

Nottinghamshire

Early Help Impact Statement

2014-15 Quarter 4

What is the Impact of Early Help in Nottinghamshire?

Quarter 4 2014-15

The Early Help Development Plan has been developed to further improve the multi-agency early help offer to children, young people and families across Nottinghamshire. The activity driven by this plan is intended to improve outcomes for children and young people and reduce the need for specialist or statutory interventions. The plan brings together work across the Children's Trust to ensure that all agencies coordinate their activities to provide a coherent and seamless service to children and families and the annual summary of actions will be contained within the emerging "Help and Protection Plan".

Early help as defined by Eileen Munro is that provided early in the life of a child and early in the emergence of a problem. In Nottinghamshire, services are considered to be providing Early Help when the child or young person's needs are assessed to be at levels 1 to 3 within the Pathway to Provision (Universal, Early Intervention and Targeted Services).

Our ambition is for children, young people and families to receive the most appropriate support to meet their needs at the earliest opportunity. This supports the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust ambition of Nottinghamshire being a place where children are "safe, healthy and happy, where everyone enjoys a good quality of life and where everyone can achieve their potential"

Services that provide Early Help to children and families in Nottinghamshire include children's centres, Targeted Support Services, Young People's Services (youth service), early years settings, schools, colleges, services for children with special educational needs and disabilities, midwives, health visitors, school nurses, GPs, Family Nurse Partnership, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, community paediatrics, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, contraceptive and sexual health services, the police, and voluntary and community sector providers. These services provide a range of support and interventions to children and families including evidence based parenting programmes, breastfeeding support, learning support, help to find education.

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1. Children and Young People Having their needs met through the EHAF Process

Target: Increase

Baseline: 54% of presenting issues to early help are fully resolved (2014 calendar year)

National Average: Not measured / available

Outcomes are measured using three descriptors at case closure:

- **Fully Resolved** - The child or young person has moved down at least one level on the Pathway to Provision and the child's needs are significantly improved.
- **Partially Resolved** - The child or young person remains on the same level on the Pathway to Provision but there has been an improvement in some of the child's needs.
- **Not Resolved** - The child or young person has moved up a level on the Pathway to Provision **Or** The child or young person remains at the same level on the Pathway to Provision but they or their family have not engaged and the evidence is that the child's needs remain unmet.

Over the last 12 months we can see that the number of cases "fully resolved" by early help services has risen during the year with the latest two quarters showing a 65% and 58% success rate compared respectively to 55% which is the figure for the 2014-15 year as a whole. The number of cases not resolved due a family disengaging has also dropped considerably with 11% during the latest quarter compared 16% over the full twelve month period. The number of cases that early help staff have needed to escalate into social care has remained at relatively low levels over the last two quarters.

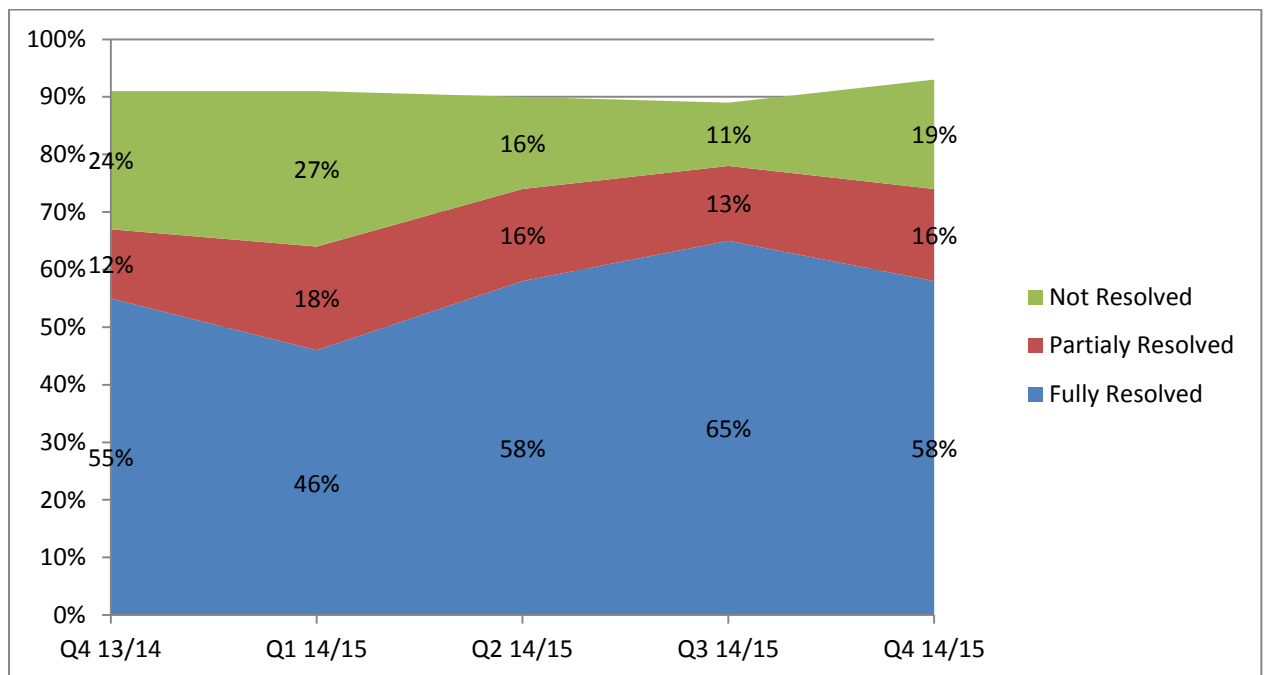
Overall this shows that early help services are becoming more skilled and confident in dealing with cases and better at engaging and retaining families and young people in services. There is still scope for improvement and we have set the following targets for the 2015-16 financial year:

