

Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

Tuesday 13 December 2022 at 2.00 pm

**To be held in the Town Hall,
Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillor Dawn Dale
Councillor Mick Rooney
Councillor Brian Holmshaw
Councillor Colin Ross
Councillor Peter Garbutt
Councillor Mary Lea
Councillor Anne Murphy
Councillor Gail Smith
Councillor Ann Whitaker

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

The Education, Children and Families Policy Committee discusses and takes decisions on:

Education and Skills

- Schools
- Mainstream and specialist education (early years, children and young people)
- Learning and Skills policy, programmes and interventions (children and young people)

Children and Families

- Children and family support and social work
- Fostering and adoption
- Children in care, care leavers and corporate parenting
- Residential services
- Youth justice
- Child safeguarding

Meetings are chaired by the Committees Co-Chairs, Councillors Dale and Rooney.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda. Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Policy Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the [Council's webpages](#) or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Policy Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last on the agenda.

Meetings of the Policy Committee have to be held as physical meetings. If you would like to attend the meeting, please report to an Attendant in the Foyer at the Town Hall where you will be directed to the meeting room. However, it would be appreciated if you could register to attend, in advance of the meeting, by emailing committee@sheffield.gov.uk, as this will assist with the management of attendance at the meeting. The meeting rooms in the Town Hall have a limited capacity. We are unable to guarantee entrance to the meeting room for observers, as priority will be given to registered speakers and those that have registered to attend.

Alternatively, you can observe the meeting remotely by clicking on the 'view the webcast' link provided on the meeting page of the [website](#).

If you wish to attend a meeting and ask a question or present a petition, you must submit the question/petition in writing by 9.00 a.m. at least 2 clear working days in

advance of the date of the meeting, by email to the following address:
committee@sheffield.gov.uk.

In order to ensure safe access and to protect all attendees, you will be recommended to wear a face covering (unless you have an exemption) at all times within the venue. Please do not attend the meeting if you have COVID-19 symptoms. It is also recommended that you undertake a Covid-19 Rapid Lateral Flow Test within two days of the meeting.

If you require any further information please email committee@sheffield.gov.uk.

FACILITIES

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

**EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA
13 DECEMBER 2022**

Order of Business

- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping**
The Chair to welcome attendees to the meeting and outline basic housekeeping and fire safety arrangements.
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Press and Public**
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 7 - 10)
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meetings** (Pages 11 - 24)
To approve the minutes of the last two meetings of the Committee, held on the 27th September 2022 and the 9th November 2022.
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 7. Work Programme** (Pages 25 - 38)
Report of the Director of Legal and Governance.

Formal Decisions

- 8. Future of School Improvement and the Learn Sheffield Commission** (To Follow)

Other Items

- 9. The Early Years "Start for Life in Sheffield" Strategy 2023-28** (Pages 39 - 46)
- 10. Special Educational Needs and Disability Sufficiency Briefing** (Pages 47 - 52)
- 11. All Phase Mainstream Commissioning Plan 2023-26 - Headlines Report** (Pages 53 - 56)

NOTE: The next meeting of Education, Children and Families Policy Committee will be held on Tuesday 31

January 2023 at 2.00 pm

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its Policy Committees, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either -
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from David Hollis, Interim Director of Legal and Governance by emailing david.hollis@sheffield.gov.uk.

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Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

Meeting held 27th September 2022

PRESENT: Councillors Dawn Dale (Chair), Mick Rooney (Co-Chair) Brian Holmshaw (Deputy Chair), Mary Lea, Peter Garbutt, Anne Murphy, Colin Ross, Ann Whitaker.

1. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Gail Smith.

3. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

3.1 The Chair stated that item 8, Budget Proposals 2023/24 would be moved to item 14 as it was a restricted item, and therefore this section of the meeting would be closed to the press and public.

3.2 It was agreed that the public, press and attendees be excluded from the meeting before further discussion takes place on Item 8, Appendix 1 on the grounds that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, if those persons were present, there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information as described in paragraph 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4.1 Councillor Ann Murphy stated that she was a consultant Social Worker and a rest-bite Foster Carer.

