

Children and Families Select Committee

Monday, 19 June 2023 at 10:30

County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

- 1 **Appointment of the Chairman and Vice Chairman**
To note the appointment by Full Council on 11 May 2023 of Councillor Sam Smith as Chairman and Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year
- 2 **Membership**
To note that the membership of the Committee for the 2023/24 municipal year is as follows:
Councillors: Callum Bailey, Anne Callaghan BEM, Robert Corden, Debbie Darby, Errol Henry JP, John Lee, Mike Quigley MBE, Nigel Turner and Michelle Welsh
Education Representatives: Nigel Frith and James McGeachie
- 3 **Apologies for Absence**
- 4 **Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers**
(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
(b) Private Interests (Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary)
- 5 **Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 20 March 2023** 3 - 10
- 6 **Child Poverty - Free School Meals** 11 - 24
- 7 **Provision of Support to Looked After Children Transitioning Out of the Care System** 25 - 40
- 8 **Exceptional Payments for School Clothing and Footwear 2023-24** 41 - 44
- 9 **Work Programme** 45 - 66

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 Adrian Mann (Tel. 0115 804 4609) 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 and Families Select Committee

Date: Monday 20 March 2023 (commencing at 10:30am)

Membership:**County Councillors**

Sam Smith (Chairman)

Francis Purdue-Horan (Vice Chairman)

Callum Bailey

Anne Callaghan BEM

Robert Corden

Debbie Darby (**Apologies**)

Errol Henry JP (**Apologies**)

Roger Jackson (**Apologies**)

John Lee

Nigel Turner

Michelle Welsh

Education Representatives

Nigel Frith

James McGeachie

Substitute Members

Jim Creamer for Errol Henry JP

Jonathan Wheeler for Roger Jackson

Other County Councillors in attendance:

Tracey Taylor - Cabinet Member for Children and Families

Sinead Anderson - Deputy Cabinet Member for Children and Families

Officers and colleagues in attendance:

Martin Elliott - Senior Scrutiny Officer

Karen Hughman - Group Manager for Education Access, Standards and Safeguarding

Adrian Mann - Democratic Services Officer

Peter McConnochie - Service Director for Education, Learning and Inclusion

Lucy Peel - Service Director for Transformation and Improvement

Colin Pettigrew - Corporate Director for Children and Families

1. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP

The Committee noted that Nigel Frith had joined the Committee as a co-opted member as the representative of the Church of England in relation to education matters, and that James McGeachie had joined the Committee as a co-opted member as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church in relation to education matters.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Debbie Darby - other reasons
Councillor Robert Corden - other reasons
Councillor Errol Henry JP - other reasons

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 19 December 2022, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

5. SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING

The Cabinet Member for Children and Families, the Service Director for Education, Learning and Inclusion, and the Group Manager for Education Access, Standards and Safeguarding attended the meeting to present a report on pupil place planning for secondary schools:

- The report set out that the Council had a statutory duty to ensure that there were sufficient school places in its area. The number of school places required depended on the number of pupils of statutory school age resident in Nottinghamshire. Decisions on the need to increase or decrease available school places were based upon the projections of the number of places required within defined geographical areas agreed with the Department for Education (DfE), rather than at individual schools.
- The report explained that there was no nationally agreed formula for identifying projected school place demand, but that the Council's methodology was similar to that used by many other local authorities and was approved annually by the DfE. Significant improvements to the methodology had been implemented in 2020 and it had been further refined subsequently to reflect updated DfE guidance and best practice.
- The report noted that the secondary school capacity in Nottinghamshire for 2022 was 57,869, with a projected demand for 56,866 places – which indicated an overall surplus of 1,003 places. However, whilst the Council was fulfilling its duty in relation to school place availability across Nottinghamshire as a whole, it was noted that places might not be available in certain areas or year groups where

there was a particularly high demand, as was the case currently in West Bridgford, Rushcliffe East, Carlton, Worksop, Broxtowe South and East Leake.

- The report concluded that ensuring that there were sufficient secondary school places remained a complex process within a system where local authorities might have little or no control over the other participants (such as academies and the DfE), but that the Council was dedicated to achieving good or outstanding school places for all pupils in Nottinghamshire.

The Committee raised the following points in discussion:

- The Committee noted that 79% of Nottinghamshire schools were rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted, which was in line with both the national and wider regional average. Members considered that the overall plan for secondary school places was positive, with new schools being built and current schools being extended, and that good improvements had been made in how schools were regarded by parents.
- The Committee expressed concern that many schools within the Mansfield area were rated by Ofsted as requiring improvement. Members queried how further investment in education in the Mansfield area should be achieved and how additional support for improvement could be secured from the DfE. Members requested that a report on the apparent regional disparity in school performance levels was considered at a future meeting of the Committee.
- The Committee considered that great care should be taken to avoid the potentially misleading language of 'parental choice', as opposed to 'parental preference', at both the local and national level in relation to the school place application process.
- The Committee asked to what extent parents were expressing viable preferences for their children's school places in the applications process and whether the application paperwork was clear as to why parents should include their local school as one of their four preferences. Members queried whether parents in all areas of Nottinghamshire had access to a full four viable school preferences, which were both close enough in terms of distance and also offered certain vital services such as wraparound childcare provision for working parents.
- The Committee asked to what extent secondary schools had a defined local catchment and so had the capacity to offer places to all children living within that area – or to what extent the main entry criteria related to having attended a designated feeder primary school. Members observed that house building was often concentrated in certain localities and that developers would often use being within a particular school catchment area as a selling point, even if this alone would not meet that school's entry criteria.
- The Committee questioned how local housing plans were taken into account as part of school place planning, particularly if new housing developments were intended specifically for housing for young families, and how the school place needs arising from defined traveller sites were taken into consideration. Members queried to what degree children from outside Nottinghamshire contributed to

pressures on school place numbers in certain areas and how a declining birth rate was projected to affect future demand.

- The Committee queried how the pressures on school places in Rushcliffe, Arnold, Carlton, East Leake, Worksop and other oversubscribed areas would be addressed and how the expansion of school places in these areas would be funded. Members expressed concern that although school place availability in Rushcliffe had been a known issue for some time, it was projected to take until 2026/27 to fully address the current and projected shortfall in places.
- The Committee asked what criteria were used to decide whether a given school should be expanded to provide more places, how the current shortfall of places in certain areas would be addressed, how effective forward planning for provision was carried out and how planned school place expansion was delivered practically. Members queried at what point a single school would be considered too big for further expansion and when class sizes became too large. Members observed that, practically, increasing the number of school places in an area did not just require the expansion of school buildings – it also required an increase in the number of available teaching, specialist and support staff, particularly where special educational needs requirements were increasing in the population.
- The Committee queried whether a school's current Ofsted rating was taken into account if an expansion was planned and what steps would be taken in the event that a school being expanded was then judged by Ofsted as requiring improvement. Members asked to what extent parents were influenced in their school preferences by the latest Ofsted ratings and whether the Ofsted results always represented the best guide to whether a school was suitable for their children – particularly as a school's performance could change significantly between inspections. Members queried how the Council helped parents to assess the suitability of a given school by measures beyond its latest Ofsted outcomes.
- The Committee asked how the Council engaged with schools in areas where the demand for school places was high and how the Council raised any particular concerns from parents with schools. Members noted that it was important for the Council to have strong relationships with the Academy Trusts in Nottinghamshire and to seek to work in close partnership with them on current and future pupil place planning at the strategic level.

In relation to the points raised by the Committee, the Cabinet Member and Officers provided the following responses:

- It was explained that the Council could not compel parents to express preferences for the maximum of four schools as part of the school application process, nor to include their local school as one of their preferences. A significant amount of work had been carried out to ensure that the application form was as clear as possible and would alert parents if they had not expressed all their available preferences. It was noted, however, that care must be taken in the language used as although the Council could provide advice and guidance, it could not be seen to instruct parents in the selection of their preferences.

- It was noted that parents had a right to express a preference for where their children went to school, but that this did not represent a free choice of schools. Ultimately, each school had its own entry criteria, so it constituted a significant risk for parents to express preferences only for schools where their child was unlikely to meet that entry criteria – as the child could not only miss out on a place at these schools, but also at the nearest school where they were most eligible for a place. This constituted a particular issue in rural areas because if parents did not apply for a place at their nearest eligible school and the school then became full, the next nearest school with available spaces could be a significant distance away. As much work was being carried out as possible to communicate this to parents in a clear and sensitive way so that they could make informed and viable choices on the basis of the school eligibility criteria.
- It was highlighted that the Council had good relations and worked closely with all Nottinghamshire schools and the DfE on annual admission numbers to seek to ensure the right levels of ongoing capacity so that as many parents as possible could achieve their first preference of school. It was noted, however, that academies had the discretion to set their admission levels and their admission criteria in terms of both geographical catchment area and/or on the basis of feeder primary schools and were not obliged to increase their admission numbers to address fluctuations in local need. Academies also had the discretion to decide the maximum size to which their school could expand – though sometimes it was not possible for a given school to grow any further due to the constraints of its physical site. Schools could also be restricted in increasing their admission levels due to problems in recruiting and retaining the number of associated staff that this required.
- It was reported that it was not possible to predict the long-term demand for school places in a given area with complete accuracy as demand could be affected by factors such as changes in birthdates, inward and outward migration in Nottinghamshire, or other national or international events that caused significant numbers of people to migrate to areas of the UK. It was noted that whilst the recent trends of demographic change in Nottinghamshire had resulted in a larger number of children going through the education system, these trends were often cyclical in nature, as shown by the fact that the demand for Early Years provision had now decreased. A variety of means of providing additional school places would therefore be implemented in a specific area depending on whether the increased demand was projected to be short-term or long-term in nature.
- It was set out that whilst local housing development plans were taken into account when projecting the likely need for school places, the completion of a new housing development was often a long and complex process. A great deal of work was required to establish the level of need for new school places that may be generated by a development and to assess where these could be provided. It was noted that the requirement for school places arising from fixed traveller sites was not accounted for specifically in the current formula for establishing school place need, so the formula would be reviewed to ensure that these communities were not being disadvantaged. It was also noted that consideration would be given to whether the current formula should project the school place needs arising from a given housing development on a standardised basis, or whether variation was needed in

instances such as if the development would primary be used for housing for young families.

