

Children and Young People's Committee

Monday, 14 October 2019 at 10:30

County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

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|----|---|-----------|
| 1 | Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 16 September 2019 | 3 - 8 |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 3 | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)
(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) | |
| 4 | Reduction in Powers of the Regional Schools Commissioner to Intervene in Underperforming Schools - Response from the RSC | 9 - 16 |
| 5 | Basic Need School Expansion - King Edwin Primary, Edwinstowe - Latest Estimated Cost | 17 - 20 |
| 6 | Free School Presumption Competition to Secure a Sponsor for a new Secondary School in West Bridgford and Update on the Status of Free School Presumption Competitions | 21 - 24 |
| 7 | A Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All | 25 - 42 |
| 8 | Outcomes of Ofsted Inspections - Termly Update | 43 - 54 |
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13	Adoption East Midlands - Regional Adoption Agency Update April to September 2019	135 - 138
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Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Martin Gately (Tel. 0115 977 2826) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.
- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>

Meeting CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE

Date 16 September 2019 (commencing at 10.30am)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Philip Owen (Chairman)
Sue Saddington (Vice-Chairman)
Tracey Taylor (Vice-Chairman)

A	Rachel Madden Francis Purdue-Horan John Handley Errol Henry JP	Sybil Fielding Roger Jackson John Peck JP Liz Plant
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CO-OPTED MEMBERS (NON-VOTING)

4 Vacancies

OTHER COUNCILLORS IN ATTENDANCE

John Longdon

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Diana Bentley	Principal Social Worker, Children and Families Services
Marion Clay	Service Director, Children and Families Services
Sophie Eadsforth	Service Manager, Children and Families
Karen Hughman	Group Manager, Children and Families
Laurence Jones	Service Director, Children and Families Services
Colin Pettigrew	Corporate Director, Children and Families Services
Pip Milbourne	Business Support, Children and Families Services

Nigel Stevenson	Section 151 Officer, Chief Executives
Sue Summerscales	Senior Finance Business Partner, Chief Executives

Martin Gately	Democratic Services Officer, Chief Executives
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1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2019 having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Changes of Membership – Councillor Purdue-Horan replaced Councillor Elliot, Councillor Fielding replaced Councillor Henshaw and Councillor Madden replaced Councillor Deakin. All changes were for this meeting only.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

CORPORATE PARENTING

4. PROGRESS OF THE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

RESOLVED 2019/075

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

That:

- 1) No actions were required in relation to strengthening the Leaving Care Service.
- 2) Further reports on the implementation of the Partnership Strategy for Looked After Children and Care Leavers in Nottinghamshire be received.
- 3) Six monthly updates be received on the impact of the Local Care Offer for Care Leavers
- 4) An annual report on the work of the Partnership Board and the impact of the Strategy on Looked After Children and Care Leavers (2018 to 2021) be agreed.

5. FOSTER CARER ITEMS

The Corporate Director indicated that the Fostering Liaison Action Group met last Monday for a two hour discussion regarding subsidies and access to leisure. Foster Carers indicated that it would be of great assistance if childcare was provided, and this will be available for future meetings. Members also heard that on 28 September 600 Looked After Children will have a day out at Alton Towers. The Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council will also be in attendance.

6. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE CORE DATA SET

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/076

That:

- 1) No actions were required in relation to the performance information on the Council's services for children and young people for the period 1st April to 30th June 2019.

7. REQUEST TO CONSULT ON THE COUNCIL'S CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION STRATEGY AND HOME EDUCATION POLICY

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/077

That:

- 1) A revised Children Missing Education Strategy be consulted on with education partners and other stakeholders and the proposed communications strategy be approved, the outcomes of which will be brought back to the Committee in due course.
- 2) Stakeholders be consulted on a revised Elective Home Education Policy, and approve the proposed communication strategy, the outcomes of which will be brought back to the Committee in due course.

8. COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIES FOR FIRST ADMISSION TO PRIMARY SCHOOL AND TRANSFER FROM INFANT TO JUNIOR/PRIMARY SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2020, AND FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE'S CONSULTATION ON ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2021-2022

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/078

That:

- 1) the publicity campaign to inform parents and families about applying for school places for September 2020 for children starting school for the first time (reception) and transferring from infant school (Year 2) to junior/primary education (Year 3) be approved.

- 2) the consultation on Nottinghamshire County Council's proposed school admission arrangements 2021-2022 be approved.
- 3) the communication strategy to inform stakeholders about the statutory consultation on Nottinghamshire County Council's proposed school admission arrangements 2021-2022 be approved.

9. FEASIBILITY AT NETTLEWORTH INFANT SCHOOL AND LEAS PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SCHOOL PLACES

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/079

That:

- 1) No further action or information was required in relation to this report.

10. PROPOSAL TO RETURN THE HEALTH RELATED EDUCATION TEAM AND THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICE TO CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES (INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S DISABILITY SERVICE)

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/080

That:

- 1) the commissioned Physical Disability Support Service and Health Related Education Team contract which ends on 31st March 2020 not be renewed
- 2) the Physical Disability Support Service becomes a directly managed service within the Integrated Children's Disability Service with effect from 1st April 2020
- 3) the Health Related Education Team becomes a directly managed service within Education Access and Partnership with effect from 1st April 2020.

11. 2019/2020 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BUDGET UPDATE

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/081

That:

- 1) there were no further actions required in relation to the information contained in the report.
- 2) The Improving the Effectiveness and Efficiency of Children's Services Plan, attached as Appendix C be approved.
- 3) Progress reports against the Plan be received every three months.

12. STEP UP, BEAT HATE – REPARATION EVENT OCTOBER 2019

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/082

That:

- 1) A press release be used to promote the Step Up, Beat Hate reparation event on 18th October 2019 and for appropriate Council staff to be interviewed by the press who will be invited to the event.

13. CHILDREN'S SERVICES WORKFORCE HEALTHCHECK

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/083

That:

- 1) No further actions were required in relation to the issues contained in the report
- 2) Monitoring of the issues and actions contained within the report be considered
- 3) An update report be received in the next six months and that this be included in the work programme

14. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE LOCAL AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP (MODLAP) – NEW IN COUNTY CHILDREN WITH EDUCATION HEALTH AND CARE PLANS

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

RESOLVED 2019/084

That:

- 1) The local adoption and application of the Ministry of Defence Local Authority Partnership (MODLAP) principles of transition be approved for those children

and young people with Special Educational Needs & Disability and Education, Health and Care Plans whose parents are serving Ministry of Defence officers.

15. PRINCIPAL CHILD AND FAMILY SOCIAL WORKER ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to comments and questions from Members.

RESOLVED: 2019/085

That:

- 1) No further actions were required in relation to the information contained in the report.

16. LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS TO SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES DURING THE PERIOD 12 FEBRUARY TO 16 AUGUST

The Chairman introduced the report and responded to comments and questions from Members.

That:

- 1) Further updates regarding future appointments be received on a quarterly basis in accordance with the Constitution.

17. WORK PROGRAMME

That:

- 1) The work programme be agreed.

The meeting closed at 11:56 am.

CHAIRMAN

14th October 2019**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LEARNING AND
SKILLS****REDUCTION IN POWERS OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOLS COMMISSIONER
(RSC) TO INTERVENE IN UNDERPERFORMING SCHOOLS – RESPONSE
FROM THE RSC****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report provides Committee with the response of the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to a letter sent by the Councillor Owen, Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee, which expressed concern that the statutory guidance (Department for Education, November 2018) reduced the powers of the RSC to intervene in underperforming schools previously deemed to be coasting. Committee is invited to consider whether there are any further actions it requires following the response of the RSC.

Information

2. At the meeting of the Children and Young People's Committee on 15th July 2019, Members were advised in the report "Nottinghamshire County Council's School Improvement Strategy for Schools Causing Concern" that a key change to the statutory guidance on schools causing concern was the removal of the intervention powers of RSCs in underperforming schools previously deemed to be coasting. Whilst the RSC would continue to intervene in schools and academies deemed to be Inadequate or Requires Improvement, it would no longer be the case that intervention would be made in relation to coasting schools.
3. During the discussion of the report at Committee, the Chairman agreed to write to the RSC outlining the concerns regarding this reduction of the RSC's remit. This letter was sent on 23rd July 2019 (attached as **Appendix 1**) and a response was received by Councillor Owen on 2nd August 2019 (attached as **Appendix 2**).
4. The RSC's response advised Councillor Owen that in the view of the Secretary of State, the move to a "new single, transparent method for identifying schools eligible for improvement support" would be an Ofsted judgment of Requires Improvement. The response also stated that the DfE does have a "high level of accountability and transparency of trusts and has robust processes for monitoring trusts' performance". The letter also advised that the

communication of the Permanent Secretary to the Public Accounts Committee on the matter of oversight of academy trusts also confirmed the DfE's actions to hold trusts to account (letter available as a background paper).

Other Options Considered

5. No other options have been considered. The DfE Schools Causing Concern guidance is statutory and therefore the reduction in the legal role of the RSC in schools causing concern cannot be changed.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

6. This report provides the opportunity for Committee to consider whether there are any further actions it requires.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

8. Some additional funding will be provided by the DfE for maintained schools judged to Require Improvement for the second time by Ofsted up to a maximum of £16,000. The Local Authority is also in receipt of a School Improvement Grant which will be used to provide the required support and challenge to Nottinghamshire's maintained schools causing concern.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any further actions it requires following receipt of the response from the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) regarding the reduced powers of the RSC to intervene in underperforming schools previously deemed to be coasting.

Marion Clay

Service Director for Education, Learning and Skills

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Diane Ward

Team Manager, Education Improvement Service

T: 0115 8040646

E: diane.ward@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (EP 19/09/19)

9. The Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required, it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 20/09/19)

10. Some additional funding will be provided by the DfE for maintained schools judged to Require Improvement for the second time by Ofsted up to a maximum of £16,000. The Local Authority is also in receipt of a School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant which will be used to provide the required support and challenge to Nottinghamshire's maintained schools causing concern. The grant was £734,000 for 2018-19 and although the full allocation for 2019-20 has not been confirmed yet it is expected to be a similar amount.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Schools causing concern: Guidance for local authorities and Regional Schools Commissioners on how to work with schools to support improvements to educational performance, and on using their intervention powers (Department for Education, November 2018)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/754974/Schools_causing_concern_guidance-November_2018.pdf

[Nottinghamshire County Council's School Improvement Strategy for Schools Causing Concern](#) – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 15th July 2019

Letter from the Permanent Secretary to the Public Accounts Committee – 7 November 2018

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1300

This matter is being dealt with by:
Marion Clay
Reference: Cllr P Owen/CR
T 0115 9772502
E supporttoschools@nottscc.gov.uk
W nottinghamshire.gov.uk

Private and Confidential
To be opened by addressee only

John Edwards
Regional Schools Commissioner
East Midlands and Humber Region
Academies Regional Delivery Group
Department for Education
6th Floor, 2 St Paul's Place
Sheffield
S1 2FJ

Dear John

23 July 2019

On the 15 July 2019, the Children and Young People's Committee in Nottinghamshire approved the County's updated Schools Causing Concern Policy. This Policy has been updated in line with the new statutory guidance for local authorities and RSCs on schools causing concern which became effective in November 2018.

As Chairman of the Committee, I wish to express my concern about any reductions in the powers of intervention of the RSC in relation to schools causing concern, particularly schools which are 'coasting'. Whilst I understand the rationale for this given the pending changes to DfE targets, it is nonetheless the case that there are too many publicly funded schools who are not securing the necessary progress of their pupils.

Rather than diminishing powers of intervention, it is clearly essential that all publicly funded schools are robustly monitored to secure the best possible outcomes for every child.

As ever, I would appreciate that you ensure that my views are appropriately shared, particularly during any policy discussion. It is increasingly clear to me that in rightly devolving responsibility for the running of schools and the outcomes to many multi academy trusts, there is clearly insufficient monitoring by the DfE.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Philip Owen
Chairman
Children and Young People's Committee

Nottinghamshire County Council, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QP



**Department
for Education**

**Academies Regional Delivery Directorate
East Midlands and the Humber**

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Tel: 0114 2742648

Email: EMH.RSC@education.gov.uk

Cllr Phillip Owen
Nottinghamshire County Council,
County Hall,
West Bridgford,
Nottingham
NG2 7QP

Friday 2nd August 2019

Dear Councillor Owen,

Many thanks for your letter dated 23rd July. I register your concerns about reductions in the powers of intervention of the RSC in relation to schools causing concern and have shared these with policy colleagues working on the Schools Causing Concern Guidance.

In May 2019 Damian Hinds, then Secretary of State, announced the outcome of our consultation on identifying schools for support. He confirmed that from September 2019, the DfE will no longer publish or use the floor or coasting standards, and instead will use a new single, transparent method for identifying schools eligible for improvement support – an Ofsted judgement of Requires Improvement. This was an important step in creating a clearer, simpler accountability system and helping to reduce undue pressure on school leaders, and excessive workload that distracts teachers from teaching.

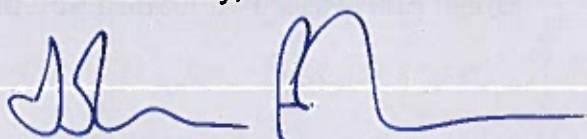
Where Ofsted have inspected a school and issued it with an inadequate rating, RSCs have the power to take decisive action to bring about school improvement. For a maintained school this will mean becoming an academy so that the school can benefit from the support of a strong sponsor. For an academy, we may transfer the school to a stronger academy trust with the capacity to deliver strong and rapid school improvement.

You also raise a question about oversight of academies. The department requires a high level of accountability and transparency of trusts and has robust processes for monitoring trusts' performance. A wide range of information about trusts is published, including MAT performance tables;

financial benchmarking tables; and Ofsted's summary evaluation letters. If you are interested in further detail about oversight of trusts, the Permanent Secretary wrote to the Public Accounts Committee on this matter last autumn and his letter can be found here:

https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/public-accounts/correspondence/2017-19/Treasury%20Minute%20follow-up_Dept%20for%20Education.pdf

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

John Edwards
Regional Schools Commissioner
Academies Regional Delivery, East Midlands and the Humber

14th October 2019

Agenda Item: 5

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, PLACE AND COMMUNITIES

BASIC NEED SCHOOL EXPANSION: KING EDWIN PRIMARY, EDWINSTOWE - LATEST ESTIMATED COST

Purpose of the Report

1. To advise Committee of the preferred option and Latest Estimated Costs for the school expansion project at King Edwin Primary School, Edwinstowe, and seek approval to proceed to the construction phase of the project based on these estimated costs.

Information

2. In February 2019 the Children and Young People's Committee granted approval to proceed to feasibility stage for a number of schools as part of the 2019/20 Basic Need schools expansion programme. King Edwin Primary was one of these schools.
3. The feasibility project at King Edwin Primary was to explore the potential to replace the temporary double mobile classrooms with permanent buildings.
4. The temporary double mobile classroom at this school has been in situ since 1999 and has been the subject of several planning application renewals. The condition of the building is poor and is highly unlikely to be granted a further temporary planning consent. The classrooms are regularly and routinely used for teaching purposes. Population projections indicate that the numbers of children likely to attend the school will remain high therefore there will be a continuing need for the accommodation. If the school and the planning area were to lose access to the capacity it would be unable to meet the demand for school places coming through and would be unable to accommodate the early arrivers from housing developments proposed in the area.
5. Arc Partnership was requested to consider two options at the site:
 - Option 1 – like for like replacement with a modular building, albeit at a separate location at the site deemed more appropriate from a Planning perspective
 - Option 2 – infilling of the canopy area and alterations to the existing school building.

Both schemes would require removal of the existing mobile, associated hard surfaces and fencing, then restoring the playing field.

6. The feasibility report produced a Latest Estimated Cost (LEC) projection for both options:

Option	Total LEC Cost
Option 1 Modular building	£812,420
Option 2 Infill	£667,490

Preferred Option

7. Option 2 is the preferred option; as well as being less costly it also functions better educationally and operationally as it brings all provision under one roof, the plan provides a foundation unit, freeing up a classroom which in turn frees up the old IT room to become an after-school club and general use/music classroom.

Capital Budget Implications

8. The Latest Estimated Cost of option 2 is set out below and the fees shown are for all professions involved in the project. The professions involved in this project are:

- Architect
- Mechanical Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Quantity Surveyor
- Structural Engineer
- Construction Design & Management Co-ordinator
- Project Manager

Please note that professional fees include all feasibility costs including site surveys and associated statutory fees, as well as Arc Partnership fees.

Latest Estimated Cost (Outturn Prices)

	£
Building Works	576,485
Professional fees	75,005
Furniture and Equipment	16,000
Total	667,490

9. Anticipated cash flow:

	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	2021/22 £	Total £
Building Works	15,000	561,485	0	576,485
Professional Fees	45,000	28,805	1,200	75,005
Furniture & Equipment		16,000	0	16,000
Totals	60,000	606,290	1,200	667,490

Other Options Considered

10. The County Council has an obligation to provide adequate spaces for pupils requiring education within the County. There are therefore no other options available to the County Council at this time.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The Council is committed to providing good schools with sufficient places for all Nottinghamshire children. The Basic Need schools expansion programme is a key element of delivering this commitment.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

13. The overall cost of the project is £667,490 to be met from the Basic Need Grant.

Human Rights Implications

14. The provision of additional school places in refurbished schools will facilitate parental preference via the schools admissions process.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

15. Children within the Local Authority area will be able to access school places locally, all new build schemes will meet requirements for disabled access and special needs.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

16. All new build schemes take account of safeguarding needs and requirements.

Implications for Service Users

17. The Schools Capital Programme seeks to ensure that there will be sufficient school places in school buildings.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

18. Increasing the number of school places is demonstrated by sustainable demand. All capital projects are subject to the requisite planning and Building Regulations which reflect

environmental and sustainability targets. By providing local school places the need for travelling by car can be reduced.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That approval be given for the school expansion project at King Edwin Primary School, Edwinstowe, to proceed to the construction phase based on the estimated costs as detailed in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report.

Derek Higton
Service Director, Place and Communities

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Phil Berrill
Team Manager, Property Commissioning
T: 0115 9774641
E: phil.berrill@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (AK 19/09/19)

19. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee under its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (GB 02/10/19)

20. The latest estimated cost of this project totals £667,490. This will be funded from the School Places programme which is already approved within the Children and Young People's capital programme with a total budget across the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years of £26.3m.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Basic Need Programme of School Expansion 2019/20](#) - report to Children and Young People's Committee on 11th February 2019 (previously published)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Sherwood Forest Councillor John Peck

C1294

14th October 2019

Agenda Item: 5

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS

FREE SCHOOL PRESUMPTION COMPETITION TO SECURE A SPONSOR FOR A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL IN WEST BRIDGFORD AND UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF FREE SCHOOL PRESUMPTION COMPETITIONS

Purpose of the Report

1. This report seeks approval to run a free school presumption competition in relation to the proposed new secondary school in the West Bridgford planning area.
2. The report also updates Committee on the current status of free school presumption competitions.

Information

Communication strategy for the promotion of free school presumption competition to secure a sponsor for a new secondary school in West Bridgford

3. The Council has a statutory duty to ensure a sufficiency of school places for Nottinghamshire children.
4. Where a local authority thinks a new school needs to be established, section 6A of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006) places the local authority under a duty to seek proposals to establish an academy (free school) and to specify a date by which proposals must be submitted to the local authority.
5. The local authority is required to take all necessary steps to ensure that the widest possible range of groups or organisations that might be interested in establishing the new free school are aware of the opportunity to do so and have sufficient time to develop proposals.
6. Advice relating to the processes by which new schools are established under section 6A, which is known as the free school presumption, can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/establishing-a-new-school-free-school-presumption>

7. In this case, the land and finance components are to be met from within the relevant section 106 agreement, from Basic Need (Government Grant) and borrowing. All information relating to this Free School Presumption will be lodged with the Secretary of State and will therefore be available to potential sponsors.
8. At any point during the presumption process, but before the allocation of a sponsor, should a Direct route application be approved by the Secretary of State any presumption process can be withdrawn by the Local Authority.

Update on the status of free school presumption competitions to secure sponsors for new schools arising from housing developments

9. The status of previous potential free school presumption competitions are as follows:

Gateford – Bassetlaw	On hold pending housing delivery
Teal Close – Gedling	Presumption currently open with a closing date of 15 th November 2019 (5pm)
Lindhurst – Mansfield	Presumption to be run during the Autumn term 2020
Land South of Newark (Fernwood) – Newark	On hold pending housing delivery
Land South of Newark (Newark town) – Newark	Withdrawn. New school will be delivered as an enlarged relocated Christ Church Infant becoming Christ Church CE VA Primary
Crown Land, Bingham - Rushcliffe	Presumption competition to open Spring 2020
Rempstone Road, East Leake – Rushcliffe	Presumption competition to open Spring/Summer 2020
Sharphill – Rushcliffe	Competition closed. Project allocated to Spencer Academy Trust. New school to open September 2020.

Other Options Considered

10. As outlined above local authorities are required to alert all potential sponsors in a fair and transparent way and must therefore engage in a communications process.

Reason for Recommendation

11. To enable the County Council to comply with the duty to run the DfE free school presumption process in relation to the proposed new secondary school in the West Bridgford planning area.
12. Members are reminded that approval to run free school presumption competitions in the other areas recorded in **paragraph 9** were approved by the Children and Young People's Committee on 17th September 2018 which is available as a background paper.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

14. It is anticipated that there will be some costs to running the free school presumption competition but they will be minimal and contained within the service's allocated budget and centrally via the Council's Communications team.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Committee:

- 1) gives approval to run a free school presumption competition in relation to the proposed new secondary school in the West Bridgford planning area.
- 2) considers whether any further information and/or updates are required in relation to the information contained in the report .

Marion Clay
Service Director, Education, Learning and Skills

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Mike Sharpe
Team Manager, Place Planning
T: 0115 9772803
E: mike.sharpe@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (AK 03/10/19)

15. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee under its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS/GB 03/10/19)

16. There is currently no Basic Need funding allocated towards this project and any requirement for funding from the Council's own resources would be subject to the usual capital approval processes.

17. It is anticipated that there will be some costs to running the free school presumption competition but they will be minimal and contained within the School Place Planning budget of £386,000 and centrally via the Council's Communications team.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Communication strategy for the promotion of free school presumption competitions to secure sponsors for new schools arising from housing developments](#) - report to Children and Young People's Committee on 17th September 2018.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1298

14th October 2019

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS

A STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All (IEOfA), attached as **Appendix 1**, and recommend it to Policy Committee for approval, replacing the existing Closing the Educational Gaps Strategy (2012).
2. To seek approval to bring six-monthly update reports on progress towards the Strategy for IEOfA success criteria.

Information

3. At the Children and Young People's Committee meeting on 11th February 2019, the development of, and consultation on, a new Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All in Nottinghamshire was approved.
4. This decision reflected new national priorities surrounding social mobility, recognising that disadvantaged children and young people are less likely to fulfil their academic potential, secure employment and gain a sense of future emotional and financial security.
5. In addition, the Social Mobility Commission's "*State of the Nation Report*" (November 2017) ranked all English local authorities into hotspots and coldspots based on social mobility outcomes from early years through to working lives. The East Midlands was the country's lowest performing area and, in Nottinghamshire, six of the seven districts were ranked as coldspots.
6. The Strategy reflects issues outlined in national reports (referenced in background papers), which recognise the central role that education plays in breaking down the barriers to social mobility. It also builds upon the successes of the Closing the Educational Gaps Strategy (2012) by continuing to bring together County Council services and key partners to further improve both opportunities and outcomes for all, including the most vulnerable groups of learners.

7. The Strategy will contribute to the delivery of the following key ambitions of the Nottinghamshire County Council Plan 2017-2021, 'Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future':

"A great place to bring up your family" acknowledges the importance of giving children the best possible start in life and the opportunity to attend good schools. The IEOfA Strategy has an enhanced focus on the "readiness to learn" agenda, striving to ensure the development of emotional health and wellbeing, independence, self-esteem and the desire to learn.

"A great place to fulfil your ambition" aims to increase the number of young people who leave education with better qualifications and skills, and are thus able to find higher paid, more skilled jobs. The IEOfA Strategy focusses particularly on maximising partnership working across the secondary and post 16 sectors to improve pathways into adulthood and employment.

"A great place to start and grow your business" acknowledges the need for a skilled workforce. It identifies the importance that the skills taught in our schools and colleges match the needs of local businesses and so support the ambitions of our young people. The IEOfA Strategy will develop active partnership links with Council services and key partners, especially learning providers and employers.

8. The proposed six-monthly update reports on progress towards the IEOfA Strategy's success criteria will strengthen existing accountability arrangements, principally the IEOfA Performance Board.

Process

9. The IEOfA Strategy has been developed by Nottinghamshire County Council officers in partnership with key stakeholders.
10. An extensive and productive consultation was conducted between 7th June and 5th July 2019, the outcomes of which are set out fully in **Appendix 2**.

Other Options Considered

11. A new strategy is required in light of changing national priorities. It is inappropriate to continue to use the Closing the Educational Gaps Strategy (2012) because it focusses insufficiently upon improving educational opportunities and preparation for adulthood.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. To provide an effective response to new national priorities and ensure improved educational opportunities and outcomes for all of Nottinghamshire's children and young people.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty,

safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

14. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Committee:

- 1) recommends the Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All, attached as **Appendix 1**, to Policy Committee for approval, replacing the existing Closing the Educational Gaps Strategy (2012).
- 2) agrees to receive six-monthly update reports on progress towards the Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All success criteria and that these be included in the Committee's work programme.

