

SHAPE THE FUTURE
Have your say
Haringey



Consultation paper on proposed changes to Haringey's Children's Centres and children's centre services

Background

High quality early year's provision, including Children's Centre services are a proven element of prevention and early intervention and have a profound impact on the life chances of children into adulthood.

The Sure Start Children's Centre programme has been rolled out across the country in three phases over the last six years. The intention has been to provide 'one stop shop' access to services for all children under five, particularly for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children within every community.

Sure Start Children's centres offer services and information for children under five years old and their families. By 2010, Haringey had set up 19 children's centres and three linked sites to offer a range of services including;

- Integrated early education and childcare
- Family and parenting support
- Child and family health services
- Help for parents/carers to access work and training



Why we need to consult

The Government's spending review, as a response to the national financial climate, reduced the amount of money that will be available for councils to spend over the next three years. Haringey Council, like all local authorities, has difficult decisions to make about how to continue to provide high quality services with fewer resources. Haringey Council is taking steps to reduce its spending over the coming years and we have already started the process of reducing management and administrative costs in our Children and Young People's Service.



Haringey currently has 19 children's centres and three linked sites, funded until the end of March 2011 from the Government's Sure Start, Early Years and Childcare Grant.

The huge scale of spending cuts imposed on local government means that the council will have to make savings of £84m over three years on its £286million annual budget to spend on services. Because of government demands to make early spending cutbacks, £41m of this saving has to be found immediately, for 2011/12. As part of this, the Children and Young People's Service is restructuring in order to reduce spending by £14.1m while protecting services to the borough's most vulnerable children.

The proposal

We are proposing to change the way we organise our children's centres, so that we can target services better and maintain the quality and effectiveness of those services that make the most difference to improving children's outcomes. It is clear that we cannot avoid some reductions in service and this may also include the closure of some centres.

A Cabinet paper was presented to elected members on 8 February 2011 and set out some initial proposals for the reorganisation of the children's centres. The models for change agreed by elected members were based on the following principles;

- Maintaining a full children's centre service offer in our most deprived areas (see page 7)
- Ensuring services on offer, and how they are delivered, reflect local needs
- Shared management and other jobs across centres
- Flexibility – staff working across children's centres
- Closing centres if the financial appraisals suggest that we are unable to maintain high quality, effective services across all centres

We are consulting until 22 April 2011 on the proposed changes. We will listen to your views and take them into consideration when we develop our final service delivery model.

We will submit our final model, **which in part will be based on detailed financial modelling**, along with all responses to the consultation, to the Cabinet member for children and young people and the

Director of the Children and Young People's Service who have been delegated authority by Cabinet to make the necessary changes. If the final model is accepted changes to the service will begin to be made from 1 July 2011.

The proposed changes

We have looked at retaining the current number of Children's Centres in Haringey as full service centres, but this cannot be achieved within the available budget.

We are proposing to:

- Develop clusters based on all 19 designated centres
- Provide a mixture of a 'full' and a 'standard' service offering across the borough;
- Combine children's centre management and administration;

We believe that this will ensure we continue to deliver services to those that need them the most.

We are proposing that all 19 children's centres and three link sites will be affected. A map of where children's centres and linked sites currently are is shown on page 7.

In developing this new model for the delivery of children's centres in Haringey we will be seeking to continue building on the strong partnership and integrated working approaches currently in place across our provision.

The delivery model for children's centres

The proposal is based on the development of a lead centre and associate centre model, with these centres clustered together to deliver services across the cluster area. It is proposed that the profile of a lead centre will include;

- Being geographically based in an area of higher deprivation
- Providing a full offer of children's centre services
- Hosting the children's centre services management for the cluster (who may not be directly employed by the lead centre)
- Leading the coordination of children's centre services across the cluster of centres
- Working with associate centres and partners to ensure there is effective local planning and delivery of services

The associate centres would offer a smaller range of services, with a focus on the provision of information and sign-posting to services.

This proposal would see the creation of eight lead centres and 11 associate children's centres. All eight Lead centres would provide a 'full offer' of services. Of the remaining associate centres six would provide a 'full offer' and five a 'standard offer'.