- It was explained that despite the work being carried out to project and plan for the number of school places required in high-pressure areas such as Rushcliffe, there were substantial practical challenges in creating these places, including the identification of suitable sites for expansion and the time taken for a new development to be progressed through the formal Planning system. Where demand for school places in an area increased significantly in the short-term due to unexpected events, it could take time for new places to be provided to meet this new demand.
- It was reported that under the current national legislation it was not possible for local authorities to build and operate new secondary schools, so any new schools would need to be delivered in partnership with Academy Trusts and the DfE. Although the DfE did fund the rebuilding of schools when their current buildings were out of date and no longer viable, this funding would only cover the rebuilding of a school to its current capacity. Where the school capacity also needed to be increased, the Council sought to plan and fund any expansion alongside the DfE's rebuilding scheme – though the DfE's timetable for the project would fall outside the Council's control.
- It was acknowledged that the Council's Children and Families department was responsible for school place planning, whilst delivery was carried out by the Place department. It was noted that it was vital for the two departments to work together effectively for the delivery of needed places within the required timeframe.
- It was confirmed that the Council was not involved directly in the planning and implementation of transformation measures when an academy was found by Ofsted to be requiring improvement, as this fell within the responsibility of the particular academy. It was noted, however, that the Council sought to participate in improvement activity as much as possible within the context of the powers available to it, and to work with schools to provide reassurance to parents. A low Ofsted rating was likely to affect the number of parents expressing a preference for a given school, but it was still important to expand the capacity for school places in the areas where this was required, and Academy Trusts would take an approach of rapid improvement where a need was identified by Ofsted. As schools then addressed Ofsted's concerns and secured a higher rating, demand for places at the school would increase again.
- Assurance was provided that the Council had strong relationships with schools, elected members and the DfE, and engaged with them regularly in ensuring that there were enough places and that any concerns from the Council and parents were raised. The Council discussed with schools the steps needed to address increasing local requirements and provided a level challenge when necessary.
- It was noted that, where members had queries on how pressures on school places affected specific schools or local areas, officers were available to discuss these in detail on a case-by-case basis. The knowledge of elected members was vital in

identifying specific local need fully, so officers welcomed their input in the school place planning process.

The Chairman thanked the Cabinet Member and Officers for attending the meeting and answering Members' questions.

RESOLVED (2023/001):

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That the following issues raised by the Committee in its consideration of the report be progressed:
 - a) That the documentation, information and materials used to communicate with parents and carers when applying for school places be shared with members of the Committee.
 - b) That members of the Committee carry out a task and finish review on how the Children and Families and Place departments can best work together on projects being implemented to deliver additional school places.
 - c) That the Cabinet Member for Children and Families, in consultation with officers, gives consideration to how local elected members can be most effectively communicated with and involved with the activity that takes place with academy trusts regarding the pupil place planning.
 - d) That further information on the activities that are being carried out around the projected pressure on the provision of secondary school places in East Leake (as noted in paragraph 25 of the report) be circulated to members of the Committee.
 - e) That members of the Committee work with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families to examine how the assessment tools for analysing the demand for school places created by new housing developments could be made more responsive to the varying levels of demand that different types of development may create.
 - f) That the issue raised during the discussion at the meeting of school performance levels be considered as part of the processes around the development of the Committee's Work Programme for 2023/24.
 - g) That a further progress report on the activity being carried out in relation to Secondary School Place Planning be brought to a future meeting of the Committee at a date to be agreed by the Chairman.

6. WORK PROGRAMME

The Senior Scrutiny Officer presented the Committee's current work programme. The following points were raised:

- It was reported that the review of Education Health and Care Plans, delayed by an Ofsted inspection in January, would start by the summer. This would be followed by a review of the Provision of Additional Specialist Educational Placements, which would include engagement with the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Asset Management.
- It was noted that an independent review into serious safeguarding concerns at Fountaindale School had been commissioned by the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and that any queries about the current position should be raised with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families.
- It was noted that as the system surrounding educational and school place provision could be complex, members would benefit from further information being provided on how the Department for Education, academies and local authorities all interacted in ensuring effective delivery.

RESOLVED (2023/002):

- 1) That the work programme be noted.
- 2) That Committee members make any further suggestions for items for inclusion on the work programme for consideration by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and senior officers, and subject to the required approval by the Chairman of the Overview Committee.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 12:39pm.

Chairman:

19 June 2023**Agenda Item 6****REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES****CHILD POVERTY – FREE SCHOOL MEALS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To examine and scrutinise how the increase of children in receipt of Free School Meals is being used to plan and inform the provision of other support for children and families.

Information**Free School Meals Eligibility**

2. Benefits-related free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the qualifying benefits below:
 - Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
 - Income Support
 - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
 - Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after the person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

In addition, free school meals for children in all households with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) has been permanently extended subject to maximum income thresholds.

Changes regarding Free School Meals uptake and the reasons for this

3. There has been a significant impact in free school meal eligibility over the last few years. Notably this was around the Covid pandemic where families were unable to work and entitlement increased. Furthermore, the roll out of Universal Credit has resulted in eligibility being protected. Pupils who were eligible on 1 April 2018, or have since become eligible, will continue to receive free school meals until March 2025 or until the end of the phase of education.

Actions the Council is taking or proposes to take to expand and seek new methods of enrolling children onto free school meals

4. Children are only eligible to receive a benefits-related free school meal when a claim has been made on their behalf and their eligibility has been confirmed. When parents apply and their income does not meet one of the qualifying benefits, the Council continues to check the entitlement on a weekly basis. This ensures that if a family's circumstances change and eligibility is confirmed the Council can notify schools immediately of the child's eligibility to Free School Meals.

Council actions to improve public awareness to ensure all who are entitled benefit from free school meals

5. The Council includes information about eligibility for Free School Meals in its factsheets when parents apply for school places. At the key transition points, information is shared with parents to advise them how to apply for free school meals. The service is currently in the middle of transitioning to a new portal for parents to apply and once this is live publicity through social media will remind families of the importance of applying if they are in receipt of a qualifying benefit. Additional promotion is being considered for the start of the new academic year.

Pupil Premium and how it is being used for children on Free School Meals and its effectiveness

6. One of the conditions of the Pupil Premium Grant is that schools must publish a Pupil Premium Strategy on their website. This details how they are using the additional funding for the current year and includes a review of the impact the previous year's funding had on outcomes for children on Free School Meals. Schools can choose how they spend their funding, but the approaches chosen must be taken from the Department for Education 'menu of approaches' which include improving teaching within classrooms, targeted academic interventions, and wider strategies. The Pupil Premium is funding to improve educational outcomes for children on Free School Meals.
7. The Education Improvement Team has an adviser who leads on Pupil Premium. School leaders and governors are regularly kept up to date with Pupil Premium requirements and good practice via newsletters and senior leaders' briefings. A Pupil Premium leaders' termly network ensures that the 49 schools choosing to attend can hear and learn about best practice in making effective use of the Pupil Premium. The sold offer available to all schools includes training on making the best use of the Premium and details the monitoring needed to check if it is effective in driving improvements.
8. Each term the adviser works closely with about 12 primary school leaders to ensure the Pupil Premium is used effectively in their school and the Pupil Premium Strategy drives the school improvement work. The schools are selected each term based on risk assessments, which include Ofsted category and outcomes for children on Free School Meals. The package of targeted support ensures that each school leader is supported to make improvements in the provision for children on Free School Meals so that their attainment and progress improves.

9. In terms of accountability, schools have to show how they are using their Pupil Premium effectively through inspections by Ofsted, through scrutiny of Pupil Premium plans by governors and trustees and schools are also held to account for the outcomes achieved by children on Free School Meals through published performance tables.

How the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme is being delivered in Nottinghamshire and the difference it is making to children and families

10. The Council has developed a comprehensive package of support to provide an activities and food programme to children and young people who are eligible for free school meals during the school holidays. The Council has adopted a blended approach, which includes in-house provision, outreach events, and activities, as well as developing partnerships with a range of providers across the area. This approach ensures that families have access to a range of opportunities and activities that are sustainable and cost-effective. The Council has worked closely with health and wellbeing teams, the cost-of-living team, the Youth Service, and community-based groups and schools around the County to ensure that there is a coordinated effort to support children and young people who are most in need. This collaborative approach has enabled the Council to provide a holistic service that benefits the wider community.
11. The HAF Team attend a variety of events around the County to raise the profile of the programme with stakeholders and to engage Nottinghamshire families, supporting them to understand free school meal eligibility and offering wider signposting for support.
12. The Department for Education annual report due to be submitted in June 2023 will report on 12,133 individual children and young people engaged in the 2022 HAF programme. The breakdown per district is detailed in the table below:

District	Numbers of Children and Young People engaged in the 2022 HAF programme
Ashfield	1,984
Bassetlaw	1,510
Broxtowe	1,122
Gedling	2,713
Mansfield	1,860
Newark and Sherwood	1,392
Rushcliffe	1,552
Total	12,133

13. **Appendix 1** details how the provision of HAF is making an impact.

How the Household Support Grant is being deployed in Nottinghamshire to help the families of children in receipt of Free School Meals

14. Phase four of the Household Support Fund launched at the end of May 2023 (along with previous phases of the Household Support Fund), with £3,230,966 of the Government allocation of £11,292,900 being designated to those households in receipt of Free School Meals. These payments will be issued prior to the summer and winter breaks in the school

calendar and the amount of support will be provided per household based on the number of children in receipt of free school meals.

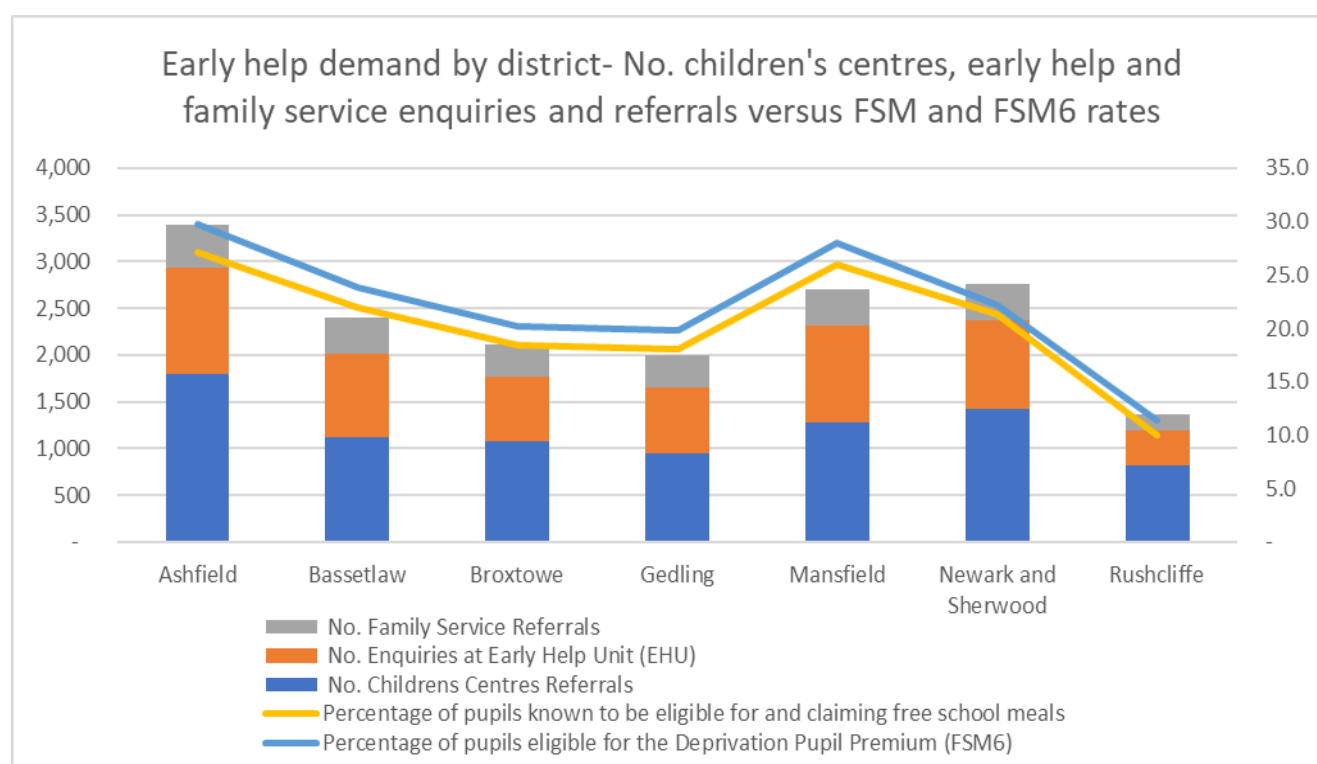
Auto Enrolment in Respect of Free School Meals

