

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2013

Executive Summary



Contents

Introduction	3	Training and support	20
Background	3	Support and guidance for providers concerning vulnerable children	21
Purpose	3		
Research methodology	3	Children's Centres	22
Action plan 2013	4	How many people access Children Centres and why?	22
Four Planning areas	5	Satisfaction levels with Children's Centres	23
Demographics	5		
Demographic growth and changes	6	Appendix 1	24
Regeneration programme	7	Updated 2011 CSA action plan	24
Central Planning area	8		
South Planning area	8		
West Planning area	8		
Findings and themes	9		
Sufficiency of childcare	9		
Borough wide	11		
Additional needs and disabilities	12		
Satisfaction with childcare	12		
Types of childcare people are most likely to recommend	13		
Financial information	14		
Cost of childcare for your average family	15		
Who is not taking up childcare and why?	15		
Working tax credits	15		
Childcare information	16		
Projected early years increase	16		
Supply side information	17		
Free Early Education (FEE)	18		
Childminders	19		

Introduction

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) 2013 is an assessment of the supply and demand for childcare in the borough.

Background

What is the CSA?

As part of the Childcare Act 2006 it is the statutory duty of all English local authorities to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 19 for disabled children).

London Borough of Barnet (LBB) measures this sufficiency by conducting a comprehensive CSA every year.

Purpose

Why and how are we doing this?

The purpose of the CSA is to outline the sufficiency of Barnet's childcare market, the needs of parents and families and the ability of our childcare market to respond to these requirements.

Building on the previous comprehensive CSA 2011, the following elements have been researched as part of this 2013 assessment:

- parental demand for childcare across the borough as whole, and within four planning areas: East Barnet; West Barnet; South Barnet and Central Barnet
- feedback from daycare providers and childminders on the 'childcare market' in Barnet
- current and projected demographics with regard to the population(s) of 0 – 19 year olds
- specific views from families, including families with children with special needs and/or disabilities and those from minority ethnic groups
- a gap analysis which quantifies and qualifies the scale and extent of existing and/or continuing gaps with regard to childcare provision within the borough.

Research methodology

How we did this?

The following research methodology was undertaken:

- 1,100 telephone interviews undertaken and completed with local parents
- 60 responses to an on-line survey
- over 400 telephone interviews with daycare providers and childminders
- focus groups with parents from specific backgrounds
- focus groups with daycare providers and childminders
- focus groups with children and young people
- analysis of Barnet-wide demographics and population projections
- analysis of Barnet-wide known supply of formal childcare.

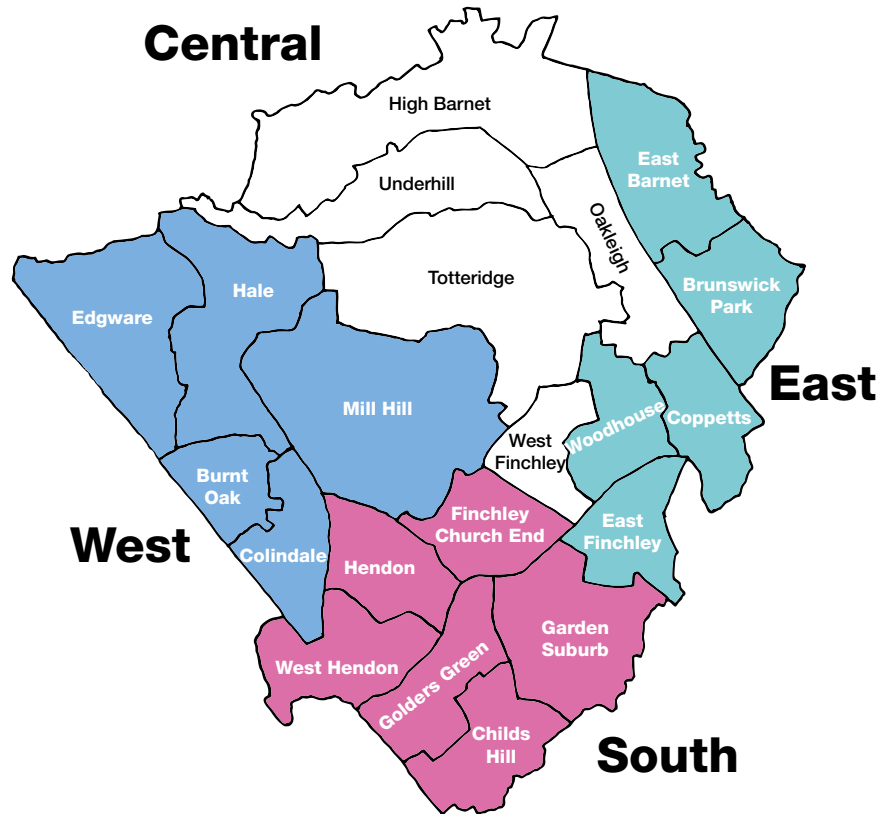
Action plan 2013

The CSA research highlighted a number of recommendations. The actions below are to be reviewed by Barnet Council and outcomes to be updated and published online by April 2014.

Key recommendations	Actions
1 Increase parental awareness	A new marketing campaign for parents should be considered to raise the profile of the availability of the Free Early Education (FEE) scheme for two, three and four year olds, particularly to those parents and communities who would qualify to access this form of support.
2 Increase provider awareness of FEE	The CSA shows a slight decrease in provider take up of the FEE two, three and four year old scheme. Actions to re-promote this offer across the borough especially in areas that the CSA has highlighted the awareness is lower.
3 Increase the timings and flexibility of childcare provision	This is needed particularly for those parents whose career/ employment choices necessitate working outside a standard 9am – 5pm working day. To meet the needs of parents the council should work alongside it's providers to respond to this action.
4 Respond to emerging geographical gaps	Taking into consideration the population projections and the regeneration schemes, the South and West planning areas have both current and projected gaps in childcare. The council needs to also consider parental preferences when responding to geographical gaps in childcare provision.
5 Respond to insufficient provision for parents of children with additional needs in the West of the borough and increase information available to disability groups	Approximately 64% of childcare providers are able to provide childcare for children with additional needs/special needs and disabilities across the borough however providers state the awareness of specialist provision for parents who have children with disabilities is limited.
6 Review the Families and Young people's information service (FYi)	The roles and responsibilities of the council's FYi service are not widely known or understood by providers or parents. This service needs to be reviewed and re-aligned to meet the changing needs of parents.
7 Address specific cultural needs whilst considering Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)	<p>Cultural needs have been cited as a barrier by our black minority and ethnic (BME) groups accessing childcare. In the focus groups there were repeated requests by non-English speaking parents that ideally the childcare that they access would be provided by – or to an extent staffed by – child carers who speak their first language and who are aware of their culture and cultural needs.</p> <p>The council needs to address specific cultural needs within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).</p>
8 Re-promote childminders	Parents do not favour childminders over group settings and the council needs to support the re-promotion of childminders as a viable childcare option

Four Planning areas

Coda Consultancy Ltd surveyed the borough in four separate planning areas, Central, East, South and West. This analysis was broken down to ward level to enable a deeper analysis.



