Recommendation(s) The Committee is requested to note the content of this report on the introduction of the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) programme to Glasgow City CHP.

Background FNP is a preventive programme for vulnerable young first time mothers. It offers intensive and structured home visiting, delivered by specially trained nurses, from early pregnancy until the child is 2. FNP has 3 aims:

- to improve pregnancy outcomes
- to improve child health and development
- to improve parents’ economic self-sufficiency.

The methods are based on theories of human ecology, self-efficacy and attachment, with much of the work focused on building strong relationships between the client and Family Nurse to facilitate behaviour change and tackle the emotional problems that prevent some mothers and fathers caring well for their child.

The eligibility criteria for the programme are as follows:

- First time mothers, aged 19 or under at their last menstrual period.
- Living within the geographical reach of the local team.
- No more than 28 weeks gestation.
- Not planning to relinquish the child.
- The programme is ‘opt in’ and those choosing not to enrol will be supported by universal public health/health visiting service.

FNP will be implemented within Glasgow City, West Dunbartonshire and East Dunbartonshire from April 2012.

Legislative Context FNP is a licensed programme, developed in the US at the University of Colorado, where it is known as the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP). Over 30 years of rigorous research has shown significant benefits for vulnerable young families in the short, medium and long term across a wide range of outcomes including:

- improved early language development and academic achievement
- improvements in antenatal health
- reductions in children’s injuries, neglect and abuse
- improved parenting practices and behaviour
- fewer subsequent pregnancies and greater intervals between births
- increased maternal employment and reduced welfare use
- increases in fathers’ involvement
- reduced arrests and criminal behaviour for both children and mothers.

The data collated within FNP sites in England and Scotland will provide evidence on long term benefits within the UK population.

**Financial implications.**

FNP has been tested in England since April 2007 with over 6000 families having received FNP so far. There are now teams in 55 LA/PCT areas, and a planned expansion to double the capacity of FNP to support 15,000 families in England by 2015 (DH Operating Framework 2011-12). It is estimated that the average local cost of FNP per client is £3,000 year.

The Scottish Government’s manifesto commitment was to “rollout FNP across Scotland”. FNP is now being tested in Scotland for the first time in NHS Lothian, City of Edinburgh Community Health Partnership (Edinburgh CHP). The Scottish Government has committed £1.6m for the FNP Team in Lothian to support 145 families.

The second FNP site commenced in July 2011 in NHS Tayside, the area with the highest teenage pregnancy rate in Europe. This FNP site will support approximately 295 families in Dundee City and the Tayside area of Angus and Perth and Kinross. The Scottish Government has committed £3.2m with a contribution by NHS Tayside.

Both NHS Fife and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have been nominated to be the next two Boards to run the programme.

NHSGGC was successful in their submission for the FNP to be implemented in Glasgow City and West Dunbartonshire. Further discussions have resulted in inclusion of East Dunbartonshire as part of this first phase within the Board. The Scottish Government has confirmed a commitment of £1.8 m over three years.

The FNP Team, which is currently being recruited to, will consist of 1 Supervisor, 8 Family Nurses and 1 Data/Administrator post. A Psychologist will also support this team. The team will be based at Easterhouse Health Centre with access to local accommodation within the other localities. The recruitment of service users will begin in September 2012 and 205 families will be supported by the team.

A FNP Advisory Group has been established and its role is to promote a community support system for the programme and to oversee programme quality and sustainability. The Advisory Group will ensure that the Licensing Core Model Elements and sub licence are met and the fidelity of the programme is maintained. An Implementation Team will oversee and support the three CH(C)Ps by involving key stakeholders and service providers.
**Implications for Early Years support in NHSGGC**

As a test site for FNP we will be committing to the preparation phase by:

- Implementing the programme locally until the children reach the age of 2 years and incorporating the FNP into our long term vision for preventive services for children and families.
- Ensuring a joint commitment and leadership by the NHS Board and local authorities and establishing community collaboration and organisational commitment to testing FNP.
- Meeting the fidelity requirements as required by the licensing agreement and becoming part of the national FNP community, contributing to learning and developing the FNP in Scotland, and the rest of the UK.

The testing of FNP may have implications for other services that already exist, for example, PACT in Glasgow City, Smithycroft Family Support Project and SNIPs (Special Needs in Pregnancy) service.

**Service User Involvement**

Service Users from the Smithycroft Project are actively involved in the recruitment of the FNP team members. The young people’s panel have developed questions which will be put to prospective candidates. The panel will provide feedback to the formal interview panel on their perceptions of the suitability of candidates for the posts. This model has proved to be useful in other FNP test sites.

**Equalities Implications**

FNP is targeted at teenage first time mothers as a large body of research shows this group have a high level of need and that their children are at high risk of poor outcomes in the future.

US evidence also shows that it is young disadvantaged first time mothers who benefit most from the programme. 85% of FNP mothers have incomes below the poverty line, 43% very low incomes and 75% no/minimal qualifications.

An Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of the implementation within this phase in NHSGGC.

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