

Children and Young People's Committee

Monday, 13 December 2021 at 10:30

County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

1	Minutes of the last Meeting held on 1 November 2021	1 - 8
2	Apologies for Absence	
3	Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below) (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary)	
4	Children and Young People Core Data Set - Performance and Finance for Quarter 2 21-22	9 - 20
5	Implementing Family Hubs in Nottinghamshire	21 - 32
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9	Delivering the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme	55 - 64
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Notes

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

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.
 - Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Martin Gately (Tel. 0115 977 2826) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.
- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx

minutes

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE Meeting

1 November 2021 (commencing at 10:30 am) Date

Membership

Persons absent are marked with an 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Tracey Taylor (Chairman) Sinead Anderson (Vice-Chairman) Sam Smith (Vice-Chairman)

Matt Barney Roger Jackson Anne Callaghan Johno Lee Andy Meakin Α Samantha Deakin Michelle Welsh **Errol Henry**

Substitute Members:

Daniel Williamson

CO-OPTED MEMBERS (NON-VOTING)

4 Vacancies

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Colin Pettigrew Corporate Director, Children and Families Services Steve Edwards Service Director, Children and Families Services Service Director, Children and Families Services Laurence Jones Group Manager, Children and Families Services Irene Kakoullis Group Manager, Environment, Transport and Property Mick Allen Phil Berrill Team Manager, Environment, Transport and Property Democratic Services Officer. Chief Executive's Martin Gately

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 13 SEPTEMBER 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2021 having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and have been signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Daniel Williamson substituted for Councillor Deakin.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillor Welsh declared a private non-pecuniary interest as a recipient of childcare services within the county in relation to item 9.

4. ADOPTION EAST MIDLANDS ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

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

RESOLVED 2021/081

That:

- 1) the annual update on Adoption East Midlands Regional Adoption Agency activity for 2020-21 be approved.
- 2) an update report be received in the next 12 months and that this be included in the work programme.

5. <u>NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21</u>

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

RESOLVED 2021/082

That:

1) no actions were required in relation to the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021, attached as Appendix 1.

6. FOSTER CARER ITEMS

There were no issues to report.

7. CHILD POVERTY AND THE IMPACT OF COVID 19

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

RESOLVED 2021/083

That:

- the findings of the recent review of the impact of Covid-19 on child and family poverty in Nottinghamshire be noted and the Improving Life Chances for Children and Families Partnership be tasked to consider and address the issues identified in the report.
- 2) the proposal to allocate approximately £2.3 million of the new Household Support Fund for the provision of vouchers to children and young people eligible for free school meals for October half-term, the Christmas holidays and February half-term 2022 be approved.
- 3) the transfer of responsibility for the remainder of the Household Support Grant not distributed as a result of the recommendations in this report to the relevant Committee, subject to continued oversight by Children and Young People's Committee on any decisions involving funding for children and young people be approved. Such oversight to be exercised by the Chairman of Children and Young People's Committee or their nominee from time to time.

8. CHILD OBESITY TRAILBLAZER UPDATE - TACKLING FOOD INSECURITY

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

RESOLVED 2021/084

That:

- the continuation of this partnership work by the Early Childhood Services with Public Health and wider County Council services to improve access to and availability of healthy food, and enabling parents to develop good child eating habits in the early years and support families facing food insecurity be approved.
- the continued delivery of approaches as part of this work such as FOOD clubs through the Children's Centre Service and other Council services where feasible and accessible for target groups be approved.

9. <u>CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT 2021: THE EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE SECTOR IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE</u>

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

RESOLVED	2021/085
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1) the actions and recommendations of the Nottinghamshire Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2021 as detailed in paragraph 19 of the report be approved.

10. BEST START STRATEGY

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

RESOLVED 2021/086

That:

- 1) the progress made so far to deliver the Best Start Strategy be acknowledged.
- 2) the suggested next steps for the effective delivery of the Best Start Strategy and improvement of outcomes for children and families be approved.
- 3) the concerns of Members about the items at paragraph 19 points 2 and 5 be noted and a further report with a detailed action plan come back to this committee.

11. OUTCOMES OF OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF SCHOOLS - TERMLY UPDATE

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

RESOLVED 2021/087

- 1) for any schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to Require Improvement, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress to become a Good school and that the Education Improvement Service will work directly with them to provide a range of support packages aligned to the issues raised during the inspection. This support will continue until the school is judged to be securely Good. In relation to academies, a letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner.
- 2) for any schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good but declining, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress to become a Good school and that the Education Improvement Service will work directly with them to provide a range of support packages aligned to the issues raised during the inspection. This support will continue until the school is judged to be securely Good. In

relation to academies, a letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner.

3) for any schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good, or become Good or Outstanding, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to congratulate them on their achievement. A copy of this letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner in relation to academies.

12. EXTENDED DUTIES OF THE HEAD OF THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

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

RESOLVED 2021/088

That the proposed use of the Extended Duties Grant by the Virtual School be approved as follows:

- increasing the capacity of the Virtual School leadership team from 1.0 to 1.6 fte Assistant Head of Virtual School role
- increasing the capacity of the Virtual School team by 1.0 fte Achievement Officer role
- improving access to information and guidance by the provision of a dedicated advice line run by the Virtual School team, and the development of the Virtual School team's website. and
- extending the training offer to Designated Safeguarding Leads alongside the existing Designated Teachers.

13. <u>SCHOOL CAPITAL PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT AND 2022/23 SCHOOLS BUILDING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME</u>

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

RESOLVED 2021/089

- 1) the successes and progress that has been made in delivering the Schools Capital Programme be considered.
- 2) the projects for addition to the School Building Improvement Programme for 2022/23 and the commencement of the project feasibility stage be approved.

14. ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION UPDATE

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

RESOLVED 2021/090

That:

1) a further six-monthly report on elective home education be requested.

15. <u>LOCAL TRANSFORMATION PLAN FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES'</u> <u>EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH - UPDATE</u>

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

RESOLVED 2021/090

That:

1) a further update on this topic be received by the committee in June.

16. <u>LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS TO SCHOOL GOVERNING</u> BODIES DURING THE PERIOD 19TH JUNE TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

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

RESOLVED 2021/091

That:

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

17. WORK PROGRAMME

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

RESOLVED 2021/092

That:

1) No further amendments were required to the work programme.

The meeting closed at 1:19 pm.

CHAIRMAN



Report to Children and Young People's Committee

13th December 2021

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE & IMPROVEMENT

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE CORE DATA SET - PERFORMANCE AND FINANCE FOR QUARTER 2 2021/22

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides the Committee with a summary of the performance and finance of the Council's services for children and young people for quarter 2 of 2021/22 (1st July to 30th September 2021). Committee is asked to agree that future quarterly performance reports include measures relating to the known pressures in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, as this remains one of the highest concerns for the Department and should be brought to the attention of Members and monitored closely.

Information

- 2. The Council's Planning and Performance Framework establishes the approach that the Council takes to planning and managing its performance to deliver effective and responsive services.
- 3. The Council has agreed that the key measures of its performance will be defined through a number of core data sets which are detailed in its Council Plan and each of its Departmental Strategies.
- 4. Performance against these core data sets is reported to Committee every three months (quarterly) to support the performance management of the delivery of services.

Performance Reporting for 2021/22

- 5. This report provides a summary of the quarter 2 position for the Children's Social Care and Education Core Data Set performance measures that fall within the responsibility of the Children and Young People's Committee. The full Core Data Set is included in **Appendices 1 and 2**. **Appendix 1** shows those measures which have received updates since the previous quarter. **Appendix 2** shows those measures which have not changed.
- 6. For each measure, the following information is provided:

- Current performance and whether a high or low value is regarded as 'good'.
- The period this current value relates to.
- An indication of whether performance has improved (+), declined (-), or remained the same (=) over the current reporting period. The most recently available annual performance and which year this relates to.
- The underlying numbers used to calculate the % for some measures is provided within the measure description.
- If a measure is cumulative, this is stated in the measure description.
- Comparator data of the national average for England, and that of the Council's children's services statistical neighbours, where this data is available.

Child and Family Assessments

7. We continue to meet our target with the majority of Child and Family Assessments being undertaken well within timescales, in line with our approach which is to ensure that assessments are timely and proportionate.

Child Protection

- 8. There has been a slight increase this quarter in the number of children in Nottinghamshire subject to a Child Protection plan, however the Authority remains in line with its statistical neighbours.
- 9. Child Protection Coordinator's (CPCs) continue to closely monitor the length of time a child has been subject to a Child Protection plan and there remains a robust system in place of review and monitor for children who are on a plan for over 15 months. There is also a system in place to manage drift and delay to prevent new cases being on Child Protection plans for extended periods of time.
- 10. There continues to be work ongoing around the increase in repeat Child Protection plans across the Authority and processes remain in place to monitor these, including Children's Service Managers being alerted to a repeat plan being requested so that this can be monitored. This remains a discussion point within the quarterly meetings between CPCs and team managers within social care across the County, and the ongoing use of complex case panel and Multi Agency Problem-solving (MAPs) meetings is encouraged to try and support thinking around complex situations within family units. The Service is looking at repeat plans in more detail to try and establish any additional actions that could be taken to reduce these figures.
- 11. Participation from health in Child Protection Conferences continues to be impacted by the low participation rates for GPs. Work has been undertaken with GPs around providing information for conference and it is hoped that this will start to make a positive change to these figures. Overall, participation from other agencies remains good, however this quarter has been lower than last, but this is to be expected with the summer period. As we move out of the pandemic the Service is looking at hybrid ways of working to maintain participation from outside agencies and will look to accommodate for both in-person and virtual attendance in order to keep attendance rates at conferences high.

Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing

- 12. There is some variance in numbers of children reported to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub throughout the year. It is likely that numbers dipped in quarter 3 of 2020/21 due to Covid restrictions and as expected increased during quarter 4 2020/21 & quarter 1 of 2021/22 as Covid restrictions eased. Numbers have however decreased for quarter 2 2021/22 which is also reflected in numbers of children subject to a Child Sexual Exploitation meeting. This is also reflected in a reduction in young people experiencing high risk Child Sexual Exploitation incidents (monitored at Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) panel). The data will be analysed to consider any reasons for the decrease in Child Sexual Exploitation occurrences recorded.
- 13. There has been no significant change in data this quarter in comparison with previous quarters. The numbers of children missing from home and care has risen slightly which is in line with expectations given the easing of Covid-19 restrictions. There has been a slight increase in the percentage of Nottinghamshire Looked After Children missing from placement by individual child and this issue will be analysed to consider any specific reasons and concerns.

Looked After Children

- 14. This measure considers children in care who have had more than three placements during the previous 12 months as a proportion of all children in care. There has been a declining trend in performance during the past 12-18 months (i.e. an increasing proportion of young people experiencing 3+ placement moves within a year, increasing from 10.2% of children in care in Quarter 2 2020-21 to 13.2% in Quarter 2 2021-22), reflecting the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the challenge it continues to present in maintaining stable placements which has been referenced in this commentary during previous quarters. Contemporaneous evidence from benchmarking with other authorities across the region is that this is a widespread issue, albeit one that is not readily picked in this analysis that effectively benchmarks against pre-pandemic national data. It is nevertheless the first time this indicator has not been RAG rated green and the situation will continue to be closely monitored, to assess if there are any longer-term impacts emerging.
- 15. Although this data continues to evidence that the majority of children in care experience very stable placements over the longer term, it also shows a steady decline in performance during the past 12-18 months. Again, like placement stability mentioned above, it is very much reflective of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. Furthermore, older children in care aged 16+, who make up more than 25% of the total number of Nottinghamshire's children in care population, typically experience changes of placement as part of their care plan as they move into semi-independent accommodation as part of their wider transition into adulthood. This does have the effect of distorting the overall picture around placement stability.

Adoption

16. The time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family continues to improve. Very few children have to wait unless they have extra needs as there is usually a choice of placement options.

17. Performance for the time between the Local Authority receiving the court authority and deciding on a match has declined as there have been long delays in court waiting for final hearings, which increased due to the pandemic. The length of time will also be impacted by a few harder to place children.

Care Leavers

- 18. Due to a known issue on Mosaic, which is affecting the updating of care leaver information on employment, education, and training and accommodation, the performance indicators for quarter 4 cannot be accurately calculated. In April, the Service identified 93 young people whose data could not be updated due to this issue. The Information and Systems Team have resolved the problem.
- 19. Following the resolution of this issue, the Service has been working to update all records which were affected, and this work is ongoing. As such, it is not possible at present to report accurate performance metrics for care leavers.

Youth Offending

- 20. The rate (per 100,000 population) of First Time Entrants saw a slight reduction when compared with the same period last year. This quarter saw a reduction in the number of violence offences, while the proportion of weapons offences remains high. Nationally, Possession of Weapon offences made up 19% of all offences committed by First Time Entrants (in the most recent Youth Justice National Statistics), a proportion which has been increasing over the last ten years. Locally, Weapons Possession accounted for 26% of First Time Entrants for the 12 months to the end of March 2021.
- 21. This could be impacted by a local protocol which means the vast majority of young people found in possession of a knife receive a minimum outcome of an out of court disposal (as opposed to community resolution which would mean their offence would not be counted in these statistics). The protocol is considered a positive, as it provides the Youth Justice Service the opportunity to identify underlying factors to the offence and offer support to prevent future offending. Measures are also in place to ensure children are not unnecessarily criminalised. The knife and weapons guidance for schools and education providers has been updated this quarter to support schools with early identification and intervention, as well as decision making when an incident occurs on school premises. The Youth Justice partnership monitor the location of weapons offences and where patterns emerge targeted projects in schools and the community are delivered.

Performance Summary

22. In summary, the majority of measures show continuing strong performance across the Department, with measures of interest to Ofsted such as Assessment Timescales performing very well. The few measures that are not performing as well are all under close scrutiny by the Department.