Demographics

Barnet is one of the most populous boroughs in London and the wards with the highest populations of 0 – 19 year olds are Golders Green, Burnt Oak and Mill Hill, all in the West of the borough. The 0 – 4 year olds population in these wards is also among the highest in the borough along with Hendon, Colindale, Hale and Child's Hill; all of which are wards that make up the borough's western corridor.

Population projections show that Barnet is becoming increasingly diverse. 37% of the Borough's overall population belongs to an ethnic group other than White. The largest ethnic group is Other Asian, accounting for approximately 8.7% of the population, followed by Indian at 7.6% and 'Other' at 6.7%.

Overall Barnet is a relatively affluent borough, with pockets of deprivation. According to the 2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation, Burnt Oak and Colindale remain the most deprived wards in Barnet, by a significant margin.

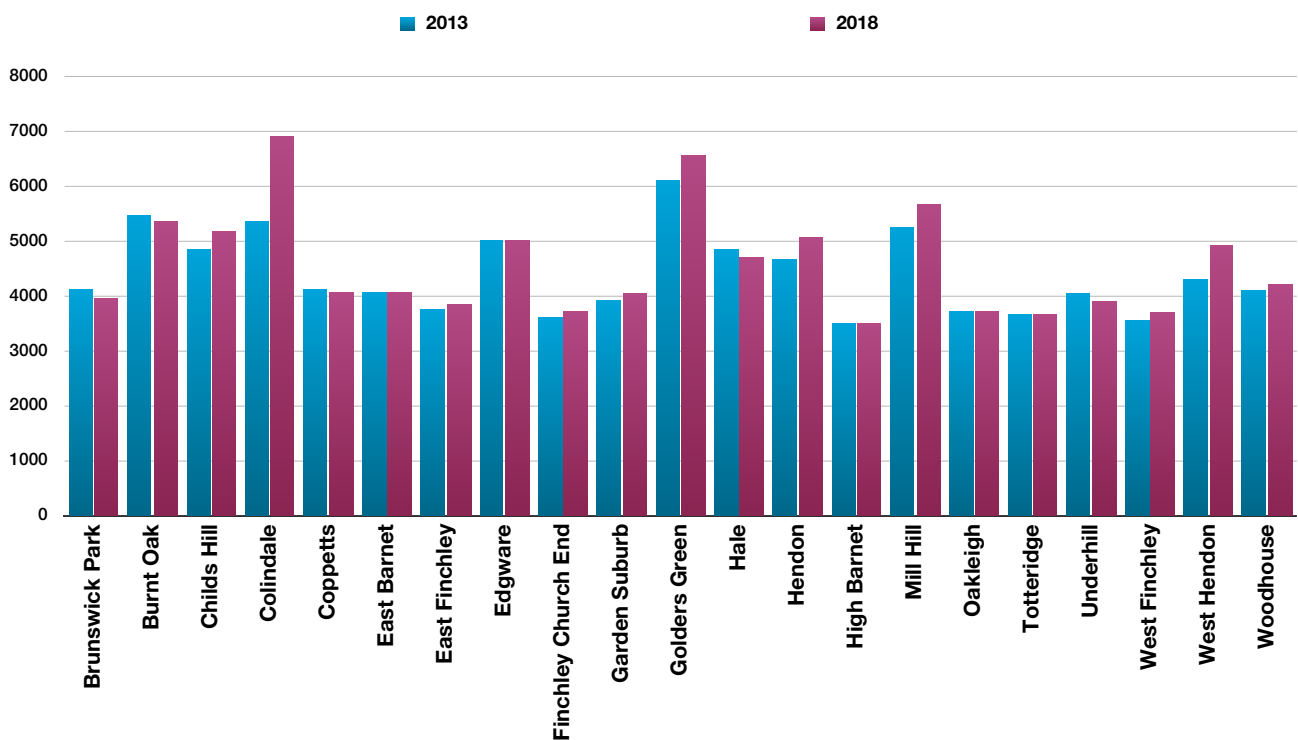
In the 2011 census, 41% of people described themselves as Christian (compared to 59% across England), with the second largest group stating Jewish at 15.2%, (the highest percentage in any local government area in the United Kingdom), and Muslim at 10.3%.

Demographic growth and changes

There will be a projected population increase within 19 of the borough's 21 wards by 2018. The highest percentage population increases of 0 – 19 year olds will occur in the following three wards – in order of magnitude:

- 1. Colindale (West Planning area)
- 2. West Hendon (South Planning aea)
- 3. Golders Green (South Planning area)

Graph B: Population increase of 0 – 19 year olds 2013 – 2018 by ward



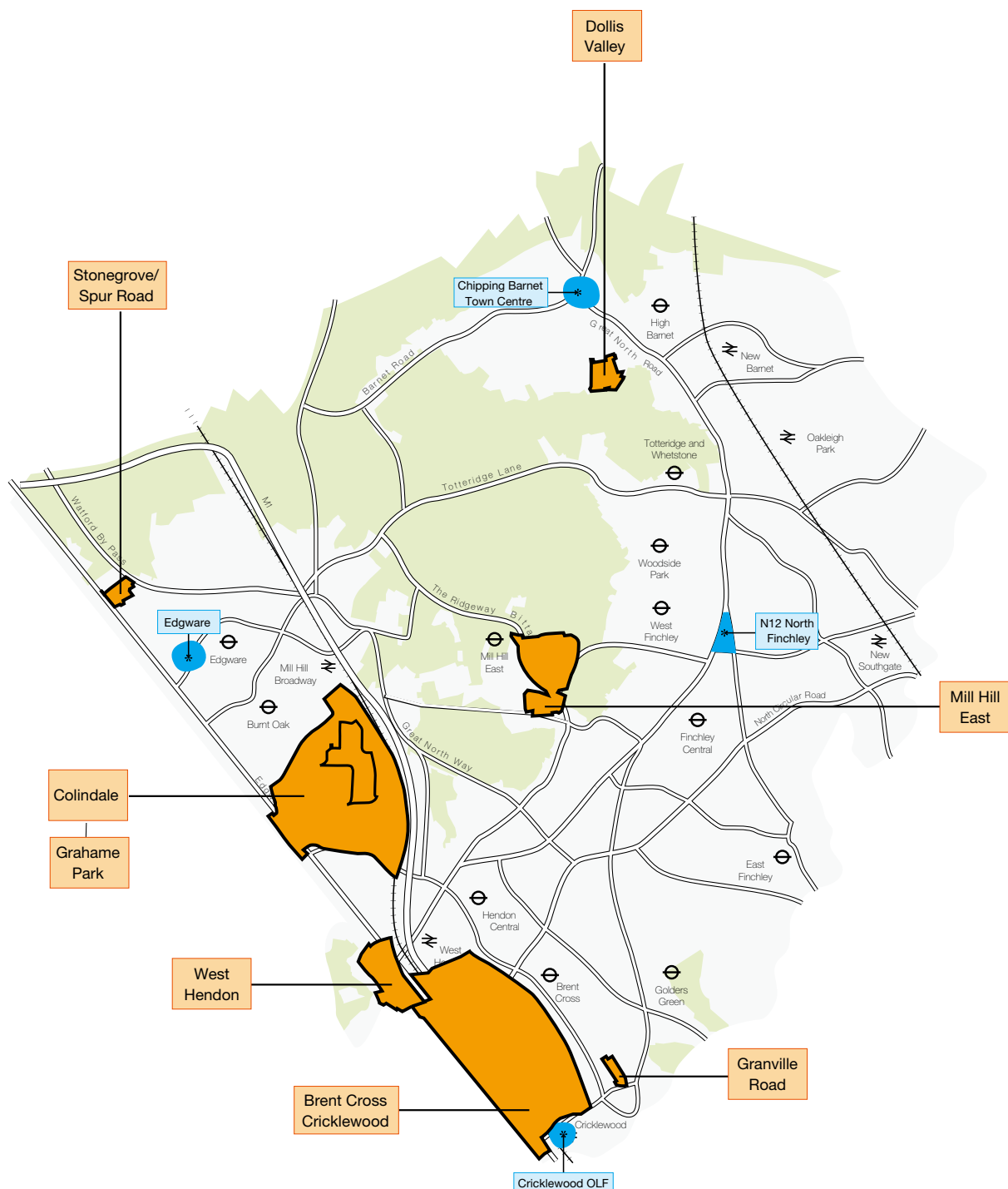
Diversity is higher among 0 – 19 year olds than among the overall population, with 50% of young people in Barnet belonging to an ethnic group other than White. This age group accounts for 40% of Barnet residents with Black African origin and 53% of residents with 'Black Other' origin.

