# EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

## 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018

## Report by Chief Officer Health & Social Care Partnership & Director of Education

# EARLY YEARS STRATEGY UPDATE

## PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To provide an update on progress made in implementing the Early Years Strategy action plan and identify next steps.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2. The Council are asked to:
  - note the progress made to date and approve the next steps identified within the report.
  - note that the Change Fund has been mainstreamed to protect our collective investment in prevention giving the savings to core budgets that have been made in recent years.

## BACKGROUND

- 3. In 2016 Council approved the Early Years Prevention and Community Engagement Action Plan which had been developed by the Children's Improvement Collaborative Key Change Group (formerly the Early Years Planning Group) to take control and drive improvements that support the delivery of SOA Outcome 1 "All children in East Renfrewshire experience a stable and secure start to their lives and are supported to succeed".
- 4. Our contributions to achieve the intermediate outcomes are set out below:

Parents provide a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for their families.

- Targeted interventions to increase the confidence of parents most in need of support
- Accessible and effective support for families to reduce the impact of financial pressures on children
- Engaged communities and increased opportunities for involving parents
- Increase in activities which support prevention and early intervention, improve outcomes and reduce inequalities

Our children are healthy, active and included.

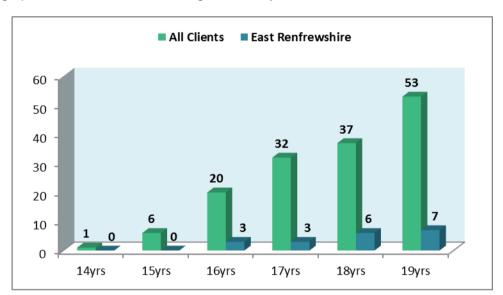
- Improve maternal health and wellbeing
- Children receive high quality early learning and childcare

# REPORT

#### Targeted interventions to increase the confidence of parents most in need of support

- 5. The Family First Worker initiative has been scaled up to include more communities of need across East Renfrewshire, increasing from 2 FTE to 4 FTE from January 2017 with workers based in Barrhead / Neilston, Thornliebank, Busby and Newton Mearns. Prior to January 2017 the average monthly notifications received by the project was 5, since the scale up, this has increased to 16.5. Of the new notifications, received since January 2017, 35% were regarding residents within SIMD 1. Families have received support to deal with a range of parental stressors before they escalate into more complex issues and the evidence continues to support that notification to the Family First team has prevented social work referrals, reduced demands on health visitor's time and prevented evictions.
- 6. The team has benefitted from intensive training with the support of the educational psychological service to develop; solution focused approaches, reflective practice, peer monitoring, motivational interviewing, data collection to improve understanding of customer journey and building resilience. This has assisted the workers to offer high quality support to each family.
- 7. We have sustained our commitment to the Psychology of Parenting Project (PoPP) which was developed with NHS education for Scotland to improve access to evidence based parenting programmes. The 22 trained practitioners from HSCP and Education have delivered Incredible Years and Triple P parenting programmes throughout the year in a variety of locations to 85 families. Pre- and post-intervention questionnaires are completed with parents, 86% of children had an improved developmental milestone score at the end of the programme, compared to 79% last year.
- 8. At a recent site review, the national PoPP team commended East Renfrewshire for working exceptionally well at engaging families from areas of more deprivation, retaining families in the PoPP groups (across both the Incredible Years and Triple P Programmes), and helping these families achieve great outcomes. Data was shared which indicated that families who attend PoPP groups in East Renfrewshire are achieving terrific outcomes, and some of these outcomes are significantly higher than is being achieved on average across the country.
  - 33% of families who enrolled in PoPP groups in East Renfrewshire were from the two highest deprivation categories; this is a substantially higher proportion than would be found within the overall East Renfrewshire population (which has only 19% of the population falling in the two highest deprivation categories)
  - 70% of families who started a PoPP group in East Renfrewshire completed the group, which is well above the national average of 52% of families completing a group
  - Of the children (for whom East Renfrewshire has both pre-and post SDQ scores) who started in the high risk range on the SDQ, 72% of these children moved out of this range into the normal or borderline ranges at the end of the group. Furthermore 64% of these children moved into the normal range, which is well above the national average of 44%.
- 9. Reflecting upon these findings, the National Director of PoPP commended East Renfrewshire on several factors considered to be significant contributors to these outcomes:
  - the strong PoPP Implementation Team, and the management support of this team
  - the PoPP Coordinator
  - the communication across the many layers within the CPP involved in this work

