



**NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**  
**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Date:** Tuesday, 19 July 2016

**Time:** 11.00 am

**Place:** Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham,  
NG2 3NG

**Councillors are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business**

**Corporate Director for Resilience**

**Governance Officer:** Rav Kalsi **Direct Dial:** 0115 8763759

- |          |   |                |
|----------|---|----------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>                              |                |
| <b>2</b> | <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</b>                          |                |
| <b>3</b> | <b>MINUTES</b>  | <b>3 - 8</b>   |
|          | To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2016 |                |
| <b>4</b> | <b>SERVICE PROVISION FOR YOUNG CARERS IN NOTTINGHAM</b>   | <b>9 - 14</b>  |
|          | Report of the Corporate Director for Resilience           |                |
| <b>5</b> | <b>YOUTH AND PLAY PROVISION IN NOTTINGHAM</b>             | <b>15 - 30</b> |
|          | Report of the Corporate Director for Resilience           |                |
| <b>6</b> | <b>PROGRAMME FOR SCRUTINY</b>                             | <b>31 - 36</b> |
|          | Corporate Director for Resilience                         |                |

IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING

CITIZENS ATTENDING MEETINGS ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE MEETING TO BE ISSUED WITH VISITOR BADGES

CITIZENS ARE ADVISED THAT THIS MEETING MAY BE RECORDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. ANY RECORDING OR REPORTING ON THIS MEETING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S POLICY ON RECORDING AND REPORTING ON PUBLIC MEETINGS, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.NOTTINGHAMCITY.GOV.UK](http://WWW.NOTTINGHAMCITY.GOV.UK). INDIVIDUALS INTENDING TO RECORD THE MEETING ARE ASKED TO NOTIFY THE GOVERNANCE OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE IN ADVANCE.

**NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES of the meeting held in the Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 17 May 2016 from 11.00 - 12.39**

**Membership**

Present

Councillor Azad Choudhry  
Councillor Josh Cook  
Councillor Georgina Culley  
Councillor Patience Uloma Ifediora  
Councillor Glyn Jenkins (Vice Chair)  
Councillor Neghat Nawaz Khan  
Councillor Brian Parbutt (Chair)  
Councillor Chris Tansley

Absent

Councillor Mohammed Ibrahim

**Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:**

Councillor David Mellen	- Portfolio Holder for Early Intervention and Early Years
Councillor Sam Webster	- Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills
Maria Ward	- NVCS Networks Officer for Children and Young People
Alison Michalska	- Corporate Director for Children and Adults
Helen Blackman	- Director of Children's Social Care
Steve Comb	- Head of Children in Care
Anne Partington	- Children in Care Placements Manager
Pat Fielding	- Joint Director of Education
Rav Kalsi	- Senior Governance Officer
Catherine Ziane-Pryor	- Governance Officer

**1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

**RESOLVED for Councillor Glyn Jenkins to be appointed Vice-Chair for the 2016/17 municipal year.**

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None.

**4 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2016 were confirmed as a true record by the Committee and signed by the Chair.

## **5 OUT OF AREA PLACEMENTS**

Councillor David Mellen, Portfolio Holder for Early Intervention and Early Years introduced a presentation on out of local authority area placements, and was supported by Steve Comb, Head of Children in Care, Alison Michalska, Corporate Director for Children and Adults, Helen Blackman, Director of Children's Social Care and Anne Partington, Children in Care Placements Manager.

- (a) Usually there are approximately 590 Nottingham City children in care at any one time. In addition to the children placed at care homes, between 440 and 450 young people are placed in foster care which may be within the City or elsewhere;
- (b) The City Council seeks to place 85% of children in care within a 25 mile radius of the City although this is not always possible. There are a number of reasons why children and young people are placed outside of the City and further than 25 miles, including:
- in order to safeguard a child's wellbeing;
  - to ensure that siblings can stay together;
  - in order to place a child with wider family members;
  - to receive specialist care which meet the needs of the child and cannot be provided in or close to the City.
- (c) When a child is placed further than 25 miles of the City challenges are heightened with regard to:
- the child's contact with their family;
  - differences in process and procedures if services are provided by a different Local Authority;
  - co-ordination of combined support services;
  - additional social worker time travelling and associated costs;
  - co-ordination of the transition to adulthood for young person who may be returning to Nottingham.
- (d) Anne Partington, Head of the Placements Team, commented that as part of their role, her team act as brokers for commissioning services. Some of the fostering agencies within the City which are engaged by the City Council (as there are not always suitable City foster carers available) also provide services to other local authorities for children outside of Nottingham City. The Placement Team are working to encourage such local independent providers to make placing local children locally a priority;
- (e) There is an ongoing focus on recruiting more local foster carers. With a broader view, the East Midlands Regional Children's Framework is being developed and includes regional discussions about placements for our children and young people with most complex needs;
- (f) As of 9 May 2016:
- 197 (33%) of the City's children in care were placed in Nottingham;
  - 209(36%) were placed within Nottinghamshire;

- 106 (18% within the East Midlands;
  - 49 (8%) within England;
  - 27 (5%) placed confidentially;
  - 2 (0%) in Wales.
- (g) When a child or young person is placed out of area, under Regional Protocol, the Placements Team must provide written information to the placement Local Authority of:
- the child's name and date of birth;
  - legal status;
  - contact details for Social Care / Independent Reviewing Officer;
  - details of any Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC).
- (h) Steve Comb, Head of Children in Care, informed the Committee that even though a child may not be resident in City, the City Council remains the corporate parent whilst the host local authority in the area which the child is placed, takes responsibility under Section 47 or Local Authority Designated Officer enquiries;
- (i) A weekly Placement Panel is held to consider and determine the most appropriate placements for individual children. The panel can also arrange for additional assessments of placements to ensure that they meet the particular needs of young people. The 2014 OFSTED report 'at a distance' highlights the issues of out of area placement risks.

