



Statutory Officers Report for Health and Wellbeing Board

Corporate Director of People

March 2023

Children's Integrated Services and Education

1. Children's Integrated Services Ofsted Monitoring Visit

Following our Children's Services inspection last summer, we recently hosted our first Ofsted Monitoring Visit which focused on the multi-agency front door to Children's services, including 16-17 year olds who present as homeless.

Inspectors reviewed performance data and documentary evidence and spent most of their time on site reviewing work with children. Inspectors focus on understanding the experiences of children and young people, how effectively we respond to their needs and the impact we have for children.

Ofsted do not publish their letter from the first monitoring visit. The Council will receive the formal outcome later this month.

2. The Big Reading Challenge 2023



Last month we held a Big Reading Challenge in a bid to raise funds for a charity that gives free books to children in the city.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor David Mellen, and Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools, Councillor Cheryl Barnard, along with other councillors and officers read stories to children in dozens of schools, nurseries and libraries across Nottingham.

Running for seven days, the Big Reading Challenge aimed to raise more than £5,000 for the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: a scheme that delivers a free book every month to local children from birth up to five years of age.

The Council's involvement with the Imagination Library started in 2011, following a 'Year of Reading', and the scheme is now running successfully in ten of the city's 20 wards – supported by Nottingham Rotary Club, Small Steps Big Changes and hundreds of individual sponsors.

The Imagination Library in Nottingham relies on donations to help parents and children enjoy exploring books together.

Research from the Growing Minds Programme at University of Oxford Department of Social Policy and Intervention found that the Imagination Library:

- 88% of Imagination Library families surveyed said they read more often because of the Imagination Library
- Imagination Library participants were around 30% more likely to read daily
- 84% of children who had received Imagination Library books met the expected standard in the phonics screening test, compared to 76% of children who were not registered

Further research by Nottingham Trent University also found that the longer families participated in the programme, the more parents had interactions with their children whilst reading a book, the longer reading sessions they had, and the more they read to their children on a daily basis. The research agreed that the Imagination Library considerably enhanced disadvantaged children's love of books, parent-child interactions and those children's future academic outcomes.

To support this year's Big Reading Challenge, please visit the fundraising page at www.gofundme.com/f/bigreadingchallenge2023.

For more information about the Imagination Library in Nottingham, please visit the website at www.dollybooksnotttingham.org.

Adult Social Care

3. Charging for Care and Support

Please see below link and summary to the Charging for Care and Support limits, personal expenses allowances etc.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/social-care-charging-for-local-authorities-2023-to-2024/social-care-charging-for-care-and-support-local-authority-circular-lacdhsc20231>

This circular sets out that, for the financial year 2023 to 2024:

- the capital limits remain at their current level (lower capital limit £14,250 and upper capital limit £23,250)
- the personal expenses allowance (PEA) for local authority-supported care home residents increases in line with inflation
- the minimum income guarantee (MIG) for people receiving local authority-arranged care and support other than in a care home increases in line with inflation
- the Savings Credit disregards increase in line with inflation. These rates apply to individuals receiving care in a care home, their own home, or another setting

Catherine Underwood
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