- the fidelity within which the two programmes are delivered
- the local commitment to the PoPP implementation plan
- the strong organisational support across East Renfrewshire for this work
- 10. This strong picture demonstrates the success of the PoPP delivery team and the necessity for continued commitment to PoPP to support families in East Renfrewshire.
- 11. Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) provides targeted support for young mums under the age of 19. FNP recruited their first cohort of clients between 1 August 2014 and 11 September 2015, this group has recently graduated from the programme and a new cohort will be recruited. The recruitment pathway was successful with almost all notifications coming from maternity services. In East Renfrewshire 19 clients enrolled in the programme with an impressive 95% engagement rate which is significantly above the 75% national target. No clients voluntarily left the programme. 68% of the clients were from SIMD 1 and 2. Chart 1 below details the age profile of clients.



#### Chart 1 Age profile across Greater Glasgow and Clyde

# Accessible and effective support for families to reduce the impact of financial pressures on their children

12. In 2016/17 207 families benefitted from support provided by the Income Maximisation Officer, with financial gains of £349,462.62. This represents new income for families as a direct result of the advice and support they have received from the money advice and rights team and has contributed to alleviating poverty across East Renfrewshire. Since April 2017, the team have already supported 134 families with children generating financial gains amounting to £259,772.87.

#### Engaged communities and increased involvement for parents

- 13. The Let's Play programme takes place in 5 Family Centres across East Renfrewshire. Fifty parents participated in the programme along with their children. Participants reported an increase in their knowledge of child development and were more confident in supporting their own child through simple play activities that had little or no cost.
- 14. Parents who had attended previous Let's Play programmes in 2016 have now taken ownership and planned and co-delivered the 2017 programme with the staff in the early years settings. All involved have reported that they feel their skills in relation to leading

parent groups and designing holiday programmes have developed considerably and have now created a Let's Play Network group in partnership with the parents. 100% of parent participants reported they would recommend Let's Play to family and friends.

- 15. Adult Learning Services have created a 12 week programme based on the needs and interests identified by parents who participated in Let's Play and PoPP. This has included work on learning styles, barriers to learning, skills development, volunteering opportunities, employability skills, mindfulness and personal development. A significant number of parents attending this programme have begun to engage in employability and training opportunities as a consequence.
- 16. Grow 10 initiative was developed in response to findings from local data analysis showing that Barrhead has proportionately fewer parenting groups than other areas in the authority. It is a key aim within the both the Early Years and Community Learning and Development Strategies and is also linking to locality plans in the Barrhead area.
- 17. The Grow 10 approach is founded on ongoing engagement with families in Barrhead to identify their needs and support them to develop parent/carer led groups. A successful parent and toddler group has been running in Auchenback Resource Centre with 10-12 families participating each week, with parents taking greater responsibility over the running of the group. Further engagement work with over 200 families has been used to identify gaps in community-led provision for families. A number of new areas will now be explored, including drop-in parent / toddler sessions in Dunterlie Resource Centre which are currently being piloted.
- 18. All our Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) establishments continue to offer excellent services for families. 100% of establishments have achieved Family Friendly Status at bronze level, 81% of establishments have now achieved Family Centred Status at silver level and two establishments (7%) have now reached the new Family Focused quality assurance model for accreditation at gold level. To achieve gold, staff must be able to demonstrate the wide range of ways in which they include parents within their service, parents are also asked to provide their views ensuring that the evidence offered by practitioners matches the lived experience of the parents.
- 19. Workforce training in 'Connecting with Parents' has been undertaken with 47 staff, 41 from education and 6 from HSCP. The staff have reported the impact of this training as increasing their confidence and skills to engage with families in need of support. All staff reported that they are now better informed about supports available and will use this to sign post the families they work with to other agencies and services as appropriate. This training is ongoing.
- 20. The housing department undertook a further in-depth consultation with residents living in Auchenback. The views of 56 households were captured, this equated to 192 residents, 66 of whom were children aged between 0-8 years. The most problematic issue raised by the community was access to play for children. Table 1 and 2 below detail the factors identified:

Table 1

<u>Play</u>	Please tick tenants' 3 top priority services
Safety – condition of equipment	23
Safety – location and seclusion	28
Quality/quantity of equipment	26
Supervision	11
Weather – external locations	10
Other (please specify)	11

Table 2

Safety Issues	Please tick any reason
Lack of appropriate places to play	30
Anti-social behaviour in the local area	23
Litter in the play area	25
Play area is dangerous	8
There are no barriers to playing outside	7
Other-please state reason	11

- 21. Overwhelmingly the respondents valued outdoor play and thought it would be beneficial to develop an initiative to support children playing outdoors.
- 22. A small improvement team was formed within the Children's Improvement Collaborative Key Change group to address this and develop an initiative that would meet the needs of the community and promote outdoor play. The 'Places to Play' team used the model for improvement to increase the number of children playing outdoors at least twice a week. A partnership was developed with a third sector agency, Impact Arts to design and deliver a bespoke intervention: Creative Play Rangers, which targets P4 pupils. A range of tests of change have been carried out since June 2017 and the project will run until December 2017. The Places to Play team were one of thirty finalists in the Scottish Government Quality Improvement Awards in the Co-Production with Families and our Services Category having been short-listed from over 140 applicants.
- 23. The environment department has developed play spaces across Barrhead and Neilston connecting with local schools, community councils and the Add2Barrhead group. Funding has been allocated to regenerate 3 local parks, Cowan Park and Fenwick Park in Barrhead and Kingston Park in Neilston. Collaborative community consultation has taken place within each community to ensure that local residents' views shaped the future provision. School and nursery children have been targeted, along with advertising in local communities to engage and encourage consultation, leading to the children and community identifying the equipment and informing procurement processes. The work will begin in Fenwick Park in November with Kingston and Cowan in January. Community wardens will monitor the parks to mitigate against potential for vandalism.

- 24. The teenage pregnancy rates in the neighbourhood of Auchenback in Barrhead were consistently above average and accounted for 21% of East Renfrewshire's teenage pregnancies. A prevention based programme was introduced to improve outcomes for young adults, reduce negative outcomes for children and families, and reduce demand on expensive, often high-intensity reactive front-line Social Work, Health, Police and Education Services.
- 25. Two innovative projects were developed using data analysis and improvement science combined with Community Learning & Development (CLD) techniques to work in partnership with local young people and secondary schools. A predictive risk matrix was created to identify young people who were previously unknown to Young Persons Services (YPS) and who had not yet been identified as being at risk. These young people were then appropriately and sensitively engaged and supported.
- 26. A new programme for lower risk young people was co-produced/designed by staff and existing young mums to convey the realities of young parenthood and share information young parents had wished they had known before pregnancy and parenthood but didn't know they needed at the time. This new programme was woven into existing CLD-led programmes for S4/5/6 pupils and is adaptable to meet the needs of each group whilst retaining the core content and supportive delivery methods.
- 27. The impact of these projects is that the teenage pregnancy rate in Auchenback has been reduced by 60% and the profile of families in Barrhead has been significantly altered. East Renfrewshire now has the lowest teenage pregnancy rate in Scotland. In Barrhead the percentage of first time mums aged 19 or under has significantly decreased from 22% to 9%. This fall is far greater than the national rate as indicated in Chart 2.