4.2 Councillor Colin Ross stated he was a member of the Education Advisory Board.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 The minutes of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee meeting held on the 8th of June 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

6.1 No public questions or petitions were received.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

7.1 Sarah Bennett outlined the purpose of the Work Programme and highlighted changes to the work programme, detailed at the beginning of the document. She asked that the Committee consider whether any further items should be added.

7.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed, including the additions and amendments identified in Part 1 of the report.

8. BUDGET 2023/24

8.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children's Services. It set out the budget pressures and risks facing the services which fell under the Education, Children and Families committee area, and began to develop a budget action plan to mitigate these as far as possible. It provided recommendations for approval which would allow the service to contribute to Sheffield City Council's budget pressure. The introduction to the report was provided in open session. When Appendix 1 was discussed the Policy Committee the meeting was closed to the public, press and attendees, as outlined in item 3 – Exclusion of Press and Public.

8.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee: -

- Note the financial pressures 2023/24 detailed within this report.
- Acknowledge the recommendation approved at the Strategy and Resources Committee on 5 July 2022 that "Policy Committees will be asked to develop savings / additional income options that cover their own pressures – in effect cash standstill" and to "require Policy Committees to report at their meetings in September on how they can balance their budgets."
- Note, as this Committee's initial response to the Strategy and Resources Committee's request, the set of budget proposals set out in this report and in appendix 1.
- Note that Officers will now work with Members to consult with relevant stakeholders (including with partners, trades unions and in respect of equalities and climate change) on the proposals in this report so as to inform final budget proposals.
- Note that Officers will work to develop any necessary detailed implementation plans for the proposals in this report so that the proposals, if ultimately approved, can be implemented as planned before or during the 2023/24 financial year.
- Ask to receive a further report in November that will set out the final budget for this Committee following consultation and any adjustments requested by the Strategy and Resources Committee.

8.3 Reasons for Decision

The recommendations put forward in this paper and appendix 1 are recommended for approval on the basis that they : -

- Are consistent with our agreed approach to demand management, sufficiency, and meeting our obligations to provide quality statutory services which meet the needs of the child or young person

- Are consistent with our vision/strategy to provide services and opportunities which support each child and young person within Sheffield to meet their potential.
- Support the ongoing improvement of Education, Children and Family services in Sheffield
- Are guided by an evidence base, benchmarking and/ or trend data which identifies areas of spend where disinvestment, subject to individual review, can most likely be made without detriment

Enable the Council to continue to meet its legal duties.

8.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 8.4.1 Do nothing - By undertaking none of the proposed actions, we would be unable to contribute to delivering a balanced budget.

9. **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT, MONTH 4**

- 9.1 Ryan Keyworth, Director of Finance and Commercial Services gave an overview of this report. He stated the 2022/23 pay award was a contributing factor in the overspend.
- 9.2 Councillor Dale stated that there would be a future agenda item on Social Work recruitment. She suggested that a working group around this could be formed. She asked that a report on the rate of sickness be included in this.

10. **SPECIAL FREE SCHOOL BID TO SUPPORT SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY SUFFICIENCY**

- 10.1 The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Commissioning Manager seeking approval to submit a joint bid with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, for a new special free school in Sheffield, ahead of the deadline on 21st October 2022.

This school would provide additional special school places for children and young people with needs relating to autism spectrum condition and communication/interaction.

To highlight the wider special educational needs and disability sufficiency position, ahead of a further report at a following committee date on this topic.

- 10.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee: -

(a) Approval of joint bid with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council for new 200 place (100 places for Sheffield) primary-secondary special free school in Sheffield

(b) If a joint bid falls through ahead of the deadline on the 21st October 2022, a Sheffield only bid is submitted instead

(c) The committee endorses the principle of funding any abnormal site costs as a result of a successful bid from the High Needs Capital Allocation

(d) Further report on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities sufficiency to be presented at later committee

10.3 **Reasons for Decision**

The recommended option will deliver the following outcomes:-

- It is proposed that the joint bid is submitted as a new school will help meet forecast demand. A joint bid maximises chances of success. Through the special free school opportunity, the school can be delivered at a lower capital cost than it would be if reliant on Sheffield funds only
- Intended outcomes include increased availability of special school places, reduced inequalities and reduced reliance on high-cost independent placements.
- It is also proposed that a further special educational needs and disability sufficiency report is presented at a following committee meeting.

