

Appendix Two: Response to the Recommendations of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel

No	Recommendation	Status	Update
1	That Cabinet lobby the Government to expand the nine-to-23-month childcare funding entitlement so that it includes not only working parents, but also families on Universal Credit below the income threshold, children in care, and children with an EHCP—bringing it in line with the entitlement available for two-year-olds who receive additional support. Cabinet should also ask the Government to equalise the funding rates for Two-Year-Old Funding and the extended Early Years Entitlement, to avoid providers favouring younger children from working families due to higher per-pupil funding	Partially met	Monthly meetings have been held with DfE, feeding back on issues within the childcare sector, including access and funding entitlement. There was evidence that the previous Education Secretary was supporting the call to make the 30-hour childcare offer universal. There has since been a change in leadership within the Department for Education with a new Secretary of State, however, we know this continues to be an area of focus. In Summer Term 2026, 236 providers reported offering places for children aged 9 to 23 months. Of these, 92 providers stated that they did not offer places for children aged 1 and under, leaving 144 providers potentially offering places for this age group. Sufficiency returns identified 241 places for children aged under one year across Haringey. Analysis of the Summer Term 2026 funded headcount data, using children's dates of birth, identified 89 children aged 1 and under accessing a funded childcare place. Based on the reported capacity, this equates to an occupancy rate of 36.9%, with 152 places remaining vacant, representing a vacancy rate of 63.1%. While the available data indicates that 241 places were offered for children aged 1 and under, the analysis is limited by incomplete provider returns. Increasing provider response rates to the childcare sufficiency returns would provide a more detailed and reliable assessment of the childcare market, enabling a better understanding of actual capacity, occupancy levels, vacancies and demand across Haringey. This is particularly important given that some places may be occupied by privately fee-paying children who are not captured within the funded entitlement headcount data. Therefore, the reported vacancy figure

			should be treated with caution, as actual occupancy may be higher than indicated. It should also be noted that not all childcare providers are registered or equipped to offer places for children aged 0–1 years. Provision for this age group requires higher staff-to-child ratios, suitable facilities and specialist resources, meaning capacity is inherently more limited than for older children.
2	That the Council develop a comprehensive online directory of early years classes and activities with a dedicated webpage, enabling parents to easily identify available services across Haringey by day and time. The Panel also recommends that the range of services be actively promoted through the Council's social media channels. Parents and carers advise that accessing services through individual children's centres and provider websites can be difficult to navigate.	Met	This has been completed as part of our Family Hubs Programme whereby we have an established local offer and a borough wide parent carer panel who advises the council and influences decision making on the delivery of services and comms. All services are promoted on dedicated webpages which can be accessed on the link below: Best Start Family Hubs Haringey Council There is also a dedicated social media channel promoting these services alongside regular promotion within council wide social media channels.
3	That Cabinet explore ways to provide dedicated stay-and-play provision for childminders and nannies, who are currently excluded from most existing activities. The Panel suggests offering at least one session per month, rotating between libraries across the borough, and exploring the establishment of a childminders' support group	Partially met	There are 2 existing Childminder Stay & Plays run by Childminders: Tottenham Community Sports Centre N17 on Tuesday morning, and Eldon Rd Church N22 on a Wednesday morning both term time only. The timing of such groups is key to support the routines of the children in the care of the Childminders. There was an event that Childminders attended at the Wood Green library outside space which was very well attended – future events are being explored with the Library Service.
4	That Cabinet work with health partners and VCS organisations to maintain free perinatal peer-support groups, such as NCT-style sessions, for parents on low incomes. The Panel is concerned about unequal access to peer support where paid classes are unaffordable	Met	Best Start Family Hubs and Children's Centres provide a range of antenatal and postnatal services to support families across the borough. These universal services are available to all residents and are delivered free of charge through Family Hub locations. Activities, mapped against the NCT Haringey offer include: Bump to Baby antenatal classes A six-week course designed to help expectant parents prepare emotionally and practically for the arrival of their baby. Delivered through

		weekly sessions, the programme covers key topics including healthy pregnancy and birth, baby development in the womb, the stages of labour, supporting parents and babies during labour and birth, infant feeding, and caring for a newborn. Breastfeeding Network (BfN) BfN provides free, non-judgemental, evidence-based information and guidance to families across Haringey. Delivered by a trained peer support team, the service offers support with breastfeeding, expressing milk, bottle feeding, transitioning from breastfeeding, and introducing solid foods. Support is available from birth through the early years and complements the care provided by Health Visitors. Information about the service is shared with all mothers giving birth in Haringey to ensure early access to support. Baby Wonder A six-week course for parents with babies under six months of age. The programme provides advice, information, and practical support on a range of topics, including infant feeding and weaning, oral health, basic first aid, sensory play, and parental wellbeing, including access to Talking Therapies. The programme aims to support parents in building confidence and promoting healthy child development during the early months of life. These activities are complemented by a comprehensive package of support, advice, and guidance, delivered both through family hubs and digital channels, to meet the diverse needs of families. Collectively, these services provide families with accessible and tailored support, helping to maximise their opportunities to thrive and achieve positive outcomes.
--	--	---