of the meeting.

### **2. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests**

Alloysius Frederick advised that he was now employed by Capita and left the meeting for the duration of the item on Careers Advice for Young People in Brent.

### **3. Deputations (if any)**

None.

### **4. Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record.

### **5. Matters arising**

With regard to the presentation on the dental health, the committee sought an update on the two public health posts relating to schools and early years respectively. Councillor Pavey (Lead Member for Children and Families) advised that he would provide an update to the Committee on this matter at the next meeting. He further explained that he was adamant that consideration of children and young people be more deeply embedded in the work programme of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and would be providing feedback on this issue and the HWB agenda at future meetings of the committee. Mark Cairns (Policy and Performance Officer) drew members' attention to the letter drafted on behalf of the

committee regarding opportunities for dental health outreach work. The committee expressed its thanks to Imran Choudhury for drafting the letter and agreed that it be sent in the name of the whole committee.

The committee noted that as requested, a section setting out the child poverty implications of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Annual Report had been circulated. In response to members' comments regarding the brevity of section, Sara Williams (Director of Children and Families) advised it addressed the child poverty implications of the LSCB annual report as required and noted that all of the council's strategies were interlinked. The committee requested an expanded version be prepared and circulated.

Responding to members queries, Sara Williams explained that a report on the Early Years team would be submitted to the next meeting of the committee scheduled for 10 December 2013 and that in future, a substantive report would be provided on admissions and school places for the September/October meeting of the committee.

**RESOLVED:**

- i. that Imran Choudhury be thanked for his work in drafting the letter to NHS England.
- ii. that the letter to NHS England regarding opportunities for dental health outreach work be sent from the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- iii. that a report on the Early Years Service be submitted to the next meeting of the committee on 10 December 2013.
- iv. that a substantive report on admissions and school places be submitted to the September or October meeting of the committee each year.

## **6. Corporate Parenting Strategy**

Vernon Bamforth (Interim Head of Care Planning) and Maggie Taylor (Head of the Virtual School) introduced the report before the committee and gave a detailed presentation on the progress achieved in improving outcomes for Looked After Children (LAC). The presentation provided a profile of Brent's LAC and addressed a broad range of areas including outcomes relating to safeguarding, health, educational attainment and participation. Members were advised that the number of LAC in Brent had been reduced, suggesting successful targeting of preventative services, and the gap between outcomes achieved by LAC and those of their peers had been positively narrowed. It was noted that Looked After Children living in residential children's homes were more likely to achieve poorer outcomes. Successful efforts had been made to place children with complex needs into highly supported foster placements in preference to residential units, resulting in a reduction of the latter from 90 in September 2012 to 75 in September 2013. Similarly, the council had also reduced its reliance on costly Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) placements, by increasing the proportion of LAC placed with Brent in-house foster carers.

Vernon Bamforth elucidated issues of safeguarding for LAC, including the risks relating to child sexual exploitation, gangs and children missing from education or

care. A summary of the council's protocols for identifying and addressing these risks was provided and the committee heard that Brent's Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) was currently reviewing the council's policies and risk assessment tools regarding children missing from care. A multi-agency child sexual exploitation sub-group of Brent's Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) had been established which was addressing this risk within the LAC population. Outlining developments in other areas, Vernon Bamforth explained that there had been an audit of health assessments which had evidenced substantial improvement in the quality of health provision to LAC. The importance of participation was also emphasised and members were apprised of the activities of the Brent Care in Action (CiA) group which encouraged young people to take an active part in shaping the services they used.

Maggie Taylor explained the role of the Brent Virtual School, noting that it was comprised of officers responsible for delivering a co-ordinated system of support to Brent's Looked After Children to achieve improved educational attainment. In fulfilling this role, the Virtual School monitored progression, attendance, exclusion and out of school learning for all Brent LAC and ran a variety of out of school activities. At the present time, the school supported 235 children of which 60 per cent resided outside of Brent. Outlining the headline statistics for the 2012/13 academic year, Maggie Taylor advised that the level of authorised absence was high due in part to requirements to attend appointments relating to their status as LAC. However, efforts were being made to bring this figure down and a new protocol had been introduced requiring authorised absences to be agreed by a manager and the Head of the Virtual School. It was noted that each year the make up of the LAC cohort could vary considerably and this accounted for the fluctuations in attainment. The Virtual School also performed a post 16 role, currently supporting and monitoring 65 care leavers in post 16 education and a further 34 at university. Vernon Bamforth added that care leavers were also supported by the Virtual School through Brent's LAC apprenticeship programme and other projects and providers.

In concluding the presentation, Vernon Bamforth advised that the Corporate Parenting Strategy would increasingly focus on planning for those children who were 'on the edge of care' and those young people moving into adulthood and independence. The council's 'edge of care' arrangements included the creation of Family Assessment and Intervention Resource (FAIR) team which would be utilised when care proceedings were under serious consideration. It was intended that the FAIR team would assist the council in responding to anticipated requirement for care proceedings to be completed within 26 weeks through early intervention and assessment. There would also be a heightened focus on those care leavers who were not in education, employment or training (NEETS) with tighter tracking via the Economic Well-being Strategy Group and Virtual School post 16 teacher.

The committee thanked the officers for their comprehensive presentation and in the subsequent discussion raised several queries. Members sought further detail on the tracking of LAC who were the victims of crime/sexual exploitation. Clarification was requested regarding the arrangements under which children were placed with friends or family. Noting the reduction of residential placements, a request was made for the financial savings to be quantified. The committee asked for further information regarding the funding prospects for the Fixed 4 Your Future project and sought assurance that the Brent apprenticeship programme would continue. Members queried whether there was any disadvantage to placement outside of the

borough. It was highlighted that the Corporate Parenting Board had been restructured in the previous year and it was queried whether all member vacancies had been filled.

In response, Vernon Bamforth advised that a record was maintained of any child that went missing from care and if a certain threshold was met a strategy meeting was held. Children would be interviewed on return but it was acknowledged that it was often difficult to evidence sexual exploitation; this was an area of development and was being headed by the LSCB sub group. It was explained that placements with family or friends could be a voluntary arrangement under a Residential Order, or could be a formalised placement under a Special Guardianship Order which was more common. At the point of taking children into care social services and the police would have to assess whether the child's extended family could accommodate that child. There were no negative outcomes relating to being placed outside of Brent and the council undertook monitoring to ensure that this position was maintained. With regard to the reduction of placements in residential units it was confirmed that there had been savings made; however, often the services commissioned to support the fostering placements in meeting a child's complex needs were delivered by the same providers or via CAMHS. It was confirmed that there was a commitment to continue to deliver the Brent Apprenticeship programme and that it was under review in order to identify which area would be tasked with taking it forward. It was agreed that an update would be provided to the committee on the outcome of the review of the Brent LAC Apprenticeship programme.

Vernon Bamforth confirmed in response to a member's query, that a detailed breakdown by ethnicity of Brent's Black LAC population could be prepared and circulated to the committee.

Councillor Pavey (Lead Member for Children and Families) in addressing the query regarding the Corporate Parenting Board advised that he chaired the board, which included representation from all of the group leaders. Each of the three political groups represented in Brent were able to nominate an additional councillor, although these positions were currently vacant. The Board was currently under review to ensure that it was robust and provided an effective source of challenge. Councillor Arnold suggested that the political groups should be encouraged to nominate to the vacant positions.

RESOLVED:

- i. that the report and presentation be noted.
- ii. that the committee be provided with an update on the outcome of the review of the Brent Looked After Children Apprenticeship Scheme.

## **7. Careers Advice for Young People in Brent**

Angela Chiswell (Head of Youth Support Services) presented a report updating the committee on the provision of careers advice for young people in Brent. The report detailed the duties of the council, how these were met and outlined significant legislative changes affecting the delivery of careers advice. It was noted that this report had been requested by the Brent Youth Parliament in response to careers



advice being frequently highlighted by their members and young people in Brent as an issue of importance.

Members were advised by Angela Chiswell that the Education Act 2011 placed a duty on schools to secure and fund through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) access to independent, impartial careers guidance for their students in years 9 to 11 from September 2012. This duty was extended to encompass years 8, 12 and 13 with effect from September 2013. Academies and Free schools were subject to the same requirements through their funding arrangements and the Department for Education (DfE) intended to extend an equivalent requirement to Further Education and Sixth Form Colleges through their funding agreements. These arrangements replaced the previous duty for Local Authorities to provide careers information, advice and guidance for young people in schools. However, the majority of Brent's Secondary Schools, including Special Schools and alternative education providers had agreed to commission careers information, advice and guidance through Brent Council's Youth and Connexions Service.

Angela Chiswell explained that Local Authorities were still required to meet a range of related duties, including making available support to those under the age of 19 to enable them to participate in education and training; to track and record young people's post-16 participation; to ensure all 16 and 17 year olds received suitable offers to continue in education or training; and to have arrangements in place to identify those young people who were not participating. The council met its current responsibilities via an in-house team of eight Connexions Advisers who provided intensive support, a Connexions Services contract which was currently out to tender for the period 2014 to 2017, and through the maintenance of the Integrated Youth Support database by Ealing Council on behalf of the West London Boroughs and Pan-London database by Central London Connexions.

It was emphasised that Brent's performance in meeting its duties in this area was good. Angela Chiswell explained that the Youth and Connexions service consistently achieved the key performance target for the number of 16 to 18 year olds in the NEET group, with a performance that was the third best in England measured over the period November 2012 to January 2013. Furthermore, in June 2012, Brent exceeded the national and London averages for the proportion of 16 to 17 year olds in education or training. The committee was advised that the Youth and Connexions Service had responded to the new arrangements by developing service delivery to reflect the changing role for the local authority. It was highlighted that following the closure of the Connexions Centre in Willesden on 31 August 2012, a number of access points had been established across Brent including at the new Roundwood myplace Youth Centre and the Brent Civic Centre. In addition, a wide range of mechanisms for delivering careers advice had been utilised in the past year and these were expounded for the committee's information.

Members of the committee and representatives of Brent Youth Parliament, raised a number of queries in the discussion following. It was queried whether the council monitored the quality of careers advice being provided in schools. Further information was requested in relation to the advertisement of the careers services available to young people in Brent. Concerns were raised about the emphasis within careers advice provided on academic routes of progression and queries were raised about how this issue was best tackled. The committee sought details on the numbers of schools buying into the council's careers service and it was queried

whether there was any discernible correlation regarding the types of school opting to pursue this option.

Responding to the queries raised, John Galligan (School Improvement Lead - Secondary/14-19) advised that there was no correlation between school type and the decision to procure a careers advice service via the council. He further explained that as the statutory responsibility for provision of careers advice had transferred to schools, the council was not monitoring Schools' compliance. The movement of this duty to schools was underpinned by the concept that schools understood their pupils best and would therefore be able to deliver or procure the most appropriate form of provision. There were however, concerns that the new arrangements would lead to a loss of uniform quality assurance. Ofsted had carried out a thematic survey, visiting Brent in the process, and had found that there was a difference in quality of provision across schools. In response to its findings, Ofsted had published a series of recommendations and amended its schools inspection regime to include an assessment of the quality of careers guidance. The regularity of Ofsted inspections depended on how well schools had performed previously. A school awarded an outstanding rating by Ofsted might not be subject to further inspection for several years; however, a school which had been found to require improvement might be inspected as regularly as every term.

John Galligan further explained to the committee that the council did not have the resources to carry out its own inspection of careers advice provision in schools. However, the council supported a Brent 14-19 Partnership which included all schools, training providers and colleges. A key priority set by the partnership was to ensure that all pupils had access to high quality advice and guidance. Furthermore, the College of North West London had proposed to commit resources to re-establish a network, previously supported by the council, to allow Brent Schools to share best practice and discuss issues regarding careers advice provision. With regard to concerns expressed relating to provision being biased towards academic pathways, it was explained that the DfE Statutory Guidance clearly stipulated that schools were required to ensure information was made available on all pathways. However, it was agreed that a meeting with representatives of Brent Youth Parliament would be beneficial in addressing this issue. Angela Chiswell added that the council's careers services were advertised in several ways; in some situations by direct mail to young people and most often through schools, emails and via the B My Voice website. Various successful events were held which enabled young people to be brought into direct contact with a range of different services offering opportunities.

Members commented on the importance of utilising the existing resources of schools including the teachers, governors and parents associations, in the work of the Brent 14-19 Partnership. John Galligan agreed, noting that this was similar to one of the recommendations made by Ofsted.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

## **8. Working with Families update**

RESOLVED:

That due to time limitations, consideration of the Working with Families update report be deferred to the next meeting of the committee, scheduled for 10 December 2013.

#### **9. Brent Youth Parliament update**

Roisin Healy (Brent Youth Parliament (BYP) Representative) updated the committee on the recent work undertaken by the BYP. Members were reminded that elections for BYP were scheduled for 18 November 2013 and it was noted that Thyvia Jeyashanker, previously Chair of the BYP, had recently resigned her position following her employment as a youth worker with the council.

Roisin Healy advised the committee that work had been on-going with the United Kingdom Youth Parliament (UKYP) to complete the make your mark surveys and responses to these had numbered more than 1500, exceeding that received for the previous year. The collated data from the surveys would determine the subject of the national and local campaigns. Efforts were also currently being made to encourage BYP members to join the Voice of the Child sub group of the LSCB. It was further highlighted that BYP members would be on the Panel for the Question Time event scheduled for Monday 14 October 2013

The committee thanked Roisin Healy for her update.

RESOLVED:

that the update on the work of the Brent Youth Parliament be noted.

#### **10. School Places update**

An update on school places within Brent was provided to the committee by Sara Williams (Director of Children and Families). The committee was advised that for secondary provision there were currently plenty of places for Years 7, 8 and 9 but that places for Years 10 and 11 were becoming very restricted, with approximately 50 to 70 new pupils arriving in the borough per week. Placing children in Years 10 and 11 required assessments to be undertaken and was becoming increasingly difficult to achieve.