Summary Financial Position

23. The Children and Families Department Revenue Budget is forecast to overspend by £2.2m after planned use of grant reserves and excluding redundancy costs. The Annual Budget

includes an adjustment for Covid-19 additional costs. Commissioning & Resources remains the division with the highest overspend.

Table 1 – Summary Revenue Position

Forecast Variance at Period		Annual Budget	Actual to Period	Year- End Forecast	Under (-) / Overspend Variance
5 £000	Division	£000	6 £000	£000	£000
803	Youth, Families & Social Work	56,646	24,385	56,901	255
(22)	Education Learning & Skills	6,419	2,604	6,349	(70)
1,270	Commisioning & Resources	79,530	35,827	81,523	1,993
-	Capital & Central Charges	12,892	(96)	12,892	-
2,051	Subtotal	155,487	62,720	157,665	2,178
	Traders				
(164)	Clayfields	(140)	636	(140)	-
1,887	Forecast prior to use of reserves	155,347	63,356	157,525	2,178
-	Transfer to / (from) earmarked reserves	-	-	-	-
-	Transfer to / (from) grant reserves	(928)	(279)	(978)	-
-	Transfer to / (from) Traders reserves	(206)	-	(206)	-
1,887	Net Department	154,213	63,077	156,341	2,178

- 24. The Youth, Families & Social Work division £0.3m of this overspend relates to social care staffing. The overspend has arisen due to the service still needing to use high levels of agency workers during the pandemic. Newly qualified social workers who have experienced their first year of practice during lockdown have not had the joint working opportunities they would have had in a non-pandemic year.
- 25. The forecast agency spend for the Hard to Retain teams is £5.6m (2020-21 £5.7m) and is based on 82.3fte agency Team Mangers and Social Workers by the end of March 2022. The forecast also includes 33.4fte non-social work qualified agency workers by the end of March 2022. A reduction for annual leave and turnover is factored into the agency forecast.
- 26. £0.8m overspend (£0.8m period 5) is due to Looked After Children placements. This is attributable to personal allowance payments to Looked After Children aged 16/17 living independently £0.3m and a further £0.3m for internal specialist residential Childrens and £0.2m on the Fostering team.
- 27. £0.5m underspend (£0.5m period 5) on Non-Looked After Children placements. The underspend has arisen due to a decline in child arrangement orders (CAO) and adoption financial support payments (AFS). CAO placements have decreased by 19% and AFS placements by 19% since August 2020. Covid-19 has also delayed many of these orders going to court and therefore growth in the anticipated number of Special Guardianship Orders has been delayed.

- 28. £0.3m underspend (£0.2m period 5) on the Children with Disabilities homes. This is due to the temporary closure of Minster View £0.4m and offset by Caudwell House not yet anticipated to achieve its income target £0.1m.
- 29. £0.1m overspend (£0.5m period 5) in Early Help & Youth services. The overspend is due to pressures in the Early Help Unit. The decrease in overspend is due to receipt of £0.4m Covid budget for the Outdoor Education Service to compensate their loss of income.
- 30. £0.1m underspend on Adoption Services due to the decision to distribute part of the Adoption East Midlands reserve to respective partners.
- 31. The Education Learning & Skills Division is reporting a £0.1m underspend (£0.2m overspend period 5). Additional Covid grant has been allocated to fund the extra costs associated with an increase in demand for Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP's) for children who have special education needs (SEN). The previous forecast included £0.2m (period 4) of additional costs which is now covered by the grant.
- 32. The Commissioning and Resources Division is reporting a forecast £2.0m overspend (£3.8m period 5) after use of reserves and £2.5m Covid budget allocation received in the month. There is a £3.2m overspend (£4.9m period 5) on External LAC Placements (excluding £0.5m offsetting underspends in internal foster care). The overspend includes £1.2m relating to children transferred from Minster View which remains closed and an estimated £2.0m due to market conditions and reliance on more costly placement types inevitably impacted by the pandemic. The availability of suitable foster care both internally and externally continues to be a major factor (especially for older children), so placement mix is the issue rather than excessive growth.
- 33. External placement numbers appeared to increase by a net of 17 in the month, however on closer scrutiny this includes some placements that started much earlier in the year (7 semi-independent contract and 1 IFA, collectively adding less than £0.2m due to relatively low unit costs). Inevitably, some of the remaining September increase relates to placements which started late August. Additionally, a spot placement which was expected to end mid-September is now continuing, adding over £0.1m. Exceptionally, an October placement in Clayfields is currently adding £0.4m to the forecast (potentially £0.8m p.a.) ahead of a more cost-effective solution.
- 34. There is a £1.2m underspend (£1.1m period 5) on Children's Centres and former contract related budgets. Approximately £0.3m is on budgets originally held for possible pay protection and other uncertainties, £0.2m increased Public Health Grant, a temporary subsidy on the NHS employers pension rate accounts for a further £0.1m and the remaining £0.5m is mainly due to vacancies against the original staffing budgets that were created on transfer. The £0.1m increase in the month is due to a volume of minor refinements (and roundings).
- 35. There is a £0.3m net overspend (£0.3m period 5) across other budget heads within the division. This mainly consists of staffing budget overspends linked to the VLT and current service demands within the Independent Chair Service and ICDS agency staff.
- 36. Finally, there is £0.1m net overspend (£0.1m period 5) within C&R Service Improvement budgets incorporating departmental overheads such as Trade Union recharges which

- consistently exceed budget and temporary senior management costs associated with the IICSA
- 37. Clayfields is currently forecasting a deficit of £0.3m against its income target of £0.346m (reduced by £0.164m Covid budget this month). This takes into account a £858,000 (780 welfare bed nights @ £1,100) loss of income for the period April September. This is due to a combination of factors, for example occupancy at Clayfields remains lower than in previous years, there are staffing vacancies which are unlikely to be filled before Christmas and complexity of young people's needs. The forecast includes a final loan repayment estimated at £0.1m and a contribution towards the increased cost of employer liability insurance of £0.2m. The balance on the trading reserve is £0.564m.

Other Options Considered

38. This report is provided as part of the Committee's constitutional requirement to consider performance of all areas within its terms of reference on a quarterly basis. The departmental strategy was agreed on 24th January 2018 and the format and frequency of performance reporting were agreed by the Improvement and Change Sub-Committee on 12th March 2018. Due to the nature of the report no other options were considered appropriate.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

39. This report is provided as part of the Committee's constitutional requirement to consider performance of areas within its terms of reference on a quarterly basis.

Statutory and Policy Implications

40. 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

41. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

42. Reporting on the performance of services for looked after children and care leavers will better enable the Council to ensure that children are effectively safeguarded.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Committee considers whether there are any actions it requires in relation to the performance information on the Council's services for children and young people for the period 1st July to 30th September 2021.
- 2) future quarterly performance reports include measures relating to the known pressures in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, as this remains one of the highest concerns for the Department and should be brought to the attention of Members and monitored closely.

Nigel Stevenson Service Director for Finance, Infrastructure & Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

David Gilbert

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Constitutional Comments (ELP 17/11/21)

43. The recommendations fall within the delegation to Children and Young People's Committee by virtue of its frame of reference.

Financial Comments (CDS 16/11/21)

44. There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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

<u>Children and young people core data set – performance and finance for Quarter 4 2020-21 – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 26th July 2021</u>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1526

Appendix 1 - Indicators updated from previous report



Core Data Set for CYP Committee Performance for Quarter Two

Key Performance Indicator		Nottinghamshire					Comparator Data	
		/alue	Best to be	Current Reporting Period	Previous Value	Previous Annual Performance	National Average	Statistical Neighbours
Child and Family assessments for Children's Social Care carried out within statutory timescales	97.8%	-	High	2021/22 Q2	98.6%	97.1% (2020/21)	83.8% (2019/20)	84.7% (2019/20)
Percentage of child protection cases reviewed within timescale	90.6%	-	High	2021/22 Q2	91.8%	93.4% (2020/21)	91.5% (2019/20)	91.5% (2019/20)
Children subject to a Child Protection Plan – Rate per 10,000	40.3	N/A	N/A	2021/22 Q2	39.6	42.9 (2020/21)	42.8 (2019/20)	40.9 (2019/20)
Children who are subject to a child protection plan for 2 years or more	3.4%	-	Low	2021/22 Q2	1.8%	3.9% (2020/21)	3.6% (2019/20)	3.4% (2019/20)
Children becoming the subject of a child protection plan on more than one occasion	37.1%	-	Low	2021/22 Q2	26.3%	23.8% (2020/21)	21.9% (2019/20)	22.8% (2019/20)
Total number of individual children reported missing this quarter	319	-	Low	2021/22 Q2	312	747 (2020/21)	_	-
Of the children reported missing, % missing from home (193/319)	60.5%			2021/22 Q2	60.3%	66.4% (2020/21)	_	-
Of the children reported missing, % missing from care placement (132/319)	41.4%			2021/22 Q2	42.0%	38.8% (2020/21)	_	-
Of the children reported missing, % missing from NCC LAC care placement (86/319)	27.0%			2021/22 Q2	24.4%	24.1% (2020/21)	_	-
Total number of missing occurrences* this quarter generated by these children	608	+	Low	2021/22 Q2	669	2044 (2020/21)	_	-
Percentage of Return Interviews completed within timescale (L) (202/273)	74.0%	-	High	2021/22 Q2	81.8%	73% (P) (2018/19)	_	-
Percentage of Nottinghamshire LAC missing from placement by individual child (L) (86/982)	8.8%] -	Low	2021/22 Q2	7.7%	24.1% (2020/21)	11% (2017/18)	10.1% (2017/18)
Percentage of children reported missing this qtr who have gone missing 5+ times in last 12 mths (66/319)	20.7%	+	Low	2021/22 Q2	22.5%	13.5% (2020/21)	_	-
Number of children reported to MASH as at risk of CSE	91	+	Low	2021/22 Q2	128	334 (2020/21)	_	-
Number of LAC children subject to CSE strategy meeting	2	+	Low	2021/22 Q2	4	3 (2020/21)	_	_
Number of non LAC children subject to CSE strategy meeting	9	+	Low	2021/22 Q2	15	47 (2020/21)	_	_
Percentage of looked after children placed 20 miles or more from home (L) (175/921)	19.0%	-	Low	2021/22 Q2	17.1%	16.8% (2020/21)	16.0% (2019/20)	15.6% (2019/20)
Looked after children with 3 or more placements in any one year (L)	13.2%	-	Low	2021/22 Q2	11.6%	10.9% (2020/21)	11.0% (2019/20)	10.4% (2019/20)
Percentage of looked after children remaining in long-term placements (L)	65.0%	-	High	2021/22 Q2	65.7%	68.1% (2020/21)	68.0% (2019/20)	66.1% (2019/20)

For Nottinghamshire, the performance data available at the end of quarter 2 2021/22 is reported. The most recent data for national average and children's services statistical neighbours is reported, where available. Please note, comparisons may be indicative only, as the reporting periods are not necessarily aligned. Where Nottinghamshire performance meets or exceeds the latest national performance information, this is highlighted by the emboldened boxes. Key: (p) = provisional data; (L) = reported against the outcomes in the LAC & Care Leavers Strategy (+) = better than previous value; (-) = worse than previous value; (=) = same as previous value; (n/a) = not comparable to previous value

NB Missing definition = reported as missing to Police, includes missing no risk (absent) as well as missing

^{*} missing occurrences - Current value is total over 3 months, annual performance is total over 12 months

Appendix 1 - Indicators updated from previous report (contd)



Core Data Set for CYP Committee Performance for Quarter Two

Key Performance Indicator				Comparator Data				
		Value	Best to be	Current Reporting Period	Previous Value	Previous Annual Performance	National Average	Statistical Neighbours
Percentage of school-age LAC with an up-to-date Personal Education Plan (L) (332/626)	53.0%	-	High	2021/22 Q2	54.5%	48.6% (2020/21)	_	_
Percentage of LAC who took up the opportunity to be consulted by their Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) prior to the LAC Review Meeting (L) (275/647)	42.5%	+	High	2021/22 Q2	37.3%	33.9% (2020/21)	_	_
Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for those adopted children, adjusted for foster carer adoptions (days)	349	+	Low	2021/22 Q2	931	363 days (2018-21)	285 days (2016-19)	360 days (2016-19)
Average time between a LA receiving court authority to place a child and deciding on a match to an adoptive family (days)	264	-	Low	2021/22 Q2	86	188days (2018-21)	134 days (2016-19)	162 days (2016-19)
Numbers of individual children and young people engaged in positive activities delivered by the Young People's Service (cumulative; previous value is same quarter last year - previous is Q2 2019/20, Q2020/21 not available)	4,637	-	High	2021/22 Q2	8,880	3,459 (2020/21)		_
Numbers of children and young people accessing Outdoor and Environmental Education (cumulative; previous value is same quarter last year - previous is Q2 2019/20, Q2020/21 not available)	9,588	-	High	2021/22 Q2	17,235	4,593 (2020/21)		_
Numbers exiting substance misuse treatment in a planned manner	89%	+	High	2021/22 Q1	78%	78% (2020/21)	79% (2020/21)	_
First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 (per 100,000) (cumulative; previous value is same quarter last year)	24	+	Low	2021/22 Q1	26	147 (2020/21)	208 (2019/20)	_
Number of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children Looked After	26	N/A	N/A	2021/22 Q2	18	17 (2020/21)		_

For Nottinghamshire, the performance data available at the end of quarter 2 2021/22 is reported. The most recent data for national average and children's services statistical neighbours is reported, where available. Please note, comparisons may be indicative only, as the reporting periods are not necessarily aligned. Where Nottinghamshire performance meets or exceeds the latest national performance information, this is highlighted by the emboldened boxes. Key: (p) = provisional data; (L) = reported against the outcomes in the LAC & Care Leavers Strategy (+) = better than previous value; (-) = worse than previous value; (=) = same as previous value; (n/a) = not comparable to previous value.