Marion Clay
Service Director, Education, Learning and Skills

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Constitutional Comments (LW 19/09/19)

15. The Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report.

Financial Comments (SAS 23/09/19)

16. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All](#) - report to Children and Young People's Committee on 11th February 2019

Bercow 10 Years On (March 2018)

<http://www.bercow10yearson.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/337644-ICAN-Bercow-Report-WEB.pdf>

Closing the Educational Gaps Strategy (2012) <http://home.nottsccl.gov.uk/working/policies-performance/policy/policy-library/closing-theeducational-gaps>

Nottinghamshire County Council Plan 2017-20, 'Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future'
<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/plans-policies-andassessments/council-plans-and-policies/strategic-plan-2017-2021>

Social Mobility in Counties- County Councils Network (CCN) (October 2018)
<https://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/download/1811/>

State of the Nation- Social Mobility Commission Report (November 2017)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662744/State_of_the_Nation_2017_-_Social_Mobility_in_Great_Britain.pdf

Unlocking Talent Fulfilling Potential- Department for Education (December 2017)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/667690/Social_Mobility_Action_Plan_-_for_printing.pdf

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1295

A Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All



Foreword

I am pleased to provide a foreword to Nottinghamshire's Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All. The new Strategy builds on the past successes of Nottinghamshire schools in raising attainment and increasing progress for all students, underpinned by the Closing the Gap Strategy 2012.

The new Strategy reflects current national priorities, which recognise the central role that education plays in breaking down the barriers to social mobility that too many young people face. Disadvantaged children and young people are less likely to achieve their academic potential, secure employment and gain a sense of future emotional and financial security.

It is intended that the new Strategy will deliver key ambitions in the Nottinghamshire County Council Plan 2017-2021, 'Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future', with a particular focus on:

"A great place to bring up your family", which acknowledges the importance of giving children the best possible start in life and the opportunity to attend good schools.

"A great place to fulfil your ambition", which aims to increase the number of young people who leave education with better qualifications and skills, thus able to find higher paid, more skilled jobs.

"A great place to start and grow your business", which acknowledges the need for a skilled workforce. It identifies the importance of teaching employability skills in our schools and colleges to match the needs of local businesses and so support the ambitions of our young people.

Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future recognises that everyone deserves a chance to go as far as their hard work and talent can take them. It is proposed that the new Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All will act as a driver for this plan and its vision where 'all children have the same opportunities and life chances.'

We will continue to work in partnership across the Council with learning providers, alongside key services and partners and, of course, with children, young people and their families.

Cllr Philip Owen
*Chairman of the Children and
Young People's Committee*



Context

The “State of the Nation” report from the Social Mobility Commission (November 2017) ranked all English local authorities into hotspots and coldspots for every life stage from the early years through to working lives. The East Midlands was the lowest performing area in terms of social mobility in the country. In Nottinghamshire, 6 of the 7 districts were ranked as coldspots (worst social mobility outcomes), where Ashfield, Newark and Sherwood and Mansfield were ranked in the lowest 10 of the 324 local authority areas assessed.

A subsequent report, “Social Mobility in Counties”, was produced by the County All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), supported by the County Councils Network (CNN) and Localis. This considered what opportunities were available to counties and their partners to begin to solve some of the issues identified by the government’s Social Mobility Commission.



The Department for Education’s ‘Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential’ (December 2017) set out the government’s national plan to improve social mobility through education. The report outlined four key life-stage ambitions:

- close the word gap in the early years
- close the attainment gap in school while continuing to raise standards for all
- provide high-quality post 16 choices for all young people
- ensure everyone achieves their full potential in rewarding careers

An independent review “Bercow: Ten Years On” (March 2018) considered the provision for children and young people with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) in England. It recognised that the ability to communicate is fundamental to learning, to relationships and to life chances. The review found that too many children and young people receive inadequate, ineffective and inequitable support, impacting on their education, their employability, and their mental health.

Five key recommendations emerged from the review:

- communication is crucial
- a strategy for system change
- an accessible and equitable service for all families
- support that makes an impact
- early identification and intervention are essential

The Nottinghamshire Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All aims to ensure that the full range of Nottinghamshire County Council services and partners work coherently with learning providers and businesses to maximise the impact of available resources in further improving both opportunities and outcomes for all, including the most vulnerable groups of learners.

The vision

Our vision is for Nottinghamshire to be a place where children increasingly grow up free from deprivation and disadvantage and where birth, social background and special education needs and disabilities (SEND) do not hold people back from achieving their potential.



The rationale

There remains a need to accelerate the progress of all children from their starting points, with a particular focus on those children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as well as those eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), looked after children (LAC) and those ethnic minority groups whose progress is below expectation.

The new Strategy will focus on:

- Improving outcomes in Early Years Foundation Stage, speech and language, phonics and reading to ensure the best possible start in life for all Nottinghamshire children and young people
- Developing emotional health and well-being, independence, self-esteem as well as the desire to learn
- Maximising partnership working across the secondary and Post 16 sectors to improve pathways into adulthood and employment



Multi-agency working

The County Council is fully committed to working in partnership to improve educational opportunities and outcomes for all. To achieve this, we will continue to work collaboratively with learning providers and partners, including parents and carers, to increase the progress for all children and young people whatever their starting points.

We recognise that the majority of Nottinghamshire learning providers serve communities that have

low social mobility outcomes and will need to work collaboratively with a range of children's services, employers and partners to reach the ambitious goals within this Strategy. This means that the County Council, in its role as strategic champion for children, families and communities, will support all educational settings to embrace their responsibility and accountability to improve educational opportunities for all.

Our partners include:

- Early Years Settings, Primary, Secondary, Special Schools, Alternative Education Providers, Independent Non-Maintained Schools, Colleges of Further Education and Universities
- Children's Social Care
- Clinical Commissioning Groups, Public Health and Health Providers
- District Councils
- Early Childhood Services
- Economic Development
- Education, Standards and Inclusion Services (Education Improvement Service, Schools and Families Specialist Service, Governing Body Services)
- Education, Access and Partnership Services (Fair Access, Partnership, School Admissions, Strategic School Place Planning, Elective Home Education and Health Related Education)
- Educational Psychology Service
- Employers
- Family Service
- Integrated Children's Disability Service
- Local Enterprise Partner
- Parents / Carers
- Performance, Intelligence & Policy
- Voluntary Sector and Charities
- Young People



The role of the County Council

The County Council can make a significant contribution to improving educational opportunities for all by providing strong strategic leadership. In its role as champion of children and families, the County Council can facilitate, broker, commission and influence existing and new ways of working to support learning providers to improve progress, wider outcomes and employability skills for all children and young people in Nottinghamshire.



We can support effective implementation of the strategy for improving educational opportunities for all by:

- ensuring that the voice of the child and family is heard and their views are used to shape our work
- re-focusing and, where appropriate, integrating Nottinghamshire County Council services, to improve collaborative working within localities
- working with key services and partners to bring closer alignment to the ways in which County Council services work with learning providers to improve educational opportunities for all
- using data to analyse where Nottinghamshire children and young people make least progress from their starting points to inform work with all learning providers as well as targeting resources where the need is greatest and where collaborative work could potentially make the biggest difference
- ensuring that children, young people and families receive the most appropriate intervention and support to meet their needs, including the use of multi-agency approaches to prevent underachievement of the most vulnerable learners at all phases in their education
- promoting the use of specific, evidence-based language and skills programmes to accelerate progress at the earliest opportunity
- working with learning providers, key services and partners to support a whole system approach to planning and commissioning in order to raise aspirations, build school readiness and academic resilience, promote health and economic well-being to ensure accelerated progress and good attainment for all
- working with employers and learning providers to pilot innovative approaches to develop and embed employability and preparation for adulthood in learning programmes from the earliest opportunity
- evaluating the impact of locality-working to improve educational opportunities for all and sharing any identified successful strategies across the county

Action planning and resources

In conjunction with our partners, actions have been agreed to support all learning providers to use data and target resources more effectively to improve educational opportunities for all.

Key actions include:

- continuing to use the Improving Educational Opportunities for All Performance Board to hold key partners/teams to account for the impact of their contribution to the Strategy
- sharing data and relevant research with learning providers and employers
- providing guidance on the most effective strategies to improve educational outcomes
- using data to identify localities for prioritised, targeted action
- sharing new ways of working at locality level to inform further developments in other areas of Nottinghamshire
- brokering and commissioning access to key resources, research and strategic partners
- developing quantitative and qualitative datasets to describe how new ways of collaboration at locality level are impacting positively on learners' achievements and employability



Accountability

Learning providers are closely monitored and held to account for the attainment and progress of all learners, including their most vulnerable groups through Department for Education (DfE) performance tables and the Ofsted inspection framework. Schools are required to publish on their website details of how they are spending the Pupil Premium funding and the effect this is having on the attainment of eligible pupils in their school.

Local systems of accountability are in place and operate to hold individual schools to account where additional “high needs” funding is sought in regard to children and young people with SEND.

The Improving Educational Opportunities for All Performance Board holds key partners/teams to account for the impact of their contribution to the Strategy and reports to the Children, Family and Cultural Services Leadership Team, the Children’s Trust Board and the Children and Young People’s Committee.

“ Leaders take on or construct a curriculum that is ambitious and designed to give all learners, particularly the most disadvantaged and those with SEND or high needs, the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life ”

Quality of Education Judgement, Education Inspection Framework, OFSTED (May, 2019)



How we will measure success

We will be successful if:

- There is an increase in the take up of funded places for eligible 2-year olds
- The percentage of children receiving a 2 -2.5 year old health and development review increases
- The proportion of disadvantaged children (FSM, LAC) who achieve the expected level of development in literacy in the Early Years Profile increases
- There is an increase in the take up of supplementary funding targeted at the most vulnerable
- There is an increase in the number of children with SEND and known to EYSFSS who are accessing full time school at statutory school age
- The progress from KS1 to KS2 of disadvantaged children (FSM6 - those eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years, LAC) in reading is at least in line with national outcomes for comparable groups
- In schools where SFSS are involved, there will be an increase in the number of schools who use appropriate tools to measure progress of children and young people with SEND over time
- There is an increase in the number of Emotional Literacy Support Assistants trained and working in Nottinghamshire schools, so children and young people receive timely emotional literacy support within their school setting
- There is an increase in the number of schools involved with the Attachment Aware Schools Project including supervision networks, so school staff use an evidence-based relationship-based approach
- The percentage of pupils with whom SFSS have had involvement during the current academic year, who have requested an EHCP and who remain in mainstream school increases; and so enables pupils with SEND to access education in their local community alongside their peers
- The progress of disadvantaged children (FSM6 and LAC) at KS4 is above national outcomes for comparable groups
- The percentage of young people in the Academic Age Years 12/13 Cohort whose Education, Employment and Training (EET) status is not known is reduced
- The percentage of young people in the Academic Age Years 12/13 Cohort who are not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET) is reduced
- The percentage of young people aged 19 qualified to level 3, who attended a Nottinghamshire school at age 16, is at least in line with national outcomes
- The percentage of young people not achieving a level 2 qualification in English and Maths in a Nottinghamshire school at age 16 who go on to achieve this by age19, is at least in line with national outcomes
- The number of young people with SEND who secure sustained employment, following a supported internship, increases

Summary

This strategy cannot be fixed in stone. It will evolve over time as learning providers embrace their collective responsibility for meeting the needs of all children and young people, including the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

As champion for children and families, the County Council has a duty to ensure that all services which are provided, brokered or commissioned are informed by latest research and best practice, whilst providing good value for money. This will require effective partnership working based on a shared moral purpose to raise aspirations and maximise life chances for all children and young people, but particularly for the most vulnerable.





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IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STRATEGY CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

1. Public consultation was conducted between 7 June and 5 July 2019, with responses being received from 81 participants representing 17 stakeholder groups.
2. Stakeholders included parents and carers, children and young people, learning providers, school governors, employers and local enterprise partners, Public Health and Clinical Commissioning Groups, voluntary organisations and Nottinghamshire County Council employees. Some respondents identified partners and stakeholders that were missing from the consultation survey. Further analysis has since indicated that these 'missing' partners were in fact contained within the broader groups consulted (see above).
3. The consultation survey questions were as follows:
 - Do you agree with the rationale which underpins the new Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All, in relation to the focus on specific groups?
 - Do you agree with the rationale which underpins the new Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All, in relation to provision and outcomes from Early Years to Adulthood?
 - Nottinghamshire County Council will continue to work collaboratively with learning providers and partners, as proposed in the Strategy. What suggestions do you have for how we can do this better?
 - In your view, are there any significant partners missing from the list below?
 - Do you agree with the following statement? Data should be analysed where Nottinghamshire children and young people make least progress from their starting points to inform work with all learning providers.
 - Do you agree with the following statement? Resources and capacity should be targeted where the need is greatest and where collaborative work could make the biggest difference?
 - Do you agree that Nottinghamshire County Council should work with employers and learning providers to pilot innovative approaches to develop and embed employability and life skills in learning programmes from the earliest opportunity?
 - We are keen to gain a broad range of views, so please indicate all from the following list that apply to you? (Tick each applicable response)
4. The majority of respondents (88.39%) supported the Strategy's rationale and main aims.
5. Overall, the consultation received 196 free-text comments, which have since been analysed and, where appropriate, used to inform the final amendments to the IEOfA Strategy. Where respondents have made suggestions in relation to the implementation of the Strategy, these will be shared with key partners who will use them to shape ways of working and provision for all children and young people accessing education with Nottinghamshire learning providers.

6. For analysis purposes, comments and queries have been grouped under the following themes:
- **Resource Targeting and Allocation.** On average 86.83% of respondents supported the IEOfA Strategy's rationale for targeting resources at specific groups and at areas of the county where need is greatest. Some commented on the method of targeting. For example, two respondents suggested that "we need to be careful that we don't solely rely on data, but also use intelligence "on the ground" when targeting resources and capacity." Moreover, in relation to SEND, respondents indicated that resources should be "targeted at individuals rather than solely putting resources in one geographical area over another" based on socio-economic factors.
 - **Collaboration and Partnerships.** The question relating to collaboration and partnerships was open only to free-text comments. The majority of respondents felt that NCC works well in collaboration and partnership with stakeholders. Some respondents suggested that this can be improved further by providing "planned opportunities for information sharing and collaborative solution seeking on a regular basis between LA and learning providers and partners". Other respondents, making similar suggestions, argued that these measures would help to establish a more "joined-up approach" and challenge the perceived "them and us" separation between the Council, its partners and Nottinghamshire schools.
 - **Educational approaches.** On average 89.71% of respondents supported the Strategy's rationale for educational approaches. Some respondents were concerned that "the heavy push on academic work and phonics in early years may alienate children with SEND from education".
 - **Early Years and Preparation for Adulthood.** On average 88.48% of respondents supported the Strategy's rationale in relation to provision and outcomes from Early Years to Adulthood. Some respondents, however, suggested that "improving outcomes at the EYFSP stage is too late for many children and intervention should be earlier, between 0-3 years of age." Others stated that they "would like to see more impact around post-16 and employment/value added outcomes". Some recognised the developing relationship with our alternative education providers in the statement "NCC has the opportunity to enhance the support provided to the most vulnerable young people from Year 10 to aged 19 by working closely with alternative provision." Piloting innovative approaches to employability and preparation for adulthood by working more closely with businesses was recognised as important as one respondent felt that "university is a very overrated target and limits the development of key skills by not teaching the basics of how to save, cook, pay bills, get a mortgage, set up your own business etc"
 - **Accountability.** Some respondents commented on accountability and monitoring arrangements in schools and Council services.
7. Responses to the specific comments raised above will be provided in the form of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), to be made publicly available online via the NCC Consultation Hub.

14 October 2019

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS

OUTCOMES OF OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF SCHOOLS – TERMLY UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Committee of the outcomes of inspections of state funded schools over the Summer term 2019 and any actions being taken by the Council to support those schools identified as Requiring Improvement (RI) or Ofsted category of concern.
2. For the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to Require Improvement, the report seeks approval for the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services to write to the head teacher and chair of governors to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress towards becoming a Good school. In relation to academies, the Chairman and Corporate Director will also write to the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC).
3. For the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good but declining, the report seeks the approval for the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services to write to the head teacher and chair of governors to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress towards remaining a Good school. In relation to academies, the Chairman and Corporate Director will also write to the RSC.
4. For schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain or become Good or Outstanding, the report also seeks approval for the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services to write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to congratulate them on their achievement. Copies of congratulatory letters will also be sent to the RSC in relation to academies judged to be Good, remain Good or Outstanding.

Information

5. There is a time lag between inspection outcomes as known within the Council and the published summary data. This report will focus on published Ofsted reports for the Summer term, 2018-19 academic year.

6. This report draws on two main sources of data:
- Ofsted's website www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted which publishes individual school inspection reports, usually within two weeks of inspection. However, this can take considerably longer for a school that is judged as Inadequate as Ofsted carries out increased quality assurance exercises. This can take up to two months to complete.
 - Ofsted's monthly management information <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/monthly-management-information-ofsted-school-inspections-outcomes>. This is up to date as at 31 July 2019 and provides data on the proportion of Good schools at local authority level but not the proportion of learners attending Good schools. This provides an overall comparison of the performance of Nottinghamshire schools with those nationally.
7. There are two types of inspection under the common inspection framework that are used to judge the performance of schools in England:
- the Section 5 inspection is a two day inspection of a school that Requires Improvement or is Inadequate or is being inspected for the first time (typically a new academy). This inspection provides judgements against the four key inspection areas (Effectiveness of leadership and management; Quality of teaching, learning and assessment; Personal development, behaviour and welfare; Outcomes for pupils) and the overall judgement for the school. If the school has an Early Years Foundation Stage or a 6th Form, these will receive additional judgements.
 - the Section 8 inspection is a one day inspection of schools previously judged as Good by Ofsted (and for Outstanding special schools and Pupil Referral Units). This inspection evaluates whether the school remains at the same grade as at the previous inspection. If the Ofsted pre-inspection desktop analysis indicates that the inspection is likely to convert to a Section 5 inspection, the school will be informed at the initial contact telephone call that the inspection will be carried out as a Section 5 inspection rather than a Section 8.
 - a new inspection framework for all schools is being implemented from September 2019. The framework has now been published and all inspections from September 2019 will work to this new framework.
 - all inspections referred to in this report were carried out under the previous framework.
8. **Appendix 1** shows Local Authority inspections over the Summer term 2019. Compared with previous inspections:
- there were 19 schools inspected in the Summer term
 - 10 of the inspections in the Summer term were of Good schools. Eight of these schools retained their previous Good judgement
 - five schools, Parkgate Academy, Hetts Lane Infant & Nursery, Burntstump Academy, Magnus CE Academy and Orchard Special School, all moved from Requiring Improvement to Good

- Abbey Hill Primary and Normanton On Soar Primary both moved from Good to Requiring Improvement
 - Leen Mills Primary and Wainwright Primary Academy remain as Requiring Improvement
 - Queen Elizabeth Academy improved from Inadequate to Requiring Improvement. The report highlights the significant progress the Academy has made through the support and sponsorship of Diverse Academies Trust
 - Hillocks Primary remains in a category of concern with a judgement of serious weaknesses. The Regional Schools Commissioner has invited Diverse Academies Trust to be the nominated sponsor and this Multi-Academy Trust is currently undertaking due diligence.
9. **Appendix 2** shows the reasons the schools were placed in Requiring Improvement and the actions taken by the Local Authority to support these schools.
10. The summary table below shows that, as a result of the inspections over the last term, Nottinghamshire is now in line with the national average for all schools but Nottinghamshire primary schools are performing below the national average although they remain above the East Midlands. Nottinghamshire secondary schools continue to perform well above the national and regional figures.

Management Information for Schools 31 July 2019			
Number of Good or better schools	National	Notts	E Midlands
All Schools	86%	86%	83%
Primary	87%	86%	84%
Secondary	76%	86%	71%

Other Options Considered:

11. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. To ensure Members of the Committee are aware of the steps being taken to ensure that all children in Nottinghamshire have the opportunity to attend a Good school.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below.

Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

14. It is part of the Local Authority's statutory duty to support maintained schools which have been risk assessed as Requiring Improvement. Two maintained schools fell into this category and are identified at **paragraph 8**. Due to the Education Improvement Service annual risk assessment process both schools had already been identified as requiring additional support and the cost of this will be met from the Department for Education School Improvement Grant. The School Improvement Grant was £735,000 for 2018-19 and although the full allocation for 2019-20 has not been confirmed yet it is expected to be a similar amount.
15. Additional funding will be required to meet the costs of additional support for the maintained school continued to be judged by Ofsted as Inadequate. This is likely to be up to £35,000 and will be funded from the School Improvement Grant.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) for the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to Require Improvement, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress to become a Good school. In relation to academies, a letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner.
- 2) for the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good but declining, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress to become a Good school. In relation to academies, a letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner.
- 3) for schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good, or become Good or Outstanding, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to congratulate them on their achievement. A copy of this letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner in relation to academies.

Marion Clay
Service Director, Education, Learning and Skills

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (EP 19/09/19)

16. The recommendations fall within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 20/09/19)

17. It is part of the Local Authority's statutory duty to support maintained schools which have been risk assessed as Requiring Improvement. Two maintained schools fell into this category and are identified at paragraph 8. Due to the Education Improvement Service annual risk assessment process both schools had already been identified as requiring additional support and the cost of this will be met from the Department for Education School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant. The grant was £735,000 for 2018-19 and although the full allocation for 2019-20 has not been confirmed yet it is expected to be a similar amount.
18. Additional funding will be required to meet the costs of additional support for the maintained school continued to be judged by Ofsted as Inadequate. This is likely to be up to £35,000 and will also be funded from the grant.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Outcomes of Ofsted Inspections of schools – termly update](#) - report to Children and Young People's Committee on 17th June 2019

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1296

Appendix 1

District	School type	School	Previous overall effectiveness	Current overall effectiveness	Date	Change from last inspection	Effectiveness of Leadership & Management	Quality of Teaching, Learning & Assessment	Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare	Outcomes of Pupils	Early Years/Post 16
Primaries											
Ashfield	Community	Abbey Hill Primary	2	3	5.6.19	↓	3	3	2	3	2
Ashfield	Academy	Greenwood Primary and Nursery	2	2	12.6.19	→	2	2	2	2	2
Ashfield	Community	Hillocks Primary and Nursery	4	4	2.5.19	→	4	3	3	3	3
Ashfield	Community	Leen Mills Primary	3	3	25.6.19	→	3	2	2	2	3
Bassetlaw	Community	Prospect Hill Infants and Nursery	2	2	22.5.19	→	2	2	2	2	2
Broxtowe	Community	Banks Road Infants and Nursery	2	2	1.5.19	→	2	2	1	2	2
Gedling	Academy	Burntstump - Arnold Seely Church of England Primary	3	2	21.5.19	↑	2	2	2	2	2
Mansfield	Community	Hetts Lane Infant and Nursery	3	2	8.5.19	↑	2	2	2	2	2
Mansfield	Academy	Wainwright Primary Academy	3	3	25.6.19	→	2	3	2	3	2
Newark	Community	Muskham Primary School	2	2	9.5.19	→	2	2	2	2	2
Newark	VC school	St Peter's Cross Key CofE Primary (Famdon)	2	2	1.5.19	→	2	2	2	2	2
Newark	Academy	The Parkgate Academy was Ollerton Primary	3	2	8.5.19	↑	2	2	2	2	2
Rushcliffe	VA school	Cotgrave CofE Primary	2	2	2.5.19	→	2	2	2	2	2
Rushcliffe	Academy	Heymann Primary	2	2	30.4.19	→	2	2	2	2	2
Rushcliffe	community	Normanton-on-Soar Primary	2	3	14.5.19	↓	3	3	2	3	3
Rushcliffe	community	Sutton Bonington Primary	2	2	21.5.19	→	2	2	2	2	2
Secondaries											
Mansfield	Academy spc	Queen Elizabeth's Academy	4	3	18&19 June 20	↑	3	3	2	3	2
Newark	Academy Co	Magnus CE Academy	3	2	30Apr/1May 20	↑	2	2	2	2	
Specials											
Newark	Community s	Orchard	3	2	11&12 June 20	↑	2	2	1	2	2

School	Ofsted Judgement	School strengths	Areas for improvement	Actions by LA
Hillocks Primary	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils know how to stay safe. They know how to lead healthy lives. The proportion of pupils involved in a wide range of sporting activities is increasing. The curriculum provides pupils with opportunities to develop artistic and creative skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior leaders have not acted with the necessary urgency to improve the school. The school was judged to be Inadequate at its previous inspection and remains so. Governors and senior leaders have not ensured that all the areas for improvement identified at the previous inspection have been addressed fully. Leaders have overseen a decline in the early years and have failed to improve the other areas of the school's work sufficiently well. Outcomes are not good enough. Too few pupils make the progress that they should or are well prepared for secondary education. Senior leaders have not ensured that the school's plans for development are implemented effectively. Senior leaders have not ensured that subject leaders have the skills to secure improvements throughout the school. Subject leadership is not consistently effective. Governors have not held leaders to account effectively. They have not fulfilled all their statutory responsibilities to ensure that the website includes all the information that it should. The quality of teaching, learning and assessment remains inconsistent. Teachers do not always address pupils' misconceptions or set work that is sufficiently challenging. The teaching of spelling and reading is not consistently good. Leaders have begun to put better systems in place to improve attendance. However, persistent absence remains too high. Leadership of the early years is not strong enough. Too few children are prepared well for Year 1. Teachers do not use assessment information effectively to plan children's next steps in learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocation of a new experienced Education Improvement Adviser 4 days per term until conversion. LA funded Associate HT and school to school partnership support and guidance for senior leaders provided by Diverse Academies. Other LA officers' providing support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improving pupil attendance training for governors around challenge and securing accountability LA Legal Services and Human Resources working with the Regional Schools Commissioner to ensure the school can convert to academy status as soon as possible

