Title:

Proposal for a Task-and-Finish Group to Implement Best Practice in Children's Centres

Summary:

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Sure Start Children's Centres has just published a major report which suggests a renewed focus on the period from conception to age two, as this is where the biggest difference to life chances can be made.

The report contains a number of recommendations to improve the lives of babies, children, and families. In particular it encourages collaboration between children's centres and midwifery and health visiting services by recommending that births are registered at children's centres in order to encourage their use by parents.

There is however a legal requirement that children are registered in the borough in which they were born, which has led to the majority of the borough's babies being registered either in Newham or in Havering where there are maternity services. The Borough has a family support worker based at Queen's Hospital who is working well, and it is being rolled out to Newham General Hospital as well. Now that births are happening at Upney Lane there is now an opportunity to link registrars and children's centres in the borough.

It has been proposed that a local task and finish group could be created to look at how we can increase the use of children's centres for children aged 0-2, in particular through the registration of births process. Suggested members for this group are Matthew Cole, Helen Jenner, Toby Kinder, Meena Kishinani, and relevant representatives from BHRUT and NELFT.

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to:

• Discuss the proposal, and agree to creating the proposed task and finish group.

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