

Presentation to Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee  
24<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

**Subject: Early Years and Health Visiting Service**

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# Overview

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- Start Well Strategy and Partnership Board
- Start Well Presenting Needs
- Start Well Data and Impact
- Family Hubs Programme
- Summary

# Start Well Partnership Board

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- Broad representation across multiple sectors to deliver the Start Well Strategy and *Best Start for Life : Vision of 1,000 days*
- Effective relationship with Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) , statutory and community partners who provide expertise and delivery of key services - Manchester Mind, Home–Start, Sure Start core offer , Thriving Babies Programme, Active Lifestyles, City in the Community, Libraries, Neighbourhood Development.

Priorities are :

- Improving health outcomes
- Ensuring a good level of development
- Ensuring children are ready for school
- Reducing infant mortality
- Reducing inequalities

# Start Well Strategy

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- Six key outcomes measures that align to the priorities.
- Focus on improving health outcomes with collaboration and focused work in relation to improving oral health, increasing take up of vaccinations and supporting healthy weight management.
- Enhancing the parent infant mental health provision with bespoke programme for parents in the thriving babies programme and Child and Parents Service (CAPS).
- Earlier support and impact from think family and trauma informed approach from Midwifery, Vulnerable Babies Prevention and Protect Service, Health Visiting Specialist Case Planning, Early Year's Outreach, and Early Help Thriving Babies Programme.

# Start Well Presenting Needs

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- Disproportionate impact from the pandemic continues to be felt by babies, children, families and communities.
- Increased number of parents presenting with mental health issues related to isolation, parental anxiety and confidence.
- Significant impact of cost-of-living crisis, families experiencing financial hardship with meeting basic needs ,food and fuel poverty and poor housing .
- Increase in children with Personal, Social and Emotional/ Social Communication difficulties.
- Poorer education and health outcomes across communities experiencing racial inequalities (CERI).
- Uptake of the two-year-old Early Education Free Entitlement offer is lower across some CERI communities.
- Good Level of Development (GLD) gap widened MCR 53% compared to national 65% - 12 % GAP.

# Partnership Response and Offer

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- Bump to Baby Rolling Programme to promote attachment and bonding, supports parent's health and wellbeing, builds confidence and preparedness for baby's arrival.
- Work with Schools and wider partners to identify children who will benefit from a WellComm and / or the Raising Early Achievement in Literacy (REAL) intervention.
- All 18-month year olds registered with Sure Start Children's Centre are offered Ages and Stages (ASQ) developmental assessment.
- Enhanced promotion to increase the uptake of the of Healthy Child Programme.
- Focused work with VCS and wider partners across neighbourhoods targeting CERl to increase the uptake of services that support school readiness and health and wellbeing.
- Roll out training to increase the skill set of the Early Years workforce to support young children and their parents/carers with promoting their academic, social, emotional and language development.

# Making Manchester Fairer Kickstarter Programme

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Kickstarter proposal - to address the widening GLD gap for children in Early Years Foundation Stage(EYFS)

A 3- tier offer has been developed and is now being implemented.

Schools with a cohort of children with a widening gap in EYFS outcomes have been identified and cross matched to areas with highest levels of deprivation and health inequalities.

- Tier 1 Intensive support to schools with GLD scores less than 34%
- Tier 2 Targeted support to schools with GLD scores less than 50%

Schools will have access to a multi-agency task force wrapped around the early years cohort in school to ensure that identified and emerging needs within the cohort are responded to.

Aims of the programme:

- ✓ Improved outcomes for children in terms of EYFS scores, phonics results and KS1 outcomes
- ✓ Improved attendance of children in this cohort
- ✓ Accelerated progress for targeted children from initial baseline
- ✓ Increased take up of community offers including childcare
- ✓ Reduced requests for EHCPs

*Each school to identify priority outcomes based on needs of the cohort and how to baseline and measure impact of the programme*