15. There are some legal considerations on auto opt-in in respect of free school meals in relation to data sharing. Prior to the Online Free School Meals Project some years ago, data sharing for Free School Meals eligibility was particularly restrictive. The project successfully enables local authorities, through a Department for Education (DfE) platform, to access data from HMRC, the Department for Work and Pensions and the Home Office by introducing wider data sharing agreements. This has successfully enabled local authorities to use the DfE Eligibility Checking System to confirm benefit for families in receipt of legacy benefits (income support etc) and universal credit to assess Free School Meals entitlement. To access Housing data, the County Council would need to co-ordinate efforts with the district councils to ensure that appropriate data protection considerations have been considered.
16. There is ongoing representation through the Local Government Association and Food Network groups to encourage auto enrolment but there are significant data, systems, financial and legal implications to this change which would require Data Protection Impact Assessments and further data sharing agreements to be established to ensure data sharing is fair, lawful and transparent to the satisfaction of all parties involved.

Explanation of the provision of early help services through the Children's Centres, Family Service and Healthy Families Programme and how these align with what is known about populations where there is a higher uptake of Free School meals

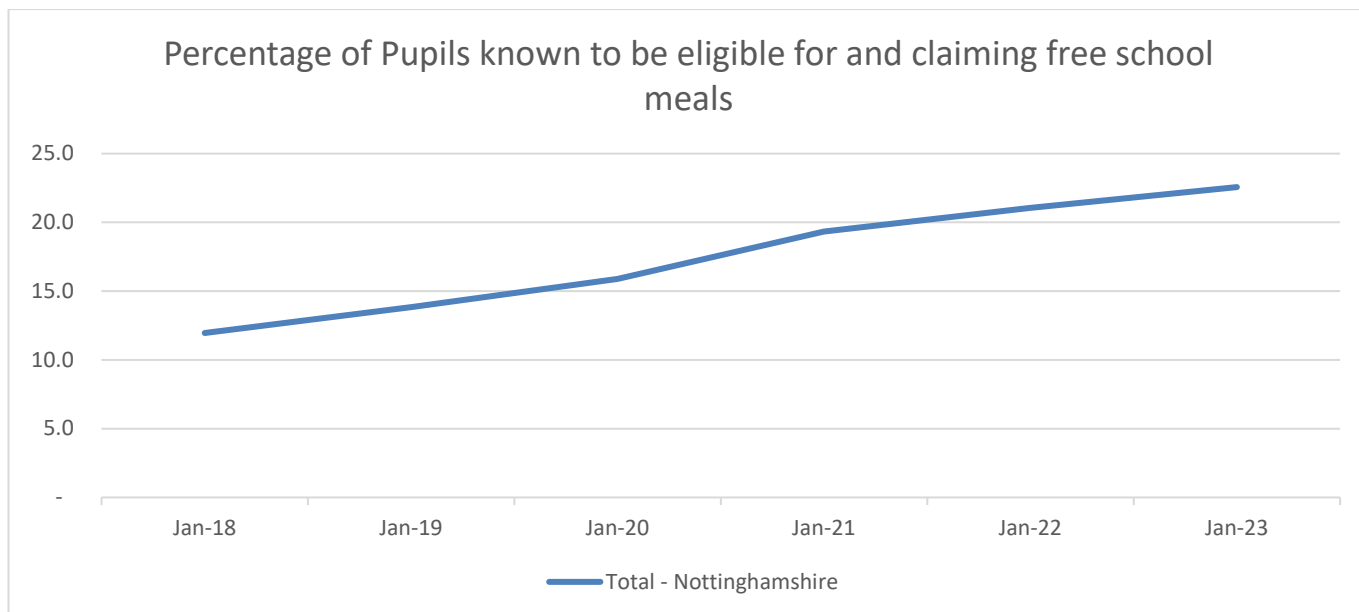
17. The following section considers the correlation between early help spend and activity and free school meal eligibility. Two measures of eligibility are used in this analysis:
 1. FSM - the percentage of pupils known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals – as at the October 2021 school census. This is expressed as a proportion of all pupils on roll between reception and year 11 and excludes pupils who are eligible but have not made themselves known.
 2. FSM6 – the percentage of pupils eligible for the deprivation pupil premium – this is the percentage of pupils eligible for or who are known to have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years.

a) Early Help demand versus free school meal (FSM and FSM6) eligibility



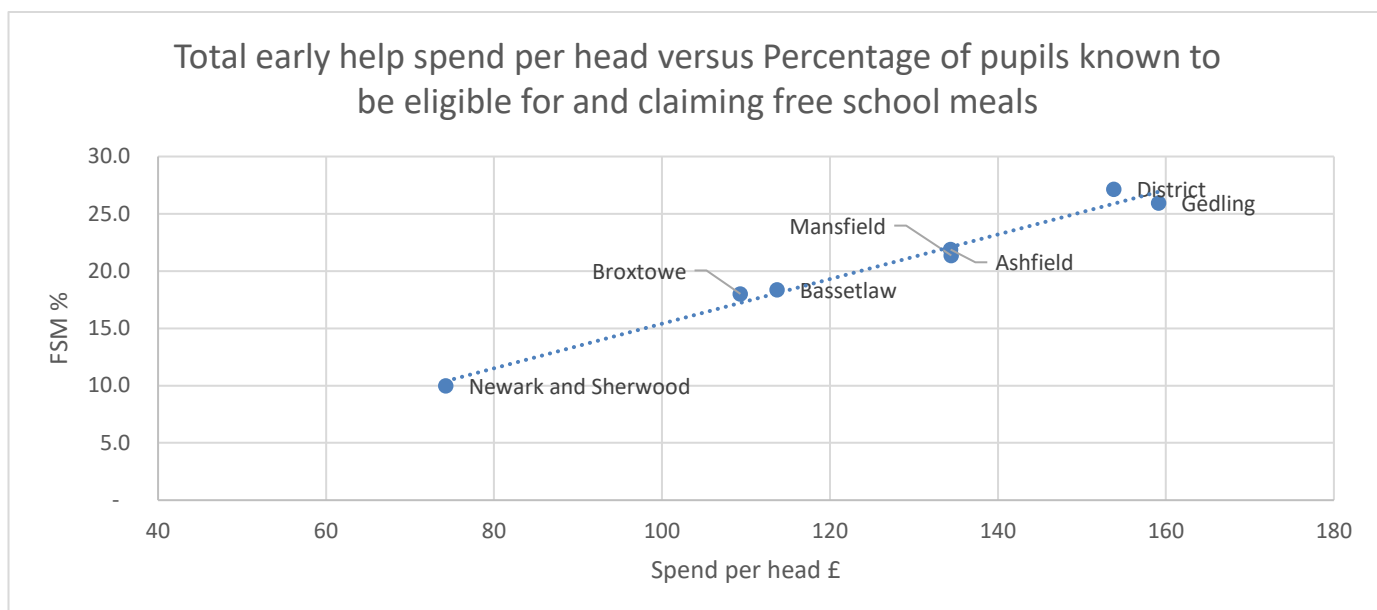
District of School	Number on roll Reception to Year 11	Number of pupils known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals (2)	Percentage of pupils known to be eligible for and claiming free school meals (2)
Ashfield	17,935	4,869	27.1%
Bassetlaw	15,961	3,493	21.9%
Broxtowe	14,810	2,723	18.4%
Gedling	16,405	2,954	18.0%
Mansfield	16,537	4,292	26.0%
Newark	13,982	2,987	21.4%
Rushcliffe	17,545	1,750	10.0%
Nottinghamshire	113,175	23,068	20.4%

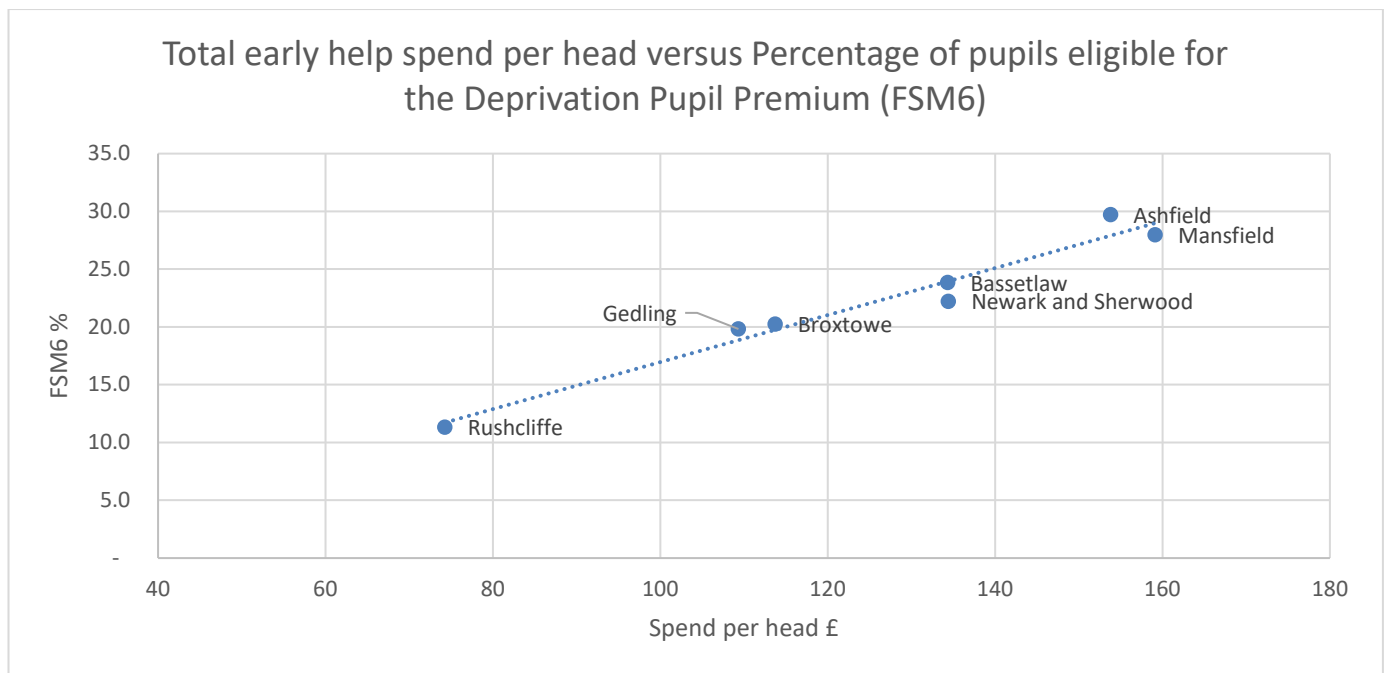
18. The chart above maps early help demand (the bar charts) against FSM and FSM6 rates (the line charts). This includes the number of enquiries at the Early Help Unit and the number of referrals to Children's Centres and the Family Service. The table below then shows the number of pupils eligible for free school meals by district and for Nottinghamshire.
19. There has been a 10 percentage-point increase in the percentage of pupils eligible for and claiming free school meals between 2018 and 2023. This is predominantly due to the changes in eligibility described in **paragraph 3** above. The chart below shows this increase.