The following information was provided in response to comments and questions from the Committee:

- (j) During the past two years the number of Nottingham's children in care has remained fairly stable fluctuating between 580 and 600. There are direct and indirect cost implications with regard to out of area placements, but the cost of servicing the placement, including social work visits, time and pressure also have a financial impact which can be very difficult to quantify;
- (k) Every effort is made to ensure that out of area placed children receive an appropriately high standard of care so placements are continuously monitored; however this results in a further financial impact. Nottingham City Council spends approximately £33 million on children in care placements. The lowest cost provision is within the City Council, rising significantly with independent fostering and care home provision;
- (l) If an in-area placement were to become available, a child placed out of area would not necessarily be moved unless it was specifically in their interests. Children in care need a stable support workforce, including social workers to provide consistency and with whom to develop a relationship;
- (m) Children in out of area placement care are visited at least every six weeks by their nominated social worker and may also receive additional telephone contact. Independent Reviewing Officer will also have contact with the child to discuss any issues or concerns a child may have while ensuring child safety and appropriate progress;

- (n) If a child goes missing, the corporate parent, the responsible authority and police are informed;
- (o) The City Council is exploring the potential to expand its internal care homes estate via the 'make or buy' panel which investigates and recommends financially viable routes for providing services. If the proposal is accepted, there is the potential for the City Council to develop an income by offering safe and appropriate children in care placements to other local authorities. Nottingham City Homes continues to provide valuable support and has identified properties suitable for small children's homes.

**RESOLVED to thank those in attendance for the informative report and to note its content.**

## **6 ALTERNATIVE PROVISION MODEL 2016/17**

Councillor Sam Webster, Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills and Pat Fielding, Director of Education, introduced a presentation on alternative funding arrangements for high pupil needs, proposed by central government which will be trialled in some Nottingham schools for 2016/17. The following points were highlighted:

- (a) It is proposed that schools take charge of commissioning alternative provision to support pupils at risk of permanent exclusion, as outlined in the White Paper National Funding Formula and High Needs Consultation. The proposal was considered by the schools Forum on 25 April 2016 and is considered in line with the national direction of travel for schools to take more accountability and work more closely with their young people;
- (b) It is suggested that if schools have direct access to funding they will be better able to swiftly identify potential challenging behaviour problems and react to prevent exclusions, raising standards and improving outcomes for students. The current funding system is not transparent but needs to get funding straight to schools with a transparent, simple, predictable process and it is not appropriate, or necessary, for the Local Authority to continue to be involved as a third party with regard to this funding;
- (c) Stage 2 of the consultation has now commenced and the Local Authority, with partners, will construct an appropriate Service Level Agreement to accompany the devolution of funding. The overall circumstances for schools has changed including an influx of pupils from other countries and the resulting pressures on schools and while there may be many variances gives a higher exclusion rate in schools within some of the more challenging communities;
- (d) Permanent exclusions have increased significantly from 27 in 2012/13 to 107 in 2014/15 which is an unsustainable increase. Under the current arrangements, the number of exclusions is very carefully monitored at a central point and schools may be challenged if the rate is considered a particular concern. In previous years some schools have received penalties for 'over exclusion';
- (e) The City Council has just two years and £1 million to ensure that the funding model is in place and that schools and trusts are able to work together to ensure effective

operation. £5.5 million will be required from schools Forum to ensure that the model will work with funds shared out up front with a minimum of £25,000 to each school as a result of a formula which is predicted to be based on population and deprivation factors; including the proportion of pupils receiving free school meals;

**RESOLVED to consider an update on the implementation of the Alternative Provision Model in 2017/18.**

## **7 WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17**

Rav Kalsi, Senior Governance Officer presented the report which outlined future topics for consideration during 2016/17.

During the Committee's discussion of potential topics, the following were proposed:

- (a) Edge of Care;
- (b) Leaving Care, including the impact of new pending legislation;
- (c) Support for young carers in Nottingham;
- (d) Sex and relationship education, subject to no duplication with Health Scrutiny work programme;
- (e) Youth provision, including youth centres;
- (f) How Special Educational Needs are supported;
- (g) Social worker accreditation/ fitness to practice and the potential re-introduction of a regulatory framework.

**RESOLVED to agree the Work Programme for 2016/17 and to consider an update to the Programme for Scrutiny at the next meeting on 19 July 2016.**

## **8 FUTURE MEETING DATES**

**RESOLVED for the Committee to meet at 11am on the following dates:**

<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
<b>19 July</b>	<b>17 January</b>
<b>20 September</b>	<b>21 March</b>
<b>22 November</b>	

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<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>19 JULY 2016</b>
<b>SERVICE PROVISION FOR YOUNG CARERS IN NOTTINGHAM</b>
<b>REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR RESILIENCE</b>

**1 Purpose**

- 1.1 To explore the service provision for young carers in Nottingham.

**2 Action required**

The Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Consider Nottingham City Council's approach to supporting young carers in Nottingham, including partnership working;
- 2.2 Use the information received at the meeting to scrutinise the services available in Nottingham for young carers;
- 2.3 Identify any potential areas for further scrutiny for inclusion in the work programme.

**3 Background information**

- 3.1 Young carers are children and young people under 18 who provide regular and on-going care and emotional support to a family member who is physically or mentally ill, disabled or misuses substances.
- 3.2 In April 2014, the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Care Act 2014 came into effect, providing new regulation with regards to young carers and their families, particularly around the right to an assessment of their needs for support.
- 3.3 The Committee might want to focus on the following aspects:
- How do partner agencies and the Council help families to find the support they need and are entitled to, from local services?
  - How does the Council support young carers to use local services such as sports clubs, support groups and health centres?
  - Is there a service for advice and emotional support?
  - Is there a liaison with schools so that teachers can better support their students?

