

**MARKET POSITION STATEMENT - D2N2 CHILDREN IN CARE PLACEMENTS**

**D2N2 COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS**

Derby City, Derbyshire County, Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils (D2N2) are working together to explore sub-regional commissioning of placement provision for their children in care.



**Key issues**

- The number of children coming into care continues to rise
- Nationally the market for external placements is saturated; it cannot cope with increased demand
- Market forces are pushing up unit costs
- Young people are presenting with increasingly complex needs and/or challenging behaviours
- Outcomes for young people are potentially being compromised by being placed in a setting that happens to be available rather than one that fits best with their care plan.

**D2N2** want to develop **new arrangements** following the expiry of the East Midlands Regional Children’s Framework (EMRCF) in January 2020; the new arrangements will be a collaborative approach, meeting the needs of all stakeholders including children and young people, providers and placing local authorities.

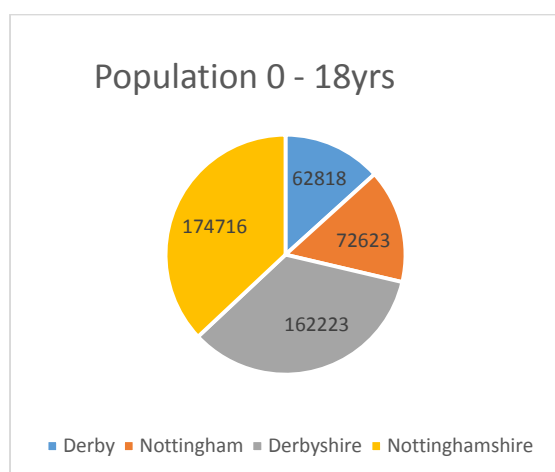
A key priority is to engage with our children and young people in care, we will be holding engagement activities and including their views throughout this process.

We are keen to ensure all stakeholders are able contribute to the new arrangements from the outset; an initial market engagement event at Derby Arena on **February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019** will provide an opportunity for us to begin consultation with providers.

**POPULATION**

D2N2 is one of the largest Local Enterprise Partnerships in England covering an area of 4900km<sup>2</sup>

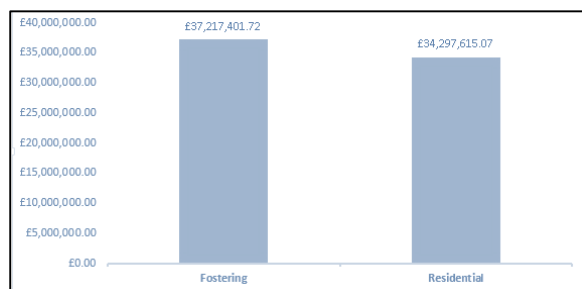
There is a total population of just under 2.2million



0 -18yr olds make up 22% of the total population with 19 -25yrs accounting for a further 9%.

The chart shows how the 0-18yrs population is distributed across D2N2.

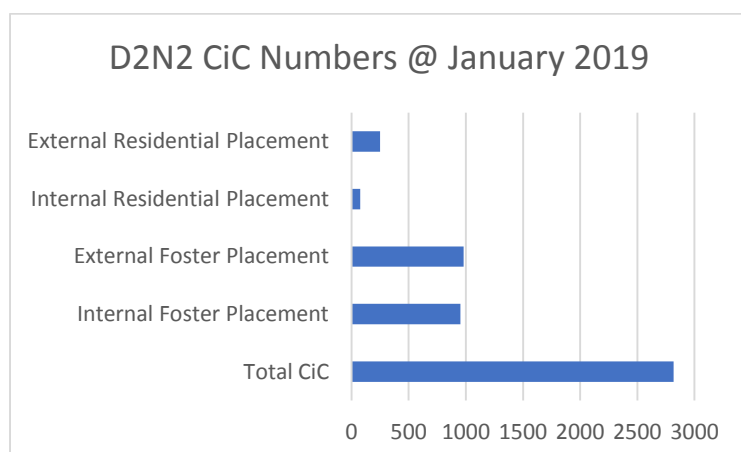
This population is expected to increase by a further 7% by 2026

**SPEND ON EXTERNAL PLACEMENTS**

D2N2 spent £71.5million in the 2017/18 financial period on procuring external placements from residential children's home and fostering providers.

**THE NUMBERS AND WHERE OUR CHILDREN IN CARE ARE PLACED**

Demand for placements has been increasing over a number of years. D2N2 generally maintain full capacity of their internal local authority provision therefore, changes in the overall number of children in care are reflected in the demand for externally commissioned provision.



In January 2019 there were circa 2800 children and young people in care across D2N2. The chart on the left shows the distribution across fostering and residential provision of internal and external placements.

*N.B. sum will not equal total CiC figure as not all placements types are included.*

**D2N2 PRIORITIES**

- **Local Provision for Local Children**
- **Establish D2N2 sub-regional commissioning arrangements**
- **Greater sharing of Council operated provision across D2N2**
- **Develop relationships with local providers to shape the market locally**
- **Greater flexibility of provision and commissioning via alternative contract models**
- **Right placement; right location; right time; right price**

There are over 100 registered children's homes within the D2N2 footprint offering more than 700 placements in addition to this there are over 1200 registered foster carers; our aspiration to have local children in local placements should therefore not be unattainable.