- 70% of early help cases to be fully resolved at the point of closure
- For no early help cases to be closed with the outcome "not recorded"

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	Q1 (2014/15)	Q2 (2014/15)	Q3 (2014/15)	Q4 (2014/15)	Aggregate %
Fully Resolved	46% (457)	58% (302)	65% (372)	58% (338)	55% (1469)
Partially Resolved	18% (174)	16% (86)	13% (76)	15% (90)	16% (426)
Not resolved -Escalated to Children's Social Care	4% (36)	2% (12)	2% (13)	5% (31)	3% (68)
Not resolved child/family disengaged	23% (228)	14% (71)	11% (69)	11% (64)	16% (432)
Transferred to another service	4% (35)	2% (10)	3% (15)	3% (17)	3% (77)
Moved out of Notts	4% (39)	4% (23)	1% (9)	2% (13)	3% (84)
Not recorded	2% (18)	4% (19)	3% (17)	6% (33)	3% (87)
TOTAL	987	523	571	586	2667



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2. The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Referrals to Early Help

Target: 25% of enquiries from the MASH to result in an appropriate referral to early help services during 2015-16.

Baseline: 20% (MASH NFA) / 10% (referred to early help) (2014/15 financial year)

National Average: Not available

During 2014-15 less than 6% of enquiries to the MASH resulted in a referral to early help services whereas 35% resulted in “no further action” although some will have been offered advice and guidance, including signposting to other agencies. Our assessment is that there is scope for improvement given the low numbers referred from the MASH to early help as opposed to being closed NFA and also taking into account the number of initial assessments resulting in NFA, which as 2014-15 stood at 43%. A concerted effort during quarter 4 of the year saw the numbers referred to early help increase to 10% and NFAs reduce to 20%. The provision of early help services is in all likelihood helping to reduce the level of re-referrals to the MASH as alternative referrals are made, although clear evidence for this is currently lacking. Re-referrals are lower than statistical neighbour and England averages in 2012-13 and 2013-14. However, given that there were 26% re-referrals to the MASH during 2014-15 there is significant scope to intervene earlier in these cases. We have introduced a stretching target in our 2015-16 Service Plan for **25% of enquiries from the MASH to result in an appropriate referral to early help services.**

	Q1 14/15	Q2 14/15	Q3 14/15	Q4 14/15
MASH Enquiry closed NFA	34%	43%	38%	20%
Passed to Early Help	1%	4%	5%	10%
Assessed by CSC	49%	43%	45%	42%

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3. Volumes of Early Help Activity