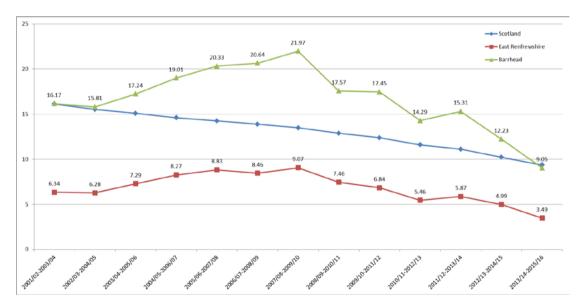


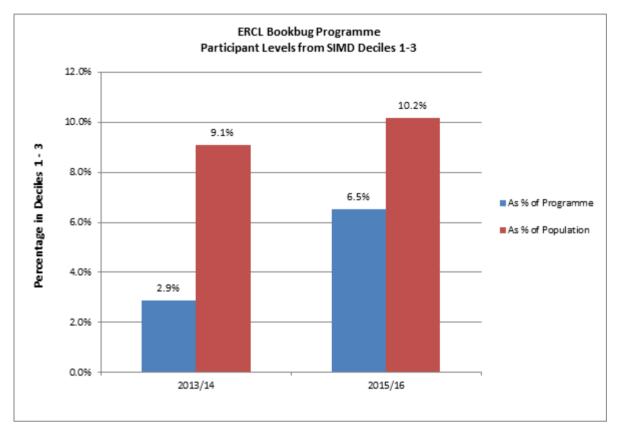
Chart 2

28. The success of these projects has been recognised by two prestigious awards this year securing gold in the 'Delivering Better Outcomes' category at the CoSLA Awards and being shortlisted in the UK-wide Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards.

Increase in activities which support prevention and early intervention, improve outcomes and reduce inequalities

29. Book bug sessions take place in East Renfrewshire libraries every week and offered as part of the Barrhead Baby Café. In 2016-17 there were 987 sessions delivered and 38,270 participants. Postcodes are taken from all participants at every session. Chart 3 below shows the 2015-16 participation figures of those living in SIMD deciles 1-3.





- 30. The Smart Play Network Play, Talk, Read tour visited East Renfrewshire during the week 28<sup>th</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September across five venues within East Renfrewshire. The Health Improvement Team (HIT) co-ordinated the venues and locations for the tour and were the main point of contact for local booking and promotion. The Smart Play Network evaluation report which includes local attendance data is not yet available.
- 31. The Read, Write, Count initiative was launched to coincide with Scottish Book Week 2016. Every child in Primary 1-3 across the authority received a Read, Write, Count bag containing resources that parents could use to support learning in a fun way at home. Schools co-ordinated a range of parental involvement and gifting activities to promote the use of the bags within the home environment. This programme will continue on an annual basis with schools sharing good practice and the impact of increased parental engagement.
- 32. An improvement team has been established to address the uptake rate of early learning and childcare (ELC) places for eligible 2 year olds. The improvement work is focusing on communication with parents, ease of application, information for services and improved data collection.