Appendix 2 - Indicators that remain unchanged from previous report



Core Data Set for CYP Committee Performance for Quarter Two

Key Performance Indicator		Nottinghamshire						Comparator Data		
		'alue	Best to be	Current Reporting Period	Previous Value	Previous Annual Performance	National Average	Statistical Neighbours		
Average Strengths and Difficulties Question (SDQ) Score per LAC (for at least 12 months) (L) (Maximum possible score 40)	15.2	+	Low	2018/19	15.9	15.9 (2017/18)	14.2 (2018/19)	14.2 (2018/19)		
Percentage of LAC (for at least 12 months) with up to date immunisations (L) (589/592)	99.0%	+	High	2018/19	99%	98.9% (2017/18)	87% (2018/19)	85.2% (2018/19)		
Percentage of LAC (for at least 12 months) who have had their teeth checked by a dentist (L) (460/592)	78.0%		High	2018/19	82%	82% (2017/18)	85% (2018/19)	80.1% (2018/19)		
Percentage of LAC (for at least 12 months) who have had their annual health assessment (L) (581/592)	98.0%	+	High	2018/19	94%	93.9% (2017/18)	90% (2018/19)	88.7% (2018/19)		
Percentage of LAC (for at least 12 months & under 5) whose development assessments are up to date (46/46)	100.0%	=	High	2018/19	100%	100% (2017/18)	88% (2018/19)	95.3% (2018/19)		
Percentage of LAC (for at least 12 months) identified as having a substance misuse problem (L) (27/592)	5.0%	=	Low	2018/19	5%	5.0% (2017/18)	4% (2018/19)	3.0% (2018/19)		
Percentage of LAC (for at least 12 months) convicted or subject to a final warning or reprimand (L) (0/592)	0.0%	=	Low	2018/19	0.0%	0.0% (2017/18)	3% (2018/19)	3.4% (2018/19)		
Percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training aged 19-21 (L) (118/225)	52.4%	+	High	2020/21 Q3	52.0%	47.0% (2018/19)	52% (2018/19)	49.4% (2018/19)		
Percentage of care leavers in higher education aged 19-21 (L) (16/225)	7.1%	-	High	2020/21 Q3	7.7%	5.0% (2018/19)	6.0% (2018/19)	5.3% (2018/19)		
Percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation (L) (183/225)	81.3%	-	High	2020/21 Q3	84.2%	90.0% (2018/19)	85% (2018/19)	84.6% (2018/19)		
Primary schools judged by Ofsted as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour	93.4%	+	High	As at Sept 2015	92.7%	n/a	94.3% (Sept 2015)	94.1% (Sept 2015)		
Secondary schools judged by Ofsted as having good/outstanding standards of behaviour	79.1%	-	High	As at Sept 2015	83.3%	n/a	85.1% (Sept 2015)	84.2% (Sept 2015)		
Participation in education, employment and training (EET) aged 16-17	96.4%	+	High	2021/22 Q1	95.7%	95.7% (2020/21 Q4)		-		
Percentage not in education, employment or training (NEET) aged 16-17	1.7%	=	Low	2021/22 Q1	1.7%	1.7% (2020/21 Q4)		_		
Percentage whose destination is not known aged 16-17	1.8%	+	Low	2021/22 Q1	2.6%	2.6% (2020/21 Q4)		_		
Percentage of children aged 0-4 living in low income areas registered with children's centres (snapshot)	100.0%	=	High	2018/19 Q1	100.0%	100% (2017/18 Q4)		-		
Percentage of children aged 0-4 living in low income areas seen at children's centres (cumulative)	75.5%	+	High	2018/19 Q1	72.4%	75.5% (2017/18 Q4)		_		
Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks, incl. mixed feeding methods (Nottinghamshire NHS)	43.4%	=	High	2019/20 Q3	43.4%	41.9% (2018/19)	46.2% (2018/19)	45.7% (2018/19)		
Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS1 in Reading (L) (9/15)	60.0%	+	High	2018/19 academic	31.3%	31.3% (2017/18)	52.0% (2018/19)	_		
Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS1 in Writing (L) (7/15)	46.7%	+	High	2018/19 academic	25.0%	25.0% (2017/18)	43.0% (2018/19)	-		
Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS1 in Maths (L) (9/15)	60.0%	+	High	2018/19 academic	37.5%	37.5% (2017/18)	49.0% (2018/19)	_		
Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS2 in Reading (L) (17/33)	51.5%	+	High	2018/19 academic	46.9%	46.9% (2017/18)	49.0% (2018/19)	50.0% (2018/19)		

For Nottinghamshire, the performance data available at the end of quarter 2 2021/22 is reported. The most recent data for national average and children's services statistical neighbours is reported, where available. Please note, comparisons may be indicative only, as the reporting periods are not necessarily aligned. Where Nottinghamshire performance meets or exceeds the latest national performance information, this is highlighted by the emboldened boxes. Key: (p) = provisional data; (L) = reported against the outcomes in the LAC & Care Leavers Strategy (+) = better than previous value; (-) = worse than previous value; (=) = same as previous value; (n/a) = not comparable to previous value

Appendix 2 - Indicators that remain unchanged from previous report



Core Data Set for CYP Committee Performance for Quarter Two

Key Performance Indicator				tinghamsh			Comparator Data	
	Current \	/alue	Best to be	Reporting	Previous Value	Annual Performance	National Average	Statistical Neighbours
Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS2 in Writing (L) (19/33)	57.6%	+	High	2018/19 academic	37.5%	37.5% (2017/18)	50.0% (2018/19)	46.0% (2018/19)
Percentage of LAC achieving expected standard at KS2 in Maths (L) (13/33)	39.4%	+	High	2018/19 academic	37.5%	37.5% (2017/18)	51.0% (2018/19)	48.0% (2018/19)
Percentage of LAC achieving 9-5 grades in GCSE English & maths at KS4 (L) (8/71)	11.3%	+	High	2018/19 academic	6.8%	6.8% (2017/18)	7.3% (2018/19)	10.0% (2018/19)
Percentage of LAC achieving 9-4 grades in GCSE English & maths at KS4 (L) (17/71)	23.9%] +	High	2018/19 academic	22.7%	22.7% (2017/18)	18.0% (2018/19)	21.3% (2018/19)
Percentage of LAC classed as persistent absentees (L) (29/385)	7.5%	+	Low	2018/19 academic	8.9%	8.9% (2017/18)	10.9% (2018/19)	10.9% (2018/19)
Percentage of LAC permanently excluded (L) (0/365)	0.0%	=	Low	2017/18 academic	0.0%	0% (2016/17)	0.05% (2017/18)	-
Percentage of LAC with at least one fixed term exclusion (L) (38/365)	10.4%	+	Low	2017/18 academic	10.6%	10.6% (2016/17)	11.7% (2017/18)	11.0% (2017/18)
Number of primary schools in an Ofsted category (Inadequate)	1	+	Low	2019/20 Q4	2	n/a	-	-
Number of secondary schools in an Ofsted category (Inadequate)	3	-	Low	2019/20 Q4	2	n/a	_	_
Early years foundation stage attainment (Reaching a 'Good Level of Development' - at least expected in all early learning goals in all prime areas and in the specific areas of literacy and mathematics)	70.6%	+	High	2018/19 academic	69.7%	69.7%	71.8% (2018/19)	72.0% (2018/19)
Attainment gap for a good level of development in EYFSP between pupils taking free school meals and the rest	23.0%	_	Low	2018/19 academic	22.7%	22.7%	18.5% (2018/19)	-
Pupils achieving at least the expected standard in reading, writing & mathematics at age 11	64.7%	=	High	2018/19 academic	64.7%	64.7%	65% (2018/19)	64.7% (2018/19)
Attainment gap at age 11 between pupils taking free school meals and the rest (FSM during past six years)	22.6%	=	Low	2018/19 academic	22.6%	22.6%	19.0% (2018/19)	-
Achievement of 9-5 grades in GCSE English & maths	45.4%		High	2018/19 academic	45.6%	45.6%	43.4% (2018/19)	42.9% (2018/19)
Achievement of 9-4 grades in GCSE English & maths	67.6%	+	High	2018/19 academic	66.6%	66.6%	64.9% (2018/19)	65.1% (2018/19)
Attainment gap at age 16 between pupils taking free school meals and the rest (FSM during past six years) 9-5 grades in GCSE English & maths	26.4%	+	Low	2018/19 academic	28.2%	28.2%	24.5% (2018/19p)	-
Attainment gap at age 16 between pupils taking free school meals and the rest (FSM during past six years) 9-4 grades in GCSE English & maths	26.7%	+	Low	2018/19 academic	28.0%	28.0%	26.3% (2018/19p)	-
Percentage of A level entries at A*-B grades	49.5%] +	High	2018/19 academic	49.3%	49.3%	48.4% (2018/19)	_
Percentage of A level entries at A*-E grades	98.2%] -	High	2018/19 academic	98.5%	98.5%	97.2% (2018/19)	-
Percentage of young people qualified to Level 3 (2 passes at A-Level or equivalent) by age 19	52.0%	+	High	2018/19 academic	51.9%	51.9% (2017/18)	56.9% (2018/19)	55.4% (2018/19)
Percentage of young people who have not attained a Level 2 qualification in English & maths at age 16 who go on to attain Level 2 or higher in both by the end of the academic year in which they turn 19	24.7%	+	High	2018/19 academic	23.8%	23.8% (2017/18)	28.7% (2018/19)	27.4% (2018/19)
Percentage of overall absence in primary, secondary and special schools	4.4%	+	Low	2018/19 academic	4.5%	4.5% (2017/18)	4.7% (2018/19)	4.7% (2018/19)
Rate of permanent exclusions from school (primary, secondary and special schools)	0.04%	=	Low	2018/19 academic	0.04%	0.04% (2017/18)	0.10% (2018/19)	0.10% (2018/19)
Percentage of two year olds taking up their free entitlement	68.4%	_	High	Summer Term 2020	74.3%	74.3% (Summer 2019)		_

For Nottinghamshire, the performance data available at the end of quarter 2 2021/22 is reported. The most recent data for national average and children's services statistical neighbours is reported, where available. Please note, comparisons may be indicative only, as the reporting periods are not necessarily aligned. Where Nottinghamshire performance meets or exceeds the latest national performance information, this is highlighted by the emboldened boxes. Key: (p) = provisional data; (L) = reported against the outcomes in the LAC & Care Leavers Strategy (+) = better than previous value; (-) = worse than previous value; (=) = same as previous value; (n/a) = not comparable to previous value.



Report to Children and Young People's Committee

13th December 2021

Agenda item: 5

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND RESOURCES

IMPLEMENTING FAMILY HUBS IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Purpose of the Report

- 1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the new Family Hubs Initiative, the funding streams available to the Council, and seeks support for the proposed next steps.
- 2. The report seeks approval of the outline proposals for inclusion in the Family Hub Implementation Fund application.
- 3. The report also seeks approval to create 3 new temporary Family Hub posts to sit within Early Childhood Services until 31st March 2023.

Information

- 4. Central Government Departments are promoting the roll out of Family Hubs across England to address the early help needs of children, young people, and families. A Family Hub is a system-wide model of providing high-quality, whole-family, joined up family support services. Family Hubs deliver these family support services from pregnancy, through the child's early years and later childhood, and into early adulthood until they reach the age of 19 (or up to 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities)¹. Several Government Departments have promoted the establishment of Family Hubs to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.
- 5. Family Hubs aim to make a positive difference to parents, carers and their children, through providing a mix of physical and virtual spaces, as well as home visits for families to easily access non-judgemental support for the challenges they may be facing. They provide a universal front door to families, offering a one-stop shop of family support services across their social care, education, mental health and physical health needs.
- 6. Family Hub services have a range of objectives, varying from area to area, but will broadly speaking provide early help and intervention for families with the aim of improving education, health and public service outcomes for children, parents and carers of the

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¹ National Centre for Family Hubs

family. What is important is that a family experiences joined up services which are relevant to their local community and are easy to access when they need them. It is proposed that we transform our early help offer to children and families so that the Family Hub model in central to this with full implementation across Nottinghamshire by April 2023.

7. Family Hubs deliver services in a variety of ways and at a range of locations. Hubs are not necessarily about creating new buildings but focus on bringing services together and changing the way family help and support is delivered locally. In practice, this will be a mix of using current Children's Centre Service buildings and other local authority spaces and integrating provision into other public buildings such as libraries, schools and community spaces. A significant proportion of the Family Hub services can be delivered virtually by providing an interactive advice offer and development and self-help resources. Other services will be delivered in the homes of families themselves – outreach will form an integral part of Family Hubs, overcoming the access barriers many families experience in receiving the support they need.

Family Hubs - a National Priority

- 8. The implementation of Family Hubs has been promoted across Government departments and programmes. Work was accelerated in 2021 with announcements of funding and the launch of a National Centre for Family Hubs which will help local authorities set up and deliver effective models of early help support. Officers have met with the National Centre several times, the Department for Education Family Hubs team, as well as the Early Intervention Foundation who have been commissioned to develop an outcomes framework to evaluate the impact of Family Hubs.
- 9. The National Family Hubs Implementation Toolkit asks local areas to use the following principles:
 - a) **More accessible** through clearly branded and communicated hub buildings, virtual offers and outreach.
 - b) **Better connected** family hubs drive progress on joining up professionals, services and providers (state, private, voluntary) through co-location, data sharing, shared outcomes and governance. Moving from services organised for under-fives, to families with children of all ages, reduces fragmentation (even though an emphasis on early years and the 'Start for Life' offer will remain).
 - c) **Relationship-centred** practice in a family hub builds on family strengths and looks to improve family relationships to address underlying issues.