Target: Reduce

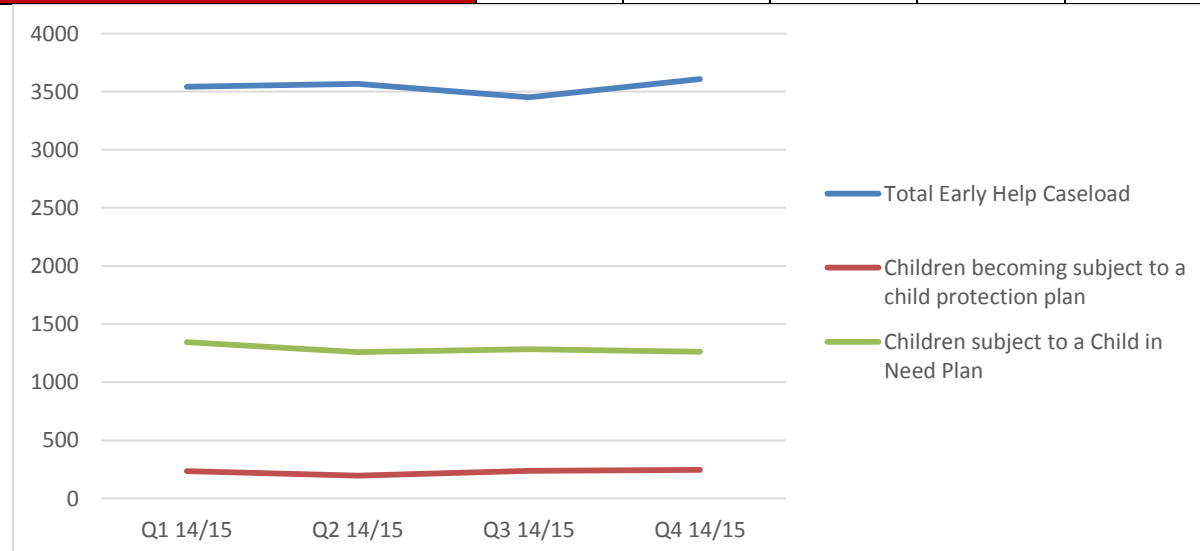
Baseline: 36.4 (2013/14)

National Average: 42.1 (2013/14)

The effectiveness of Early Help Services can significantly reduce the number of children who need to be subject to formal social care interventions through providing the right support to a family to address issues swiftly and before the emergence of serious safeguarding concerns when possible. Over the 15 months for which consistent data is available the number of children becoming subject to Child Protection or Child in Need plans has reduced as the volume of cases in early help has risen.

The current rate of Child Protection Plans per 10,000 of 35.9 is in line with the rate for statistical neighbours and England average with the latest data available (31.5 and 37.9 respectively). The early help caseload grew from 2710 at the end of December 2013 to 3452 at the end of September 2014, a rise of 27%.

<i>Quarter end snapshots</i>	Q4 13/14	Q1 14/15	Q2 14/15	Q3 14/15	Q4 14/15
Early help cases open CCs (Level 3 /CAF assessed)	700	879	675	879	967
Early help cases open CCs (Level 2)	616	532	827	668	722
Early help cases open TS	1419	1316	1270	1204	1333
Early help cases open SF	726	816	795	701	587
Total Early Help Caseload	3461	3543	3567	3452	3609
Children subject to a Child in Need Plan	1679	1345	1258	1283	1263



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4. First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

Target: Same or lower than 2014-15

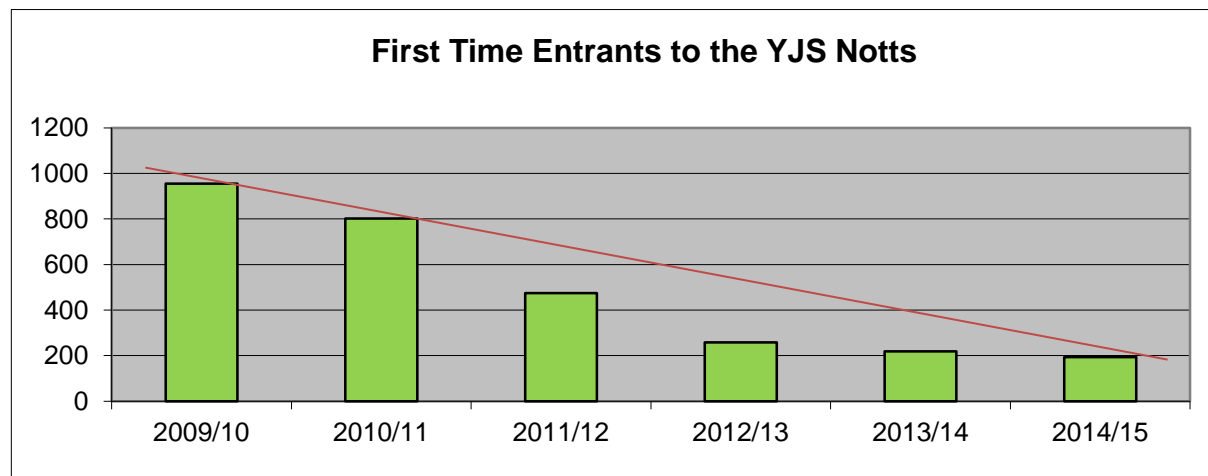
Baseline: 351 (2012/13)