20. As can be seen, there is a direct correlation at district level in Nottinghamshire between early help demand and free school meal eligibility with the bar and line charts aligning for each district.

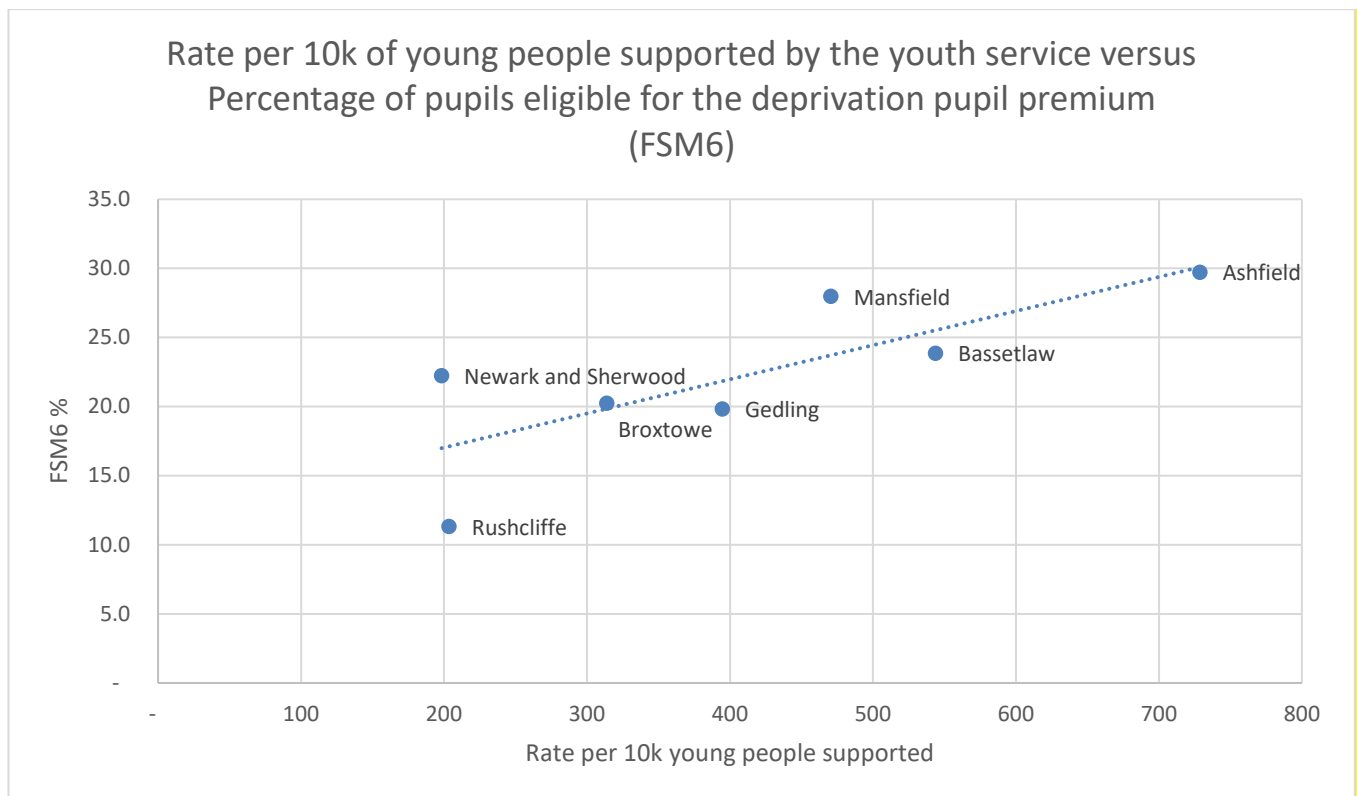
b) Early help expenditure versus Free School Meal (FSM and FSM6) eligibility





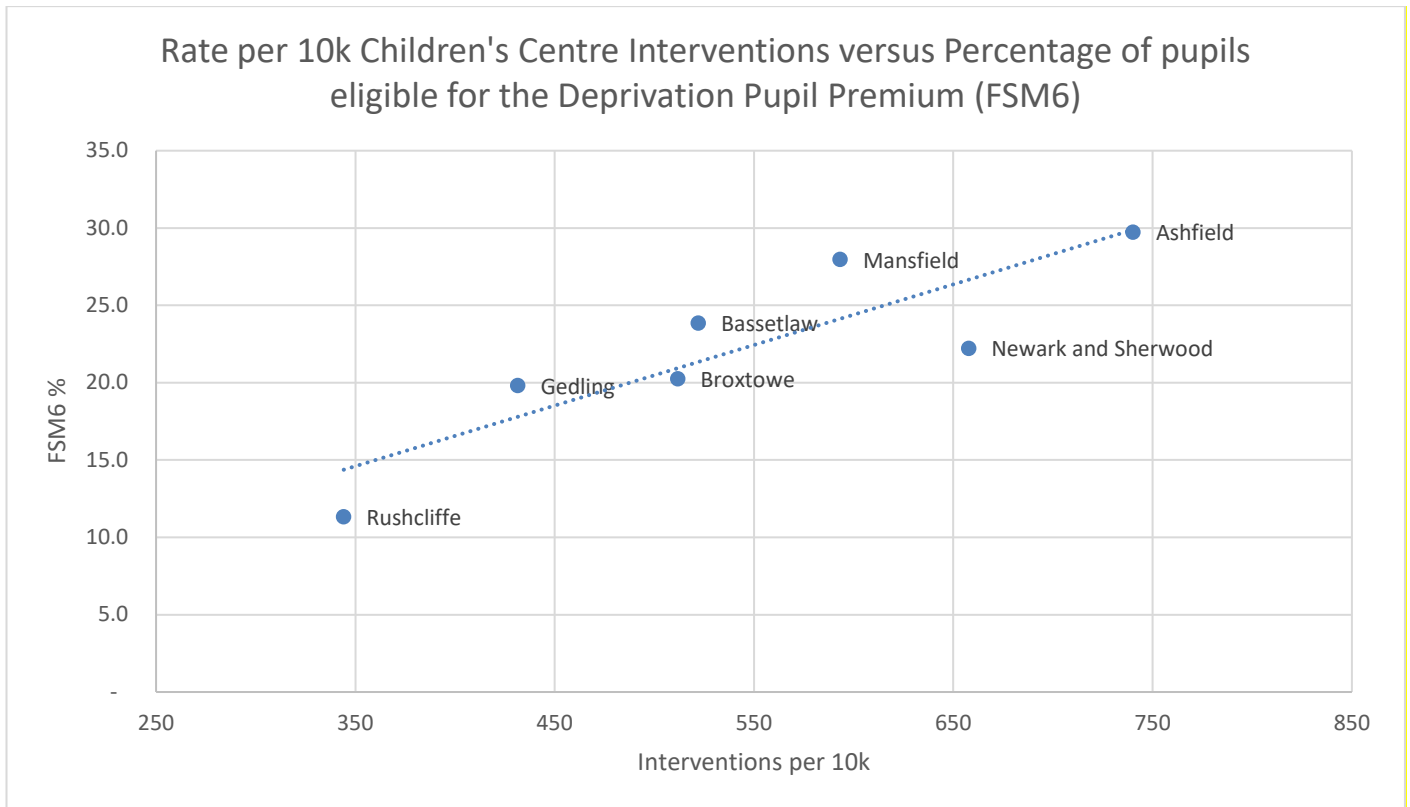
21. The two charts above map total expenditure on early help against FSM and FSM6 rates at a district level. This includes revenue and premises expenditure on Children's Centres, the Family Service and Youth Services activity.
22. The linear trend lines on the two charts show there is a direct correlation between expenditure and free school meal (FSM and FSM6) rates with all data points close to or on the linear trend lines. This shows that the Council is targeting expenditure at areas of greatest need.
23. The following sections look at the correlation between individual early help services and free school meal eligibility at a district level. These sections use FSM6 rates as a better indicator of long-term deprivation but FSM rates for each measure would show the same picture.