**4 List of attached information**

- 4.1 Service Provision for Young Carers – Appendix 1

**5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

5.1 None.

**6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

6.1 None.

**7 Wards affected**

7.1 Citywide.

**8 Contact information**

8.1 Rav Kalsi, Senior Governance Officer  
[rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
0115 8763759

**Submitted to:** Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

**Title:** Service Provision for Young Carers

**Submitted by:** Tajinder Madahar,  
Head of Service for Children's Duty and Targeted Services

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report presents the Service Provision for Young Carers in Nottingham City. It sets out the provision and pathway of support for young carers and the responsibilities of Nottingham City Council Children and Adult Services and the main commissioned provider, Carers Federation - Action for Young Carers (AYC) in light of the Children and Families Act and the Care Act 2014.

## **2. Background**

### **2.1 The Carers Federation - Action for Young Carers (AYC)**

The Carers Federation - Action for Young Carers (AYC) provides a bespoke service to young carers aged between 5-18 years of age. AYC completes both Young Carers Needs Assessments and Statutory Assessments to young carers and their families. It works within a holistic framework offering the whole family a package of support, with a focus on safeguarding young carers.

AYC supports over 300 young carers at any one time living within Nottingham City. During the last five years, AYC has supported and completed over 1100 Young Carers assessments. The numbers are increasing year on year:

- 2011/12 – 90 young carers supported
- 2012/13 – 163
- 2013/14 – 306
- 2014/15 – 395
- 2015/16 – 310

The issues identified as impacting young carers include the following: Feeling isolated and lonely; being the sole carer and the need to take the cared for person to appointments; impact on the young carer's behaviour, emotional and mental health; including worry and anxiety for the cared for person; the weight of emotional dependence on the young carer; being bullied; lack of self-esteem and confidence; cultural barriers and isolation; sleep deprivation; brain functionality due to lack of an appropriate diet; financial difficulties and transport costs; attendance and behavioural difficulties at school and potential exclusion; being a main carer there are no appropriate adults to support young carers to attend school.

AYC offers young carers the following individual support:

- One to one support with a designated worker
- Young carer groups and activities providing opportunities for young carers to have quality time away from their caring roles

- Provide young carer ID cards
- Advocate on behalf of young carers and their families
- Lead on the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) process
- Counselling within the Carers Federation
- Sign post young carers to other services

AYC work in partnership with schools to raise awareness in school by providing the following:

- Young carer awareness assemblies
- Young carer groups in schools
- Teacher training
- Provide teachers with young carer education packs

## 2.2 Nottingham City Local Authority

Nottingham City Local Authority's current work is strengthening a 'Think Family' approach to the identification, assessment and provision of support to young carers, their siblings and families.

This work focusses on the prevention of crises arising through early identification and intervention, and for assessment and support for families to be combined where appropriate.

It supports the Memorandum of Understanding 'Working Together to Support Young Carers and their Families' to aid joint work between Children and Adult Services and Carers Federation - Action for Young Carers.

Government legislation changed for Young Carers in April 2015, and states that the Local Authority has a legal requirement to undertake and record a Young Carer's Needs Assessment.

2015/16 Children's Social Care Assessments identified 141 children and young people as being a young carer where there were **"Current concerns that services may be required or the child's health or development may be impaired due to their caring responsibilities."**

In 2015/16, 57 children and young people were identified as a young carer in targeted family support assessments, CAF (Common Assessment Framework).

Quarter 1 2016/17, 3 are identified as young carers in CAFs.

2015/16, 19 families were identified for a referral to Adult Social Care. Citizens have received an assessment and services have been provided so young carers are not completing care and support responsibilities that are considered excessive or inappropriate.

Considerable work has taken place by the Local Authority Children's and Adult services in partnership with AYC and Explore Family to join up our work

and ensure that where a young carer is identified in any of our work settings, the workforce know of the referral route and pathway to services to ensure the young carer receives the right support for their well-being and safety.

A joint interim protocol was established in 2015 in response to Government legislation, The Care Act 2014, The Children's and Families Act 2014 and the statutory guidance for a Young Carers Needs Assessment. The protocol will be monitored and reviewed in November 2016.

### **2.3. AYC Engagement**

AYC are currently engaging and supporting 274 young carers in Nottingham City.

Groups for Young Carers have continued on a weekly basis with 3 separate blocks of four.

- 1<sup>st</sup> group – 5yrs – 8yrs
- 2<sup>nd</sup> group – 9yrs – 13 yrs
- 3<sup>rd</sup> group – 14yrs – 18yrs

Part of the group sessions include the following professionals engaging and training Young Carers:

- Kooth Counselling for Young People
- EMAS First Aid Training for Young People
- Dogs Trust to promote and educate Young People how to properly care for their dogs but also to transfer the skills onto themselves
- City Care provide training on the following subjects: sexual health; child sexual exploitation; social media safety awareness; for both Young Carers and parents

The group also have time out from their caring responsibilities, making friends and building relationships with peers of their own age. Young Carers will have opportunity to relax and have a short break in groups, for instance, to play board games, prepare food, have fun, listen to music or just have a chat.

Respite activities have continued during each half term consisting of the following: Laser quest; drama groups; dance groups; cooking; visiting local parks and having picnics together; linking in with free sports facilities such as: tennis, archery, running and netball.

The service also provides family days to encourage parent involvement where possible.

#### **Feedback and Impact of AYC Provision**

##### **Grace, 16**

“Being part of AYC has been life changing for me and mum. I am now so proud to be a young carer and am looking forward to a better future because of AYC and the support I have received.”

### **Mum**

“I could not be happier with the service if it wasn't for AYC,I would still be in a mess. They have helped myself and my daughter through everything. My daughter is so happy now.”

### **Mum**

“I felt that me and my daughter were in control of what we wanted to access. I had a referral to adult social care for my disabled daughter; my oldest daughter had 1:1 support; the school put in flexible attendance and homework help. This is all we needed. The AYC service has been excellent for my family. We have had a whole family assessment which looked at my children's individual caring roles and the impact this had on their well-being and development as well as my own needs. I had a review of my support package because AYC referred me to Adult Social Care and all my children have had support in school, which has improved things greatly. We have also attended family's activities together, which was great. ”

### **Young Carer**

*AYC helps me by:* “If I am sad or down I can talk to you and it can make me happier.”

*The best thing AYC offers is:* “I get to talk about my feelings and meeting new friends.”