Normanton on Soar Primary	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The interim headteacher has prioritised clearly those areas requiring improvement, based on her regular and accurate checks on the quality of teaching and learning. Behaviour is good and relationships across the school are strong. Pupils, parents and carers value highly the school's warm family atmosphere. Attendance is consistently high. Leaders and governors have ensured that safeguarding is effective. Although pupils are not making strong progress this year, progress in reading, writing and mathematics by the end of Key Stage 2 has in previous years been consistently strong. The teaching of phonics is effective. Pupils in Key Stage 1 use their phonics knowledge skilfully in their reading and writing. Nursery children get off to a strong start because of effective teaching and care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching is not consistently good enough to ensure that pupils in all year groups make strong progress. The drive for improvement is too heavily reliant on the interim headteacher, who is not receiving support from subject leaders because they are new to the role. In some classes, teachers' expectations are too low and they do not insist that pupils take pride in their work. This can be seen in the poor quality and presentation of the work in pupils' books in these instances. Subjects other than English and mathematics are not always covered in sufficient depth. The progress of current pupils in reading, writing and mathematics is not consistently strong in all year groups. Some aspects of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are less well promoted in school. Pupils have a limited awareness of the range of the faiths and cultures represented in modern Britain. The quality of leadership, teaching and learning is not consistently strong across the early years provision. On occasion, the work set is too easy for some children. The early years curriculum is not fully applied across both the indoor and outdoor learning areas for the Reception children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An experienced Education Improvement Adviser was allocated to the school following the Ofsted inspection Partnership support from an Outstanding school has been brokered. Mentoring support for the leadership is also being provided by another head teacher of a small school within the Local Authority The school is invited to a bespoke training package on school self-evaluation in the Autumn term which is being provided by the Education Improvement Service
Abbey Hill Primary	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recently appointed acting headteacher has a clear vision for the school and the community it serves. She leads with a strong moral purpose. Leaders have created a vigilant safeguarding culture. Pupils feel safe and are safe at school. Disadvantaged pupils and pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) make secure progress. Pupils make stronger progress in mathematics than in English. Pupils are proud of their school and show positive attitudes to learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcomes are not good enough. Standards at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2 are too low and are not improving quickly enough. The quality of teaching is too variable. Expectations of what pupils can and should achieve are not high enough. The most able and the middle-ability pupils are not enabled to reach the highest standards in reading, writing and mathematics. Teachers do not consistently use assessment information well enough to match work precisely to pupils' different needs and abilities. Teaching in a range of subjects lacks sufficient challenge to ensure that pupils can make the best progress across the curriculum. Too many pupils are regularly absent from school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocation of an experienced Education Improvement Adviser for 3 days each term providing support and challenge. Additional targeted support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading workshops provided by LA Reading Consultants due to low standards in reading across each key stage Pupil Premium Review to raise the achievement of disadvantaged pupils

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils conduct themselves well. They are welcoming, polite and respectful. Children in early years make a good start to their primary school life, given their starting point. Pupils benefit from a range of opportunities to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some leaders are new to their roles and have not yet been able to demonstrate the full impact of their work on pupils' progress in reading, writing and mathematics. Governors are not yet holding leaders precisely to account for standards in the school. Too few children attain a good level of development by the end of early years. 	
Leen Mills Primary	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupils feel safe at school. Leaders have established an effective culture of safeguarding. Subject leaders have improved the quality of teaching and learning in mathematics and English. Teachers' subject knowledge has improved. The teaching of phonics is a strength of the school. Pupils make strong progress so that they can decode words fluently. Leaders have improved the progress of disadvantaged pupils through additional teaching. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported well. The school's provision for pupils with social and emotional needs is highly effective. The 'creative curriculum' enriches pupils' learning and personal development. Pupils enjoy working with different age groups and become confident and articulate learners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders have not acted quickly enough to address the decline in outcomes in the early years. Not all children are well prepared for Year 1, particularly the most able, who do not make the progress that they should. Leaders' self-evaluation is overgenerous. They have not checked the quality of teaching and learning rigorously enough in all key stages. Leaders have not ensured that professional development has improved all teaching and learning across the school. The quality of teaching in the early years is not good. Teachers do not have consistently high expectations of what children can do. Teachers in the early years have not ensured that the environment supports children's learning effectively. Not all activities are purposeful or engaging. Teachers in the early years do not consistently provide children with the opportunity to deepen their understanding or build on what they already know and can do. Pupils do not make as much progress in some foundation subjects as in others. The quality of pupils' writing across the curriculum is inconsistent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocation of an experienced Education Improvement Adviser for 3 days each term providing support and challenge. Additional targeted support provided by LA Reading Consultants - analysis of 2019 data identified that reading at the end of KS2 is well below national at the Expected Standard. School as a member of George Spencer TSA is accessing relevant targeted support
Wainwright Academy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new headteacher, together with senior and middle leaders, has worked with determination and a high level of commitment to improve many areas of the school. Leaders are taking effective action to further improve the school. Leaders have created an inclusive and safe community. Relationships between 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quality of teaching, learning and assessment is not yet consistently good across the school. Some pupils, therefore, do not make the progress they should. At times, teachers do not adapt their teaching well enough to meet pupils' needs. This is especially true for the most able pupils. The most able pupils are too rarely required to learn at a greater depth, which they are capable of. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As an academy the trust will provide school improvement support as appropriate.

	3	<p>staff and pupils are strong. Pupils enjoy coming to school and their attendance is good. They behave well in lessons and around the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children get off to a good start in the early years and make good progress. New teaching approaches are now being embedded to further develop children's skills. The academy trust provides the school with strong support and guidance. Trustees hold leaders to account effectively for improving the school. Parents and carers are positive about the school. They say their children are happy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching assistants do not provide some pupils with the extra support they need. At times, disadvantaged pupils and pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) do not make the progress they should. Pupils do not consistently develop their skills and deepen their knowledge and understanding across the wider curriculum. Leaders' checks on how well pupils are doing in some subjects are not precise enough. Overall, leaders increase pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness. Some pupils, however, do not have a good enough understanding of different faiths and cultures. 	
Queen Elizabeth's Academy	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders are ambitious for pupils. They have challenged the existing culture of low aspiration which limited pupils' prospects. Staff morale is high. School staff at all levels are committed to improving the school further. Leaders ensure that pupils have an effective spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) education. Pupils are happy at school. They behave well in lessons and during social times. Staff support and care for pupils well. Because of this, pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare are good. The sixth-form provision is good. This is because post-16 teaching is now consistently good. Students progress well in their studies. They go on to well-planned next steps when they leave school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaders are dedicated to improving the quality of education at the school. However, the impact of their work to date has not been strong enough. Pupils have been absent and excluded from school more often than their peers nationally. Their absence and exclusion are now reducing. However, pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are still absent and excluded from school more often than other pupils. Pupils' progress has been below the national average. Pupils at Key Stage 4 still make less progress than they are capable of. Key Stage 3 pupils are now making better progress in their studies. Previously, disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND made weak progress. Leaders' use of the pupil premium and SEND funding is now effective. Disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND are now making better progress. The quality of teaching is improving but still varies. Teaching is strong, however, in English and mathematics. Teachers do not always make sure that the work they set matches pupils' abilities closely enough. Leaders have planned the curriculum well to help fill the gaps in pupils' knowledge and understanding. Currently, however, pupils have limited opportunities to study geography, music and drama. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As an academy the trust will provide school improvement support as appropriate.

14th October 2019**Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND
RESOURCES****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT 2019****Purpose of the Report**

1. To share the findings of the 2019 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) and seek approval of the proposed recommendations which enable the Council to fulfil the statutory duty to provide sufficient high-quality childcare.
2. To share the progress following the recommendations made in the 2018 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

Information

3. The Childcare Act (2006) states that the Local Authority must make arrangements to secure sufficient early childhood services in their area that are provided in such a way that facilitates access to those services, and maximise the benefit of those services to parents, prospective parents and young children.
4. The Act states that local authorities must secure free places offering 570 hours of Early Education and Childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year for every eligible 2-year-old child in their area, and for all 3 and 4 year olds until the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday.
5. The Childcare Act 2016 amendment states that the Local Authority must also secure an additional 570 free hours of Early Education and Childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year, for qualifying children of working parents.
6. Under section 6 of the Act there is a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area. This information should be made available to parents and elected members.
7. The 2019 Nottinghamshire Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is available in **Appendix 1** and will be published on the Council's website subject to Committee approval.

Methodology

8. The assessment used the following methods to gather both qualitative and quantitative data to inform planning to increase childcare provision in areas of need:
 - a) information obtained from 704 early years providers using a self-update module of Capita
 - b) an online survey carried out in June 2019 which gained 694 responses from parents
 - c) headcount data captured each term that shows the numbers of children accessing their funded childcare entitlement and supplementary funding
 - d) review of information held by the Families Information Service (hosted by Inspire) about current levels of childcare provision and costs across Nottinghamshire
 - e) it is worth noting that all data used to inform this report is a snapshot in time and is therefore subject to change as children access provision during the course of the year.

Key Findings

Current Provision:

9. There are 1,068 providers (June 2019) delivering Childcare and Early Education across Nottinghamshire.
10. The number of Day Nurseries registered has remained static across the County at 191 settings, but there has been a 6% decrease in the number of pre-school settings, and a 7% increase in the number of registered childminders.
11. The greatest increase in provision in the last year (rising from 298 settings to 494) has been in provision of out of school care.
12. According to the assessment this Summer, there are over 2,500 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the County. Only five areas are reporting a deficit of places and the numbers are negligible.
13. Nottinghamshire has sufficient childcare places for eligible 2 year olds, and all 3 and 4 year olds. There are exceptions and not all available places are accessible for families.

Quality of Provision

14. 83% of all registered Early Years Provision is currently (June 2019) rated as Good, Outstanding or Met¹ by Ofsted. This figure rises to 96% when factoring out those settings which are newly registered and are yet to be inspected. Just 0.6% (seven settings) have been judged as 'Inadequate'. 4% of settings are rated as Requiring Improvement, Inadequate or Not Met.
15. A growing number of childminders are choosing to register with the local Childminding Agency rather than with Ofsted directly. The Childminding Agency is itself inspected by

¹ Met or Not Met judgements are applied where an inspection takes place in the absence of targeted children

Ofsted and childminders who join adopt the same grade – the local agency, @Home Childcare, is currently rated as a Good provider.

The cost of childcare

16. The cost of childcare for children not claiming their entitlements or those not eligible for funded hours in Nottinghamshire varies across districts and by type of provider. Nottinghamshire Families Information Service (FIS) collates available information on fees which are published in this assessment. The cost of childcare has risen across the sector by an average of 14% since the last year. Average childcare costs are highest in Rushcliffe and lowest in Bassetlaw; although in Ashfield, childminders charge the lowest fees in the County.
17. Providers are reporting that their fees have risen over recent years due to a number of new initiatives which have had significant impact on provision; namely the national minimum wage, pension costs, costs of training and increases in business rates.
18. Parents have stated that the cost of childcare is still a barrier to accessing work and training.

Early Years Entitlements

19. Data from the Summer term identified that the average take up rate of 2 year old funded places over three terms is 75.7%. A total of 3,441 eligible 2 year old children accessed their 15 hour place in the academic year 2018-19. Take up rates over the year were highest in Rushcliffe at 82% and lowest in Bassetlaw at 61%.
20. Data from the Summer term identified that the average take up rate over three terms is 102% of three year olds and 95% of four year olds.
21. The take up rate of the extended childcare offer for working households (30 hours funded per week) has been hugely successful with 99% of parents who applied and received an 'eligible 30 hours code' from HMRC had the codes validated by an early years provider, 93% of whom were in a 30 hours place in Nottinghamshire.
22. It is estimated that almost 2,800 children have benefitted from additional funding streams:
 - Inclusion fund for children with severe and complex needs
 - Disability Access Fund for 3 and 4 year olds receiving Disability Living Allowance
 - Deprivation fund for children aged 3 and 4 years on a Child Protection Plan or Child In Need
 - Early Years Pupil Premium for children meeting the criteria under economic deprivation or children who are Looked After.

Financial support to parents

23. Tax Free Childcare Accounts became available to parents from September 2017. For every £8 paid into the account, the Government will top up by £2 (up to a maximum top-

up of £2,000 per year, per child); this is doubled for disabled children. Only 16% of parents responding to the Council's survey used Tax Free Childcare Accounts.

24. Universal Credit for Childcare is aimed at working families with children under 17 years and provides up to 85% of childcare costs (capped). Tax Credits are now being phased out and replaced by Universal Credit for Childcare.
25. Care to Learn is available for younger parents (under 20 at the start of their training course) who are in education or training. Care to Learn is available for publicly funded courses in schools, sixth form or FE colleges. Childcare payments of £160 per week are paid directly to the childcare provider and parents can access their travel expenses.

Parent priorities regarding provision

26. 694 parents responded to the Council's survey (a 57% increase on last year).
27. 78% of respondents to the survey said that their provision was easily accessible from where they live. 71% said that their provision was open at suitable times. 60% of respondents agreed that they could use their funded hours at suitable times, and 62% of respondents agreed that settings were flexible.
28. 92% of parents who responded to the survey this year said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of the provision their child(ren) received.
29. 75% of the respondents in the survey said they paid for some form of childcare – with the majority (63%) of them paying for 15 hours or less. Only 9% paid for a full week of 31-40+ hours.
30. Less than 40% of survey respondents agreed that they were satisfied with the amount they had to pay.

Progress following the 2018 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

31. Last year's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment highlighted a number of recommendations for improvement and the table below summarises actions taken to implement them:

Recommendation	Actions Taken and impact
Review support arrangements to improve data returns from early years providers across Nottinghamshire to improve the understanding of demand and supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider Agreement reviewed and implemented • New Audit process implemented • Self-Update Module sessions delivered at every provider network (6 sessions) <p>704 local providers used the Self Update system representing 88.5% of providers who are delivering funded places. An increase of 63 providers</p>
Targeted work in areas to ensure sufficient places for 2-year olds and	Additional places created in communities where they are most needed (Newark, Rainworth, Hucknall, Arnold and Retford)

establish new ways to support their take up	Implementation of Early Childhood Services communications and marketing plan with an increased use of social media Increase from 73% take up to 75.7%
Develop Partnership Hubs between local providers to strengthen joint working arrangements and ensure sufficient places meet local parents' needs	District Sufficiency meetings bring together schools, PVI and childminders 89 settings attended Spring briefings
Work in partnership to establish new childminder provision in target areas	Work with the local Childminding Agency (@Home Childcare) to roll out a targeted campaign to recruit childminders in areas of low childcare sufficiency 26 new childminders recruited by @Home Childcare. 7% increase overall in the number of registered childminders
Ensure providers with less than Good Ofsted ratings are prioritised for quality improvement support	Successful implementation of the Early Years Improvement Plan which focuses on quality and attainment Successful implementation of new Service Standards for Quality and Attainment team
Promote supplementary funding available for vulnerable children and review and share best practice guidance to improve their outcomes	It is estimated that almost 2,800 children have benefitted from additional funding streams, although there is still work to do on the take up of the Disability Access Fund and Early Years Pupil Premium for Looked After Children
Promote take up of Tax Free Childcare accounts by parents	Nationally the expected take up is around 10%. In 2018, Nottinghamshire survey results suggested 13% of parents used these accounts. So far in 2019 this has risen to 16%
Strengthen consultation activities with parents of pre-school children to better gain their views to help meet their needs	Increased engagement in parental survey. Two face to face consultation events held in Spring 2019

Childcare Sufficiency 2019 Recommendations

32. This year's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment has highlighted the following actions to be considered. The detailed table of actions and impact measures can be found in Section 10 of the CSA. A detailed action plan has been developed to address the recommendations.
- a) ensure there is sufficient childcare for 2, 3 and 4 year olds in three identified local areas (Netherfield / Colwick; Bellamy and Beeston North)
 - b) sustain existing high quality childcare by supporting for the sector to access funding opportunities, including supplementary funding
 - c) work with schools to ensure there is not an oversupply in some key localities

- d) increase the take up rates of 2 year funded entitlements in six local areas (Eastwood, Manton, Bridge wards, Rural Families, Trent Villages, Bassetlaw rural areas)
- e) support and expand Out of School Provision to ensure working parents are able to access suitable and flexible childcare provision
- f) deliver further consultation with parents' groups to better identify gaps in flexibility and accessibility of childcare
- g) deliver more frequent consultation with the early years sector to enable the Council to have an ongoing understanding of termly childcare sufficiency levels
- h) better forecast future needs by assessing birth rates and population projections, housing developments, development of Free Schools and Early Years Places.

Other Options Considered

33. No other options have been considered.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 34. Under section 6 of The Childcare Act (2006) there is a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area. The Act requires local authorities in England to ensure a sufficiency of childcare and this information should be made available to parents and elected members.
- 35. The duties in the Act require local authorities to shape and support the development of childcare in their area in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community.
- 36. This year there are particular matters arising around supporting parents in to work through the take up of funded places for 2 year olds, implementation of the extended 30 hours entitlement and the increased provision of out of school childcare.

Statutory and Policy Implications

- 37. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

- 38. Council employees with responsibility for childcare sufficiency are funded by the centrally retained early years block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), which is reviewed each year, totalling approximately £389,000. Online tools to support the development of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment used by the Council are also funded by the DSG, totalling £18,000.
- 39. The provision of the Families Information Service is a statutory duty for top tier local authorities and supports the promotion of childcare entitlements, guides parents to find

childcare and helps the Council to secure data for the sufficiency assessment using social media and the Notts Help Yourself website. This service is also funded by the DSG totalling £94,000, with additional Council funding allocated to maintain the Notts Help Yourself website (£9,000 per annum).

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

40. Safeguarding is a central focus for childcare providers. The increase in numbers of children accessing childcare will inevitably identify safeguarding concerns in greater numbers of children. Nottinghamshire County Council has facilitated a number of 'safer settings' and training events to ensure all Early Years providers have the skills and knowledge to tackle safeguarding.

Implications for Service Users

41. The supply of sufficient, high quality, affordable, sustainable, and accessible childcare and early education has huge benefits for both parent and child, including:
- a) affordable childcare supports families to work, or train to maximise work opportunities which helps to raise household income and improve outcomes for children.
 - b) childcare that is flexible and accessible ensures parents can take up their entitlement at times that best support their child's learning and development, and at times which fit with the needs of parents to enable them to work or increase their hours of work if they wish to do so.
 - c) a good quality pre-school experience supports children's cognitive and emotional development, aiding transition between home and school and improving school readiness.
42. The Government's plan to improve social mobility through education [Unlocking Talent, Releasing Potential](#) states that good early years education is the cornerstone of social mobility and children with strong foundations will start school in a position to progress.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That Committee approves the recommendations of the Nottinghamshire Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2019.

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Constitutional Comments (AK 23/09/19)

43. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee under its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 20/09/19)

44. The cost of free child care for 2, 3 and 4 year olds is funded from the Early Years Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which is £49.136m for 2019-20.
45. The cost of staff with responsibility for childcare sufficiency is approximately £389,000 and the online tools to support the development of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is £18,000 both of which are reviewed each year. This totals £407,000 and is also funded from the Early Years Block of the DSG.
46. The provision of the Families Information Service is a statutory duty for top tier local authorities and supports the promotion of childcare entitlements, guides parents to find childcare and helps the Council to secure data for the sufficiency assessment using social media and the Notts Help Yourself website. This service costs £94,000 and is also funded by the Early Years Block of the DSG with additional Council funding allocated to maintain the Notts Help Yourself website at £9,000 per annum.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

All.

C1293



Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2019

**Early Childhood Services
Children and Families Department
September 2019**

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Childcare Act (2006) states that the Local Authority must make arrangements to secure that early childhood services in their area are provided in such a way that facilitates access to those services, and maximise the benefit of those services to parents, prospective parents and young children.

The Act states that Local Authorities must secure free places offering 570 hours of Early Education and Childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year for every eligible 2-year-old child in their area, and for all three- and four-year olds until the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday.

The Childcare Act 2016 amendment states that the Local Authority must also secure an additional 570 free hours of Early Education and Childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year, for qualifying children of working parents.

Under section 6 of the Act there is a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area. This information should be made available to parents and elected members.

Considering the national and local context, this assessment will guide how the Local Authority delivers on this duty. The information used to undertake this assessment was gathered from Early Years providers and parents using a variety of methods:

- 694 parents responded to our Parental Survey. This represented the parents and carers of 1,133 children aged 0-19, with 70% of the respondents had children under the age of five, and 93% had children under the age of 11 years.
- Information was obtained from 704 local providers using the Self Update system on our portal. This represents 88.5% of providers who are delivering funded places.
- Data was captured from a regular headcount process (100% returns from the sector) about the number of children currently accessing their funded and supplementary Childcare and Early Education entitlements (Summer 2019).
- Information about providers is taken from the Nottinghamshire Families Information Service which is located within Inspire. The Families Information Service provides information for parents and carers to help them access childcare and the service relies on childcare providers to submit information to help promote their service.

Demography

There are approximately 45,000 children under the age of five, resident in Nottinghamshire. There are 8.6% fewer children in the 0-1 age group in the last year, indicating that the numbers of children are declining year on year.

- There has been little significant change in the number of young claimants of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) – in 2019 there are 6,800 and according to the Office for National Statistics, 10% of those claimants were aged under 5.
- At 6th August 2019 there were a total of 181 Children 5 and under Looked After by the Local Authority in Nottinghamshire. (1.9% of the total population of under-fives)
- 262 Children under 5 were identified as a Child in Need (2.7% of the total population of under-fives).
- 337 children under 5 were on a Child Protection Plan (3.5% of the total population of under-fives).

- According to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in 2016, around 14.8% of children under 16 are living in low income households.
- The Department for Work and Pensions list of eligible families (March 2018) shows us that on average, 30% of the population of 2 year olds are eligible for a funded place on the grounds of low income or benefits. (2,684 Summer 2019).
- According to the 2011 Census, the majority of Nottinghamshire's population is White/White British accounting for 95.5% of the population.

Childcare Supply

The number of Day Nurseries registered has remained static, but there has been a 6% decrease in the number of Preschool settings, and a 7% increase in the number of registered childminders. The greatest increase in provision in the last year (rising from 298 settings to 494) has been in provision of out of school care

Quality of Provision

- 82% of all registered Early Years Provision is currently (June 2019) rated as Good, Outstanding or Met¹ by Ofsted.
- This figure rises to 95.5% when factoring out those settings who are newly registered and are yet to be inspected.
- Just 0.6% (7 settings) have been judged as inadequate.
- 4.5% of settings are rated as Requiring Improvement, Inadequate or Not Met

Cost of Childcare

- The cost of childcare has risen across the sector by an average of 14% on the last year.
- Our parental survey showed us that 16% of respondents said they used Tax Free Childcare Accounts.
- Almost 2,800 children have had access to additional resources because of supplementary funding streams

Take up of funded Early Years Entitlement

- Take up of 2 years is slightly up from 73% to 75.7% take up (average over three terms)
- 3 and 4 year old universal take up still stands at 99.9% of three year olds and 100.2% of four year olds.
- 93% of parents who apply for a code to access 30 hours extended entitlement for working parents, go on to take up their place in a Nottinghamshire setting

Parental Demand

In addition to understanding how parents used Childcare and Early Education, we asked about whether there was sufficient, flexible childcare to meet the needs of all parents.

- 78% of respondents to the survey said that their provision was easily accessible from where they live. 71% said that their provision was open at suitable times. 60% of respondents agreed that they could use their funded hours at suitable times, and 62% of respondents agreed that settings were flexible.

¹ Met or Not Met judgements are applied where an inspection takes place in the absence of targeted children

- However, 20% said they were not satisfied (scoring 0 or 1) with the flexibility and accessibility of their provision, and how they could use their funded hours, with 55% saying that the provision is not open early or late enough to meet their needs.
- A third of all the comments received in this section related to parents not being able to take up their funded hours, not being able to find childcare open at suitable times and providers not being able to offer the flexibility they needed.

Information for parents and carers

- The Family Information Service (FIS) is commissioned by the local authority and is hosted by Inspire. The FIS exists to fulfil the statutory duty to offer a service providing information, advice and assistance about childcare and other activities to benefit parents, children and young people up to the age of 20.
- Notts Help Yourself is a countywide website which provides a range of information for parents including childcare provision, wrap around care and holiday clubs. The information from the FIS data-base populates the website www.nottshelpyourself.org enabling parents to search for childcare in their local area. The website also helps parents when looking for funding for childcare.
- Childcare Choices is the Government's national website that enables parents to check eligibility for 2 year old and 30 hours funding. Parents are also able to open a Tax-Free Childcare account through the Childcare Choices web page and find Information about Tax Credits, Universal Credit and Care to Learn.

Sufficiency Assessments

- According to our Assessment this summer, there are over 2,500 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the county. Only 5 areas are reporting a deficit of places and the numbers are negligible.
- Providers are reporting some difficulty in seeking out children who are eligible for funded entitlements and out Hot Spot areas this year are based on community areas where there are children not accessing places and there are vacancies.

Recommendations and Next Steps:

- Ensure there is sufficient childcare for 2, 3 and 4 year olds in three identified local areas (Netherfield / Colwick; Bellamy and Beeston North).
- Sustain existing high quality childcare by supporting for the sector to access funding opportunities, including supplementary funding.
- Work with schools to ensure we do not over supply in key some localities.
- Increase the take up rates of 2 year funded entitlements in Six local areas (Eastwood, Manton , Bridge wards, Rural Families, Trent Villages, Bassetlaw Rural areas)
- Support and expand Out of School Provision to ensure working parents are able to access suitable and flexible childcare provision.
- Deliver further consultation with parents' groups to better identify gaps in flexibility and accessibility of childcare.
- Deliver more frequent consultation with the early years sector to enable the council to have an ongoing understanding of termly childcare sufficiency levels.
- Better forecast future needs by assessing birth rates and population projections, housing developments, development of Free Schools and Early Years Places.

A detailed action plan has been developed to address the recommendations above.

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2019

1. Introduction

The Childcare Act (2006) states that the Local Authority must make arrangements to secure that early childhood services in their area are provided in such a way that facilitates access to those services, and maximise the benefit of those services to parents, prospective parents and young children.

The Act states that Local Authorities must secure free places offering 570 hours of Early Education and Childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year for every eligible 2-year-old child in their area, and for all three- and four-year olds until the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday

The Childcare Act 2016 amendment states that the Local Authority must also secure an additional 570 free hours of Early Education and Childcare a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year and up to 52 weeks of the year, for qualifying children of working parents

Under section 6 of the act there is a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area. This information should be made available to parents and elected members.