Sara Williams subsequently outlined the position for Primary School places. Members heard that there had been sufficient Reception year places for all on-time applications; however, there had been over 600 late applications received, approximately 200 more than the previous year. The unexpected increase in applications had resulted in considerable challenges for the council, despite there having been a significant number of additional school places created for September 2013. Further provision was currently being created and extra places would be available in January 2014, with offers being made as of the forthcoming half term. At the present time there were 41 Reception year vacancies in Brent Schools and 161 reception year pupils without offers of school places. The council was currently exceeding schools' admission numbers by placing children using the Fair Access Protocol. There were very few vacancies available in Years 1 and 2 and a new Year 1 class would be opening in January 2014. Brent's schools were facing significant challenges with a disproportionate number of high-need pupils arriving in-year and

a large turn over in school population. Sara Williams emphasised that it becoming increasingly difficult to continue to expand schools in Brent and a lot of work was taking place with Schools' governing bodies.

During Members' discussion, the committee requested information on the geographical areas for which there was greatest demand for school places and asked that the next update include details of the number of children attending school out of borough. With reference to the challenge of creating sufficient provision to meet demand, it was queried what measures the council was able to use to persuade and require schools to expand. It was noted that there was a proposal to create a primary free school in Dollis Hill, with an intended opening date of September 2015, and a question was raised on whether this would lead to surplus capacity at that time. Further details were sought regarding how the council was supporting schools in meeting the current challenges. A Member advised that he had received several complaints from residents regarding school admissions which had been quickly resolved following his intervention. It was commented that it should not take the intervention of a councillor to resolve issues.

Sara Williams advised that demand was particularly concentrated in the north of the borough including in Wembley and Willesden, near to Cricklewood. However, there were hotspots of demand all throughout the borough except in Brondesbury, Kilburn and along the Ealing border of Stonebridge. It was acknowledged that the borough would have to develop a specialism in assisting schools to meet the challenges faced. There had been a mixture of schools who had been reluctant to consider expansion. In response, the council had improved the information being provided to schools and was being as direct and forthright as possible with governors. The council was spending more in the process of creating additional places than other areas however, and was currently under pressure from the Department for Education to reduce these costs. The council did have powers to force community schools to expand but had not made use of these, preferring instead to work in partnership with Brent's schools. Councillor Pavey (Lead Member for Children and Families) explained that every other opportunity would be exhausted before compulsory action was considered. Sara Williams informed the committee that she was unaware of the free school proposal referred to but acknowledged that it was a difficulty that free schools could not be planned for in the same way as had been possible previously. Further information would be provided at the next meeting of the committee on updated projections of demand for school places.

Addressing the difficulties experienced in relation to school admissions, Sara Williams explained that the service was under considerable pressure in processing the level of applications received in the current circumstances. Additional staff had been employed, a dedicated phone line for schools had been established to ensure up to date information on vacancies was obtained, and the team was prioritising dealing with the applications received. This was a complex administrative task. Sara Williams added that unfortunately applicants were having to wait for school places and noted that councillors had been doing a good job explaining the situation to their constituents, ensuring that applicants had realistic expectations.

Jenny Cooper (Teachers' Panel observer) noted that whilst expansion was necessary, there were negative consequences associated including pressure on shared facilities and loss of community cohesion.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

**11. Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme**

Mark Cairns (Policy and Performance Officer) emphasised that there were several weighty items scheduled for the next meeting. Members commented that the Short Breaks item scheduled for the December meeting could be deferred to a later meeting and the committee agreed the work programme be reviewed with the Chair and amended as required.

**12. Date of next meeting**

The committee noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 10 December 2013.


**13. Any other urgent business**

None.

The meeting closed at 9.23 pm

H Gladbaum  
Chair

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 <b>Brent</b>	<b>Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b> 10 December 2013  <b>Report from the Acting Director of Children and Families</b>
Wards Affected: ALL	
<b>Education Standards in Brent 2013</b>	

## **1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 This report comments on the standards achieved in Brent schools in 2013.

## **2.0 The national context for local authorities.**

- 2.1 Education provision across the country continues to change dramatically with the growth in numbers of academies and free schools, and the changing role of the local authority with regard to all schools. Central government continues to encourage a more autonomous and self improving school system.
- 2.2 The growth of collaborative arrangements is a key feature of this developing landscape. Improvement is increasingly driven by schools, often facilitated and supported by local authorities. The number of Teaching Schools and Teaching School Alliances is growing. There is one Teaching School alliance in Brent, one more in application and one that some schools are involved in across a borough boundary in Enfield. The development of National and Local Leaders of Education and National Leaders of Governance is also growing. There are six National Leaders of Education in Brent.

## **3.0 Ofsted ratings of schools**

- 3.1 Schools in Brent are categorised by Ofsted as below as at November 2013.
- 3.2 Table 1 shows that 80% of secondary schools in Brent are good or outstanding compared with 87% in London and 72% nationally. The number of outstanding schools is lower than the London average, but higher than national.
- 3.3 78% of primary schools in Brent are good or outstanding which compares with 85% in London and 78% nationally. The number of outstanding schools is generally in line with London and national averages.

- 3.4 Numbers of schools in other phases are very small, so comparisons with London and national figures for nursery schools, special schools and Pupil Referral Units are not very meaningful.
- 3.5 A new Ofsted inspection framework was introduced at the start of this academic year, so many schools are currently judged under the old framework. The criteria for good and outstanding have increased in the new framework, which may make some of these schools vulnerable at re-inspection.
- 3.6 Enhanced support is provided to those schools which are judged to be in special measures, requiring improvement or those that have 'fragile' good judgements, to ensure that all schools move forwards being good or outstanding.

**Table 1**

Ofsted Grade By Proportion	Outstanding (1)		Good (2)		Requires improvement (3)		Inadequate (4)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Nursery	1	25%	1	25%	2	50%	0	0%
Primary	11	19%	35	59%	11	19%	2	3%
Secondary	5	33%	7	47%	0	0%	3	20%
PRU	0	0%	2	67%	1	33%	0	0%
Special	1	25%	3	75%	0	0%	0	0%
ALL	18	21%	48	56%	14	16%	5	6%

**Table 2**

Primary %	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
England	18	60	19	2
London	20	65	14	0

Secondary %	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
England	24	48	24	5
London	37	50	11	2

- 3.7 The process for inspecting the local authority's arrangements for supporting school improvement is now well in place with a number of authorities nationally having been inspected over the last year.
- 3.8 A local authority may be inspected where one or more of the following apply:
- where the proportion of children who attend a good or better school, pupil referral unit and/or alternative provision is lower than that found nationally



- where there is a higher than average number of schools in an Ofsted formal category of concern and/or there are indicators that progress of such schools is not securing rapid improvement
- where there is a higher than average proportion of schools that have not been judged to be good by Ofsted
- where attainment levels across the local authority are lower than that found nationally and/or where the trend of improvement is weak
- where rates of progress, relative to starting points, are lower than that found nationally and/or where the trend of improvement is weak
- where the volume of qualifying complaints to Ofsted about schools in a local authority area is a matter of concern
- where the Secretary of State requires an inspection of local authority school improvement functions.

3.9 There is an improving picture in some aspects of education in Brent, as the attached report shows, and inspection outcomes in the primary phase are improving but improvement is not yet consistent across all phases and it is clear that some statistical neighbours have made faster progress.

3.10 The council has set up an Education Commission to review standards in the borough and the council's approach to the future development of its schools. This will report early in 2014.

## **4.0 Recommendations**

4.1 Members are asked to note the improvements in education standards at most key stages, the contribution made by the council's School Improvement Service to these standards and the work planned to continue to support further improvement.

## **5.0 Detail**

5.1 The details are set out in the attached report

## **6.0 Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no financial implications in this report.

## **7.0 Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications in this report

## **8.0 Diversity Implications**

- 8.1 Diversity issues are highlighted throughout the report. Analyses relating to the achievement of specific groups by gender, ethnicity and free school meals are included for each Key Stage.

## **9.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)**

- 9.1 There are no staffing/accommodation issues contained within this report

### **Background Papers**

Performance data, available electronically, published by the Department for Education, for example, School Performance Tables

### **Contact Officers**

Rebecca Matthews, Interim Head of School Improvement.

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07920 378658

## London borough of Brent - Education Standards Report - November 2013

### 1 Executive summary:

This report provides details of the standards achieved in primary and secondary schools in Brent across all Key Stages in the summer 2013. Each table shows results with comparisons against the national average and London average, with three year trends from 2011.

In summary, standards in Brent schools at the Early Years Foundation Stage have shown improvement and the equality gap is closing. There is an improving three year trend at Key Stage 1, with schools in the borough meeting national averages. Progress at Key Stage 2 is less secure. Although assessment measures have changed, making direct comparison difficult, the borough's schools are falling behind national and London averages. Results at Key Stage 4 have reversed the decline shown last year and now exceed the national average.

### 2 Attainment in Brent - Early Years Foundation Stage

EYFSP	2011			2012			2013			% Difference		
	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs London 2013	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% with total 78 points or more in all areas, including 6+ in PSED and CLL (2011 and 2012)	57	60	59	64	64	64	56	53	52	~	3	4
E2+ in PRIME & Lit/Ma (2013)												
Equality Gap: The gap between the lowest achieving 20% and others	32.0	32.0	31.0	30.9	30.8	30.1	33.5	35.9	36.6	↑ 3	-2	-3

In 2010/11 51% of Brent schools were above the national average of 59% in 78+points, 6+ points in Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) and Communication Language and Literacy (CLL). Brent's average was 57%, therefore below the national and London averages.

In 2011/12 44% of Brent schools were above the national average of 64% in 78+points, 6+ points in Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) and Communication Language and Literacy (CLL). Brent's average was 64%, therefore in line with national and London averages.

This year, following a revised Early Years Foundation Stage framework and assessment process, and the introduction of an age-related 'Good Level of Development', the 2012/13 measures are not comparable with previous years. 95% of Brent schools were above the national benchmark of 52% and Brent average of 56%.

In 2012/13, Brent is in line with the statistical neighbours of Ealing and Waltham Forest. It is above the statistical neighbours of Haringey, Croydon, Newham, Enfield, Merton and Harrow.

The results indicate generally successful outcomes on the new EYFS framework.

### 3 Year 1 Phonics

Year 1 Phonics	2012		2013		% Difference	
	% Brent	% National	% Brent	% National	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
Wa' working at 32 marks and above	64	58	73	69	↑ 9	4

The phonics test is in its second year. The phonics screening check is a short, light-touch assessment to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard. The screening check is for all Year 1 pupils in maintained schools, academies and Free Schools and for children in Year 2 who previously did not meet the standard of the check in Year 1.

It will identify the children who need extra help so they are given support by their school to improve their reading skills. They will then be able to retake the check so that schools can track children until they are able to decode.

The significant improvement in both national and Brent averages would suggest that schools are understanding better the requirements for this test and have incorporated its expectations into the teaching for this year group.

#### 4 Performance at age 7: Key Stage 1

KS1 - Level 2+ all pupils	2011			2012			2013			% Difference		
	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs London 2013	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% of pupils achieving L2+ in reading	85	85	85	85	87	87	89	89	89	↑ 4	0	0
% of pupils achieving L2+ in writing	81	81	81	83	83	83	86	86	85	↑ 3	0	1
% of pupils achieving L2+ in Ma	89	89	90	89	90	91	91	92	91	↑ 2	-1	0

KS1 - Level 2B+ all pupils	2011			2012			2013			% Difference		
	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs London 2013	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% of pupils achieving L2B+ in reading	71	73	74	71	76	76	78	79	79	↑ 7	-1	-1
% of pupils achieving L2B+ in writing	60	61	61	62	64	64	68	68	67	↑ 6	0	1
% of pupils achieving L2B+ in Ma	72	73	74	73	76	76	77	78	78	↑ 4	-1	-1

Reading: results at Level 2+, the key national benchmark, show that 56% of schools in 2012/13 were at or above the national average of 89%. The three year trend of Brent results indicates rising progress - 85%, 85%, 89%.

Writing: results at Level 2+ show that 67% of schools in 2012/13 were at or above the national average of 85%. The three year trend of Brent results indicates rising progress - 81%, 83%, 86%. Brent schools were in line or above national averages for the last three years.

Mathematics: results at Level 2+ show that 51% of schools in 2012/13 were at or above the national average of 91%. The three year trend of Brent results indicates rising progress - 89%, 89%, 91%. Brent schools were below national expectations in 2010/11 and 2011/12 and at national expectations for 2012/13.

Results in all three subjects at L2B+, a higher achievement, show pleasing improvements across three years, bringing the borough's results more in line with London and national averages.

In 2012/13, Brent is in line with the statistical neighbour of Ealing. It is above the statistical neighbours of Waltham Forest, Haringey, Newham, Enfield and Merton.

#### 5 Key Stage 1 – by ethnicity

KS1 - Level 2+ by ethnicity - Reading	2011		2012		2013		%Difference	
	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% Black Caribbean pupils achieving L2+ in reading	81	82	83	84	90	87	↑ 7	3
% Somali pupils achieving L2+ in reading	80	~	82	~	92	~	↑ 10	~
% White Other pupils achieving L2+ in reading	75	77	79	79	82	81	↑ 3	1
% of pupils achieving L2+ in reading - Brent	85	85	85	87	89	89	↑ 4	0

KS1 - Level 2+ by ethnicity - Writing	2011		2012		2013		%Difference	
	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% Black Caribbean pupils achieving L2+ in writing	77	77	78	79	85	82	↑ 7	3
% Somali pupils achieving L2+ in writing	76	~	78	~	87	~	↑ 9	~
% White Other pupils achieving L2+ in writing	73	73	76	75	80	78	↑ 4	2
% of pupils achieving L2+ in writing - Brent	81	81	83	83	86	85	↑ 3	1

KS1 - Level 2+ by ethnicity - Mathematics	2011		2012		2013		%Difference	
	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% Black Caribbean pupils achieving L2+ in mathematics	85	85	85	86	89	89	↑ 4	0
% Somali pupils achieving L2+ in mathematics	86	~	89	~	92	~	↑ 3	~
% White Other pupils achieving L2+ in mathematics	85	86	85	87	88	88	↑ 3	0
% of pupils achieving L2+ in mathematics - Brent	89	90	89	91	91	91	↑ 2	0

For the three main ethnic groups represented in Brent, Black Caribbean, Somali and White Other, results show an improving picture at Key Stage 1, in line with the improvement of all pupils in that key stage. These figures should be treated with some caution as the cohorts are small, but it is encouraging that where national figures are available, pupils in Brent are achieving at least in line and often better than nationally. This data is being used on a school by school basis to identify good practice in those schools where those underachieving groups are making good progress, so that practice can be disseminated.