Regeneration programme

The Regeneration programme outlined an on-going commitment to delivering sustainable housing growth and improving the condition of existing housing stock.

It indicated that a total of approximately 23,500 new homes are due to be built in the following regeneration areas of London Borough of Barnet:

Diagram C: Regeneration areas:



Central Planning area

- **Dollis Valley** – the development will involve the construction of 616 new homes and is due to commence in January 2014 and is expected to include the construction of a new day nursery.

South Planning area

- **West Hendon** – this development was due to commence in September 2013. It will involve the construction of 2,000 new homes and incorporate a new two-form entry community school.
- **Granville Road** (in the Childs Hill ward) – has recently been involved in the construction of 149 new homes.
- **Brent Cross/Cricklewood** – is expected to commence development in 2016 which will include the construction of 1,300 new homes and the doubling in size of Brent Cross Shopping Centre, which will affect the need for retail workers in that area.

West Planning area

- **Stonegrove/Spur Road** – this development will eventually involve the construction of 937 new homes. A first phase was completed in March 2013, which included the construction of 107 social rent units.
- **Colindale** – there will be a construction of 10,170 new homes by 2020, and 1,200 (new) student units for settings such as Middlesex University and Barnet College.
- **Grahame Park** – this development will involve 3,440 new homes by 2026.
- **Mill Hill East** – 2,174 new homes will be constructed by 2026 and the expectation to incorporate a new primary school.

Findings and themes

1. Sufficiency of childcare

Table D: Summary of assessment of sufficiency at August 2013

Ward	% of 0-4 year olds living in ward	% of known supply of early years places for 0 – 4 year olds in the ward in 2013	Assessed Sufficiency Yes/No for early years childcare	% of 0 – 4 year olds living in ward	% of known supply of out of school childcare places for 5 – 19 year olds in the ward in 2013	Assessed Sufficiency Yes/No for out of school childcare	% of 0 – 19 year olds living in ward	% of known supply of childminder places for 0 – 19 year olds in the ward in 2013	Assessed Sufficiency Yes/No for childminder places
East Planning area									
Brunswick Park	3.79%	3.21%	No	4.38%	3.29%	No	4.50%	5.40%	Yes
East Barnet	4.53%	4.24%	No	3.94%	8.68%	Yes	4.40%	7.70%	Yes
Woodhouse	4.53%	3.90%	No	3.86%	1.67%	No	4.46%	4.71%	Yes
Coppetts	4.39%	4.86%	Yes	3.56%	4.35%	Yes	4.49%	7.38%	Yes
East Finchley	4.09%	3.47%	No	3.21%	3.55%	Yes	4.07%	4.97%	Yes
South Planning area									
Garden Suburb	4.41%	4.94%	Yes	4.48%	14.15%	Yes	4.25%	0.48%	No
Childs Hill	5.49%	4.71%	No	5.53%	0.84%	No	5.26%	1.44%	No
Golders Green	6.44%	4.66%	No	7.94%	1.48%	No	6.64%	3.69%	No
Hendon	5.45%	7.64%	Yes	4.61%	3.59%	No	5.06%	6.63%	Yes
West Hendon	5.23%	6.08%	Yes	4.95%	1.27%	No	4.67%	4.49%	No
Finchley Church End	3.97%	4.37%	Yes	3.95%	10.48%	Yes	3.92%	5.08%	Yes
Central Planning area									
High Barnet	3.60%	3.84%	Yes	2.98%	6.65%	Yes	3.79%	5.78%	Yes
Underhill	3.91%	4.12%	Yes	5.06%	2.15%	No	4.38%	5.82%	Yes
Oakleigh	3.86%	2.20%	No	3.68%	2.03%	No	4.05%	6.05%	Yes
Totteridge	4.32%	5.91%	Yes	4.44%	6.55%	Yes	3.99%	2.41%	No
West Finchley	4.18%	4.58%	Yes	3.40%	3.04%	No	3.87%	3.26%	No

Ward	% of 0-4 year olds living in ward	% of known supply of early years places for 0 – 4 year olds in the ward in 2013	Assessed Sufficiency Yes/No for early years childcare	% of 0 – 4 year olds living in ward	% of known supply of out of school childcare places for 5 – 19 year olds in the ward in 2013	Assessed Sufficiency Yes/No for out of school childcare	% of 0 – 19 year olds living in ward	% of known supply of childminder places for 0 – 19 year olds in the ward in 2013	Assessed Sufficiency Yes/No for childminder places
West Planning area									
Burnt Oak	5.68%	6.34%	Yes	6.12%	5.91%	No	5.95%	4.17%	No
Colindale	7.05%	2.98%	No	7.68%	3.25%	No	5.82%	2.94%	No
Edgware	5.12%	5.58%	Yes	4.95%	6.64%	Yes	5.45%	4.17%	No
Hale	5.16%	4.47%	No	5.32%	1.98%	No	5.28%	8.29%	Yes
Mill Hill	4.80%	7.90%	Yes	5.96%	8.45%	Yes	5.70%	5.14%	No

- The summary of assessment of sufficiency (Table D above) shows that for each ward when:

- % of 0 – 4 year olds is higher than the % of childcare supply for 0 – 4 year olds = insufficient early years childcare
- % of 0 – 4 year olds is lower than the % of childcare supply for 0 – 4 year olds = sufficient childcare early years childcare
- when % of 5 – 19 year olds is higher than the % of childcare supply for 5 – 19 year olds = insufficient out of school childcare

- when % of 5 – 19 year olds is lower than the % of childcare supply for 0 – 4 year olds = sufficient out of school childcare.

This data should be considered alongside parental preference in each ward. When considering preference alongside sufficiency this shows that for 0 – 4 and 5 – 19 year olds that the three wards where there is the largest sufficiency gap are

- Colindale
- Golders Green
- Child's Hill.

Therefore the council needs to focus on sufficiency planning in the above three wards, and recognise that parents who live in Colindale, Child's Hill and Golders Green wards would most frequently like to use the following two types of formal childcare:

- day nursery
- nursery class at a maintained school.