c) Youth service activity versus Free School Meal (FSM6) eligibility



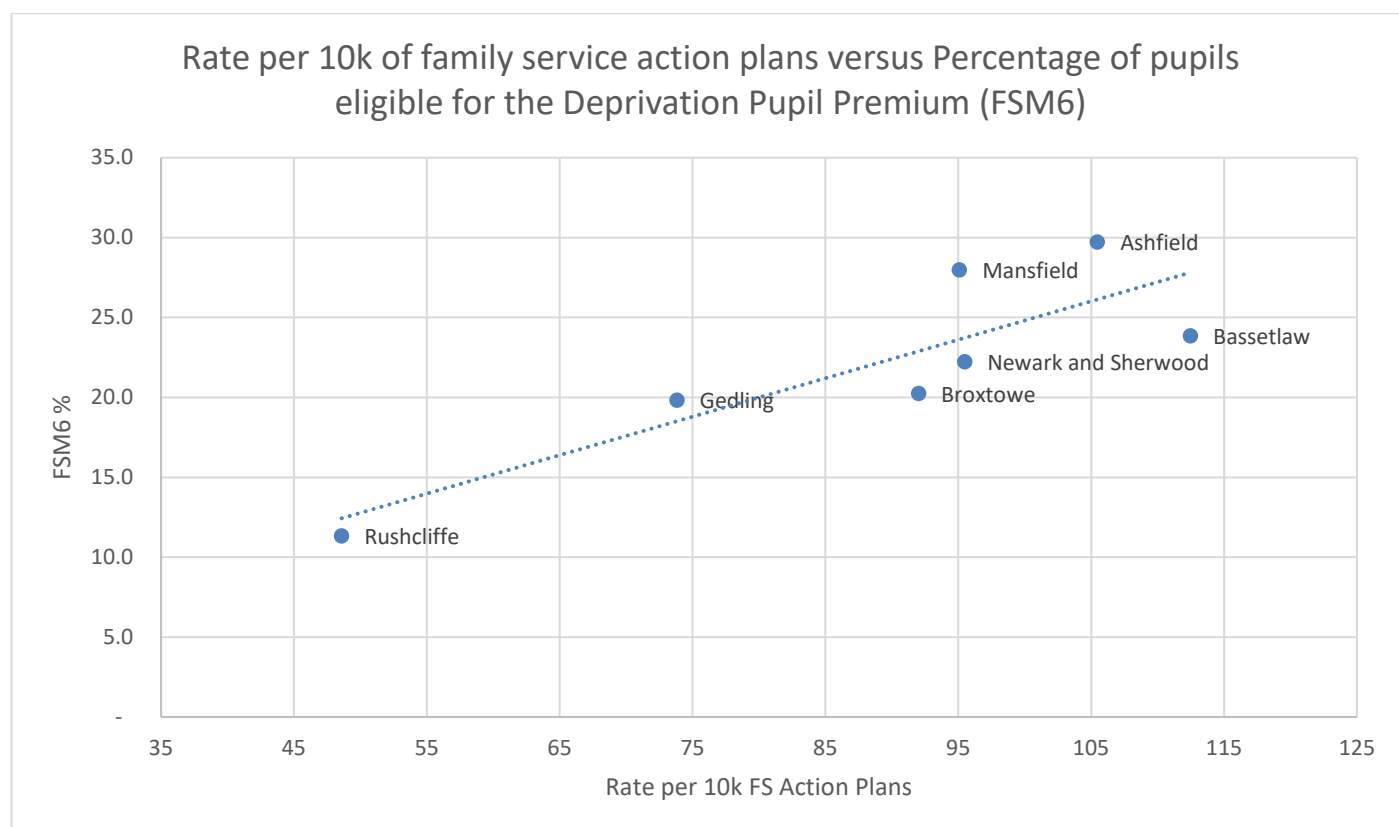
24. The chart above maps the number of young people supported by Youth Service activity per 10,000 population against FSM6 rates for the school population in the district.
25. There is a correlation between levels of free school meal eligibility and Youth Service activity, although there are some exceptions. Mansfield and Newark and Sherwood have lower than expected levels of Youth Service engagement given their FSM rates. For example, Bassetlaw has a lower proportion of FSM6 than Mansfield but has higher rates of Youth Service support.
26. Rushcliffe is the opposite, there is a very low level of FSM6 eligibility at 11.3%, which is to be expected as the most affluent district in Nottinghamshire, but the level of Youth Service engagement is on a par with Newark and Sherwood whose FMS6 rate is almost twice that of Rushcliffe.

d) Children's centre interventions versus Free School Meal (FSM6) eligibility



27. The chart above maps interventions by Children's Centres against the rate of FMS6 eligibility at a district level. There is a direct correlation between these with some slight variances. Mansfield has fewer than expected interventions given their FSM6 rate and Rushcliffe and Newark and Sherwood have slightly higher rates of intervention but overall there is a strong link.
28. It should also be noted that Children's Centres provide support predominantly to pre-school children whereas the FSM6 measure relates to children between reception and year 11, so the two cohorts are not directly comparable.

e) Family service action plans versus Free School Meal (FSM6) eligibility



29. The chart above maps the number of Family Service action plans per 10,000 population against the rate of FSM6 eligibility. As with Children's Centres interventions and Youth Service support, there is a strong correlation between the rate of Family Service action plans and the level of FSM6 eligibility. As with the other services, there are small variations such as Mansfield and Ashfield who have a slightly lower-than-expected rate of Family Service action plans given their levels of intervention.

Financial Implications

30. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Children and Families Select Committee considers the information regarding the increase of children in receipt of Free School Meals and how this is being used to plan and inform the provision of other support for children and families.

Councillor Tracey Taylor
Cabinet Member for Children and Families

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (SSR 24/05/2023)

31. The recommendations fall within the scope of the terms of reference for the Children and Families Select Committee.

Financial Comments (CDS 24/05/2023)

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

Background Papers and Published Documents

33. 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.

CFS0009

Holiday activities and food 2022/23



Department
for Education

Reach



25,458

HAF
attendances
across 2022
(Summer, October
and Winter)



138

venues across
Nottinghamshire
delivered HAF



12,133

Individuals
reached (9927
Primary aged) (2206
secondary aged)



90

school sites
delivered HAF
activity



1000

meals provided to
Nottinghamshire
families through
'family day' activities.



Good

Grant funded
programmes,
rated GOOD
by Community
Development
Workers

Children's Feedback



89%

of children
said they had
fun during the
HAF2022 activity
programme



96%

of children
would like to join
the programme
in 2023



7 out of 10

children rated
the Quality of
Food on
programme
as Excellent



8 out of 10

children
experienced
a new activity
through HAF
participation.

Parent's Feedback



96%

of parents rated
the activities as
Excellent



100%

Of parents, said
that HAF has
helped with
cost-of-living
increases



8 out of 10

Parents said
they would book
places for 2023

"I really enjoyed the
different fruit that was
available. I look forward to
meeting new friends".

Isabelle Age 12

"We attended today's HAF
activity at the Mill base activity centre.
I would just like to say how amazing it was. My
two boys have thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon!
They loved each activity, getting to learn and do
activities they wouldn't normally do.
All the staff were absolutely amazing, nothing was
too much trouble. And of course, they loved the
activity pack as well!!!"

Thank you so much for taking the time and
arranging this for children!"



19 June 2023**Agenda Item 7****REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES****PROVISION OF SUPPORT TO LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN TRANSITIONING
OUT OF THE CARE SYSTEM****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of the report is to:
 - identify the range and depth of support offered to Nottinghamshire Looked After Children as they transition out of the care system
 - examine the transition arrangements within other authorities and to learn about best practice
 - make recommendations to further develop transition arrangements to provide the best possible outcomes to young people transitioning out of the care system.

Information

2. The Council operates a joint Looked After and Leaving Care Service overseen by one Group Manager and two Service Managers. There are five teams within the Looked After Children's Service and a specialist Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children's team.
3. As of 31 March 2023, there were 965 looked after children who were the responsibility of the Council, of these, 597 were open to the Looked After Children's Service. Children with a long-term plan of being looked after have an allocated Social Worker from the Looked After Children's Service. The other looked after children will have an allocated Social Worker from the Children with Disabilities Service, one of the District Child Protection teams or the Court team. Of the 597 children open to the Looked After Children's Team:

Age	Number of Children and Young People open to the Looked After Team
0 – 5 years	5
6 – 10 years	98
11 – 13 years	116
14 – 15 years	117
16 – 17 years	261

4. The social workers within the Looked After Children's teams will regularly review and explore options in relation to children returning to the care of birth family members or connected people and will also discuss Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) with children's foster carers. Discussions in relation to children's care plans will also take place at their looked after reviews or at the Care Planning Support and Assurance Panel which is chaired by the Group Manager for Strategic Safeguarding and Independent Review.
5. The last standard inspection of Nottinghamshire's Children's Service was in October 2019, which resulted in a **Good** 'overall effectiveness' judgement and a **Good** judgement for 'the experience and progress of children in care and care leavers'. Ofsted's [Inspecting Local Authority Children's Services \(ILACS\) framework](#) was updated in December 2022 so that from January 2023 there is a separate judgement for the 'experiences and progress of children in care' and 'the experiences and progress of care leavers'.
6. To ensure a smooth transition for a looked after child to leave care, conversations take place with the young person, the professionals who support them and the people who are important in their lives. The Pathway Plan is completed over the few months following the young person's 16th birthday so that possible options can be discussed. Sometimes more than one plan needs to be made depending on what the young person wants.
7. If the young person wishes to remain in the care of their foster carer post-18, discussions will take place with the foster carer and a Staying Put arrangement can be agreed. Foster carers can receive a payment until the young person's 21st birthday. As of 31st March 2023, there were 39 young people in Staying Put arrangements.
8. Some young people living with foster carers wish to progress to semi-independent accommodation. Under the Staying Close Staying Connected agenda foster carers are encouraged to keep in touch with the young person so that they can maintain positive relationships. Support workers from residential homes are also encouraged to stay in touch with young people when they move from the home to semi-independent accommodation.
9. Any young people with disabilities who meet the criteria for adult services will be referred to the Preparing for Adulthood team. Most of these young people will have an allocated Social Worker from the Children with Disabilities service. Following assessment, if the Preparing for Adulthood team agree that the young person meets the criteria, a Social Worker from this team will work alongside the young person's allocated Social Worker to identify appropriate accommodation options at an early stage. The Children with Disabilities Service and the Preparing for Adulthood team have developed good working relationships and will strive to achieve a smooth transition for the young people that they are working with into adult services.
10. The Transitional Personal Advisor (TPA) service can work with young people aged 16 or 17 on a short-term basis to assist with the move from residential homes where they receive a high level of support to semi-independent accommodation. This proactive approach is effective when working with young people with complex needs or those who do not manage change well. The TPA will work intensively with the young person to support them with the move and to assist with independent living skills. This service has attracted national interest from having featured as good practice within the 'Children and Young People Now' journal (**Appendix 1**).

11. Many 16/17-years-olds who are looked after will be receiving support from both the Looked After and Leaving Care teams. The Personal Advisors from the Leaving Care teams work alongside the Social Workers from the Looked After teams to help young people with a successful transition into adulthood. All will have an allocated Personal Advisor by the time they are 17½ years old. The Council's Leaving Care Service will continue to support young people until their 25th birthday (and sometimes beyond).
12. Of the 261 young people aged 16/17-years-old, 102 are currently living in independent / semi-independent accommodation, 41 of whom are Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children.

Type of Accommodation	Number of 16/17-year-olds being supported by Looked After / Leaving Care
Living with Foster Carers	91
Living with Relatives/Friend as Foster Carers	18
Living in a Residential Home	50
Living in Independent / Semi-Independent Accommodation	102

13. The Council has commissioned supported accommodation provision (SAP) as a multi-disciplinary approach to supporting young people with their transition into independence. The SAP has different levels of support which are categorised as Core Plus, Core, and Cluster. Core Plus accommodation offers support to young people 24 hours a day and consists of smaller households. Core accommodation usually consists of larger, shared living environments with support on site that young people can access if needed. Cluster accommodation has the least amount of support and is used when young people are ready to move in with a small group of other young people and can experience what it would be like to move into their own tenancy.
14. The Children Looked After and Leaving Care Strategic Partnership Board meetings take place every other month and are attended by various partners across Nottinghamshire including health, housing, district/borough councils, police, youth justice, colleges and universities, care leaver champion(s), and individuals from the world of work and industry. The support and provision of services is discussed and agreed at the Board meetings. Discussions take place to identify how everyone can improve the offer to young people who are looked after and to care leavers. This has led to the development of the three year [Looked After and Leaving Care Service Partnership Strategy](#) (launched in 2022) which identifies the corporate parenting principles. There has also been the recent launch of the [Partnership Pledge](#), which explains how the 'partnership' will support looked after and care experienced children and young people across the County, led by the needs and wishes of young people.
15. In 2018, the Council launched its [Local Offer for Care Leavers](#). This co-production partnership offer involves the seven district/borough councils as well as partners within health, education, police, youth justice, probation, voluntary sectors, and regional/national businesses. Although primarily aimed at Nottinghamshire care leavers, the offer also relates to those looked after 16/17-year-olds who are preparing for their transition into adulthood and care leaver status. Nottinghamshire's Local Offer for Care Leavers

continues to be one of the national leading offers with early introduction of Council Tax exemption for care leavers until their 25th birthday, priority social housing, local connection restrictions being removed, and free access to leisure centres. In addition, the Leaving Care Service expanded its offer to looked after 16/17-year-olds and care leavers around employment, education, and training (EET) by re-launching an updated Achievement Service and [Achievement Offer](#).