10.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

10.4.1 **Option One: No Bid**

Not submitting a bid was considered, however this was discounted due to the level of need that is forecast, the limited existing space that is available, and the opportunity to secure additional capital funding.

10.4.2 **Option Two: Sheffield Only Bid**

A Sheffield only bid was considered, this would have the benefit of a higher number of places. However, this would also increase costs for the Local Authority. The chances of success of a Sheffield only bid would also appear to be significantly lower than a joint bid with Barnsley.

Therefore, whilst submitting a joint bid is a risk itself, as this has not been done before, it would appear to be a risk worth taking to increase chances of success.

If a joint bid falls through ahead of the deadline on the 21st October, it is proposed that Sheffield only bid is submitted instead.

10.4.3 **Option Three: Post-16 Bid**

A bid for a special free school to provide post 16 places was considered. However, this bid was not developed as concerns were identified in relation to whether it would be successful.

Concerns included whether the Education Skills Funding Agency would support the bid, as they typically support use and development of relationships with existing post 16 providers, rather than development of new providers.

It is also less clear where the school would fit into Sheffield's post 16 landscape, and more work is needed locally to improve this position. This links to the Accelerator Progress Plan following the local area re-inspection for special educational needs and disabilities in February 2022.

Further development of post 16 will be part of the wider sufficiency plan, presented to committee at a later date.

11. MEDICAL NEEDS POLICY

11.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children's Services which presented a policy statement to ensure a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs.

11.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Education, Children and Families Committee:-

(a) approves the proposed policy statement

11.3 Reasons for Decision

It is a requirement for the local authority to have a policy statement in place. By approving the statement, the local authority will meet this statutory duty.

11.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

The Local Authority is required to have a policy statement that is compliant with statutory guidance. The policy articulates practice in place for the local authority to meet its statutory duties.

12. ADOPTION SERVICE ANNUAL REPORTS

12.1 Sally Williams was in attendance to provide an overview of the

12.2 Councillor Rooney stated that there was a mechanism in place for adopters to raise any issues they might be having. Councillor Dale suggested a small working group could be created to gain feedback from adoptive families on how they felt the experience was going.

13. FOSTERING SERVICE ANNUAL REPORTS

13.1 Sally Williams outlined the report.

14. SEND ACCELERATION PLAN

- 14.1 Kevin Straughn was in attendance to outline the SEND Accelerated Progress Plan briefing report.
- 14.2 Councillor Dale stated that she would hope that young people are moved into independent living only when appropriate. Kevin Straughn stated there was a briefing taking place the following day to discuss independent living.

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

Meeting held 9 November 2022

PRESENT: Councillors Mick Rooney (Chair), Dawn Dale (Co-Chair),
Brian Holmshaw (Deputy Chair), Colin Ross (Group Spokesperson),
Peter Garbutt and Ann Whitaker.

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mary Lea, Anne Murphy and Gail Smith. No substitute Members had been nominated to attend.

2. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 During consideration of agenda item 12 – Early Years School Readiness Review (Item 11 of these minutes), Councillor Dawn Dale declared a personal interest in the item on the grounds that she works for an organisation which operates a community nursery.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 It was noted that (a) due to an administrative error which had led to an incomplete version of the minutes of the previous meeting being published with the agenda, these minutes had been withdrawn from consideration at this meeting and (b) the completed version of the minutes of the meeting held on 27th September 2022 would be submitted for approval at the next meeting of the Committee.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

5.1 No petitions had been received and no questions from members of the public were asked at the meeting.

(NOTE: Questions regarding home education, which had been received from a member of the public prior to the meeting, were withdrawn by the questioner immediately prior to the start of the meeting, in view of the fact that the Co-Chairs of the Committee and relevant senior officers had agreed to meet with the questioner to discuss his questions immediately after the conclusion of the meeting.)