*How could AYC improve?* “Everything is great.”

### **School**

“The self-evaluation has helped us identify what we are good at supporting young carers and what we need to do to improve. We are now raising the profile of young carers in our school. We're very grateful for the Young Carer Assess training. We all think the schools programme is very well structured and comprehensive.”

## **3. Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

Care Act 2014

Children & Families Act 2014

## **4. Contact colleague**

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Head of Service for Children's Duty and Targeted Services

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Project Manager and Families Information Service Manager

<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>19 JULY 2016</b>
<b>YOUTH AND PLAY PROVISION IN NOTTINGHAM</b>
<b>REPORT OF HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</b>

**1 Purpose**

- 1.1 To explore the work taking place in Nottingham to provide play and youth services to children and young people.

**2 Action required**

The Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Consider Nottingham City Council's current offer from the Play and Youth Team;
- 2.2 Use the information received at the meeting to scrutinise the Youth and Play service provision in the city;
- 2.3 Identify any potential areas for further scrutiny for inclusion in the work programme.

**3 Background information**

- 3.1 Play and youth activities in a city provide a range of services for young people to enhance their spare and leisure time. These will aim to offer children and young people enjoyable opportunities that help them develop key personal, social and life skills and encourage them to achieve, raise aspirations and become active citizens.
- 3.2 Nottingham City Council delivers a range of universal play and youth sessions across the city, including creative crafts, sports groups and information sessions. There is also a thematic approach to the delivery of certain sessions, covering aspects of children safeguarding.
- 3.3 The focus for the meeting is to review the delivery of the service provision in Nottingham.

**4 List of attached information**

- 4.1 Youth and Play Provision report, by Aileen Wilson, Head of Early Help Services
- 4.2 Play and Youth Newsletters

**5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

5.1 None.

**6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

6.1 None.

**7 Wards affected**

7.1 Citywide.

**8 Contact information**

8.1 Rav Kalsi, Senior Governance Officer  
[rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:rav.kalsi@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
0115 8763759



**Submitted to: The Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee 19 July 2016**

**Title: Youth and Play Provision**

**Submitted by: Aileen Wilson, Head of Early Help Services**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to update the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee on the current offer from Play and Youth team, part of the Early Help Service.

**2. Background**

2.1 The play and youth team is part of the Early Help Service, part of the Children’s Integrated Services Directorate. The team has been restructured 3 times since 2010 and now comprises:

3 Specialists  
15 Senior Workers  
36 Workers

They are co-located with the Children’s Centre workers and managed by the same management team. The Community Family Support Managers are:

Bulwell/Bulwell Forest/Basford	Jane Richardson
Bestwood/Leen Valley	Julia Bramble
Aspley/Bilborough	Pat Mills
Sherwood/Berridge/Arboretum	Jasmin Howell
Radford & Park/Dunkirk & Lenton	
St Anns N&S/Sneinton/Mapperley	Kathleen Thomas
Bridge/Clifton N&S	Donna Sherratt/Wendy Mills
Wollaton E & W/Lenton Abbey	

There are 6 Early Help teams who deliver provision in all wards within the city. There are currently 58 weekly sessions for children and young people across the city. This will increase to 64 sessions in September after the summer programme delivery.

Within the regular weekly sessions, the teams work with other partners to deliver projects on topics which are of concern to our children and young people, contribute to our safeguarding role and the 3 Directorate priorities:

- A learning city
- Resilience in Children, Families and Communities
- Healthy Minds, bodies and relationships

We also provide somewhere safe to go, something positive to do and someone to talk to that can be trusted.

### **Universal sessions**

Across the city we deliver 57 universal Play and Youth sessions. Typically these last for two hours and offer activities ranging from creative crafts, sports, group games, chill out zones to information sessions on trending issues for young people.

Sessions are open access and allow young people to engage in the activities of their choice. We have a big emphasis on child led play and encourage participation through this and other creative methods. To celebrate children and young people's contribution, we produce and publish quarterly newsletters (Appended to report)

### **Attendance**

Sessions are delivered from our own sites, other community venues or out in the community, when required. Capacity can be limited by the site size but also other variable such as the weather, age range and type of activity within the session.

### **Attendance data from April 2015 to March 2016**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Unique Attendees</b>	<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Attendances</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>4,652</b>	<b>3,202</b>	<b>48,265</b>
<b>Area 1</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>7,860</b>
<b>Area 2</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>9,291</b>
<b>Area 3</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>6,279</b>
<b>Area 4</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>7,933</b>
<b>Area 5</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>3,080</b>
<b>Area 6</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>8,193</b>
<b>Area 8</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>5,624</b>

### **Play and Youth Contribution to Safeguarding**

#### **Themed Projects**

During the last performance year, we delivered 28 themed projects – 2 of which were city wide to bring young people together from all parts of the city.

**The White Ribbon Event** received funding from the Great Workforce and the healthy relationship work culminated in a fashion show at the Nottingham Contemporary in November last year. 46 young people, aged 11-19, explored healthy relationships and domestic abuse while making outfits adorned with white ribbons. The ultimate aim of the project is to equip young people with the skills, knowledge and resilience they need to make healthy and safe choices about their own intimate relationships and enable them to recognise the characteristics of unhealthy and healthy relationships. At the end of the evening, the young people were presented with certificates and a photograph to commend their dedication to the project and its success.

### **Christmas Week Event**

**'Healthy Me'** was a full day citywide Christmas event at the new Harvey Hadden Sports Centre, where young people could try out new sports and activities as they rotated around the sessions. Over 140 young people attended and enjoyed the programme of activities on offer with many reporting that they will be attending the centre again.

Young people gained lots of new positive experiences and friendships with lots of laughter and challenges.. There were some favourite activities, such as roller skating, football and swimming but also some new experiences, such as squash, which was very popular.