National Average: 533 per 100,000 of youth population (2013-14)

During 2014-15 193 young people (or 269 per 100,000 of youth population) were first time entrants, a 12% decrease on the previous year. In 2013-14, the latest figure for which national comparators are available, Nottinghamshire had 298 first time entrants to the youth justice system (per 100,000 of youth population) compared with 553 per 100,000 nationally.

Nottinghamshire has been providing early help services in the form of parenting interventions and direct support to young people aged eight and above for many years using a variation on the Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP) methodology through our Youth Offending Teams. Outreach youth work schemes also seek to identify and engage young people in community settings. This work has led to long term reductions in the numbers of young people in the youth justice system supplemented by Youth Service and Targeted Support provision. 474 children and young people received a preventative intervention by the Youth Offending Teams during 2013-14.

We have also worked to provide more intensive work with children in communities that are high crime areas to prevent them becoming the next generation of offenders. Three specific examples of this include the delivery of two Youth Inclusion Projects (commissioned with public health and delivered in partnership with Barnardo's) in Coxmoor (Ashfield) and Manton (Worksop) and a Positive Futures project delivered with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club in Hawtonville (Newark).



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5. Under 18 conception rate (rate per 1000 females aged 15-17)

Target: Decrease

Baseline: 24.2 (2013)

National Average: 27.7 (2012)

Nottinghamshire historically has achieved well in reducing teenage conceptions, comparing well with statistical neighbours and across the region. The teenage conception rate is calculated by identifying the number of conceptions per 1,000 females aged 15-17 in an area. Under 16 conception data is also provided but has not been used to assess progress nationally.

Teenage Conception Data is measured annually and this annual teenage conception rate for under 18's has been the main target for teenage pregnancy strategies and Children's Trust partnerships. The latest annual data published is for 2013. Teenage Conception data is provided by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) and the Department of Health (DH). The provisional 2013 under 18 conception rate for England is **24.3** per 1,000 girls aged 15-17 – a decrease of 12.3% from the 2012 rate and the lowest rate since 1998 (15 years ago). Since 1998 (baseline year), the under 18 conception rate has fallen by 47.9% (from 46.6 per 1,000 in 1998).

The 2013 under 18 conception rate for Nottinghamshire was **24.2** per 1,000 females aged 15-17 – a decrease of 17.7% from the 2012 rate of 29.4%, and a decrease of 47.8% since the 1998 baseline year. The number of under 18 conceptions in 2013 was 340, a reduction of 274 per year compared to the 1998 baseline number of 614.

In 2013, Nottinghamshire has a lower under 18 conception rate than both the England value (24.3) and the East Midlands value (24.6) although this difference is not significant at the 95% statistical confidence level.