Borough wide

The CSA 2013 indicated that in order to match the estimated percentage increase in the number of 0 – 4 year olds who will be residing in Barnet by 2018, a corresponding increase of 559 (registered) early years childcare places would be required, in order to match the existing status quo.

The ward which is expected to see the highest projected increase of 0 – 19 year olds between the years 2013 – 2018 is Colindale (by a relatively high amount, in comparison with the other wards in the borough). However, at the present time, this ward/locality accounts for a relatively low amount of early year's childcare and out of school childcare places available (in the West Planning area).

Golders Green ward is expected to see the third highest projected increase of 0 – 19 year olds between the years 2013 – 2018. However, at the present time, this ward/locality accounts for a relatively low amount of early year's childcare places.

Table E: Current and future sufficiency by planning areas

	Current	Future
East	There is sufficient childcare provision in the East Planning area.	There is a projected population decrease in this area. Any future development of childcare places would be best focused on the parent's two most frequent recommended forms of childcare which were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. maintained nursery class places 2. pre-school playgroup places.
South	There is a need for more childcare provision in the South Planning area both now and in the future.	An increase of 279 (registered) early years' childcare places would be required, in order to match the existing status quo An increase of 176 (registered) out of school childcare places would be required, in order to match the existing status quo An increase of 33 (registered) places with childminders would be required, in order to match the existing status quo Parental preference in this area are for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. private day nursery places 2. maintained nursery class places.

	Current	Future
West	There is a need for more childcare provision in the West Planning area both now and in the future.	<p>An increase of 323 (registered) early years' childcare places would be required, in order to match the existing status quo</p> <p>An increase of 159 (registered) out of school childcare places would be required, in order to match the existing status quo</p> <p>An increase of 27 (registered) places with childminders would be required, in order to match the existing status quo</p> <p>Parental preference in this area are for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. maintained nursery class places 2. private day nursery places
Central	There is sufficient childcare provision in the Central Planning area.	<p>There is current and projected sufficient childcare in this planning area</p> <p>Parental preference in this area are for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. private day nursery places 2. maintained nursery class places.

Additional needs and disabilities

Advice regarding childcare provision for children with additional needs and disabilities was made most frequently by responding childcare providers located in the East Planning area. According to the parents survey, the West Planning area had the highest percentage of respondents who stated that they were raising a child with additional needs and/or disabilities.

However, the West Planning area accounted for the lowest percentage of providers who stated that they had no plans in place to improve provision for children with disabilities.

2. Satisfaction with childcare

Parents were asked whether or not they were satisfied with their current childcare the highest percentage showed that they were overall very satisfied

- 45% very satisfied
- 42% quite satisfied.
- 9.5% quite unsatisfied
- 2.5% very unsatisfied
- 1% did not know

850 parents who were using a type of formal or informal childcare were asked about their level of satisfaction with their existing childcare. Of these, 12% stated that they were either quite or very unsatisfied.

46% of parents surveyed stated that they accessed either formal or informal childcare to enable them to work; this response was particularly prevalent in the East of the borough.

Table F: Frequency with which respondents who were unsatisfied or very unsatisfied with their existing childcare arrangements stated that this was attributable to a specific reason

Reason	Number of relevant parents who stated unsatisfied or very unsatisfied
Childcare is too expensive	56
Inconvenient times/not flexible	21
Inconvenient location	10
Poor quality of care	10
Other	45

Note: respondents were able to provide multiple responses

Table F above shows that 56 parents who were either unsatisfied or very unsatisfied with their current childcare arrangements stated that this was due to the cost of childcare.

Types of childcare people are most likely to recommend

The respondents from the CSA parents survey who were currently accessing a type of formal childcare were invited to state how likely it would be that they would, in turn, recommend (to other families) specific type(s) of formal childcare.

Table G: Type of provision likely or unlikely to use

Type of (formal) provision	Very likely	Likely	Unlikely	Never
Children's Centre day nursery	53%	34%	8%	5%
private day nursery	57%	31.5%	7%	4.5%
pre-school playgroup	62%	32%	5%	1%
nursery school	66%	30%	2.5%	1.5%
nursery class at a maintained school	66.5%	29%	4%	0.5%
nursery class at an independent school	62%	25%	8%	5%
registered childminder	48%	26%	15.5%	10.5%
specialist setting for children with SEN	66%	24.5%	3.5%	6%
breakfast club	58.5%	31%	7%	3.5%
after school club	64%	30%	5.5%	0.5%
holiday playscheme	60%	31%	7%	2%

Table G indicates that the most frequent type of formal childcare provision which respondents stated they would be very likely to recommend was a day nursery. The most frequent type of formal childcare provision which respondents stated they would be unlikely to recommend or would never recommend was a registered childminder.

Financial information

Of the 3.5% of parents surveyed who were dissatisfied with their childcare provision the cost of childcare was cited by the majority as a barrier

a. Cost of FEE versus private childcare

Table H: Childcare fees for all types of childcare provision across Barnet

Note: n/a (below) signifies a low response: <3 responses for that variable

	Hours			Session			Day		
Age	Highest recorded	Lowest recorded	Most frequent	Highest recorded	Lowest recorded	Most frequent	Highest recorded	Lowest recorded	Most frequent
Under 2 years	£15.00	£3.50	£6.00	£64.00	£12.00	£25.00	£80.00	£30.00	£50.00
2 years	£8.00	£3.50	£6.00	£64.00	£3.00	£20.00	£76.00	£18.50	£50.00
3 – 4 years	£13.90	£3.50	£6.00	£62.00	£1.00	£30.00	£76.00	£5.20	£50.00
5 – 7 years Breakfast club	£9.00	£5.00	£6.00	£15.00	£0.80	£3.00	£70.00	£1.50	£50.00
5-7 years After school club	£20.00	£3.00	£6.00	£15.00	£3.00	£8.00	£70.00	£6.00	£35.00
8 – 14 years Breakfast club	£8.00	£5.00	£6.00	£4.00	£0.80	£3.00	£50.00	£1.50	£50.00
8 – 14 years After school club	£15.00	£3.00	£6.00	£9.00	£4.90	£6.50	£50.00	£19.00	£50.00

	Week			Month			Term		
Age	Highest recorded	Lowest recorded	Most frequent	Highest recorded	Lowest recorded	Most frequent	Highest recorded	Lowest recorded	Most frequent
Under 2 years	£352.50	£100.00	£250.00	£1,640	£250.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2 years	£352.50	£90.00	£200.00	£1,498	£200.00	£700	£2,660.00	£80.00	£1,300.00
3 – 4 years	£332.50	£60.00	£200.00	£1,413	£200.00	£550	£2,830.00	£80.00	£1,400.00

The hourly rate paid by Barnet for the 15 hours of FEE per hour is significantly lower than the average cost across the borough which ranges from £13.90 to £3.90.

The impact of this on parents is that 56% of parents cited cost as a barrier and the range of hourly rates recorded as part of this assessment highlights that in some areas, this is problematic for Barnet's lower income families. Only 8% of parents stated that they chose their current childcare arrangement due to the cost.