#### Improve maternal health and wellbeing

- 33. The most recent data (NRS, March 2017) show the rate of still births for 2016 was 4.6 per 1,000, compared to Scotland which is 4.3 per 1,000. There is no clear trend; therefore caution is required in the interpretation of the figures in terms of context, and these will be reported on again in 2018. It is important to note that this is influenced by many contextual factors in relation to the wider health and social determinants.
- 34. The most recent data (NRS, March 2017) shows the infant mortality rate for 2016 was 1.2 per 1,000, compared favourably to Scotland, with the national rate of 3.3 per 1,000. There is no clear trend; therefore caution is required in the interpretation of the figures in terms of context, and these will be reported on again in 2018. It is important to note that similarly to still birth rates this this is influenced by many contextual factors.
- 35. Current smoking in pregnancy data (Dec 2016) indicates a rate of 24.4% of East Renfrewshire residents smoking in pregnancy across our most deprived areas compared to 22.9% across NHSGGC. Since March 2016 data has no longer been made available due to changes in NHSGGC data collection. From April 2017 women at booking who smoke will now be directly referred to local East Renfrewshire Smoke free Community Service rather than the NHSGGC Smoke free Pregnancy Service. This change will present an opportunity to work more intensively at a local level to support expectant mothers to quit smoking. There is still a wide gap between all of East Renfrewshire and our most deprived communities indicating a requirement for targeted intervention.
- 36. Exclusive breastfeeding rates within East Renfrewshire have remained relatively stable over the last three to four years. A marginal increase in the overall breastfeeding rate has been observed, primarily as a result of increases in mixed feeding practices. In 2016 almost 52% of women in East Renfrewshire were breastfeeding (breastfeeding and mixed) at the six-eight week child health review; 41% were recorded as exclusively breastfeeding during this period (ISD Scotland, 2017). This compares to a National figure of 28% exclusive breastfeeding at six-eight weeks for Scotland as a whole (ISD Scotland, 2017).
- 37. There is a clear association between breastfeeding and deprivation and of the 41% recorded as exclusively breastfeeding in ERC; only 14.8% of them were living in SIMD 1 & 2. To address this, an early intervention programme of enhanced schedule of breastfeeding support in the form of home visits and facilitation to attend the Barrhead Baby Cafe was developed. Thirteen participants were referred into the study by health visitors between the 1<sup>st</sup> of July and the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.
- 38. The evaluation of the test of change was in 2 parts:
  - Summary of feeding status and breastfeeding drop off across 6 weeks
  - Qualitative 1:1 interviews with participants (Feb-Mar 2017)
- 39. Given the small scale nature of the study and lack of comparable data it is not possible to draw definitive conclusions in relation to the outcome measure, however it is possible to make inferences based on the wealth of qualitative data obtained during the evaluation.
- 40. Seventy-five per cent of women were recorded as breastfeeding at the six-eight week child health review. This suggests a high retention of breastfeeding throughout the six week intervention period. While it is difficult to directly attribute this to the intervention in all cases, it is likely that the model supports an increase in breastfeeding duration for some women. This conclusion is strengthened by the qualitative data, where several

women directly attributed the service to successful exclusive breastfeeding at six-eight weeks. A strong desire and determination to breastfeed during the antenatal period also appeared to be a significant enabler of breastfeeding duration.

- 41. Awareness of the Baby Café breastfeeding support group was high among those interviewed and over half attended on at least one occasion, however qualitative data indicates that for some this is not a supportive environment, consequently there are plans to review the day to day operation of the Baby Café.
- 42. The funding for this project was short term, as it was hoped that the approach would be adopted by existing Health Visitor staff, however this has not been possible, but will be adopted when the new Health Visitor pathway is introduced in 2018. We have agreed to continue funding to support this priority area until the Health Visitor Team is fully staffed.

#### Children receive high quality early learning and childcare

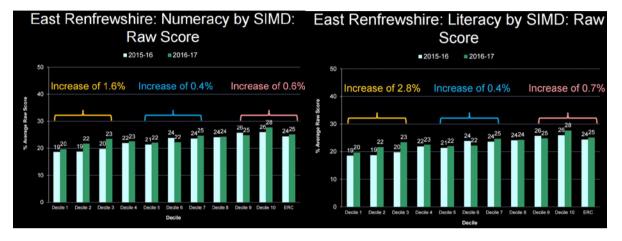
- 43. Current East Renfrewshire data for 2015/16 demonstrates 90% of children achieving their developmental milestones at 30 months (90% is the national stretch aim) compared to 94% in 2014/15 and 91% in 2013/14. ISD have reviewed the data set for the 27-30 month data capture and made adjustments to enable more accurate reflections of HV practice and the developmental progress of children. Promoting & Nurturing Early Communication and Language has been introduced to help support language development in all Early learning and Childcare settings. This has been progressed with strong partnership working including speech and language therapy.
- 44. Data has been used to identify those children with low SDQ scores to ensure appropriate supports are offered at the earliest possible opportunity. This includes the PoPP Programme or the wider range of educational supports available through referral to the Pre-Five Resource Group (PRG). Access to Educational Psychology Services, Play Visits and early entry to an ELC setting have been provided as part of this enhanced pathway.
- 45. Dental decay data for 2014/15 indicates 50% of P1 children had no obvious decay experience in our most deprived areas, compared to 54% across NHS GGC and 73.3% in East Dunbartonshire. Since the publication of the 2014 data we have been doing targeted work with associated nurseries of primary schools with higher rates of dental decay. Attendance for example at parent evenings and parental induction days to talk about dental registration and key oral health messages has been provided. All nurseries in East Renfrewshire are currently tooth brushing. We have expanded the programme this year (2017) to offer the tooth brushing programme to Childminders and are implementing a test of change to increase dental registration in 0-2 years with the aim over the long term of reducing P1 dental decay. We have been progressing discussion around targeted fluoride varnish application for Family Centres that link to primary school with high rates of decay. This is ongoing.
- 46. Since 2013-14 data has been gathered on the percentage of children achieving the expected levels of development on entry to primary 1. The following components are assessed: Attention, Speech, Expressive Language, Receptive Language, Communication, Gross Motor Skills, Fine Motor Skills and Behaviour. Over the past three years the percentage of children achieving the developmental milestones across all components has increased from 69% to 82% in 2016-17, with an overall valuation of 93% of children being recorded as having no concerns in relation to their developmental milestones. Figures for 2017-18 are not yet available.