16. The 21Plus Service is for young people that have experienced being in the care of the Council and are aged from 21 years until their 25th birthday. This unique and bespoke service helps to inspire and support care experienced young people to fulfil their ambitions and dreams during their transition into adulthood and beyond. The team responds to need and support requests, but also is proactive in keeping in touch monthly with young people to make sure they know they still have support post-21. Support includes dedicated homelessness prevention personal advisers, access to the Achievement Service and all of the Council's local offer benefits such as exemption from council tax and free leisure centre access.
17. Personal Education Plans (PEPs) are completed for all looked after children until their 18th birthday to discuss future education, training, and employment options for young people. This information can be included within Pathway Plans. Many young people have been attending employability briefings with businesses that the Achievement Service has made links with such as John Lewis, East Midlands Airport, Amazon, Boots, Nottingham Forest Football Club (**Appendix 2**), Nottinghamshire Police (**Appendix 3**), Keepmoat Homes, Sainsbury's, and Toyota etc. Young people can visit their work base, talk about available opportunities, job vacancies or work experience opportunities. Some young people wish to remain in education and follow a more academic pathway and through joint working with university partners support is offered around accessing higher education. Young people receive a generous financial support package if they wish to attend university. Over 50 looked after and leaving care young people have plans to enter or continue with higher education from September 2023.
18. Young people have obtained work experience and employment with some of the organisations that the Achievement Service has links with. The Care2Work programme encourages those looked after 16/17-year-olds who are not in employment, education, and training (EET) to attend briefings about entering the world of work, offering them motivation, tips, careers advice and work experience opportunities.
19. Representatives from the Leaving Care Service attend the Children in Care Council meetings to receive any feedback from the young people that receive support through the Leaving Care Service. Use of the Mind of My Own app is also encouraged to enable young people to give any feedback about the service that they receive.
20. Young people can continue to receive funding through the You Know Your Mind (YKYM) fund which is co-funded with health. This facilitates a different conversation with young people in relation to their mental health and emotional health and wellbeing. This continues to have a practical and immediate impact on young people in reducing isolation, improving stability in accommodation placements, as well as enabling young people to self-identify what helps them feel better when it comes to their own individuality and wellbeing.

21. There has been an increase in the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) which has led to an increase in the number of Personal Advisors within the UASC team. The UASC Team works closely with partner agencies across Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands region to identify any shared learning, including how to make best use of alternatively qualified professionals within the team. Ofsted met with the team in March 2023 and issued positive feedback identifying that they *'really enjoyed'* their visit and had an *'interesting and extremely useful discussion'* with the UASC team.
22. The Group Manager and Service Manager from the Looked After and Leaving Care Service attend a Service Improvement Forum on a quarterly basis with colleagues within health. This meeting ensures that professionals work together to improve the health of looked after children and young people by progressing programmes of improvement informed by national guidance and locally identified pressures and challenges. The team is also proactive in the review and production of health's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for children in care and care leavers.
23. The Council has its own dedicated Children in Care Police Officer who has helped to co-produce a 10-point plan to help prevent the criminalisation of looked after children. If a looked after child/young person is involved within the criminal justice system, the Council's Youth Justice Service works closely with the Looked After and Leaving Care Services to encourage engagement and the best possible outcome for the young person. They support any transition from Youth Justice to Probation services.
24. In January 2023, the Council approved a motion determining that it would treat care experienced young people as if care experience were a protected characteristic, within the context of there being no legal ability to make care experience a protected characteristic. This helps formalise some of the current actions taken by the Council to support care leavers such as guaranteeing care experienced young people interviews for job opportunities and ensuring any appropriate adjustments are made to provide a fair opportunity.
25. Learning about and sharing best practice is promoted regionally through monthly meetings with regional leaving care leads across the East Midlands. The Looked After and Leaving Care Team managers have participated in reviews of practice and attend meetings to look at coproduction learning and to consider more effective ways of working with one another. Recently the Team Manager from the UASC team met with the Team Manager in Northamptonshire to share information about Nottinghamshire's processes and another Team Manager met with the Leaving Care Team Manager in Nottingham City to discuss the Nottinghamshire's 21 Plus team and Nottinghamshire's offer to care leavers. Managers have also been involved in a peer review of Derbyshire's Pathway Plans.
26. The Council has been successful with the Staying Close Staying Connected funding which will assist with plans for multi-disciplinary teams within the Supported Accommodation Provision (SAP). This will be in the form of dedicated mental health practitioner(s), substance misuse worker(s) and other professionals linked to residential homes and supported accommodation to offer targeted support for children and young people experiencing issues during their transition from care to adulthood and independence as a care leaver.

Future Service Developments

27. A joint Looked After and Fostering Team development morning was held in April 2023 focusing on strengths-based practice, working together in the best interests of the child and the new Ofsted ILACS framework. A further development day has been arranged for September and will include the Independent Reviewing Officers.
28. To continue to fund the You Know Your Mind programme, which is jointly funded with health. Health have also agreed to jointly fund a mental health practitioner for Care Leavers within Nottinghamshire and this post is currently being commissioned. It is expected that this service to be operational within the next 3 – 6 months.
29. The Local Offer for Care Leavers was published in 2019 and is now under review with a timescale to publish an updated Local Offer by December 2023. Consultations with looked after young people and care leavers in relation to what they think has had the most value and positive impact for them have started to take place through face-to-face feedback, a 'your views' stand at the Achievement Event in June 2023, on-line surveys, and consultation with the Children in Care Council, the No Labels group. The review will include an update of the Achievement Offer in relation to employment, education, and training, our offer to care leavers who are young parents, care leavers in and leaving custody, and the 21Plus service. These areas are all identified as specifically required within the new Ofsted ILACS framework. The reviewed offer will be presented for input and comment at the Children Looked After and Leaving Care Strategic Partnership Board alongside the feedback received from young people to then set the targets for future development of the Local Offer. Regional meetings have been arranged to discuss local offer agreements for care leavers residing in other local authority areas.

Financial Implications

30. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Children and Families Select Committee considers the report and advises of any further assurance or activities required around how transition arrangements could be further developed to provide the best possible outcomes to young people transitioning from care.

Councillor Tracey Taylor
Cabinet Member for Children and Families

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Constitutional Comments (GMG 26/05/2023)

31. This report falls within the remit of the Select Committee for consideration.

Financial Comments (VC 05/06/2023)

32. There are no additional financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

33. 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's Local Offer for Care Leavers](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All.

CFS0010

ADVISER SUPPORT HELPS A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION FROM CARE

Nina Jacobs

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Personal advisers help children in residential care transition to independent living.



Personal advisers help young people get the accommodation that is right for them. Picture: JJ'Studio/Adobe Stock

- **Levels of support are tailored to the specific needs of individuals particularly those with complex problems**
- **The initiative has reduced spending on residential care and cut levels of homelessness among care leavers**

ACTION

A bespoke support service in Nottinghamshire is helping young people with complex needs successfully transition to supported accommodation from residential care.

Initially launched as a pilot three years ago, the county council's Transitional Personal Adviser (TPA) service was introduced to ensure its provision supported all young people regardless of their level of need.

This new model of commissioning supported accommodation has allowed the council to specifically target those leaving care before 18 that might have complex needs or with an offending background.

Following a year-long trial, the implementation of the service was approved by the authority in 2018, creating three personal adviser posts on a permanent basis.

Cases for TPA support are selected by a panel that includes leaving care managers and those from the council's looked-after children and placements teams.

Nominations are made using a request form submitted by professionals such as social workers or independent reviewing officers.

With a cap on caseloads of up to eight young people per personal adviser, the service allows the most vulnerable young people to receive intensive support, explains Matt Wesson, a manager for the council's leaving care team.

"They've still got their personal adviser from the leaving care team and their social worker – all of the people that are involved in their life – but as the TPA service we are able to identify any issues they might have when they move on," he says.

Wesson believes the service fills a critical gap in support for young people with complex needs compounded by high social worker caseloads and a large care leaver population across the county.

Despite developing a closer working relationship with supported accommodation providers to improve the type of provision available, he believes there was still a need to address varying levels of support for these care leavers.

"We realised we didn't have those facilities post-18 so we asked our accommodation providers for properties that were more suitable for our care leaver population.

"We also thought about what we could do to make that an easier transition and support our providers to maintain that accommodation.

"But we saw that even though we had done this there was a gap between those young people leaving residential care and being ready for independence. We were also not intervening enough especially for our more complex cases.

"The idea behind the TPA service is that we can work with these young people to make sure transition happens as successfully as possible so we are not setting young people up to fail," says Wesson.

With around 227 units for its main 16+ provision, the county council offers housing options that are either "core" or "cluster" accommodation.

The core services are staffed 24 hours a day while cluster units may be self-contained or shared houses where staff provide visiting support.

The TPA service helps to assess whether young people with higher needs would cope with being placed in a core or cluster property with the option to change their accommodation if needed.

Weekly meetings are held between the council and accommodation providers to discuss any difficulties arising from placements as well as identify current capacity issues.

Wesson says personal advisers might visit young people as much as twice a day as part of a "bespoke support package" with a view to stepping down contact to more infrequent intervals such as once a week or every two weeks.

He cites the example of one care leaver that was persuaded to move into supported accommodation by their personal adviser.

“He was very keen to get his own place but we asked him to stay in supported accommodation so if he needed it, the support was on hand,” explains Wesson.

He says one of the authority’s housing providers found the young person a cluster property and his personal adviser agreed to stay on for a further three months while he transitioned into supported accommodation.

“It was a challenging case but we said to this young person, have that support on hand at first and prove to us that you can do it,” adds Wesson.

Another factor that underpins the success behind TPA support is encouraging young people to take “ownership” of the supported accommodation services provided to them.

“We let them choose things like their own furniture. It saves so many problems and cost in the future giving them a sense of pride in where they live. It also makes them more responsible for who they let into the accommodation,” says Wesson.

He says greater partnership working with the county’s seven district councils has helped overcome previous challenges preventing young people moving more freely around the county.

“Our care leavers can now identify whichever area they want to live in Nottinghamshire which is also freeing up the availability of supported accommodation.

