

Title of paper:	Early Intervention Programme Phase Two	
Report to:	Children's Partnership Board	
Date:	07.12.2011	
Relevant Director:	Candida Brudenell, Director Quality and Commissioning, Nottingham City Council	Wards affected: All
Contact Officer(s) and contact details:	Katy Ball, Head of Early Intervention and Market Development Tel: 0115 8764816 Email: katy.ball@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) objectives(s):		
Stronger safeguarding – With a key focus on ensuring that there are high standards of safeguarding across all agencies and that the Partnership takes a pro-active approach to the elimination of domestic violence.		x
Healthy living – With a key focus on increasing the proportion of children and young people who have a healthy weight.		x
Reducing substance misuse – Partnership work to lessen the impact on children of parental drug and alcohol misuse and to reduce drug and alcohol misuse amongst children and young people.		x
Raising attainment – Raising the attainment levels and increasing engagement in employment, education and training.		x
Improving attendance – Improving rates of attendance at both Primary and Secondary as a key foundation of improving outcomes.		x
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
To provide an update on the national Early Intervention Foundation. To provide an update on the formal move into a second phase of Early Intervention work, seek support to explore radical financial models in partnership locally and continue to maintain national profile.		
Recommendations:		
1	Note the emerging Phase Two of Nottingham's Early Intervention Programme and support the exploration of radical new opportunities including ways to fund early intervention approaches.	
2	Support Nottingham City Council in backing the consortium bid for the national Early Intervention Foundation, in line with other local authorities.	

1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

Background

Early Intervention is a core theme of Nottingham's strategic planning framework and is embedded within the Nottingham Plan, Children and Young People's Plan and draft Vulnerable Adults Plan. The Programme was launched by One Nottingham in April 2008, through £4m Area Based Grant funding, and has achieved strong national profile. Nottingham's Early Intervention Programme recently won a major national award (Municipal Journal Delivering Better Outcomes Achievement of the Year) and will become a national Early Intervention Place under the Allen Review recommendations. It is strategically driven by the Children's Partnership, due to the intrinsic links

with the 'Aspiring Nottingham' and 'Family Nottingham' themes, and has primarily focused on children and families. Impact has been driven through five key work strands:

Projects 16 projects provided the opportunity to pilot evidence-based programmes from other countries and adapt or create new innovative programmes of support and create a stronger evidence base locally. Over 15000 children and families have been supported. Successful work with a strong evidence-base has been mainstreamed through core commissioning funding or are self-financing (eight projects), some work has entered a second phase to increase sustainability or trial in a different context (four projects) and work where evidence was not strong enough has been decommissioned (two projects). Better links between some services and systems have been forged, adding value for families (two projects).

Governance Strong leadership across the City, alignment of priorities and clear decision-making pathways have supported the Programme. A Children's Workforce Core Training Standard is driving more consistent early intervention approaches. The local authority's commissioning process has been redesigned with early intervention as a key principle.

Learning and Evaluation Clearer standards of evaluation and evidence of what works locally and nationally being established, which is building commissioning confidence.

Finance Methodologies established to better understand the costs and benefits of interventions and demonstrate where clear further costs are being prevented. This has provided a foundation for Total Place work to build on.

Knowledge Management Increased understanding of how to engage vulnerable families, forge better pathways of support and demonstrate what characteristics of support make a difference.

Change in Circumstances

Since the launch of Nottingham's Early Intervention Programme, there has been a change in national Government and significant reduction in public sector funding. The challenge locally to prevent increasing need for high cost support is growing, yet the resource available to commissioners and providers is stretched and further cuts are required. Local evidence of what works and the associated costs is essential.

Graham Allen, MP has led a national review of Early Intervention backed by the Government, with clear recommendations to increase funding for early intervention locally through a number of local and national routes, including:

- a call to Government to steer this direction by theming the next budget around early intervention
- a call to Government to lever resource from the Big Society Bank into a national, independent Early Intervention Foundation
- commissioners to shift an increase of 1% of local budgets to early intervention each year
- philanthropists and commercial investors to invest in early intervention approaches in local areas with a cash return.

A key recommendation was to create a new Early Intervention Foundation. This has support from the three party leaders and Government endorsement and commitment to find resources. The Department for Education are currently writing the specification to tender. The national, independent Early Intervention Foundation will be established within the financial year. Early Intervention Places, including Nottingham, have the opportunity to be founder members, which will increase support and funding to roll-out more evidence-based work on a whole-system scale. Early Intervention Places are not required to contribute financially to the Early Intervention Foundation currently, but may be asked to in the future. (See Appendix 1 for more details).