It is proposed that centres providing the 'full offer' will be those located in areas that are amongst the 30% most deprived according to national statistics.

Our consultation invites suggestions for possible alternative models which we will seriously consider as part of our decision making process.

	Lead Children's Centre (full offer)	Associate Children's Centre (full offer)	Associate Children's Centre (standard offer)	Linked sites
Cluster 1	Campsbourne		Stonecroft Highgate Rokesly North Bank Stroud Green	
Cluster 2	Noel Park	Bounds Green Woodside		
Cluster 3	Rowland Hill	Broadwater farm		Tower Gardens linked sites
Cluster 4 (stand alone)	Park Lane			
Cluster 5	Pembury House			Bruce Grove Primary linked site
Cluster 6	Triangle	South Grove		
Cluster 7	Woodlands Park	The Ladder		Downhills Primary School linked site
Cluster 8	Welbourne	Earlsmead		

The children's centre service offer

We believe that high quality early years services are the foundation for prevention and early intervention in Haringey. This means ensuring that good health and opportunities to thrive and learn are made available to all young children.

In circumstances where young children are at risk, services must be able to intervene quickly and appropriately and this relies on having staff with both

skills and knowledge to support children and families appropriately.

The former Department for Children, Schools and Families required us to deliver a 'full core offer' of services through children's centres. However the new Department for Education (DfE) is currently working on a new statement of core purpose for children's centres. We are proposing two levels of service for our children's centres as follows:

Proposed full service offer	
<p>Family support and parental outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Linked social worker/supervised contact/targeted support ● Access to family support ● Parenting programmes ● Targeted parent/carer support groups ● Targeted outreach ● Access to housing advice and support ● Information about available childcare for parents/carers and parents to be <p>Child and family health services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to speech and language support ● Links with Family Nurse Partnership programme ● New parents/carers support ● Visits to all new births ● Antenatal services ● Access to psychology services 	<p>Employment and training support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to benefits and employment advice ● Family learning <p>Access to Early education integrated with day care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Free 15 hour early education offer for disadvantaged 2-year-olds ● Access to the 3 and 4 year old free early education entitlement ● Support for children with SEN and or disabilities ● Support, advice and training for early years providers ● Parent/carer support group e.g. stay and play

Proposed standard offer	
<p>Family support and parental outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supervised contact ● Access to family support ● Parent/carer support groups ● Targeted outreach ● Information about available childcare for parents/carers and parents to be <p>Child and family health services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New parents/carers support ● Visits to all new births ● Antenatal services 	<p>Access to Early education integrated with day care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Free 15 hour early education offer for disadvantaged 2-year-olds ● Access to the 3 and 4 year old free early education entitlement <p>Employment and training support No service proposed</p> <p>Links with schools and children's information services No service proposed</p>

Staffing

The existing staffing and management arrangements are varied. Three centres are managed through the local authority, one centre is managed through a community organisation and the remaining fifteen centres are managed through schools. The costs apportioned to staffing and management varies across the centres and it is proposed to streamline staffing to the following core staffing for each lead centre:

- Children's Centre Service Manager
- Service Coordinator
- Reception/administrator
- Outreach & Information Officer
- Early Years Group Coordinator

Governance

The result of clustering centres in this way is likely to require the merging of advisory boards or the establishment of joint local governance arrangements. One option would be to establish revised advisory boards to reflect the proposed lead centre and associate centre arrangements. Other ideas are welcome.

Childcare in children's centres

Childcare places will continue to be provided in children's centres. The council has provided a high level of subsidy for these places. As a result of the reduction in overall funding it is proposed that the level of subsidy will be less in future. This means that it will be necessary to increase the fees parents/carers are asked to pay in order to meet the costs. It is proposed that the increase to fees as outlined below will come into effect from September 2011.

Age Range	New charge per week (£)
0-2	225
2-3	200
3 & 4	175

*Based on 50 hour per week provision: 8-6pm per day and 48 weeks per year.

What is the impact of these proposals?