Childcare and early education places in Nottinghamshire are provided by maintained schools, academies, day nurseries, preschools, childminders and independent schools. Further details on how this is delivered in Nottinghamshire follows in Section 3, Childcare Supply.

1.1 Benefits to children and families

The supply of sufficient, high quality, affordable, sustainable, and accessible Childcare and Early Education has huge benefits for both parent and child, including:

- **Affordable** childcare supports families to work, or train to maximise work opportunities which helps to raise household income and improve outcomes for children – children in workless families are three times as likely to be in relative poverty than families where at least one parent works
84% of Parents who responded to the survey this summer said they worked. 91% of those who worked, work more than 16 hours a week – see section 5
- Childcare that is **flexible and accessible** ensures parents can take up their entitlement to a place at times that best support their child's learning and development, and at times which fit with the needs of parents to enable them to work or increase their hours of work if they wish to do so
71% of Parents who responded to the survey this summer said that their childcare was open at suitable times and 62% of respondents agreed that settings were flexible - See section 7
- A **good quality** pre-school experience supports children's cognitive and emotional development, aiding transition between home and school and improving school readiness.

The Government's plan to improve social mobility through education² states that good early years education is the cornerstone of social mobility and children with strong foundations will start school in a position to progress.

92% of parents who responded to the survey this year said they were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of the provision they used – see section 4.

1.2 National Context

There have been a number of National changes over the recent years which have impacted on accessibility, affordability and flexibility of Early Education and Childcare.

The Childcare market has grown

- 4.2 million Families (6 Million Children used Childcare in 2018) (DfE Parent Survey April 2019).
- The financial value and size of the UK Childcare market has continued to grow. It is approximately 50% larger than 2006 (Nursery World survey June 2019).
- Private and Voluntary sector employed an estimated 20,000 more staff than in 2017, totalling 319,000 (CEEDA- Early Years Sector Skills 2018).

The market continues to change

- The number of childcare / early years places remained relatively stable at about 1.3 million. (Ofsted Annual Report 2018) This is reflected in Nottinghamshire.
- Providers reported spare capacity in Full Day Care (The Childcare and Early Years Provider Survey DfE, 2018) This is reflected in Nottinghamshire.

Quality continues to improve

- 95% of Early Years Providers are judged Good or Outstanding compared to 74% six years ago (Ofsted Annual Report 2017/18) This is reflected in Nottinghamshire where 95.5% of inspected provision is Good or Outstanding (including Met).
- Study of Early Education and development (SEED) confirms Children who spend time in High Quality Education are more likely to have improved language and non-verbal skills.
- Early years staff qualified to level 3 or above has increased from 71% to 76% in 2018 (CEEDA), Early Years Sector Skills Survey 2018).

1.3 Local Context

The national developments above have impacted locally on how the LA fulfils its statutory duties for Childcare and Early Education. Specifically, they have led to:

- A very successful year of operation of 30 hours free Childcare and Early Education, with 7,241 parents applying for to check their eligibility for the additional hours, then receiving a code, which in turn led to 99% of those eligible having their codes validated by a childcare provider
- Completion of a tender process to procure Childcare and Early Education delivery at five sites, creating additional places in communities where they are most needed (Newark, Rainworth, Hucknall, Arnold and Retford).

² Unlocking Talent, Fulfilling Potential: A plan for improving social mobility through education. Department for Education, December 2017

- Revision of the Nottinghamshire Provider Agreement, which requires all Early Years providers, including schools to adhere to the conditions for funding including new guidance regarding compliance.
- A refreshed approach to auditing how funding is used across the sector, allowing the Local Authority to be certain of effective and efficient use of public money.
- The development of Better Start, a data system designed to support providers to share sufficiency data and progress of vulnerable children. Over 300 Providers are returning their data on a regular basis (Summer 2019).
- Launch of District Sufficiency Meetings on a termly basis to consult with and inform providers about the provision of Childcare and Early Education in their area.
- Consultation in specific localities with Parents regarding shared services in Children's Centre Buildings.
- Use of Delivery Support Fund has resulted in an increase of the number of Childminders registered by 26.
- Continued support from the Local Authority to maintain the high levels of quality in Childcare and Early Education settings, with 849 being graded as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted.

1.4 Methodology

The information used to undertake this assessment was gathered from Early Years providers and parents using a variety of methods.

- Information was obtained from 704 local providers using the Self Update system on our portal. This represents 88.5% of providers who are delivering funded places. See appendix A
- Data regarding the number of children currently accessing their funded and supplementary Childcare and Early Education entitlements through a regular headcount process was also used. This data is captured each academic term and data in this assessment is from the most recent headcount in summer 2019. 100% of providers delivering funded places returned their head count In Summer 2019.
- Information about providers is taken from the Nottinghamshire Families Information Service which is commissioned by the council and hosted by *Inspire*. The Families Information Service provides information for parents and carers to help them access childcare and the service relies on childcare providers to submit information to help promote their service.
- An online survey carried out in June 2019 was also used to gain feedback from parents about the suitability, flexibility and accessibility of Childcare and Early Education in their area.

What do Parents
and Carers Say?

694 parents responded from across the County – with 13% of respondents living out of county but using county provision. This represented the parents and carers of 1,133 children aged 0-19, but 70% of the respondents had children under the age of five, 93% having children under the age of 11 years.

All information in the Assessment should be read as a snapshot in time (June 2019) and with acknowledgment that the position in each district and area may change from term to term.

2 Demography

This section focuses on the demography of Nottinghamshire in relation those accessing and benefiting from childcare and early years provision. Further detail regarding the population of Nottinghamshire is included in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment available at <http://www.nottinghamshireinsight.org.uk/research-areas/jsna>

2.1 Child population under five³

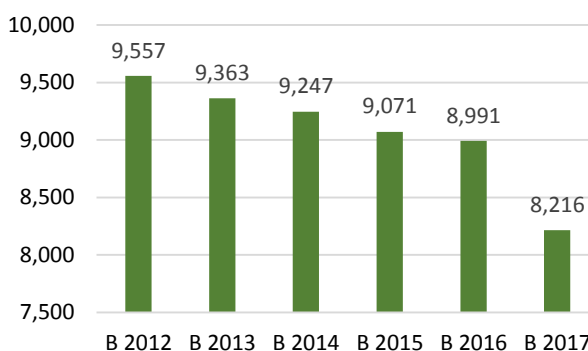
In April 2019, it was estimated that Nottinghamshire had a population under the age of 5 of approximately 45,000. Detailed population estimates are available in from the Office of National Statistics which is available using this link [Population estimates](#).

Locality	All ages 0-19	0	1	2	3	4
Nottinghamshire	823,126	8,216	8,991	9,071	9,247	9,363
Ashfield	127,151	1,332	1,534	1,496	1,500	1,576
Bassetlaw	116,839	1,141	1,318	1,300	1,301	1,301
Broxtowe	113,272	1,094	1,174	1,170	1,203	1,198
Gedling	117,786	1,184	1,206	1,275	1,291	1,267
Mansfield	108,841	1,209	1,341	1,309	1,350	1,360
Newark and Sherwood	121,566	1,169	1,261	1,294	1,343	1,321
Rushcliffe	117,671	1,087	1,157	1,227	1,259	1,340

There are 8.6% fewer children in the 0-1 age group in the last year. This indicates that the numbers of children in each age group is declining year on year. Population projections show that the birth rate is declining in Nottinghamshire.

For example, there are currently 18,610 children aged 3 and 4 years and eligible for a funded nursery place. By 2022 there will be 17,207 (assuming migration in and out of County population remains static)

Numbers of children by birth year living in Nottinghamshire



2.2 Characteristics of Children⁴

Disabled Children

There has been little significant change over recent years in the number of young claimants of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) across the county. In 2016, there was 7,000 claimants of DLA aged 0-16 and there are now (2019) 6,800. According to the Office for National Statistics, 10% of those claimants were aged under 5.

³ Population estimates for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland: mid-2018, ONS

⁴ Population estimates for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland: mid-2018, ONS
Nottinghamshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2016 (Child Poverty chapter)

Children Looked After, Child in Need and Child Protection

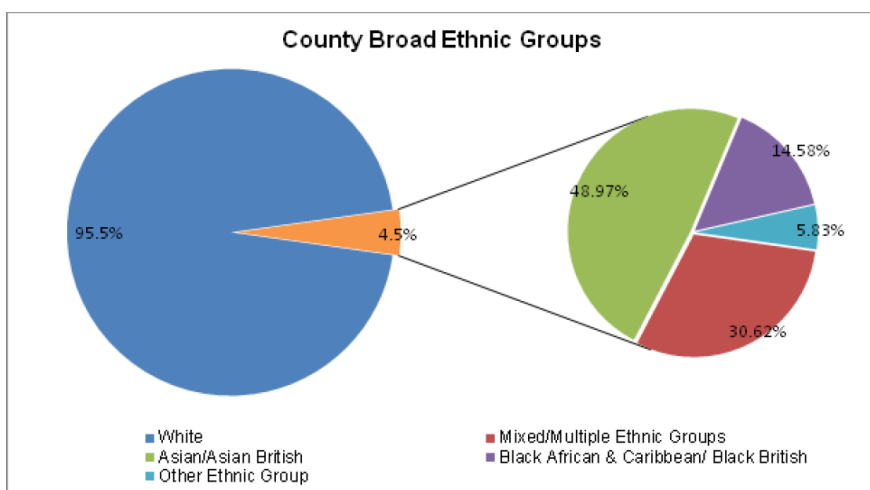
- At 6th August 2019 there were a total of 181 Children 5 and under Looked After by the Local Authority in Nottinghamshire.
- 262 Children were identified as a Child in Need and 337 children were on a Child Protection Plan

These figures should be read as a snapshot in time (6th August 2019) and with acknowledgment that the numbers change frequently

Low income families

- According to the latest data from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) 15.2% children under 16 were living in low income households in 2016.
- The Department for Work and Pensions list of eligible families (March 2018) shows us that on average, 30% of the population of 2 year olds are eligible for a funded place on the grounds of low income or benefits (2,684 Summer 2019).

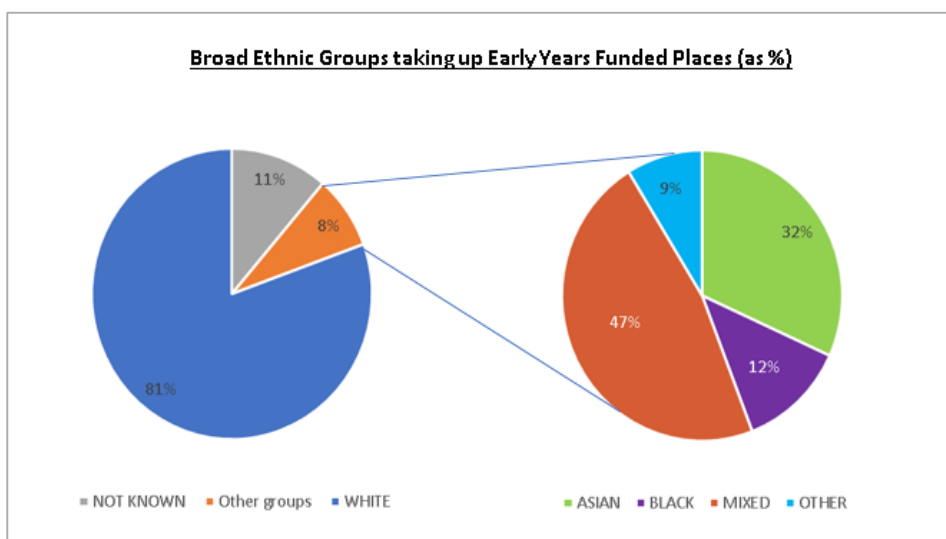
Ethnicity



According to the 2011 Census, the majority of Nottinghamshire's population is White/White British accounting for 95.5% of the population. Broxtowe has the greatest ethnic diversity with 7.3% of the population from a different broadly defined minority ethnic group.

Source 2011 Census , Office for National Statistics

In the Academic Year 2018-2019, the breakdown of all children taking up a funded place for 2, 3 and 4 year olds is depicted below. . This shows that 81% of children taking up entitlements were described as White / White British / White Other, and 8% of the population from minority ethnic groups.



3 Childcare Supply

There are 1,138 Ofsted Registered Private, Voluntary and Independent (**PVI**) providers, including schools (June 19) delivering Childcare and Early Education across Nottinghamshire. All Childcare and Early Education providers are registered with Ofsted, and work towards the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The data below shows the number of providers registered to deliver Early Years Provision by district.

Early Years Registered Providers by district	Ashfield	Bassetlaw	Broxtowe	Gedling	Mansfield	Newark Sherwood	Rushcliffe	Total
Childminder	88	65	79	142	84	63	83	604
Day Nursery	23	18	26	21	25	27	37	177
Pre-school	8	12	12	18	3	12	24	89
School (EY)	35	49	30	35	33	42	34	258
Ind. School	0	2	1	2	1	2	2	10
TOTAL	154	146	148	218	146	146	180	1138

Data from Families Information Service also tells us that there are also 494 providers delivering some form of out of school provision - the greatest increase in provision in the last year (rising from 298 settings)

Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service Database June 2019

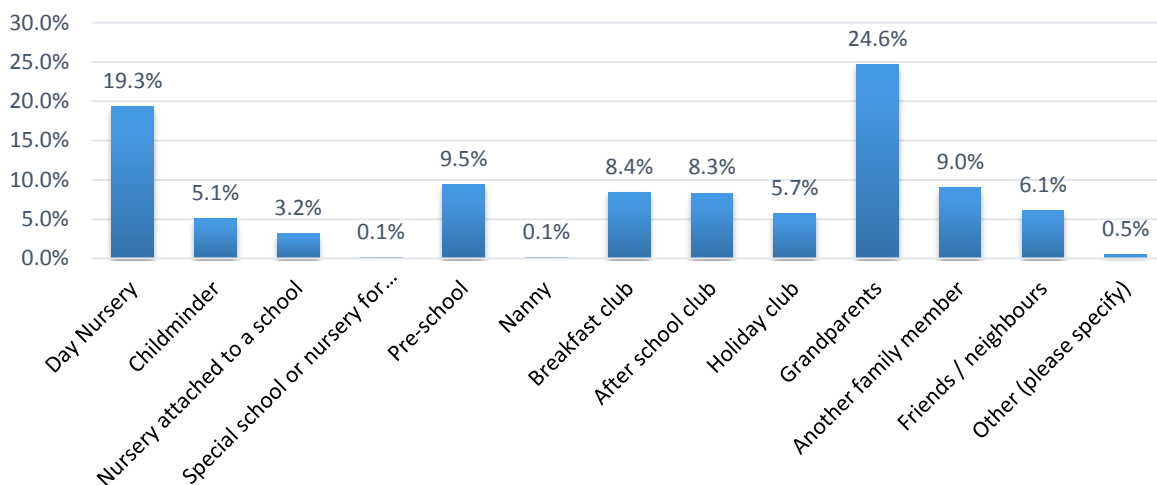
In addition, there has been an increase in the number of providers who are registered with Nottinghamshire County Council to deliver funded places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. (Capita, June 2019)

Numbers of Providers delivering funded places			
Provider Type	Summer Self Update June 2019	Summer Self Update June 2018	Increase
Childminder	353	326	+27
Day Nursery	178	174	+4
Pre-school	89	92	-3
Independent School	10	8	+2
Schools	183	183	=
TOTAL	813	783	+30

What do Parents and Carers Say?

We asked parents about the type of Childcare and Early Education they had accessed in the last six months – and again, for the third year, family members (grandparents) provide the majority of childcare.

What type of early education and childcare have you used in the last 6 months?



3.2 Schools and Academies

183 schools or academies are registered to provide Childcare and Early Education for 3 and 4 year olds in a nursery or Foundation 1 group. Typically, schools will offer 15 hours across term time, delivering either morning or afternoon sessions, however over 100 schools are delivering extended hours as part of their offer.

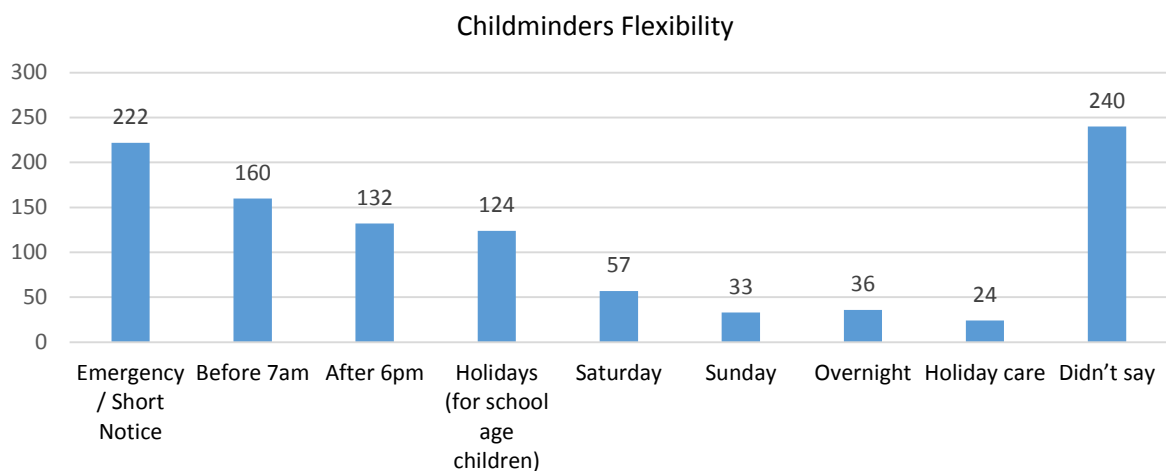
3.3 Childminders

Providing care in their own home, there are 604 registered Childminders in Nottinghamshire delivering 3,820 places. This is a 7% increase on those registered in 2018, and a 5% increase in the number of places offered. Gedling has the highest number of childminder places available (842) and Newark and Sherwood the fewest (450)

60% of Childminders reported that they offer a flexible and responsive service and parents commented on this in the Parental Survey this year

What do Parents and Carers Say?

My hours vary each week and my childminder is very helpful and flexible. She is also very helpful if I get stuck at work and am late which is very helpful in my job.

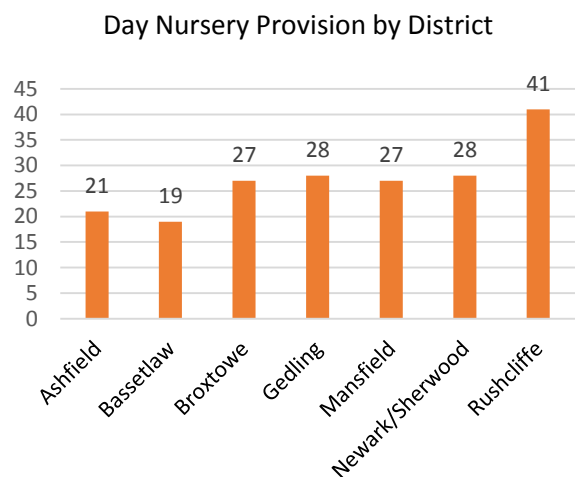


Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service Database June 2019

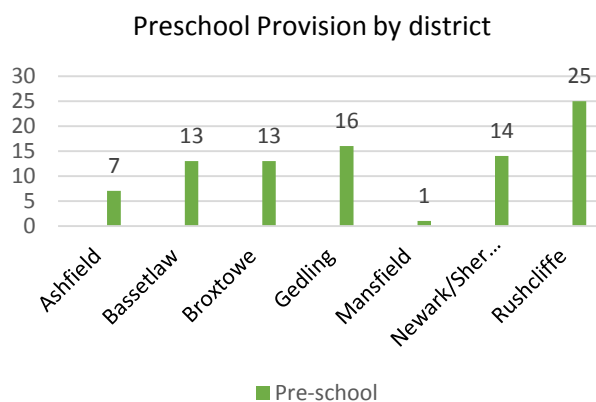
3.4 Day Nurseries

Day Nursery settings provide care for children from six weeks to school age. Most Day Nurseries can offer funded Childcare and Early Education places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and are open for the whole day, throughout the year.

There are 177 Day Nurseries in Nottinghamshire delivering 10,875 places for children under five. The highest proportion of those places are available in Rushcliffe (2333) and the fewest in Bassetlaw (880)



3.5 Preschool / Playgroups

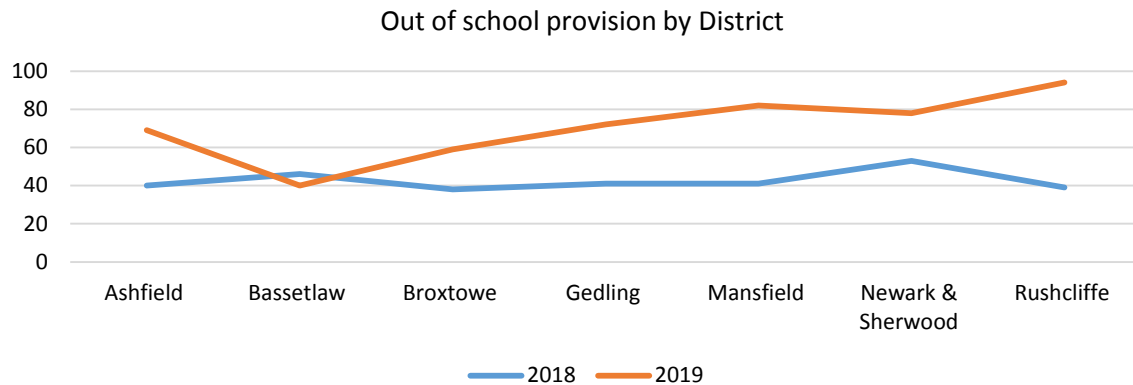


Generally, play groups or Preschools are used on a half-day or full-day basis, and tend to operate only during term time. Some provide a lunchtime session to span the gap between morning and afternoon sessions. In the main, preschools provide sessional Childcare and Early Education for children aged 2 to 5, and provide funded childcare places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. There are 89 registered pre-schools in Nottinghamshire, 5 less than reported in 2017, delivering 2,491 places for children under five.

The highest proportion of those places are available in Rushcliffe (669) and the fewest in Mansfield (16)

3.6 Out of School Childcare

Out of school provision is defined as Breakfast club, after school, holiday care and out of school care. There are 154 separately registered providers above, but 494 providers (including Childminders and schools) offer some form of out of school care. This is the greatest increase in provision in the last year rising from 298 settings to 494.



Since the introduction of additional hours of childcare for working parents, it is anticipated that there will continue to be an increase in the need for out of school provision. Section 6.3 below, outlines a 12% year on year increase in the take up the extended 30 hours of funded Childcare and Early Education. This in turn will mean that as the children of those families move on to school, parents can only continue to work if there is enough suitable out of school provision.

4 Quality of Childcare and Early Education provision

Statutory guidance states that all children should be able to take up their funded hours in a high-quality early years setting. Evidence shows that higher quality provision has greater developmental benefits for children, particularly for the most disadvantaged children, leading to better outcomes.

“The quality of teaching in the early years is just as important to outcomes as it is in other stages of education. Quality is key to early years provision that have the biggest impact on children’s life chances. Pre-schools should have low staffing ratios and well-trained professionals” (House of Commons Education Committee 2019).

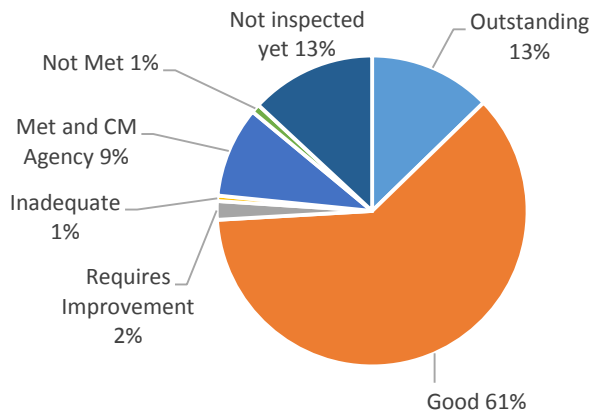
The Early Years Quality and Attainment team offer support to settings to improve and maintain quality through a targeted model of support based on criteria such as Ofsted ratings/reports, local Foundation Stage Profile results, numbers of children that are Looked After or have SEND, and numbers of children in workless households.

- 82% of all registered Early Years Provision is currently (June 2019) rated as Good, Outstanding or Met⁵ by Ofsted.
- This figure rises to 95.5% when factoring out those settings who are newly registered and are yet to be inspected.
- Just 0.6%% (7 settings) have been judged as inadequate.
- 4.5% of settings are rated as Requiring Improvement, Inadequate or Not Met

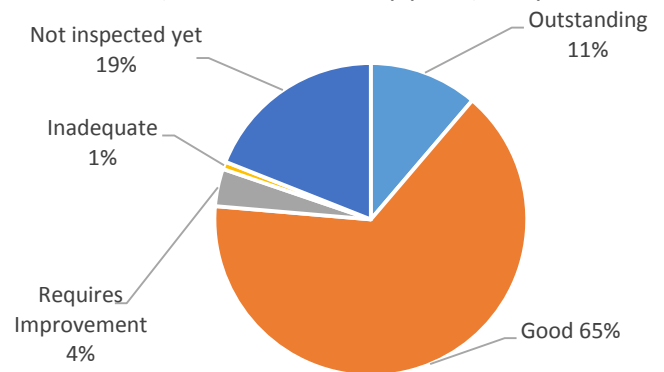
Full details and district by district tables of Ofsted grades can be found at Appendix B

⁵ Met or Not Met judgements are applied to Childminders with an Agency, or where an inspection takes place in the absence of targeted children

Ofsted ratings (PVI settings) July 19



Ofsted Ratings
(Schools based early years) - July 19



92% of parents who responded to the survey this year said they were *satisfied or very satisfied* with the quality of the provision their child(ren) received.

What do Parents and Carers Say?

