**Discussion with Carey Oppenheim- Chief Executive, Early Intervention Foundation (EIF)**

**Purpose of report**

For information.

**Summary**

This report provides background information for the discussion with Carey Oppenheim.

Carey’s previous roles include Co-director of the Institute of Public Policy Research and Special Advisor to Tony Blair in the Number 10 Policy Unit, specialising in employment, social security, childcare and poverty. Carey has also been a senior lecturer in social policy at the South Bank University and deputy director and head of research at the Child Poverty Action Group.  She has chaired the London Child Poverty Commission and advised the Treasury on welfare reform, and the DfE on childcare and early year’s strategy. She lately trained to be a teacher and taught history and politics at an inner-city London school.

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| **Recommendation**  This report is for information.    **Action**  Officers to take action arising out the discussion, as directed by members. |

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**Early Intervention Foundation (EIF)**

**What is Early Intervention?**

1. Early Intervention is about addressing the root causes of social disadvantage, ensuring that everyone is able to realise their full potential by developing the range of skills we all need to thrive. It is about getting extra, effective and timely interventions to all babies, children and young people who need them, allowing them to flourish and preventing harmful and costly long-term consequences.

**The role of the Early Intervention Foundation**

1. The Early Intervention Foundation’s aim is to change the culture from late to Early Intervention, from picking up the pieces to giving everyone the best start in life. EIF is a charity championing Early Intervention programmes and practice across the inter-generational cycle from conception to young adulthood.
2. The Foundation focusses on interventions which provide children with a solid social and emotional foundation – improving their ability to form good relationships, communicate, manage their own behaviour and their mental health. How much better to reduce adverse childhood experiences and help a child before they are excluded from school, commit a crime or go into care – for the child, family, community and wider society.
3. EIF **assess** the evidence of what works, to determine the best Early Interventions available and their relative value for money. They use their analysis of the evidence to **advise** local councils, health bodies, police, schools, charities, and potential investors on how to implement Early Intervention to best effect in order to make the most impact for children and families. And because they want to see a culture change they **advocate** for Early Intervention to key decision makers nationally, locally and in the public, private and philanthropic sectors.

**What the Early Intervention Foundation is doing**

1. EIF are working initially with 20 Pioneering Places, areas across the country, demonstrating with real life examples how Early Intervention can work to best effect. The Foundation is helping them make the business case for earlier investment and create the right systems to ensure what they are doing has maximum impact. EIF regional master classes and Early Intervention Champions will help spread the learning on Early Intervention to more people and places.
2. The Foundation is also developing an online Guidebook advising users on what works in Early Intervention programmes, practice and systems. It will be an up to date guide for commissioners, practitioners and policy makers, applying the Early Intervention Foundation’s evidence standards to programmes and practice in a transparent and accessible way.

**For more information on the work of the Foundation please visit** [**www.eif.org.uk**](http://www.eif.org.uk)

**Early Intervention Foundation Pioneering Places**

Blackburn with Darwen

Blackpool

Croydon

Dorset

Essex

Gateshead

Hertfordshire

Islington

Lancashire PCC

Greater Manchester

Newcastle

Nottingham

Plymouth

Poole

Solihull

Staffordshire PCC

West Cheshire

Wiltshire & Swindon

Worcestershire

London Triborough