

## **Written questions to Council, 11 July 2016, appended to the minutes.**

### **Greater devolution for Nottingham**

Councillor Andrew Rule submitted the following written question to the Leader:

Could the Leader of the Council please provide an update on current discussions and the parties involved in those discussions in respect of greater devolution for Nottingham?

Councillor Jon Collins replied as follows:

There aren't any.

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### **Families with young children leaving Nottingham**

Councillor Jim Armstrong submitted the following written question to the Portfolio Holder for Early Intervention and Early Years:

Could the Portfolio Holder please explain why so many families with young children are moving out of Nottingham every year?

Councillor Mellen replied as follows:

Nottingham continues to see large increases of children coming into the city, mainly due to international migration and increasing birth rates, and so there is no net loss of children overall. Between 2014 and 2015 the number of 0 to 15s (inclusive) in the city increased by 1000 (and 4,600 people overall). This growth, however, is slightly off-set by a loss of Children to other parts of the UK, through internal migration. In 2015 the city saw 600 children (just over 1% of all children in the city) leave the city for other parts of the UK, a similar figure to 2014 (580). The 2014 data is split according to where internal migrants moved. There was a net loss of 660 children from Nottingham to the surrounding districts (Ashfield, Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe) and a small net gain of 80 children from other parts of the country.

It is difficult to say for sure why some families choose to leave the city for the surrounding areas but it is likely a reflection of the desire to own their own home or move to a larger house coupled with the ability to afford a more expensive property. The desire for a house with a garden is also a reason to leave some areas of the city where few houses have one. Affordability is also a factor as between 2009 and 2012 internal migration was much smaller and this was during the peak of the recession suggesting that people were less likely to move to bigger more expensive housing when there is uncertainty around jobs and the economy.

Finally, it is thought that the movement in Nottingham is fairly typical of a big city but Nottingham's tight boundary emphasises a standard migration to the suburbs, which would not be as noticeable in those Local Authorities that more closely match the local economic area.