

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD – APRIL 2017

Title of paper:	Edge of Care Provision	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Helen Blackman - Director, Children's Integrated Services helen.blackman@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Mark Ball - Edge of Care Hub Manager 0115 8762050 Mark.ball@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
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Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)		

Relevant Council Plan Key Theme:

Strategic Regeneration and Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning and Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy, Sustainability and Customer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs, Growth and Transport	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adults, Health and Community Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children, Early Intervention and Early Years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leisure and Culture	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration	<input type="checkbox"/>

Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):

- The Edge of Care Hub diverts children and families away from care proceedings through intensive intervention and a whole family approach, to improve family functioning.
- The Edge of Care Hub benefits citizens and service users by building resilience within families through assertive, community based outreach support; as a consequence it plays a significant part in strengthening the communities of Nottingham City.
- All families present with multiple complex issues and all subject to Child Protection Plans.

The table below outlines performance data for this financial year:

Overview Data this financial year to date	
Number of families referred to Hub	40 (18 open, 21 stepped down, 1 where children were removed)
% Families on child protection plans	90%

% Families who engaged		100%	
% Families helped to stay together		90%	
Children kept out of care		45	
Families stepped down from Hub		21	
Number of families open		18	
Number of children accommodated		2 (from 1 family)	
Number of re-referrals		1	
Recommendation(s):			
1	To note the service being provided by the Edge of Care Hub, and monitor progress made year on year.		

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1. The Edge of Care Hub (EoCH) supports families with multiple complex issues such as domestic violence (DV), substance misuse, poor parental mental health, poor school attendance and worklessness.
- 1.2. The reason for recommendation 1 is for the Edge of Care Hub to continue to provide intensive intervention to vulnerable families within Nottingham City. At present, Priority Families grant funding is guaranteed until March 2020.
- 1.3. In addition, implementation of the recommendation will allow the Edge of Care Hub to continue to provide significant and cost effective budget relief, diverting children from care proceedings and building resilience in families and communities.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1. The Edge of Care Panel was established in 2013 as a result of internal consultation between the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and the Corporate Director, regarding rising numbers of children in care, with the objective of diverting children and young people from care proceedings and managing a menu support services.
- 2.2. 57% of the children and young people cases that were heard at panel were accommodated in 2012. As a result of internal consultation, a menu of services was created to reduce increase the number of children supported to remain with their family where safe to do so, through intensive intervention by a service from the menu. The number of children and young people that were heard at panel and were accommodated has fallen year on year since. The Edge of Care Hub Team was established under Priority Families to add specialist, intensive, and whole family support to the menu of services available to the Edge of Care Panel. The Edge of

Care Hub was funded from the Priority Families Grant until March 2016; further funding has been provisionally agreed until 2020 pending government confirmation of future grant monies. The Edge of Care Hub was given the Big Ticket objective of providing £400,000 budget relief which it has exceeded each financial year since.

- 2.3 The report proposes the consideration of expanding the EoCH to include an adult mental health worker. 90% of families supported by the EoCH present with adult mental health difficulties. Adults are often the key to improved outcomes for families supported by EoCH. Waiting lists for adult mental health support are increasing. An adult mental health worker in EoCH would provide valuable support to families referred to EoCH, and would reduce the duration of such support. This point has been expanded on in a report sent to Head of Service for consideration.

3 **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The option to discontinue funding the Edge of Care Hub has been considered. This would have negative cost implications for the local authority, and a negative effect on the Children in Care numbers.

4 **FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)**

Financial Data EOC HUB Budget Relief Analysis	£
<u>Actual Budget Relief from 1/4/16 to 31/01/2017</u>	
Budget Relief to 31/10/16	979,686
less:	
20% failure rate	195,937
10% variation in placement costs	78,375
Net Budget Relief to 31/01/2017	705,374
less:	
Team Costs to 31/10/16 (Approx)	115,000
Net Budget Relief to 31/01/2017	590,374
<u>Projected Budget Relief from 1/4/16 to 31/03/17</u>	
Projected Budget Relief to 31/03/17 (based on current cohort)	1,165,092
less:	
20% failure rate	233,018
10% variation in placement costs	93,207
Net Projected Budget Relief to 31/03/17	838,866
less:	
Budgeted Team Costs to 31/03/17	180,000

- 4.1 Philip Harrison, Project Manager for the Early Intervention Directorate, consulted with finance colleagues in establishing net budget relief of £590,374, from 01/04/2016 up to 31/01/2017.
- 4.2 The figure above offers clear value for money, when considering that the full term cost of the team is £180,000. The team cost in the figure above has already been deducted.
- 4.3 The actual budget relief is inclusive of the deduction of:
1. Team cost (£200,000) per annum.
 2. 10% of actual budget relief up to 31/12/15 for cost of placement variation.
 3. 20% of actual budget relief up to 31/12/15 for failure rate.
- 4.4 So far this financial year only 2 out of 78 children and young people directly at risk of accommodation, that have been supported by the Edge of Care Hub, have been accommodated.
- 4.5 The financial implication of the above is reduced pressure on the local authority in care costs, and additional social work hours.

5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 The risks attached to a decision to continue funding to the Edge of Care Hub are minimal, with a small cost implication that can be offset against the budget relief.
- 5.2 The risk of not funding the Edge of Care Hub is that vulnerable families will not get the intervention they need to be diverted from care proceedings.
- 5.3 The Hub supports families subject to Child Protection plans, with the aim of reducing risk through whole family intervention.
- 5.4 Without the Edge of Care Hub, more families will be at risk of breakdown.
- 5.5 Edge of Care Hub support operates under the Priority Families (Troubled Families) national criteria and helps to reduce police call outs, anti-social behaviour, missed health appointments, poor school attendance and worklessness.

6 STRATEGIC ASSETS & PROPERTY COMMENTS (FOR DECISION RELATING TO ALL PROPERTY ASSETS AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE) (AREA COMMITTEE REPORTS ONLY)

- 6.1 None.

7 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 Has the equality impact of the proposals in this report been assessed?

No



An EIA is not required because:

(Please explain why an EIA is not necessary)

The report does not contain proposals or financial decisions.

**8 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR
THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

8.1 None.

9 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

9.1 None.