### **Local projects**

These have been delivered with partners such as Equation (domestic abuse specialists, Lifeline (young people's substance abuse specialists) and the Sexual Health Team (sexting)

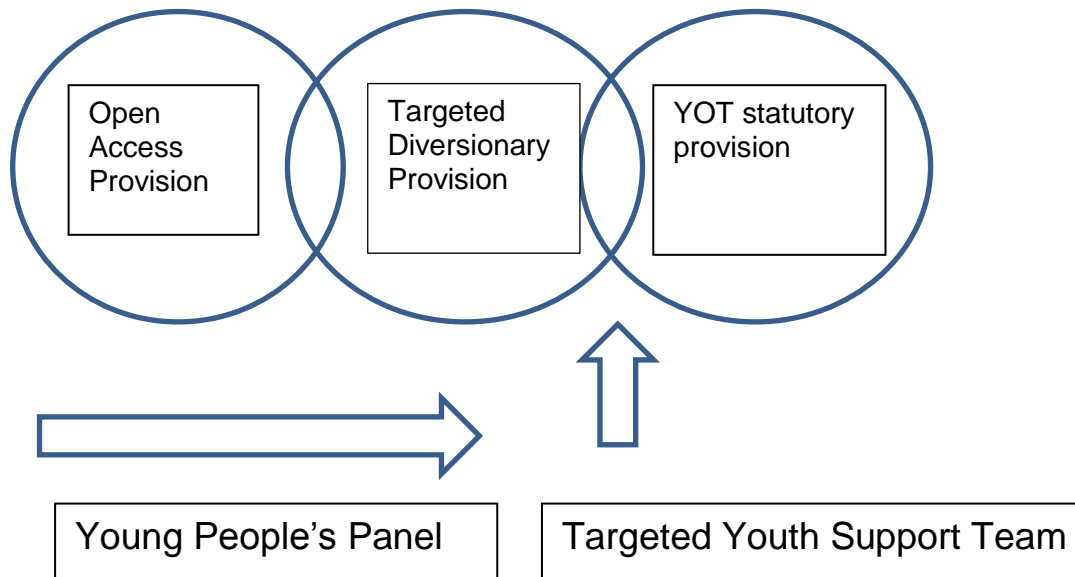
All of these projects are scaled by children and young people at the beginning and end and 67% reported an improvement in their learning or awareness of the topic. Through consultation and evaluation, children and young people contribute to the themes and content of future projects.

### **Safeguarding on an individual basis**

Safeguarding concerns that come to the attention of the teams are addressed by the worker during the session, where possible. Concerns are then discussed with the Early Support Specialist on how to best support. All teams are trained in the Signs of Safety approach to be able to empower the child, young person and their family as part of the Early Help offer. Requests for support can also be made to the Young People's Panels which are chaired by the Early Help manager and attended by many services to jointly assess (Signs of Safety) young people where there are concerns and risks of anti social or criminal behaviour. A coordinated response is agreed and a lead agency identified to support the young person and, where appropriate, the family.

## Area Based Grant Activities

Nottingham City Council provides an Area Based Grant to the lead of a local consortium to respond to locally assessed need for targeted support and diversionary activities. There are a range of area based partnership meetings across the city to enable providers to jointly plan play and youth activities. Area based grant funded leads also attend the Young People's Panel.



## Participation

The play and youth teams contribute to the citywide participation strategy to ensure that the voice of the child or young person is heard and acted upon – issues can be raised through the Youth Council and Youth Cabinet, as appropriate.

### **3. Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing confidential or exempt information**

Children's Integrated Services Directorate Delivery Plan  
The Family Support Pathway  
Play and Youth Newsletters

### **4. Contact colleague**

Aileen Wilson, Head of Early Help Service



Welcome to Central Nottingham Play & Youth News! Stories and reports from Berridge, Sherwood, Radford, Arboretum, Aspley and Bilborough Wards.

## Youth In Action: Your Ideas Count!



Congratulations to the Youth Council planning group who planned and hosted the "Safe lives and Positive Communities" event on the 13th April.

This event took weeks of planning. Young people committed hours of their free time to attend meetings, work on posters, come up with workshops and a great slogan for the whole day: "Your Ideas Count".

The aim of the event was to engage young people in a discussion with adults about their lives, their neighbourhoods, and how they want to see things change for the better.

The planning group wanted to express how they felt about having the opportunity to be involved; have a voice and a chance to do something positive for their community.

**Aziz:** "I feel that I am more confident now because I was part of this project, I enjoyed being part of organising everything. I can't wait to do something else".

**Jaidon:** "Yes, I enjoyed taking part too, I liked the idea that we can do the things we suggested".

**Jermain:** "I want to get involved in other stuff, I enjoyed being chosen to work alongside the staff"

**Isha:** "All my ideas were used, that makes me feel great. I didn't feel very confident before but I do now."

**Andrew:** "They used my Logo, Your Ideas Count, that made me feel happy. I'm glad I took part."

**Nikiya:** "I didn't get involved straight away but I'm glad I did. I want to be involved in more stuff."

The Youth Council event was supported by Jon Rea, the youth cabinet, and a number of services from across Nottingham including Police & Fire services, other youth organisations, and Cllr Carole Jones.

The workshops were led by the young people with some fantastic ideas created to address the issues in the neighbourhoods, for example:

**Workshop 1.** Isha asked people to get involved in a poster designing session to address rubbish on the streets, bin fires and anti-social behaviour.

**Workshop 2.** Andrew used his creative art session to draw out some ideas on how to identify the neighbourhood issues.

**Workshop 3.** Aziz, Jermaine and Jaidon invented the "Rubbish Game" to tackle the issue of street litter.

This event was a great example of how children, young people and adults can come together in a positive environment and tackle serious issues in a fun and productive way.

The event was a very positive Youth Council; young people on the planning group made their contribution and played their role on the day, they were fantastic! The final session was a brilliant debate highlighting cyber safety and the Internet. Young people really opened up to discuss the opportunities and dangers of spending so much time online.

Throughout the debate a number of young people thought that they should get more support and information about internet safety from schools and other adults.

The day ended with a written pledge from everyone who took part to take an action from the day and start to make a small step to change.