6. WORK PROGRAMME

- 6.1 The Committee received an amended report, circulated and published on the day prior to the meeting, containing the Committee's Work Programme for consideration and discussion. The aim of the Work Programme is to show all known, substantive agenda items for forthcoming meetings of the Committee, to enable this Committee, other committees, officers, partners and the public to plan their work with and for the Committee. Changes since the Committee's last meeting, including any new items, had been made in consultation with the Co-Chairs, Deputy Chair and Group Spokesperson, via their regular pre-meetings, and these were set out at the beginning of Appendix A of the report. It was highlighted that this is a live document which will be brought to each meeting of the Committee and Members' input to it was invaluable.
- 6.2 The Committee was asked to give consideration to the further additions or adjustments to the work programme presented at Part 2 of Appendix 1, and to any further issues to be explored by officers for inclusion in Part 2 of Appendix 1 of the next work programme report, for potential addition to the work programme.
- 6.3 Reference was made to the comments at the beginning of the meeting made by Councillor Brian Holmshaw referring to his previous requests for a report to be submitted to this Committee in relation to the opportunities register, which the Council had prepared to identify forward funding for each Council service, and it was agreed that a report on this matter, in so far as it relates to Education, Children and Families services, should be added to the work programme, to be submitted to the next or subsequent meeting.
- 6.4 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed, including the additions and amendments identified in Part 1, and with the addition of a report on the Opportunities Register pertaining to Education, Children and Families services being added to the work programme for submission at the next or subsequent meeting of the Committee.

7. SECONDARY PLACES PLANNING - AREA 5

- 7.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children's Services seeking agreement to proceed with secondary school expansion plans in Planning Area 5 in the east of the city, to address the forecast deficit of places in 2023/24 due to new housing and population growth.

Arising from consideration of the proposals in the report, the Director of Children's Services agreed to:-

- Arrange for school and early years' provision maps to be published on the Council's website; and
- Ensure that details of the planning work being undertaken with adjacent local authorities be included within the report to be submitted to the December meeting of the Committee on mainstream sufficiency, which will provide an

overview of the 3 year strategy to ensure sufficient provision across early years, childcare, primary, secondary and post-16 provision.

7.2 RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee:-

- (a) agrees the proposed secondary school expansion plans in Planning Area 5, which will enable the Local Authority to fulfil its statutory duty and ensure sufficient secondary places are available to meet the forecast demand in 2023/24; and
- (b) agrees for up to £5.5m of the remaining balance of Basic Need funding to be utilised to fund the proposed expansions.

7.3 Reasons for Decision

7.3.1 The proposed expansions in Planning Area 5 will contribute to:-

- Need for places: without additional places in the area, the impact on families of not getting a local place will be significant as well as the impact on neighbouring schools.
- Children's outcomes: the standard of education that are provided at the two schools is of a good quality – both schools are rated by Ofsted as "Good."
- Equality: the catchment area is characterised by deprivation and a higher proportion of Black and Minority Ethnic population. By increasing places at these two schools the needs of all children are met, in particular the needs of more vulnerable children and families located in the city.

7.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

7.4.1 A detailed Options Appraisal was undertaken to consider alternative options to help address the secondary deficits from 2023/24 onwards. This is set out in Annex 1 of the report.

8. SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION PROVISION

8.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children's Services seeking approval to commission an extension to the current Supported Accommodation (young people 16 to 25 years) Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) contract for Looked After Children and Care Leavers, for 18 months from 1st April 2023 to 30th September 2024. The current term of the contract is 1st August 2019 to 1st April 2023 (4 years), and the value of the extension is estimated to be £8.4m.

Arising from a question regarding quality assurance, the Committee was informed of the activities undertaken to ensure high quality support and accommodation was provided for Looked After Children and Care Leavers in the city, which included:-

- For 16 & 17 year olds, a pathway plan and care plan for care leavers,

overseen by a social worker, and continued access to an independent reviewing officer, meaning that individual needs are reviewed regularly.