These proposals will have an impact in the following ways;

a) Staff

The proposal is likely to involve a significant reduction in staff numbers which will need to be considered in greater detail. This will form part of a separate consultation with all children's centre staff.

b) Local communities

As the proposal indicates, centres will either offer a full service offer or a standard service offer. Families therefore may need to go to different centres to access the full range of services they may need.

c) Commissioned services

Changes to commissioning may mean a reduction in the range or amount of services commissioned. The impact of this reduction will be different for each organisation.

d) Governance

All centres are expected to have local advisory boards that reflect key local stakeholders and provide the opportunity for local input, support and challenge. Centres managed through schools have governance structures directly linked to the school governing bodies.

Consideration will need to be given to what the appropriate governance arrangements should be for centres clustered together for the delivery of children's centres services.

e) Impact of increased childcare fees

The new fee structure will be related to the age of the child and the income of parents/carers. For some families, this will mean that costs will rise from the current level.

Who we are consulting

- Parents, carers and other service users of the children's centres
- School staff and Governors
- Children's Centre staff
- Professional partners and commissioned organisations
- Community and voluntary sector services providers
- Ward Councillors
- Haringey's Children and Young People's Service staff

Have your say

It is extremely important that you have your say on the proposal for our children's centres and we would like to hear your views on these.

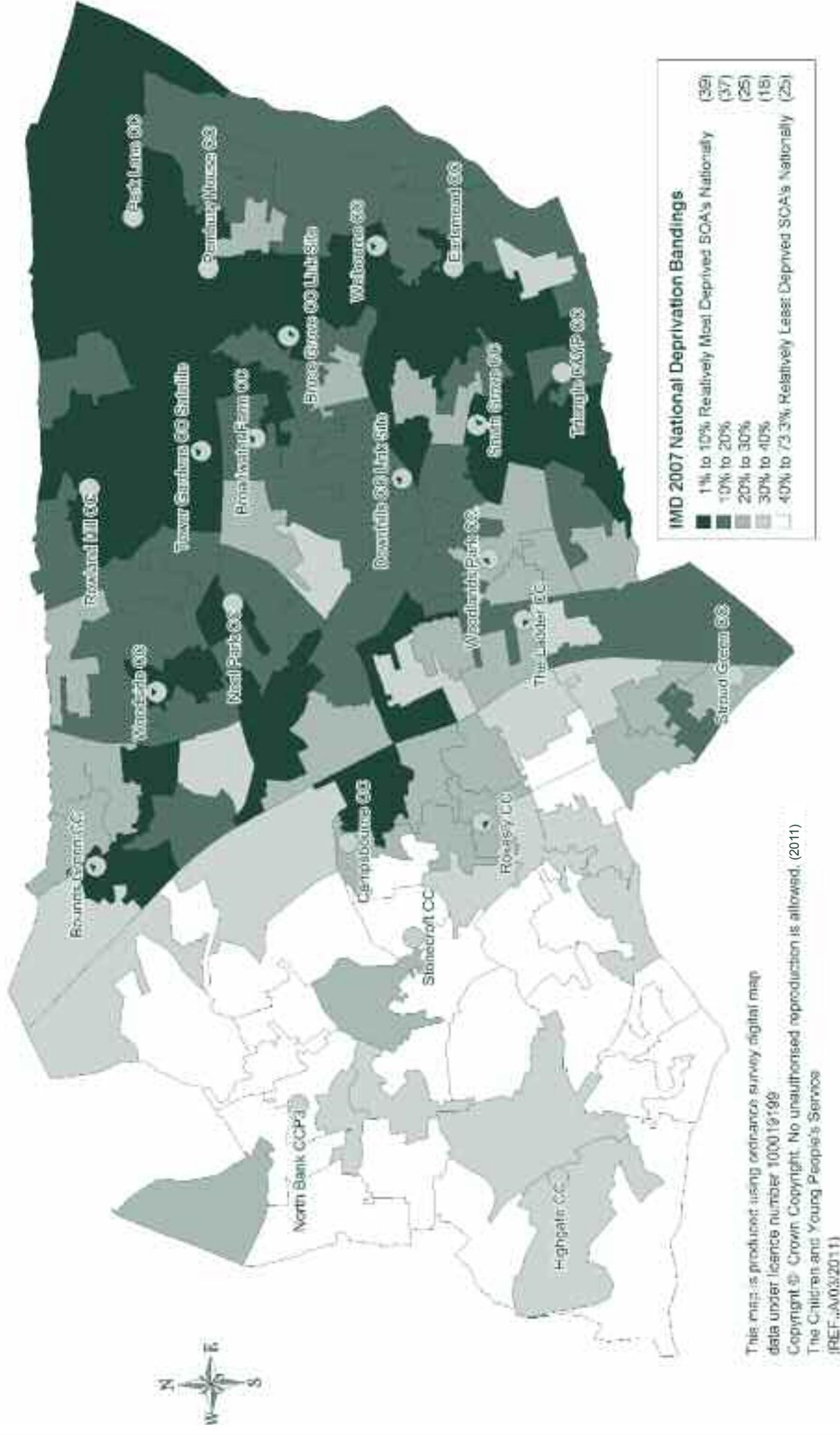
We are consulting until 22 April 2011 on the proposed changes. We will listen to your views and take them into consideration when we develop our final service delivery model.