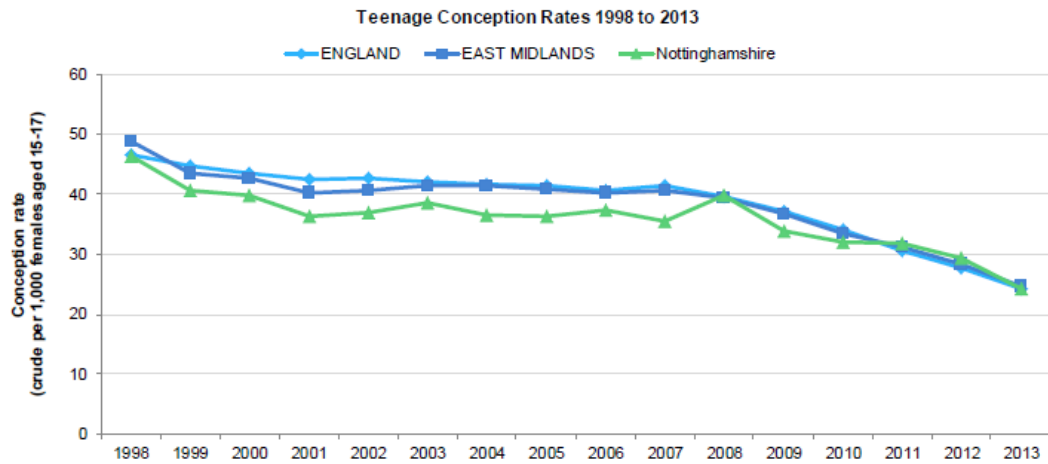
Currently Nottinghamshire's overall reduction of 47.8% against the 1998 base rate compares broadly similar with the national reduction of 47.9% and the East Midlands reduction of 49.6%.

The Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) is a licensed, evidenced based, intensive nurse-led prevention and early intervention programme for vulnerable first time young parents and their children. It is the first part of the preventive pathway for the 2-5% of most disadvantaged children. The Nottinghamshire programme was launched in April 2013. The latest data indicates that the number of clients who used contraception every time or most of the time at 6 months infancy has increased from 60% (the baseline) to 89% and remains at 76% at 12 months.

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Figure 2.1: Teenage conception rates 1998-2013 for Nottinghamshire and National, Regional comparators



Source: ONS Conceptions Statistics 2013 (published 2015)

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6. Dependent children living in households whose income is below 60% of the national average

Target: Decrease

Baseline: 16% (Aug 2012 snapshot)

National Average: 18.6% (Aug 2012 snapshot)

Early Help services can have some impact in reducing poverty but also have a key role in helping those in poverty manage better for example by helping with money management, putting families in touch with those who can help them find training or work and through advice on food and nutrition. All of these elements have been championed by Early Help Improvement Groups and are integral parts of the Child Poverty Action Plan (October 2014 – October 2015).

The Troubled Families Programme, delivered as a key part of Nottinghamshire's Early Help Offer, is performing well in getting families achieving progress towards work and retaining continuous employment when compared to other similar areas, as shown in the chart below. This has been achieved through close working with the DWP and a proactive approach by workers in engaging families around this agenda.

Children centres engage with parents to build confidence, skills and qualifications through their local children centres either through volunteering or undertaking family learning or adult learning. Last year the centres engaged 1447 adults from low income households in adult education and 292 from low income households into volunteering. 86% of mothers being assisted through the Family Nurse Partnership are in education, training or employment at 12 months infancy.

Troubled Families – progress information concerning employment as at February 2015

Area	Total number of Families	% of families achieving progress to work as at the end of February 2015 ¹	% of families achieving continuous employment result as at the end of February 2015
Essex	2220	1%	3%
Nottinghamshire	1580	10%	18%
Lincolnshire	1370	11%	12%
Derbyshire	1355	5%	5%
Cumbria	1050	4%	5%
Gloucestershire	900	5%	8%
Worcestershire	900	2%	3%
Northumberland	650	1%	5%
National	117,910	7%	8%

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7.Youth Homelessness

During 2015-16 there were 549 referrals made to Early Help for young people (aged 16-21) presenting as homeless. On average 84 referrals each quarter are from 16 and 17 year olds making 336 each year. There is potential for all of these young people to become looked after.

The success of the Early Help mediation has meant that young people that can remain at home are doing so with the support of appropriate professionals. On average approximately 20% of referrals are successfully mediated each quarter meaning that an average of 67 young people do not have to be accommodated by the local authority each year.

For young people placed in supported accommodation their needs are recorded when they enter the accommodation and the resolution is recorded at the end. Key areas of recording include economic wellbeing, community involvement, physical and mental health and self-efficacy. In all cases data shows that significant improvement is seen across the population by the time they leave the scheme, accepting that not all of the reasons for leaving will be positive. Some example data is shown below.