- Strong liaison between children's services and the commissioning team in relation to sharing key intelligence, identifying and acting on any concerns identified; undertaking of regular spot checks of accommodation; and receipt of regular feedback from social workers and the Leaving Care service.

8.2 RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY: That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee:-

- (a) approves the commission of an 18-month extension (1 April 2023 – 30 September 2024) of the current Supported Accommodation (young people 16 - 25 years) DPS, with such variation having an estimated value of £8.4m;
- (b) requests the Director of Children's Services to consider, as part of the re-commissioning exercise, how providers who either lease the tenancies or own the buildings can be encouraged to be as environmentally-friendly as they possibly can; and
- (c) supports the principle of the introduction of an Ofsted inspection regime for Supported Accommodation.

8.3 Reasons for Decision

Commissioning an extension to the existing arrangements will ensure our statutory duty continues to be met whilst allowing time for a full re-commissioning exercise to be undertaken.

8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

8.4.1 Not to proceed with an extension to the contract - the alternative option considered is not to proceed with the proposed extension, however, this raises the risk of an appropriately specified and monitored contract not being in place, which would be in breach of the Contract Procedure Rules (2015).

8.4.2 Additionally, the Local Authority will not be compliant in relation to its statutory duties to provide appropriate accommodation to Looked After Children and Care Leavers, therefore, this option is not recommended.

8.4.3 There are no additional implications arising out of the request to extend the current contract.

9. BUDGET POSITION FOR YEAR 2023/24

9.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Finance and Commercial Services providing an update on the progress of the 2023/24 budget process.

The report indicated that the financial pressures facing the Education, Children

and Families Policy Committee in 2023/24 amounted to £12.4m. Mitigations of £6.9m had been noted at the previous meeting of the Committee, leaving further savings of £5.5m needing to be found, and it was reported that this figure had now reduced to £3.4m in the light of further mitigations which had recently been endorsed by members of the Committee from all three political groups on the Council.

- 9.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee notes the update on the Council's budget position for 2023/24.

9.3 **Reasons for Decision**

The Council is required by law to set a balanced budget each year. This report is pursuant to that objective and is in line with the process and timetable agreed by the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee on 31 May 2022 and 5 July 2022.

9.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

The Council is required to both set a balanced budget and to ensure that in-year income and expenditure are balanced. No other alternatives were considered.

10. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT - MONTH 6

- 10.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Finance and Commercial Services providing an update on the Council's financial monitoring position for 2022/23, as at Month 6 (30th September 2022).

The report indicated that the Council was forecasting an £18.6m overspend against the 2022/23 budget as at month 6, of which £6.5m related to services within the remit of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee, and further detail on the breakdown of that overspend was set out in the report.

The Committee confirmed that, whilst work would continue on developing plans to mitigate in-year forecast overspends, as well as pressures on the 2023/24 budget, the safety of children in the city would remain of paramount consideration.

- 10.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee notes the Council's financial position as at the end of September 2022 (month 6).

10.3 **Reasons for Decision**

This paper is to bring the Committee up to date with the Council's current financial position as at Month 6 2022/23.

10.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

The Council is required to both set a balanced budget and to ensure that in-year

income and expenditure are balanced. No other alternatives were considered.

11. EARLY YEARS SCHOOL READINESS REVIEW

- 11.1 The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children's Services on the findings of the Early Years School Readiness review and the actions taken to address the issues to date.
- 11.2 There were a number of key areas where the Committee was being asked to endorse the progression of strategic level activity to support the Council and partnership ambitions in terms of Ready Children, Ready Families and Ready Schools in raising the numbers of children who arrive in school ready for learning and life.
- 11.3 The Committee considered the findings of the review and the importance of Early Years in the long-term life chances of Sheffield Citizens within the wider context of planning and commissioning for Education, Children and Families.
- 11.4 Members of the Committee asked questions and made comments on various aspects of Early Years' provision, including - the importance of speech and language provision; community support and resilience; the proposed leadership role; input to the governance review; supporting parent and toddler group activities; the value of early years' investment; impact of SEND on school readiness; stakeholder involvement; contribution of climate benefits; and the role of the Family Hubs.
- 11.5 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee endorses the recommendations within the Early Years Readiness Review report, which include:-
- the development of a leadership role for Sheffield Early Years;
 - consideration and exploration of increased investment in Portage workers;
 - consideration and exploration of increased investment into Early Years Prevention services and Early Years SEND support;
 - Early Years SEND support integration into the wider early years system; and
 - further development of parental voice and influence in terms of service development using the opportunities presented by the development of Family Hubs.

12. ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

- 12.1 The Committee considered the Elective Home Education Annual Report covering the period July 2021 to September 2022.
- 12.2 Members of the Committee asked questions and made comments on various aspects of Elective Home Education, including – the nature of the support provided by the Council to home educators; quality assuring home education provision; resource availability; methods to identify children not in school; legal

recourse relating to school attendance; and liaison with early years provision.

- 12.3 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee notes the information provided on Elective Home Education.

13. INDEPENDENT REVIEW OFFICERS ANNUAL REPORT

- 13.1 The Committee received and noted the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report for 2021/22, which provided details of the IRO Service's activities, during that period, in support of the city's Looked After Children.

14. INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND THE COMPETITION AND MARKET AUTHORITY (CMA) CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE MARKET STUDY FINAL REPORT

- 14.1 The Committee received and noted the Executive Summary of the Independent Review of Children's Social Care and the England Summary of the Competition and Market Authority's Children's Social Care Market Study Final Report issued in March 2022.

15. MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES URGENCY SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 29 JUNE AND 21 JULY 2022

- 15.1 The Committee received and noted the minutes of the meetings of the Education, Children and Families Urgency Sub-Committee held on 29 June and 21 July 2022.

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Report to Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

2nd December 2022

Report of: Director of Legal and Governance

Subject: Committee Work Programme

Author of Report: Fiona Martinez, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Fiona.martinez@sheffield.gov.uk

Summary:

The Committee's Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and discussion. This aims to show all known, substantive agenda items for forthcoming meetings of the Committee, to enable this committee, other committees, officers, partners and the public to plan their work with and for the Committee.

Any changes since the Committee's last meeting, including any new items, have been made in consultation with the Co-Chairs, and the document is always considered at the regular pre-meetings to which all Group Spokespersons are invited.

The following potential sources of new items are included in this report, where applicable:

- Questions and petitions from the public, including those referred from Council
- References from Council or other committees (statements formally sent for this committee's attention)
- A list of issues, each with a short summary, which have been identified by the Committee or officers as potential items but which have not yet been scheduled (See Appendix 1)

The Work Programme will remain a live document and will be brought to each Committee meeting.

Recommendations:

1. That the Committee's work programme, as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed, including any additions and amendments identified in Part 1;
2. That consideration be given to the further additions or adjustments to the work programme presented at Part 2 of Appendix 1;
3. That Members give consideration to any further issues to be explored by officers for inclusion in Part 2 of Appendix 1 of the next work programme report, for potential addition to the work programme; and
4. *(Add specific recommended actions for issues requiring a steer from the Committee eg in respect of items identified in Section 2 - referrals from other committees and petitions/questions etc)*

Background Papers: None

Category of Report: Open

COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

1.0 Prioritisation

1.1 For practical reasons this committee has a limited amount of time each year in which to conduct its formal business. The Committee will need to prioritise firmly in order that formal meetings are used primarily for business requiring formal decisions, or which for other reasons it is felt must be conducted in a formal setting.

1.2 In order to ensure that prioritisation is effectively done, on the basis of evidence and informed advice, Members should usually avoid adding items to the work programme which do not already appear:

- In the draft work programme in Appendix 1 due to the discretion of the chair; or
- within the body of this report accompanied by a suitable amount of information.