We will submit our final model, along with all responses to the consultation to the Head of Children's Services and Cabinet member who have delegated authority from Cabinet to take final decisions on this matter. If the final model is accepted changes to the service will begin to be made from 1 July 2011.

You can let us know what you think anytime up to 22 April 2011 by:

- Completing our online questionnaires – visit **www.haringey.gov.uk/cc-consultation**
- Filling in a paper form – these are available for download from our website, in children's centres, or can be requested by calling 020 8489 2582 or 020 8489 1002
- Attending one of the consultation meetings – please see our website for more details
- emailing **childrenscentreconsultation@haringey.gov.uk**
- writing to us at the following address:
**Haringey Council
Children's Centre Consultation
3rd Floor
48 Station Road
London N22 7TY**

Appendix 1: Map of Haringey's Children's Centres and deprivation bandings



Note: IMD means Index of Multiple Deprivation and SOA means Super Output Area, which is an area used for statistical purposes.

Shqip

Kjo fletushkë ju tregon mbi konsultimin mbi qendrat e fëmijëve në Haringey. Për të porositur një kopje të kësaj fletushke dhe të një anketa në gjuhën tuaj, shenjoni ✓ kutinë, plotësoni formularin dhe dërgojeni tek adresa e mëposhtme me postim falas.

Polski

Niniejsza publikacja zawiera informacje o konsultacjach w sprawie placówek opieki przedszkolnej (children's centres) w gminie Haringey. Aby otrzymać publikację oraz ankietę w języku polskim należy zaznaczyć odpowiednią opcję, wypełnić formularz i odesłać go bezpłatnie na podany poniżej adres.

Français

Ce livret concerne une consultation sur les centres infantiles de Haringey. Pour commander un exemplaire de ce livret et un sondage dans votre langue, veuillez cocher la case, compléter le formulaire et le renvoyer à l'adresse en port payé ci-dessous.

Soomaali

Buugyarahani wuxuu kaaga warramayaa wadatashi ku saabsan xarumaha carruurta ee Haringey. Si aad u dalbato koobbi ah buugyarahan iyo waraysiga oo luqaddaada ku qoran, calaamadi sanduuqa, buuxi foomka oo ku soo dir cinwaanka boostiisu lacag la'aanta yahay ee hoose.

Kurdî Kurmancî

Ev destpirtûk li ser şewirdariya ji bo navendên zarokan ên li Haringey agahiyê dide we. Heke hun kopîyeke vê destpirtûk û lêkolînê bi zimanê xwe dixwazin, formê tije bikin û ji navnîşana posta bêpere ya jêrin re bişînin.

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Please tell us if you would like a copy of this questionnaire in another language that is not listed above or in any of the following formats, and send the form to the Freepost address below.

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