Funding Streams

10. The Department for Education awarded funding to seven local authorities to help them develop digital and data products to support the practical implementation of Family Hubs. This was only open to areas with established Family Hubs networks, so Nottinghamshire did not apply but will look to learn from these authorities.

- 11. The Family Hub Local Transformation Fund was launched on 2nd November for upper tier local authorities and will fund at least 12 local authorities. Local authorities can apply for up to £1 million transformation funding for two financial years (2022- 2024), comprising:
 - up to £833,000 available for programme expenditure per local authority
 - up to £167,000 available in capital expenditure per local authority.
- 12. Nottinghamshire is currently progressing an application to the Family Hubs Transformation Fund.
- 13. The Early Help Executive is a multi-agency sub-group of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and is responsible for the Nottinghamshire Early Help Strategy². The Early Help Strategy sets out how Nottinghamshire will work towards the creation of Family Hubs over the coming years and a "Task and Finish" group has been set up to shape proposals. Partners who have already signed up to the joint delivery of Family Hubs in Nottinghamshire are included in **Appendix 1.** Progress regarding the implementation of Family Hubs will also be shared with the Best Start Partnership as Family Hubs are expected to be a key point of delivery for the Best Start for Life Offer³.
- 14. Work is underway to understand population need and to engage local families and stakeholders in the development of Family Hubs. It is proposed that each Family Hub development uses local data and evidence of need to shape what will be provided and how.
- 15. It is proposed that at least one Family Hub Network will be created in each district with all partners fully engaged. These Networks will include at least one main physical Family Hub with several spokes across a locality. These spokes will provide access to a range of services and interventions which could be age specific, including libraries, Young People's Service, Citizens Advice, Job Centre Plus, Leisure Centres and schools. Spokes will be a mixture of virtual and physical access points including the existing arrangements for telephone advice and referral, local websites, and online resources. Partner agencies will also be able to use the main physical Family Hub for appointments and drop-in sessions, space permitting.
- 16. Committee has a report before them today with a proposal, following local consultation, to use the Retford Central Children's Centre building create a Family Hub in the north of the county. If this proposal is agreed, Retford Family Hub Network will be used as a design site which will shape how wider developments are progressed across Nottinghamshire. To enable the Council and partners to learn from the Retford Family Hub Network, evaluation and monitoring would be built into the processes from an early stage.
- 17. It is proposed to establish three new temporary Family Hub Network posts until 31 March 2023 to support the implementation of the design site and the evaluation process. These temporary Family Hub Network posts will be funded using the Children's Centre Service core budget and will be subject to job evaluation.

The best start for life a vision for the 1 001 critical days.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

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² Nottinghamshire Early Help Strategy 2021-2025

- a) 1 fte Family Hubs Development Manager (subject to job evaluation) to work across Nottinghamshire to help establish hubs in partnership with families and stakeholders.
- b) 1 fte Family Hubs Data and Monitoring Officer (Hay Band A) to develop a shared outcomes framework, information sharing arrangements and Mosaic developments.
- c) 1 fte Administrator (Scale 3) for the Retford Central pilot to help the Family Hub Network team with processes such as allocations meetings, team around the family meetings, reception, and other administrator duties.
- 18. The Council will apply for funding from Family Hub Local Transformation Fund for staffing and capital costs to development and roll out of the hub model, ICT costs to adapt other Council properties to enable hybrid working and co-location. Communications costs will also be requested to create branding and improve the universal virtual early help offer. The bid will also include funding to offer a training and development offer for the early help workforce element to ensure partners use consistent whole family working approaches.

Other Options Considered

- 19. The creation of Family Hubs is recommended by the Government but is not a statutory requirement. Retaining service delivery with current arrangements has been considered however, it is widely understood locally that families need support as early as possible to reduce the demand of statutory social care services and there is a need to better support families with primary school children. Family Hubs focus on early help and provide opportunities to better integrate Council services and increase joint work with partners.
- 20. The intention to apply for the Family Hubs Implementation Fund is optional for local authorities, however Nottinghamshire is well placed to bid for funding because of the family hub work that has already taken place with partners. The Family Hub Implementation Toolkit has been published at an opportune time for Nottinghamshire to assist with planning.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 21. Family Hubs bring together family support services providing support early, when families need them. These include universal and targeted services, including access to the intensive support of a keyworker where appropriate.
- 22. Family Hubs can support all families, particularly in the first 1,001 days, but they are designed to be particularly accessible to families from lower socio-economic groups, families who have special educational needs or a disability, or those from minoritised groups who are experiencing exclusion.
- 23. The <u>Early Intervention Foundation</u> (EIF) has estimated that the cost of late intervention is almost £17 billion a year, suggesting that providing family support early can lessen the demand for statutory intervention or acute services later on. Implementing successful Family Hub Networks will provide early interventions to reduce the burden on statutory and specialist services in the longer term.

Statutory and Policy Implications

24. 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.

Crime and Disorder Implications

25. Some of the signs that children and young people may be at greater risk of involvement in crime are present from birth. Family Hubs will be able to respond appropriately to these signals of risk and when required provide additional support at the earliest opportunity.

Data Protection and Information Governance

26. Information sharing and General Data Protection Regulation compliance will be central to Family Hub developments and implementations. Information sharing agreements, data protection impact assessments and Privacy Notices will therefore be progressed.

Financial Implications

- 27. Temporary staffing, as below, which totals approximately £129,002 per annum is available within the Children's Centre Service core budget and would be used to fund the following temporary posts until 31st March 2023.
 - a) 1 fte Countywide Family Hub Development Manager (subject to job evaluation); approximately £60,018 including on-costs per annum
 - b) 1 fte Countywide Family Hub Data and Monitoring Officer (Band A); £42,779 including on-costs per annum
 - c) 1 fte Administrator for the Retford Central pilot (Grade 3); £26,205 including on-costs per annum.

Human Resources Implications

- 28. The proposals within this paper do not change any existing roles within the Council and creates additional temporary roles to progress the implementation of Family Hubs.
- 29. Any operational changes to Early Help Services within the Council will be considered by the Committee once options and consultation have been undertaken.
- 30. If the bid to the Family Hubs Implementation Grant is successful, a further report will be presented to Committee to establish a number of temporary posts to develop Family Hub Networks in Nottinghamshire.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

31. The creation of Family Hub Networks across Nottinghamshire will not have a negative impact on anyone with protected characteristics. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been drafted and will be updated as plans progress.

Smarter Working Implications

32. The development and delivery of Family Hubs will require increased use of virtual tools and ICT. This will include opportunities for remote working, hot desking, a mixture of hybrid meetings, and virtual groups and programmes.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

33. Family Hub Networks will ensure that all delivery partners follow Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP) procedures and policies, and NSCP training will be promoted and completed.

Implications for Service Users

34. The successful delivery of Family Hubs will be beneficial for children, young people and families by being accessible, better connected and relationship centred so that needs can be identified and addressed early.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Committee

- 1) approves the transformation of the Council's early help offer to children and families so that the Family Hub model is central to this with full implementation across Nottinghamshire by April 2023.
- 2) approves the outline proposals for inclusion in the application to the Family Hub Implementation Fund included in **paragraph 18**.
- approves the proposal to create new Family Hub Network posts at a value of £129,002 per annum until 31st March 2023 to be funded through the Children's Centre Service core budget:
 - a) 1 fte Family Hubs Development Manager (subject to job evaluation)
 - b) 1 fte Family Hubs Data and Monitoring Officer (Band A)
 - c) 1 fte Administrator for Retford Family Hub Network (Grade 3).

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Constitutional Comments (LW 19/11/21)

35. Children & Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report.

Financial Comments (CDS 19/11/21)

36. The three proposed temporary posts to 31st March 2023 detailed in **paragraph 27** would cost approximately £129,000 p.a. (subject to job evaluation and set at current grade maxima including oncosts) and could be contained within the existing Children's Centre Service core staffing budget of £7.8million.

HR Comments (BC 02/12/21)

37. The staffing implications are contained within the body of the report. Posts will be recruited to in line with the Council's vacancy control and recruitment procedures.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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

Family Hubs Transformation Fund Family hubs transformation fund - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Nottinghamshire Early Help Strategy 2021-2025 <u>Document.ashx (nottinghamshire.gov.uk)</u>

Nottinghamshire Best Start Strategy 2021-2025 Giving Children the Best Start in Life | Nottinghamshire County Council

Nottinghamshire Family Hubs Implementation Equalities Impact Assessment November 2021 Completed Equality Impact Assessments (EgiAs) | Nottinghamshire County Council

Nottinghamshire Early Help Strategy 2021-25 – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 26th July 2021 Early Help Strategy Committee Paper

Proposed Consultation on the use of Retford Central Children's Centre – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 13th September 2021 Retford Central Consultation Report

Nottinghamshire Best Start Strategy Progress Update – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 1st November 2021 Best Start Strategy Committee Paper

Nottinghamshire Council Plan 2021-2031 <u>Supporting communities and families | The Nottinghamshire Plan: Healthy. Prosperous. Green.</u>

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

AII.

C1527

Appendix 1

Local Organisations and Teams signed up to the joint delivery of Family Hub Networks in Nottinghamshire

District/Borough Councils	DWP Job Centre Plus	Family Service	Children's Centre Service
Youth Service	Inspire Culture	Voluntary Sector eg Citizen's Advice	Maternity Services
Healthy Family Teams and Family Nurse Partnership	Chamber of Commerce	Integrated Children's Disability Service	Private Voluntary and Independent Early Years settings
Change Grow Live	Economic Regeneration	CCGs and Integrated Care Partnerships	Nottinghamshire Futures

Further work will progress to engage schools, Adult Health and Social Care Services, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services, and Special Educational Needs & Disability services for children and families.

Appendix 2

Family Hub Networks in Nottinghamshire will be able to consolidate existing services and interventions which may include:

Antenatal and postnatal care – maternity clinics and appointments	Support groups for new parents	Health assessments	Breastfeeding support	Sleep programmes	Healthy Family Team appointments and clinics
Self weigh	Speech and language interventions	Help to access Childcare	Family support	School readiness interventions	Public health interventions
Youth training and employment	Volunteering opportunities	Parenting programmes	Money management	Supporting parents into employment	Contraception and Sexual Health Services
Counselling / emotional health support	Violence and domestic abuse advice and support	Reducing Parental Conflict interventions	SEND services up to 25 years	Smoking cessation and healthy lifestyles	Stay and play sessions
Peer support	Relationships and sexual health advice	Substance use advice, appointments and groups	Youth Services and activities	Welfare Rights	Social prescribing
Perinatal mental health support	C-Card Scheme	Housing advice and support	Signposting and referral to specialist service	FOOD Clubs	Links to sports and leisure activities



Report to Children and Young People's Committee

13th December 2021

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND RESOURCES

PROPOSED CHANGES TO RETFORD CENTRAL CHILDREN'S CENTRE TO BECOME RETFORD FAMILY HUB

Purpose of the Report

1. The report asks Committee to approve the change of use of the Retford Central Children's Centre building to become a Family Hub following consultation with parents/carers, young people, and stakeholders.

Information

Background

- 2. The report follows a decision made by Children and Young People's Committee on 13th September 2021 to progress consultation to change the use of Retford Central Children's Centre building.
- 3. Since 2018, the Children's Centre Service has been more targeted which has meant that workers carry out a lot more outreach work and support families in their own home. This enabled the service to better engage harder to reach groups and allowed the increased provision of childcare in some Children's Centre properties.
- 4. Tall Trees Preschool operated from Retford Central Children's Centre from April 2018 but closed in December 2019 because of falling numbers. The building continued to be used by the Maternity Service for clinics, and the Children's Centre Service for family support sessions.
- 5. When the first national lockdown was in place, the Maternity Service at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust were permitted to use the property daily under a temporary room hire agreement; this enabled them to continue to provide antenatal and postnatal care away from hospital sites. The Maternity Service continues to use the property and approached the Council asking to lease the property on a longer-term basis to create a Maternity Hub.
- 6. This provided a good opportunity to also explore the change of use of the Retford Central site to a Family Hub because of its location, excellent resident access and the Young

- People's Centre next door. This would improve access for families with children aged 0-19/25 to early help services.
- 7. In September 2021, Committee approved a consultation exercise with families and stakeholders to seek their views on the use of the property. This report shares the findings of that consultation.

Retford Central Children's Centre

- 8. A consultation exercise was undertaken in Retford between 4th and 29th October 2021 using the Council's Online Consultation Hub to ask local families and other interested stakeholders for their preferences on the use of the Retford Central Children's Centre Building.
- 9. The options proposed were:
 - a) **Option 1**: for Retford Central Children's Centre to become a Family Hub for families with children aged 0-19 and young people up to the age of 25 if they have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
 - b) **Option 2**: for Retford Central Children's Centre to become a Maternity Hub for expectant parents and new parents.
- 10. Two questionnaires were created, one to capture the views of parents and other stakeholders (75 responses were received), and one to capture the views of young people (11 responses were received).
- 11. 70% (53) of parents and stakeholders and 63.64% (7) of young people chose Option 1 Family Hub as their preferred option.
- 12. The consultation asked which services and interventions respondents would find useful, and we found that child development, play and early learning, parenting groups and managing children's behaviour and access to specialist services were the top four answers.
- 13. The Young People's questionnaire asked how the young people feel about their parents visiting the building next door to the Young People's Centre. 55% were happy as they retained a separate access to the Young People's Centre; and 36% were unsure. Only one young person stated that they would be unhappy with the proposal.
- 14. Comments were overwhelmingly positive, as illustrated by these examples:
 - "The family hub is a very good idea as children centres were so important in communities and it will be well used, I am sure. It will complement the work in the young people's centre."
 - "The Retford Central Children's Centre is in the ideal location to be accessible to families from across the area with its close proximity to the bus station. This would enable access and improve outcomes."
 - I think Family Hub in Retford is great idea and will help children and families in the area. We need more places for them to turn to for socialising, groups and family support.