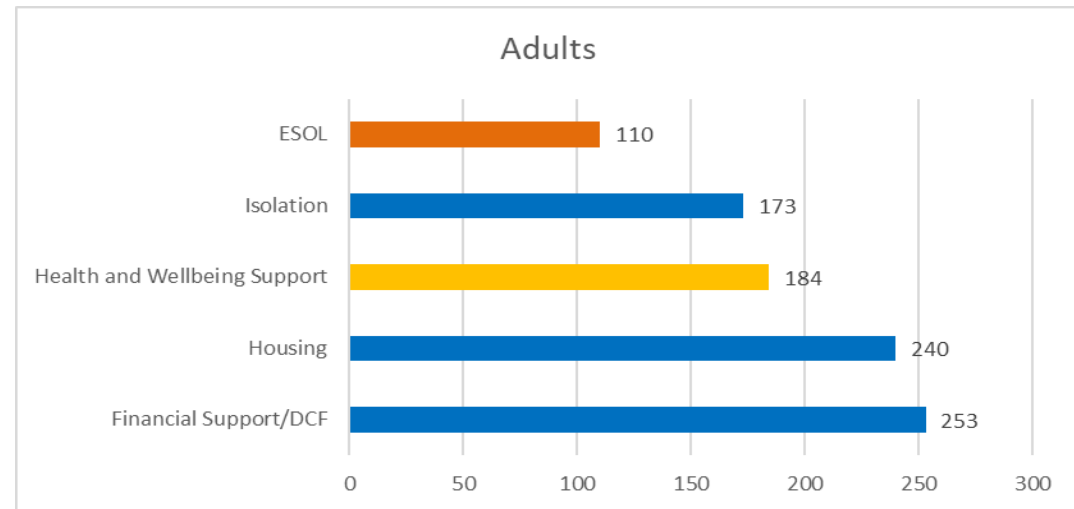
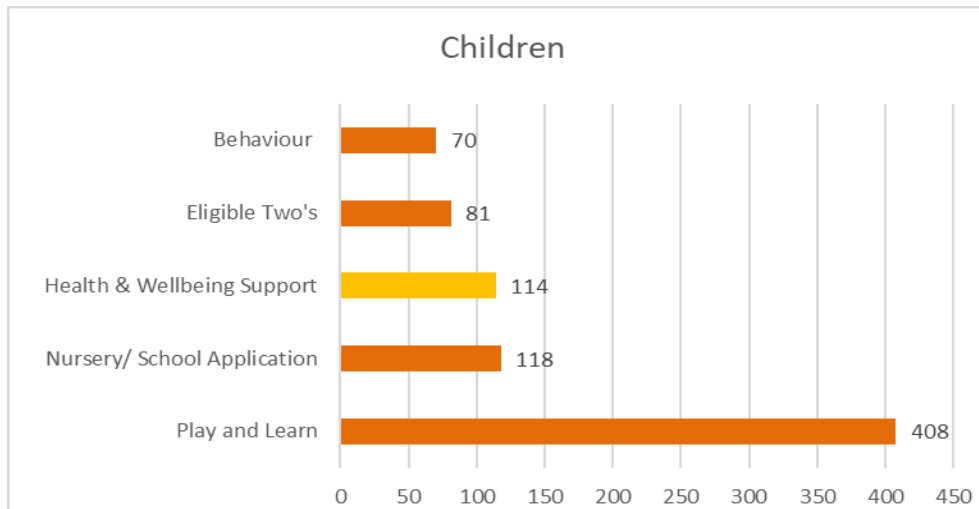
# Early Help Assessments (EHA's)

Jan 2022 – Dec 2022:

**1,852 EHAs were completed by Early Years Outreach Workers (EYOW)**

The charts below outlines the most frequent presenting issues for additional support and intervention.

- For children: child development and school readiness followed by health and wellbeing support.
- For adults: financial support followed by housing support.





# Responding to Housing and Financial Hardship

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## Presenting issues:

### Housing:

- Poor Housing conditions – damp, mould.
- Repairs to the property not being addressed.
- Rehousing due to overcrowding, cramped conditions.
- Homeless families living in hotels with no access to cooking facilities.
- Cost of rented accommodation
- Property in disrepair.
- Pest Infestations (mice) and Bugs.

### Financial Hardship:

- Cost of living – food, energy bills.
- Clothing – babies' children and adults.
- Baby Essentials – items and equipment.
- Household furniture.
- White goods – fridge, washing machine etc.
- Toys and books.
- No recourse to public funds.
- Eligibility criteria for free 15- and 30-hours childcare.