## 6 Performance at age 11: Key Stage 2

KS2 - % pupils achieving Level 4+	2011			2012			2013			% Difference		
	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs London 2013	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
English and mathematics	74	75	74	82	81	80	~	~	~	~	~	~
RWM L4+							74	77	76	~	-3	-2

This year, the key measure of attainment at Key Stage 2 has changed. Historically this has been Level 4+ in English and mathematics combined, but from 2013 this is now Level 4+ in reading, writing and mathematics, so a direct comparison from previous years cannot be made.

In 2012/13, with the new measure of L4+ in reading, writing and mathematics, 53% of Brent schools were at or above the national average of 76%. The Brent average was 74%. 86% of all schools met or exceeded the floor target of 60%. Although the direct comparison with previous years is not possible, these results show a disappointing decline, with the gap between London and national averages growing.

In 2012/13, Brent is in line with the statistical neighbour of Waltham Forest. It is above the statistical neighbours of Haringey and Croydon.

KS2 - % pupils making 2 or more levels of progress from KS1 to KS2	2011			2012			2013			% Difference		
	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs London 2013	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
English	90	88	84	93	92	89	~	~	~	~	~	~
Reading	~	~	~	92	93	90	89	90	88	↓ -3	-1	1
Writing	~	~	~	93	93	90	91	93	91	↓ -2	-2	0
Mathematics	88	86	83	91	90	87	90	91	88	↓ -1	-1	2

The second measure at Key Stage 2 is the percentage of pupils making expected progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in English and in mathematics.

For reading in 2012/13, 63% of Brent schools were at or above the national average of 88%. The Brent average was 89%. In 2012/13, Brent is in line with the statistical neighbour of Croydon. It is below all other statistical neighbours.

For writing in 2012/13, 55% of Brent schools were at or above the national average of 91%. The Brent average was 91%. In 2012/13, Brent is in line with the statistical neighbour of Croydon. It is below all other statistical neighbours.

For mathematics in 2012/13, 63% of Brent schools were at or above the national average of 88%. The Brent average was 90%. In 2012/13, Brent is above statistical neighbours Waltham Forest, Croydon and Enfield.

This has been a disappointing year for Key Stage 2 where the earlier improvement in standards in 2012 against national and London averages has declined.

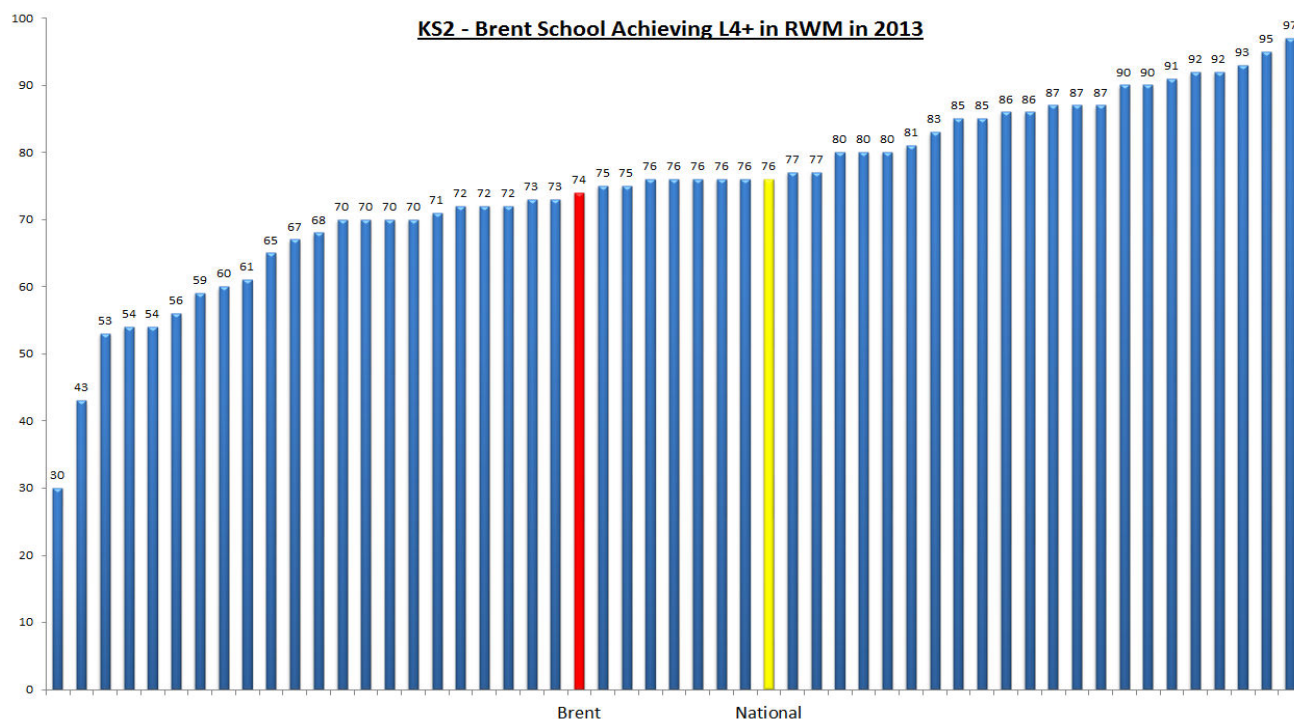
## 7 Key Stage 2 – by ethnicity

KS2 - pupils achieving Level 4+ RWM by ethnicity	2011		2012		2013		%Difference	
	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% Black Caribbean	59	60	69	69	71	~	↑ 2	~
% Somali	52	~	68	~	70	~	↑ 2	~
% White other	61	61	61	77	65	~	↑ 4	~
% RWM L4+	69	67	77	75	74	76	↓ -3	-2

For the three main ethnic groups represented in Brent, Black Caribbean, Somali and White Other, these groups have made better progress than pupils in Brent overall at this key stage.

## 8 Key Stage 2: Variation across schools

The chart below shows the range of school attainment, from 30% to 97% which is masked by borough averages.



## 9 Performance at age 16: Key Stage 4

KS4 - % of pupils achieving GCSEs	2011			2012			2013			%Difference	
	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National	% Brent	% London	% National(P)	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% pupils achieving 5 A*-C grades at GCSE, inc En and ma	62	62	58	59	61	59	62	~	60	↑ 3	2

The Brent average for students attaining five A\*-C GCSE grades including English and mathematics shows an increase of three percentage points to 62% in 2013 following a fall in 2012. This puts Brent, two percentage points above the national average. Half the schools are above the national average. There is a wide variation between schools; with Wembley High Technology College on 92% and Crest Boys' Academy on 38%. The provisional progress measures for English and mathematics show that most Brent schools perform better than the national averages. 64% of school are above the provisional average for three levels of progress in English and 71% are above for three levels of progress in mathematics. Again there is wide variation between schools. The gap in English is 40 percentage points and the gap in maths is 36 percentage points.

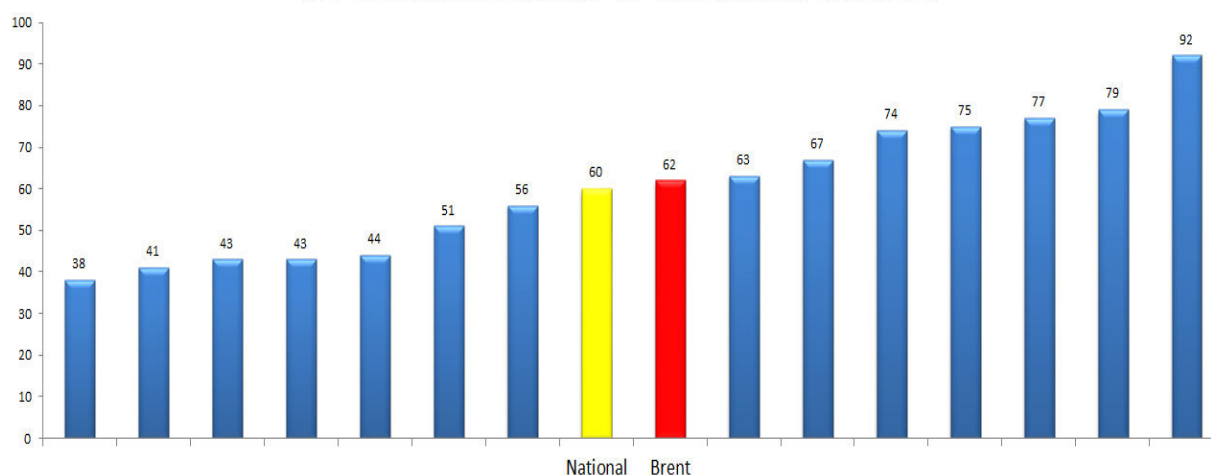
KS4 - % pupils achieving 5 A*-C grades at GCSE, inc En and ma by ethnicity	2011		2012		2013		%Difference	
	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	% Brent	% Nat	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
% Black Caribbean	41	49	45	49	46	53	↑ 1	-7
% Somali (National) is taken from EPAS)	48	46	44	48	46	53	↑ 2	-7
% White other	46	54	39	52	53	55	↑ 14	-2
5 A*-C grades at GCSE, inc En and ma - Brent	62	58	57	58	62	60	↑ 5	2

Data for the significant groups by ethnicity show progress against previous years, but this is still less than those groups show nationally.

## 11 Key Stage 4 Variation across schools

The chart below shows the range of school attainment, from 38% to 92% which is masked by borough averages. There is significant variation with a number of schools achieving well above the national average. One school was below the national floor target.

**KS4 - Brent Schools Achieving 5+ A\*-C Inc En and Ma GCSE in 2013**



## 12 Performance at age 18: Key Stage 5

KS5 - APS by students achieving all Level 3 qualifications per candidate	2011			2012			2013			%Difference		
	Brent	London	Nat	Brent	London	Nat	% Brent	% London	% National(P)	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs London 2013	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
All pupils	738.0	712.8	728.2	728.8	752.9	714.3	735.1	750.3	709.1	↑ 6	15	26

KS5 - APS by students achieving all Level 3 qualifications per candidate	2011		2012		2013		Difference	
	Brent	Nat	Brent	Nat	Brent	Nat	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
Black Caribbean	662.4	655.3	673.2	657.9	651.8	677.7	↓ -21.4	-25.9
Somali	600.2	616.9	654.0	616.3	669.7	632.9	↑ 15.7	36.8
White Other	740.6	740.6	700.7	771.4	699.1	793.5	↓ -1.6	-94.4
Brent Average	738.0	728.3	728.8	714.3	735.1	709.1	↑ 6.3	26.0

KS5 - APS by students achieving all Level 3 qualifications per entry	2011			2012			2013			%Difference		
	Brent	London	Nat	Brent	London	Nat	% Brent	% London	% National(P)	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs London 2013	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
All pupils	219.6	214.5	213.1	214.3	214.4	209.3	218.1	215.5	212.7	↓ -5	-3	5



At Key Stage 5 the provisional Level 3 average point score (APS) per student increased to 735 points in 2013. Brent remained above the national average. The provisional data shows a gap of 224 points between Queens Park Community School with the highest point score (792 points) and Crest Boys' Academy with the lowest point score (568 points). This is equivalent to a seven grade difference at A Level.

KS5 - APS by students achieving all Level 3 qualifications per entry by	2011		2012		2013		Difference	
	Brent	Nat	Brent	Nat	Brent	Nat	Brent 2013 vs Brent 2012	Brent 2013 vs National 2013
Black Caribbean	205.2	201.1	196.1	198.4	205.9	203.2	↑ 9.8	2.7
Somali	198.6	192.7	197.7	192.3	204.6	195.9	↑ 6.9	8.7
White Other	217.0	216.1	208.6	213.1	211.1	214.5	↑ 2.5	-3.4
Brent Average	219.6	213.1	214.3	209.3	218.1	212.7	↑ 3.8	5.4

The most recent data on Level 3 and Level 2 achievement by age 19, shows that the Brent averages were above the national averages in 2012. The average Level 3 achievement by age 19 was above the national average for ten Brent schools. The White Other, Black Caribbean and Somali groups' achievement were below the national average at Level 3. However, the Level 3 achievement of Black Caribbean group was on a par with this group nationally.

The proportion of Brent young people NEET aged 16-18 was 2.4% at the end of 2012. This is below the London average of 4.7% and nine of Brent's statistical neighbours with the exception of Harrow.

### 13. Attainment by key stage - Pupil Premium

KS2 - 2013 Table on Pupil Premium	Brent			National			Brent vs National	
	Pupil Premium	Non Pupil Premium	Gap	Pupil Premium	Non Pupil Premium	Gap		
Level 4+ in Reading	83	89	-6	78	89	-12	↑	5
Level 4+ in Writing	81	88	-7	74	88	-14	↑	7
Level 4+ in Maths	84	90	-6	77	88	-12	↑	6
Level 5+ in Reading	37	47	-11	30	51	-21	↑	10
Level 5+ in Writing	24	34	-10	18	36	-18	↑	8
Level 5+ in Maths	39	52	-14	27	47	-20	↑	7
Level 4+ in Reading, Writing & Maths	73	81	-9	63	81	-17	↑	9
Level 5+ in Reading, Writing & Maths	16	27	-10	10	26	-16	↑	5
KS1-2 2 Levels of Progress in Reading	87	93	-6	85	90	-5	↓	-1
KS1-2 2 Levels of Progress in Writing	92	95	-3	89	93	-4	↑	2
KS1-2 2 Levels of Progress in Maths	90	93	-3	84	90	-6	↑	3

KS4 - 2013 Table on Pupil Premium	Brent			National			Brent vs National	
	Pupil Premium	Non Pupil Premium	Gap	Pupil Premium	Non Pupil Premium	Gap		
5+A*-C inc A*-C GCSE E&M	51	69	-19	41	68	-27	↑	9
5+A*-C	72	86	-14	72	87	-16	↑	2
5+A*-G	93	97	-4	91	98	-7	↑	3
1+A*-G	98	99	-1	97	99	-2	→	1
English Baccalaureate	21	40	-19	10	28	-18	↓	-1
KS2-4 3 Levels of Progress in English	69	82	-12	57	75	-19	↑	7
KS2-4 3 Levels of Progress in Maths	70	83	-14	54	77	-23	↑	9

The tables above provide details of attainment in a variety of indicators by those children eligible for the Pupil Premium. The government believes that the pupil premium, which is additional to main school funding, is the best way to address the current underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

The pupil premium was introduced in April 2011 and is allocated to schools to work with pupils who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the last six years (known as 'Ever 6 FSM'). Schools also receive funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months, and children of service personnel.