Comments relating to quality were mostly made about the practitioners working in the settings:

- *The staff are friendly and always listen if I need to discuss anything.*
- *All the women working in this nursery are very kind and helpful.*
- *The staff are lovely, caring and simply amazing.*
- *There is a lady at the setting she goes above and beyond to make sure she can help in any way possible. An asset to the nursery!*
- *They bend over backwards for my Children, nothing is too much for them to go the extra mile, and they are just brilliant.*
- *...friendly and attentive childcare staff, relaxed and fun activities (nevertheless clearly aimed at developing children's skills), good communication about children's activities.*

We asked specifically for parents of children with Special Needs and Disabilities to comment on the provision available for them.

4% of respondents in our survey said they had children with a special need or disability.

- *My first child had to have speech therapy and the preschool are fantastic with him and he's so happy there.*
- *My child has multiple allergies and the nursery has a very good allergy policy. There is also a specific allergy management plan in place for my child and they have changed their menu when my son is there at lunch time.*
- *The nursery have gone out of their way to learn Makaton to communicate to my daughter with Down syndrome, to the point I have to look up things she is signing back to me.*
- *Although my child does not have special needs - my husband is disabled (deaf/blind) - the setting have been very supportive and incredibly understanding about his impairments.*
- *The setting make sure that they are up to date with the condition my child has and make sure that he is safe and that if there are any problems they ring us straight away.*

- *When my son was at preschool, their support gave me the mental break I needed to cope with a SEN child, and the funded hours made it possible to keep him there and gave me support*
- *The preschool is amazing for my daughter and meets all her needs and have the best staff!*

However, some parents said that the setting struggled to meet their child's additional needs

- *It would be nice if school had more after school program available*
- *We are struggling at the moment because some staff deal very well with autism (and dyslexia for my eldest) but last week the person in charge didn't even know and there is one staff member who would benefit from more training*
- *After school club could not meet my child's needs so we have to be reliant on friends*
- *My child has dyspraxia and I have to rely on grandparents to help out whilst we are working.*

Providers report that there are additional pressures to meeting the needs of children with disabilities or special educational needs:

- The Government requirement for local authorities to establish an Early Years Inclusion Fund to ensure accessibility to Early Years entitlements has resulted in the withdrawal of supplementary funding for younger (under 3) and older (over 5) children previously available via DCATCH (Disabled Children's Access to Childcare).
- In addition, the withdrawal of funding available from Clinical Commissioning Groups to PVI providers for training to support them to meet the medical needs of children has also increased the costs associated with providing childcare and early education to children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

5 Cost of Childcare

Many pre-school aged children are eligible for 570 hours of funded Childcare and Early Education per year, (equivalent to 15 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year); this includes the most disadvantaged 2 year-olds and for all 3 and 4 year-olds. A proportion of 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for an additional 570 hours per year (known as 30 hours childcare or the extended entitlement) where both parents (including foster carers) are working.

Childcare and Early Education providers who offer funded places for these children receive an hourly rate agreed by the Nottinghamshire Schools Forum and local authority using central Government funding (Dedicated Schools Grant).

5.2 Funding Rates for 2019 – 2020

Eligible 2 year olds in PVI settings / Childminders	£5.23 per hour
Eligible 2 year olds in school settings	£5.10 per hour
Eligible 3 and 4 year olds in PVI settings / Childminders	£4.17 per hour
Eligible 3 and 4 year olds in school settings	£4.07 per hour

Where children are under two, or are not eligible for the above funding, providers can set their own costs and charges. Some providers offer additional services, such as outings, drama, sports coaching

etc. which they can charge for. Providers can also charge for optional extras, such as meals and consumables, or parents can provide their own packed lunches, nappies, wipes etc.

Providers can charge parents for any additional hours, which wrap-around the funded hours. Providers are free to set the times and days that funded sessions are available, with many stretching the hours to make fewer hours available, but over more weeks of the year; helping families manage working hours and budgets over the whole year.

5.3 Childcare Costs to Parents

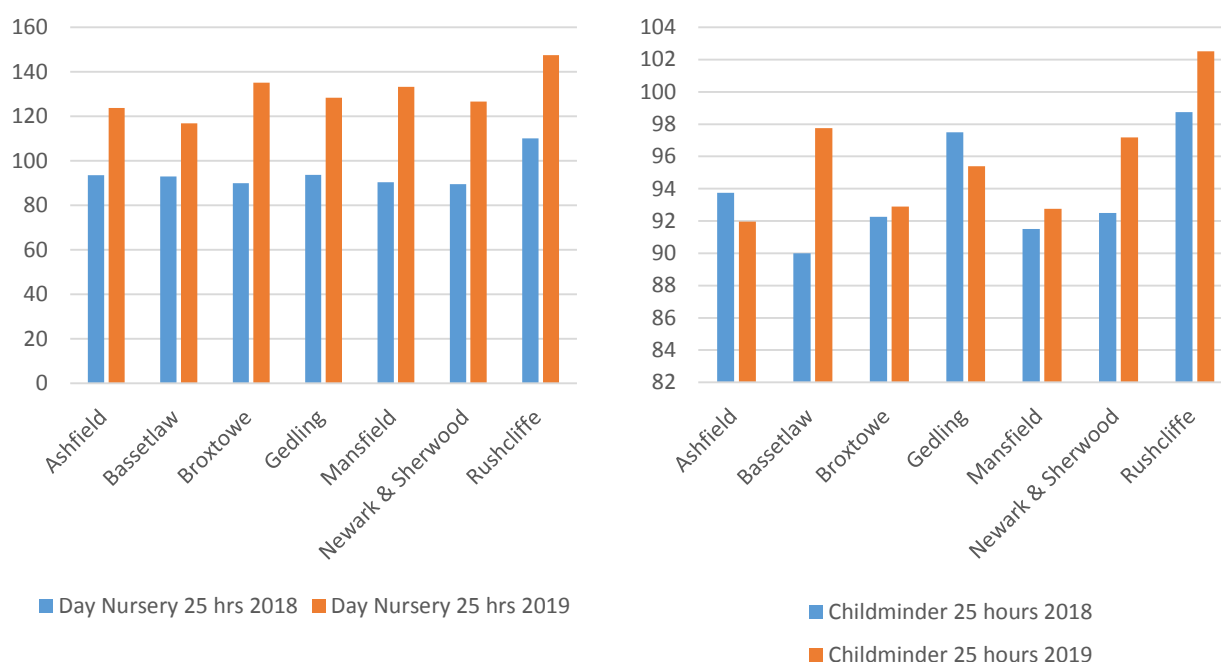
Nottinghamshire Families Information Service (FIS) collates available information on fees which are published on the *Notts Help Yourself* Website and *Families Information Service* pages. However, not all providers declare, or update their fees to FIS, so the results below represent the average cost by type and district. As has been the trend for a number of years, costs for childcare are highest in Rushcliffe.

This data should be treated with caution as the way that providers calculate their fees varies enormously

2019 Data						
District	Day Nursery 25 Hours (under 2) £	Day Nursery 25 Hours (2 & over) £	Childminder 25 Hours (under 2) £	Childminder 25 Hours (over 2) £	After School Club 15 Hours £	Childminder After School 15 Hours £
Ashfield	123.74	123.47	91.97	91.97	49.38	48.23
Bassetlaw	116.83	115.92	97.75	97.5	45.24	47.08
Broxtowe	135.18	134.83	92.89	92.89	51.74	48.33
Gedling	128.31	128.00	95.39	95.39	45.00	51.88
Mansfield	133.19	128.86	92.75	92.75	50.81	53.41
Newark & Sherwood	126.67	126.25	97.17	95.28	47.22	54.25
Rushcliffe	147.45	143.15	102.52	102.52	55.33	58.45
Nottingham- shire	130.20	128.64	95.78	95.47	49.25	51.66
East Midlands	113.48	113.22	95.48	95.94	56.08	55.91
England	128.98	125.77	114.37	112.92	58.17	65.64

Source: Nottinghamshire Families Information Service Database June 2019

The cost of childcare has risen across the sector by an average of 14%.



Providers are reporting that their fees have risen over recent years due to the fact that a number of new initiatives have had significant impact on provision. This situation is not unique to Nottinghamshire:

- The first year of the introduction of 30 hours funded Childcare and Early Education saw a reduction of children in previously fee-paying places. (There is a marked difference between what the LA pay for funded places and what a provider would ordinarily charge to cover costs so many report needing to increase the fees for non-funded childcare to subsidise that shortfall)
- National Living Wage and National Minimum Wage requirements for all staff
- Pensions Auto Enrolment, Apprenticeship contributions.
- Increased business rates and utilities charges.
- Workforce development and Continuous Professional Development for staff now has to be paid for (previously free to registered providers through Local Authority)
- Government requirements for early years staff to have GCSE qualifications in Maths and English have also impacted on individual setting's training and development budgets

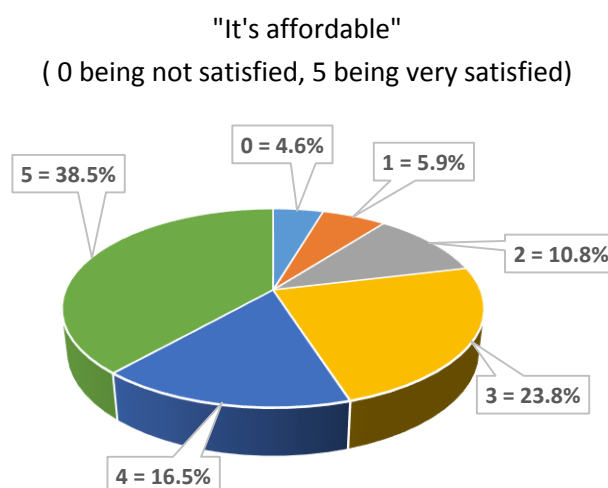
What do Parents and Carers Say?

75% of the respondents in our survey said they paid for some form of childcare – with the majority (63%) of them paying for 15 hours or less. Only 9% paid for a full week of 31-40+ hours

The cost of Childcare and Early Education is still reported as an issue for families – with less than 40% of our survey respondents agreeing that they were satisfied with the amount they had to pay. As mentioned above, Providers are acknowledging that due to a number of contributory factors, their rates have increased significantly.

Below is a selection of comments made by parents in our survey:

- *Child Care costs are crippling*
- *It's my second biggest monthly expense after rent. I've just withdrawn him because I am struggling to afford it.*
- *I pay the amount each month for my working hours, but sometimes I feel like I work (just) to pay for childcare*
- *Regular price hikes not in keeping with inflation.*
- *Childcare costs are too high for us to be able to move house.*
- *I couldn't afford to pay for more days or it wouldn't be worth me going to work.*
- *Our nursery is great but the costs for having two children there are extortionate. The fees take up one of our salaries immediately.*



5.4 Help with Childcare Costs

Tax Free Childcare Accounts became available to parents from September 2017. For every £8 paid into the account, Government will top up by £2, up to a maximum top-up of £2,000 per year, per child; doubled for disabled children. Take-up of this new service has been slow nationally, with only 10% of parents expected to use it by central Government setting up an account.

What do Parents
and Carers Say?

Our parental survey showed us that 16% of respondents said they used Tax Free Childcare Accounts.

Universal Credit for Childcare is aimed at working families with children under 17 years and provides up to 85% of Childcare costs (capped). Tax Credits are being phased out and replaced by Universal Credit for Childcare

Care to Learn is available for younger parents (under 20 at the start of the course) who are in education or training. Care to Learn is available for publicly funded courses in Schools, Sixth form or Colleges. Childcare payments of £160 per week are paid directly to the Childcare provider and travel expenses paid to the parent.

5.5 Supplementary Funding

There are a number of additional funding streams that can be accessed by parents or providers where a child is in need of additional support.

Detail about Funding supplements managed by Nottinghamshire County Council	
Special Educational Needs and disability support:	
5.5 Inclusion Fund	On application
5.6 Disability Access Fund	£615 per annum
5.7 Deprivation Fund	£406 per annum
5.8 Early Years Pupil Premium for 3 and 4 year olds	£0.53 per hour
5.8 LAC Early Years Pupil Premium (all ages)	£0.53 per hour

Full details and district by district tables on take up rates for individual supplementary funding streams can be found in the Appendices below

Early Years Inclusion Fund (Appendix C)

The Early Years Inclusion fund continues to contribute to additional costs associated with provision for children with severe, complex and enduring special educational needs. The funding is allocated by a multi-agency panel on a case by case basis when the provider applies for support.

Age	Number of Children
2yrs	13
3yrs	69
4yrs	106
5yrs	7

In the academic Year 2018-2019, 195 children benefitted from this funding and £148,557 was allocated to settings, including £12,264 spent on training for practitioners in the sector.

Disability Access Fund Appendix D)

All 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for the Disability Access Fund (DAF) if they are attending an early years PVI setting that provides funded places, and meet the following criteria:

- The child is in receipt of child Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- The child receives free early education for 3 and 4 year olds.

The payment is paid once each year to the provider nominated by the parent.

In academic year 2018-2019 99 children accessed Disability Access Funding amounting to approximately 35% of our estimated budget. The budget is based on the numbers of eligible children (those accessing DLA) according to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

Deprivation Fund (Appendix E)

This supplement allocates £406 per year per eligible child (payable over 3 terms) for any Nottinghamshire resident child who is identified under one of these categories: 'Child in Need' or 'Child on Child Protection Plan'. The funding is available to support providers to engage in multi-agency meetings and ensure they make effective interventions to improve outcomes of eligible children. The funding is allocated per child and payments continue until the time the child enters school.

In the last financial year 2018-2019, 200 providers accessed Deprivation Funding fund to enable them to better support the most vulnerable children and families.
This equates to 96% of budget spent (based on numbers of children in the population Children in Need (CIN) or Children on Child Protection Plans (CPP).
332 children benefitted from this funding

Early Years Pupil Premium (Appendix F)

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) provides funding to help early years providers to narrow the attainment gap between children from low income families and their peers.

The funding is intended to make a difference by enabling Childcare and Early Education settings to provide targeted strategies focused specifically on this cohort of children. There are two elements to EYPP, funding aimed at those 3 and 4 year old children in economic deprivation (FSM) and those 2, 3 and 4 year old children who are Looked After or previously Looked After (now Adopted or returned to family).

EYPP (Economic eligibility (Free School Meals)

Take up rates indicate that providers have claimed for the equivalent of 1,693 15 hour places in the academic year 2018-19 – a 10% increase on 2017 – 2018.
The actual number of children in receipt of funding is 2,124. (This is because not all children use the full 15 hour place)

EYPP (Looked After Children)

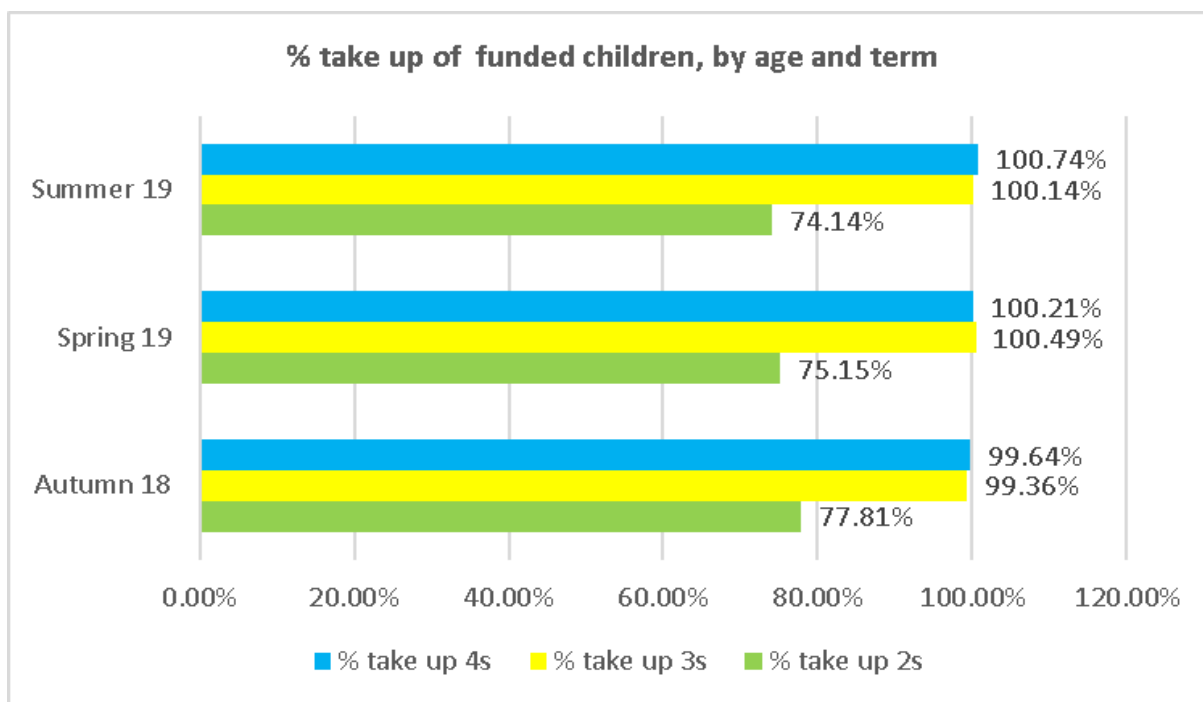
Take up rates indicate that providers have claimed for 31 children in the academic year 2018-19. In the Spring and Summer terms 2019, we estimate there to have been 79 Looked After Children benefitting from funded places for 2,3 and 4 year olds. This tells us that only 40% of settings are claiming the additional funding. (NB only children aged 3 and 4 can access this funding if they are using a PVI setting and not a school place)

6 Take up of funded early years entitlements for 2, 3 and 4 year olds

Many pre-school aged children are eligible for 570 hours of funded Childcare and Early Education per year, (equivalent to 15 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year). This includes:

- The most disadvantaged 2 year-olds,
- All 3 and 4 year-olds.

Nottinghamshire is currently performing well and improving on take up of places across the age groups – See Appendix G



Since the end of the academic year 2018, there has been an increase in the number of children accessing their entitlements in a private, voluntary or independent setting and a reduction in those accessing their hours in a Pre-school or school.

What do Parents and Carers Say?

We asked parents how they used their funded hours of childcare. 60% of respondents said they were very satisfied, 20% rated their satisfaction as 0 or 1. See Section 7 for more comments.

6.1 2 Year Olds from Low Income Families

In September 2014, 2 year olds from low income families became eligible for 15 hours of funded Childcare and Early Education per week. The aim is to provide high quality early education for two year olds who are least likely to be ready for school. Two year olds that are Looked After and families reliant on out of work benefits are eligible for this funding. Currently in Nottinghamshire, the target is to ensure that at least 80% of eligible two year olds access their place. (Appendix H)

Our data⁶ shows us that the population of 2 year olds is 9,071, on average, 30% of the population of 2 year olds are eligible for a funded place. Information on localities with low take up is featured in section 9; Sufficiency assessments.

Data from summer 2019, identified that the average take up over three terms is 75.7% and a total of 3,441 eligible 2 year old children accessed their 15 hour place in the academic year 2018-19. Take up rates over the year were highest in Rushcliffe at 82% and lowest in Bassetlaw at 61%

⁶ Summer Term 2019 Headcount Data, ONS Mid year population estimates 2018, DWP list of 2 year olds March 2019

6.2 3 and 4 year olds

All 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for 15 hours per week in term time, of funded Childcare and Early Education. Our data⁴ shows us that the population of 3 year olds in Nottinghamshire is 9,247, and there are 9,363 4 year olds. Our figures do include some children from outside Nottinghamshire accessing a place in a Nottinghamshire setting. (Appendix I)

Data from the Summer term identified that average take up over three terms is 102% of three year olds and 95% of four year olds accessing a place in a Nottinghamshire setting

6.3 Extended Hours for 3 and 4 Year Olds (30 hours)

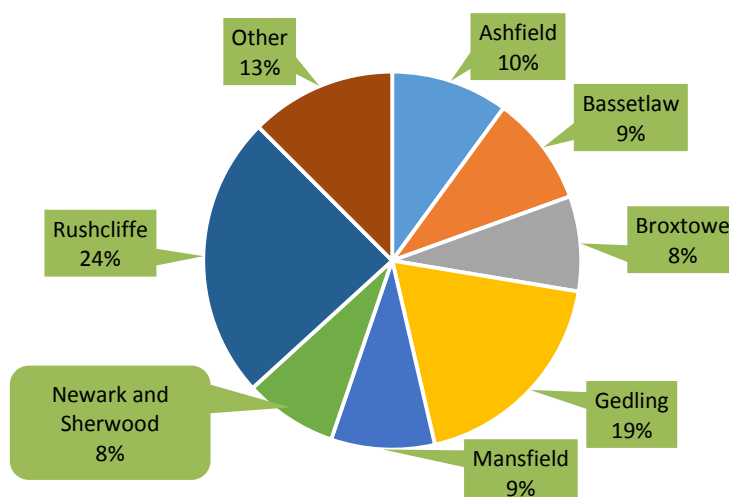
Additional funded hours are available for working families in England with 3 and 4-year-old children. The parent (and where relevant) their partner, must each expect to earn £131 per week. We cannot estimate how many families are eligible as we don't know the eligible working age population with children aged 3 or 4, but what we can report is the numbers of working parents who do apply for a code, are deemed eligible and then take up their place. The numbers of children accessing extended hours entitlements has risen on average by 12% year on year. Nottinghamshire performs well when compared to East Midlands Neighbours – see Appendix J.

Take up of the extended childcare offer (30 hours funded Childcare and Early Education for children in working households) has been hugely successful with 99% of parents who applied and received an 'eligible 30 hours code' from HMRC, had the codes validated by an early years provider, 93% of whom were in a 30 hours place in Nottinghamshire.

7 Parental Demand

694 parents responded to our survey
56% found out about the survey from their childcare provider.

Breakdown of responses by District



In addition to understanding how parents used Childcare and Early Education, we asked about whether there was sufficient, flexible childcare to meet the needs of all parents. We asked for parents to rate the following statements on a scale of 0-5. (0 being not satisfied, 5 being very satisfied).

- It's easily accessible from where I live
- It's open at suitable times for me
- I can use the funded hours when it suits me
- They are flexible and meet my needs

What do Parents and Carers Say?

78% of respondents to the survey said that their provision was easily accessible from where they live. 71% said that their provision was open at suitable times. 60% of respondents agreed that they could use their funded hours at suitable times, and 62% of respondents agreed that settings were flexible.

- *Very flexible nursery who understand changing needs of working parents and accommodate where possible.*
- *I feel incredibly lucky to have access to this nursery as it is very flexible and do not charge when the child is not booked in (for example during holidays or illness). The staff is lovely, caring and simply amazing.*
- *I am incredibly satisfied with the quality, proximity and care of my daughter's preschool. We are very happy with the setting and wonderful staff.*
- *Fantastic pre-school. Extremely flexible and quality of service is high for children.*
- *The nursery school are brilliant. They are very caring towards the children, and very flexible with the breakfast club & afterschool sessions.*
- *My hours vary each week and my childminder is very helpful and flexible. She is also very helpful if I get stuck at work.*

However, 20% said they were not satisfied (scoring 0 or 1) with the flexibility and accessibility of their provision, and how they could use their funded hours. We asked why:

It's too far away from where I live	9%
It's not open early / late enough	55%
I need care at weekends	10%
It doesn't meet my child's needs	3%
Other (please specify)	42%

A third of all the comments received in this section related to parents not being able to take up their funded hours, not being able to find childcare open at suitable times and providers not being able to offer the flexibility they needed.

- *There are not enough nurseries in my area and the pre-schools aren't practical for working parents that work a full day.*
- *No flexibility and not open long enough to suit work times.*
- *I'm a nurse and do shift work so I have to put my child in full time as can't work around my hours.*
- *The nursery will only do set times for 3 hours per day, rather than letting me use any 15 hours I am able to receive, with hours and days that suit me and my child.*

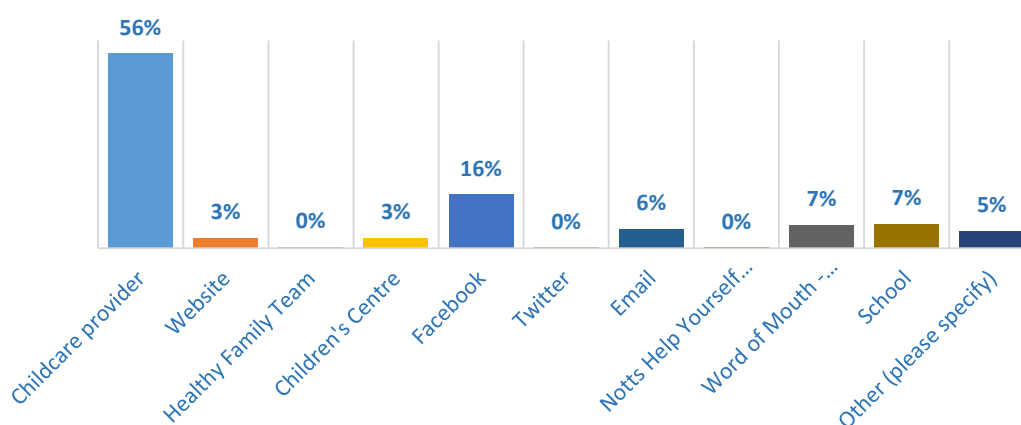
- *I am a single mum that would like to work full time I can't at the moment as the breakfast and after school club is not very flexible at all for my needs.*
- *They charge extortionate rates for unfunded hours. I am still paying 70% of the full-time unfunded rate once hours are deducted. Similar for after school club - It's miserable.*
- *Good childcare however in September as well as receiving government funding I'm expected to still pay a top up each hour!*

8 Information for Parents and Carers

What do Parents and Carers Say?

Parents and carers find out about Childcare and Early Education, as well as Children's Centres, Community Groups and family support services, in a number of ways. We asked those who took part in our survey this summer, how they found out about our survey to see how best to communicate with parents and carers in Nottinghamshire.

Most of the survey respondents were signposted by their local provider. This has risen from 27% last year to 51% this year.



