

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Health & Wellbeing Board

Date: 18th March 2026

Subject: Best Start in Life Local Plan

Report author: Philip Tomsett, Head of Family Hubs

Responsible Director: Peter Haylock, Assistant Director Education & SEND

SUMMARY

The Hammersmith & Fulham Best Start in Life Local Plan 2026-2029 sets out our shared vision, priorities and commitments for supporting babies, young children and their families. Co-produced with families and partners, this plan brings together everyone responsible for commissioning and delivering early years and family services across the borough – including local authority services, early education and childcare providers, health partners and the voluntary and community sector.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For the Committee to note and comment on the report.

Wards Affected: All

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Building shared prosperity	<i>Improving early childhood development and supporting families. Helping children from all backgrounds have better opportunities for health and education.</i>
Creating a compassionate council	<i>Prioritising early support for children and families, ensuring services are responsive, inclusive and focused on improving wellbeing from the earliest stages of life.</i>
Doing things with local residents, not to them	<i>Co-produced with flexible and inclusive approach to engagement, reflecting the diversity of our borough to ensure that this plan is informed and shaped by residents</i>

Being ruthlessly financially efficient	<i>Investing in early intervention and prevention, reducing the need for more costly health and education and social care services later in life.</i>
Taking pride in H&F	<i>Investing in the wellbeing and development of the youngest residents, helping families feel supported and increasing confidence in local community and services.</i>
Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency	<i>Aligns closely with services and organisations that share these values.</i>