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## Game Show Bonanza

This year started with Southwold Primary, Birchover and Phoenix play projects with Leen Valley Youth group all involved in the great game show challenge.



From all across the Central 1 area, young people were split in to contestants team colours and encouraged to make name tags to be worn throughout the projects.

Week by Week the young people were challenged through team games and popular games show challenges in a bid to score points and become the ultimate game show master.

Week one saw the children play head to head in physical and mental challenging games. As the weeks went on the young people developed an extensive set of ground rules for playing the games.

Each team had a staff mentor to encourage and keep the scores, by the end of week one every young person had formed an identity within their teams. The games were inspired by popular TV gameshows, The Cube, Family Fortunes and The Price is Right. From this experience young people tested their knowledge, ability, and team building skills.

To cement this knowledge, young people reflected on how they did each week and how they could improve.

During the project staff witnessed new friendships formed between two young women from the same school who had never talked to each other before. They both worked on making up a dance routine.

The project ended with a celebration event. Certificates and awards were given out to recognise young peoples' achievements.

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# Healthy relationships on Valentine's Day



This month we focused on healthy relationships by celebrating Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, Pancake Day and Mothers Day all on our play sessions!

During the healthy relationship project, the young people learned about what it means to be part of a family, some made a family tree to show what their family looks like.

The young people went on to look at bullying, making anti-bullying posters during the session. Others made anti-bullying dice and looked at scenarios of what to do when being bullied and how to deal with bullying.

During the project the young people also learnt about what it takes to be a good friend, making friendship trees with the good qualities of a friend written on them.

We also celebrated Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, Pancake Day and Mothers Day, looking at why these events are celebrated.

Young people enjoyed making Valentine's Day and Mothers Day cards and gifts for their loved ones.

During the Chinese New Year celebrations, young people learnt it was the year of the monkey and worked on decorated fans and lanterns with the sign of the monkey.

We also enjoyed Chinese food, some spring rolls, prawn crackers and noodles.

Young people looked into the history of Chinese New Year and worked out the animal that would represent the year of their birth.

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# Wall of Calm



Children and young people who attend Forest Fields Play Centre have been working on ways to keep calm, looking at feelings, emotions, triggers and calming techniques.

They started by looking at various images that show a number of emotions and were asked to look at each image and describe the emotion they thought was happening.

Young people were asked to match positive words to any of the images and then discuss why they had that word matched to the image.

Another exercise for the group was to think of an event in their lives and how they felt during that event. One girl said she had won a medal in Taekwondo, we talked about how she felt and selected some words to stick onto a poster to depict the event.

One of the young women talked about her first day back at school after Christmas, she described feeling sad to nervous to happy and then pleased.

The last exercise was getting the group to make a calming chart which shows various ways children and young people can calm themselves down if they feel angry or upset.

The children and young people are being introduced to this system and encouraged to select one of the techniques when feeling anger, this helps them to calm down and think about the situation.

At the moment only a small group of children and young people are using the calming wall and it seems to be working for them. It's still early days.

The Play and Youth workers will continue to use the calming wall as they introduce other activities to help children and young people understand their emotions.



**We hope you enjoyed reading Play & Youth News!**

To contribute or ask a question about this newsletter please contact:

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Central Nottingham - Manjit Sahota [manjit.sahota@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:manjit.sahota@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

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## Play & Youth News

Welcome to South Nottingham Play & Youth News!

### Clifton Young People's Centre is 1 year old!

In March Clifton Young People's Centre celebrated its first year in a newly refurbished building. The children and young people at Junior Youth and Saturday Play sessions celebrated by making a gigantic cardboard cake with a huge candle, lots of sprinkles and glitter, cake top decorations and some tasty foam letters. The children wanted to design a cake that some of them could jump out during the party, but unfortunately we weren't able to get it finished in time. The cake was used as the first piece of decoration when you came into the party. Children wanted everyone to know what we was celebrating and it was going to be a tasty day!



At Clifton's 1st year celebration party, there were many activities, including a table tennis knock out competition for young people aged 8-13. The tournament was for all regardless of gender or ability and fourteen young people took part in the very competitive tournament. Throughout the competition young people remained friendly to each other, but one young person really stood out. Ella was one of two young females who entered and she played most of the better players even though she thought they were better than her and she was going to lose. Ella played and participated extremely well and her confidence increased as she made her

way through the tournament and as a result she reached the final, where she was narrowly defeated by arguably the best player in the club on the day.

The children and young people that attend the sessions at Clifton were such a help throughout the whole birthday celebration; making decorations, organising the food, helping with the arrangements, clearing things up, tidying etc. One of the things nearly all of them participated in, was the making of the welcome banner, each letter reflected an activity they had taken part in, e.g. hama beads, sewing, beads, buttons, gluing, painting, feathers and the general design and making of it. Hung up outside the building it looked even better than laid on the table during assembly and nearly all the young people looked at it with pride when they came in for the party and passed under it.



### Clifton young people get their skates on

Young people aged 10-16 took part in two hours of roller skating fun, when our friends at SkateBase brought their roller disco to us.

For some young people this was their first time on skates and after wrapping them up in elbow pads, knee pads and wrist guards, we watched them transform from wobbling their way around the hall clinging to the walls (and each other) to stay upright to gracefully gliding around the hall unassisted.



Unavoidably, we had a few falls but the young people didn't let this stop them and after tending to a few bumps with ice-packs the young people all carried on mastering the art of balancing on eight wheels. The SkateBase crew members offered our learner skaters lots of tips and guidance to help them.

We had a few seasoned skaters amongst us, who were on a roll and zoomed round the hall (backwards at times) confidently, showing us their tricks and dancing along to all of the anthems being played by DJ Kev. It was very impressive to watch the young people and crew dancing the Macarena on skates.

All in all it was a fantastic, fun evening where young people learnt new skills, gained confidence and overcame obstacles. They improved their agility and co-ordination without realising that they were taking part in two hours of cross-fitness exercise. Many of the young people went on to put their new skating skills to good use later on that month at the #HealthyMe event at Harvey Hadden where roller-skating was voted one of the most enjoyable activities of the day.



