

Children's Improvement and Change Portfolio – January – March 2020 Update

Programme 1 – Remodelling Practice			
Key Milestones	Implementation Date	Status	Update, Exception Detail and Mitigations
Review of recruitment and retention initiatives.	Dec 2019 Ongoing	On Target	
Implementation of new audit and learning visit model.	April 2019 Ongoing	On Target	
Develop and embed new Framework for Practice	May 2020	On Hold	<p>This workstream is currently on hold. There will be a review of this workstream by the end of April to identify tasks which can be progressed during Covid-19 restrictions. When the workstream resumes, priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll out of training in relation to strengths-based practice • Implementation of preferred strengths-based language • Further embedding of strengths-based practice in Child Protection Conferences
Review of Staffing Model	May 2020	On Hold	<p>This workstream is currently on hold. There will be a review of this workstream by the end of April to identify tasks which can be progressed during Covid-19 restrictions. When the workstream resumes, priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of an Advanced Practitioner role (subject to Committee approval) • Implementation of a Managing Allegations Service (subject to Committee approval) • Progression of the Front Door Development Plan in respect of the MASH • Development of a current position statement in relation to recruitment and retention in the Residential Homes

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of Early Intervention Domestic Abuse Link Worker pilot.
Business Intelligence	Timescale TBC	Complete	
Develop and implement Career Pathway	March 2020	On Target	

Programme 2 – Remodelling Children’s Care			
Key Milestones	Implementation Date	Status	Update, Exception Detail and Mitigations
Social Impact Bond: Implement new services for children on the edge of care and provide additional services to stabilise or deescalate care placements where appropriate and safe to do so through the DN2 Social Impact Bond project. (DN2 is a partnership between Derby City Council, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council). Saving: £500k	September 2020	Compromised	<p>The implementation of the project was originally delayed as DN2 were unable to progress two investment options. The terms of the third investment option were in the process of being agreed, but events have been overtaken with Covid 19. The main elements of the project are now on pause.</p> <p>The government have confirmed £3m of outcome payments will be ringfenced for the DN2 partners for 6 months whilst the situation regarding Covid 19 becomes clearer.</p> <p>The provider is continuing with mobilising in preparation for the launch and they have recruited and employed staff to work with service users.</p> <p>The delay in implementation will impact upon the current savings schedule and so a formal change request will be prepared once the contract is finalised and signed.</p>
Regional Commissioning: Deliver a new sub-regional arrangement for procuring residential and foster care placements. (D2N2 is a partnership between Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council). Saving: £260k	January 2020	On Target	
Children’s Home Governance:	March 2019 Ongoing	On Target	

Review the governance arrangement and independent scrutiny of the authority's own residential provision.			
Fostering Development: Increase the number of foster placements available within the county by 50 over three years, from April 2019. Saving: £471k	March 2022	Experiencing Obstacles	Various initiatives still underway to deliver an increase in the retention and recruitment of Foster Carers (i.e.; marketing, increased support for carers and additional benefits to ensure a competitive package) all on track and within timeline. Baseline and benefits monitoring now in place; however, we are currently behind the projected target to achieve +50 new foster carers by April 2022. Although 16 new mainstream carers have been recruited since April 2019, 25 have left the service taking us to -9. On a positive note, further research showed this was primarily due to a "spike" of carers retiring or leaving the service for personal reasons. None were lost to competitors/ IFA's.
Development of new NCC Residential Home: Increase the residential provision available within the county.	September 2020	Experiencing Obstacles	Following a wider consideration of NCC's Sufficiency Strategy, which sets out the authority's approach to providing for its looked after children, CLT has directed the project to recommend the purchase of 3 pairs of 2-bed homes on a draw-down arrangement of capital funding. Policy Committee papers have been re-drafted accordingly. Potential properties to replace Oakhurst are also being assessed, for which the funding will be sought separately.
Maximising capacity of residential homes: Sale of excess disability beds Saving: £393k	March 2020	Experiencing Obstacles	Whilst the 19/20 external sales target is forecast to be approximately £50k short of the target, the position has improved slightly with the addition of a Derbyshire child. Added to the ongoing demand from Nottingham and a price increase there is a high probability of the remainder being met in 20/21. Work with Finance on sales forecasting has been initiated.

