

SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) IN THEIR EARLY YEARS

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REASON FOR ITEM

To hear evidence from a number of witnesses on the major review topic, 'Supporting Children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in their Early Years'.

Witness session one took place on 27 September 2017 and witness session three will take place on 18 October 2017. Witness session two will take place outside of the Community meeting on a date to be confirmed.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

The Committee is asked to consider the evidence given by witnesses, together with the background information provided in the appendices.

INFORMATION

1. Following discussion at the June 2017 meeting of the Committee, it was agreed that officers would produce a scoping report for consideration at the July 2017 meeting.
2. At the July 2017 meeting, Members were provided with the first draft scoping report for the review and were provided with details on the background to the reasons for the review. Following the feedback received at the last meeting, the scoping report was updated.
3. At the September 2017, Members heard evidence from the following witnesses:
 - Zoe Sargent (Head of Children's Services, Central and North West London) (health - CCG)
 - Tirzah Bagnulo, Inclusion Team Manager, Disabilities Service
4. Officers have made arrangements for a witness session to be held at the October 2017 Committee meeting. There will also be another witness session which will take place outside of the meeting on a date to be confirmed. This will be followed by presentation of the draft final report at the January 2018 meeting.

WITNESSES

At the meeting on 18 October 2017, the following witnesses will be in attendance:

- Councillor Simmonds - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services
- Dr Ahmed - Member of staff from the child development centre
- Elaine Caffery - Nursery Manager who also sits on the schools forum
- Jo Moody - Advanced Practitioner (provides training and support to other nurseries) / early years practitioner - South Ruislip Early Years Centre
- Janna Murphy - Specialist Resource Provision/Assistant Head Hayes Park School

PAPERS WITH THE REPORT

Draft scoping report 'Supporting children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in their early years'.