## Early Years Outreach Worker (EYOW) :

- Work with housing providers and private landlords to address repairs and maintenance.
- Carry out home safety risk assessments.
- Contact housing compliance if repairs not acted upon.
- Check benefit entitlements and advocate with energy companies.
- Signpost / make referrals to e.g. Shelter, food banks and charitable organisations e.g. Wood Street Mission, Working Wardrobe, Mustard Tree.
- Apply for cash grants from Financial Hardship Fund.
- Promote take up of 15- and 30-hour free entitlement for 2,3-, and 4-year-olds.
- Promote Health Start programme and applications for Maternity Grant.
- Good working relationships with Shelter, Homeless Family Hubs, Housing associations, Ethnic Health.

# Case Study

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## Referral received from Health Visitor

### Presenting issue:

Housing, Finances, EAL, Infant Feeding.

- Mother suffering post-natal depression.
- Family struggling financially.
- Threat of eviction – landlord selling property.
- Property damp and boiler not working.
- Isolation.
- English as an additional language.(EAL)
- Support with feeding baby.

### • Action Taken:

- EYOW visited and spoke to family in Urdu.
- Referral made to foodbank for food, baby milk and nappies.
- Supported to claim Health Start payments.
- Referral made to infant feeding support.
- Registered baby with GP and dentist.
- Applied for Sure Start maternity grant, child benefit and support with council tax payments.
- Completed Manchester Move application with family.
- Negotiated with landlord for repairs to be completed and for time to find suitable alternative property.
- Enrolled mother in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes.

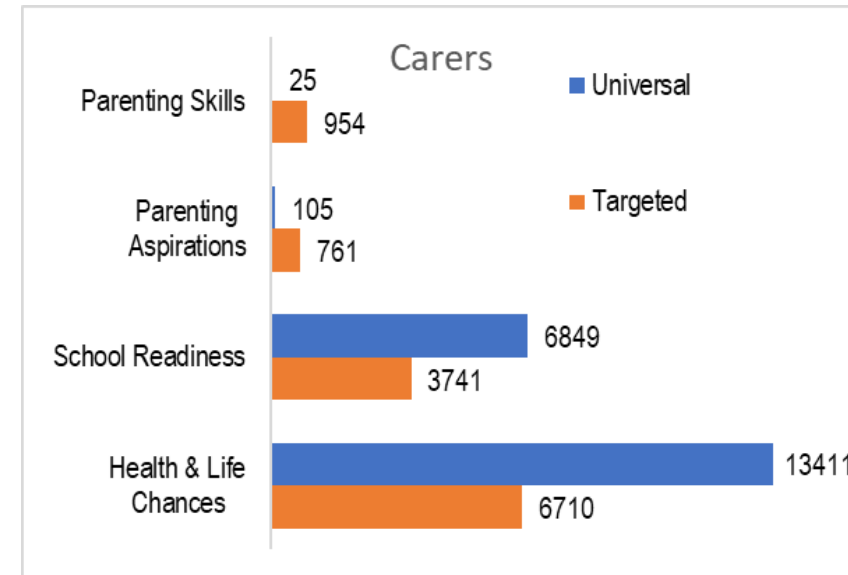
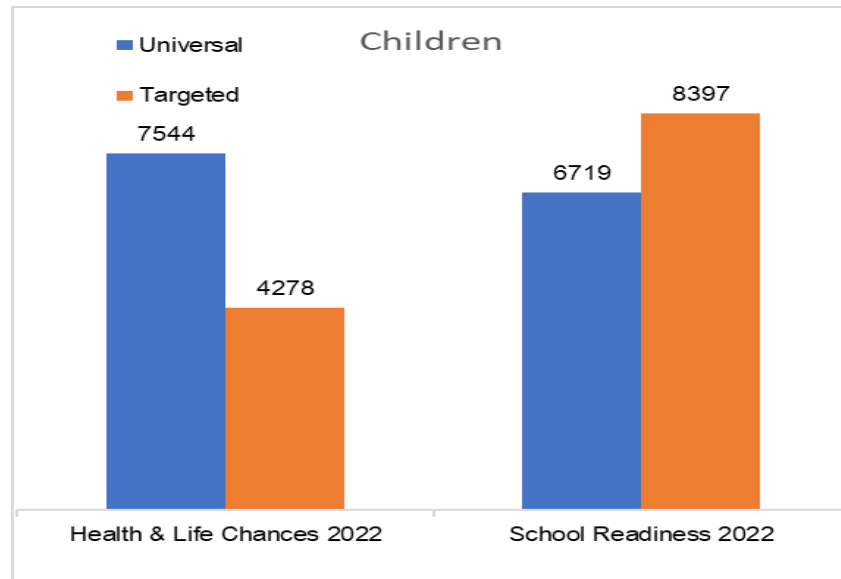
### • Outcomes:

- Family now in receipt of appropriate benefits and have received grants to help purchase essentials.
- Repairs have been completed on the property.
- Mother attending ESOL steppingstones with baby as well as local mother and baby groups.
- Manchester move application accepted and family have been allocated a band 2 property.

# Data and Impact

## Sure Start Children's Centre (SSCC) Universal and Targeted Interventions

The charts below outline the type of universal and targeted interventions accessed / received



### Jan 2022 – Dec 2022

11,278 children accessed universal interventions and 11,167 received targeted interventions

16,369 adults accessed universal interventions and 9,134 received targeted interventions

# Data and Impact

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## **SSCC REACH:**

Currently 67% Of Manchester's 0–3-year-olds are accessing Sure Start Children's Centre services; this is a 19% increase compared to 12 months previously.

57% living in Communities Experiencing Racial Inequalities (CERI).(18% Ethnicity unknown).

**Early Years settings:** 94 % of settings are good or outstanding and 92% Childminders.

**Two Year Free Entitlement:** Spring 2023 : 68.6% of eligible two-year-olds accessed provision compared to National at 72%.

**Bump to Baby programme:** Jan 22 – Dec 22: 202 parents completed the programme.

## **18-month Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ3/ASQSE) assessment (implemented from May 2022):**

May 2022 – December 2022.

263 screens completed resulting in:

- 170 children received a WellComm screen.
- 17 children referred to specialist services.
- 16 children referred to CAPs.

# Data and Impact

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## Parenting Service

Jan 2022 – Dec 2022: 1077 families received an intervention.

- Incredible Years Baby (IY Baby)
- Incredible Years Preschool
- Getting on board

The retention rate was 72-80%

As a result:

- 60% of parents moved from clinical to non-clinical ranges for maternal warmth and
- 60% parents moved to non-clinical on invasion scores, as seen on MORS – SF (measures the parent infant relationship)
- 50% of parents were no longer in clinical range for anxiety as seen on GAD7 (measures symptoms of anxiety)
- 45.4% of parents were no longer in clinical range for depression as seen on PHQ9 (measures symptoms of depression)
- 60% of parents had concerns about their children's behaviour at assessment, which reduced to 30% at the end of intervention as seen on Eyberg (measures behaviour concerns)

# Data and Impact

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## Speech and Language Therapy Service

### **3005 children received a WellComm screen**

- **38%** of children achieved a green code and were at typical levels of development
- **39%** of children achieved a red code on their initial WellComm screen and were referred to specialist.
- **23%** of children achieved an amber score on their initial WellComm screen and received intervention.
- **62%** of children show some delay in their language skills.

### 3 months post intervention

- **38%** children were assessed as **green** and did not require any further input.
- **41%** were assessed as **red** and referred for further assessment to the specialist Speech and Language Therapy service.
- **21%** scored **amber** and received further pathway input.

# Data and Impact

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## Health Visiting Service: Jan 2022 – Dec 2022

- Universal and targeted public health offer open to 32,000 children (0-4.5yrs) plus parent/carers
- 142,132 contacts (66% Face to Face, 34% Telephone)

## Healthy Child Programme:

- Targeted Antenatal contacts 827
- New Birth Contact within 14 days 85% delivered within 14 days (+ 13% seen over 14 days)
- Maternal Mental Health Assessment 92% delivered within 8 weeks
- 6-8wk Health Development Review 92% by 8 weeks of age
- 9m Health Development Review 76% by 15 months of age (62% by 12 months of age)
- 2yr Health Development Review 70% by 30 months of age

Following the 9m or 2yr Health Development Reviews (11,149); 836 Children referred for Wellcomm screening, 1,370 referred to specialist health services, and 265 were offered additional support within the HV service