The EIF will:

- Be a permanent, independent champion of EI.
- Be a bridge builder across the worlds of local public sector, providers, investment and research.
- Focus primarily on evidence-based programmes for early years and children.
- Define national standards of evidence and build the EI evidence base.
- Support replication of successful models between different areas.
- Support local agencies.
- Broker investment from the Big Society Bank and investors, facilitating local areas to move to more radical finance models.

A consortium has been formed to make a bid to run the EIF, with key players including Price Waterhouse Cooper and Dartington Social Research Unit. There are 27 Early Intervention Places nationally, including Nottingham, who will be asked to formally show support to this consortium. There may be an opportunity for Nottingham to have a place on the EIF Board.

Early intervention is summarised as a key recommendation in many other national reviews focused on children, adults, older people and poverty.

Next Phase

As part of Nottingham City Council's commissioning processes for children, families and vulnerable adults, a number of strategic reviews of key areas of spend will be undertaken each year. Five areas are being reviewed currently and have highlighted clear areas to increase early intervention. These areas will be included in Phase Two of the Early Intervention Programme. Key elements of Phase Two include:

- work to consolidate and strengthen early intervention for children and families
- creating an early intervention pathway for vulnerable adults and older people
- further embedding and greater shift of resource to early intervention through commissioning
- work to save money through early intervention
- opportunities for radical finance models.

2. RISKS

Formally supporting the national Early Intervention Foundation provides the opportunity of further national profile for Nottingham, alongside access to a network of investors and structured support from credible organisations. Radical financial models, where external investment supports improved outcomes will require cashable savings to be realised. There will be financial risk associated with such models for partners.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No request for specific funding. There will be risk associated with radical financial models.

4. CONTACT DETAILS

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Appendix 1 Early Intervention Foundation Briefing

DATE: September 2011

TITLE: National Early Intervention Foundation.

1. SUMMARY

- The Allen Review Report One made the case for early intervention.
- The Allen Review Report Two focused on how to make it happen and how to fund early intervention, recognising the challenging financial climate.
- A key recommendation was to create a new Early Intervention Foundation.
- The Early Intervention Foundation will be a national, independent foundation to champion early intervention. It will be set up within the financial year. The Department for Education are currently writing the specification to tender.
- This has support from the three party leaders and Government endorsement and commitment to find resources.
- A consortium has been formed to make a bid to run the EIF, with key players including Price Waterhouse Cooper and Dartington Social Research Unit. There are 27 Early Intervention Places nationally, including Nottingham, who have been asked to formally show support to the consortium. There may be an opportunity for Nottingham to have a place on the EIF Board.

2. DETAIL

Opportunity to become a Founder Member

The independent Early Intervention Foundation will be established within the financial year. Early Intervention Places have the opportunity to be founder members, which will increase the opportunities for support and funding, to roll-out more evidence-based work on a whole-system scale.

The EIF will:

- Be a permanent, independent champion of EI.
- Be a bridge builder across the worlds of local public sector, providers, investment and research.
- Focus primarily on evidence-based programmes for early years and children.
- Define national standards of evidence and build the EI evidence base.
- Support replication of successful models between different areas.
- Support local agencies.
- Broker investment from the Big Society Bank and investors, facilitating local areas to move to more radical finance models.

3. IMPLICATIONS

Graham Allen, MP has written to the Chief Executives of Nottingham City Council, Birmingham and Manchester Councils inviting them to formally support the EIF and to

include their name in an invitation to 24 other local authorities to also show support .

This opportunity will allow Nottingham to stay part of the national conversation, have access to increased support and potentially investment locally.

4. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Access to the EIF could bring access to investment in EI programmes in Nottingham, through new financial models which include paying money back on a loan basis. Some areas nationally have already started to trial this, including Birmingham, Peterborough and Manchester. The model would be designed to increase better outcomes for children and produce cashable savings.

Early Intervention Places may be required to contribute financially to the Early Intervention Foundation in the future.

5. CONCLUSION

The opportunity to be a member of the EIF will allow Nottingham to stay part of the national conversation and learning on Early Intervention and potentially attract funding. The learning from this can be driven through mainstream commissioning.