“So a young person might eventually want to live in the Newark area but recognises the best accommodation for them might be in Ashfield for six or 12 months while they are learning their independence. That’s no longer a barrier for us,” explains Wesson.

He says not only has the TPA service enabled young people to be placed in accommodation appropriate for their level of need, but has also highlighted efficiencies to be made from providing lower levels of support.

“The purpose [of TPA] wasn’t to necessarily save money and get young people out of residential care but to make their journey a better transition.

“So when we looked at whether their needs were actually being met and the high support costs we were paying and how they weren’t needed for that person, it was evident how much we had saved as a local authority by putting that investment into the service in the first place,” explains Wesson.

IMPACT

A county council report into the TPA pilot which ran from September 2017 to May 2018 showed personal advisers supported 22 young people, of which 10 had transitioned from higher cost provision including residential placements.

As a result of the transitions from residential care, the council achieved a net saving of £140,769 in 2017/18, exceeding the original savings forecast.

The report states in May 2018 a cost avoidance of more than £300,000 was projected should those young people participating in the pilot continue to stay in the placement they had transitioned into.

Such a calculation assumes these young people would have stayed in residential care until they were 17 and a half.

Feedback from those involved in the pilot indicated there was evidence of improved outcomes for young people, with Ofsted positively referencing the initiative following a focused visit in January 2018.

Wesson says in addition to these financial savings, the council has seen a “dramatic” reduction in its homelessness presentations among its care leaver population.

He believes this has been helped in part by central government funding that allowed the council to employ a homelessness prevention personal adviser to focus on helping those in care and care leavers.

Care leaver champions were also established at each district council to help improve understanding of a care leaver’s personal journey, he adds.

“There’s not one simple solution for our young people but it’s about having an offer that we can tailor for young people but also to recognise other agencies have a responsibility and a role within that too,” he says.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST EMPLOYABILITY BRIEFING REVIEW



Session Leader:

Chris Simmonds

Lead Contact: **Chris Simmonds**

Head of Education, Training & Employment

14 young people along with 11 support staff from Nottinghamshire County Council, Leaving Care Service, WNC, Care2Work, QMC - Project Search, Landmarks College, Lincoln College

Young Person

I'm going to go away and do some research on these jobs

Young Person

You don't need school to teach you about common sense

Young Person

Can you email me please, so that I can learn more about all these jobs

Young Person

This was really relevant...



Young Person

I couldn't be a...d before I came here, now I want to know more about these jobs

Rebecca Dixon

Achievement Adviser Co-ordinator – Achievement Service

Nottinghamshire County Council

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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE EMPLOYABILITY BRIEFING

DATE: **TUESDAY 28TH MARCH 2023** TIME: **11:00AM - 1:30PM**

HEADQUARTERS, SHERWOOD LODGE, Arnold, Nottinghamshire. NG5 8PP

Session Leaders:

**Nigel, Agnieszka, Romel, Emily &
Police Force Colleagues**

Lead Contact: **Nigel Best**



13 young people along with 15 support staff from Nottinghamshire County Council Leaving Care Service and our fellow support services



Overview of the Employability Briefing

Young Person; 'I want to know more about IT jobs for when I leave university'

- Meet & Greet - Signing in and collecting the visitors badges
- Nottinghamshire Police Force - Outreach and early Intervention (changing perception)
- Careers introduced by the young police officers themselves
- Overview of the Police Force, and the Career Pathways & opportunities it offers
- Inclusive Employment

Review of the Session

Young Person; 'I want to know about the jobs they do in forensic science'

- Romel and Emily's introduction of their own life journeys into the Police Force were powerful & inspiring
- 13 young people left the briefing knowing much more about the Police Force as an employer, the employment opportunities and how to access them, than they did when they arrived
- Learning about the many varied roles in the Police Force, and being able to talk to young people who were about to start out on their own careers, made the briefing relevant and engaging to both the young people who were present, and to their support workers, who will now be able to take this information back with them to help inspire more young people
- The opportunity to return for a phase 2 briefing that will focus on specific job roles was well received, and this generated further interest in the Police Force as a career option for the young people we talked to out in the car park afterwards
- The quiz was engaging, fun and informative - for everyone in the room...
- Overall; an inspiring introduction for young people to careers in the Nottinghamshire Police Force

Our small group of young people who were with you today, represent a much larger group of young people in desperate need of access to opportunity - **Today, Nottinghamshire Police Force met that challenge and offered much more**

Rebecca Dixon

Achievement Adviser Co-ordinator – Achievement Service, Leaving Care
Children, Families and Cultural Services | Nottinghamshire County Council

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Healthy > Prosperous > Green

19 June 2023**Agenda item 8****REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES****EXCEPTIONAL PAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR
2023-24****Purpose of the Report**

1. The report invites the Select Committee to consider the following proposals and make any recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Children and Families prior to decisions being taken:
 - a) to continue to adopt an agreed scale of payments as a guide for school clothing and footwear allowances paid under the category of exceptional circumstances, subject to discretion, for 2023-2024.
 - b) to review the budget for school clothing and footwear allowances paid under the category of exceptional circumstances to ensure that the budget allocated meets demand from April 2024.

Information

2. School clothing allowances are discretionary, and any allowance scheme must be funded by the County Council. Discretionary school clothing allowance has not been available since 2010/2011 for families living in Nottinghamshire. However, the County Council retains discretion to consider requests for assistance from families in exceptional circumstances to support the most vulnerable families. Included in this category are families who have lost clothes in a fire, a flood, theft, have been made homeless or who are fleeing domestic violence.
3. There was an increase in the claims made during the 2022/23 financial year, with £673.75 payments made. This was the first year that the £500 budget was overspent.
4. The County Council must consider, under Section 510 of the Education Act 1996 and Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2002, requests for assistance from families in exceptional circumstances. This applies to all school age children and to families living outside the County if their children attend County schools.
5. Information is available on the Council's public website about the school clothing allowance and advice on how applications can be submitted. In addition, information is included in

the Admissions to Schools: Guide for Parents each year. Following Children and Young People's Select Committee consideration of the policy in October 2022, a range of steps were taken to increase awareness, including inclusion within school admissions training for elected members and awareness raising with partner organisations including the fire service. A briefing was also provided to educational settings including governors.

6. In order to ensure that there is consistency and fairness in the amounts paid out under the category of exceptional circumstances, it is proposed to continue to adopt, as a guide only, a maximum allowance of £50 per qualifying pupil.
7. It is proposed to continue to apply the same scale of payments:
 - 50% of the maximum allowance for primary age children
 - 75% of the maximum allowance for secondary age children.

This would apply to all school age children and to families living out of the County if their children attend a school in Nottinghamshire. Each case is assessed individually, and an amount determined, for example a family that has requested support following a house fire where all clothing has been destroyed would receive consideration for the maximum allowance payable at £50 per child. In other cases where the family require some additional support with clothing, the amount payable is usually set at 50% of the maximum allowance (that is, £25 for primary age) and 75% of the maximum allowance (that is, £37.50 for secondary age) depending upon the specific family circumstances.

8. This is a guide only, as the County Council must consider the circumstances of individual cases in order not to fetter its discretion.
9. In line with the County Council's financial regulations, school clothing and footwear allowances are reviewed annually and as explained in this report it is proposed to continue to provide a fair and consistent approach for determining the amount of allowances paid under the exceptional circumstances category.
10. The existing arrangements enable the most vulnerable families, irrespective of age or the type of school their child attends, to apply for assistance with school clothing allowance. The values set are intended to support families with the cost of school uniform.

Financial Implications

11. There may be a small amount of funding claimed to support families with the cost of school clothing and footwear under exceptional circumstances. Based on the claims made in 2022/23, the cost is likely to be circa £700 (see **paragraph 3**). The existing budget is £500 per annum and any expenditure must be met by the Council. The current overspend can be contained within the overall Education, Learning & Skills budget of £6.6m.
12. It is proposed that the budget for school clothing and footwear allowances paid under the category of exceptional circumstances be reviewed to ensure that the budget allocated meets need from April 2024.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Children and Families Select Committee considers the following proposals contained in the report and makes any recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Children and Families prior to decisions being taken:
 - a) to adopt an agreed scale of payments as a guide for school clothing and footwear allowances paid under the category of exceptional circumstances, subject to discretion, for 2023-2024, as detailed in **paragraphs 6 & 7**
 - b) to review the budget for school clothing and footwear allowances paid under the category of exceptional circumstances to ensure that the budget allocated meets demand from April 2024.

Councillor Tracey Taylor
Cabinet Member for Children and Families

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Karen Hughman, Group Manager for Education Access, Standards and Safeguarding
0115 977 2572
karen.hughman@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (KK 31/05/2023)

13. The proposals in this report are within the remit of the Children and Families Select Committee.

Financial Comments (SS 31/05/2023)

14. The existing budget is £500 per annum and is met by the Council. The current spend can be contained within the overall Education, Learning & Skills budget of £6.6 million.

Background Papers and Published Documents

15. 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.
 - [16 to 19 Bursary Fund guide 2022 to 2023 academic year - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
 - [School Uniform Guidance for Schools updated 19 November 2021](#)
 - [Education \(Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms\) Act 2021](#)
 - [Cost of school uniforms - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
 - [Financial support for the cost of school uniform - report to Children & Young People's Select Committee on 10 October 2022](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All.

CFS0008

19 June 2023**Agenda Item 9****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR CUSTOMERS, GOVERNANCE
AND EMPLOYEES****WORK PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the Children and Families Select Committee's work programme.

Information

2. The work programme (attached as Appendix 1 to the report) assists in the management of the Committee's agenda, the scheduling of its business and its forward planning.
3. The work programme has been developed using suggestions submitted by Committee members, the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and senior officers, and has been approved by the Overview Committee. The work programme will be reviewed regularly with the Chairman and at each Committee meeting, where any member of the Committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.

Other Options Considered

4. To not produce a work programme: this option is discounted as a clear work programme is required for the effective management of the Committee's agenda, the scheduling of its business and its forward planning.

Reasons for Recommendations

5. To assist the Committee in preparing its business effectively.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. 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

7. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That the Children and Families Select Committee's work programme be noted.
- 2) That Committee members make any further suggestions for items for inclusion on the work programme for consideration by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s) and senior officers, and subject to the required approval by the Chairman of the Overview Committee.

Marjorie Toward

Service Director for Customers, Governance and Employees

For any enquiries about this report, please contact:

Martin Elliott, Senior Scrutiny Officer

martin.elliott@nottsgov.uk

Constitutional Comments (HD)

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

Financial Comments (NS)

9. 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 and Published Documents

10. 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

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose	Resolutions
10 October 2022	Elective Home Education	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	To scrutinise how the policy is working in supporting children and young people in receipt of Elective Home Education and how the Council is managing the increase of Elective Home Education students.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That a progress report on the current position on Elective Home Education in Nottinghamshire be presented at the September 2023 meeting of the Children and Young People's Select Committee. 3. That further data from the Elective Home Education Dashboard that provides information on the current cohort of electively home educated children be circulated to members of the Children and Young People's Select Committee. 4. That information on the number of electively home educated children in Years 9, 10 and 11 who have previously been excluded from school be circulated to members of the Children and Young People's Select Committee. 5. That information on the uptake and outcomes of the Wellbeing for Education Return Project and the NottAlone website be circulated to members of the Children and Young People's Select Committee.