This is a very positive result for the borough, showing generally a smaller gap between pupils eligible for the pupil premium and those not eligible, and higher standards on most measures.

14      Action we are taking to further raise standards :

- Holding schools to account where standards are not yet good enough, through the new Brent School Improvement Core Offer.
- Rationalising the range of EYFS projects to ensure that the focus of effort is on raising standards.
- Providing advice to schools with regard to expected progress for all children and specifically for all vulnerable groups to ensure the highest expectations.
- Providing advice with regard to progress for pupils eligible for the Pupil Premium to ensure high expectations and good progress.
- Providing training and support for governing bodies so that they are better able to hold schools to account.
- Working with the Brent Schools Partnership to develop a programme of professional development to address areas of weakness, and in particular to ensure that schools are ready for the new Primary Curriculum.

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 <p><b>Brent</b></p>	<p><b>Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b> 10 December 2013</p> <p><b>Report from the Acting Director, Children and Families</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Wards Affected: ALL</p>	
<p><b>Children's Centres Update</b></p>	

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This paper provides an overview of the progress of Brent Council in securing sufficient integrated early childhood services through children's centres. The report considers progress against service objectives, including that they are well governed, managed and led, are accessible to very young children and families and have good quality practices that deliver positive impacts for children and families and reduce inequalities.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That members consider and discuss the report.

## 3. Detail

### ***Statutory requirements***

- 3.1 The Childcare Act 2006 makes local authorities responsible for the provision of children's centres, working with partners in health and JobCentre Plus particularly to ensure integrated early childhood services from children's centres and to meet obligations about the inspection of children's centres.
- 3.2 The statutory guidance for children's centres (May 2012) emphasise the essential role of local authorities in securing sufficient children's centres to deliver positive outcomes for families with young children, particularly for families with greater levels of need. In addition, local authorities must ensure:
  - 3.2.1 Good quality performance management of children's centres with requirements to set and monitor progress against targets and to provide outcomes and profile data of the reach area
  - 3.2.2 Children's centres conform with all safeguarding requirements and have links with Children's Social Care to address any

safeguarding needs as quickly as possible

- 3.2.3 Integrated services that support school readiness, material and health and wellbeing and effective parenting outcomes for families with children aged 0-4 years particularly those with greater levels of need.
- 3.2.4 An action plan is agreed and published subsequent to any Ofsted inspection of a children's centre or locality children's centre within two months of inspection report publication.

### ***Ofsted inspection requirements***

- 3.3 Ofsted inspection requirements changed substantially in April 2013. The focus of inspection has shifted to:

- 3.3.1 Three areas of judgement rather than twenty. These relate to:

- 3.3.1.1 *Access to services for young children and families.* A core element to achieve a good grade is that at least 80% of families with children aged 0-4 are known to all children's centres and at least 65% of target group households are engaged in outcomes based support.

This is only achievable where early childhood services are integrated and we are engaging partners in raising awareness of children's centres with families they have contact with and in the identification of target group households taking up support. This has considerable implications in terms of how data is being collected, analysed and used to identify the right target groups and reach all families in greatest need. For example:

- Health visiting and midwifery services need to share data about which children and families they have contact with and to promote and support families, especially those families with greater levels of need, access children's centres
- Children and families accessing more specialist support through Children's Social Care and other provision, such as early help teams, need to provide information about which families are accessing specialist and/or intensive targeted support and to work with children's centres to ensure that support for children and families is appropriately coordinated and these families are safely 'stepped down' to community based provision as part of exit strategy planning.
- CFIS providing data about which families are eligible for, and taking up 2-year old, 3-year old and 4-year old early education entitlements.

- 3.3.1.2 *Quality and impact of practice and services.* A core element to achieve a good grade requires evidence of the extent to which target group children and families are securing positive outcomes in relation to child development and school readiness; parenting aspirations, self-esteem and parenting skills; and child and family health and life chances.

As previously, this is only achievable where early childhood services are integrated and we are engaging partners in offering demonstrably good quality interventions and are tracking progress for young children and families, particularly target group households, through engagement with support from children's centres and partner agencies.

- 3.3.1.3 *Effectiveness of governance, leadership and management.* A core element to achieve a good grade is demonstrating the extent to which the advisory board and parents are involved in supporting and challenging the children's centres work and setting priority for improvement and target groups.

3.3.2 Other key elements of the revised inspection framework include:

- 3.3.2.1 The opportunity to have single inspections of a 'group' of children's centres that collaborate closely or are led and managed through a locality approach.
- 3.3.2.2 The removal of 'satisfactory' and replacement with 'requires improvement' as an inspection grade.
- 3.3.2.3 No balancing of elements so that in order to achieve a 'good', every element must meet the requirement of good or outstanding. Even if one element does not meet the requirement for 'good', the grade for the whole judgement is 'requires improvement'.
- 3.3.2.4 Inspections are planned for all children's centres in England by March 2015.

***Where we have come from- Children's Centres 2010/11***

- 3.4 Brent children's centres have had substantial reorganisation and budget reductions in the last 4 years of £2.1m.
- 3.5 In 2010/11, Brent Council operated 20 children's centres with capital developments planned for 3 children's centres which operated from temporary sites.
- 3.6 At this time, children's centres operated largely independently with single advisory boards for stand-alone children's centres or through school governing bodies for those children's centres managed through schools. In

addition, centrally commissioned services delivered through children's centres included early intervention speech and language, family welfare rights and information and advice and community dietitians. There was relatively limited partner delivery of services from children's centres, with children's centres offering a largely similar, and mainly universal, programme of support for children and families across all centres.

- 3.7 Performance, financial and information management generally was not adequate. There was no local authority performance management framework in place, for example, that permitted understanding of the relative performance, strengths and areas for improvement at children's centres. There were also no systematic approaches to budget development and monitoring, information sharing with partners, agreeing key borough wide priorities and targeting provision at children and families with greater levels of need.

***Where we were moving to: locality model of children's centres 2011/12***

- 3.8 In 2011/12, with the establishment of the Early Intervention Grant and the end of ring-fencing, there was a requirement to reduce the expenditure on Children's Centres by £1.2m. To enable this to occur the council made:

- 3.8.1 A 50% reduction in the number of children's centre buildings for which the authority is responsible through not proceeding with three capital developments and transferred responsibility for management and running of seven children's centres to schools/maintained nursery schools);
- 3.8.2 A 50% reduction in children centre teams, reducing commissioned services (50% reduction in the family welfare rights and information and advice service and early intervention speech and language and de-commissioning of community dietitians), reducing central costs and introducing a funding formula to focus on vulnerability that also contributed savings.

Figure One sets out the new children's centre reach areas implemented for 2011/12. Our children's centres are:

Harlesden Locality

- Curzon Crescent (and Challenge satellite)
- Fawood
- Harmony
- St Raphaels

Kilburn Locality

- Granville Plus
- Three Trees (and Hope satellite)

Kingsbury Locality

- Church Lane (and Mount Stewart satellite)
- Willow including Willow nursery

Wembley Locality

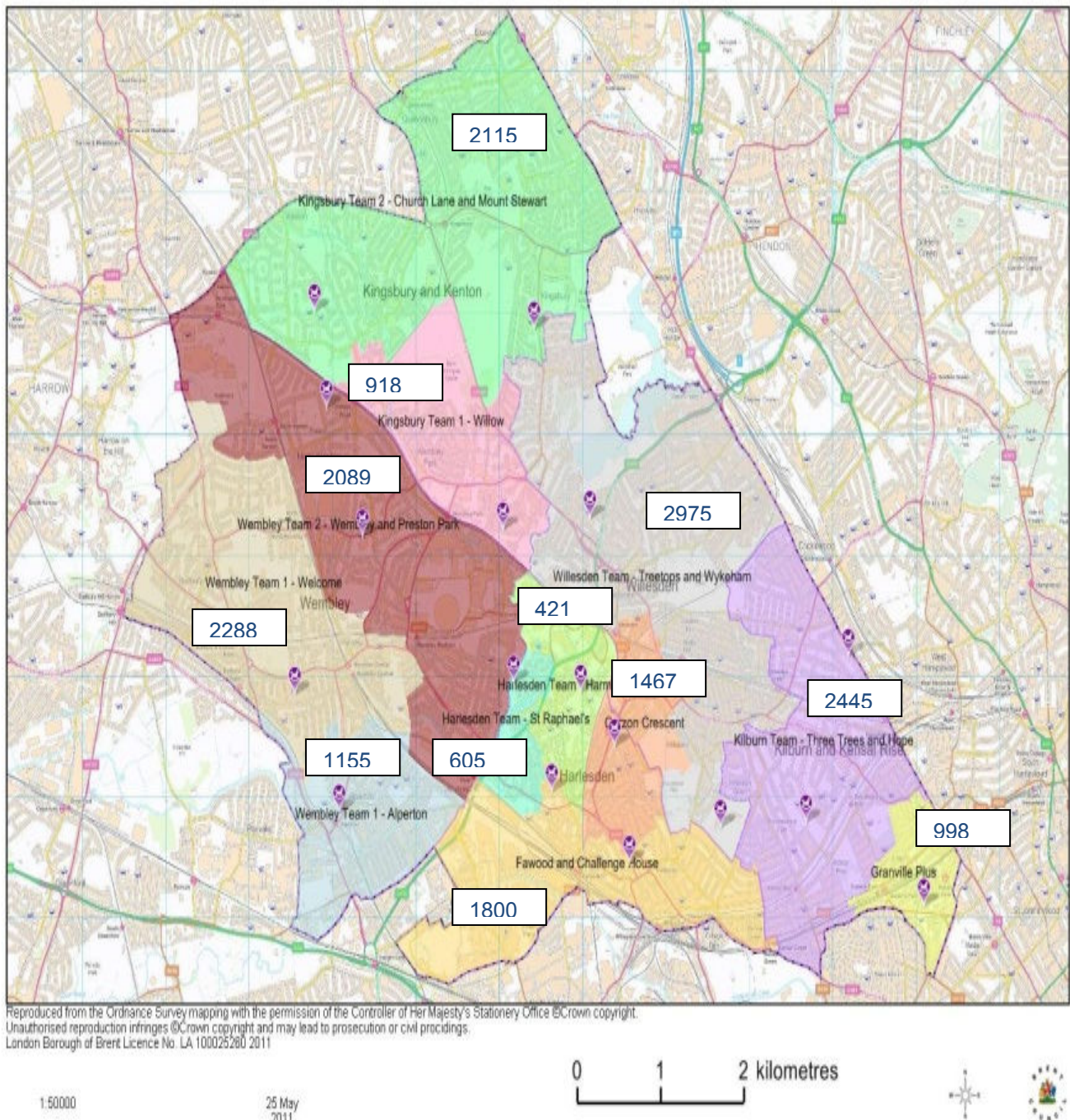
- Alperton
- Welcome (and Barham Library satellite)
- Wembley Primary (and Preston Park satellite)

#### Willesden Locality

- Tree Tops
- Wykeham

**Figure One: Brent children's centre catchments**

Brent Children's Centre Catchments (May 2011)



The numbers assigned to each children's centre reach area are GP

registration estimates for April 2013 of the number of children aged 0-4 years.

3.9 Key to this was the introduction of a locality model of working where shared management and staff teams operate across multiple sites under the auspices of a single locality advisory board. This model of working is increasingly the approach adopted by local authorities across England (e.g. Hammersmith and Fulham, Camden, Westminster and Harrow). The introduction of the model represented a substantial change to how children's centres were governed, managed and delivered and consultation processes were undertaken with parents and staff teams.

3.10 Other elements of the introduction of a locality model included:

3.10.1 Early years advisory teaching was amalgamated within the School Improvement Service. This provided an opportunity for greater sharing of resources, closer working with schools and PVI settings and a more strategic approach to the deployment of advisory teachers working with children's centres and early years settings. Early years advisory teachers were designated as supporting specific localities and were given a clear role in working with early years workers at children's centres to improve the quality of early years practice consistent with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

3.10.2 A substantial improvement in joint working with partners. A focus for 2011/12 was ensuring that all localities had delivery of health visiting services, midwifery services and JobCentre Plus services from children's centres. This is consistent with best practice<sup>1</sup> and was achieved in 2011/12. In 2011/12, we also established the start of more comprehensive data sharing particularly with health visiting in relation to live births and in identification of progress in relation to shared priorities such as sustained breastfeeding and early childhood immunisation.

3.10.3 The introduction of a more coordinated approach to work with families with greater levels of need that are at risk of, or are in receipt of support through Brent Children's Social Care. This had been extremely limited previously.

Through 2011/12, arrangements were established with our Children's Social Care colleagues for children's centre practitioners to access weekly surgeries with an advanced social work practitioner to discuss any families where concerns may exist, group supervision of family support workers by the advanced social work practitioner and participation in locality practitioner forums bringing together multidisciplinary staff from across localities to share local intelligence, network and understand more about local needs and available services.

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<sup>1</sup> See Best Practice for a Sure Start: The Way Forward for Children's Centres, All Parliamentary Group, July 2013 recommendations 5 and 7.



- 3.10.4 The opportunity to offer a range of programmes for children and families with greater levels of need that are not good value for money to deliver within single or even networked centres. This was especially true of the delivery of accredited parenting programmes where a range of accredited programmes began to be offered in localities that could cater for the different needs of different families. Similarly, adult education such as ESOL, childcare and literacy and numeracy classes offered through BACES at children's centres opened up to more parents.
- 3.10.5 A major focus on improving the quality of practice of children's centre practitioners.

A workforce development programme was developed and commenced in 2011/12 that aimed to develop the skills and confidence of children's centre practitioners in identifying and engaging young children and families in good quality outcomes based support, particularly families where there were greater levels of need. This included:

- Improving skills in working with young parents and families affected by domestic abuse;
- Early Years Foundation Stage requirements;
- Preparing outcomes based case studies;
- Understanding family dynamics; and
- The delivery of accredited parenting programmes.

