



Statutory Officers Report for Health and Wellbeing Board

Corporate Director of People

March 2022

Holiday Activity Fund

Nottingham has secured another £1.8m to help struggling families in the school holidays with food vouchers and holiday clubs.

The City Council has consistently made £15-per-week supermarket vouchers available to all children who receive free school meals (FSM) over holiday periods, as well as overseeing a number of community activity clubs across Nottingham. At these sessions, pupils who are entitled to free school meals receive a free lunch, plus a programme of activities focused on healthy eating, fitness and mental health.

More than 15,000 children attended these clubs and were fed over the summer holiday in Nottingham last year, and this latest money will be used to deliver clubs and activities throughout 2022 and beyond.

Sessions will run for one week at Easter, three weeks in the summer, one week in October and one week at Christmas. The Council has appointed Nottingham Forest Community Trust as its lead project partner this year.

The funding has been allocated from the Department for Education with specific criteria attached. This stipulates that the support for tackling holiday hunger should be through pupils who are entitled to free school meals attending holiday clubs. There are also a limited number of places available for children who aren't eligible for free school meals and these will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Nottingham City Council has previously endorsed Manchester United footballer Marcus Rashford's campaign to tackle holiday hunger.

Children's Transformation

On Tuesday 22nd February our Executive Board approved major investment in supporting transformation in our Children's Services.

Following Ofsted Focused Visits and inspections, our services have been on an improvement journey - however there is still work to do and our Social Care spend has grown significantly over the past 5 years.

A recent assessment of Children's Social Care, which compared NCC service activities to similar councils elsewhere, identified:

- a number Children in Need (CIN) and Child Protection (CP) plans could have been prevented through an earlier intervention.
- a number of CIN and CP plans ran on for longer than necessary.
- a revised focus on early intervention would avoid children being taken into care.
- there is scope to increase the number of children in foster care with a corresponding reduction in residential care.

- there is potential to enable more children in care to leave care earlier than is currently enabled.

The objectives of the redesign would be to:

- Help families stay together.
- Ensure the most timely and effective support is consistently provided from early help through CIN and CP.
- Reduce bottlenecks and improve processes.
- Improve commissioning and recruitment processes.

This is a multi-year change programme and due to the size, scale and pace of the transformation programme required, the council would need to procure an external delivery partner to provide the experience, expertise and capacity. We will want to work closely with partners over the duration of this programme to secure improved outcomes for children and families in the city.

Go live of new schools build

Bluecoat Trent Academy

The new 8-form secondary free school – The Bluecoat Trent Academy – opened in September 2021, initially at a temporary location at the Bluecoat Aspley Lane site. The new school's permanent build is being constructed on the former site of Clarendon College, on Pelham Avenue. It will be a brand new three-storey building that will cater for 1,200 secondary school pupils aged 11-16. This site will be accessible for pupils in all areas of the city, in particular the central and north areas, where more capacity has been much needed.

The new building will provide classrooms and facilities for all subjects, including a hall, kitchen and dining area, gym, landscaped grounds and outdoor recreation space including a multi-use games area. The current planned opening date for the new build is around autumn term 2023.

Securing this new school in the city has enabled us to address the significantly increasing demand for secondary school places. Bluecoat Trent Academy is operated under the Archway Learning Trust, who have a strong track record of providing a high standard of education for pupils aged 3 to 19, and a broad and inclusive curriculum through their five other Nottingham schools, which are all Ofsted rated good or outstanding. We value the contribution they make to Nottingham's educational offer, working in collaboration with the LA and on closing the gap for disadvantaged pupils.

Waterside Primary School

The new Waterside Primary School, run by the Greenwood Academies Trust, is currently due to open in September 2023, providing 210 school places for the growing number of families moving into the area. This new free school will serve families across the growing neighbourhood at Trent Basin and the wider Waterside area, which continues to undergo significant regeneration.

There was a long-held ambition to develop the Trent Basin area into a new sustainable community linked to the city centre and to Sneinton. The new Waterside Primary school is an important step in supporting its creation and delivering the Council's regeneration plans for the area. This will be further supported by the new pedestrian and cycle bridge

over the River Trent, which is also due to open in 2023. It will connect the Trent Basin waterside housing area to Lady Bay and West Bridgford in the south. This will make it easier, safer and quieter for people to travel in a more sustainable way.

Both new schools support the delivery of the Council's statutory responsibility to provide sufficient school places for Nottingham City pupils. Additionally, it supports the Council Plan objective to guarantee a choice of places at a local primary and secondary school for every Nottingham child.

Adult Social Care

Health and Social Care pressures have continued through the winter, with significant challenges across all workforce capacity coupled with high seasonal and covid related demands.

The Adult Social Care workforce development strategy is being developed. A number of engagement sessions have been held with staff across the department this month outlining the proposals and gaining feedback.

There has been significant work on the recruitment campaign for homecare staff led by Commissioning and Market Development. The Council's internal communications team are leading various communications activities including promotional videos, creation of social media content, external advertising on buses and trams and liaising with local media outlets. This has been funded through the Workforce Recruitment & Retention Grant. In addition, there is a targeted campaign to increase traffic to the Nottingham Jobs Pathways route into health and social care.

Adults Transformation Programme

Adult Health and Social Care is embarking on transformation to address challenges of increasing demand, workforce retention and financial pressures. To address this a programme of change has been developed to improve service quality, provide better outcomes for citizens and deliver financial savings for the Council.

The programme is designed to work towards delivering the outcomes from the Social Care Futures enquiry: "We all want to live in the place we call home with the people and things that we love, in communities where we look out for one another, doing things that matter to us".

The ambitions of the Adults Health and Social Care programme are:

- Promoting independence, preventing and delaying the need for longer term care
- Developing the service offer to provide better outcomes
- Strengthening and developing the workforce

What specifically will be different?

- Early intervention and improved offer to promote prevention and independence
- Citizens co-producing and shaping solutions
- More people with reviewed care and support packages that are outcome focused
- Increased accommodation and support options, including more people living in a family home environment
- A strengthened and developed workforce; getting it right first time

What is the direct impact of the change?

- Improved quality and better outcomes that matter to the citizens
- Increased, retained or restored independence
- Citizens have choice and control over what happens to them in the most appropriate setting
- Preventing, reducing or delaying the need for longer term care and support

Below is a selection of projects within the programme showing progress:

Strengths based reviews and Occupational Therapy prevention led project:

- The allocation of social care assessments to an external provider has resulted in reduced waiting times for citizens and is preventing care and support needs escalating and the unnecessary provision of longer term care and support.
- This has decreased the backlogs in Duty and the Integrated Enablement Team (hospital) and has had a positive impact on the Adult Social Care workforce
- Further the allocation of cases to review existing care and support packages has started, with citizens having strengths-based conversations to maximise independence and as a result deliver financial efficiencies.

Development of options for more independent living project:

- Project in delivery to further increase supported living options; promoting the shift from residential care to supported living arrangements, enabling people to live as independently as possible and in the least restrictive settings.
- Workforce capacity is increasing and recruitment has started to support delivery of this initiative.
- Of the initial 30 moves planned into high quality supported living accommodation, 3 have already taken place resulting in better value for money.

Increase independence for older people project:

- Project and plan developed to improve the offer for older people; to have strengths-based conversations and promote independence, preventing and reducing stays in residential and nursing care.
- To better understand the issues around high number of placements of citizens in residential care and prioritise activity to provide an improved offer, data analysis underway; benchmarking numbers in residential care in comparison to other local authorities, identifying trends and analysing placements in residential care by team.

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