8.1 Families Information Service



- The Families Information Service (FIS) exists to fulfil the statutory duty laid out in Section 12 of the Childcare Act 2006 to offer a service providing information, advice and assistance about childcare and other activities to benefit parents, children and young people up to the age of 20.
- The information that must be provided is prescribed in the Childcare Act 2006 (Provision of Information to Parents) (England) Regulations 2007 ('the Regulations'). Section 12(7) of the 2006 Act requires local authorities to have regard to this guidance when carrying out their functions under section 12.
- FIS also fulfils the council's statutory responsibilities under the Children and Families Act 2014 to provide information, advice and support directly to children, young people and parents on matters relating to special educational needs and disability.
- In September 2014, the Children and Families Act came into force. This set out wide-reaching Special Educational Needs and Disability Reforms designed to provide 'simpler, improved and consistent help for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

- The FIS is the key route for childcare providers to submit information about their service which helps our understanding of the local early years sector as well as promoting information to parents.
- FIS facilitate a popular Facebook page for local parents which helps promote a range of services and activities and national initiatives aimed at parents and carers, such as the promotion of home learning. This site is also used by Early Childhood Services in the council to share information and engage in consultation exercises with parents.
- FIS is commissioned by the local authority and is hosted by Inspire.

8.2 Notts Help Yourself



- Notts Help Yourself is a countywide website which provides a range of information for parents including childcare provision, wrap around care and holiday clubs. The information from the FIS data-base populates the website www.nottshelpyourself.org enabling parents to search for childcare in their local area.
- The early years elements of the website are developed and maintained by the FIS.
- The website also helps parents when looking for funding for childcare.

8.3 Childcare Choices



- The Government's national website enables parents to check eligibility for 2 year old and 30 hours funding.
- Parents are also able to open a Tax-Free Childcare account through the Childcare Choices web page.
- Information available for parents and those supporting families on Universal Credit and Care to Learn.
- Support for providers to ensure they can understand the benefits of supporting families to access supplementary funding.

9 District Childcare Sufficiency Assessments

Below is a narrative about the provision of Childcare and Early Education provision in each of the Nottinghamshire districts.

Providers were asked to provide a self-update on vacancies for 2,3 and 4 year olds, in June which has informed this report – we received 704 returns, and a district breakdown by sector can be found at Appendix A

It has been customary to report on the areas of the county where there is reported to be a deficit of places for children aged 2,3 and 4 year olds. However, according to our Assessment this summer, there are over 2,500 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the county. Only five local areas are reporting a deficit of places and the numbers are negligible. However, since the Self Update, one setting in Mansfield will close leaving a deficit of places for 2 year olds – see Bellamy below.

Beeston North	-9
Netherfield	-9
Harworth	-2
Kirkby East	-2
Phoenix Stanhope	-1

NB: This “Supply and demand” information should be read as a snapshot in time (June 2019) and with acknowledgment that the position in each district and area may change from term to term.

However, what we can use this information for, is to identify trends, where there has consistently been a gap in provision, or a surplus of places. We can identify places where take up of funding and supplementary funding is poor, and work with partners to ensure this is addressed and any surplus places are utilised. Using the qualitative and quantitative data below, we can draw conclusions that will shape how we approach our duties over the coming year.

The report below highlights priority ratings for each of our areas of concern.
High, Medium and Low.

District Sufficiency Meetings

In the Spring term 2019 there were 7 district sufficiency meetings held with Childcare Providers. The events were open to all providers, including nurseries, preschools, childminders and schools who offer funded Early Years places. The events were led by an Early Years Project Officer and a Technical Specialists Officer who provided a range of resources, including local maps, headcount and take-up data, which assisted all providers to understand the supply of and demand for places locally.

Information gathered from participants at the events will be used to identify where there are gaps in provision or where take up rates are low. This information, alongside the data we have gathered will inform where we need to target resources in the coming years.

Attendance at the meetings

District	School	PVI (for purposes of this section: Preschool, Day Nursery and Independent school)	Childminder	Other
Ashfield	6	4	1	2 Children’s Centres
Bassetlaw	7	7	0	0
Broxtowe	2	9	0	0
Gedling	5	5	0	0
Mansfield	4	7	0	1 out of school club
Newark Sherwood	3	7	0	0
Rushcliffe	3	16	0	0

9.1 Assessment of Childcare Places (Supply) by District

ASHFIELD

- Ashfield has 2 local areas in the top ten for poor take up of the 2 year entitlement (Rural Families area which covers Underwood, Selston and Jacksdale and High Leys in Hucknall).
- In 2018 – 2019 there was a 96% take up of the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds across the district and 65% take up for eligible 2 year olds, both below Nottinghamshire average.
- There are the highest number of children receiving supplementary funding and the highest numbers of those claiming the Inclusion Fund and EYPP, and second highest for claims for the Disability Access Fund.
- According to our Assessment this summer, there are 343 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the district.

Sufficiency Meeting

6 of the providers who attended were in a predicted hotspot area, (Sutton central & Kirkby East) where there were high numbers of eligible children and a low number of places. The take up of Early Years places in Ashfield in the spring term is lower than expected.

The providers all advertise their vacancies to parents in a variety of ways such as through social media, newsletters, websites, banners or flyers. They also work closely with other providers in their area particularly with Childminders, to meet need. A childminder said *"I'm very busy, always full, I work with other Childminders if I don't have a space."*

10 providers reported some vacancies this term. 2 were full and had a waiting list.

Areas of concern

Area	High Leys Hucknall	Priority
Provision:	5 providers. 3 schools, 2 Childminders	NA
	The schools do not offer places for 2 year olds	NA
30 Hours:	99 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 2 in other settings	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 27 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 12 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	0 PVI * 28 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	Medium
There are no vacancies reported for 2 year olds across the High Leys area. *However: A new provider registered for 20 new places for 2 year olds in July 2019 (after the summer Self Update), so their places are not included in this figure. In other nearby parts of Hucknall (Butlers Hill and Market Place) there are 195 vacancies reported for under-fives. There are 154 vacancies reported in PVI settings across Hucknall. There are therefore considered to be enough places for all children to access their 2 year entitlement in the Hucknall area.		Overall rating: Low

Area	Rural Families (Underwood, Selston, Jacksdale)	Priority
Provision:	20 providers.6 schools, 14 PVI (inc. 11 Childminders)	NA
	One of the schools offers places for 2 year olds	NA
	One of the schools offers out of school care	NA
30 Hours:	31 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 46 in other settings	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 34 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 16 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	37 PVI (35 vacancies in Selston) school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be enough places for all children to access their 2 year entitlement		Overall rating: Medium

BASSETLAW

- Bassetlaw has 4 local areas in the top ten for poor take up of the 2 year entitlement (Bassetlaw Rural area, Hallcroft, North Leverton and Manton).
- In addition, North Leverton appears in the five worst performing areas for take up of the extended entitlement, and Manton and Hallcroft have reported over 14% non-take up of the extended entitlement in at least one term over the last year.
- In 2018 – 2019 there was a 92% take up of the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds across the district and 60% take up for eligible 2 year olds, these are both below Nottinghamshire averages.
- There are the third highest number of children receiving supplementary funding at the time of writing.
- We have 3 Inadequate settings across the district and 6 Require Improvement.
- According to our Assessment this summer, there are 245 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the district.

Sufficiency Meeting

5 of the providers who attended were in a predicted hotspot area (Manton & Retford), where there were high numbers of eligible children and a low number of places. These providers were reporting they were full this term. The take up in other parts of Bassetlaw (Worksop & Thrumpton) was variable with fewer 2-year-olds this term than usual.

The providers all advertise their vacancies to parents in a variety of ways such as through social media, newsletters, websites, banners or flyers. They also work closely with other providers in their area and with the Children's Centre Service.

A Day Nursery provider said *"Parents prefer morning sessions, so we mainly have vacancies in the afternoons and they can be difficult to fill."*

Areas of concern

Area	Bassetlaw Rural Area	Priority
Provision:	27 providers. 12 schools, 15 PVI (inc. 10 Childminders)	NA
	None of the schools offer places for 2 year olds	NA
	There are no full day care providers in the area, although all the Childminders are open all year round	NA
30 Hours:	59 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 49 in other settings	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 25 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 16 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	15 PVI - Half in Beckingham ward. 78 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement across Bassetlaw Rural area, but the area is geographically challenging		Overall rating: Medium

Area	North Leverton	Priority
Provision:	9 providers. 5 schools, 4 PVI (inc. 2 Childminders)	NA
	None of the schools offer places for 2 year olds	NA
	2 Childminders who are full	NA
30 Hours:	29 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 23 in other settings 18.7% of families who applied for a 30 hours extended entitlement code in 2018-2019 did not take up a place	High
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 5 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 2 took up a place.	NA
Vacancies (15 hours)	3 PVI No school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be just sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement, but access to extended hours is limited.		Overall rating: Medium

Area	Manton	Priority
Provision:	14 providers. 6 schools, 8 PVI (inc. 3 Childminders)	NA
	None of the schools offer places for 2 year olds	NA
30 Hours:	28 children access an extended entitlement in 2 schools. 89 in other settings In Spring 2019, 14% of families who applied for a 30 hours extended entitlement code did not take up a place	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 80 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 39 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	61 PVI 18 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
Taking into consideration the whole of the Worksop community (Including the areas of North Worksop and Prospect Kilton), there are reported to be 126 vacancies across the town. There are considered to be sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement across the Manton area, but families from the Rural southern parts of Manton may find travel difficult.		Overall rating: Medium

Area	Hallcroft	Priority
Provision:	11 providers. 2 schools, 7 PVI (inc. 8 Childminders)	NA
	Neither of the schools provide places for 2 year olds	NA
30 Hours:	18 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 24 in other settings In Summer 2019, 14% of families who applied for a 30 hours extended entitlement code did not take up a place	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 24 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 12 took up a place.	NA
Vacancies (15 hours)	7 PVI 8 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
This indicates that there are not enough places in Hallcroft area for 2 year olds. However, in the Retford Central area, also covering the Retford wards, there are a further 15 vacancies in PVI settings and 115 children accessing extended entitlements		Overall rating: Medium

BROXTOWE

- In Broxtowe in 2018 – 2019 there was a 90% take up of the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds across the district, well below the Nottinghamshire average and 77% take up for eligible 2 year olds.
- Beeston North ranks 9th best for take up of the 2 year entitlements. However, in Summer 2019, Beeston North showed a significant drop (41%) in take up, and the district had just a 60% take up of 2 year olds overall.
- Broxtowe ranks 6th on take up of supplementary funding across the district.
- Eastwood appears in the five worst performing areas for take up extended entitlement showing an average non-take up of 10.4% over 2018-19.
- According to our Assessment this summer, there are 270 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the district.

Sufficiency Meeting

4 of the providers who attended were in a predicted hotspot area (Stapleford), where there were high numbers of eligible children and a low number of places. 2 of these providers reported being full this term. The other 2 were only able to offer spaces in the afternoon or a Monday or Friday. Generally providers in Broxtowe reported being full at the end of the spring term. There were limited places available in the Summer term.

The providers all advertise their vacancies to parents in a variety of ways such as through social media, newsletters, websites, banners or flyers. They also work closely with other providers in their area.

A Day Nursery provider said *“I’d like to find out more about the School and Childminders in my area, do they have funded children? Do they offer 30 hours? Do the Childminders offer wraparound care?”*

Areas of concern

Area	Eastwood	Priority
Provision:	6 providers. 4 schools, 2 PVI (inc. 1 Childminders)	NA
	None of the schools offer places for 2 year olds	NA
	2 of the schools offer extended entitlement of 30 hours.	NA
30 Hours:	18 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 33 in other settings (Day Nursery) In the last academic year 10.4% of parents who applied for a 30 hour code did not take up their place	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 56 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 23 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	22 PVI 29 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement, but access to extended hours is limited		Overall rating: Medium

Area	Beeston North	Priority
Provision:	1 school, 1 childminder	NA
	The school does not offer places for 2 year olds or extended entitlement	NA
30 Hours:	As above	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 24 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and only 9 took up a place. This represents a 41% drop in take up.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	No vacancies for 2 year olds and 6 in school for 3 and 4 year olds. Our Summer term data show a deficit of 9 places.	High
There are not sufficient places in the Beeston North area for the children living there, however, when taking in to consideration Beeston Central ward (neighbouring) then the picture changes. There are 41 vacancies in PVI settings available in the centre of Beeston and a further 38 places in schools. Families living in Beeston North area are potentially using provision in Beeston, or in the neighbouring areas of the City.		Overall rating: Medium

GEDLING

- Gedling has the worst performing area for take up of the 2 year entitlement (Stanhope, which is 59th out of 59) yet take up of 30 hours extended entitlement in Summer 19 was 100% (26 children) in that area.
- Gedling Villages and Calverton rank 3rd and 4th for take up of the 2 year old entitlement.
- In 2018 – 2019 there was a 93% take up of the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds across the district and 72% take up for eligible 2 year olds.
- Out of school provision has almost doubled across the district
- There are the highest number of children receiving the Disability Access Fund and the second highest for Inclusion Funding. Gedling also attracts the highest levels of funding for Children Looked After EYPP, despite ranking 5th in overall supplementary funding claims.
- According to our Assessment this summer, there are 213 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the district

Sufficiency Meeting

One of the providers who attended was in a predicted hotspot area (Netherfield), where there were high numbers of eligible children and a low number of places. That provider reported being full in their Pre-School provision for 2,3 & 4-year olds.

Providers in Arnold were all concerned as they all had very low numbers, all the providers advertise their vacancies to parents in a variety of ways such as through social media, newsletters, websites, banners or flyers. They also work closely with other providers in their area particularly with the Children's Centre Service and community groups.

A School provider said *"I would like to know where all of the 2-year olds are so we can contact them about a place."*

Areas of concern

Area	Stanhope	Priority
Provision:	7 providers. 2 schools,5 Childminders	NA
	Neither of the schools deliver places for 2 year olds	NA
	One school delivers extended hours	NA
30 Hours:	16 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 10 with Childminders	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 29 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 13 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	0.5 PVI (childminder) 4 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
On this basis, it appears that the Stanhope area is struggling for places. However, if we add in the rest of the Phoenix and Cavendish wards (Neighbouring Carlton Children's Centre area), the picture is different.		Overall rating: High
Area	Stanhope including Carlton	Rating
Provision:	72 providers. 12 schools,60 PVI, 46 Childminders	NA
	One school delivers places for 2 year olds	NA
30 Hours:	33 children access an extended entitlement in schools. 366 in other settings	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were122 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 58 took up a place.	NA
Vacancies (15 hours)	49 PVI 26 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
Looking at the wider geography, there are sufficient places for 2,3 and 4 year olds. It should be considered that this area also borders Nottingham City and many children access their entitlements in out of county provision.		Overall rating: Medium

Area	Netherfield (includes Colwick Ward)	Priority
Provision:	16 providers. 2 schools, 14 PVI, including 12 Childminders	NA
	One school delivers places for 2 year olds and offers extended hours	NA
30 Hours:	20 children access an extended entitlement in school , 37 in other settings	NA
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 59 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 40 took up a place.	NA
Vacancies (15 hours)	12 PVI vacancies No vacant school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
Netherfield has been a Hot Spot for sufficiency for a number of years. There continues to be a need for places particularly for 2 year olds in the area.		Overall rating

MANSFIELD

- Mansfield has 2 areas in the top five for poor take up of the extended entitlement (Ladybrook and Pleasley).
- Pleasley area also saw a 15.4% drop in take up of 2 year places between Spring and Summer 2019.
- In 2018 – 2019 there was a 91% take up of the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds across the district and 65% take up for eligible 2 year olds, both below Nottinghamshire average.
- The district ranks second for the numbers of children receiving supplementary funding and second for the numbers of children in receipt of EYPP.
- According to our Assessment this summer, there are 410 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the district.
- One setting in the Bellamy area is about to close meaning there are no vacancies in that area for 2 year olds.

Sufficiency Meeting

5 of the providers who attended were in a predicted hotspot area (Ladybrook, Ravensdale & Warsop) where there were high numbers of eligible children and a low number of places. 1 School was full with a waiting list whilst the other 4 had several places available and reported that there had been very few new 2-year olds take up their entitlement this term.

The Out of School provision is extremely busy at all sites in Mansfield.

Providers in Mansfield Woodhouse and Titchfield expressed concern about their sustainability, due to their low numbers and no new 2-year-old children taking up a place this term.

A school provision in Bull Farm said, *"I had to close the afternoon nursery due to lack of demand."*

Areas of concern

Area	Pleasley	Priority
Provision:	6 providers, 2 schools, 4 PVI (inc. 3 Childminders)	NA
	Neither of the schools offer places for 2 year olds or extended entitlement	Medium
30 Hours:	No children accessing 30 hour extended entitlement in the schools 11% of parents accessing a code for 30 hours entitlement did not take up their place (2018-19)	Medium
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 36 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 22 took up a place.	Medium
Vacancies (15 hours)	15 PVI 12 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be <u>just</u> sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement, but access to extended hours is limited		Overall Rating: Medium

Area	Ladybrook	Priority
Provision:	13 providers, 5 schools, 8 PVI (inc. 5 Childminders)	NA
	None of the schools offer places for 2 year olds	NA
30 Hours:	17 children accessing an extended entitlement in schools, 70 in other settings 15.7% of parents accessing a code for 30 hours entitlement did not take up their place (2018-19)	Medium
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 36 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 22 took up a place.	Medium
Vacancies (15 hours)	32 PVI 63 school places for 3 / 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement, but access to extended hours is limited		Overall Rating: Medium

Area	Bellamy	Priority
Provision:	6 providers, 2 schools, 3 Childminders	NA
	Neither of the schools offer places for 2 year olds. Childminders are full.	Medium
30 Hours:	19 children accessing 30 hour extended entitlement in the schools, 2 elsewhere	Medium
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 21 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 10 took up a place.	Medium
Vacancies (15 hours)	0 PVI 19 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be sufficient places for all children to access their 3 and 4 year entitlement but not enough to provide sufficient 2 year old places.		Overall Rating: High

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD

- Newark and Sherwood district has one area (Bridge) which appears on the worst five ranking for take up of the extended entitlement three terms consecutively.
- Trent Villages area ranks third worst for take up of 2 year old places at 47%, but there were only 15 children eligible in the summer term, 8 of whom did not take up a place.
- In 2018 – 2019 there was a 95% take up of the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds across the district and 73% take up for eligible 2 year olds is higher than the Nottinghamshire average.
- Four areas (Sherwood East and West, Balderton and Ollerton/Boughton) appear in the top ten localities for take up of 2 year old funded places.
- Newark and Sherwood ranks fourth for take up of supplementary funding.
- According to our Assessment this summer, there are 652 x 15-hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the district.

Sufficiency Meeting

None of the providers were in a predicted hot spot area, but 6 providers reported having a good take up of places, running at between 80% -100% occupancy.

3 Rural Schools and 1 rural Pre-School had extremely low numbers, less than 50% occupancy.

The providers all advertise their vacancies to parents in a variety of ways such as through social media, newsletters, websites, banners or flyers. They also work closely with other providers and Children's centres in their area

Areas of concern

Area	Bridge	Priority
Provision:	22 providers, 7 schools, 15 PVI (inc. 7 Childminders)	NA
	None of the schools offer places for 2 year olds	NA
30 Hours:	18 children are accessing an extended entitlement in schools, 128 in other settings 8.7% of parents accessing a code for 30 hours entitlement did not take up their place (2018-19)	Medium
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 70 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 39 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	117 PVI 27 school places for 3 / 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement.		Overall Rating: Medium

- Rushcliffe has one area (West Bridgford) in the ten worst performing areas for take up of the 2 year entitlement, whilst three areas (Keyworth, Cotgrave, Bingham) are in the top ten best performing areas.
- In 2018 – 2019 there was a 99% take up of the universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds across the district and 82% take up for eligible 2 year olds.
- Rushcliffe attracts the lowest levels of supplementary funding.
- According to our Assessment this summer, there are 454 x 15 hour places for 2,3 and 4 year olds vacant across the district.

Sufficiency Meeting

4 of the providers who attended were in a predicted hotspot area (Bingham & West Bridgford) where there were high numbers of eligible children and a low number of places. 3 of the providers reported having 100% occupancy.

In other parts of Rushcliffe such as Radcliffe on Trent and Compton Acres a School and a Day Nursery reported having low take up of places.

Providers reported the take up for Baby places in Rushcliffe as being much better than for 2,3 and 4 year olds. They felt it could be to do with the amount of provision in Rushcliffe.

Areas of concern

Area	West Bridgford Central	Priority
Provision:	23 providers, 4 schools, 19 PVI (inc. 10 Childminders)	NA
	None of the schools offer places for 2 year olds or the extended entitlement	NA
30 Hours:	26 children accessing 30 hour extended entitlement in one school with a total of 184 children accessing extended entitlements across the district.	
2 year old take up:	In the summer term, there were 20 children eligible for a funded 2 year place and 11 took up a place.	High
Vacancies (15 hours)	107 PVI 0 school places for 3 and 4 year olds	NA
There are considered to be sufficient places for all children to access their 2, 3 and 4 year entitlement		Overall rating: Low

9.2 Take up of places (Demand)

The detail below shows how parents are using Childcare entitlements and how well they have been accessed across the districts

Children's Centre Geographical Areas with highest take up of 2 year old places (Top 10 of 59)

	District	Area (by Children's Centre Community	2017-2018 take up	2018-2019 take up (Increase or decrease)	March 19 DWP list of eligible 2 year olds	Take up Summer 19	Increase or decrease Spring – Summer 2019
1	Rushcliffe	Keyworth	93.17%	109.80%	18	18	-11.76%
2	Rushcliffe	Cotgrave	84.83%	104.55%	28	28	-13.64%
3	Gedling	Gedling Villages	52.86%	103.70%	12	10	-33.33%
4	Gedling	Calverton	71.43%	102.62%	15	16	-20.61%
5	Rushcliffe	Bingham	72.11%	96.95%	35	31	-6.55%
6	Newark	Sherwood East	73.91%	89.47%	59	47	-14.98%
7	Newark	Sherwood West	80.01%	87.37%	47	43	4.22%
8	Broxtowe	Beeston North	88.10%	85.52%	24	9	-48.21%
9	Newark	Balderton	81.46%	85.31%	40	39	18.55%
10	Newark	Ollerton & Boughton	81.48%	84.12%	57	46	-7.63%

Area (by Children' Centre Community) where there are higher take up rates than 100% are likely to include some children who live outside of Nottinghamshire but access their place here. There are also increases or decreases with a change and shift in population, such as new housing developments when new families move in to an area.

Children's Centre Geographical Areas with lowest take up of 2 year places (Bottom 10 of 59)

	District	Area (by Children's Centre Community)	2017-2018 take up	2018-2019 take up (Increase or decrease)	March 19 DWP list of eligible 2 year olds	Take up Summer 19	Increase or decrease Spring – Summer 2019
49	Bassetlaw	Manton	62.07%	54.81%	80	39	-0.65%
50	Rushcliffe	West Bridgford	48.73%	54.55%	20	11	-7.50%
52	Bassetlaw	North Leverton	93.11%	52.22%	5	2	-10.00%
53	Ashfield	High Leys	45.35%	51.32%	27	12	-12.70%
54	Broxtowe	Eastwood	76.01%	50.65%	56	23	-9.81%
55	Ashfield	Rural Families	67.64%	50.18%	34	16	-7.78%
56	Bassetlaw	Hallcroft	51.52%	48.08%	24	12	3.57%
57	Newark	Trent Villages North	66.08%	47.49%	15	8	22.08%
58	Bassetlaw	Bassetlaw Rural	50.31%	43.77%	25	16	21.69%
59	Gedling	Stanhope	56.78%	41.61%	29	13	4.83%

There are three localities in the bottom ten that cover the most rural areas of Nottinghamshire. (Rural Families, Ashfield, Trent Villages, Newark / Sherwood and Bassetlaw Rural network). These areas cover 29% of the total square mileage of Nottinghamshire. (233 square miles).

Whilst our data shows us that there are places available in these areas, they are not accessible from village locations. Therefore, take up of places is limited by accessibility. Where Children live and where the childcare places are available is not always accessible for families, therefore there will always be a percentage of children unable to access their entitlements.

Universal Entitlement to 3 and 4 year old funded places

Generally, Nottinghamshire performs well in take up of 3 and 4 year old Universal entitlement to 15 hours of Childcare and Early Education. There is over the course of the last academic year 102% of three year olds and 95% of four year olds accessing a place in a Nottinghamshire setting. (Summer Term data 2019).

District Name	Population of 3 year olds	Population of 4 year olds	3s taking place	4s taking place	% take up 3s	% take up 4s
Ashfield	1468	1538	1440	1441	98%	94%

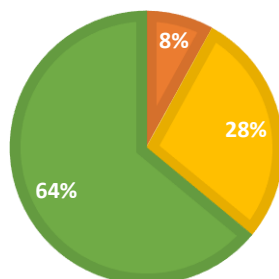
Bassetlaw	1289	1276	1170	1190	91%	93%
Broxtowe	1186	1199	1029	1108	87%	92%
Gedling	1271	1250	1119	1225	88%	98%
Mansfield	1329	1374	1183	1284	89%	93%
Newark and Sherwood	1291	1302	1216	1256	94%	96%
Rushcliffe	1175	1232	1203	1180	102%	96%

Extended Entitlement (30 hours)

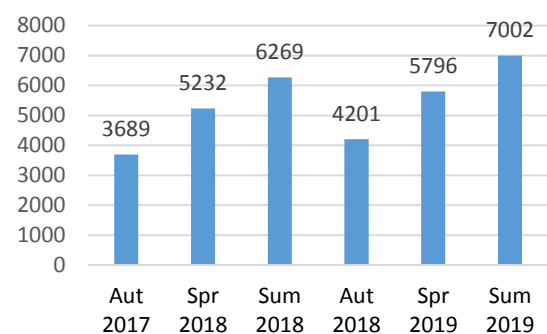
Providers have been responding to increased need and meeting the needs of working parents in a number of ways:

- Schools have lowered their age range and developed more Early Years provision.
- An increased number of Childminders are registering to offer extended hours.
- There has been a review of Children's Centre building use to ensure extended childcare can be offered through shared use of provision.