5,318 New- Born Observations completed between 10 days and 8 weeks to support parent and child interactions, bonding and attachment

777 Therapeutic Baby Massage contacts delivered to support low to moderate maternal mood identified at the Maternal Mental health assessment

# Data and Impact

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## Homeless Families Health Visiting Team

- Caseload ~1000 children (0-4.5yrs) plus parents
- 8,899 contacts (82% Face to Face, 18% Telephone)

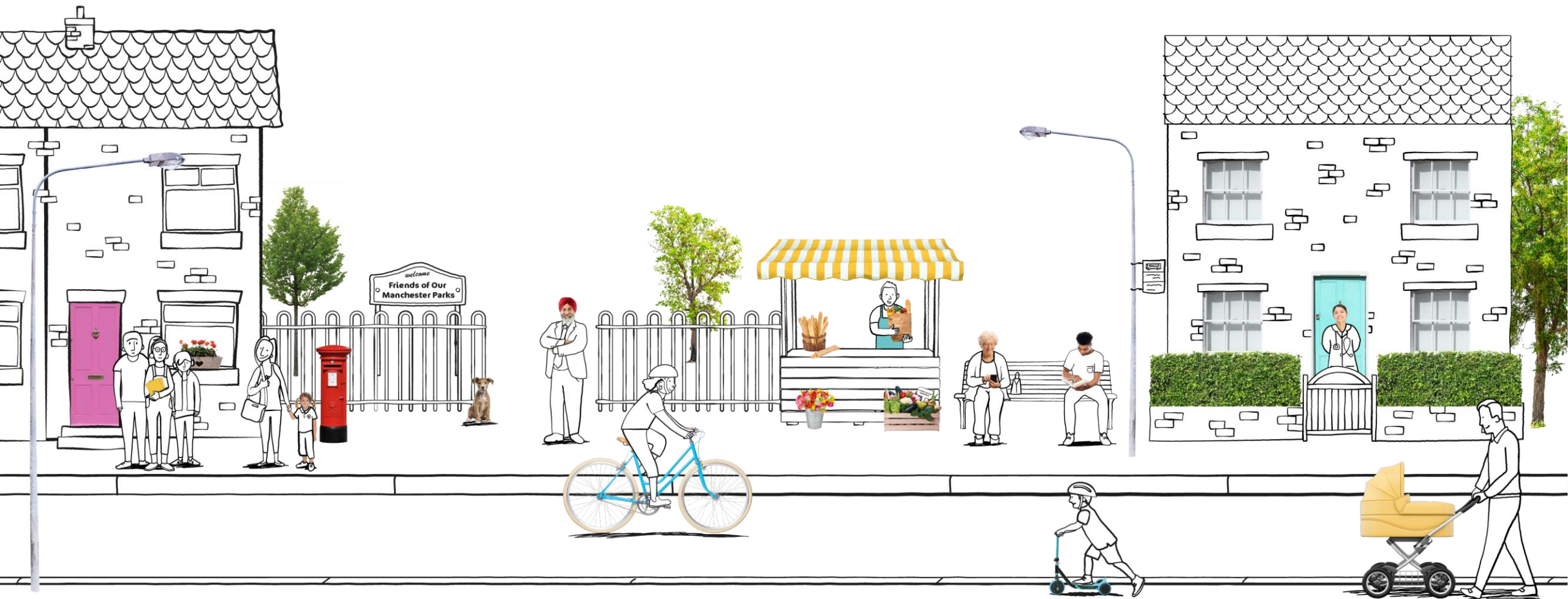
## Infant Feeding Team

Enhanced service available in North Manchester only, team includes Specialist Health Visitors, Dieticians and Support Workers

- Between Jan 2022 and Dec 2022
  - 12,898 universal offer contacts delivered by Infant Feeding Support Workers
  - 3,374 targeted complex contacts delivered by Specialist Health Visitors
  - 903 targeted contacts e.g. allergy delivered by Dieticians
- South/Central Manchester has generic support for Infant Feeding provided by HV teams, 2 drop-in clinics and a virtual offer, this offer will be enhanced via the Family Hub investment



# Best Start for Life/Family Hubs Programme



# Best Start for Life/Family Hubs Programme

Manchester is one of 75 local authority areas that will receive a share of the £301.75 million Family Hubs and Start for Life programme funding package for the period 2022-2025. Manchester's total indicative allocation of funding for the programme is between £5.27m and £5.58m.