Young People's Accommodation

Outcome	% with need at reception	% where need is resolved at exit
Managing debt	34%	59%
Participating in ETE	66%	68%
Accessing appropriate community services	46%	93%
Physically healthy	51%	93%
Mentally well	26%	87%
Not harming self	11%	88%
Managing substance use	41%	51%
Confident, involved and in control of own life	77%	87%

Teenage Parents

Outcome	% with need at reception	% where need is resolved at exit
Managing debt	43%	90%
Participating in ETE	88%	75%
Accessing appropriate community services	64%	81%
Physically healthy	20%	100%
Mentally well	36%	89%
Not harming self	16%	100%
Managing substance use	4%	100%
Confident, involved and in control of own life	100%	88%

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8. Youth Service Engagement

The Youth Service delivers Nottinghamshire's Youth Offer of high quality, safe and enjoyable positive social education activities outside of the school day including targeted provision for young people with a disability or those from the Looked After Cohort. The service also supports the delivery of the Council's Early Help strategy for young people, through open access activities prioritising delivery in communities of highest need. This is to ensure the delivery the Council's statutory requirements under Section 507B of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 as it relates the duty to secure services and activities for young people aged 13-19, and those with learning difficulties to age 24, to improve their well-being. In Nottinghamshire we also provide access to Junior youth work provision for young people from Y6 to age12 to support their transition to both formal and informal education opportunities.

The service facilitates a structure for young people to voice their opinions and to shape the services provided for them by the Council and its partners, also to increase the opportunities for the positive representation of young people in the media. This is to support the delivery of the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust's Participation Strategy 2014-16 and contributes to the NSCB Business Plan (2014-16) and the Children, Young People and Families Plan (2014/16). Effective communication and engagement with children and young people through formal arrangements with the Nottinghamshire Young People's Board (including the Children in Care Council), Elected Members of UK Youth Parliament.

Delivering appropriate access to contraception and sexual health information, through the implementation and development of the C Card Scheme, prioritising teenage pregnancy hot spot wards contributes to delivering the outcomes of the Nottinghamshire Children, Young People and Families Plan and the Health & Wellbeing Board Strategy (2014-17) Increasing young people's understanding and tolerance of each other's personal circumstances or life choices including; age, race, culture, nationality, religion, sexuality, disability, education, employment and interests, also those of their wider community. An example of the work that contributes to this is the establishing of LGBTU open access groups across the county.

Performance of the Youth Service 14/15

Youth Service	Total Unique (individuals) directly engaged in positive activities	Total attendances of those Unique individuals in positive activities
Open access Youth Provision operated by NCC	21,446	145,442
C Card	8,000	16,000
Duke of Edinburgh Award NB this Scheme transfers to the OEE Service on 1/4/15	2,400	48,000
14/15 Total Youth Service	31,846	209,442

9. Children's Centre Performance

REACH

Domain	Performance Indicators	County	Districts	Cummulative	2013/14 Actual				Trend 13/14	2014/15 Actual				Trend 14/15
				2014/15 Targets	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
REACH	A1.1 Focused Reach Registered (monthly)	County		80%	79%	80%	77%	79%		82%	85%	99%	100%	
			Ashfield	82%	83%	83%	78%	81%		89%	90%	105%	105%	
			Bassetlaw	79%	78%	79%	79%	78%		79%	81%	95%	98%	
			Bracklowe	82%	81%	84%	78%	80%		85%	87%	99%	98%	
			Gedling	78%	81%	81%	75%	78%		82%	83%	97%	97%	
			Mansfield	82%	79%	80%	81%	82%		81%	86%	100%	102%	
			Newark & Sherwood	79%	78%	77%	78%	79%		79%	84%	99%	100%	
			Rushcliffe	65%	59%	60%	61%	63%		58%	71%	81%	88%	
	A1.2 Population Registered (monthly)	County		75%	71%	72%	71%	73%		74%	78%	91%	93%	
	A2.1 Focused Reach and Seen (monthly)	County		66%	28%	42%	48%	57%		28%	46%	58%	71%	
			Ashfield	66%	24%	41%	49%	57%		33%	52%	62%	75%	
			Bassetlaw	66%	29%	42%	50%	58%		30%	48%	61%	68%	
			Bracklowe	68%	42%	48%	52%	59%		29%	45%	54%	73%	
			Gedling	65%	27%	44%	48%	53%		28%	42%	50%	67%	
			Mansfield	65%	29%	41%	49%	55%		28%	48%	60%	72%	
			Newark & Sherwood	68%	28%	42%	48%	62%		24%	42%	56%	70%	
			Rushcliffe	65%	18%	28%	32%	38%		13%	34%	54%	69%	
	A2.2 Population Seen	County		55%	25%	33%	41%	54%		23%	40%	51%	62%	
	A3.1 Targeted Group Sustained Contact	County		50%			37%	48%		22%	58%	66%	78%	