Cost of childcare for your average family

From the CSA parents survey those parents who were raising a child aged 0 – 10 years were invited to state the size of their childcare fees:

- the most frequent stated hourly fee was £5.00/hour
- the most frequent stated sessional fee was £10.00 per session
- the most frequent weekly fee was £100.00 per week.

46% of parents accessing childcare do so in order to work and 41% access childcare for the social/learning benefits for the children.

Couple of the outcomes of the parent's focus groups was that Barnet needs to:

- (1) retain an awareness that parents from various backgrounds, (particularly low income and middle income backgrounds), continue to highlight the cost of childcare fees as a barrier to them accessing formal childcare, and
- (2) continue their efforts to inform all parents about sources of financial help towards meeting childcare costs.

Parents who were living in the West Planning area most frequently stated that they found the

cost of childcare that they were accessing very unaffordable. Additionally the West Planning area accounted for the highest percentage of respondents who stated that they earn below £16,190.00 per annum. Barnet should consider prioritising the West Planning area when implementing any applicable future promotional campaigns.

Who is not taking up childcare and why?

33% (358 parents) of respondents did not use any formal childcare. Of these, the majority stated they were not (in summer 2013) using any formal Ofsted registered childcare because they did not need it and because it was too expensive.

Cost was also a central issue among those accessing childcare; Table F stated that 56 of those parents unsatisfied with childcare in the borough cited cost as the primary reason for their dissatisfaction.

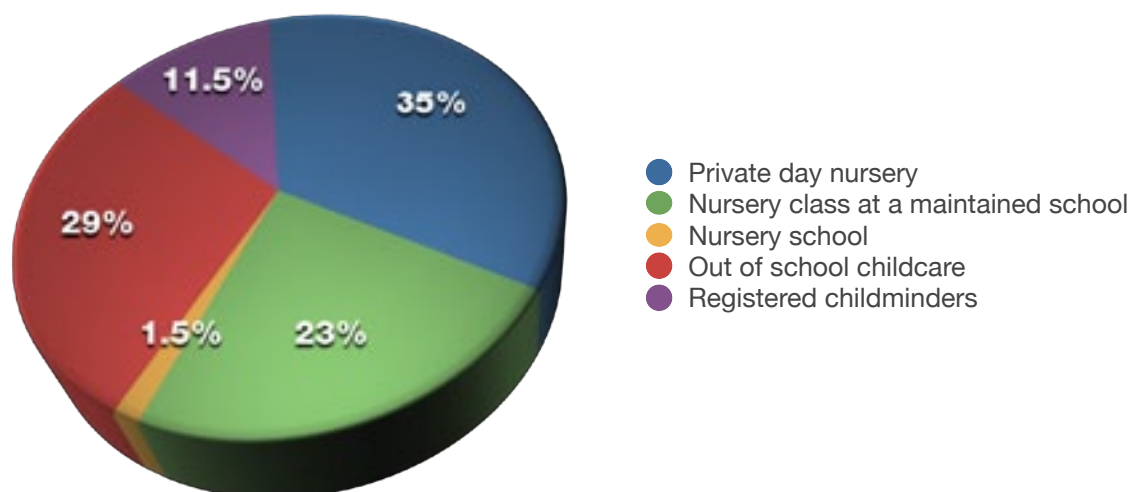
Working tax credits

A total of 13% of respondents stated they claimed working tax credit. The highest percentage of respondents who stated that they earn below £16,190.00 per annum were resident in the West Planning area. The West Planning area also accounted for the highest percentage of respondents who stated that they were in receipt of the working tax credit, however, the South Planning area accounted for the lowest percentage of respondents who stated that they have an awareness of working tax credit.

3. Childcare information

Barnet has a vibrant childcare market which currently has sufficient provision to meet demand.

Diagram I: Known early years places at August 2013 by type of childcare provider across our market



The chart above shows a breakdown of the percentage of total known early year's places in Barnet by the type of childcare across our market.

Parents were asked what type of formal childcare provision they used, the most frequent answer provided was a private day nursery, and this was then followed by a nursery class at a maintained school and then a registered childminder.

Daycare providers and childminders were asked how long they expected to provide childcare for, 82.5% stated that they would be in operation for over five years – followed secondly by 8% stating less than two years.

Out of the above statistics of daycare providers and childminders who expected to continue operating for over five years, daycare providers were more prone to at 18.5% higher to continue for more than five years than the number of registered childminders.

Projected early years increase

To match the increase in the number of 0 – 4 year olds living in Barnet by 2018, an increase of approximately 560 (registered) early years' childcare places will be required

To match the increase in the number of 5 – 19 year olds living in Barnet by 2018, an increase of approximately 425 out of school childcare places will be required, in order to match the existing status quo.

To match the increase in the number of 0 – 19 year olds who will be living in Barnet by 2018, an increase of approximately 110 (registered) places with registered childminders will be required, in order to match the existing status quo.

This assessment demonstrates that such new places will need to be targeted in the following three wards:

1. Colindale
2. Golders Green
3. Child's Hill

Supply side information

Table J: Timings of childcare

Approximately half of childcare providers are able to provide childcare all year round
Almost 40% of childcare providers are able to provide (an amount of) childcare during the school holidays – including the holiday play schemes that were surveyed
Approximately one-quarter of childcare providers are able to provide (an amount of) childcare before school starts, circa 8am – including the 36 holiday and breakfast clubs that were surveyed
64% of day nurseries stated that they were able to provide childcare all year round. Day nurseries located in the Central Planning area were able to provide childcare all year round with the highest frequency. Day nurseries located in the South Planning area were able to provide childcare all year round with the lowest frequency
Pre-school/playgroups that were surveyed were almost twice as likely to provide sessions in the mornings as they were in the afternoon
40% of registered childminders stated that they were able to provide childcare earlier than 8am. 31% of registered childminders stated that they were able to provide childcare later than 6pm
Only 4% of registered childminders stated that they could provide overnight childcare
60% of holiday play schemes stated that they were able to provide childcare during the school half terms. 55% of registered childminders stated that they were able to provide childcare during the school half terms.

Table K: Timing of childcare provided across the borough and highlights

Sector	Percentage able to provide childcare across the LBB
All day in term time only	24%
All day all year round	51%
Weekday: Mornings	58%
Weekday: Afternoons	54%
Weekday: Evenings	11%
Weekday: Overnight	2%
Weekends	3%
Weekday: Earlier than 8.00am	26%
Weekday: Later than 6.00pm	20%
School summer holidays	39%
School half-term holidays	36%
Other time period(s)	0%

Above shows that weekend and overnight provision is not well provided for

Table L: Type of provision provided broken down by age range and by scheme

Type of Provision	Percentage able to provide across the LBB
FEE for three and four year olds	31%
FEE for two year olds	22%
Childcare for under 2 year olds	59%
Childcare for children aged 2-4 years	75%
Childcare for children aged 5-7 years	65%
Childcare for children aged 8 – 10 years	53%
Childcare for children aged 11 – 14 years	37%
Childcare for children with additional needs	64%

Free Early Education (FEE)

The council has a statutory duty to provide FEE to all three and four years' olds for 15 hours per week and a statutory duty to provide FEE to eligible two year olds ¹

Providers were asked specifically to outline how many places they could allocate to the FEE scheme

FEE three and four:

- 95% of day nurseries stated that they were able to provide a quantity of FEE places for three and four year olds
- 96% of pre-school/playgroups stated that they were able to provide a quantity of FEE places for three and four year olds
- 13% of registered childminders stated that they were able to provide a quantity of FEE places for three and four year olds.