- A family hub is much needed in this area. Retford Central Children's Centre is perfect location for access for families who use public transport or who drive/walk to venues. It has already got the facilities for babies (changing) and children (toilets for children) and also rooms for small groups and a larger room for community groups.
- "I would accept the Children's Centre to be a family place but wouldn't like them to be able to access the youth centre and start criticising what happens here. I would not like the buildings to collide."
- 15. 24% (18 respondents) preferred the property to become a Maternity Hub. Despite this, when asked to note their preferences of services to be delivered from a Family Hub 64% of <u>all</u> respondents stated that maternity services should be provided. It is intended that maternity services will continue to be provided from the building under either option. The importance of access to appropriate local provision, both antenatally and perinatally, is illustrated by the comment below:
 - "I used the centre for all midwife appointments while expecting my 2 year old and 6 year old. It was amazing to have that space to see the midwife and know they were there if I needed support after birth. I attended a baby massage class there as well. It was a fabulous place to meet other parents and we still have a friendship as do our children now."
- 16. Consultation findings are included in the Consultation Feedback Newsletter included as **Appendix 1**. This will be shared with local parents and partners through social media, the Children's Centre Service, Young People's Services, Retford Library and by email to all the organisations contacted, who promoted the consultation.
- 17. Due to the findings of the consultation and the increased focus from Government Departments on the implementation of Family Hubs, this report seeks approval to change the use of Retford Central Children's Centre into a Family Hub, and to progress the development of a Family Hub Network in Retford.

Other Options Considered

- 18. The option to use the building as the Bassetlaw Maternity Hub was proposed but was found to be the preferred option by only 24% of respondents. This would have required a lease to be put in place with Doncaster Bassetlaw Hospital Foundation Trust, who would have had to take on building costs and responsibilities. Whilst initially this proposal was attractive, it would limit the use of the building to a smaller cohort of people, focusing in on pregnancy and the perinatal period. The Family Hub model will continue to include maternity services but will also include a much wider range of services across the extended age range.
- 19. The option to go to market to secure a replacement private, voluntary or independent early years childcare provider was considered, however due to the findings of the recent Childcare Sufficiency Audit, a need for additional places was not identified and future additional development could impact on the sustainability of existing local provision.

Reason for Recommendations

20. The Children's Centre Service property portfolio provides a ready built platform from which to launch the Family Hub way of working. Since the move to a more targeted approach several years ago, more interventions are provided in family homes, community venues or virtually, resulting in some Children's Centres not being used for several sessions each week, thereby making them less cost effective to run. To respond to this new early help initiative across the age range, engaging locally with a wider age range of children, young people and families requiring support, it is recommended that this property is no longer designated as a Children's Centre, but begins the development towards becoming Nottinghamshire's first integrated Family Hub.

Statutory and Policy Implications

21. 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

- 22. The Children's Centre property budget is managed by the Place Department at £1.1 million per annum and no savings targets are associated with the proposals included within the report.
- 23. The change of use of this property will increase its use and ultimately its running costs. Once quantified, a decision will need to be made as to how Family Hubs running costs will be budgeted for. Further discussions will be progressed with colleagues in Property and Estates to explore all options.
- 24. Changing the use of a Children's Centre property funded from the Department for Education Sure Start Children's Centre Capital Grant may carry a clawback risk. As this is a mandatory element of the Family Hubs core offer, this risk is negated.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

25. There is an expectation that children and families will experience an improved package of support from the Council by engaging families most in need, across an extended age range changing from pre-birth to 5, to pre-birth to 19 (25 for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability or Care Leavers).

Implications for Service Users

26. The views of local families will continue to shape service developments to enable services to benefit the local community and local families by identifying and addressing their needs.

- 27. The successful delivery of Family Hubs will be beneficial for children, young people, and families by being accessible, better connected and relationship centred so that needs can be identified and addressed early.
- 28. Families in Retford will still be able to access Children's Centre Service interventions, midwifery clinics, and their Health Visitor, and the Young People's Centre from the site; but will also be able to access services for families with children and young people up to 19 (up to 25 for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability) once the site becomes a Family Hub, as detailed in the report on Family Hubs which is also on the agenda of today's meeting of the Committee.

Public Sector Equality Duty implications

29. The consultation was carried out online and hard copy versions were also provided for those without internet access through local services. It was promoted widely.

RECOMMENDATION

1) That Committee notes of the findings of the consultation and agrees to progress the development of an alternative use for Retford Children's Centre to become Nottinghamshire's first Family Hub.

Laurence Jones
Service Director, Commissioning and Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Irene Kakoullis Group Manager, Early Childhood Services T: 0115 97 74431

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Constitutional Comments (AK 17/11/21)

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

Financial Comments (CDS 16/11/21)

- 31. The Children's Centre property budget is managed by the Place Department at £1.1 million per annum and no savings targets are associated with the proposals included within the report.
- 32. The change of use of this property will increase its use and ultimately its running costs. Once quantified, a decision will need to be made as to how Family Hubs running costs will be budgeted for. Further discussions will be progressed with colleagues in Property and Estates to explore all options.

33. Changing the use of a Children's Centre property funded from the Department for Education Sure Start Children's Centre Capital Grant may carry a clawback risk. As this is a mandatory element of the Family Hubs core offer, this risk is negated.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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

<u>Proposed Consultation on the use of Retford Central Children's Centre - report to Children & Young</u> People's Committee on 13th September 2021

Equality Impact Assessment 2021: Consultation regarding the change of use of Retford Central Children's Centre Service building

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

Retford East Councillor Mike Introna Retford West Councillor Mike Quigley

C1525



...giving children the best start

Community Consultation Feedback Newsletter – Retford Central Children's Centre

What?

Nottinghamshire County Council's (NCC) Early Childhood Service recently carried out a community consultation to gather views from local families and workers on possible changes to the use of Retford Central Children's Centre building.



Why?

Following the closure of Tall Trees Pre-school, the Council is keen to make better use of the Retford Central Children's Centre Building.

Nottinghamshire County Council is proposing developing Family Hubs for families with children aged 0-19 and young people up to the age of 24 if they have Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and using some Children's Centre buildings for this purpose.

Whenever any changes to Children's Centre buildings are considered, the County Council has a "duty to consult" with the local community to find out their views.

When and Where?

The consultation took place during October 2021, links to the survey were advertised on the Bassetlaw Children's Centre and Families Information Service Facebook pages, details were also shared with local Early Years Providers, Schools, Healthy Families Teams, Bassetlaw District Council, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Trust, Retford Library and other local support organisations, hard copies of the survey were also made available. Support to promote and complete the survey was provided by Children's Centres, Youth Services and Healthy Families Teams.

Who?

86 people in total completed the questionnaire.

- 77% of responses were from parents/carers (58)
- 41% from professionals/volunteers working with children and young people (31)
- 12% from young people (11) (this includes multiple category responses)

What was said by these people?

- **Most parents and stakeholders** (70%) said they would prefer the Retford Central Children's Centre to become a Family Hub.
- 64% of **Young People** said they would prefer the building to be a Family Hub.

"The Retford Central Children's Centre is in the ideal location to be accessible to families from across the area with its close proximity to the bus station"

 Most parents and stakeholders said they would find child development, play and early learning sessions, parenting groups, managing children's behaviour and local access to specialist service to be most useful if they were made available at the Family Hub.

"It will complement the work in the Young People's centre"

"I think Family Hub in Retford is a great idea"

 Access to Health services, (including Midwifery and Healthy Families Teams) and activities for young people were also felt to be useful

> "I do feel the family support is invaluable to make connections with families and signpost"

Young people would like to have their own space.

"I want the youth club to stay separate even though I don't mind my family visiting next door. This is my space"

What next?

Thank you for your comments, they have given us lots to think about.

Next steps: We will work with partners, parents and young people to develop the Family Hub in Retford Central Children's Centre building.

If you would like further information, please contact earlychildhoodservices@nottscc.gov.uk



Report to Children and Young People's Committee

13th December 2021

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND RESOURCES

CHILDREN'S HOME PROVISION

Purpose of the Report

1. To make recommendations regarding the future of Minster View as a Local Authority run children's home.

Information

- 2. Minster View forms part of a cluster of buildings developing on from the original Southwell Workhouse. For many years it has been used as a Nottinghamshire County Council Children's Home that looks after children and young people with severe learning disabilities and complex behaviours, many of whom are on the Autistic Spectrum. The home was closed temporarily in November 2020 following staffing issues caused by the pandemic and concerns about professional practice and standards of care in the home. At the time of temporary closure there were five young people placed in the residential unit, four of whom were relocated to other homes in the external placements market, the fifth was placed in another Local Authority run residential home.
- 3. The temporary closure of the home has allowed time for reflection on the suitability of the building for use as a modern children's home. With a capacity of 12 bedrooms the current building is far larger than is considered optimal for a children's home today where normally the number of children present would be no more than four and for those with more complex needs should in most cases be no more than three. The building also limits the effective oversight of quality of care by the registered manager of the home and their deputies. Given the history of the building, built in the 1930s as an annex to the workhouse, the premises have an institutional feel at odds with the homely atmosphere that is required for children's full-time residence and home. Minster View is not a statutory listed building but is 'curtilage listed' by virtue of its close and historical relationship with the adjacent Workhouse. This limits the development at the site that would be required to make the significant adaptations even if it were deemed possible to adapt it to a more suitable setting. It is of note that the development over the years of more effective community support has also reduced the need for that volume of care places and Minster View has been operating well below full capacity for some years.

- 4. A review has also been undertaken of the needs profile of children who are in the care of the Local Authority and who may need, for a short or extended period, to live in a residential children's home. Due to improvements in the support to families in the community there is a reduced need for places for children with the presentation that Minster View previously specialised in and there is good sufficiency of placements for most of these young people in the independent market and at a competitive cost and of a high quality. There are however some young people whose needs are more difficult and costly to place and where it is considered that the Local Authority should continue to make its own provision.
- 5. Given the above observations it is recommended that the use of Minster View as a children's home is ceased and that it does not re-open but that new premises are identified for a smaller home or homes for up to four looked after children with severe learning disabilities and very complex behaviours. The future of the Minster View building and the purchase of alternative premises for the proposed new home, should the Council not be able to identify premises it already owns or where approvals are not already in place, would be subject to approval by Economic Development and Asset Management Committee.

Other Options Considered

6. The option to retain Minster View as a children's home has been considered but is not recommended for the reasons set out above.

Reasons for Recommendations

7. Minster View as a venue for a residential children's home is too large, has an institutionalised feel and limits the ability to provide oversight of the quality of care. The needs of children needing residential placements and the availability of placements in the external market that provide high quality and value for money is good. There remains a small group of children whose needs are such that it is difficult to secure places and where it is the best option for the Local Authority to make its own provision. This can be done more successfully in a smaller setting.

Statutory and Policy Implications

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

Financial Implications

9. The costs anticipated in the annual provision of a three bedded children's home are approximately £890,000 per annum set against a current annual budget for Minster View of £1,685,000. There is a continued need to develop additional placement provision for young people with other specialist needs, in relation to emotional and mental health, either through direct delivery, partnering with an independent agency or by commissioning in the market. The Local Authority is working with key NHS partners and neighbouring local authorities to

develop a model for this provision, and it is proposed that the residual £795,000 is transferred into the department's placement commissioning budget to secure further development over the coming 12 months and to support any interim support to young people becoming looked after.

HR Implications

10. The majority of staff previously working at Minster View who remain with the Local Authority have taken up roles, either temporarily or permanently, in other teams within the department and most within the children's residential homes. Any staff not already in permanent positions would be deployed using enabling processes. Given vacancy levels it is strongly anticipated that no redundancies would be required. A further report will be brought to Committee to agree the details of the revised staffing structure across residential services.

Implications for Service Users

11. No children are currently residing at Minster View and the best interests of children who are looked after is the central consideration in these proposals. No child will have their care plan negatively impacted by the proposals in this report and they should help ensure high quality care into the future for those needing very high levels of support.

Implications for Sustainability and the Environment

12. The 'curtilage listing' of Minster View presents potential barriers to creating an environment that will meet the Council's sustainability ambitions going forward. A new setting would be free of such restrictions and as such can be designed to meet higher environmental standards.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Committee:

- agrees to cease the use of Minster View as a children's home with resulting proposals regarding staffing structures across the children's residential estate being received at the next meeting of the Committee
- 2) agrees to receive a detailed proposal on the development of the children's residential estate at the next Committee meeting which would then be subject to approval by the appropriate committee.

Laurence Jones
Service Director, Commissioning and Resources

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LPW 30/11/21)

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

Financial Comments (CDS 26/11/21)

- 14. The formal closure of Minster View as a children's home would ultimately free up annual revenue budget of £1,685,000, which may be used to fund alternative specialist placements. As stated in **paragraph 9**, this may consist of £890,000 for direct provision of a 3 bedded home and the remaining £795,000 for externally commissioned provision.
- 15. With an estimated effective date of April 2022, this indicative split would be incorporated into draft budget workings for 2022-23, ahead of detailed proposals (which would be subject to further approval).

HR Comments (BC 02/12/21)

16. The staffing implications are contained within the body of the report. As indicated above, it is not anticipated that any staff will be at risk of redundancy due to the proposed closure of Minster View.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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

None.

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

All.

C1530



Report to Children and Young People's Committee

13th December 2021

Agenda Item: 8

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS

BASIC NEED PROGRAMME OF SCHOOL EXPANSION 2022-23

Purpose of the Report

- 1. This report seeks approval to take the list of projects identified in **Appendix 1** forward into detailed discussions with schools in the relevant planning areas, and potential feasibility.
- The report also seeks Committee approval to use Basic Need to forward fund projects for which housing developer contributions will be available, but not at the time at which additional school places are required. Furthermore, it seeks approval to use Basic Need funding to cover the shortfall between the total cost of a project and the total housing developer contributions that are available.