- 3.11 The introduction of the locality model and savings requirements also presented an opportunity for Brent Council to focus more specifically on statutory obligations about sufficiency of children's centres, performance management and ensuring integrated early childhood services. In 2011/12:

3.11.1 Monthly leadership meetings that brought together all children's centre network managers with central and locality management to share experiences and lessons and ensure more coordinated strategic communication with children's centre network managers and locality managers became standard practice.

3.11.2 A performance management framework was introduced to Brent children's centres that standardised approaches to the development/action planning and self-evaluation cycle and local authority challenge function for children's centres.

3.11.3 To support manager skills and confidence in the performance management framework and to transition to locality based development/action planning and self-evaluation, training and advisory support was provided to children's centre managers and locality managers to assist (please note, locality manager roles were deleted as part of a 2012 reorganisation of Early Years and Family Support Services).

- 3.12 In Q3 2011/12, Brent also secured participation in the national pilot of Payment by Results (PBR) for Children's Centres (1 of 27 pilot local authorities from in excess of 100 applications). This provided £180k for the

period ending March 2013 to support more substantive improvements to multiagency data collection, recording and reporting processes with an increased focus on families with greater levels of need.

- 3.13 The overall governance of the pilot was vested in a multiagency PBR steering group comprising senior officers from Early Years and Family Support Service, Health Visiting, Public Health, nursery school providers of children's centres, a local authority managed children's centre manager, CAF coordinator and voluntary sector providers.

***From implementation to seeing results: Children's Centres 2012/13***

- 3.14 The PBR steering group established operational plans for 2011/12 and 2012/13 and, working with children's centre managers, advisory board chairpersons and stakeholders from across children's centres and partner agencies, agreed multiagency performance measures and targets relevant to children's centres for 2012/13. This permitted much improved data quality and performance reporting and information sharing with partners. In addition, the participation in the PBR pilot enabled:

- 3.14.1 Enhanced workforce development opportunities for children's centre practitioners particularly in relation to work with families with greater levels of need. This took place concurrently with an ongoing workforce development programme set out at 3.10.5.
- 3.14.2 Introduction of, and training in Outcomes Star standard reporting tool for the progress that families make through engagement with children's centres.
- 3.14.3 The establishment of a 'whole family' approach to identifying and engaging families with greater levels of need in a 'team around the family' model of working to address the spectrum of needs of individual families with young children. The CAF process and procedure was revised to reflect this approach and children's centre practitioners and managers and multiagency staff were trained and provided ongoing advice and guidance about the new CAF process from a newly reorganised CAF coordination team.
- 3.14.4 Annual parent-led evaluations at end of 2011 and 2012 that enables comparative analysis of all children's centres in relation to satisfaction, impacts for children and families from engaging with children's centre support and the different outcomes for different family types (e.g. lone parents and parents in households where no adult is in paid work).

In 2011, a total of 715 local families participated. Overall satisfaction was 91% for families and we identified that largely parents engaged with Brent children's centres to provide children opportunities for children to play and socialise with other children (86% of all parents). (see Appendix One for overview of key results).

In 2012, a total of 1100 families participated. Overall satisfaction

increased to 95% and there were substantial improvements in the extent to which parents were taking up support and identifying positive benefits for themselves and their children in 'stay safe' and 'enjoy economic and social wellbeing' outcomes. (see Appendix Two for overview of key results).

- 3.15 During 2012/13, schools returned premises management of Wykeham and Granville Plus children's centres to the local authority. We also closed two children's centre nurseries in April 2012. We had three nurseries which were all running at a loss with substantial debtors. This was a complex process but resulted in one nursery being available as a school nursery and freeing space for additional school places. The second nursery was taken over by a private provider and parents and children are very happy with the service and thanked the local authority for the excellent transition. The third nursery, Willow, functions as a partly special-needs nursery attached to the Willow Children's Centre (Kingsbury locality) and operates on a cost neutral basis to the local authority.
- 3.16 During 2012/13, three inspections of children's centres took place. This included Harmony (satisfactory), Wembley Primary (satisfactory) and St Raphael's (good).
- 3.16.1 The inspection reports identified that Brent children's centres were in a period of transition and that the local authority was overseeing a marked improvement in integration of early childhood services and performance management of children's centres. However, this was in progress and sustained impacts were not yet demonstrable generally, although by the last inspection- St Raphael's- this was mainly in place.
- 3.16.2 The reports also identified that more was necessary in systematically identifying the progress of individual children and their parents, particularly those with greater levels of need. Through the PBR steering group, we were making substantial improvements in locality wide and children's centre reach area tracking systems particularly for the EYFSP, health targets and in relation to CAF/Children's Social Care pathways. There was generally marked improvement in outcomes for children and families (see Table One). However, more was necessary within children's centres working with multidisciplinary practitioners in the localities to demonstrate progress for individual children and families from support.
- 3.17 In September 2012, a new EYFS was implemented. The Early Years Workforce Development Team and early years advisory teachers developed and implemented wide-ranging support to enable children's centres and early years settings to prepare for and effectively implement the EYFS.
- 3.18 At the same time, the Early Years and Family Support Service developed a Service Plan for 2012/13- 2013/14 aligned to wider Children and Families priorities. This set out specific actions for Brent children's centres to improve service quality and impact, accessibility of services particularly for families with greater levels of need and the effectiveness of governance, leadership and management. These include:

- 3.18.1 Improving locality advisory boards (LAB) and parents forums contribution to effective governance of children's centres. Steps have been taken to do this including provision of training to approximately 20 LAB members, changing LAB meeting agendas to ensure more focus on the self-evaluation and action planning activities of the locality children's centres, recruitment of LAB chairs and re-launching of Parents Voice groups in all localities. This is work in progress with improved 'challenge' functions requiring time to embed.
- 3.18.2 Increasing the role of volunteers in delivering universal services at children's centres. There has been some improvement with this remaining a priority for all localities in their action plans.
- 3.18.3 Improving the outcomes orientation of children's centres. There has been some improvement, for example with learning journals demonstrating individual children's development through access to transition programmes offered at children's centres, it remains an area for improvement to embed more consistently the use of the Outcomes Star in 1:1 work with families.

Appendix Four sets out the state of progress in implementing Service Plan action for the period ending June 2013.

- 3.19 By the end of 2012/13, the locality model was well embedded and joint work with partners particularly in health visiting, Brent Family Solutions, Children's Social Care and JobCentre Plus was much improved. There was greater clarity and understanding of the role and responsibilities of children's centres in the pathway for children and families with greater levels of need. Children's centre practitioners were routinely working as part of teams around the family.
- 3.20 The quality of performance management was improving, particularly aided by better quality and more timely data. Appendix Three sets out results for key measures directly attributable to children's centres that had been agreed by the PBR Steering Group. These evidence improving results particularly in:
  - 3.20.1 Improving outcomes for disadvantaged children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (35% to 44% achieving 78 points or more between 2011 and 2012). In addition, Brent achieved a 2% reduction in the gap between the lowest performing children in the EYFSP and the rest.
  - 3.20.2 Increasing registration rates of disadvantaged children and families with children's centres (56% to 62% from 2011 to 2012)
  - 3.20.3 Increasing the number of parents taking up parenting programmes (105 to 141 parents from 2011 to 2012) and completing these programmes (31% to 63% from 2011 to 2012)
  - 3.20.4 Reduction in number of children aged 0-4 with a Child Protection Plan (reduced to 160 in 2012 from 203 in 2011) and increasing success at ensuring that families supported through a CAF were

not subsequently referred to Social Care (100%).

3.21 While the DfE discontinued the PBR trial for children's centres in March 2013, the PBR Steering Group was identified by multiagency stakeholders as a useful innovation to sustain. It was agreed that it was important in light of proposed changes to Ofsted inspection requirements to strengthen the strategic approach to integrating early childhood services. The group has since re-established as the Brent Children's Centre Strategic Partners Group with an expanded membership that includes early years advisory teachers Brent Council employment support, BACES, a LAB chair and network manager and early intervention speech and language therapy. The Group meets quarterly and is focused particularly on:

3.21.1 Agreeing the definition of target group households.

3.21.2 Agreeing multiagency performance measures and performance targets relevant to families with children aged 0-4 years, together with ongoing monitoring of progress in relation to these measures.

3.21.3 Reporting on the Service Plan outcomes for children's centres

3.21.4 Addressing any challenges to integration of services.

#### ***A new environment: Children's Centres 2013/14***

3.22 The new Ofsted inspection framework for Children's Centres came into force in April 2013. As set out at 3.3, this has significant implications for partnership working, information sharing, definition of, and identification and engagement of target group households and how services are planned and delivered.

3.22.1 An adapted performance management framework was prepared and distributed to children's centre network managers to guide the development/ action planning and self-evaluation cycle in line with inspection requirements in May 2013.

3.22.2 This was augmented with a draft set of targets for 2013/14 based on the inspection requirements, past performance and key local priorities such as encouraging greater use of CAF. These targets were agreed through the Strategic Partners Group in August 2013.

3.23 The revised Ofsted inspection framework for children's centres identifies 'good' as children's centres that have, at a minimum, contact with at least 80% of all families in their reach area and engage at least 65% of target families in good quality provision, demonstrable outcomes from targeted support and identification and early support for target families from children's centres.

3.24 The definition of target group households is locally defined. On a borough wide basis, the definition includes all out-of-work households with children aged 0-4 years, households that have engaged with Children's Social Care, families where a parent and/or a child has additional needs/disabilities,

families eligible for the 2-year old free flexible early education entitlement, families where there is a CAF and 'troubled' families.

- 3.25 For Brent, there are approximately 11,100 families with children aged 0-4 years that are 'target families' of which 3,300 are identified with greater levels of need (i.e. have been in receipt of Social Care or Brent Family Solutions intervention). To ensure at least a good grade, at least 7,215 of the 11,100 target families need to demonstrably be in receipt of support. This can include direct work undertaken by practitioners located within children's centres but is wider and includes partner agencies for children's centres such as JobCentre Plus, health visiting and midwifery, Children's Social Care and Brent Family Solutions.
- 3.26 In addition, children's centres will define other target households based on local issues. For example, in Kilburn locality there are refuges for families escaping domestic abuse and in Harlesden locality there is a traveller site. As a result, these families are target households for each locality.
- 3.27 It is important to note that any families with any additional needs, however, that are identified as requiring extra support but do not 'fit' the definition of target group households will have relevant support. This has included families where children may have language delay, households that are in paid work and have needs for support with English and mums that may be feeling low after the birth of their baby or in their relationships.
- 3.28 Willesden locality was amongst the first children's centre localities nationally to be inspected with the revised Ofsted inspection framework in May 2013. The Willow nursery (attached to the Willow children's centre) was also inspected as an early years setting. Very disappointingly, given the extent to which the quality of the provision has improved and the confidence that parents have in the nursery providing good quality childcare particularly for children with additional needs and or where there are CIN/CP/LAC plans in place, the nursery was judged 'inadequate'. In particular, the nursery was 'inadequate' rather than 'requires improvement' because of a limiting judgement on safeguarding grounds. This related to the practical issue of a door not closing completely and was remedied within 48 hours. Subsequent inspection visits to monitor our progress in implementing the post-inspection action plan have rated our progress as good.
- 3.29 Willesden locality rated 'requires improvement' on all three judgement areas in the Ofsted inspection. This was also disappointing given that there is much good quality practice in place, some excellent achievements in engaging dads and the performance management framework was broadly embedded. There were areas for improvement in engagement of families generally, tracking progress particularly of adult learners and in the effectiveness of the advisory board in challenging practice and setting priorities. An action plan has since been agreed by the locality advisory board with the local authority.
- 3.30 The inspection judgements provided lessons for all children's centre network managers and locality advisory boards. The Willesden locality manager debriefed with all network managers and we identified actions relevant to all children's centres that required immediate address. This includes:

- 3.30.1 The Early Years and Family Support Service undertaking substantial work with partners through the auspices of the Brent Children's Centre Strategic Partners Group to improve the specificity with which we can identify target group households in relation to our target group household criteria. This has been in place since August 2013.
- 3.30.2 Early years advisory teachers working alongside early years workers facilitating transition groups with target group children and parents in all localities as they prepare for nursery and/or school. All children have a learning journey recording their progress in these sessions. In addition, the early years advisory teachers are undertaking observations of early years workers as part of improving quality. Initial analysis of the EYFSP for 2013 evidences that Brent is performing better than the English average.
- 3.30.3 Increasing the number of families that are at risk of escalating problems having access to early help. To integrate this provision better with the wider work with families at risk through Children's Social Care and Brent Family Solutions, we have improved information sharing with children's centres about families where there is Social Care and/or Brent Family Solutions engagement. This has been in place since August 2013.

Children's centres are a key part of Brent's early help offer. They can assist in the identification of families at risk of escalating problems and through using the CAF, assess and plan with families the multidisciplinary support, that may address their needs. Family support workers and family support assistants work as key workers/lead professionals with families with children aged 0-4 years and also as part of the team around the family.

- 3.30.4 Building the quality of our family support practice and ensuring families are moving forward, by ensuring that all family support workers are now supervised through Brent Family Solutions. In addition, children's centre network managers are required to undertake audits of two CAF assessments/plans/reviews each month as part of the CAF quality assurance process. This has been in place through 2013.
- 3.30.5 Focusing on adult learning and support for parents journey into work. To support this, the Brent children's centres strategic partners group now includes BACES and Brent employment support as members since June 2013. The National Careers Service and BACES are delivering additional support to parents through children's centres from September 2013.

In addition, all children's centres have prioritised in their action plans establishing tracking systems for adult learners (from target group households). This includes, for example, making contact from January 2014 with a cohort of 40 parents in any one locality that completed adult learning 3-6 months previously

to determine benefits and impacts. The intention is that this cohort will be tracked on an ongoing basis for 12- 24 months.