FEE two:

- 51% of day nurseries stated that they were able to provide a quantity of FEE places for two year olds
- 67% of pre-school/playgroups stated that they were able to provide a quantity of FEE places for two year olds
- 15.31% of registered childminders stated that they were able to provide a quantity of FEE places for two year olds.

¹ The FEE two criteria is currently based on the same criteria for free school meals but this will change again in September 2014 to widen to the 40% most deprived two year olds.

Childminders

The CSA findings show that the Central Planning area accounted for the highest percentage of respondents using a registered childminder and the South Planning area accounted for the lowest by a significant margin.

43 (11%) out of a total of 196 registered childminders responded stating they did not expect to be operating in two years' time.

It should be noted that the number of daycare providers who expected to continue operating for over five years is 18.5% higher than registered childminders.

Majority of childminders (two-thirds) stated they had no plans to expand the number of places in the future. Along with this 73.5% stated they were not looking to increase their fees as they felt they did not need to.

The most frequent (short-term future) plan for change was evidently to improve provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities – stated by a quarter of registered childminders.

The West Planning area showed the highest percentage of registered childminders stating that they had no current plans to expand their number of places however that maybe interested in doing so.

We should look to work with childminders in this area to improve number of places they can offer to parents.

Training and support

Daycare providers and childminders were invited to state what they believed was a priority for them in terms of future support and advice – including (and potentially) via Barnet Council.

Table M: Frequency with which daycare providers across the borough stated a need for a specific type of support and/or advice

This provides a breakdown of the support and advice those daycare providers (settings) felt would be most useful to them.

Type of support/advice	Percentage across LBB	
	Daycare providers	Childminders
Staff recruitment and retention	22%	0%
Staff training	41.5%	28.5%
Marketing support and/or advice	25.5%	16%
Business support and/or advice	23%	15%
Advice on building alterations/renovations	13%	8%
Ofsted inspection and registration support	21%	17.5%
Support to network with other daycare providers	20%	16.5%
More involvement in planning of localised childcare provision	28%	15%
Advice on the needs of specific groups of children	27%	21.5%

The most frequent type of support and/or advice requested by daycare providers that are operating across Barnet was (support with) staff training. The second most frequent suggestion by daycare providers that are operating in Barnet was that they would like (more) involvement in the planning of localised childcare provision.

The most frequent type of support and/or advice requested by registered childminders that are operating in Barnet is (more) support with their training. The second most frequent type of support and/or advice requested by registered childminders that are operating in Barnet is advice on the needs of specific groups of children, including children with additional needs and disabilities.

Childcare providers who stated they did not expect to be operating by autumn 2015 stated that they most frequently required support in the following three areas – in order of frequency:

1. business support and advice
2. more involvement in the planning of local childcare provision
3. marketing support and advice

Support and guidance for providers concerning vulnerable children

Vulnerable children aged 2 – 5 are offered funded childcare places as part of the Early Years Vulnerable Families (EYVF) funding which offers eligible families up to 15 hours of childcare in Children's Centres which provide on-site childcare.

The EYVF scheme has been expanded to include Private, Voluntary and Independent childcare providers who have been participating on the FEE for two year olds scheme and nursery schools/classes.

The Family Support and Early Intervention service will continue to work with early years providers in the borough and seek to increase participation in providing good quality provision. New settings applying to offer FEE places are quality assessed by a panel of early year's professionals to ensure high quality provision.

The majority of providers (93%) indicated that they felt very confident about involving/contacting appropriate organisations if they ever identified concerns about a child, or a family situation.

Children's Centres

As part of the research to underpin the early years review, childcare providers, parents and other practitioners were invited to comment on working with other professionals and support from Children's Centres.

The table below provides a breakdown of the view of our childcare providers on partnership working.

Daycare providers highlighted a good working relationship with the following agencies and most

frequently stated that they had a quite effective or very effective working relationship with the following professionals/stakeholders in order of frequency:

Table N: Childcare providers working in partnership

Type of other professional	Very effective working relationship	Quite effective working relationship	Quite poor working relationship	Very poor working relationship	There is no contact
Community mid-wives	7.5%	2.5%	1%	1%	88%
Health visitor	13%	11%	6.5%	5%	64.5%
Children's Centre workers	27%	21%	8.5%	3%	41.5%
GP's	5%	12%	5%	3.5%	74.5%
Social workers	23%	27%	6%	5%	39%
Family focus workers	16%	12%	6%	3%	63%
Barnet pre-school inclusion team	43%	12%	3%	0%	42%
Barnet early years standards team	37%	12%	4%	1.5%	45.5%
Speech and language therapist	37%	17%	7.5%	6%	32.5%

How many people access Children Centres and why?

75.5% of respondents to the CSA parents survey stated that they did know the name of their nearest Sure Start Children's Centre (located in the borough) and 24.5% did not know the name of their nearest Sure Start Children's Centre (located in the borough).

Parents in the South Planning area accessed their Children Centre the most for formal

childcare provision (with a 0 – 10 year old child). The East Planning area accounted for the lowest percentage of parents who stated they attended a Children's Centre.

73% of those surveyed stated that they had accessed a Barnet Children's Centre at some point. Parents who were looking to return to work, young parents and parents from ethnic

minority communities all reiterated during the 2013 CSA parents focus groups how they had come to rely on and appreciate the Stay and Play sessions which Barnet's (thirteen) Children's Centres facilitated. Essentially, there was an evident perception that these sessions were a fulcrum for a number of communities, and for parents experiencing specific circumstances.

When questioned why these individuals accessed their local Children's Centre the following five responses were the most popular:

1. social interaction for child with other children
2. social interaction with other parents
3. activities such as Stay and Play sessions
4. for my child to play
5. baby weighing sessions with a health visitor.

Satisfaction levels with Children's Centres

Table O: How satisfied were respondents with their experience with a Sure Start Children's Centre

Level of satisfaction	Percentage of respondents
Very satisfied	63%
Satisfied	30%
Not satisfied	4%
Don't know	3%
Total	100%

Appendix 1

Updated 2011 CSA action plan

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
Demographic gaps		
<p>1. (1) Barnet's population is projected to grow further in the next years placing increased pressure on childcare provision and other services. Some of Barnet's areas of severest deprivation contain the highest numbers of births which could lead to higher demand for services in these areas.</p>	<p>Overall, births in the borough increased by 27% between 2002-3 and 2010-11. During this period, births in the borough have increased every year with the exception of 2008-09 when there was a 0.7% decrease.</p> <p>The largest increase in births has been in the west of the borough, with other significant increases in other areas, such as the north-east of the borough.</p> <p>The Strategy and Planning team will continually monitor the number of births in the borough by postcode area, and population projections by year of age. This information will continue to be shared with Early Years colleagues.</p>	<p>Further population increases have been identified in the 2013 CSA in the West and the South of the borough.</p> <p>The Childcare Business team will work with colleagues in the Regeneration and Planning services to ensure that there are sufficient childcare places to cope with increased demand.</p>
No further actions.		