Information

- 3. Nottinghamshire County Council has a statutory duty to ensure a sufficiency of school places for children resident in the County.
- 4. On an annual basis the Council makes a statutory return to the Department for Education outlining the net capacity and projected levels of occupation in its schools. This School Capacity return informs the Education Skills and Funding Agency allocation of the level of 'Basic Need' grant for new school places in the County due to population growth.
- 5. The assessment of Basic Need for the period 2022-23 has been determined by the Education Skills and Funding Agency and Nottinghamshire has been allocated £1,198,811. This assessment is informed by the Department's judgement as to the sufficiency issues Nottinghamshire faces arising from the School Capacity returns.
- 6. Basic Need funding is not ring fenced and comes with no recommendations as to which schools or planning areas should be allocated capital funding. It must be deployed to address capital issues and cannot be used to address revenue issues.
- 7. Officers in Pupil Place Planning work in close conjunction with partner services in School Admissions, Planning, Place, and Information and Systems to interrogate all available data in respect of projected demand for places and identify where the most pressing and appropriate sites for expansion lie.

- 8. Wherever possible, housing developer contributions available in the relevant planning area will be used to defray costs of projects funded using Basic Need.
- Project feasibility studies will establish the risks associated with all the proposals identified in **Appendix 1**. The outcomes of feasibility will inform Elected Members as to where proposed projects are undeliverable, poor value for money or appropriate and meet service needs.

Other Options Considered

10. Projects could proceed to planning without feasibility, but this would not then allow risks to be identified and is therefore not considered to be a viable option.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. Feasibility costs represent good value for money when compared with the costs associated with abortive planning and design costs which would be incurred without prior feasibility establishing the suitability of proposals.

Statutory and Policy Implications

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

Financial Implications

- 13. Where the feasibility works result in a capital project, the costs of the feasibility will be funded from the approved Basic Need school places capital programme. Where a capital project does not ensue, the cost of the feasibility works is not able to be funded from capital resources. As such, these costs will need to be met from within the Place department revenue budget.
- 14. A School Capital Programme report was considered at Children and Young People's Committee in November 2021. This included an update on the School Places programme and set out new school projects, expansion projects and recently completed projects within the programme. As at 1st April 2021, the approved capital programme included funding in excess of £44m to fund this programme of work which is forecast to be sufficient to cover costs incurred to the end of the 2023/24 financial year. It is then expected that a further multi-year Basic Need Grant announcement from the Department for Education will set out future year grant allocations.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Committee:

- 1) gives approval for the list of projects identified in **Appendix 1** to be taken forward to feasibility.
- gives approval to use Basic Need to forward fund projects for which housing developer contributions will be available, but not at the time at which additional school places are required. Furthermore, it gives approval to use Basic Need funding to cover the shortfall between the total cost of a project and the total housing developer contributions that are available.

Marion Clay Service Director, Education, Learning and Skills

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (LPW 19/11/21)

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

Financial Comments (GB 19/11/21)

16. The School Places programme is included within the approved Children and Young People's Committee capital programme as set out in **paragraph 14**. Where additional Section 106 funding is identified to part fund a project there will be a requirement to seek approval to vary the capital programme through the usual channels. The forward funding of projects from the School Places programme is possible, subject to cash flow issues. Also, as set out in **paragraph 13**, if feasibility costs are incurred that do not lead to a capital project, the cost of the feasibility will need to be met from within Place Department revenue budgets

Background Papers and Published Documents

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

<u>Proposed Basic Need Programme of school expansions 2018/19 – report to Children & Young People's Committee on 18th December 2017</u>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1523

Basic Need 2022 Priorities with Rationale

1. Primary Phase

Calverton

This is a small rural planning area, comprising three schools which serve the village of Calverton: Manor Park Infants, Sir John Sherbrook Junior and St Wilfrid's Primary.

The current projection for the school / planning area shows a small surplus of primary places:

	PA	AN			School years								e school jection
Planning Area	FA∨	Ē	Net ca -	Proj Yea 🕶	R	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 ▼	4 🔻	5 ▼	6 🔻	тот/√	surplus / deficit place 🕶
Calverton	90	50	590	2021-22	79	67	66	79	75	90	58	514	+76
Calverton	90	50	590	2022-23	86	81	67	70	80	78	92	554	+36
Calverton	90	50	590	2023-24	70	88	81	75	72	83	80	549	+41
Calverton	90	50	590	2024-25	83	72	87	82	76	75	84	559	+31
Calverton	90	50	590	2025-26	89	84	70	84	82	78	75	562	+28

Also, the Council is planning to ask the Department for Education for permission to expand the Calverton planning area to include Lowdham Primary and Wood's Foundation Primary in Woodborough, both of which are projected to have shortages of places and are unlikely to be capable of expansion. If the Council's 2021 pupil projections for Calverton were expanded to include these two schools, the figures would be as follows:

	PA	٨N					Scl	nool ye	ars				e school ection
			Net										surplus / deficit
Planning Area	FA∀	IJΨ	ca[→	Proj Yea 🔻	R▼	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 🔻	4 🔻	5 🔻	6 🔻	TOT/ ▼	place 🔻
Calverton	150	110	990	2021-22	141	126	126	134	127	155	117	926	+64
Calverton	150	110	990	2022-23	150	143	126	132	135	132	156	974	+16
Calverton	150	110	990	2023-24	126	152	143	136	134	140	133	964	+26
Calverton	150	110	990	2024-25	151	128	151	146	137	139	140	992	-2
Calverton	150	110	990	2025-26	169	152	126	150	146	141	138	1022	-32

However, the above projections do not include a new housing development of 350 dwellings in Calverton that has recently received planning permission. On formula, this would be expected to deliver 74 additional pupils over the coming 10-year period. If these additional pupils were included, there would be a projected deficit of 106 primary school places in the village. Therefore, a comprehensive review of the status of school place supply should be commissioned in this planning area to establish the most cost-effective way of securing sufficiency.

If the review identifies that schools in Calverton cannot accommodate projected demand, it is likely that any expansion can be funded in large part by housing developer contributions. Any project may require forward-funding and a Basic Need contribution.

Farnsfield

This is a small, single-school rural planning area, comprising Farnsfield St Michael's Primary.

The current projection for the school / planning area shows a small deficit of primary places:

					PA	N					Sch	nool ye	ars				le school jection
School Name	Ţ,	District	~	Planr▼	FA▼	IJv	Net ca	Proj Yea 🔻	R L	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 🔻	4 🔻	5 🔻	6 🔻	тот₄⊸	surplus / deficit place 🕶
St Michael's C of E Primary, Farnsfield	1	NEWARK		Rural	40	0	280	2021-22	37	38	42	33	43	42	40	275	+5
St Michael's C of E Primary, Farnsfield	1	NEWARK		Rural	40	0	280	2022-23	44	37	39	43	34	42	42	281	-1
St Michael's C of E Primary, Farnsfield	1	NEWARK		Rural	40	0	280	2023-24	39	44	38	40	44	33	42	280	0
St Michael's C of E Primary, Farnsfield	1	NEWARK		Rural	40	0	280	2024-25	44	39	45	39	41	43	33	284	-4
St Michael's C of E Primary, Farnsfield	ı	NEWARK		Rural	40	0	280	2025-26	49	44	40	46	40	40	43	302	-22

The Council is planning to ask the Department for Education for permission to expand the Farnsfield planning area to include Bilsthorpe and Kirklington. Should this be agreed, the case remains that additional places will still be required:

	P#	AN.					Scl	nool ye	ars				e school jection
			Net	Droi Voo			a	.				TOT	surplus / deficit
Planning Area 🔻	FA▼	IJ⊸	ca[▲	Proj Yea ▼	R▼	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 🔻	4 🔻	5 ▼	6 -	TOT/ ▼	place 🔻
Newark West rural	95	0	637	2021-22	74	73	91	70	77	79	72	536	+101
Newark West rural	95	0	637	2022-23	86	75	78	92	71	74	80	556	+81
Newark West rural	95	0	637	2023-24	92	87	80	79	94	69	76	577	+60
Newark West rural	95	0	637	2024-25	100	93	92	81	81	92	71	610	+27
Newark West rural	95	0	637	2025-26	108	102	98	93	83	79	94	657	-20

The above indicates a potential projected shortfall of 20 places. Therefore, a single classroom expansion (30 places) is required in this revised planning area. This can be funded in large part by housing developer contributions, with approximately a third of the cost of a new classroom to be met by Basic Need.

Cotgrave

This is a small rural planning area, comprising two primary schools which serve the village of Cotgrave: Cotgrave C of E Primary and Cotgrave Candleby Lane.

The current projection for the school / planning area shows a small deficit of primary places:

	PA	۸N			4		Scl	nool ye	ars				e school jection
Planning Area	FA	- C	Net ca -	Proj Yea 🔻	R	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 🔻	4 🔻	5 🔻	6 🔻	TOT√	surplus / deficit place 🔻
Cotgrave	100	0	700	2021-22	87	92	103	94	81	101	85	643	+57
Cotgrave	100	0	700	2022-23	99	87	92	102	97	81	102	660	+40
Cotgrave	100	0	700	2023-24	117	99	87	91	105	97	82	678	+22
Cotgrave	100	0	700	2024-25	114	117	99	86	94	105	98	713	-13
Cotgrave	100	0	700	2025-26	111	114	117	98	89	94	106	729	-29

Therefore, a single classroom expansion (30 places) is required in this planning area.

Keyworth

This is a small rural planning area, comprising three schools which serve the village of Keyworth: Crossdale Primary, Keyworth Primary and Willow Brook Primary.

The current projection for the school / planning area shows a significant deficit of primary places:

	PA	٨N			4		Sch	nool ye	ars				e school jection
Planning Area	FA	, ,	Net ca -	Proj Yea 🔻	R	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 🔻	4 🔻	5 🔻	6 🔻	тотл√	surplus / deficit place 🕶
	FA ▼	0	630	2021-22	86	1 ▼	2 ▼ 89	3 ▼	71	69	6 ▼	535	+95
Keyworth	90	U	630	2021 22	86	76	89	37	/1	63	87	333	+95
Keyworth	90	0	630	2022-23	102	89	80	93	62	74	74	574	+56
Keyworth	90	0	630	2023-24	81	105	93	84	98	65	79	605	+25
Keyworth	90	0	630	2024-25	96	83	108	96	88	100	69	640	-10
Keyworth	90	0	630	2025-26	112	97	84	109	98	88	102	690	-60

However, the above projections do not include a new housing development of 221 dwellings in Keyworth that has received planning permission and is beginning to be occupied. On formula, this would be expected to deliver 46 additional pupils. If these additional pupils were included, there would be a projected deficit of 106 primary school places in the village. Therefore, a comprehensive review of the status of school place supply should be commissioned in this planning area to establish the most cost-effective way of securing sufficiency.

If the review identifies that schools in Keyworth cannot accommodate projected demand, it is likely that any expansion would need to be funded by a Basic Need contribution.

Kinoulton

This is a small, single-school rural planning area, comprising Kinoulton Primary.

The current projection for the school / planning area shows a small deficit of primary places:

		-	PA	PAN				4	Sch	nool ye	ars				e school jection
School Name	District -	Planning Area 🔻	FA -	5	Net ca -	Proj Yea -	R	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 🕶	4 🔻	5 🕶	6 🕶	тотл√	surplus / deficit place 🕶
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Rural	20	0	140	2021-22	20	19	19	21	21	19	20	139	+1
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Rural	20	0	140	2022-23	24	20	19	20	21	21	19	144	-4
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Rural	20	0	140	2023-24	27	24	20	20	20	21	21	153	-13
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Rural	20	0	140	2024-25	28	27	24	21	20	20	21	161	-21
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Rural	20	0	140	2025-26	29	28	27	25	21	20	20	170	-30

The Council is planning to ask the Department for Education for permission to create a new planning area, comprising Kinoulton Primary and Willoughby Primary. Should this be agreed, the effect on pupil projections will be minimal and the case remains that additional places will still be required:

			PA	PAN					Sch	ool ye	ars	,			e school jection
School Name	Di-4-i-4				Net	n: V									surplus / deficit
School Name		Planning Area	FA -	IJΨ	cal -	Proj Yea →	R▼	1 🔻	2 🔻	3 🔻	4 🔻	5 🔻		TOT/ →	place 🕶
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	20	0	140	2021-22	20	19	19	21	21	19	20	139	+1
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	20	0	140	2022-23	24	20	19	20	21	21	19	144	-4
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	20	0	140	2023-24	27	24	20	20	20	21	21	153	-13
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	20	0	140	2024-25	28	27	24	21	20	20	21	161	-21
Kinoulton Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	-20	ı o	140	2025-26	29	28	27	25	21	20	20	170	-30
Willoughby Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	7	0	49	2021-22	6	7	10	6	6	8	8	51	-2
Willoughby Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	۲	ľ	49	2022-23	7	6	8	10	6	6	8	51	-2
Willoughby Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	7	0	49	2023-24	5	7	7	8	10	6	6	49	0
Willoughby Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	7	0	49	2024-25	7	5	8	7	8	10	6	51	-2
Willoughby Primary School	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	7	0	49	2025-26	9	7	6	8	7	8	10	55	-6
Planning area summary	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	27	0	189	2021-22	26	26	29	27	27	27	28	190	-1
Planning area summary	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	27	0	189	2022-23	31	26	27	30	27	27	27	195	-6
Planning area summary	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	27	0	189	2023-24	32	31	27	28	30	27	27	202	-13
Planning area summary	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	27	0	189	2024-25	35	32	32	28	28	30	27	212	-23
Planning area summary	RUSHCLIFFE	Kinoulton-Willoughby	27	0	189	2025-26	38	35	33	33	28	28	30	225	-36

Therefore, a single classroom expansion (30 places) is required in this planning area.