Programme 3 – Future of Education Support			
Key Milestones	Implementation Date	Status	Update, Exception Detail and Mitigations
Further strengthen partnership working to improve outcomes for all pupils (attainment and progress).	2021	On Target	
Ensure that basic need funding is allocated where it is most needed to increase secondary school places from 2019 and beyond. £20 million to be invested in primary and secondary place provision.	2020	Experiencing Obstacles	<p>Basic Need funding continues to be allocated where it is most needed. In relation to the 2018-2019, basic need funding, this has been ‘allocated’ to the secondary expansions at the Rushcliffe School, the Carlton Academy. The Carlton Le Willows feasibility study is now complete and waiting for confirmation from the ESFA of the Nottinghamshire basic need allocation for 2020. A report will then be taken to CYP Committee.</p> <p>Analysis suggests that a new secondary school in the West Bridgford planning area will be required as further expansion of existing West Bridgford schools may not be enough to meet local need. Funding is not currently available from either basic need or developer contributions. Further work needs to be done on the modelling/feasibility for the new school. A report is scheduled to go to committee in Q4 outlining the timelines and processes to be followed and seek funding for this work.</p> <p>The 2019/2020 basic need programmes are still at feasibility stage.</p>
Open new schools and childcare provision as a result of housing developments.	September 2019 & September 2020	On Target	
Review the high needs budget in the context of Alternative Provision free schools, review of inclusion and area behaviour partnerships to ensure that	2018-2020	On Target	

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high needs funding is targeted where it is needed most.			
Support schools to work in closer partnership with parents to raise standards for all.	2019-2021	On Target	
Refresh the Closing the Gap strategy in the light of the skills agenda, national curriculum changes and the further development of schools working more closely with businesses and parents.	2021	On Target	
Review of SEND school provision.	2020	Experiencing Obstacles	The demand arising for specialist school places continues to increase. The expansion and rebuild of Orchard Special School is underway and will be completed by May 2020. This will deliver much needed additional specialist places but will not be sufficient to meet the projected demand. This will result in more children and young people accessing costlier and out of county places and add further costs to the SEND transport budget. Options to further increase SEND school provision within Nottinghamshire continue to be considered including opportunities for the expansion of the pupil admission numbers at existing special school sites. Updates will be provided in future portfolio updates. Members will be presented with a proposal during the Spring term 2020 advising the need to build a further special school in the Hucknall or Ollerton area.
Vocational education pathways exploring opportunities linked with wider economic development projects.	November 2019	On Target	

Programme 4 – Remodelling Early Help			
Key Milestones	Implementation Date	Status	Update, Exception Detail and Mitigations
Carry out an extensive review of our preparation for and transition to adulthood for children and young people with SEND.	May 2020	Experiencing Obstacles	<p>The Triennial Review's draft recommendations were considered and agreed by the Nottinghamshire SEND Accountability Board on 22 January 2020.</p> <p>Action plans for the three groups: (1) education and employment, (2) health transitions, and (3) independence and relationships) were due to be completed before the end of March 2020 for consideration at the Nottinghamshire SEND Accountability Board on 22 April 2020.</p> <p>Due to Covid-19, the individual action plans were not completed, and the SEND Accountability Board meeting due to take place on 22 April has been cancelled.</p> <p>It will be possible to carry forward these actions to the beginning of July 2020, when the next SEND Board meeting is due to take place on 6 July. These actions will be included in the Nottinghamshire SEND Strategic Plan for 2020-2023 which will be considered by the SEND Accountability Board also on Monday 6 July 2020.</p>
CYP Committee March 2019 approved the Children's Centre Service be brought back under the management of the Council at contract end on the 1st June 2020. The Children's Centre Service targeted offer will remain unchanged and through better integration with other Early Years Services in house will improve outcomes.	1 June 2020	On Target	
Review how we provide early help in line with any changes to the governments Troubled Families programme.	April 2020	On Target	
Review how we respond to contextual safeguarding issues including extremism.	2021	On Target	

Programme 5 - Leaving Care			
Key Milestones	Implementation Date	Status	Update, Exception Detail and Mitigations
Care Leaver's Local Offer Ensure that LAC and Care Leavers have access to training and support which enables them to progress into employment, education and training at an equal level to the wider population.	July 2020	On Target	