

**Report of: Chair of Children's Services Scrutiny Committee**

<b>Meeting of</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Ward(s)</b>
Executive	16 July 2015	All

Non-exempt
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## **Subject: Impact of Early Help on Preventing Escalation to Statutory Services Review**

### **1. Synopsis**

- 1.1 This report requests that the Executive receive the recommendations in relation to the 'Impact of Early Help on Preventing Escalation to Statutory Services' scrutiny review, following completion of the scrutiny. An update on the recommendations set out in the report will be provided to a future meeting of the Executive.

### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 To receive the report of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 In September 2014 the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee commenced a scrutiny review to analyse the extent to which services provided by Islington Council and its partners are preventing needs escalating to the point children, young people and families need statutory intervention; to highlight areas of good practice; and to make recommendations to further improve outcomes for families with multiple problems.

## **4. Implications**

### **4.1 Financial Implications**

The proposals in the review would need to be costed by the Executive.

### **4.2 Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications at this stage.

### **4.3 Environmental implications**

There are no environmental implications as the decision being sought is only for the Executive to consider the recommendations.

### **4.4 Resident Impact Assessment**

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

A Resident Impact Assessment has not been completed because the decision being sought is only for the Executive to consider the recommendations.

## **5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

- 5.1 The scrutiny review concluded that Islington's early help services are of a high quality and are well received by service users. There was evidence that the Council's early help services and associated wrap-around support services were leading to better outcomes for families, and there were positive indications that early help services were reducing the demand for statutory services. However, it was recognised that there is scope for further innovation. The Executive is asked to endorse the Committee's recommendations.

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