Focused Reach

As a County **24867** or **100%** of all children under 5 who live in low income areas are registered with the Children's Centres, exceeding the **80%** target. All the districts have exceeded their registration target for 2014/15. This reflects improved systems in place for gaining consent by the health visitors in registering children with their local Children's Centre. Where figures show over 100% this is for a number of reasons including the fact that the denominator uses historical data as set by NCC, the birth rate has increased and those who have turned 5 in the year are counted if they were seen before they turned 5.

Population Registered

Activity for Quarter 4 shows County registration levels for all children under 5 have now risen to **41967 children or 93%**

Focused Reached and Seen

Due to the hard work and the plans put in place by the District Managers, improved consistency and increased numbers of children have been seen in all districts. **All 7 districts have exceeded their target set for 2014/15.** All districts have increased their seen figures considerably from the end of the last financial year by between 8% and 31% (Rushcliffe).

Population Seen

62% of the whole population have been seen, higher than in Quarter 4 2013/14 which was 54%, again a good increase of 8% and exceeds the target set of 55%

Targeted Group – Sustained Contact

Sustained contact has increased to **76%**, now exceeding the target which was set at **50%**. This equates to **10697** number children who have been seen 5 times or more in a Children's Centre. This illustrates that interventions by the centres are meeting the families' needs.

Service User's Voice

'I first came to Sure Start shortly after having my first baby girl. I was a young mum at 17 and my daughter was 5 weeks old. I got told about Sure Start by my Health Visitor, so one day I got ready and decided to check it out. My first visit was to a young parent's group. I was so nervous I went on my own. I didn't know anybody and felt pushed out and a bit neglected by the other mums. I stuck it out an hour, went through for snack time with the other parents and sat on the other side of the room. It was horrible. I felt left out and hurt. Shortly after, I got my things together and was ready to leave with the feelings that I never wanted to go back. I don't know why I felt like that, then a member of staff came behind me as I was leaving to see if I was ok, clearly noticing I wasn't. She offered me some support and asked if I would like her to come round for a chat. She was a support worker. I left her my number. A week later I had a phone call and it was her. She arranged to come round the following Friday. I was sceptical at first but at that point I needed someone and some help. The first visit had arrived and the worker came in for a coffee and a chat. All I remember was being very emotional. I explained why I left, how I felt at that point that I was dealing with depression. She sat back and listened and gave me other groups she thought might be good to attend. I didn't go back to the centre for a while but still had the support nearly every week from home.

I was then due to have my second child. I didn't know how to feel about it. I was probably more petrified on my second as I felt I couldn't cope with the first. When she was born it was ten times more difficult to cope with, being in the house all day. I still saw my family support worker and decided to give Sure Start another go. My youngest was about 8 weeks when I went back with my eldest being about 18 months. I went to the Stay and Play session. A worker came up to me as soon as the girls had settled in, she introduced herself and asked me about myself and the girls. She made me feel really welcome. She helped me when she saw I was struggling. It was so different from my first visit. From that day, I grabbed a timetable and started attending more groups like the library singing group and a new young mum's group. I got to know a lot of the staff well and started making friends. I was still having a lot of difficulties at home. My family support worker was leaving so she introduced me to a new family support worker. She was just as kind and supportive. I got offered a lot of support and guidance by her. I was having doubts at the time about keeping my youngest. I loved her so much, but at that time I didn't think I did, or could cope. A lot of support and help was given and I came through the rough patch.

After a while I started attending adult learning courses. The girls attended crèche and I felt happy and confident to leave them. I made more friends and my confidence was growing. I was feeling happier within myself. Things were getting thrown at me too but I felt I could cope with the help I was receiving. As my life got better and I felt happier, I started to think about going to work. With support from the support worker, I did a CV and handed them out. I eventually got a job. Now I am a working single mum and couldn't be happier. Without the help of Sure Start I wouldn't be where I am today and I'm very grateful. Sure Start is my second home and they all do a fantastic job'.