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

				6. That members of the Children and Young People's Select Committee be involved in the review of the Council's Elective Home Education Policy that is scheduled to take place during 2023.
	Financial Support for the Provision of School Uniform	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	To scrutinise the Council's policy on the provision of financial support for the provision of School Uniform.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, in consultation with officers, gives consideration to how awareness of the Council's scheme for providing financial support for school uniform could be raised with elected members and relevant partner agencies. 3. That members of the Children and Young People's Select Committee be involved in the review of the Council's policy on financial support for the provision of school uniform that is scheduled to take place before the start of the 2023/24 financial year.

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

	Response to the Ofsted Focused Visit to Nottinghamshire County Council Children's Services	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	To receive a progress report on the activity that is taking place and is planned in response to the outcome of the Ofsted Focused visit to Nottinghamshire County Council children's services.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Children and Young People's Select Committee receive a progress report on the areas of practice identified in the OFSTED Focused Visit Outcome Letter as requiring improvement in six-months' time. 3. That further information on the on the use number of agency staff, along with information on how agency staff are supervised within the Children and Young People's Services department be circulated to members of the Children and Young People's Select Committee.
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WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose	Resolutions
19 December 2022	SEND Provision and Sufficiency	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>To scrutinise the Council's activity regarding the provision and sustainability of educational provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.</p> <p>Page 50 of 66</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That it be noted that effective planning is taking place to ensure that there is sufficient specialist educational provision for children and young people in Nottinghamshire. 2. That the challenges around ensuring that there are sufficient resources available to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs to remain in mainstream settings be noted. 3. That the following issues raised by the Committee in its consideration of the report on Special Educational Needs and Disability provision be progressed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) That a task and finish review on the potential locations for the provision of additional specialist educational placements be carried out by members of the Children and Families Select Committee. b) That an item on the Special Educational Needs and Disability Government Green Paper be added to the Children and Families Select Committee Work Programme. c) That a progress report on the provision and delivery of additional specialist educational placements be brought to a future meeting of the Children and Families Select Committee.

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

	Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>To receive the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership's Annual Report.</p> <p>To invite the Independent Scrutineer and the nominated senior officers from each of the safeguarding partners to attend the meeting.</p> <p>Page 51 of 66</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership's Annual Report 2021/22 be noted. 2. That the following issues raised by the Committee in its consideration of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership's Annual Report 2021/22 be progressed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) That the Children and Families Select Committee continue to review the work of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership by receiving and considering its Annual Report each year. b) That a briefing note be circulated to members of the Children and Families Select Committee on the progress being made on the key priorities and actions detailed in the 2020/21 Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report. c) That members of the Children and Families Select Committee receive, as they become available, all minutes of meetings of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership that do not include confidential information. d) That information on the number of, and the number of attendees for the parenting courses delivered via the Early Help Service be circulated to members of the Children and Families Select Committee.
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WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

				e) That the Independent Scrutineer of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership's attend the June 2023 meeting of the Children and Families Select Committee to present a report on the current activities of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and on the progress being made towards its strategic priorities.
	Financial Support for the Provision of School Uniform	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>To receive a response from the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services on the resolution made at the October 2022 meeting:</p> <p>That the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, in consultation with officers, gives consideration to how awareness of the Council's scheme for providing financial support for school uniform could be raised with elected members and relevant partner agencies.</p>	That the response from the Cabinet Member for Children and Families on how awareness of the Council's scheme for providing financial support for school uniform could be raised be received and noted.

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose	Resolutions
20 March 2023	Pupil Place Planning	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>To gain assurance that the Council's activity around Pupil Place Planning for Secondary Education is able to sustainably and effectively meet the needs of families across Nottinghamshire into the future.</p> <p>Page 53 of 66</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That the following issues raised by the Committee in its consideration of the report on Secondary School Place Planning be progressed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) That the documentation, information and communication materials used to communicate with parents and carers when applying for school places be shared with members of the Children and Families Select committee. b) That members of the Children and Families Select Committee carry out a task and finish review on how the Children and Families and Place departments can best work together on projects being implemented to deliver additional school places. c) That the Cabinet Member for Children and Families, in consultation with officers gives consideration to how local elected members can be most effectively communicated with and involved with the activity that takes place with academy trusts regarding the pupil place planning. d) That further information on the activities that are being carried out around the

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

				<p>projected pressure on the provision of secondary school places in East Leake (as noted at paragraph 25 of the report) be circulated to members of the Children and Families Select Committee.</p> <p>e) That members of the Children and Families Select Committee work with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families to examine how the assessment tools for analysing the demand for school places that new housing could be made more responsive to the different levels of school places that different developments may create.</p> <p>f) That the issue raised during the discussion at the meeting of school performance levels be considered as part of the processes around the development of the committee's Work Programme for 2023/24.</p> <p>g) That a further progress report the activity being carried out on Secondary School Place Planning be brought to a future meeting of the Children's and Families Select Committee at a date to be agreed by the Chairman of the Committee.</p>
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WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose	Resolutions
19 June 2023	Provision of Support to Looked After Children Transitioning Out of the Care System	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>To learn about the range and depth of support offered to Looked After Children by the Council as they transition out of the care system.</p> <p>To examine transition arrangements at other authorities and to learn about best practice.</p> <p>To make recommendations on how the transition arrangements could be further developed to provide the best possible outcomes to young people transitioning out of the care system.</p>	
	Child Poverty – Free School Meals	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	To examine and scrutinise how the increase of children in receipt of Free School Meals is being used to plan and inform the provision of other support for children and families.	
	Financial Support for the Provision of School Uniform	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>Resolved at the October 2022 meeting:</p> <p>That members of the Children and Families Select Committee be involved in the review of the Council's policy on financial support for the provision of school uniform that is</p>	

			scheduled to take place before the start of the 2023/24 financial year.	
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WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

Items pending scheduling or removal

Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Details	Status
Early Years – Affordability of Childcare	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	To make recommendations on how the Council can support the provision of, and access to, affordable childcare across Nottinghamshire.	To be scheduled. To agree with Chair and Vice-Chair the method used to examine the topic.
Outcomes and Experiences of Children and Young People with SEND	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	To receive a report on the progress made in implementing improvements to the experiences and outcomes of children and young people with SEND, informed by the priority areas for action and areas for improvement identified during the Ofsted / Care Quality Commission local area review in January/February 2023, and to incorporate within this report the new requirements arising from the Government response to the SEND Green Paper – the SEND and Alternative Improvement Plan.	To be scheduled for the October 2023 meeting, alongside the recommendations from the Select Committee’s Education, Health and Care Plan Task and Finish Review.
Government Response to the Independent Review of Children’s Social Care in England	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	To consider how the proposals align with Nottinghamshire’s current transformation plans around children’s social care.	To be scheduled.
School Performance	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at the March 2023 meeting: That the issue raised during the discussion at the meeting of school performance levels be considered as part of the processes around the	To be considered during the work programming process for 2023/24.

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

		development of the committee's Work Programme for 2023/24.	
Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership – Progress Report on Priorities	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at the December 2022 meeting: That the Independent Scrutineer of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership's attend the June 2023 meeting of the Children and Families Select Committee to present a report on the current activities of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and on the progress being made towards its strategic priorities.	To be rescheduled, as the Independent Scrutineer was unable to attend June 2023 meeting.
Pupil Place Planning	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	To receive a response from the resolution made at the March 2023 meeting that: That the Cabinet Member for Children and Families, in consultation with officers gives consideration to how local elected members can be most effectively communicated with and involved with the activity that takes place with academy trusts regarding the pupil place planning.	To be scheduled for the October 2023 meeting.

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23 – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE – UPDATED 9 JUNE 2023

Reviews

Project Start Date	Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose of Review	Current Status and activity
May 2023	Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs)	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	<p>To gain an understanding of the issues and challenges surrounding EHCPs.</p> <p>To gain assurance on the activities planned and taking place to enable the Council to meet statutory targets for the assessment of requests for EHCPs.</p> <p>To examine processes at other authorities and to make recommendations on how the processes surrounding EHCPs could operate to provide the best outcomes for children, young people and their families.</p>	Review activity to be completed during May and June. Report to be considered at October 2023 meeting.

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Project Start Date	Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose of Review	Current Status and activity
TBC	<p>Transition of service users from Children and Families Services to Adult Social Care Services</p> <p>Joint item with the Adult Social Care and Public Health Select Committee</p>	<p>Cabinet Member for Children and Families</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health</p>	<p>To examine the current procedures surrounding the transition of service users from Children's to Adult Services.</p> <p>To make recommendations on how procedures could be developed to ensure the best possible transition for each service user.</p>	Pending

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Project Start Date	Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose of Review	Current Status and activity
TBC	Child Poverty – Early Years and School Readiness	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	To investigate how children starting school are 'school ready' and to make recommendations on how the number of children starting school as school ready could be maximised.	Pending

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Project Start Date	Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose of Review	Current Status and activity
TBC	Elective Home Education	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at the October 2022 meeting: That members of the Children and Families Select Committee be involved in the review of the Council's Elective Home Education Policy that is scheduled to take place during 2023,	Pending

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Project Start Date	Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose of Review	Current Status and activity
TBC	Provision of Additional Specialist Educational Placements	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at the December 2022 meeting: That a task and finish review on the potential locations for the provision of additional specialist educational placements be carried out by members of the Children and Families Select Committee.	Pending

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Project Start Date	Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Purpose of Review	Current Status and activity
TBC	Pupil Place Planning	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at March 2023 meeting: That members of the Children and Families Select Committee carry out a task and finish review on how the Children and Families and Place departments can best work together on projects being implemented to deliver additional school places.	Pending

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Items to be scheduled during 2023/24

Item	Cabinet Member Responsibility	Details	Status
Elective Home Education	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at the October 2022 meeting: That a progress report on the current position on Elective Home Education in Nottinghamshire be presented at the September 2023 meeting of the Children and Young People's Select Committee.	To be scheduled for the October 2023 meeting.
SEND Provision and Sufficiency	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at the December 2022 meeting: That a progress report on the provision and delivery of additional specialist educational placements be brought to a future meeting of the Children and Families Select Committee.	To be scheduled during 2023/24.
Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Annual item.	To be scheduled for the December 2023 meeting.
All-Age Carers Strategy	Cabinet Member for Children and Families Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health	To review progress after the strategy has been in place for one year.	To be considered for scheduling during 2023/24 as a joint item with the Adult Social Care and Public Health Select Committee.

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Secondary School Place Planning	Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Resolved at the March 2023 meeting: That a further progress report the activity being carried out on Secondary School Place Planning be brought to a future meeting of the Children's and Families Select Committee at a date to be agreed by the Chairman of the Committee.	To be considered for scheduling during 2023/24.
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