- This investment will enable Manchester to transform our services into a family hub model.
- The programme includes new investment for essential services in the crucial Start for Life period from conception to age two, and services which support parents to care for and interact with their children.
- The programme builds on the 'The Best Start for Life: A Vision for the 1,001 Critical Days', the delivery of the Healthy Child Programme 0-19 public health services, the Supporting Families Programme and SEND.

## The Best Start for Life: a vision for the 1001 Critical Days



### Action Areas

#### *Ensuring families have access to the services they need*

1. **Seamless support for families:** a coherent joined up Start for Life offer available to all families.
2. **A welcoming hub for families:** Family Hubs as a place for families to access Start for Life services.
3. **The information families need when they need it:** designing digital, virtual and telephone offers around the needs of the family.

#### *Ensuring the Start for Life system is working together to give families the support they need*

4. **An empowered Start for Life workforce:** developing a modern skilled workforce to meet the changing needs of families.
5. **Continually improving the Start for Life offer:** improving data, evaluation, outcomes and proportionate inspection.
6. **Leadership for change:** ensuring local and national accountability and building the economic case.

# So - What are Family Hubs?

## Access

Family Hubs are a clear, simple point of access for help and support.

## Connection

The purpose of a hub is connection - Services, professionals & sectors working together

## Relationships

A family hub means a family focus; relationships are the key - building on family strengths



## Link to Supporting Families

- Family Hubs are a way of delivering the Supporting Families vision of an **effective early help system**.
- They provide a **single access point** to a **range of services** for families – a ‘front door’ to **universal** and **early help** services - and involve **co-location** of services and professionals.
- Where needed, hubs will ensure seamless **access to a whole-family lead practitioner**.

*Family hubs bring together services for families with children of all ages (0-19) or up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), with a great Start for Life offer at their core*

# Family Hubs : Trailblazers

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In addition to the mainstream funding, we were also successful in applying to be one of 15 Local Authorities that was awarded additional funding (Circa 180K) to lead the way in delivering the programme's expectations in the first financial year (2022-23), to deliver quick, tangible, positive change for families in their local areas. The funding covered three key areas and we will deliver:

- Perinatal mental health and parent-infant relationships. Manchester Home Start volunteer peer support service will reach out to communities and families less served, including fathers and co-parents, to offer wrap around support before, during and after engagement with therapeutic and parenting interventions
- Infant feeding – roll out of integrated feeding service in south and central Manchester to include flexible drop in, face to face and online feeding clinics tailored to targeted groups
- Parenting Support - we will develop a parenting app . Practitioners and families will have improved access to timely digital information providing parental advice on a range of physical and mental health and wellbeing topics. The app will provide information to evaluate the effectiveness for families and professionals using this platform

# Family Hubs : Progress

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- Positive feedback from Department for Education (DfE) on the delivery plan and work to date led by the programme team and colleagues
- Strong commitment across partnership with additional roles across midwifery, health visiting, early years, speech and language and VCS services
- Achieving equity and inclusion with targeted support and new initiatives such as Dads Matters, Think Equal, Empowering Parents Empowering Communities (EPEC)
- Manchester is sharing knowledge, skills and experience with other local authorities especially peri-natal mental health and parenting support
- Strong partnership and collaboration with VCS with strategic leadership and support including proposed use of funding supporting investment at a neighbourhood level
- A Start for Life offer has been developed alongside our digital offer via Help and Support Manchester
- A brand is being developed for family hubs
- Key workstreams have commenced with the principles of co-production underpinning how we work
- Baby Week will take place 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- Two family hubs will be opened by the end of June 2023

# Summary

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- Scrutiny members to recognise the continued impact of the pandemic on babies, children and families demonstrated in the data and presenting needs
- Family Hubs/Best Start for Life and Kickstarter programmes will accelerate the offer and provide intensive support for babies, children and families
- Family Hubs/Best Start for Life have the potential to achieve accessible and joined up services which are developed in response local needs and requirements
- Getting the 0-19 offer right at a local level will require shared commitment, shared priorities and joint commissioning to achieve longer -term sustainability and impact