- 47. The Scottish Government refreshed the national stretch aims in 2016, with a new target of at least 85% of children within each SIMD decile having achieved all of their developmental milestones by 2020. In East Renfrewshire, the gap in the achievement of those from the most affluent (SIMD10) and least affluent (SIMD1) residencies has decreased from around 26% in 2014-15 to 17% in 2016-17. Chart 4 below details the Developmental Milestones History by SIMD.
  - Developmental Milestones: History: by SIMD: 2014-15 to 2016-17 2014-15 2015-16 2016-17 Increase of 20% Increase of 11% Increase of 12% Increase of 13% 100 90 85 82 74 77 77 80 69 73 64 67 68 70 60 50 48 50 40 30 20 10 0 Deciles 1-3 Deciles 4-7 Deciles 8-10 ERC SIMD Decile: Number of Pupils in 2016-17 Least affluent. Most affluent SIMD
- Chart 4

- 48. The component areas that children's scores were lowest continue to be Fine Motor, Gross Motor and Attention. The department has developed a Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) resource and programme for staff on physical literacy to support children, through outdoor play, with the development of their gross and fine motor skills. Forty staff across our local authority and partnership early years settings, including Primary 1 teachers have been trained to use the 'Muddy Movers' programme. Ongoing support from the PE Lead Officer has enabled these approaches to become embedded in practice and contributes significantly to the development of children's gross and fine motor skills. Furthermore, additional funding from the Council has allowed us to invest in Learning Landscapes for all early years and primary 1 settings, thus continuing to invest in children's physical literacy and development.
- 49. A Baseline Assessment has been in place since 2005-2006 to assess children's attainment in literacy and numeracy on entry to primary one. In numeracy, performance has increased significantly over this period from 48% correct answers in 2005-6 to 57% in 2016 overtaking the target set in the Outcome Delivery Plan (2014-17). In general there is no significant gender gap when comparing the performance of boys and girls in numeracy. The gap in the achievement of those from the most affluent (SIMD10) and least affluent (SIMD1) residencies in numeracy has decreased from around 20% in 2015-16 to 13% in 2016-17. Chart 5 details the raw scores by SIMD.

50. Performance in literacy has increased from 53% in 2005-6 to 61% in 2016 meeting the target set in the Outcome Delivery Plan (2014-17). The gender gap, with girls outperforming boys has reduced slightly over the past three years. The gap in the achievement of those from the most affluent (SIMD10) and least affluent (SIMD1) residencies in literacy has decreased from around 22% in 2015-16 to 15% in 2016-17. Chart 6 details the raw scores by SIMD.

## Charts 5 and 6



51. The Education Department has continued to work in partnership with HSCP Speech & Language Therapist to pilot a joint initiative to develop the capacity of all early years establishments to promote and nurture the early language and communication skills of all children. The first two Early Learning and Childcare establishments undertaking this pilot will were awarded 'Language and Communication Friendly' Status in October 2017.