Ruddington

Currently, the two primary schools in Ruddington – James Peacock Infant and St Peter's Junior – are treated as single-school planning areas. The Council is planning to ask the Department for Education for permission to combine the two schools into a single Ruddington planning area. If this is agreed, the potential projection would be as follows:

	PA	N.			School years								e school jection
Diameter Acces	F &	IJ. ▲	Net cal ▼	Proj Yea ▼		•	2				٠	TOT₄→	surplus / deficit
Planning Area	FA			,	R▼	1 ▼	2 🔻	3 🔻	4 🔻	5 🔻			place 🔻
Ruddington	90	90	630	2021-22	88	89	89	93	96	94	96	645	-15
Ruddington	90	90	630	2022-23	100	93	93	98	98	102	99	683	-53
Ruddington	90	90	630	2023-24	122	105	97	106	104	104	107	745	-115
Ruddington	90	90	630	2024-25	126	126	107	117	110	108	107	801	-171
Ruddington	90	90	630	2025-26	126	126	125	110	117	111	108	823	-193

It is proposed to explore the possibility of taking the published admission numbers of both schools from 90 (3 Form Entry) to 120 (4 Form Entry), through a process of reconfiguration and, if required, additional building. This project, when completed, would allow for the allocation of a further 210 places (1 Form Entry). Housing developer contributions are available should this project be agreed. It is anticipated that approximately half would need to be met from Basic Need. However, if feasibility demonstrates that it is not possible to deliver any expansion of existing schools, further enquiries will be necessary to establish the possibility of developing a stand-alone, one form entry school.

West Bridgford

This is a large primary planning area, comprising 11 schools: Abbey Road Primary, Edwalton Primary, Greythorn Primary School, Heymann Primary & Nursery, Jesse Gray Primary, Lady Bay Primary, Pierrepont Gamston Primary, Rosecliffe Spencer Academy, St Edmund Campion Catholic Primary, West Bridgford Infant and West Bridgford Junior.

The current projection for the school / planning area shows a surplus of primary places:

	PA	۸N			4		Scl	nool ye	ars				e school ection
	(0)) V	Net								2		surplus / deficit
Planning Area	FĀ▼	-	Ca(-	Proj Yea → 2021-22	_R ▲	1 -	2 🔻	3 🕶	4 🔻	5 🔻	6 -	TOT/ ▼	place -
West Bridgford	606	85	4243		524	542	560	610	593	613	619	4061	+182
West Bridgford	606	85	4243	2022-23	591	534	559	577	619	608	629	4117	+126
West Bridgford	606	85	4243	2023-24	537	599	549	574	585	633	623	4100	+143
West Bridgford	606	85	4243	2024-25	566	542	612	561	580	597	645	4103	+140
West Bridgford	606	85	4243	2025-26	601	575	559	629	568	593	611	4136	+107

In anticipation of a considerable growth in demand from former Hong Kong residents requiring school places in West Bridgford, evidenced by applications received by the Council's Admissions team for September 2021, the Council is seeking to create an additional 105 places (0.5 Form Entry) in this planning area. Although a final decision on expansion has not been determined, Rosecliffe Spencer Academy has recently been built and has the capacity for growth of this size. Housing developer contributions are available should this project be agreed. It is anticipated that approximately half of the cost would need to be met from Basic Need.

2. Secondary phase -

West Bridgford

This planning area comprises two schools, Rushcliffe School and West Bridgford School.

The need for additional secondary school places in West Bridgford was included in the Basic Need 2018 paper, which was considered by Committee on 18th December 2017. The paper stated that 600 additional places / 4 FE were likely to be required in this planning area in the short-to-medium term. The Basic Need 2021 paper provided a subsequent update, mentioning that 450 additional places were expected to be added at Rushcliffe Spencer Academy by September 2022. NCC has been working with Rushcliffe Spencer Academy to deliver this proposal. The development of a third secondary school within this planning area is also being explored.



Report to Children and Young People's Committee

13th December 2021

Agenda Item: 9

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

DELIVERING THE WHOLE FAMILY SAFEGUARDING PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

- 1. To inform Members of the development of the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme.
- 2. To seek approval for the establishment of the following temporary posts (three years, fixed term):
 - 1 FTE Service Director Transformation and Improvement (grade subject to job evaluation)
 - 1 FTE Practice Lead (Group Manager) (grade subject to job evaluation)
 - 3 FTE Social Work Practice Consultant Development Leads (Hay Band C)
 - 1 FTE Communications and Engagement Officer (grade subject to job evaluation)

Information

- 3. In July 2021, Children and Young People's Committee received a report summarising the Case for Change published by the Independent Review of Children's Social Care. The report highlighted a range of national challenges, reiterated below:
 - the report identifies that there is a need for further investment in focussed, evidenceinformed family help. It finds that within social care there is too much emphasis on investigating and assessing, and not enough focus on providing help and support
 - the report identifies that social workers are still spending too much time adhering to bureaucratic processes rather than spending time doing direct work with children and families. It identifies the need to do more to recruit, retain and support social care staff
 - the report identifies the need to improve the response to teenagers who face harm from outside the home, for example due to criminal or sexual exploitation
 - the report identifies that improvements are needed to placements for children in care, both giving a much greater focus on supporting kinship carers so that more children can live with carers that know and love them, and addressing the 'broken' placement market
 - the report is clear that "change will not happen without addressing the system causes", going on to state that "there is no situation in the current system where we will not need to spend more the choice is whether this investment is spent on reform which

achieves long term sustainability and better outcomes, or propping up an increasingly expensive and inadequate existing system" Josh MacAlister, Chair of the Independent Review (p.12).

- 4. The report noted that the challenges identified broadly align with the situation in Nottinghamshire, and that a refreshed transformation programme was being developed to set out the local actions required to achieve the Council's ambitions of achieving the best possible outcomes for children and young people through a more financially sustainable operating model, which places support to families in their local communities at the heart.
- 5. Prior to the publication of the Case for Change, the Council had approved through the former Improvement and Change Sub-Committee (23 November 2020), the development of four cross-cutting transformation programmes as the means of securing improved outcomes for residents and improved efficiency in the delivery of services, in areas where the Council devotes significant resource. The overarching aims of the four programmes are outlined as follows:

Improving Residents Access

- To make it easier for residents to access information and services, ensuring that we continue to develop an approach that focuses on people's strengths
- To take a joined-up approach to digital development and a review of our systems.

Early Help and Prevention

- To develop and expand place based, whole system, integrated approaches to supporting those who are vulnerable, providing them with support early to prevent their needs escalating, helping them to maintain independence and simplifying their experience of getting support
- To develop a cohesive approach to early intervention, removing duplication both within the Council and across the system, ensuring effective use of resources and assets and providing an evidence-based approach to targeting resources and supporting activity to reduce demand for higher intervention/higher cost services.

Whole Family Safeguarding

To develop a whole system operating model which takes a strengths-based approach
to supporting families so that children in need of help, protection and care achieve their
best possible outcomes.

All Age Approaches

- To take a "whole life course" approach, focussing on improving outcomes for people with disabilities including autism and mental health, by minimising risk factors and making effective interventions at key life stages.
- 6. The Whole Family Safeguarding Programme, under the leadership of the Corporate Director, Children and Families, will be the key programme through which services to children and families will be transformed, however the other programmes will also make a significant contribution. Through the Improving Residents Access programme, a

workstream is focussed upon further developing the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub and Early Help Unit, in recognition of the pressures that the services are facing and the risk this creates in responding effectively and in a timely way to the needs of children and families, as reported to Committee in September 2021. A detailed progress report on this area will be presented to Children and Young People's Committee in March 2022.

- 7. Through the Early Help and Prevention programme, the Council will develop its future model for early help, including the role of Family Hubs and the Supporting Families programme, in providing support to families in their local communities. Further detail is awaited following the comprehensive spending review on funding for these programmes prior to a more detailed report being brought before Committee.
- 8. The All Age Approaches programme will include, within its scope, activity to provide more joined up and effective local support to children and families and schools, to enable children with special educational needs and disabilities to have their needs met earlier.

Whole Family Safeguarding

- 9. As noted at **paragraph 5**, the aim of this programme is to develop a whole system operating model which takes a strengths-based approach to supporting families so that children in need of help, protection and care achieve their best possible outcomes. Specifically, the programme will seek to achieve the following:
 - Children will experience stability and consistent relationships, to enable them to feel safe and to thrive
 - Families will be provided help and support from a range of professionals in integrated teams that meet parental needs as well as children's, so that more children and young people can live safely at home and in their communities
 - Friends and family and foster carers will experience better training and support so that more children who are in the care of the Local Authority will experience living in homes that are family-based and local
 - Teenagers and their families will receive more tailored support that recognises the risks young people may experience from outside of the family home, so that more young people are able to stay living in their community
 - Those young people that do need residential care will live locally and receive care and support that effectively meets their diverse needs as individuals
 - Having practitioners with different skills and expertise in teams working in a strengthsbased way will enable a refocussing of the role of social workers and improve the quality of holistic support provided to families.
- 10. Through the programme, the following benefits will be realised:
 - A de-escalation of needs more families receiving consent-based help and support, with fewer requiring child protection plans or care proceedings
 - Children spending less time in Local Authority care (through young people safely returning home more quickly or achieving permanence through well supported adoption, special guardianship orders or child arrangement orders)
 - Fewer older young people needing to come into care
 - More children experiencing consistency of relationship with their social worker

- Less reliance on procuring high cost external residential care at a distance for children whose needs can be better met in family-based or local residential homes
- Less reliance on the agency social work workforce.
- 11. Whilst there is an ambition for fewer children to require statutory protection and care, there is an unwavering commitment to ensure that those children that do need such support will receive it in as timely and effective way as possible. Wider societal or regulatory changes or judicial case law have the potential to impact on the numbers of children requiring help, support and protection, for example an increase in social deprivation may lead to a greater number of families requiring help. These changes will be monitored alongside the programme benefits to ensure that ambitions articulated in **paragraph 11** remain appropriate within the wider context.
- 12. This indicates both improved outcomes for children, young people and families and also mitigation against the forecast budget pressures facing the Council in respect of children's services in future years.

Programme Portfolio

- 13. The project portfolio within the Whole Family Safeguarding programme is being developed, and has brought into its scope projects that were previously within the Council's Remodelling Practice and Remodelling Care programmes. In addition, it incorporates outstanding actions from the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Children's Services improvement plan, previously reported to Improvement and Change Sub-Committee. The outline portfolio is as follows:
- 14. Strengths-based Practice: This project aims to embed a consistent culture of strengths-based practice across the Children & Families department following initial implementation focused within Youth, Families & Social Work teams. This principle will be designed into the planning and implementation across the portfolio. In addition, a range of design sites will be developed, to test strengths-based approaches to practice. Evidence suggests that strengths-based practice leads to a range of benefits, including improved quality of practice and therefore outcomes, improved retention of staff and more collaborative support to children and families at an earlier stage, and therefore cost avoidance due to reduced escalation and lower levels of statutory intervention. Early design sites being scoped include:
 - Providing earlier, personalised and multi-disciplinary support to teenagers at risk of coming into care
 - Providing earlier, more focussed support to reduce the need for families to progress through care proceedings
 - Providing a more young person centred approach to looked after reviews for children in care
 - Providing earlier support to families and schools where the child has special educational needs and disabilities.
- 15. **Stable Workforce:** This project aims to ensure that social workers are effectively supported and that there are sufficient qualified and experienced social workers and managers to meet the needs of vulnerable children and families. It will focus on growing the number of social work apprentices the Council employs, developing alternative models

for supporting newly qualified social workers, reviewing the support for current and aspiring team managers, reviewing the conditions which support effective social work practice and developing workforce tracking data.

- Multi-disciplinary Safeguarding Teams: This project will develop and implement multi-disciplinary approaches to providing help, protection and care to vulnerable children and their families. The first phase will involve implementing a multi-disciplinary approach to supporting children receiving help and protection through one of the district child protection teams, with a target implementation date of April 2022. The first phase will initially involve domestic abuse workers, substance misuse workers and adult mental health professionals.
- 17. **Kinship Care:** This project aims to deliver improved support to carers who are looking after a child of a friend or relative, whether that is an informal arrangement, there is a special guardianship order or child arrangement order in place, or the child is formally "looked after" by friends and family foster carers. This is to enable more children to be raised in a family home, preferably within their own family/close friends network, with reduced need for statutory social care involvement. A proposal for a kinship support service is being developed with the aim of implementing this by April 2022.
- 18. **Foster Care:** This project aims to increase the number of internal mainstream fostering households so that more children and young people who need to come into care can be found a local, family-based home. This project builds on existing project activity and includes the continued improvement of the fostering offer, development of recruitment, marketing and assessment processes, the establishment of hub peer networking and other methods of support such as short breaks carers and Family Fostering Workers, as well as a review and re-specification of data and reporting requirements. This project is also exploring where there are benefits to working on a sub-regional (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire) footprint, building on the positive impact of Adoption East Midlands and the regional commissioning framework for children in care.
- 19. **Residential Care:** This project will deliver three new two bedded children's homes previously approved as part of the former Remodelling Care programme, whilst also identifying the best model for securing residential care homes that effectively meet children's needs moving forwards.
- 20. **16+ Accommodation:** This project will deliver the retendering of supported accommodation for homeless or looked after young people who are 16 or 17, unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people, young parents and vulnerable young adults including care leavers.
- 21. Joint Commissioning & Delivery: This project will improve the support to children and young people with complex needs who are on the edge of care with mental and/or physical health issues. The objective is to design and deliver timely solutions that support the child or young person either at home, in a medical setting, or stepping down from one to the other, which should lead to improved outcomes and reduced complexity of future demand. The first phase of the project focusses on improving the arrangements through which young people with complex needs access appropriate funding through the clinical commissioning groups so that their needs can be effectively met, and in addition

developing a proposal for developing specialist residential care for young people with mental health needs.