### **Children at Oliver Hind beat their fears...**

Over the Easter holidays, children from Oliver Hind play session had the chance to overcome some of their fears around animals.

They had the chance to meet and pet some animals from little chicks to tarantulas and snakes. The company Lion Learners bought many animals into Oliver Hind, so that some of the children could have the opportunity to hold them and learn more information about them and kick start the environment theme that ran running throughout April, May and June in the Thursday sessions.

A couple of the children were really scared about being close to the tarantulas, but with the support of their play and youth worker and the Lion Learner's staff, they overcame this fear and by the end of the session, were able to hold the tarantula in their hands.

Some of the other children gained the experience of holding animals such as Guinea pigs, rabbits, rats, snakes, and a bearded-dragon. They talked about how different animals felt in their hands, as some were soft and others were rough, and about how warm they felt when holding the animals. All of the children

showed care and love for the animals that they had only just met.

The children really enjoyed the day and said that they felt proud that they were able to beat their fears and hold some of the animals that they were originally scared of as well as meet new animals and learn about them.

### **St George's Day at St Ann's Play Centre**

At the St Ann's Play Centre young people celebrated St George's day by playing different games, making swords helmets and armour as well as learning why some people celebrate the day. The children discovered how he was most widely known for slaying dragons(!) and wanted to re-enact the game Dragon Slayer.

Someone was the dragon and the others would have to find the dragon and lock him away in the cave. They played this interactive, fantasy game for most of the session and really enjoyed it because they wanted to continue it on to the following session.

It was great to see children positively interacting with each other and inventing new games, with resources.





## Magic water

As we have been learning about our environment in all our centres, children and young people have been given opportunities to discuss and learn how things work in their environment.

In St Ann's Play Centre the children took part in a water experiment where they used water, food colouring and white paper towels to see how water travels. They then used water, food colouring and white cabbage to see again how water travels through the plant. The children learned from this experiment that water has an important role to play in our environment and how it helps our plants grow. The children had lots of fun together doing this and also were able to recognise why we needed water and how it can help keep our environment stay alive and healthy, it was science made fun!

## Something sweet or something sour?

Will you take the challenge? Blindfold food tasting.

Children and young people at St Ann's Play Centre were busy cutting up fruits, apples, oranges, lemon, lime and grapes with biscuits and sweets on a plate ready for the blindfold tasting.

All children and young people were very excited to do this activity and those that were playing other games, stopped and came over to see what was happening, wanting to have a go and saying this "Looks like good fun". One young person started to make a list of all people who wanted to take the challenge. The first challenger came forward and took the hot seat, another young person put the blindfold on to cover their eyes.....To left of them was a waste bin to spit out anything they didn't like. Grape with lemon juice and a bit of sherbet....in the mouth it went..."Hhhmmm"...then "errr.. its nasty!" In the bin it went!



The next spoonful was biscuit, sherbet and orange mixed with popping candy.... in the mouth it went. Smiling chomping, "Hhhmm...that was great", said one young person, "Whats next?". Children and young people shouted out what it was and workers said "If you tell them what it is, they will have more scores than you". With shock on their faces, it went so quiet, as they whispered!!!

Children and young people really loved doing this activity; they have requested we do this again. We will do this in the future.



## Together we made a stand against CSE

Young people from Russell Youth Club, pledged to make a stand against CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation). They did this by writing on their hands. In the fight against CSE, youth workers discussed issues round CSE and the impact it has on children and young people. Some of the young people were shocked to see how easy it was to get caught up in a world of the unknown

and how social media can play apart in this. Young people learnt about the importance of being self-aware and staying safe. Some stated "It would never happen to me", but after the sessions realise that they could potential put themselves in vulnerable positions by the way they use social media. The work and support will continue with young people to prevent CSE.

## Children play using natural materials

Children from St Ann's Play Centre created a chicken, a nest and eggs by using our environment and being creative during Easter half-term .

Using the grounds of the Play Centre, children collected twigs, willow, branches , grass and red berries for the eyes then began to put it together. Some who view this may confuse it with a bird and a couple of children said *"this was so much fun"*. It was an activity that got children outside to play using their imagination with natural materials. One child in particular, who normally does not get involved in such activities, helped to collect the materials and then helped to create the nest. It was great to see this child trying some new. This is hopefully the start of using our environment and being creative. As a follow up, children and young people have designed a new project which involves a windmill sculpture.



## Watch out for future news!

Shelia Roper Community Centre - Play Session 5-13 yrs - Tuesday 3.30-5.00pm

Harrow Road Community Centre - Junior Youth Session 10-14 yrs Fridays 4.00-6.00pm



**We hope you enjoyed reading Play & Youth News!**

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Welcome to North Nottingham Play & Youth News!

## Cooking with a catch

At the Riverside youth session during April young people had the opportunity to get involved in some healthy cooking but with a catch.

As you may know it is a habit before a cooking activity to get out the ingredients and the equipment ready for when the young people enter the kitchen.

Surprise...! What were the young people seeing but just a recipe on the table and nothing else. The blank expression on their faces soon turned into a light-bulb moment. They soon realised that they would have to read the recipe and go in search of what they needed.



It was funny because when you actually stood back and plunged some of the young people into the deep-end their natural instincts to help one another kicked in, they were able to assign roles to each other and slowly make their way through the recipe.

The best bit was watching young people teach one another skills in the kitchen and take ownership and responsibility of the kitchen space. And would you believe it, they even did the washing up after each group!

Next time there won't even be recipes on the table... watch this space!



## It's OK to be who you are...

The 'It's OK To Be Who You Are' Project at Bulwell Riverside; bringing everyone together to stand up for who they are!

Right from the start of the project young people were really interested and keen to share their opinions on topics like bullying, stereotypes and how people treat each other. It was really nice to see the young people all working together and taking the lead on the project. It had been planned that they took pictures of themselves to put onto a display board. But no... the young people decided they wanted to create a display board full of

pictures and quotes instead! After lots of careful thought (and blu-tac) an amazing display board was created by the group. Quotes and images were added to the display board to raise awareness of the issues they had been talking about during the project and to encourage people to celebrate being who they are.