#### Development of a Family Centre/Community Hub in Auchenback

- 52. An aim of East Renfrewshire's Early Years Strategy has been to involve local communities in the design and delivery of services, and in the case of Auchenback, to build a new centre which would house a replacement nursery for Arthurlie Family Centre, but more importantly a "community hub", where parents and local people are able to access multiple services supporting children, families and communities to secure better outcomes for themselves.
- 53. The new centre has been opened to children and families since Tuesday 28 November 2017. This is named in honour of Sir Harry Burns, his work nationally and internationally, reflective of his leadership of the approaches which we continue to develop in East Renfrewshire and his support for our work on a local level.
- 54. The shared space has been available for use from January 2018. This will allow partner services to offer clinics, drop-in sessions, appointments and meetings within the space which families will be familiar with. The large hall and community room will also be available for use by community groups and events such as Baby Sensory classes, infant massage classes and other opportunities as determined by on-going community engagement and locality planning.
- 55. The Sir Harry Burns Centre official opening took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

#### Organisational Development

56. The Children's Improvement Collaborative Key Change Group continues to lead in the implementation of the Early Years Prevention and Community Engagement Action Plan. Almost all partners attend regularly and give updates on critical activities being undertaken within departments or by cross-sector improvement teams.

#### 57. Next Steps

- Launch Mellow Ability Parenting Programme for parents of children with Additional Support Needs
- Introduce groups for parents of children aged 0-8 and 8-16
- Work with a range of partners to help people claim the benefits they are entitled to.
- Support families to minimise the impact of welfare reforms and roll out of Universal Credit
- Work with Health Scotland to ensure staff are trained in Play@Home to help parents improve the quality of the home learning environment
- Utilise fully the facilities at the Sir Harry Burns' Centre.

## FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

- 58. In light of the ongoing financial pressures on core budgets the Early Years Change Fund has now been mainstreamed to protect this essential preventative investment.
- 59. The collaborative approaches promoted through the Early Years Strategy are reducing duplication, modernising how we work and increasing efficiency across all partners.
- 60. Any other financial and efficiency matters related to the Early Years Strategy will be met from individual department's devolved budgets.

## CONSULTATION

61. Extensive consultation with the community in Auchenback has been undertaken since 2013 and shaped the ongoing work outlined in the Early Years Prevention and Community Engagement Action Plan. Online questionnaires, focus groups and one to one interviews facilitated by Family First Workers and Housing Officers were used to gather resident's views on themes relating to Play, Attachment, Health, Money, Safety and access to services.

## PARTNERSHIP WORKING

62. The Children's Improvement Collaborative Key Change Group is the main mechanism for driving forward the Early Years Strategy. Many of the key stakeholders who are part of this group have been working closely together since 2013 building a strong interdisciplinary early years team committed to improving outcomes for children and families within East Renfrewshire. The group continues to grow to include third sector partners.

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

63. The implications of the Early Years Strategy are wide-reaching; improving the way that services work together, increasing community engagement in the development of services and aligning budgets and resources to support prevention and early intervention.

# CONCLUSIONS

64. We have made significant progress in implementing the strategy and have developed a vision for Early Years which is shared by staff working in all departments/HSCP. We have a firm platform for continuing to grow and develop this work and our community engagement and development work will be further enhanced by the new build when it is complete. We have protected our investment in prevention over the next few years when budgets are reducing as it is recognised that we will not see the full benefit from this investment for some years.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

65. The Council are asked to:

- note the progress made to date and approve the next steps identified within the report.
- note that the Change Fund has been mainstreamed to protect our collective investment in prevention giving the savings to core budgets that have been made in recent years.

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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

East Renfrewshire Early Years Strategy 2013-2018 http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=9508

East Renfrewshire Early Learning and Childcare Strategy 2016-2020 http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ChttpHandler.ashx?id=16472&p=0

East Renfrewshire Parenting Strategy http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=8332

## **KEY WORDS**

A report setting out progress to date in the implementation of the Council's Early Years Strategy.

Early, Years, Intervention, Prevention, Community Engagement, Children, Place