- 3.30.6 Building the effectiveness of locality advisory boards to govern and challenge the practice and priorities of children's centres. Recruitment processes for locality advisory board chairs has taken place and training provided to 28 members of advisory boards through May- July 2013. This has resulted in changes to advisory board agendas to enable greater parental participation and ensuring that there is discussion about the self-evaluation and Ofsted inspection preparation.
- 3.30.7 Prioritising an increase in volunteers at all children's centres. This is reflected in all children's centre action plans.
- 3.30.8 Increasing registration of families with children aged 0-4 years. This is multidimensional and depends on the closeness of good quality partnerships. For example:
  - Health visitors enabling children's centres contact with all families post-birth. This information sharing has been in place since April 2013.
  - Registration of families through Civil Registry as part of the processes of birth registration. This has been in place since September 2013. On average, this is resulting in 15-20 additional registrations each week of families.
  - Training volunteers to support registration processes. Training of 18 volunteers took place in October 2013 and they are starting to work with children's centres to support registration.
- 3.30.9 Providing advisory support to the localities of Wembley, Kilburn, Kingsbury and Harlesden in preparing SEFs and action plans in line with Ofsted inspection requirements. This was completed across August- September 2013. This process reveals that Wembley 2 (Alperton and Welcome) and Harlesden (Harmony and St Raphael's) are the most secure in relation to a 'good' judgement on the key criterion of 'registration of 80% and 'at least 65% of target families are engaged in outcomes based support'.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 The Early Years service under went a staffing and structure review when the Sure Start Grant funding ended and was replaced with the Early Intervention Grant funding in April 2011.
- 4.2 In April 2010, the Budget was £5.6m for 20 Children's Centres and this has now reduced to £3.5m in April 2013 for 17 Children's Centres (a reduction of £2.1m and 3 centres).



4.3 The funding sources over this period were as follows|:

Sure Start Grant	April 2009 – March 2011
Early Intervention Grant	April 2011 – March 2013
General Fund	April 2013 onwards

4.4 The table below shows the Budget Allocation for Children's Centres for the past 4 years.

FINANCIAL YEAR	Budget Allocation	Outturn	Variance	No of Children Centres
10/11	£5.6m	£5.8m	£0.2m	20
11/12	£4.4m	£3.9m	(£0.5m)	17
12/13	£4.0m	£3.5m	(£0.5m)	17
13/14 (F'cast)	£3.5m	£3.5m	-	17

Please see appendix five for detailed breakdown for each Children's Centre.

## 5. Legal Implications

5.1 Under section 5 of the Childcare Act 2006, the Council has duties to secure sufficient children's centres for the area it serves and will require consultation with families about changes to children's centre reach areas and buildings as set out in this report.

5.2 In addition, section 5E places a duty on the Council to deliver integrated early childhood services that deliver school readiness, parenting, health and wellbeing and reduced inequalities outcomes for very young children and parents as part of a programme of support jointly with partners including Health and JobCentre Plus.

5.3 Under section 98C of the Childcare Act 2006, the local authority's obligations in relation to Ofsted inspection of children's centres are also set out. The new Ofsted framework of inspection for children's centres emphasises contact with most families (more than 80%) in an area with at least 65% of target families actively engaged in support available from children's centres as the minimum expectation for a 'good' children's centre.

## 6. Diversity Implications

### Ethnicity

6.1 Of all carers and children seen at Brent Children's Centres since 1st April 2013, the largest representation was from the following ethnic groups (level 2):\*  
13% Indian, 13% Other White and 10% Black African.

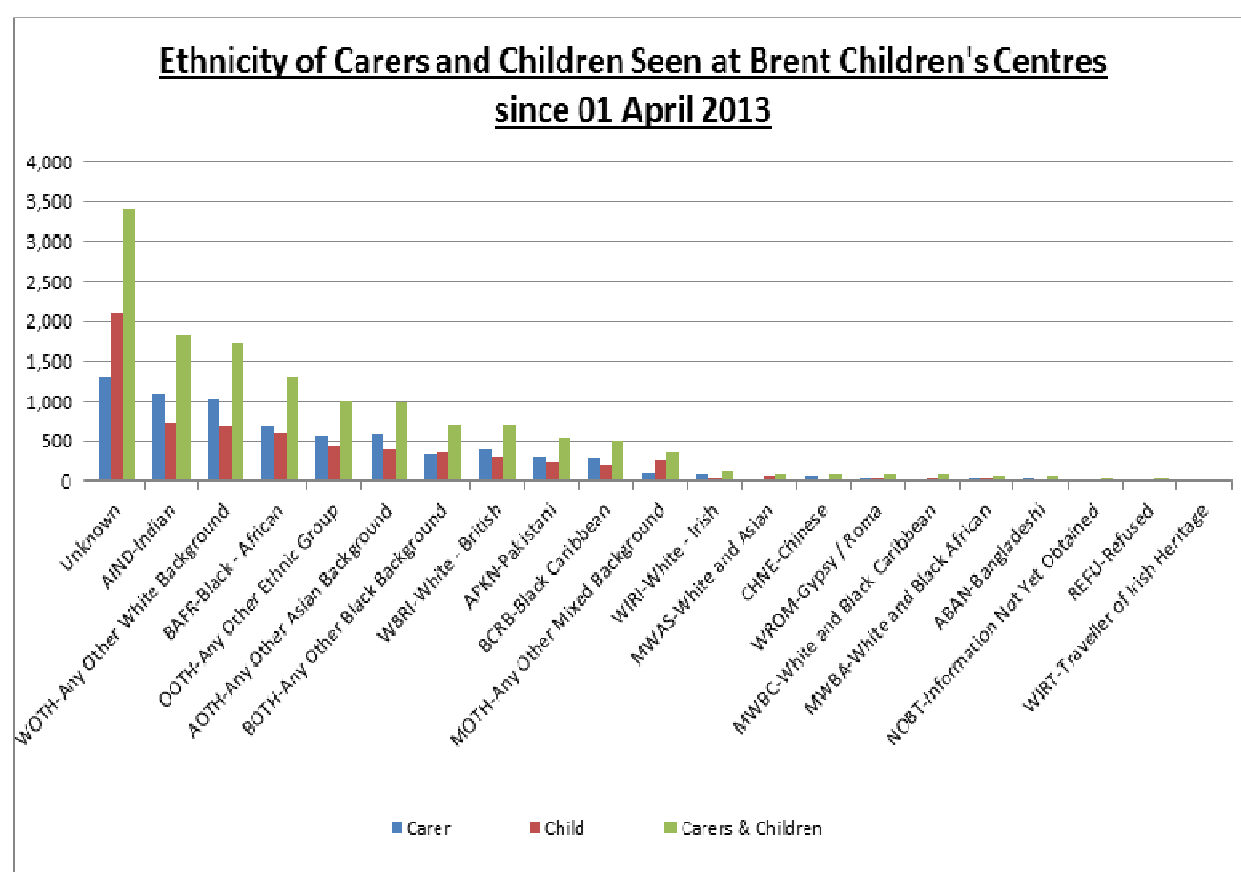
Based on the Jan-13 School census, the largest groups in the child population were from the following ethnic groups:

17% Black African, 15% Indian, 12% Other White and 12% Other Asian.

\* However, the ethnicity of 25% of those seen is unknown. We are in the process of addressing this to ensure this information is captured and inputted on the system.

Somalis made up the majority of the Black African ethnic group  
Eastern Europeans made up the majority of the Other White ethnic group  
Sri Lankan Tamil, followed by Afghanistani made up the majority within the Other Asian ethnic group

Unfortunately we cannot currently report accurately on the sub-ethnicity (level 3) of carers and children seen at Brent Children's Centres as our data collection has not achieved good enough recording for this. The chart below therefore shows the ethnicity at level 2 of carers and children seen since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to present.



Work to identify and meet the needs of new and emerging groups in Brent is especially important. This is where work with voluntary sector organisations rooted in communities can be valuable.

## 7. Anti-poverty implications

Children's Centres are designed to address and mitigate the effects of poverty and are part of early intervention. Their activities are now primarily targeted at those who need the services most. Many of the activities in Children's

Centres have an explicit objective of helping families improve their economic position, including addressing the consequences of welfare reform.

From 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013 a total of 999 families within Brent have attended activities delivered by the Brent Children's Centres that have had an economic wellbeing focus. These activities are related to training, work opportunities, volunteering or financial advice. i.e. helping families take steps to get back into work and helping families with financial debt / managing money.

The table below provides this information for previous years.

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	Apr-Sep 2013
<b>Brent Residents</b>	<b>1404</b>	<b>1363</b>	<b>1210</b>	<b>1451</b>	<b>999</b>
Out of Area Residents	42	42	32	32	25
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1446</b>	<b>1405</b>	<b>1242</b>	<b>1483</b>	<b>1024</b>

## 8. Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

### 8.1 None.

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## **Appendix One: Key findings from Brent Parent Impact and Satisfaction Study (Dec 2011)**

1. Over 80% of parents/carers who responded to the survey said that they access services within Brent Children's Centres.
2. Approximately two thirds of parents/carers, who access Children's Centres, do so within the locality in which they live.
3. The overwhelming majority of parents/carers who reported accessing Brent Children's Centres said that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with services (91%).
4. Furthermore, parents/carers who access Brent Children's Centres, do so frequently with two thirds reporting that they do so at least once per week and a fifth saying that they do so 2/3 times per month.
5. Parents/carers most commonly access Brent Children's Centres in order to give their child/ren opportunities to play and socialise with other child/ren (86%).
6. There is scope to improve parents/carers knowledge of the services available at Children's Centres as the most common reason for not doing so was that they don't know what services are available (41% of those not accessing Brent Children's Centres). That said, in Harlesden, reasons were much more varied and in Kingsbury parents/carers were unsure what the Children's Centre could do for them or their families (48%).
7. 92% of parents/carers, who reported using Brent Children's Centres, could identify at least one or more positive impact for themselves as parents/carers from accessing Brent Children's Centres. Most commonly, they said that it has given them new ideas of playing with their child/ren (67%).
8. 91% of parents/carers, who reported accessing Brent Children's Centres, could identify at least one or more positive impact for their child/ren from accessing Brent Children's Centres. Most commonly, they said that their play has improved (65%).

### **Be healthy**

9. 91% of parents/carers that access Brent Children's Centre services identified accessing health related services, for which a range of services were identified including healthy eating sessions, dieticians and Stay and Play groups.
10. 60% parents/carers that accessed these services also reported one or more positive impact from their engagement with the Brent Children's Centre 'be healthy' services. The most common responses were that their emotional health has improved (33%) and that they are eating healthier food/drink (29%).

11. 63% of parents/carers that accessed these services also reported one or more positive impact for their child/ren from their engagement with the Brent Children's Centre's 'be healthy' services. The most common responses were aligned to the impacts for parents/carers. That is their child/ren were eating/drinking healthier food/drink (48%) and had improved emotional health (25%).
12. In interrogating differences for different families, families from Black and minority ethnic (BME) communities were more likely to identify positive impacts for themselves as a result of having accessed services compared with White British families (72% compared with 42%).
13. Similarly, lone parents/carers were more likely to identify positive health impacts for their child/ren than dual parent households. (67% compared with 49%).

### **Stay safe**

14. A quarter of parents/carers accessing Brent Children's Centres also identified 'stay safe' services they have accessed in Brent.
15. The most popular service across all localities was First Aid. This was particularly so in Harlesden locality, where a quarter of families reported having accessed this.
16. 92% of parents/carers accessing 'stay safe' services at Brent Children's Centres reported positive impacts for themselves as a result of doing so. The most common impact was that they feel safe at the Children's Centre (67%).
17. 78% of parents/carers accessing 'stay safe' services in Brent Children's Centres reported positive impacts for their child/ren as a result of doing so. The most common response was that they feel safe at the Children's Centre (71%).
18. Furthermore, parents/carers from families from BME communities were more likely to identify positive impacts for their child/ren than White British families (87% compared with 67%). This was also the case for parents/carers from households where no adult is in paid employment (88% compared with 73%).

### **Enjoy and achieve**

19. 64% parents/carers who access Brent Children's Centres reported accessing a service that supports their family to 'enjoy and achieve'. The most common activity was Stay and Play/playgroup sessions (40%). In particular, over 70% of parent/carers are accessing 'enjoy and achieve' services in Kilburn and Willesden localities.
20. 85% of parents/carers accessing 'enjoy and achieve' services at Brent Children's Centres reported positive impacts for themselves as a result of

doing so. The most common response was that they are now playing and having more fun together with their child/ren (77%). This was a particularly popular response for parents/carers living in Kilburn (89%).

21. 97% of parents/carers accessing 'enjoy and achieve' services in Brent reported positive impacts for their children. This is an outstanding result. The most common response was that their child/ren are also playing and having more fun together (90%). This was a particularly popular response from parents/carers living in Kilburn (98%).
22. Moreover, approximately seven in every ten parents identified that their children's personal, social and emotional development and communication, language and /or literacy development has improved from taking up Brent Children's Centre services

### **Making a positive contribution**

23. Two thirds of families can self-report activities that demonstrate themselves making a positive contribution as a result of their participation in Brent Children's Centre services and activities. This includes over half of parents/carers saying that they feel part of the Children's Centre community.
24. Two thirds of families can also self-report activities that demonstrate their child/ren making a positive contribution. This includes just under half reporting that they feel part of the Children's Centre community (42%).

### **Achieving economic wellbeing**

25. 17% of parents/carers reported accessing a service which supports them to 'achieve economic wellbeing' with nearly a quarter of parents/carers living in Harlesden reporting take up of 'achieving economic wellbeing' services.
26. The most common service that was taken-up by families across all localities was the centrally commissioned Citizens Advice Bureau that supports families with take-up of benefits entitlements and housing and immigration related advice.
27. Two thirds of parents/carers accessing 'economic wellbeing' services in Brent reported positive impacts from doing so. The most common identified impact was that they now have a greater awareness of childcare available (35%). This was a particularly common response for parents/carers living in Kilburn (50%).

### **Additional services families are interested in**

28. Parents/carers most commonly identified Stay and Play sessions as support groups they would like from their Children's Centre (83%). This suggests the informality of a Stay and Play group and its catering to all family needs (i.e. parent/s and child/ren) rather than simply to the needs of parent/s or child/ren are highly valued.

29. Parents/carers most commonly identified First Aid Sessions as further education and training that they would like from their Children's Centre (61%).
30. Parents/carers most commonly said they wanted more health information and advice (63%) in terms of the information and advice they prioritise in seeking from their Children's Centre. This strongly aligns with wider initiatives to have health visiting and midwifery services delivered through all Brent Children's Centres in 2011/12 and the Government's priorities set out in *Foundation Years* (July 2011).
31. As it concerns parenting programmes, parents/carers most commonly identified that they wanted more parenting programmes related to their young child/ren (66%).