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
<p>Demographic gaps</p> <p>2. (2) Barnet Children's Service will need to work closely with the regeneration service in order to ensure that sufficient childcare provision is included in planned developments.</p>	<p>Barnet Council Children's Service contributions have already been agreed for the regeneration projects. Any contributions that may be required for early year's education will be discussed with the Regeneration Service along with the need for primary and secondary school places when any subsequent schemes are being negotiated. Housing developers proposing major schemes will need either to make separate contributions towards the provision of community, private or voluntary sector childcare on-site, or demonstrate that there is sufficient childcare provision in the wider area to meet the extra demand created by their development.</p> <p>The Regeneration service will supply updates and information on future plans.</p> <p>Planned regeneration schemes in the borough include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cricklewood Brent Cross (due to start in 2017) • Grahame Park (Phase 1a completed in July 2012 and Phase 1b is due to start on site at the end of October / early November 2012). This is one of the Colindale regeneration schemes which are being phased in over at least 15 years. • Stonegrove and Spur Road (due to complete in 2018) • West Hendon (due to complete in 2027) • Dollis Valley (due to complete in 2020). • Provision for planned developments include: • provision for a new primary school in Mill Hill East which is expected to open in September 2014 • a new two form entry primary school in Colindale and long term plans to develop a further primary school • Claremont Primary School in Brent Cross / Cricklewood is due to be expanded from a two to a three form entry, with a 39 full-time equivalent place nursery • possibility of nursery provision in the Stonegrove area • proposed dedicated nursery in Underhill. <p>Information on the projected child yield for each regeneration area will be continue to be shared with Early Years colleagues so they can plan services appropriately</p>	<p>London Borough of Barnet's Children Service continues to work collaboratively with colleagues in the Regeneration service to ensure that there is sufficient childcare provision in the regeneration areas.</p> <p>The government have allocated capital funding to Barnet to create new places for two year olds within new and existing childcare settings. The total amount allocated is £785,387. This funding is not time bound, but is ring-fenced within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).</p> <p>The overall aim of the capital funding for two year olds is to create and increase capacity to provide a high quality provision indoors and outdoors that meets the needs and relevant requirements of premises for two year olds outlined in the statutory framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage.</p> <p>Early years' childcare settings such as schools, Children's Centres, childminders and private, voluntary and independent nurseries/pre-schools will be invited to make applications for capital funding.</p>
	<p>No further actions.</p>	

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
<p>Demographic gaps</p> <p>3. The demand for out of school childcare is likely to remain high in the coming three years and could increase further. Out of school childcare was the type of provision with which most parents in the survey reported an issue or barrier. The resident's perception survey in March raised youth services and a lack of communication as an issue. Parents are not always clear what Out of School care is.</p>	<p>Provision of out of school care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • out-of-school care provision is promoted in childminder information sessions to raise awareness of these gaps in the market. Business and marketing workshops are offered to support business planning • the Family Support and Early Intervention team contract a number of organisation providing out of school activities including Fairplay Barnet, which have recently become Ofsted registered- Barnet has strengthened the relationship with Fairplay Barnet and is working collaboratively to develop more out of school provision • the Bristol Quality Assurance Award is being introduced to all out of school provision to improve and develop the quality of provision for children and young people • the Family Support and Early Intervention team continue to encourage schools to maintain existing services. <p>Marketing of Out of School care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Youth Service compiles a list of activities for children and young people, which is available online at www.barnet.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents.php?categoryID=643. Some of these are funded or provided by Barnet Children's Service. • a Faithbook directory is published which lists activities provided for young people aged 11 to 18 years (see www.thefaithbook.co.uk). • the Family Support and Early Intervention team manage a directory for out of school childcare which is available online at www.barnet.gov.uk/directory/72/out_of_school_care <p>A leaflet is currently being produced with general information about the childcare provision in Barnet – explaining what out of school care is available. This should be in circulation by April 2013.</p> <p>An exercise to source new entries for Directme is being carried out. This will increase the information on out of school activities/clubs.</p> <p>Childcare Marketplace events were opened to register out of school care providers as evaluations of previous events highlighted that there was an increased demand for before/after school care.</p>	<p>The Childcare Business team will continue to work closely with the council's FY1 service and with schools to promote childcare options across the borough.</p>
Engage with schools to understand where parents go for information about this type of childcare.		

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	Demographic gaps	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
		<p>From November 2012 to March 2013, three Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings and one childminder have been approved to deliver Free Early Education (FEE) and one PVI opted out of the scheme. Settings tend to cite financial reasons as the main reason for opting out of this initiative. However, even if settings do not benefit financially, they often choose to opt in to this initiative in order to benefit from the support from Barnet Council.</p> <p>Funded childcare places are also available for two year olds from families meeting eligibility criteria. From November 2012 to March 2013, four PVIs and one childminder were approved to join the Two Year Old Scheme and one PVI opted out. Local authorities are required to increase the number of "less advantaged" two year olds accessing funded places by September 2013. In addition, the number of funded hours will increase from 10 to 15 hours per week from April 2013.</p> <p>Vulnerable children aged two to five are offered funded childcare places as part of the Early Years Vulnerable Children (EYVC) funding which offers eligible families up to 15 hours of childcare in Children's Centres which provide on-site childcare. The EYVC scheme has been expanded to include Private Voluntary and Independent childcare providers participating on the Two Year Old scheme and nursery schools/classes. Six settings are registered to participate and four are currently providing places. Other settings have indicated they will join if and when eligible children require a place with them.</p> <p>The Family Support and Early Intervention team will continue to work with early years providers in the borough and seek to increase participation in providing good quality provision. New settings applying to offer free entitlement places are quality assessed by a panel of early year's professionals to ensure high quality provision. The Family Support and Early Intervention team are encouraging more childminders to participate and continue to encourage a mixed provision to meet the needs of all communities and faiths.</p>	<p>The Childcare Business Team is drafting a revised strategy based on a revision in projected number of places by the DfE.</p> <p>This strategy will be researched using a co-production method with providers.</p>
	<p>4. Settings choosing not to provide free entitlement places is reducing access to nursery provision in parts of Barnet</p>		
		<p>Implement a strategy to increase the number of funded two year old places to 700 by September 2013.</p>	