2.0 References from Council or other Committees

2.1 Any references sent to this Committee by Council, including any public questions, petitions and motions, or other committees since the last meeting are listed here, with commentary and a proposed course of action, as appropriate:

Issue	<i>Details to be added by PDSO</i>
Referred from	
<i>Details</i>	
<i>Commentary/ Action Proposed</i>	

3.0 Member engagement, learning and policy development outside of Committee

3.1 Subject to the capacity and availability of councillors and officers, there are a range of ways in which Members can explore subjects, monitor information and develop their ideas about forthcoming decisions outside of formal meetings. Appendix 2 is an example 'menu' of some of the ways this could be done. It is entirely appropriate that member development, exploration and policy development should in many cases take place in a private setting, to allow members to learn and formulate a position in a neutral space before bringing the issue into the public domain at a formal meeting.

2.2 Training & Skills Development - Induction programme for this committee.

Title	Description & Format	Date

Appendix 1 – Work Programme

Part 1: Proposed additions and amendments to the work programme since the last meeting:

New Items	Proposed Date	Note
Mainstream Sufficiency	January 23	Decision item added to January’s meeting, a briefing will take place in December’s meeting
Rescheduled Item	Proposed Date	Note
Children’s Sufficiency Strategy	March 23	Moved from December’s meeting to March’s meeting
Corporate Parenting Strategy	March 23	Moved from December’s meeting to March’s meeting
Threshold Document Development	January 23	Moved from December’s meeting to January’s meeting
Mainstream Sufficiency	January 23	Moved from December’s meeting to January’s meeting
Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)	January 23	Moved from December’s meeting to January’s meeting due to staff sickness
Threshold Development Document	March 23	Moved from January’s meeting to March’s meeting

Part 2: List of other potential items not yet included in the work programme

Issues that have recently been identified by the Committee, its Chair or officers as potential items but have not yet been added to the proposed work programme. If a Councillor raises an idea in a meeting and the committee agrees under recommendation 3 that this should be explored, it will appear either in the work programme or in this section of the report at the committee’s next meeting, at the discretion of the Chair.

Topic	Emotional, mental health and wellbeing support for young people.
Description	During a discussion on the Medical Needs Contract, members were keen to have a broader look at the emotional and wellbeing and support available for young people to reduce demand on more ‘acute’ services – a ‘whole system approach’ with health, social care and education perspectives.
Lead Officer/s	Director of Integrated Commissioning/Director of Education and Skills/Director of Children and Families
Item suggested by	Education Children and Families Urgency Sub-Committee (21 st July Meeting)

Type of item	Service Performance Monitoring/Briefing/Policy Development
Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 2)</i>	To be determined
Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 3)</i>	Sub-Committee members were keen in hear the voice of Looked After Children as part of this.
Lead Officer Commentary/Proposed Action(s)	To be determined

Part 3: Agenda Items for Forthcoming Meetings

Meeting 4	13th December 2022	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item <i>Decision/Referral to decision-maker/Pre-decision (policy development)/Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i>	Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 1)</i>	Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 2)</i>	Final decision-maker (& date) <i>This Cttee/Another Cttee (eg S&R)/Full Council/Officer</i>
Budget Monitoring Report	Update on 2022/2023 Budget Report	Ryan Keyworth /Jane Wilby	Monitoring			Education, Children and Families
Refresher for Great Start in Life Strategy	To inform the Committee of the planned review of the Great Start in Life Strategy in line with the development of Family Hubs.	Victoria Gibbs/Marie McGreavey	Briefing		Engagement and co-production will be undertaken as part of the Strategy	Education, Children and Families

Future of School Improvement and the Learn Sheffield Commission	<p>A decision about School Improvement arrangements, including the future of the Learn Sheffield Commission, needs to be made as a result of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the cessation of the Dfe School improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant - Schools forum decision to end de-delegation which previously funded the company 	Kevin Straughan	Decision	<p>Full officer report on a public agenda, with time for a public discussion in committee</p> <p>Officer meetings with Chair & VC as representatives of the committee, to consider addition to the draft work programme, and later to inform the overall development of the issue and report, for the committee's consideration.</p>		Education, Children and Families
Sufficiency Brief Overview (Special)	<p>Overview of sufficiency plan for special educational needs and disabilities, seeking decision to approve strategic commissioning intentions linked to sufficiency plan.</p>	Matthew Peers	Policy Development/ Briefing			Education, Children and Families
All Phase Mainstream Commissioning Plan 2023-2026 – Headlines Report (Previously	<p>Provide committee with a briefing on mainstream sufficiency across all phases -Early Years, Primary, Secondary and Post 16 sectors. Once members are appraised of the Headlines,</p>	Sam Martin	Briefing	<p>Information and strategy shared with Members in September (TBC)</p>	<p>At the January Committee meeting, we are seeking Committee approval to proceed with a full consultation to seek</p>	Education, Children and Families