## **Appendix Two: Key findings from Brent Parent Impact and Satisfaction Study (Dec 2012)**

Brent Early Years and Family Support Services commissioned Cordis Bright to conduct a large-scale evaluation with local families of children aged 0-4 years about their satisfaction with Children's Centre services that they access. In addition, Brent Children's Centres were also seeking to understand parents/carers' views about the specific impacts associated with these services on the five core outcomes that are most important for improving the life chances of all children<sup>2</sup>:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Economic and social wellbeing

Cordis Bright trained 50 local parents/carers from across the five localities of Brent as parent researchers who used a structured template to interview other parents with children aged 0-4 years. Augmented with interviews undertaken by Brent Children's Centre practitioners working with families, 40 parents/carers went onto conduct interviews with 1,100 local families. This represents approximately 6% of the reach area. Of these families, 79% identified that they had accessed Brent Children's Centres.

It is to credit of the community researchers and practitioners that there was a 54% increase in the total number of families interviewed in 2012, as compared with 2011 (1100 compared with 715).

The parent researchers have been especially skilled at ensuring very high levels of representation of families who are more likely to experience disadvantage. This is especially true for parents/carers from Black and Minority Ethnic communities (BME) and non-working parents.

### **Key findings**

1. 79% of parents/carers that participated in the 2012 study indicated that they access services within Brent Children's Centres. This is 2% less compared to 2011, although there are 385 more parents interviewed in 2012 compared with 2011.
2. Approximately two thirds of parents/carers, who access Children's Centres, do so within the locality in which they live. This is the same as 2011.
3. The overwhelming majority of parents/carers who reported accessing Brent Children's Centres said that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with services (95%). This is a 4% increase from the previous study.

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<sup>2</sup> As per Ofsted inspection framework for children's centre (Sept 2012)



4. Furthermore, parents/carers who access Children's Centres, do so frequently with just under two thirds reporting that they do so at least once per week and a fifth saying that they do so two to three times per month. This is consistent with 2011.
5. Parents/carers most commonly access Brent Children's Centres in order to give their child/ren opportunities to play and socialise with other child/ren (80%). Whilst this is a small reduction from the previous study this was also most common response in 2011.
6. There is still scope to improve parents/carers knowledge of the services available at Children's Centres as the most common reason for not accessing services was a lack of awareness about what was available (35% of those not accessing Brent Children's Centres). Nonetheless, this was a 6% reduction from the last study and points to improved awareness about Children's Centres locally.

In Kingsbury locality, however, reasons were much more varied about why parents/carers did not access Children's Centres with key responses including that parents are working and so not having time and that they are unsure what the Children's Centre could do for their families.

7. 92% of parents/carers, who reported accessing Brent Children's Centres, provided one or more positive impact on themselves as parents/carers. This is identical to the 2011 study. Most commonly, parents/carers said that it has given them new ideas of playing with their child/ren (62%). Whilst this was a slight decrease from the previous study there was a slight increase in the percentage reporting that they've learned new skills (39%).
8. 90% of parents/carers, who reported accessing Brent Children's Centres, provided one or more positive impact for their child/ren. This is down 1% compared to 2011 (91%). Most commonly, parents/carers said that their children's play has improved (62%).

### **Be healthy**

9. 73% of parents/carers that accessed Children's Centre services could identify having accessed services that promote positive health and wellbeing. The most popular accessed service from Children's Centres is Health Visiting services (41%).
10. 75% parents/carers who accessed services also reported one or more positive impact from their engagement with the Brent Children's Centre 'be healthy' services. This is a 15% increase since the 2011 study. The most common responses were that their emotional health has improved (51% - an 18% increase) and that they are eating healthier food/drink (42% - a 13% increase).
11. 68% (5% increase since 2011) of parents/carers who accessed these services also reported one or more positive impact for their child/ren from their engagement with the Brent Children's Centre's 'be healthy' services. The most common responses were the same as those for parents/carers

with child/ren eating/drinking healthier food/drink (47%) and improved emotional health (30%). These are broadly consistent with the 2011 study, albeit emotional health improvement is identified by 5% more families.

12. In analysis about differences for different family types, lone parents/carers were more likely to identify impacts for themselves as a result of having accessed 'be healthy' services as compared with dual parent households (74% compared with 55%).

### **Stay safe**

13. Just under half (48%) of parents/carers accessing Brent Children's Centres also identified 'stay safe' services they have accessed in Brent. This is a substantial improvement on 2011 where one quarter of parents/carers identified accessing services related to staying safe.

14. The most popular services across all localities, with the exception of Kingsbury, were knowledge and skills in accident prevention. This was particularly so in Harlesden where over a third of parents/carers reported having accessed support related to accident prevention. In Kingsbury, knowledge and skills in home safety and parenting support were more popular.

15. 91% of parents/carers accessing 'stay safe' services in Brent reported positive impacts for themselves as a result of doing so. This was identical to the finding from the previous study. The most common impact was that they feel safe at the Children's Centre (71% - 4% higher than in 2011).

16. 78% of parents/carers accessing 'stay safe' services in Brent reported positive impacts for their child/ren as a result of doing so. This is an identical finding to the 2011 study. The most common response was that they feel safe at the Children's Centre (73% - 2% greater than 2011).

17. While there were no overall differences between different family types in the impacts identified, closer identification found differences across all localities. These are reported in the main findings.

### **Enjoy and achieve**

18. 83% parents/carers who access Brent Children's Centres reported accessing a service which helps them and their families to 'enjoy and achieve'. This is an increase of 19% since the 2011 study.

19. The most common activities accessed are stay and play sessions (70%). In particular, over 70% of parent/carers are accessing 'enjoy and achieve' services in Kilburn, Harlesden and Kingsbury.

20. 86% of parents/carers reported positive impacts for themselves as a result of doing so (up from 85% in 2011). The most common response was that they are now playing and having more fun together with their child/ren (79% - a 2% increase from 2011 findings). As in 2011, this was a

particularly popular response for parents/carers living in Kilburn (88%).

21. 89% of parents/carers accessing 'enjoy and achieve' services in Brent reported positive impacts for their child/ren (8% reduction since 2011 findings). Similar to parents/carers the most common response was that their child/ren are playing and having more fun together (79% - 2% increase since 2011 findings).

### **Making a positive contribution**

22. Almost identical to 2011 findings, 71% of families can self-report activities that demonstrate themselves making a positive contribution. This includes over half of parents/carers saying that they feel part of the Children's Centre community.
23. Almost identical to 2011 findings, two thirds of families can also self-report activities that demonstrate their child/ren making a positive contribution. This includes just under half reporting that they feel part of the Children's Centre community (43%).

### **Economic and social wellbeing**

24. 33% of parents/carers reported accessing a service which supports them to 'achieve economic and social wellbeing' (almost double findings from 2011).

25. The most common service across localities that parents access is Citizens Advice Bureau (12% - double the findings from 2011). There was an increase in all localities in the percentage of parents/carers who reported accessing; 'achieving economic and social wellbeing' services, in particular in Willesden where this increased from 11% in 2011 to 39% in 2012; and in Harlesden which increased from 23% to 45%.

26. Similar to 2011 findings, just over two thirds of parents/carers accessing 'economic and social wellbeing' services in Brent reported positive impacts from doing so. The most common identified impacts were that they:

- a. Have a greater awareness of childcare available (21% - a 14% decrease since 2011) and
- b. Are taking up training (20% - a 6% increase from 2011).

Parents/carers in Wembley were particularly likely to say they have an increased awareness of childcare available (71% - 43% increase) and are accessing more childcare (62% - 42% increase).

## Appendix Three: Progress in relation to key performance measures

### 1a. All disadvantaged children aged 0-4 years are registered with a CC:

Locality	2011/12	2012/13
Harlesden	63% (446/710)	67% (583/868)
Kilburn	51% (272/533)	56% (327/579)
Kingsbury	50% (199/396)	62% (273/440)
Wembley	60% (402/672)	64% (493/773)
Willesden	52% (292/563)	59% (381/643)
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	39% (99/257)	42% (121/286)
Grand Total	55% (1710/3131)	61% (2178/3589)
Brent Total	56% (1611/2874)	62% (2057/3303)

### 1a: At least 5 contacts with the family throughout the 12-month period (across all Children's Centres in Brent):

Locality	2011/12	2012/13
Harlesden	27% (119/446)	36% (210/583)
Kilburn	19% (53/272)	20% (67/327)
Kingsbury	16% (31/199)	24% (65/273)
Wembley	17% (69/402)	20% (101/493)
Willesden	19% (56/292)	24% (92/381)
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	10% (10/99)	13% (16/121)
Grand Total	20% (338/1710)	25% (551/2178)
Brent Total	20% (328/1611)	26% (535/2057)

### 1b. Disadvantaged children's performance in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Number and percentage of disadvantaged children achieving a good level of development:

Locality	2010 (Disadvantaged Children)	2011 (Disadvantaged Children)	2012 (Disadvantaged Children)	2010* (All Children)	2011 (All Children)	2012 (All Children)
Harlesden	18% (12/67)	31% (27/86)	43% (40/94)	37% (237/640)	51% (342/667)	63% (442/698)
Kilburn	31% (11/36)	42% (23/55)	50% (30/60)	49% (220/445)	62% (320/515)	69% (342/493)
Kingsbury	29% (11/38)	51% (26/51)	43% (27/63)	45% (247/555)	66% (388/584)	66% (405/616)
Wembley	28% (15/54)	33% (27/82)	41% (43/104)	41% (362/877)	49% (436/883)	61% (588/965)
Willesden	23% (14/60)	27% (20/73)	45% (32/71)	41% (279/673)	54% (376/698)	62% (440/708)
Out of Borough	50% (5/10)	25% (2/8)	57% (4/7)	53% (183/344)	74% (266/361)	70% (237/338)
Grand Total	26% (68/265)	35% (125/355)	44% (176/399)	43% (1528/3534)	57% (2128/3708)	64% (2454/3818)
Brent Total	25% (63/255)	35% (123/347)	44% (172/392)	42% (1345/3190)	56% (1862/3347)	64% (2217/3480)

### 1b: Disadvantaged children are accessing at least 2 'enjoy and achieve' activities (across all Children's Centres in Brent):

Locality	2011/12	2012/13
Harlesden	24% (106/446)	28% (164/583)
Kilburn	25% (68/272)	20% (64/327)
Kingsbury	18% (35/199)	24% (66/273)
Wembley	19% (75/402)	18% (90/493)
Willesden	23% (66/292)	22% (83/381)
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	12% (12/99)	12% (14/121)
Brent Total	22% (350/1611)	23% (467/2057)

**2a. Where CAFs are in place, families' needs are being met and so there is no referral to Social Care**

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012
Harlesden	100% (9)	100% (16)	79% (14)	100% (39)
Kilburn	100% (7)	83% (12)	100% (8)	100% (8)
Kingsbury	100% (7)	100% (7)	100% (12)	100% (22)
Wembley	100% (5)	100% (18)	95% (19)	97% (36)
Willesden	100(12)	100% (25)	100% (9)	100% (39)
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	100% (1)	100% (1)	-	100% (3)
<b>Brent Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>149</b>

**2b. Parents completing accredited parenting programmes:**

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012
Harlesden	40% (6/15)	56% (15/27)	33% (17/52)	78% (39/50)
Kilburn	33% (3/9)	45% (5/11)	45% (5/11)	59% (10/17)
Kingsbury	100% (1/1)	76% (22/29)	0% (0/2)	62% (8/13)
Wembley	0% (0/3)	41% (12/29)	32% (9/28)	44% (16/36)
Willesden	33% (2/6)	58% (14/24)	20% (2/10)	65% (15/23)
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	40% (6/15)	56% (15/27)	33% (17/52)	78% (39/50)
<b>Brent Total</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>63%</b>
<b>Total number of parents</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>141</b>

**2c. Reducing the number of children aged 0-4 on Child Protection Plans (CPP):**

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012
Harlesden	30	39	47	30
Kilburn	21	39	44	25
Kingsbury	13	26	23	12
Wembley	44	32	33	34
Willesden	24	20	32	38
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	29	28	24	21
<b>Brent Total</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>160</b>

**3a. Number of mums taking up breastfeeding support at Children's Centres (across all Children's Centres in Brent):**

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012
Harlesden	30	29	24	30
Kilburn	117	136	119	213
Kingsbury	61	71	47	39
Wembley	25	48	32	80
Willesden	34	24	26	22
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	23	15	12	7
<b>Brent Total</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>160</b>

**3b. Number of families taking up 'economic wellbeing' services at Children's Centres (across all Children's Centres in Brent):**

Locality	2009	2010	2011	2012
Harlesden	351	388	380	445
Kilburn	174	188	168	176
Kingsbury	198	160	110	182
Wembley	399	433	335	403
Willesden	282	194	217	245
Out of Borough / Address not disclosed	23	15	12	7
<b>Brent Total</b>	<b>1404</b>	<b>1363</b>	<b>1210</b>	<b>1451</b>