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
Income Gaps		
<p>5. A reduction in the current benefits to new parents may lead to more families in Barnet finding childcare unaffordable. The parents survey for the CSA 2011 found a great number of families in Barnet who already earn too much to claim Working Tax Credits. Further lowering of the earnings threshold will exclude even more families from accessing affordable childcare. HMRC's figures for take up of formal childcare by low income families show lowest take up in the deprived LSOA's within Colindale, West Hendon and Golders Green wards.</p>	<p>Leaflets and posters have been distributed to all Barnet Children's Centres and libraries, as well as public access points in areas of deprivation to actively market the childcare element of the Working Tax Credits.</p> <p>In addition, Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau and Barnet Welfare Rights team are providing welfare advice in Barnet's network of Children's Centres.</p> <p>There will be future changes to the welfare system with the introduction of the Universal Credit (UC) and the Housing Benefit cap. The impact to families of these welfare changes is not yet known. Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau and Barnet Welfare Rights team are providing advice for families planning ahead of these changes. Job</p> <p>Centre Plus is undertaking a study to measure the potential impact of the changes to the welfare system.</p>	<p>The Family Support and Early Intervention Service is an active part of the Welfare Reform working group, a group of services set up to provide a holistic response to the changes experienced under Welfare Reform.</p>
Undertake work on a local level through individual cases to assess impact and continue to provide welfare advice to families.		
<p>6. Figures suggest that the free entitlement to nursery education in Barnet is taken up by 98.5% of eligible children. This is an improvement on the figure of 96% from the 2008 CSA, and is substantially higher than the national take up rate of 86%</p>	<p>Summer 2011 census data indicates that 98% of Barnet's three and four year old population access their free entitlement in PVIs, maintained nursery settings and reception places.</p> <p>This data includes out of borough children accessing Free Early Education (FEE) in Barnet and it does not include late starters or account for children leaving.</p> <p>Although this is a reduction from 98.5%, the population of eligible children in Barnet has increased between 2008 and 2011 from 9,943 to 10,383 children.</p> <p>There is a robust marketing plan in place for FEE. Barnet Council have promotional literature and advertise across the borough.</p>	<p>The 2013 CSA is showing a slight decrease in take up of the FEE for three and four year old offer.</p> <p>Actions by the Childcare Business team will be undertaken to re-promote this offer across the borough especially in the areas that the CSA has highlighted where the awareness is lower.</p>
No further actions.		
<p>7. Average childcare costs at Barnet early years settings are more expensive than the average for greater London</p>	<p>Barnet Council have limited control on the pricing structure since the childcare market is a free market that can set its own rates. Settings continue to be advised to set appropriate childcare fees in line with the local market. The Welfare Rights team and Barnet Citizens Advice Bureau continue to promote government childcare benefits to parents across all public access points such as libraries, Children's Centres and schools.</p>	<p>Whilst the council has no control over the pricing structure within its childcare market, advice given to settings by the Childcare Business team will focus on providers setting realistic pricing structures.</p>
No further actions.		

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
Time gaps		
8. 35 percent of all parents surveyed by interview who were not currently accessing formal childcare said that they would, if suitable and affordable provision was available to them	<p>Barnet Council currently offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the targeted two year old scheme which currently offers 10 hours of free childcare and will be extended to 15 hours in September 2013; the three and four year old free entitlement scheme which currently offers 15 hours of free childcare; Up to 15 hours of free childcare for vulnerable children. <p>The Family Support and Early Intervention team advise providers to benchmark costs of childcare in relation to the local market.</p> <p>Newstead Children's Centre, Wingfield Children's Centre and The Hyde Children's Centre have reduced their childcare hours from all year round to term time only. The Children's Centres advise and support parents with alternative care and are exploring the option to run summer holiday schemes.</p>	<p>Barnet Council currently offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the FEE for two year old scheme which currently offers 15 hours of free childcare to all children who meet the statutory entitlement; the three and four year old FEE scheme which currently offers 15 hours of free childcare; up to 15 hours of free childcare for vulnerable children aged six months to five years.
No further actions.		
Geographical gaps		
9. School census data suggest considerable capacity in the maintained nursery sector, particularly in the East locality. Some parents in the east locality report a lack of available childcare places, despite some over-supply in the maintained sector	No longer applicable. This forms a bigger piece of strategy work.	An early years review is underway to identify where there is additional capacity and will highlight methods to overcome any over-supply.
No longer applicable.		
10. Parents indicated a potential increase in demand for childcare of 19% between 2011 and 2014 – a further more 720 families potentially using childcare. The West locality network contained the highest level of potential increased demand for childcare in the next three years	A new primary school in Colindale is being developed to address projected increases in demand. This will include provision for children under five years old.	Working alongside key development partners in Colindale within the regeneration area, the Childcare Business team has ensured that nursery provision is included in the plans.
No further actions.		

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
Age gaps		
11. The South locality has highest relative supply of early years childcare overall. Golders Green has the lowest of any ward at 28%.	Barnet Council continues to regularly monitor childcare provision in the borough and manages the supply chain. Providers are encouraged to set up in areas where demand is high, and Barnet Council encourage a mixed provision to meet the needs of all communities and faiths.	CSA 2013 indicated that this may be an area with a decrease in available childcare places. The Childcare Business team will target this area to attract new childcare opportunities and businesses.
No further actions.		
Specific Needs gaps		
12. There are problems with the administration and coordination of short break and play opportunities and how these are communicated to families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> there are on-going improvements in information for families through website and outreach. the Short Break Partner's Forum is evidencing benefits for information sharing, service co-ordination and collaboration use of the management tool has enabled improved targeting of services to families by age and need. streamlining of the referral process across the short break team and DCT from 1/4/2013 Communication group tasked with improving access to services has continued to action its plan. 	<p>The Short Break duty statement review is currently underway with an anticipated completion date of 31 November 2013</p> <p>It is anticipated that the review of access arrangements will be completed before September 2014.</p>
Undertake a Review of the Short Break Duty Statement in 2013.	Undertake a review of access arrangements within the context of the local offer.	
13. Parents of children with additional needs report issues with access to childcare	<p>DCatch funding was used to secure ongoing out of school leisure activities for the 5-16 year range of children and young people with the most profound disabilities, thus ensuring childcare opportunities for parents/carers. All resources now sit within the Short Breaks budget.</p>	See above
No further actions.		

CSA 2011 Issues/Objectives	Information gap	March 2013 updates	September 2013 Update
		<p>There is a new online directory for childcare available at www.barnet.gov.uk/childcare-providers. Data is now collected from childminders using e-forms. This revised process has improved the response rate.</p> <p>The FYI services have been advertised in the North West London Parent's Directory and in Bounty packs.</p> <p>More detailed information about the different types of childcare has been published on Barnet Online in the following area: www.barnet.gov.uk/childcare.</p> <p>Information for childminders and other early years professionals is available on a dedicated website for practitioners working with children in Barnet: www.barnet.gov.uk/WorkingWithChildrenInBarnet</p> <p>In addition, a number of childcare marketplace events have been held for childminders and parents. The most recent events were held in February 2013.</p> <p>A leaflet is currently being produced with general information about the childcare provision in Barnet. This should be in circulation by April 2013. Barnet Council also ran an 'advertorial' in July in two local papers promoting the benefits of using childminders and are also using that article in schools and other places to continue promote childminding.</p>	<p>Childminders are included in the Early years review and a re-promotion exercise increasing the advertising across the borough is underway.</p>
	<p>14. Childminders report that they would appreciate more promotion of the benefits of their services from Barnet Council. In addition, parents surveyed who lived in the most deprived parts of Barnet were more likely than those living elsewhere to report a lack of information about childcare.</p>		
	<p>No further actions.</p>		
	<p>15. Better data on out of school childcare provision is required in order to properly access sufficiency for these types of provision. A robust database is required to track which providers are offering which activities and services.</p>	<p>The Family Support and Early Intervention service have undertaken a childcare audit that included out of school care. The Tribal database has been updated with data collected from the childcare audit.</p> <p>These audits and updates are completed annually. The next one is due to be complete in April 2013.</p>	<p>A new database is currently being procured to ensure that more accurate childcare information is captured.</p>
	<p>No further actions.</p>		

For more information:
tel: 0800 389 8312 email: fsei@barnet.gov.uk
or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/csa