- 22. **Edge of Care and Placement Support:** this project will deliver a coordinated set of evidence-informed interventions for effectively meeting the needs of children on the edge of care and those at risk of placement breakdown. It will include within its scope existing projects, notably Safe Families for Children in Ashfield, the STARS social impact bond, and youth work support for young people at risk of placement breakdown.
- 23. To support the transformation programme activity, Essex County Council has been commissioned to act as a critical friend. They have been selected due to their role as a Department for Education "Partner in Practice" aimed at driving up practice standards in children's social care, as a statistical neighbour to Nottinghamshire, and as an Ofsted "outstanding" local authority. In this role they will undertake a range of practice diagnostics, exploring the effectiveness of social work practice in Nottinghamshire, as well as undertaking a whole system review of the social care operating model, to identify what changes could be made to achieve the ambition of working in a consistently strengths-based, multi-disciplinary way, with a focus on providing support in communities, and improving the consistency of relationships that families experience with their social workers. As part of this review, consideration will be given to a differentiated approach to supporting children experiencing abuse and/or neglect and the approach to supporting teenagers. The first strand of this support involves a practice diagnostic of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, which took place on 18/19 November 2021.

Programme Resourcing

- 24. The Whole Family Safeguarding Programme outlined above is significant in scale and represents a major transformation of children's services in Nottinghamshire. The Programme is led by the Corporate Director, Children and Families, supported by the Group Manager for Service Improvement who provides day to day professional direction to the programme in addition to her substantive role focussing on service improvement. This includes ensuring that the department meets regulatory requirements set by Ofsted and makes progress towards becoming an outstanding local authority. The Programme is supported by a team of colleagues from the Transformation and Change Group who provide professional programme and project management capacity as well as business change analysis.
- 25. Given the Council's financial position and the operational pressures on children's services exacerbated by the impact of the pandemic, there is an urgent need to ensure that the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme is developed and delivered at pace, whilst also maintaining a focus on the quality of social work practice, and ensuring effective help, protection and care to families during any period of transition to a new operating model. In addition, there is a need within the programme to ensure that children and families, as well as staff, are meaningfully engaged in developing the new operating model, to ensure that it effectively meets their needs. This will require dedicated and focussed capacity.

Proposal

Dedicated Leadership Capacity

- 26. Dedicated transformational leadership capacity is required within Children and Families to drive the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme forwards at the required pace and maximise the opportunities they bring for children and families, and to work closely with the Transformation and Change team in ensuring that the programme is effectively supported to deliver the required outcomes, both financial and non-financial. In addition, there is a need to ensure that a system-wide view is taken so that the wider cross-cutting programme portfolio outlined at paragraph 5 delivers a joined-up service offer to children and families. There is currently insufficient leadership capacity within the Children and Families Department to achieve this. It is therefore proposed that a temporary, three-year fixed term 1 FTE Service Director for Transformation and Improvement post is established. This postholder would be expected to provide high levels of support and challenge within the Departmental Leadership Team to achieve the level of change required, and across the Council and with partner agencies, to ensure that the transformation of services is evidence-informed, child and family focussed, co-produced with staff and financially robust. The postholder would also be expected to ensure that the Council is outward facing in learning from best practice in other local authorities, and from organisations such as the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care, the Social Care Innovation Programme and Research in Practice. In addition, the postholder would lead the departmental response to any changes that arise following the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, with review recommendations anticipated in March 2022.
- 27. This post would take line management responsibility for the Group Manager (Service Improvement), which would free up the capacity to focus on continuous improvement and enabling the department to continue to progress towards becoming an outstanding authority. It would also allow better alignment between in-department service improvement and change activity focussed around practice, and Council-wide transformation priorities, and ensuring that operational performance is not destabilised to the extent of regulatory risk by any operating model changes.

Specialist Delivery Capacity for Whole Family Safeguarding

- 28. Additional temporary delivery capacity is also required for the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme, in addition to the allocated resource through the Transformation and Change Group. This is in recognition of the need for subject matter expertise to inform the development of the operating model. This would be for a period of three years. The proposed additional resources for the next phase of programme development and delivery include:
 - 1 FTE Practice Lead (Group Manager grade subject to job evaluation) to provide social work practice leadership to the development of multi-disciplinary teams, strengths-based practice and to work in partnership with the external partner on the development and implementation of the new operating model
 - 3 FTE Practice Development Social Work Practice Consultants (SWPC Hay Band C) to provide subject matter expertise working across the multi-disciplinary teams and
 strengths-based practice projects to ensure evidence-informed social work practice is
 fundamental to the design of new ways of working and service structures
 - 1 FTE Communications and Engagement Officer (grade subject to job evaluation) to ensure effective programme communications and staff engagement internally and across the partnership.

- 29. It is proposed that the Service Director would line manage the Practice Lead role, who in turn would manage the associated staff. In addition, it is intended that coproduction capacity will be externally commissioned to order to provide sector specialist support, and enable the voices of vulnerable children and families to be heard and have influence in the development of the operating model.
- 30. The maximum budget for the posts to be established, including on-costs, is £439,443. Within this budget, £45,245 has been allocated for externally commissioned coproduction capacity. Where grades of post have not yet been evaluated, a nominal maximum budget has been allocated:

1 FTE Service Director – Transformation and Improvement*
1 FTE Practice Lead – Group Manager*
3 FTE Social Work Practice Consultants (Hay Band C)
Coproduction Capacity – externally commissioned
1 FTE Communications and Engagement Officer *

^{*} grade subject to job evaluation

External Critical Friend

31. As noted in **paragraph 23**, Essex County Council has been commissioned to act as a critical friend to the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme. The costs for this support are expected to be no more than £60,000.

Other Options Considered

- 32. The Council could seek to deliver transformation and service improvement within existing resources, however operational demands and regulatory burdens are such that the level of change required is unlikely to be achieved and the Council would continue to deliver services in an increasingly unsustainable financial way.
- 33. The Council could seek to commission an external partner to deliver the transformation programme. This has not been advised due to the need to build on the foundations for improvement and transformation that have been put in place through the Remodelling Practice and Remodelling Care programmes in recent years, along with the development of the new corporate approach to transformation and change. It is instead advised that sector specialist support should be commissioned in a more focussed way, on relevant projects. This is the basis on which Essex County Council has been commissioned.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

34. For Children and Young People's Committee to understand and agree the investment needed now to enable the transformation of children's services in order to improve outcomes and deliver a financially sustainable operating model.

Statutory and Policy Implications

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

36. The costs for the posts to be established are outlined in **paragraphs 30 and 31** and are subject to approval by Full Council as part of the budget setting process for 2022/23. Any costs required in the current financial year will be met through contingency.

Human Resources Implications

37. Recruitment to the posts outlined in **paragraph 28** will be undertaken in line with the Council's Human Resources procedures and engagement with the Trade Unions. The appointment of the Service Director post will be undertaken by the Senior Staffing Committee.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

38. The proposals outlined in this report will lead to a strengthening of the Council's approach to safeguarding vulnerable children and young people.

Implications for Service Users

39. This further investment in children's services will enable improvements in outcomes for children as outlined in **paragraph 11** as well as improved experience of services through the implementation of more consistent strengths-based ways of working.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Committee:

- 1) gives approval for the required resources outlined in **paragraphs 30 and 31** to support the implementation of the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme
- 2) approves the temporary establishment of the following posts for a period of three years:
 - 1 FTE Service Director (Transformation and Improvement) (grade subject to job evaluation)
 - 1 FTE Practice Lead (grade subject to job evaluation)
 - 3 FTE Social Work Practice Consultant Development Leads (Hay Band C)
 - 1 FTE Communications and Engagement Officer (grade subject to job evaluation).

Colin Pettigrew Corporate Director, Children and Families

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments (ELP 01/12/21)

40. The recommendations fall within the delegation to Children and Young People's Committee by virtue of its frame of reference.

Financial Comments (JG 23/11/21)

- 41. The costs for the posts to be established are £439,443 and are subject to job evaluation and approval by Full Council as part of the budget setting process for 2022/23.
- 42. The cost for Essex County Council to act as a critical friend to the Whole Family Safeguarding Programme is expected to be no more than £60,000 and will be met through contingency.

HR Comments (BC 01/12/21)

43. The staffing implications are contained within the body of the report. All new posts will be subject to job evaluation. The Service Director appointment will be a matter for the Senior Staffing Committee.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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

<u>Independent review of Children's Social Care: Case for Change - report to Children & Young</u> People's Committee on 26th July 2021

<u>Transformation and Change Programmes and the transformation model and structure - report to Improvement & Change Sub-Committee on 23rd November 2020</u>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1528



Report to Children and Young People's Committee

13 December 2021

Agenda Item: 10

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CUSTOMERS, GOVERNANCE AND EMPLOYEES

WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2021.

Information

- 2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
- The attached work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified.
- 4. As part of the transparency introduced by the new committee arrangements, committees are expected to review day to day operational decisions made by officers using their delegated powers. It is anticipated that the committee will wish to commission periodic reports on such decisions. The committee is therefore requested to identify activities on which it would like to receive reports for inclusion in the work programme. It may be that the presentations about activities in the committee's remit will help to inform this.
- 5. The meeting dates and agenda items are subject to review in light of the ongoing COVID-19 period.

Other Options Considered

6. None.

Reason for Recommendation

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

Statutory and Policy Implications

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

Marjorie Toward Service Director, Customers, Governance & Employees

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Democratic Services Officer

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Constitutional Comments (HD)

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

Financial Comments (NS)

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

Background Papers

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

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME 2021-22

REPORT TITLE	BRIEF SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER	REPORT AUTHOR
17 January 2022			
Nottinghamshire school admission arrangements 2023-24: determination		Marion Clay	Claire Wilcoxson
Children Missing Education	Six-monthly update	Marion Clay	Sarah Whitby
Strategy for Improving Educational Opportunities for All – six monthly update		Marion Clay	Koni Rakhit
Additional staffing in the Children's Occupational Therapy Team and Short Breaks Team (Integrated Children's Disability Service)		Laurence Jones	Sandrina Mapletoft
Supporting Families update	Six-monthly update	Steve Edwards	Rachel Miller
Establishment of support worker post in the Permanence Team		Steve Edwards	Sue Rollin
Early Years & Schools Forum and Education Trust Board officer group report	Annual officer group report	Marion Clay	Marion Clay
Corporate Parenting items:			•
Foster carers items		Steve Edwards	Steve Edwards
7 March 2022			
Children and young people core data set - performance and finance for Quarter 3 2021/22	Quarterly performance report	Nigel Stevenson	Dave Gilbert/ Tom Pointer
Tackling Emerging Threats to Children Team		Marion Clay	Sarah Lee
Financial support for students in Post-16 education and exceptional payments for school clothing and footwear 2022/2023		Marion Clay	Claire Wilcoxson
Principal Child and Family Social Worker - annual report 2020/21	Annual report	Steve Edwards	Diana Bentley
Commissioning and Contracts Board annual report	Annual report from the Board	Laurence Jones	Jon Hawketts
Nottinghamshire Outstanding Achievement 4Uth Award 2021	Annual update report	Steve Edwards	Pom Bhogal
Local Authority governor appointments to	Quarterly report	Marion Clay	Sarah Sayer

REPORT TITLE	BRIEF SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER	REPORT AUTHOR
school governing bodies			
Corporate Parenting items:	l		
Partnership Strategy for Looked After Children and Care Leavers 2021-2024	Annual report and approval of new strategy	Marion Clay	Jo Mathieson
Contact Service annual report	Annual report	Steve Edwards	Devon Allen
Foster carers items	•	Steve Edwards	Steve Edwards
25 April 2022			
Best Start Strategy Progress six month update		Laurence Jones	Irene Kakoullis
Outcomes of Ofsted inspections of schools		Marion Clay	Diane Ward
Elective Home Education update	Six-monthly update	Marion Clay	Sarah Whitby
Harmful Sexual Behaviour by children – annual	, ,	Laurence Jones	Claire Sampson
report			
Corporate Parenting items:			
Children Looked After Governance Board – six		Laurence Jones	Laurence Jones
month update			
Foster carers items		Steve Edwards	Steve Edwards
6 June 2022			
Children and young people core data set - performance and finance for Quarter 4 2021/22	Quarterly performance report	Nigel Stevenson	Dave Gilbert/ Tom Pointer
Local Transformation Plan for children and young people's emotional and mental health - update	Six monthly update	Jonathan Gribbin	Rachel Clark
Local Authority governor appointments to school governing bodies	Quarterly report	Marion Clay	Sarah Sayer
Corporate Parenting items:			·
Fostering Service: annual report and National		Steve Edwards	Sophie Eadsforth/Ty
Minimum Fostering Allowances for foster carers			Yousaf
2022/23			
Independent Reviewing Officer Service annual		Laurence Jones	Izzy Martin
report			
Provision, achievements and progress of the		Steve Edwards	Pom Bhogal
Children in Care Council and participation of			
children and young people looked after 2021/22			

REPORT TITLE	BRIEF SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM	LEAD OFFICER	REPORT AUTHOR
Foster carers items		Steve Edwards	Steve Edwards
18 July 2022		Clove Edwards	Otovo Edwardo
Children Missing Education	Six-monthly update	Marion Clay	Sarah Whitby
Outcomes of Ofsted inspections of schools		Marion Clay	Diane Ward
Strategy for Improving Educational		Marion Clay	Koni Rakhit
Opportunities for All – six monthly update			
Corporate Parenting items:			
Child Sexual Exploitation and Children Missing	Annual update	Laurence Jones	Joe Foley/
from Home and Care: annual report 2021/22			Hannah Johnson
Adoption East Midlands Regional Adoption	Annual report	Steve Edwards	Shelagh Mitchell
Agency annual report 2021/22			
Virtual School annual report	Annual report	Marion Clay	Sue Denholm
Foster carers items		Steve Edwards	Steve Edwards