**Appendix Four: Progress in implementing Service Plan priorities for period ending June 2013.**

Strategic priority area	Actions required	Responsible persons	Expected finish date	Status
Family focused planning	Locality Advisory Boards in operation for all of the localities	Strategic lead- CCs CC managers	Jan 2013	<b>Embedding.</b> LABs are operating in all localities and bespoke training has been commissioned to run across July- September 2013 to encourage improved understanding of roles and responsibilities and to challenge/ contribute to the centres' development.
	Parents Forums to ensure all Children Centres have active parental engagement via the Parents Forums	Strategic lead- CCs CC managers	March 2013	<b>Embedding.</b> Parent Voice, locality based parents forums, have been re-launched across the borough to increase the formal opportunities for parents to contribute to service development.  89 individual parents participated in Parents Voice in the period April-June 2013.
	To align CC to locality partnerships	Strategic lead- CCs CC managers	March 2013	<b>Complete</b> With the discontinuation of the DfE PBR Pilot, the PBR steering group has agreed to reconstitute as a Brent Children's Centre strategic partners group. The strategic partners group met in April, new TOR agreed and membership extended to include BACES, SALT, a LAB chair and network manager, EY quality and employment services providers.
	To ensure all CC managers understand and implement the Performance Management Framework (PMF)	Strategic lead- CCs	As per the PM cycle	<b>Complete</b> A revised PMF has been agreed and distributed to all CCs in line with revised Ofsted inspection framework that commenced, April 2013. The PMF standardises the reporting formats and schedule for updating action plans, self-evaluation forms, delivery plans and annual conversations. It also sets out how the LA establishes CC targets and the data that the LA will provide to CCs to assist their understanding of local needs.
	All CCs are ready for the new Ofsted	Strategic lead CCs/ CC	Sept 2013	<b>Embedding.</b> With 2 locality inspections conducted, CCs are increasingly aware of the Ofsted

	inspection framework with locality based inspection the preferred model,	manager		requirements. Through leadership meetings and the processes of supporting managers prepare their SEFs and action plans aligned to the new inspection framework requirements, CC network managers and LABs are increasingly knowledgeable about the 'locality' approach.
	A Going to Big School transition programme is developed and implemented.	Head EYFSS, EY quality lead	July 2013	<b>Complete.</b> Building on excellent work at Harmony and St Raphael's CC supporting target parents and children's emotional and practical transition to school and nursery, the transition programme has been extended to all localities with early years advisory teachers working alongside early years workers and parents/children.
	All CCs have community outreach plans that are reviewed at least quarterly for progress and are intended to register and engage those groups within the community that are not taking up services.	CC managers/ CIWs	April 2013 with quarterly updates.	<b>Partially complete.</b> All centres have outreach plans. However, these require a more rigorous approach to using data based on understanding of whether target group households are registered and engaging with CC services. As the revised inspection framework requirements are embedded and enable CCs much more specific intelligence about families to target, the rigour of outreach planning will improve.  In addition, centres have begun making contact with all families with children aged 0-1 as a result of improved information sharing with health visiting.
	Increased registration of families at CCs through partnership with Civil Registry.	CC Strategic Lead	March 2013	<b>Complete.</b> This has been in place since September 2013 (delayed by the move to the new Civic Centre and reorganisation of administration services in Brent).
Family focused service approaches	The revised Early Years Foundation Stage is implemented across all children's centres	EY lead and CC managers	Sept 2012	<b>Complete.</b> For children that regularly attend Willow nursery, transition programmes and regular crèche attached to adult learning, children's learning journeys are also being created to demonstrate the progress and development of individual children.

	CC practitioners have regular supervision which encompasses performance management and reflective supervision.	CC strategic lead, CC managers	Sept 2012	<b>Complete.</b> All CC practitioners have regular supervision, with staff that undertake 1:1 work with families also having reflective supervision. To build quality and ensure families are moving forward, family support workers that work with families with more complex needs have supervision through Brent Family Solutions.
	All CCs have noticeboards that make clear what local needs are and how successful the CC is engaging families with greater levels of need.	CC managers	April 2013	<b>Not complete.</b> As the substantial work drawing together datasets about levels of engagement with target group households is finalised, this can be implemented.
	Families with young children are accessing multiagency support through CAF. Targets are set as part of the Annual Conversation process.	All managers	From Sept 2012	<b>Complete</b> and there is increasing level of CAFs initiated through CCs. Targets however are being set through the Brent Children's Centres strategic partners group to reflect the multiagency priority of increasing family engagement through CAF.
	PBR for Children's Centres is fully embedded in performance management framework of CCs and at least six monthly updates about performance are provided.	CC strategic lead, CC managers/ data manager	Oct 2012 and every six months thereafter	<b>No longer relevant</b> given discontinuation of the PBR steering group. However, the Brent Children's Centres strategic partners group takes forward this work (see Appendix One) and the revised PMF makes clear that six-monthly performance reports will be provided.
	To provide high quality integrated services for families with children aged 0-4 years	Strategic lead- CCs CC managers	On going	Key elements of demonstrating families moving forward are the children's learning journals and the outcomes of 1:1 family support work and CAF. We need to improve the tracking of progress of adult learners, but have implemented follow-up with parents that completed parenting programmes 3-6 months post programme completion to understand more about sustained benefit.

	To deliver targeted family centred support within the children centres i.e. Parenting and family support, targeted evidence based early intervention programmes robust links and referral to specialist services.	Strategic lead- CCs CC managers	On going	<p>A key target for all CCs is increasing engagement of families through the CAF and that where families have had engagement through CAF, that we are reducing the referrals of these families to Social Care.</p> <p>Between 2011 and 2012, we had an increase in CAFs for families with children aged 0-4 years from 65 to 149 and a 5% improvement from 94% to 99% the proportion of families where a CAF has been in place that there is no referral to Social Care.</p>
	CC newsletters advertise what is available across the borough and not simply what is available within the locality.	Strategic lead CCs	From April 2013	<b>Complete.</b>
	Saturday sessions for dads and their children at CCs. Increase our fathers champions programme	CC managers Fathers lead	Start Dec 2012 June 2013	Engagement with dads has improved substantially. Across the borough, as at April 2013, 9,131 dads are now registered with CCs. Across all localities, there are increasing levels of engagement by dads in Centre activities. For example, in the year ended 30 June 2013, 430 dads actively engaged with support at Kingsbury locality, 170 dads actively engaged with support at Harmony/St Raphael's CCs and 223 dads actively engaged with support in the Kilburn locality.
Strong outcomes orientation	All CCs that are inspected achieve at least a 'good'.	Strategic lead- CCs CC managers	From Sept 2012	<b>Not achieved.</b> Both locality inspections rated 'requires improvement'.
	At least quarterly monitoring meetings of all commissioned services.	Strategic lead CCs	From April 2013 and then each quarter.	Commissioned services form part of the Brent Children's Centres strategic partners group to minimise additional meetings, whilst ensuring that a multiagency focus to monitoring commissioned services, partner contributions and CCs takes place.
	All families with a CAF in place/ accessing services as	All managers	Sept 2012	<b>Not complete.</b> Practitioners are not consistently applying the Outcomes Star as a tool for measuring progress with families where a CAF is in place. This is an area of priority moving

	part of Early Help complete Outcomes Star at regular intervals.			forward.
	Children's learning journals exist for all children where regular contact at CCs	CC managers	Sept 2012	<b>Complete</b>
	Follow up work with parents completing parenting programmes is operational	Strategic lead- CCs	Sept 2012	<b>Achieved.</b> In the year ending March 2013, a substantial improvement in completion rates of accredited parenting programmes took place (31% to 63%), with 89 of 141 parents completing compared to 33 of 105 in 2011/12. Follow up with parents 3-6 months post intervention has commenced and staff have been trained in undertaking follow up. This revealed 56% of parents report that they are definitely managing their children's behaviour better, 58% report that they are definitely keeping their children safer and 60% report that they are definitely involved in their children's learning.

## Appendix Five: Budgets for Children's Centres in Brent for the period April 2010 to March 2014 - 4 Years

Cost Centre Description	10/11 Budget £000s	10/11 Actuals £000s	10/11 Variance £000s	11/12 Budget £000s	11/12 Actuals £000s	11/12 Variance £000s	12/13 Budget £000s	12/13 Actuals £000s	12/13 Variance £000s	13/14 Budget £000s	13/14 F'cast £000s	13/14 Variance £000s
				669	536	(133)	420	408	(12)	386	386	0
Alperton CC	288	298	10	468	406	(62)	412	328	(84)	351	351	0
Curzon Crescent CC	405	393	(12)	269	269	(0)	254	254	(0)	254	254	0
Fawood CC (including Challenge House)	380	343	(37)	412	412	0	388	396	8	397	397	0
Fryent CC	268	289	21	357	304	(53)	427	345	(82)	403	403	0
Granville CC	368	368	(0)	226	226	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harmony CC	493	673	180	71	30	(41)	73	66	(7)	61	61	0
Queens Park Community School CC	333	344	11	366	349	(17)	598	468	(130)	514	514	0
Raphael's CC	327	318	(9)	404	342	(62)	403	367	(36)	376	376	0
Wembley Centre for Health and Care CC	312	281	(31)	0	0	0	1	0	(1)	2	2	0
Wembley Primary School CC	381	367	(14)	345	306	(39)	357	317	(40)	343	343	0
Willesden Centre for Health and Care CC	319	133	(186)	0	0	0	1	0	(1)	2	2	0
Willow's Centre CC (inclg Willow Nursery 10/11)	561	1,238	677	308	237	(71)	136	102	(34)	25	25	0
Hope Centre CC	189	84	(105)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cricklewood Library CC	151	139	(12)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clock Cottage CC	158	70	(88)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kingsbury High School CC	151	147	(4)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Preston Park Primary CC	158	109	(49)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sudbury Primary CC	191	79	(112)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wykenham Primary CC	151	141	(10)	503	443	(60)	491	423	(68)	400	400	0
	5,583	5,814	231	4,398	3,860	(538)	3,961	3,474	(487)	3,512	3,512	0

	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s
<b>Movement in Budget</b>	271.84	(1,185)	(437)	(448)
	5.12%	-21.23%	-9.95%	11.32%

**Footnotes:-**

1. The cost centres were changed following a restructure of the service area and, for example, CB21 in 2010-11 became CL33 in 2011-12.
2. There were 20 Children's Centres and as at November 2013, there are 17.
3. These were funded from the Sure Start Grant (April 2009 - March 2011), Early Intervention Grant (April 2011 - March 2013) and for April 2013 - March 2014, General Fund - part of the Base Budget.

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# Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 2013/14

DRAFT

Meeting Date	Item	Issue for committee to consider	Outcome	Recommendations
18 June 2013	<b>Brent Youth Parliament</b>	The members of the Brent Youth Parliament will be invited to provide an update on their work since the committee last met, as well as to raise any issues of concern they would like the committee to consider.	BYP has focused on bullying, aiming for a clear and consistent policy across schools. They have been campaigning for the Curriculum For Life, and aim for pupils from each school to join this. Are working to raise awareness of the 16-19 bursary amongst young people. 20 <sup>th</sup> annual Brent Eton Summer School takes place in first week of July.	
	<b>School place strategy report</b>	To consider progress on school place planning and expansion	Report was noted, and that Cheryl Painting would provide further information on detail of works planned at Copland School, and the Equalities Impact Assessment for the School Places Strategy.	
	<b>Inspection of Fostering Service</b>	Members will receive an update on the recent inspection.	Report was noted, and Nigel Chapman would provide further information on the numbers of children placed outside Brent.	
17 July 2013	<b>Brent Youth Parliament</b>	The members of the Brent Youth Parliament will be invited to provide an update on their work since the committee last met, as well as to raise any issues of concern they	BYP has been supporting the Curriculum For Life campaign, holding an event for pupils from six schools. Mosaic and Brent Anti-bullying Council have been	

		would like the committee to consider.	asked to provide training for young people which can be further cascaded. Councillors are also requested to speak in schools about their work. BYP is concerned about the effect of personnel changes on its support, however while the vacant support post will be filled, it is unlikely to be added to.	
	<b>Local Safeguarding Children's board annual report</b>	To receive a report on the work of the local authority and its partners to ensure safeguarding of children in Brent	Since the new chair took office in May 2012, the structure and constitution of the LSCB has been reformed. A report on the Board's audit work will be submitted at a later meeting of the committee, and Child Poverty implications will be submitted for the current paper before the next meeting of the committee.	
	<b>SEN update report</b>	To consider progress on transformation of special educational needs provision in the borough	The One Council Project had supported the service to achieve a number of significant improvements regarding issuing of statements, in-borough provision and financial performance. However, demand is projected to increase over the next seven years at least, and the new regime coming into force from 2014 must be planned for.	
	<b>School places update</b>	Standing item to update committee	At 12 July 2013 there were 24	

		members of the current situation regarding school places in the borough	children who had not yet been offered a school place (very recent arrivals), with places available for all. There were 205 children without school places but for whom offers had been made. There would be sufficient secondary school places for the 2014/15 academic year due to free schools opening. October's update will include detail on numbers of children not taking up a school place after more than six months.	
	<b>Dental health presentation</b>	Overview from the Director of Public Health on dental health issues of children and young people in Brent	Oral health of under-5s is a key issue for Brent and was the worst in England in 2007-08, causing school absences and acting as a poor indicator for adulthood. An oral health plan is in development focusing on earlier regular brushing with fluoride toothpastes, working with the dental community and training frontline staff. The committee would propose to the relevant NHS body that dental staff be allowed to go into schools to offer checks to pupils.	
<b>10 October 2013</b>	<b>Corporate parenting – annual report</b>	To receive a report on the council's progress and approach to acting as corporate parent of looked after children		
	<b>Careers Advice</b>	Report on services on careers		

Page 4 December 2013	<b>Brent Youth Parliament</b>  <b>School Places update</b>	<p>advice requested by BYP</p> <p>The members of the Brent Youth Parliament will be invited to provide an update on their work since the committee last met, as well as to raise any issues of concern they would like the committee to consider.</p> <p>Standing item to update committee members of the current situation regarding school places in the borough</p>		
	<b>Brent Youth Parliament</b> (to be limited introductions and participation as members of the committee – confirmed with chair)  <b>School standards</b>  <b>School places update</b>  <b>Expenditure of Pupil Premium*</b>  <b>Working with families</b>	<p>The members of the Brent Youth Parliament will be invited to briefly summarise their recent activities and issues in their written update.</p> <p>A report on standards in the borough's schools</p> <p>Requested by members at June meeting</p> <p>Update on the council and its</p>		

	<p><b>update</b> (rescheduled following lack of time at October meeting)</p> <p><b>Early Years report</b> (rescheduled at request of Children &amp; Families) renamed Children's Centres Update</p>	<p>partners' work to intervene early to turn round the lives of families with complex needs and to improve our overall approach to improving families' lives.</p> <p>Analysis of strengths and weaknesses of Early Years service</p>		
<p><b>05 February 2014</b></p> <p>Page 65</p>	<p><b>Brent Youth Parliament</b></p> <p><b>Update on financial management in schools</b></p> <p><b>Progress on borough plan – children and young people</b></p> <p><b>School places update</b></p>	<p>The members of the Brent Youth Parliament will be invited to briefly summarise their recent activities and issues in their written update.</p> <p>Members have requested for an annual update. The report will provide information on the auditing procedures and findings from audits for Brent schools.</p> <p>Report on progress against CYP pledges in revised borough plan</p> <p>Standing item to update committee members of the current situation regarding school places in the borough</p> <p>Update on plans to transform the</p>		