Childminder School PVI Setting



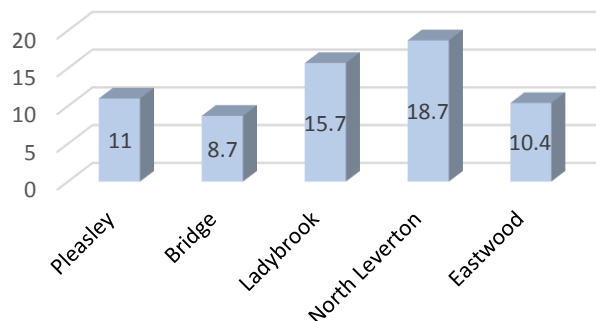
Children taking up extended hours entitlement



The proportions of children claiming their extended entitlement by provider type has remained static over previous academic years.

Take up is generally around 93% - this means that 93% of parents who apply for a code that is verified, take up and use their entitlement. However, in a number of localities, parents applying for their code do not take up or cannot access their place. There are five Children's Centre geographical areas that have had higher than Nottinghamshire average non-take up consistently over the Academic year 2018-19.

Average % non take up over year



See appendix J for East Midlands Performance Tables. Nottinghamshire are the best performing area in the East Midlands and are above the National average for take up of the extended hours entitlement.

**What do Parents
and Carers Say?**

84% of Parents who responded to the survey this summer said they worked. 91% of those who worked, work more than 16 hours a week. 34%* of those who are working claimed the additional extended hours for their nursery place. 50% of parents using their additional funded hours said they used all 15 hours of their extended entitlement.

Our data tells us that, on average, 7% of parents who do apply for a code and have it validated, do not take up the full 15 hour entitlement.

(*Our survey engaged parents of children aged 0-19 so many of them will not be eligible under the above criteria).

10 Recommendations and Next Steps

Unlike previous years' assessments, local data and intelligence evidences a surplus of childcare places across Nottinghamshire and sufficient provision to provide childcare and early education for all 2, 3 and 4 year olds, with the exception of two or three localities. Our actions for 2019- 2020 are as follows:

- Ensure there is sufficient childcare for 2, 3 and 4 year olds in three identified local areas (Netherfield / Colwick; Bellamy and Beeston North).
- Sustain existing high quality childcare by supporting for the sector to access funding opportunities, including supplementary funding.
- Work with schools to ensure we do not over supply in key some localities.
- Increase the take up rates of 2 year funded entitlements in Six local areas (Eastwood, Manton , Bridge wards, Rural Families, Trent Villages, Bassetlaw Rural areas)
- Support and expand Out of School Provision to ensure working parents are able to access suitable and flexible childcare provision.
- Deliver further consultation with parents' groups to better identify gaps in flexibility and accessibility of childcare.
- Deliver more frequent consultation with the early years sector to enable the council to have an ongoing understanding of termly childcare sufficiency levels.
- Better forecast future needs by assessing birth rates and population projections, housing developments, development of Free Schools and Early Years Places.

A detailed action plan has been developed to address the recommendations above.

11. Appendices

Tables that are published below show numbers of children accessing certain entitlements and supplementary funding streams. Numbers less than 5 have been replaced by < to preserve anonymity.

Appendix A: District Responses rate for the Self Update exercise (Summer 2019) by setting type

	Childminders	Day Nurseries	Preschools	Schools	TOTAL
Ashfield	96%	100%	100%	67%	87%
Bassetlaw	97%	100%	100%	63%	84%
Broxtowe	92%	96%	100%	81%	90%
Gedling	93%	95%	100%	86%	93%
Mansfield	100%	100%	100%	67%	90%
Newark & Sherwood	95%	100%	86%	74%	88%
Rushcliffe	93%	94%	100%	77%	91%
TOTAL	95%	98%	98%	72%	89%

Appendix B: Quality of Provision Breakdown of Ofsted Judgement by type of provider by district (June 2019)

District	Ofsted Grading	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met / Agency Childminder	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected	TOTAL
Ashfield	Childminder	4	48	1	0	17	1	17	88
	Day Nursery	8	11	0	0	0	0	4	23
	Pre-school	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	8
	School (EY)	4	23	1	0	0	0	7	35
	Ind. School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	17	89	2	0	17	1	28	154
Bassetlaw	Childminder	7	40	0	0	8	1	9	65
	Day Nursery	3	10	2	0	0	0	3	18
	Pre-school	2	8	1	1	0	0	0	12
	School (EY)	3	33	3	2	0	0	8	49
	Ind. School	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2

	TOTAL	15	93	6	3	8	1	20	146
Broxtowe	Childminder	5	46	3	0	14	1	10	79
	Day Nursery	6	17	1	0	0	0	2	26
	Pre-school	0	11	1	0	0	0	0	12
	School (EY)	2	22	1	0	0	0	5	30
	Ind. School	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	TOTAL	13	96	6	0	15	1	17	148
Gedling	Childminder	9	92	2	0	14	1	24	142
	Day Nursery	4	16	0	0	0	0	1	21
	Pre-school	4	13	0	0	0	0	1	18
	School (EY)	6	24	0	0	0	0	5	35
	Ind. School	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	TOTAL	24	146	2	0	14	1	31	218
Mansfield	Childminder	11	47	3	1	14	1	7	84
	Day Nursery	5	17	1	0	0	0	2	25
	Pre-school	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
	School (EY)	3	24	0	0	0	0	6	33
	Ind. School	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL	19	92	4	1	14	1	15	146
Newark & Sherwood	Childminder	5	40	0	2	4	2	10	63
	Day Nursery	8	15	0	0	1	0	3	27
	Pre-school	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	12
	School (EY)	3	28	3	0	0	0	8	42
	Ind. School	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	TOTAL	18	95	3	2	5	2	21	146
Rushcliffe	Childminder	6	49	1	0	10	1	16	83
	Day Nursery	17	16	0	0	0	0	4	37
	Pre-school	4	16	1	1	0	0	2	24
	School (EY)	8	14	2	0	0	0	10	34
	Ind. School	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	TOTAL	35	97	4	1	10	1	32	180
Nottinghamshire	Childminder	47	362	10	3	81	8	93	604
	Day Nursery	51	102	4	0	1	0	19	177
	Pre-school	12	69	3	2	0	0	3	89
	School (EY)	29	168	10	2	0	0	49	258
	Ind. School	2	7	0	0	1	0	0	10
	TOTAL	141	708	27	7	83	8	164	1138

Appendix C: Early Years Inclusion Funding

Early Years Inclusion Funding Payments Made in Academic Year 2018-2019 by district.

District	AUTUMN 18	SPRING 19	SUMMER 19	Total
Ashfield	17	21	24	62
Bassetlaw	7	7	10	24
Broxtowe	12	15	17	44
Gedling	16	20	22	58
Mansfield	8	8	20	36
Newark Sherwood	7	8	9	24
Rushcliffe	15	17	17	49
Total	82	96	119	297

Age breakdown of children in receipt of Early Years Inclusion funding (excluding schools).

Age	Total number	Total Amount
2yrs	13	£10,462.50
3yrs	69	£47,655.00
4yrs	106	£72,198.75
5+	7	£5,977.50
Total	195	£136,293.75

Total spend on Training to the sector from Early Years Inclusion Fund.

Manual Handling	£8,960.00
Sensory Training	£1,503.00
Creating An Autism Friendly Setting Training	£1,800.00
Total	£12,263.00
Total Early Years Inclusion fund spend 2018 – 2019	£148, 556.75

Appendix D: Disability Access Fund

Numbers of children accessing Disability Access Fund in Academic Year 2018 - 2019 by district.

District	AUTUMN 18	SPRING 19	SUMMER 19	Total
Ashfield	12	<	<	17
Bassetlaw	<	5	0	8
Broxtowe	<	<	5	11
Gedling	11	8	5	24
Mansfield	7	7	3	17
Newark	<	<	<	5
Rushcliffe	4	5	8	17
Total	40	33	26	99

Appendix E: Deprivation Fund

Numbers of children identified as Child in Need or on a Child Protection Plan in receipt of a termly Deprivation Fund payment in Academic Year 2018 - 2019 by district.

District	Child in Need			Child Protection Plan		
	AUT18	SPR19	SUM19	AUT18	SPR19	SUM19
Ashfield	17	32	42	18	27	33
Bassetlaw	9	19	31	6	12	20
Broxtowe	9	15	21	<	<	7
Gedling	13	23	30	5	7	8
Mansfield	25	31	37	8	14	21
Newark	12	18	31	8	9	14
Rushcliffe	<	7	14	5	6	6
Total *	89	145	206	54	79	109

* NB Figures increase across the terms as children once in receipt of this payment remain eligible for payments until they reach school age.

Appendix F: Early Years Pupil Premium

Numbers of Children receiving Early Years Pupil Premium (Economic Factor) in Academic Year 2018 - 2019 by district (total number of children funded was 2,124).

District	AUTUMN 18	SPRING 19	SUMMER 19
Ashfield	282	393	472
Bassetlaw	192	268	347
Broxtowe	133	194	248
Gedling	142	184	248
Mansfield	234	324	399
Newark	168	238	308
Rushcliffe	70	107	128
Total	1,221	1,708	2,150

* NB Figures vary across the terms as children may be funded for one, two or three terms.

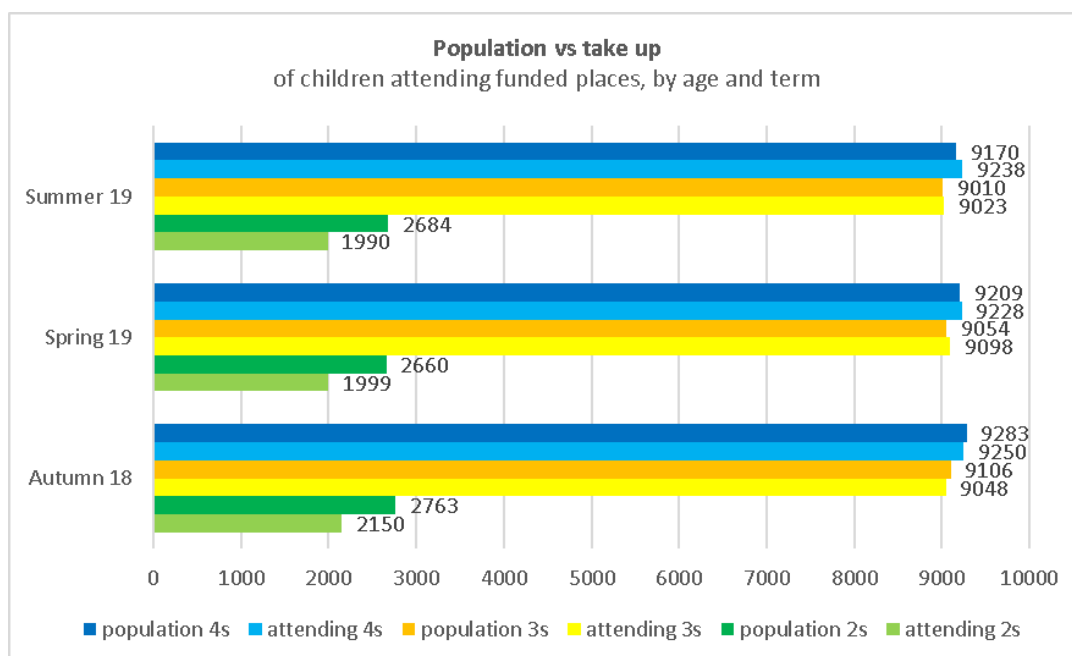
Numbers of Children receiving Early Years Pupil Premium (Children Looked After) in Academic Year 2018 - 2019 by district (total number of children funded was 31)

District	AUTUMN 18	SPRING 19	SUMMER 19
Total	15	22	26

* NB Figures vary across the terms as children may be funded for one, two or three terms. All numbers per district per term were less than 5.

Appendix G: Take up of funded places

Population of eligible children and the numbers taking up a place.



Breakdown of all 2,3 and 4 year old funded children, by provider type.

Provider Type	Academic Year 2018-19		Academic Year 2017-18		% Change 2017 -v- 2018
	No of Funded 2, 3 & 4YO's	% of All Funded Children	No of Funded 2, 3 & 4YO's	% of All Funded Children	
Childminder	2,294	5.07%	2,065	4.58%	11.09%
Day Nursery	18,611	41.11%	18,398	40.79%	1.16%
Independent	391	0.86%	328	0.73%	19.21%
School	17,009	37.57%	17,124	37.97%	-0.67%
Playgroup	6,969	15.39%	7,188	15.94%	-3.05%
Total	45,274	100.00%	45,104	100.00%	0.38%

Appendix H: Breakdown of take up of 2 year entitlement by District and Children's Centre Geographical area

District	Children's Centre Cluster Area	Take up 2017-2018	Take up 2018-2019	Summer Term 2019 % take up	Increase/ Decrease since spring 2019
Ashfield	Rural Families	67.64%	50.18%	47.06%	-7.78%
Ashfield	High Leys	45.35%	51.32%	44.44%	-12.70%
Ashfield	Sutton Central	64.09%	55.35%	65.45%	2.74%
Ashfield	Market Place	77.98%	62.33%	69.09%	11.20%
Ashfield	New Woods	75.70%	64.10%	64.91%	6.09%
Ashfield	Butlers Hill & Broomhill	72.78%	64.16%	72.97%	10.81%
Ashfield	Newstead	84.10%	66.76%	75.61%	13.11%
Ashfield	Kirkby Central and West	68.99%	67.70%	70.97%	7.59%
Ashfield	Summer House	73.61%	68.18%	59.55%	-11.88%
Ashfield	Kirkby East	79.81%	74.55%	71.15%	0.32%
Ashfield	Huthwaite	69.44%	80.59%	73.33%	-7.31%
Bassetlaw	Bassetlaw Rural	50.31%	43.77%	64.00%	21.69%
Bassetlaw	Hallcroft	51.52%	48.08%	50.00%	3.57%
Bassetlaw	North Leverton	93.11%	52.22%	40.00%	-10.00%
Bassetlaw	Manton	62.07%	54.81%	48.75%	-0.65%
Bassetlaw	Harworth & Bircotes	59.77%	64.68%	67.92%	4.96%
Bassetlaw	West Bassetlaw	69.19%	65.56%	65.12%	4.65%
Bassetlaw	North Worksop	59.89%	67.82%	64.00%	3.66%
Bassetlaw	Prospect Kilton	60.88%	70.12%	71.11%	-5.08%
Bassetlaw	Retford Central	69.96%	71.52%	74.12%	5.29%
Broxtowe	Eastwood	76.01%	50.65%	41.07%	-9.81%
Broxtowe	Brinsley with Greasley	61.76%	59.18%	50.00%	-10.87%
Broxtowe	Chilwell	62.99%	68.21%	64.29%	-4.95%
Broxtowe	Awsworth	78.39%	73.75%	60.53%	-11.97%
Broxtowe	Stapleford	80.48%	78.61%	74.24%	-11.21%
Broxtowe	Beeston Central	62.30%	83.46%	81.82%	-6.75%
Broxtowe	Beeston North	88.10%	85.52%	37.50%	-48.21%
Gedling	Stanhope	56.78%	41.61%	44.83%	4.83%
Gedling	Carlton	61.65%	55.96%	48.39%	-6.45%
Gedling	Netherfield	71.39%	71.85%	67.80%	-1.17%
Gedling	Arnold	63.40%	71.89%	75.00%	3.30%
Gedling	Arnbroom	49.73%	75.64%	72.73%	-4.55%
Gedling	Killisick	70.20%	79.12%	75.44%	-8.23%
Gedling	Calverton	71.43%	102.62%	106.67%	-20.61%
Gedling	Gedling Villages	52.86%	103.70%	83.33%	-33.33%
Mansfield	Oak Tree	57.92%	58.92%	50.00%	-4.55%
Mansfield	Ravensdale	61.18%	60.89%	71.43%	11.43%
Mansfield	Bellamy	59.84%	61.43%	47.62%	-22.38%

Mansfield	Titchfield & Oakham	58.40%	63.20%	69.05%	4.05%
Mansfield	Pleasley Hill	67.97%	68.08%	61.11%	-15.36%
Mansfield	Forest Town	40.66%	68.95%	66.67%	-4.76%
Mansfield	Mansfield Woodhouse	70.03%	70.38%	74.07%	0.66%
Mansfield	Ladybrook	62.77%	74.33%	72.04%	-1.64%
Mansfield	Warsop	66.42%	79.00%	80.46%	11.05%
Newark	Trent Villages North	66.08%	47.49%	53.33%	22.08%
Newark	Bridge	56.97%	63.02%	55.71%	-11.47%
Newark	Trent Villages South	83.89%	63.05%	76.47%	17.65%
Newark	Hawtonville	75.00%	78.20%	73.45%	-6.32%
Newark	Ollerton & Boughton	81.48%	84.12%	80.70%	-7.63%
Newark	Balderton	81.46%	85.31%	97.50%	18.55%
Newark	Sherwood West	80.01%	87.37%	91.49%	4.22%
Newark	Sherwood East	73.91%	89.47%	79.66%	-14.98%
Rushcliffe	West Bridgford	48.73%	54.55%	55.00%	-7.50%
Rushcliffe	East Leake	74.20%	72.96%	70.00%	9.13%
Rushcliffe	Abbey & Lady Bay	62.52%	76.15%	72.22%	-5.05%
Rushcliffe	Ruddington & Edwalton	90.54%	83.09%	86.21%	13.48%
Rushcliffe	Bingham	72.11%	96.95%	88.57%	-6.55%
Rushcliffe	Cotgrave	84.83%	104.55%	100.00%	-13.64%
Rushcliffe	Keyworth	93.17%	109.80%	100.00%	-11.76%

Appendix I: Take up of 3 and 4 year old places by district

District Name	Population of 3 year olds	Population of 4 year olds	3s taking place	4s taking place	% take up 3s	% take up 4s
Ashfield	1468	1538	1440	1441	98%	94%
Bassetlaw	1289	1276	1170	1190	91%	93%
Broxtowe	1186	1199	1029	1108	87%	92%
Gedling	1271	1250	1119	1225	88%	98%
Mansfield	1329	1374	1183	1284	89%	93%
Newark and Sherwood	1291	1302	1216	1256	94%	96%
Rushcliffe	1175	1232	1203	1180	102%	96%

Appendix J: Proportion of Codes for 30 hour extended entitlement validated (East Midlands Performance)

Local authority		Eligibility codes issued	Codes validated (number)	Codes validated (%)
831	Derby	2040	1969	97
830	Derbyshire	6306	5154	82
856	Leicester	1913	1775	93
855	Leicestershire	6550	5756	88
925	Lincolnshire	6037	5473	91
928	Northamptonshire	6883	6483	94
892	Nottingham	1868	1596	85
891	Nottinghamshire	7241	7188	99
857	Rutland	312	311	100
	EAST MIDLANDS	39150	35705	91
	ENGLAND	420723	379115	90

14th October 2019**Agenda Item: 10****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND RESOURCES****OFSTED ANNUAL CONVERSATIONS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform the Children and Young People's Committee of the outcomes of the Ofsted annual conversations attached as **Appendices 1 & 2** and to ask the Committee to consider any actions it requires arising from the letters.

Information

2. Each year Ofsted holds two annual conversations, one on children's social care provision and one on education, with the Local Authority. This is a meeting between the regional Ofsted leaders and Directors from Children and Families department. Letters are then sent to the Local Authority with details of the outcome of the conversation.
3. Prior to the conversation taking place the Local Authority is required to undertake a self-assessment which Ofsted will then use to formulate themes for the conversation. In the East Midlands the self-assessments are also the subject of 'challenge conversations' with regional peers organised through the Association of Directors of Children's Services. This leads to a more robust self-assessment.
4. The two letters to the Local Authority following the annual conversations, both of which took place on 26th April 2019, are attached as **Appendices 1 & 2**. Ofsted has indicated that the next inspection activity the Authority experiences is likely to be a graded ILACS (Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services) and that this will happen within this financial year.
5. Following the annual conversations the annual Continuous Improvement Plan is completed. This is drawn from the annual conversation and also any inspection activity, internal quality judgement and peer reviews that have taken place and reflects the actions in the department's Service Plans. The plan is updated throughout the year as evidence on audit and inspection activity is received. As the Authority is imminently due for inspection under the ILACS framework, the self assessment and action plans are currently being updated. These will be revised and presented to Committee following the outcomes of that inspection. The views of the Committee on any action required will also be included in these action plans.

Other Options Considered

6. Given the subject of this report it has not been possible to consider other options.

Reason for Recommendations

7. The recommendations are made to ensure Elected Members are able to reflect on Ofsted's views and any actions required.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any further actions it requires arising from the letters received following the Ofsted annual conversations.

Laurence Jones

Service Director, Commissioning and Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Laurence Jones

Service Director, Commissioning and Resources

T: 0115 9773696

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Constitutional Comments (LW 19/09/19)

10. The Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report.

Financial Comments (SAS 20/09/19)

11. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1303

3 May 2019

Colin Pettigrew
Corporate Director – Children, Young People and Schools
Nottinghamshire County Council
Sent via email to: Colin.Pettigrew@nottscc.gov.uk

Emma Ing HMI
Regional Director
East Midlands

Social Care Annual Conversation 26 April 2019

Dear Colin

Thank you for meeting with Nick McMullen and me to consider your self-evaluation and to discuss developments in children's services in Nottinghamshire. This letter should be read alongside the contents of your self-evaluation which we have considered. We found your self-evaluation covered all the relevant areas and demonstrated the range of active work you are undertaking to further improve your services. It made extensive use of performance data but had less evidence around the quality of social work practice. You have recognised this yourselves and are seeking to address through your new Quality Management Framework (QMF).

Local Authority context

The current political administration is now in its third year and has continued its support of children's social care. The lead member for children's services is long serving and is supported by two deputies, one of whom, Tracy Taylor, leads on children's social care. You feel Cllr Taylor has developed into a strong and effective champion of vulnerable children. Service pressures have continued to rise with a steady increase in MASH referrals and a significant increase in the numbers of looked after children (although for the latter rates remain below that of statutory neighbours). Additional social work and placement capacity has been funded in response to these pressures although sufficiency is an ongoing challenge.

You are particularly pleased that the regional adoption agency (D2N2) has now been launched hosted and led by Nottinghamshire and optimistic that this will lead to improved adoption outcomes. D2N2 is an increasingly coherent model for partnership working and sharing services with work also taking place around placement commissioning.

You also reported that the new Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership is now in place, replacing your Safeguarding Children Board and meeting the requirements of Working Together.

Progress since last annual conversation

You were pleased with the outcome of your focused visit examining front door arrangements and felt that it broadly confirmed the positive impact of your front door improvement plan. You feel that good progress has been made in addressing the areas for improvement identified in the focused visit letter. Your previous focused visit of services for care leavers presented a more mixed picture of service performance but did identify recent improvements which you feel have been broadly sustained over the last 12 months.

Recruitment and retention remain a challenge particularly in your District Child Protection teams leading to some caseloads being higher than you would want. You have addressed this in the short term through additional agency capacity while in the longer term continuing to develop a multi-pronged approach to workforce development and stability. This includes further development of social work support officers and a well-regarded ASYE programme.

Your approach to protecting children from sexual exploitation is well established and work has begun aiming to enhance your understanding around local risks of criminal exploitation. Both strategically and operationally this is currently work in progress, but you feel you do have reasonable knowledge of local hotspots.

Overall you feel support for children in care is strong, including securing permanence. Numbers of children being adopted have reduced from a previous national high and you feel this is a natural result of working through a bulge in numbers. There has also been a change in court expectations, favouring children remaining together in established foster homes rather than perhaps being separated to enable adoption. The quality of court and permanence work you judge to remain good overall and you are hopeful that D2N2 will assist this, particularly in finding homes for harder to place children.

Future Plans

Senior leadership is stable and you have invested in service improvement capacity. Central to service improvement is a Remodelling Practice programme with key priorities to:

- Implement a consistent framework for practice based on a strengths and relationship-based approach
- Develop a sustainable staffing model
- Develop and use a wider range of business intelligence tools
- Implement an effective professional and career pathway for social workers
- Implement an infrastructure which best supports social workers to do their work efficiently

Alongside this you are reviewing your QMF to improve its focus on practice quality and experience alongside process and compliance.

Future inspection

Your next inspection activity is likely to be an ILACS judgement inspection. In your case this will be a short inspection unless notified differently. Due to Nottinghamshire's size it is possible a fifth inspector may be added to the inspection team.

Please pass on our thanks to colleagues for their input into the annual conversation. I look forward to hearing about further developments in Nottinghamshire.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emma Ing".

Emma Ing HMI
Regional Director
East Midlands

15 May 2019

Colin Pettigrew
Corporate Director – Children, Young People and Schools
Nottinghamshire County Council
Sent via email to: Colin.Pettigrew@nottsccl.gov.uk

Emma Ing HMI
Regional Director
East Midlands

Education Annual Conversation – 26 April 2019

Dear Colin

I would like to thank you and your colleagues for meeting with Ofsted to discuss standards and performance in Nottinghamshire. It was also helpful to reflect on your work to embrace the opportunities presented by Ofsted's proposed new inspection framework.

We thought it would be beneficial to record the areas discussed and next steps that we agreed in the meeting that would help improve experiences and outcomes for children and young people in Nottinghamshire.

Early Years

Your EY team have been engaging with providers in the lead up to the introduction of the EIF. They have also been working well with us, and we are due to attend one of your briefings to discuss the new framework with a range of providers in your region. We agreed that outcomes for children in respect of their levels of development (GLD) are still low. You are keen to work with providers to ensure improvements in the learning of phonics. Those children who are living in families where poverty is an issue make a particularly poor start in literacy and phonic knowledge.