One young person enjoyed the project so much she said *"It has made me think about what I want to do and achieve and I want to get a job and make my future feel secure"*. Since completing the project, this young person has gone back to college which is an excellent achievement! Another young person told staff the project has *"Made her realise she is more creative than she thought"* and *"Made her think about who I am"*. Everyone who took part in the project said they would like to take part in more projects, so here's to the next project!



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<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>19 JULY 2016</b>
<b>PROGRAMME FOR SCRUTINY</b>
<b>REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR RESILIENCE</b>

**1. Purpose**

To identify potential topics for scrutiny for 2016/17.

**2. Action required**

The Committee is asked to consider potential topics for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

**3. Background information**

3.1 The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee will set and manage a work programme to fulfil overview and scrutiny responsibility in relation to children and young people to:

- (i) provide an appropriate and robust level of challenge to those in authority and hold local decision-makers, including the Council's Executive, to account for their decisions, action and performance;
- (ii) review policy and contribute to the development of new policies and strategies of the Council and other local decision-makers where they impact on Nottingham's children and young people;
- (iii) explore any matters affecting Nottingham's children and young people;
- (iv) make reports and recommendations to relevant local agencies in relation to the delivery of their functions, including the Council and its Executive, and monitor implementation of all accepted recommendations.

3.2 To add referrals from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Committee's work programme.

3.3 To consider referrals from partners and citizens to support effective delivery of a co-ordinated work programme.

3.4 To invite, take account of and respond to the views of local people (including children and young people) about their concerns and the delivery of services in relation to children and young people.

3.5 To be required to consider the following issues / topics when developing the work programme, though the Committee's scrutiny activity need not be limited to these matters:

- (i) Safeguarding

- (ii) Looked After Children
  - (iii) Vulnerable Children and Young People (eg in relation to disability, domestic violence, missing)
  - (iv) Child Sexual Exploitation
  - (v) Early Intervention
  - (vi) Educational Attainment
  - (vii) Commissioning of Services for Children and Young People
  - (viii) Performance of Services for Children and Young People
- 3.6 To consider potential risks to children and young people, how they are being managed and to report concerns as soon as possible to the appropriate individuals/ bodies if risk is identified;
- 3.7 To monitor the progress made by, and effectiveness of the Council and its partners, in addressing the areas of concern and specific recommendations for actions made by Ofsted and any other relevant inspection/ assessment bodies;
- 3.8 To have regard to the work of other committees/ panels/ boards, such as the Corporate Parenting Board and the Local Safeguarding Board, to avoid duplication, but to ensure that such bodies are held to account when appropriate;
- 3.9 To refer any health issues in relation to children and young people to the Health Scrutiny Committee.

#### Policy briefings

- 3.9 Through the process of developing the programme for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, the Committee may identify issues which call for a policy briefing. The purpose of these briefings is to inform councillors about a current key issue or to prepare councillors for review work that has been commissioned. These informal briefings will not be occasions for scrutiny to be carried out, although they may result in a suggestion for a new scrutiny topic, which would need to be considered by this Committee against the current programme for scrutiny and available resource.
- 3.10 Policy briefings will not form part of the Committee's agenda but will be held separately and be open to all councillors to attend.

#### Monitoring programme for scrutiny

- 3.11 On an ongoing basis the Committee will be responsible for managing and co-ordinating the programme for scrutiny and assessing the impact of scrutiny activity. At all future meetings the Committee will monitor the progress of the programme, making amendments as appropriate.



## Potential areas for inclusion on the work programme

3.12 Below is a list of areas the Committee might want to explore during 2016/17:

- Child sexual exploitation
- Youth homelessness
- Fostering & Adoption
- Ofsted update on inspection April 2014
- Community learning
- Healthy lifestyles
  - Healthy weight
  - School food plan
  - Drug and alcohol misuse & legal highs
- Domestic violence – impact on children
- Post Ofsted improvement plan update – session on social worker caseloads
- Look After Children – leaving care – focus on pathways for LAC leaving care
- Safeguarding in Schools – focus on sex education and safeguarding risks
- SEND overview
- Young carers in Nottingham – focus the support in place
- Safeguarding Children – Children who go missing (links to CSE?)
- Behaviour in schools (or PRUs)
- Placement of Looked After Children in Schools
- Examination of the role of the Corporate Parenting Board

### Regular updates to the committee

- Post Ofsted Improvement update
- NCSCB Updates
- Overall safeguarding performance monitoring
- CSE (noted below as mandatory)

### Mandatory topics (under the terms of reference)

- Safeguarding
- Looked After Children
- Vulnerable Children and Young People (eg in relation to disability, domestic violence, missing)
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Early Intervention
- Education Attainment
- Commissioning of Services for Children and Young People
- Performance of Services for Children and Young People
- Monitor the progress made by, and effectiveness of the Council and its partners in addressing actions made by Ofsted

4. **List of attached information**

Appendix 1 – work programme 2016/17.

5. **Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information**

None

6. **Published documents referred to in compiling this report**

None

7. **Wards affected**

Citywide

8. **Contact information**

Contact Colleagues  
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<p>20 September 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report</li> <li>• NCC's Post Ofsted Improvement</li> <li>• Stability of social workers</li> <li>• Programme for Scrutiny</li> </ul>
<p>22 November 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fostering and Adoption in Nottingham</li> <li>• Capital Improvements to schools in the City</li> <li>• Edge of Care Services</li> <li>• Programme for Scrutiny</li> </ul>
<p>17 January 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance and Attainment</li> <li>• Update on CSE in Nottingham</li> <li>• Item 3</li> <li>• Programme for Scrutiny</li> </ul>
<p>21 March 2017</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 1</li> <li>• Item 2</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Item 3</b></li><li>• <b>Programme for Scrutiny</b></li></ul>
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