Family and Childcare Trust
Creating a family friendly UK

# Finchley and Golders Green

## Childcare – a constituency profile

- 9,200 children aged 0-4
- 14,700 children aged 5-14
- 26 per cent of children lived in poverty in 2013 (after housing costs)

### Childcare costs in Finchley and Golders Green

- All forms of childcare are higher than the London average, particularly for childminders qnd after-school clubs care. Barnet is one of the most expensive areas for childcare in the UK.
- London average prices are £152.06 per week for a part-time nursery place for a child under two, childminders = £5.85 per hour, after-school clubs = £53.65 per week and a holiday club = £111.78 per week.

### Gaps in provision in Finchley and Golders Green

- The local authority undertook a childcare sufficiency review in 2014 which is available at http://www.barnet.gov.uk/downloads/download/374/childcare_sufficiency_assessment
- There are geographical gaps in provision, in particular in the deprived south of the local authority. Here there are insufficient free early education places for two, three and four year olds, as well as insufficient after-school and holiday childcare.
- The local authority also need to increase the amount of childcare provision for families with disabled children and for parents with atypical work patterns.

### Free early education in Finchley and Golders Green

- 2,014 two year olds were eligible for free early education in September 2014. Take up stood at 40 per cent of eligible children in November 2014, much lower than the regional and national averages (60 per cent).
- 83 per cent of three year olds are receiving free early education, compared with 94 per cent nationally. This local authority needs to ensure that all three and four year olds also benefit from free early education.
- Uptake of free early education is lower than might be expected in this local authority.

### Comment

This outer London borough has pockets of deprivation where there is high demand for free early education, but shortages of provision. It also needs to look at how after-school childcare could be made cheaper, for example, by using rent-free school premises.

Sources: ONS Mid -year population estimates, End Child Poverty Campaign, Family and Childcare Trust costs survey dataset, Department for Education Provision for Children Under Five 2014 statistics.

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