In areas where there is most need you are introducing a home learning tool kit, which seeks to support families of children aged 0-7 help their children get off to a good start in learning communication and social skills. You are concerned particularly to ensure good practice in relation to children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Schools

Recognising that the proposed new inspection framework will mean that some schools may need to revise their thinking in respect of their curriculum you have sought to advise and prepare leaders. We know, of course that David Carter SHMI has spoken on many occasions to different groups in the county. You have backed this up with Headteacher briefings,

conferences and activities through traded services. There continue to be a range of opportunities for leaders to access up-to-date thinking about learning and the curriculum including conferences with speakers of national and international repute. We reflected on the importance of ensuring the professionals at all levels have access to good professional development in respect to both what and how children learn.

We considered the importance of ensuring good communication between schools so that they can work together to ensure that children have access to a coherently structured curriculum that meets their needs.

You are confident that the Gatsby framework has helped sharpen schools' thinking about preparing young people for future work and careers. You are keen to support the increased delivery of Ebacc, in line with the national ambition, but recognise that there are limitations to what can usefully be offered to pupils in the short and medium term. You also assured us that you are reviewing the curricula offer in Key Stages 4 and 5 for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities to check that they are sufficiently demanding and adequately preparing this cohort for adult life.

We discussed Ofsted's growing concerns with high levels of permanent exclusions, pupil mobility and the growth of elective home education. Of particular concern, are those schools where a surprising number of children leave in Year 10 especially when it is not possible to identify which school they moved to. Thank you for sharing with me information about the way colleges are looking to break into the 'home education market'. I am pleased that you are going to be involved in Ofsted's research project about home education and look forward to sharing the outcomes of that research with you in due course.

Finally, we considered teachers' and leaders' workload and your efforts to ensure that it is manageable. You feel that there has been some response to the government's toolkit and that schools are generally reducing marking and assessment points. You are also working with schools to promote emotional health and wellbeing for both children and adults.

FES

You shared your continuing concerns for outcomes for post-16 learners. While there are marginal gains you recognise that too many young people are on the wrong pathway. You acknowledge that CIAG is key to getting young people onto the right pathway. This sits well with the DfE's January 2018 statutory guidance which makes clear that 'a successful careers guidance programme will also be reflected in higher numbers of pupils progressing to positive destinations such as apprenticeships, technical routes, sixth form colleges, further education colleges, universities or employment'. You are keen to build on the Newark skills summit success from a few years ago and replicate that in Mansfield and Ashfield. The intention is that it will include local businesses, colleges and employers. This may help improve outcomes, as learners are more aware of available opportunities, along with the intended consultation on skills focus for post-16 learners and those with learning

difficulties/disabilities. I hope the strategy is ratified in autumn 2019 as you suggest and you begin to see the benefits.

We will follow with interest your progress in improving outcomes for children. We believe that the proposed new inspection framework will support providers in moving to delivering the real substance of education and ensuring that all children have access broad curricula which give them the important knowledge and skills to enable them to succeed. We wish you every success in moving forward with your improvement journey.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emma Ing".

Emma Ing HMI
Regional Director
East Midlands

14 October 2019**Agenda Item: 11****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL
REPORT 2018/19****Purpose of the Report**

1. The report informs Members of the content of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP) Annual Report 2018/19, which is available as a Background Paper, and asks the Committee to consider whether there are any further actions it requires in relation to the information contained in the report.

Information

2. National statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018¹, required the safeguarding partners (local authority, police and clinical commissioning groups) to introduce safeguarding arrangements to replace Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs). Accompanying transitional guidance set out the timeframe for this work to be completed and interim arrangements to deal with ongoing issues during the transition.
3. New safeguarding arrangements have been developed in Nottinghamshire and approved by Policy Committee on 17th October 2018. The safeguarding arrangements for Nottinghamshire were published on 27th December 2018, and a three-month implementation phase began on 1st January 2019. The implementation period successfully concluded on 31st March 2019 at which point the LSCB for Nottinghamshire was disestablished.
4. This annual report therefore satisfies the requirement for an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding from the Independent Chair of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB) and the new requirement for the safeguarding partners, under the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP), to publish a 'yearly report'.
5. The annual report is being presented to the respective governance arrangements of each of the safeguarding partners. The report has been published on the NSCP website and a copy provided to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care.

¹ Published in June 2018

6. In addition to describing the development and implementation of the new arrangements the report provides information about the activities of the safeguarding partnership.
7. The NSCB/NSCP is funded, in part, through contributions from partner agencies. A breakdown is included within the annual report.
8. The safeguarding partnership has undertaken a great deal of work aimed at improving safeguarding practice and these are detailed fully within the report.
9. A review of the arrangements in place to respond to contextual safeguarding, or extra familial threats, has been carried out to identify potential gaps or areas for improvement and a Youth Violence and Child Exploitation Panel has been established to consider complex cases requiring more intensive intervention.
10. Work has continued to develop and improve practice when responding to harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) following an audit in January 2018. Training has been commissioned and attended by practitioners across the partnership. A multi-agency steering group has been established to develop a Harmful Sexual Behaviour panel which has resulted in greater awareness of HSB and more cases being identified and assessed.
11. Through a Strategic Management Group, the partnership has overseen the response to concerns and disclosures of non-recent abuse made by previously Looked After Children. The NSCB/NSCP has contributed to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) and the NSCP is now overseeing the response of organisations to the findings emerging from all aspects of the Inquiry. Learning from the Inquiry has been disseminated through multi-agency training events. A key area has been the support of victims and survivors and the County Council, police and health colleagues have been committed to supporting the local support group. Multi-agency funding has been provided to establish discrete posts to provide for victims and survivors and work is ongoing to strengthen services. The NSCB/NSCP has also overseen the work to maintain and improve the children in care health pathway.
12. During 2018/19 the NSCB/NSCP has delivered a wide-ranging programme of multi-agency training courses and seminars. Forty five training events have been delivered covering core safeguarding practice and specialist areas of practice with 2,197 practitioners attending in total. A new e-learning provider has been commissioned to provide safeguarding e-learning modules across the partnership with 20 approved courses being made available. The new provider also provides the capability to develop bespoke modules and two have been created to date: Safe Sleeping for Babies, and Trauma, Toxic Stress and Adverse Childhood Experiences. Over 5,500 e-learning modules were completed during the year. An assessment has also been undertaken of the multi-agency and single agency training available in relation to contextual safeguarding issues. The NSCP training programme for 2019/20 will respond to any training needs identified in relation to these extra familial risks.
13. The NSCB/NSCP continues to provide procedures and guidance on a wide range of safeguarding issues for practitioners to follow. During the year, two updates to the interagency safeguarding procedures were completed to ensure that the guidance remains current and up to date.

14. A key responsibility for the NSCB/NSCP is to commission and undertake case reviews according to the criteria set out in national statutory guidance. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 also introduced a new requirement to undertake 'Rapid Reviews' and a new process was developed to respond to this expectation. Six 'Rapid Reviews' have been completed and submitted to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (NCSPRP) for their consideration. The NCSPRP endorsed the decisions made within those reviews. During the reporting period no new serious case reviews or child safeguarding practice reviews were commissioned. Three serious case reviews, carried forward from the previous year, were finalised and published following the conclusion of other processes and the learning from those reviews is detailed within the report.
15. The safeguarding partnership improvement priorities for 2019/20 are set out within the final section of the safeguarding arrangements annual report and focus on issues identified through the learning and improvement framework. The new safeguarding arrangements will also be reviewed, in line with statutory guidance, and the findings from IICSA will continue to be monitored and acted upon.
16. Revised statutory guidance and legislation² has moved responsibility for the review of all child deaths away from the Independent Chairs of LSCBs to the 'child death review partners' (local authority and clinical commissioning group). In addition, the guidance requires the geographic footprint of the child death review arrangements to cover an area such that they typically review at least 60 deaths per year. Nottinghamshire Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) has therefore combined with Nottingham City and a new joint CDOP has been established. During 2018/19, 47 children died in Nottinghamshire and 48 child death reviews were undertaken by the panel in relation to children who resided in Nottinghamshire. Work to prevent future deaths has continued, including the promotion of safe sleeping for babies for example. A new case management system has also been introduced which will enable data to be provided directly to the National Child Mortality Database improving analytical capability and identification of themes for the prevention of future deaths.

Other Options Considered

17. No other options have been considered as the publication of an annual report is a statutory requirement.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

18. The report provides the opportunity for the Committee to consider any further actions arising from the information contained in the report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

19. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability

² Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, Child Death Review: Statutory and Operational Guidance (England) and the Children and Social Work Act 2017

and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

20. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any actions it requires in relation to the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

Colin Pettigrew
Corporate Director, Children and Families

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (EP 20/09/19)

21. The Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required, it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 27/09/19)

22. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2018/19 is available at: - <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscg/about-the-partnership>

[New Safeguarding Children Arrangements](#) - report to Policy Committee on 17th October 2018

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1299

14th October 2019**Agenda Item: 12****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND SOCIAL
WORK****IMPROVING THE EMOTIONAL HEALTH OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update the Committee on the progress in responding to the recommendation of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Looked After Children Service review, incorporating a staffing update.

Information

2. A dedicated Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) supports the mental health needs of children in care. It is a multi-disciplinary, multi-agency team comprising social workers and health professionals whose purpose is to assess mental health needs and promote the psychological wellbeing and placement stability of children and young people who are in care or adopted.
3. The model of intervention is tailored to meet the individual needs of the child or young person and their network, based on the evidence base, the views and skills of the client and their family/foster carers. Care may be delivered via a consultation model or through a range of integrative interventions: fostering attachments group; therapeutic parenting or attachment focused family based interventions such as Theraplay; Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy, Systemic Psychotherapy or Distress Tolerance Groups. The team can also provide specific diagnostic assessment, as well as the prescribing and reviewing of medication.
4. Children and Young People's Committee received a report in December 2018 outlining some of the challenges associated with a change in commissioning responsibilities and a subsequent temporary reduction in specialist mental health support available for children and young people. Funding issues have now been resolved and clinical commissioning groups have further increased the funding they are contributing to the service. The current staffing position in the team is as follows:

Posts employed by Nottinghamshire County Council:

- 1 FTE Team Manager

- 2.5 FTE Specialist Social Workers

Posts employed by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust:

- 0.5 FTE Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
- 2 FTE Nurses
- 2 FTE Psychologists (vacant posts – currently out to advert)
- 1 FTE Art Therapist (maternity leave – temporarily being covered by 0.5 FTE Drama Therapist)
- 0.8 FTE Systemic Psychotherapist.

5. Whilst capacity in the team has increased since the report to Committee in December 2018, the team is not yet at full capacity but a plan is in place to ensure vacant posts are filled by January 2020.

6. An independent review of the service was commissioned by the clinical commissioning groups and the findings reported to Children and Young People's Committee in December 2018. The review highlighted a number of areas working well and a number requiring improvement:

- to improve parity of access for looked after children placed in and out of the County, children with similar life experiences but different legal statuses (e.g. special guardianship or kinship) and looked after children in different placement types (e.g. internal or external fostering or residential care)
- to improve data collection regarding the service's work and impact on children and young people
- to further involve young people in service developments moving forwards
- to further clarify the framework to effectively support children in care with mental health needs, including the role of different professionals and the balance between consultation and direct therapeutic intervention within the service model.

7. Progress in responding to the areas for improvement are as follows:

- a piece of project work has been initiated as part of the Department's Remodelling Practice Programme, outlining the differing range of emotional health support that can be accessed by children with similar life experiences but different legal statuses or placement types. This project is expected to make recommendations for improving the equity of access to support for emotional health in January 2020.
- improving data collection continues to be an area for improvement with the service working with NHS commissioners to provide contracted information requirements such as caseload information, waiting times and outcomes achieved.
- in order to involve young people in service design, the Team Manager for the CAMHS Service for Children in Care and Adopted Children is working with the Project Team for *You Know Your Mind* (integrated personal commissioning project), to ensure that the

learning from the project informs the way the CAMHS service is provided. This includes considering how personal health budgets may facilitate long-term mental health improvements following CAMHS involvement.

- in response to the review findings, the team is developing its service model, maintaining a core focus on attachment and trauma, whilst also offering a more flexible approach to support children and young people and their carers, with more of an outreach approach to older young people, for example those living in semi-supported accommodation.
8. A further area for improvement the service and commissioners are considering is how to support young people in care with mental health needs as they transition to adulthood. The team now has a named transition lead whose role is to facilitate transfer to adult services. In addition to this commissioners and Nottinghamshire Healthcare Foundation Trust are currently exploring flexible approaches to transitions across mental health services, in order to ensure transition is young person centred. The CAMHS LAC team has been identified as a service which would be best placed to trial this approach, an example of this approach could be by a model where young people have a choice of whether they want to retain a worker from CAMHS into adulthood, this approach would also ensure close working with adult mental health teams and the Council's Leaving Care Service.
 9. A subgroup of the Service Improvement Forum has been established to explore how improvements can be made to the pathways to emotional health and wellbeing support for children and young people. This includes arrangements for when placements are out of the Nottinghamshire area. This focus is in recognition of the challenges to timely support for children, due to the complex and variable commissioning arrangements.
 10. The areas identified above reflect the priorities for improvement for the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service for children in care and adopted children next year and will be driven and monitored via the multi-agency Health Service Improvement Forum and through NHS Contract management processes.

Other Options Considered

11. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. To improve the emotional and mental health of children in care wherever they are placed, and positively influence their life chances.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

14. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any further actions it requires in relation to progress in promoting and improving the emotional and mental health of children in care.

Steve Edwards
Service Director, Youth, Families and Social Work

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (AK 30/09/19)

15. The recommendation falls within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee under its terms of reference

Financial Comments (SAS 27/09/19)

16. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Additional Staffing to Support Children's Mental Health Pilot](#) - report to Children and Young People's Committee on 16th July 2018

[Promoting and improving the health of looked after children](#) - report to Children and Young People's Committee on 17th December 2018

[Improving the health outcomes for children and young people in the care of the local authority](#) - report to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on 12th September 2016

[County CAMHS Looked After and Adoption Team – service provision and developments 2016-17](#) - report to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on 12th September 2016

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1302

14th October 2019**Agenda Item: 13****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND SOCIAL
WORK****ADOPTION EAST MIDLANDS: REGIONAL ADOPTION AGENCY UPDATE
APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 2019****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide information on activity in the Regional Adoption Agency from April to September 2019 and seek approval to continue media activity to promote adopter recruitment.

Information

2. The Government continues to drive improvement of performance in the adoption sector, with a range of legal, policy and organisational changes
3. The Adoption and Special Guardianship Leadership Board, chaired by Andrew Christie with representatives from the Association of Directors of Children's Services, the Voluntary Sector and Academics, continues to monitor performance and drive change.
4. The quarterly adoption survey is a Department for Education monitoring tool. The survey reports on all significant dates for all children with an adoption plan, and since 2014, for all adults who have completed a Registration of Interest in adoption. Further reporting fields have been added such as disruption data pre-order and if children have been placed with in house or external adopters.
5. The data allows national and local analysis of number and demographic of children waiting for adoption, and adopters available to take placements of children. This data informs the adoption scorecard, which sets targets in relation to placement order being obtained to children being matched and children entering care to placement with an adoptive family.
6. The Regional Adoption Agency, Adoption East Midlands, was formed from four Local Authority Adoption Services, merging with Nottinghamshire as the host, on 3rd April 2019. The partner authorities are Derby, Nottingham, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.
7. The Partnership, Performance and Quality Board meets monthly. Each Local Authority Service Director attends, and the performance of the Regional Adoption Agency is scrutinised.

8. Each month there is an Operational Group meeting with partner Service Managers from each local authority with an agenda focused on fostering, permanence and partnership. These are meetings where issues can be raised and resolved, and best practice can be agreed. A monthly finance leads meeting is held, scrutinising the budget, ensuring Adoption East Midlands delivers at no additional cost.
9. Data to date shows the four local authorities are likely to seek to place 180 children with adoption plans in this financial year.
10. Nottinghamshire are likely to make 60 adoption plans 2019-20 (20 April-June 2019).
11. Adoption East Midlands must recruit at least 105 adoptive families to meet the needs to place these children.
12. Adoption East Midlands has very few adopters not in a match at present (22). The adopters who continue to wait have a narrower matching profile than peers - for example only wanting a girl, a very young child, having birth children or adopted children, which are additional matching considerations.
13. From April - August 2019:
 - 46 adopters approved
 - 66 children placed
 - 44 within Adoption East Midlands
 - 22 interagency
 - 0 disruptions pre order
 - 35 children adopted – April-June
 - 59 new adoption plans April-June.
14. Children matched include 11 sibling groups and 13 children 5 years old and over including sibling groups. There have been 15 Foster for Adoption placements since Adoption East Midlands went live.
15. Children continue to attend Adoption Activity Days, and Adoption East Midlands will seek to develop a local offering of Adoption Activity Days.
16. Linkmaker is used for adopters to see all waiting children and consider possible matches.
17. Adoption East Midlands hosted by Nottinghamshire continues to utilise all homefinding opportunities for children – publicity, adoption activity days, adoption register events, local profile sharing events and this consistent activity proves successful. Local media continues to be utilised to publicise the need for adopters and videos of adopter stories have been added to Adoption East Midlands website. Consistent partnership working with children's social care allows the service to track children who may need adoption and plan its recruitment strategy accordingly.
18. Changes to legislation in March 2014 allow children to be placed in a fostering placement which will become adoption. This is not the same as foster carers who may then choose to adopt (about 15% of all adoptions of children from care are by foster carers). It relates to

approved adopters who are also temporarily approved as foster carers for a named child, to enable a child to be placed with them at an earlier point. This is then a foster placement until it becomes adoption.

19. There is an element of risk for the adopters in this type of placement, but the advantage is that the child is settled in a permanent placement at a much younger age, usually an adoption placement can only be made after a child is subject to a Placement Order, and the adoption panel has recommended a match which the agency decision maker agrees. However, a foster to adopt placement can be made at any point in the time before the Placement Order.
20. The national aim is for 25% of all adoptions to follow foster for adoption placement. Adoption East Midlands is successful in recruiting adopters willing to undertake Foster for Adopt and has experienced adopters able to speak positively about this.
21. Adoption support continues to be an area of development for the Government. Since 1st May 2015 all local authorities have been applying to the Adoption Support Fund on behalf of adopters to purchase support packages. All Adoption East Midlands applications have been successful with circa £448,000 awarded to fund support packages, for 151 recipients in 132 families.
22. Future plans include:
 - local Adoption Activity Days for homefinding
 - developing best practice in the region, for example Later Life Letters, relinquished babies, birth family support
 - consistent practice as far as possible in the region
 - further increasing the recruitment of adopters, to meet sufficiency locally and nationally.
 - embedded Adoption Support throughout life
 - Peer Support for adopters
 - use of Adoption Support Fund to provide different services.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

23. It is a regulatory requirement that an annual update is provided to the Committee. This report is accepted by Ofsted as an annual update.
24. National Adoption week is 14 - 20th October and Adoption East Midlands will have co-ordinated activity via social media, and adoption information events. Committee is asked to agree continuation of this strategy, including media interviews by officers of Adoption East Midlands, through to March 2020.

Other Options Considered

25. No other options have been considered.

Statutory and Policy Implications

26. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human

rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

27. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Committee:

- 1) considers whether there are any further information it requires in relation to the update on activity in the Regional Adoption Agency from April to September 2019
- 2) approves the continued media activity to promote adopter recruitment.

Steve Edwards

Service Director, Youth, Families and Social Work

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Constitutional Comments (EP 20/09/19)

28. The recommendations fall within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 23/09/19)

29. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Adoption Service update: June 2018 to March 2019](#) – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 29th April 2019.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1297

14 October 2019

Agenda Item: 14

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CUSTOMERS, GOVERNANCE AND EMPLOYEES

WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2019-20.

Information

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The attached work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified.
4. As part of the transparency introduced by the new committee arrangements, committees are expected to review day to day operational decisions made by officers using their delegated powers. It is anticipated that the committee will wish to commission periodic reports on such decisions. The committee is therefore requested to identify activities on which it would like to receive reports for inclusion in the work programme. It may be that the presentations about activities in the committee's remit will help to inform this.

Other Options Considered

5. None.

Reason for Recommendation

6. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That the Committee considers whether any amendments are required to the Work Programme.

Marjorie Toward

Service Director, Customers, Governance & Employees

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (HD)

7. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (NS)

8. There are no direct financial implications arising from the contents of this report. Any future reports to Committee on operational activities and officer working groups, will contain relevant financial information and comments.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2019-20

REPORT TITLE	BRIEF SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER	REPORT AUTHOR
18 November 2019			
Schools Building Programme update		Derek Higton	Mick Allen/ Phil Berrill
School Capital Programme progress report	Six-monthly update	Derek Higton	Mick Allen
Stability Index 2019		Colin Pettigrew	Dave Gilbert
Children's Centre Service proposals		Laurence Jones	Irene Kakoullis
Early Years Funding		Laurence Jones	Irene Kakoullis/ Jude Burgess
Changes to the staffing establishment within the Information and Systems Team		Laurence Jones	Joe Foley
Update on the Remodelling Practice programme	Quarterly report	Steve Edwards	Lucy Peel/ Holly Smitheman
Troubled Families Programme update and proposed changes to the Family Service		Steve Edwards	Rachel Miller/ Edward Goodson
16 December 2019			
Children and young people core data set - performance for Quarter 2 2019/20	Quarterly performance report	Nigel Stevenson	Dave Gilbert
Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future – Departmental Strategy: six month review of progress (April to September 2019)	Six-monthly review	Colin Pettigrew	Matt Garrard
2019/2020 Children and Families budget update		Laurence Jones	Sue Summerscales
Special Educational Needs & Disability Policy		Marion Clay	
Elective Home Education update	Six-monthly update	Marion Clay	Jonathan Smith
Child Sexual Exploitation and Children Missing from Home and Care: six monthly update	Six monthly update	Laurence Jones	Joe Foley/ Hannah Johnson
Children's Homes Governance Board update	Six monthly reports	Laurence Jones	Laurence Jones
Local Authority governor appointments to school governing bodies	Quarterly report	Marion Clay	Sarah Sayer
Corporate Parenting items:			
Promoting and improving the health of Looked	Annual report	Steve Edwards	Claire Sampson/

REPORT TITLE	BRIEF SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER	REPORT AUTHOR
After Children			Health/Lucy Peel
Foster carers items			
13 January 2020			
Children Missing Education Strategy and Elective Home Education Policy		Marion Clay	Karen Hughman/ Sarah Whitby
Future delivery of the Families Information Service		Laurence Jones	Irene Kakoullis
Destination of 16 & 18 year olds at end of Key Stages 4 & 5		Marion Clay	Sue Denholm
Nottinghamshire Outstanding Achievement 4Uth Award 2020	Annual update report	Laurence Jones	Pom Bhogal
10 February 2020			
First admissions applications to Nottinghamshire schools and academies – academic year 2019/20		Marion Clay	Mike Sharpe
Nottinghamshire school admission arrangements 2021-22: determination		Marion Clay	Karen Hughman/ Mike Sharpe
Update on the Remodelling Practice programme	Quarterly report	Steve Edwards	Lucy Peel/ Holly Smitheman
Annual refresh of the Local Transformation Plan for children and young people's emotional and mental health	Annual refresh	Jonathan Gribbin	Katharine Browne/ Rachel Clark
Early Childhood Services Communications Plan 2020-22		Laurence Jones	Irene Kakoullis
23 March 2020			
Children and young people core data set - performance for Quarter 3 2019/20	Quarterly performance report	Nigel Stevenson	Dave Gilbert
2019/2020 Children and Families budget update		Laurence Jones	Sue Summerscales
Outcomes of Ofsted inspections of schools – termly update	Autumn term report	Marion Clay	Diane Ward
Children Missing Education	Six-monthly update	Marion Clay	Karen Hughman/ Sarah Whitby

REPORT TITLE	BRIEF SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER	REPORT AUTHOR
Best Start Strategy 2020-2025		Laurence Jones	Irene Kakoullis
Six monthly update on the Local Offer for Care Leavers		Laurence Jones/ Marion Clay	Marion Clay
Troubled Families Programme in Nottinghamshire update	Six-monthly update	Steve Edwards	Rachel Miller
Local Authority governor appointments to school governing bodies	Quarterly report	Marion Clay	Sarah Sayer
Corporate Parenting items:			
Contact Service annual report	Annual report	Steve Edwards	Denise Martin
Foster carers items			
27 April 2020			
Provision, achievements and progress of the Children in Care Council and participation of children and young people looked after 2019/20		Steve Edwards	Pom Bhogal
Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All – six monthly update		Marion Clay	Koni Rakhit
Schools Forum and Education Trust Board officer group report	Annual officer group report	Marion Clay	
18 May 2020			
Update on the Remodelling Practice programme	Quarterly report	Steve Edwards	Lucy Peel/ Holly Smitheman
School Capital Programme progress report	Six-monthly update	Derek Highton	Mick Allen
15 June 2020			
Children and young people core data set - performance for Quarter 4 2019/20	Quarterly performance report	Nigel Stevenson	Dave Gilbert
Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future – Departmental Strategy: six month review of progress (October 2019 to March 2020)	Six-monthly review	Colin Pettigrew	Matt Garrard
Outcome of Ofsted inspections of schools – termly update	Spring term report	Marion Clay	Diane Ward
Elective Home Education update	Six-monthly update	Marion Clay	Jonathan Smith
Child Sexual Exploitation and Children Missing from Home and Care: annual report 2019/20	Annual update	Laurence Jones	Joe Foley/ Hannah Johnson

REPORT TITLE	BRIEF SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER	REPORT AUTHOR
Local Authority governor appointments to school governing bodies	Quarterly report	Marion Clay	Sarah Sayer
Corporate Parenting items:			
Fostering Service annual report		Steve Edwards	Ty Yousaf
Virtual School annual report	Annual report	Marion Clay	Sue Denholm
Independent Reviewing Officer Service annual report		Steve Edwards	Izzy Martin
National Minimum Fostering Allowances and Levels Payments to Foster Carers 2020/21	Annual determination	Steve Edwards	Ty Yousaf/ Tara Pasque
Foster carers items			
20 July 2020			
Children's Homes Governance Board – review of terms of reference and update		Laurence Jones	Laurence Jones