'Sufficiency Overview [All phase mainstream commissioning plan]')	the detailed plan will then be presented to the committee in January for a decision on whether we can undertake a consultation on the Commissioning Plan in the Spring 2023 with our key partners and stakeholders.				the views of our key stakeholders and partners within the early years, childcare, primary, secondary and post 16 sectors	
Standing items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Questions/ Petitions</i> • <i>Budget Monitoring</i> • <i>Work Programme</i> 					

Meeting 5	31st January 2023	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item <i>Decision/Referral to decision-maker/Pre-decision (policy development)/Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i>	Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 1)</i>	Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 2)</i>	Final decision-maker (& date) This Cttee/Another Cttee (eg S&R)/Full Council/Officer
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment	To present the findings of the Childcare Sufficiency Strategy and seek approval to publish	Cathie Tandy	Decision		Parents and Childcare providers consulted and information used to inform the report	This Committee
Alternative Provision Free	Approval of proposed bids for alternative provision	Joe Horobin, Candi Lawson	Decision	Portfolio Briefing	VCF networks	This Committee

School Bids and Alternative Provision Review	free school, deadline 17/2/23				Stakeholder groups	
Youth Justice Annual Plan		Sally Williams/Mark Storf				This Committee
Children's Commissioning Intentions	Approval of commissioning intentions and priorities for Children's Services	Joe Horobin/Victoria Gibbs		Engagement and Co-Production will be planned in relation to the development of the Children's Commissioning Strategy	Education, Children and Families	
Regulation and Ofsted inspection of supported accommodation for 16- and 17-year-olds in care	Briefing on forthcoming legislation.	Joe Horobin/Victoria Gibbs	Briefing Only			This Committee
Contextual Safeguarding Strategy						
School Admission Arrangements for the 2024/25 Academic Year	The Local Authority is responsible for setting admission arrangements for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools. It must "Determine" and publish its admission arrangements every year, including the Co-ordinated Admission	John Bigley	Decision	None	It is not proposed to consult on the proposed arrangements publicly as consultation was undertaken for 2023/24 and there are no proposed changes. This is in	Education, Children and Families

	schemes. There is a requirement to consult on the arrangements once every seven years unless there are significant changes proposed.				line with the legal requirement.	
All Phase Mainstream Commissioning Plan 2023-2026 – Headlines Report (Previously ‘Sufficiency Overview [All phase mainstream commissioning plan]’)	In order to fulfil our statutory duty, the Local Authority seeks to ensure there are sufficient learning places in the right locations to meet demand, while at the same time fulfilling our other responsibilities to raise education standards.	Sam Martin	Decision	Information and strategy shared with Members in September (TBC)	At the January Committee meeting, we are seeking Committee approval to proceed with a full consultation to seek the views of our key stakeholders and partners within the early years, childcare, primary, secondary and post 16 sectors	Education, Children and Families
Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)	Briefing about the impact of new guidance	Becky Towle	Briefing			Education, Children and Families
Corporate Parenting Strategy	For comment and consideration	Paul Johnson	Policy & Briefing	Member briefing		Education, Children and Families
Standing items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Questions/ Petitions</i> • <i>Budget Monitoring</i> • <i>Work Programme</i> 					

Meeting 6	8 th March 2023	Time				
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item <i>Decision/Referral to decision-maker/Pre-decision (policy development)/Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i>	Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 1)</i>	Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 2)</i>	Final decision-maker (& date) This Cttee/Another Cttee (eg S&R)/Full Council/Officer
Children & Families Q4 Budget Report		Sally Williams				
School Calendar 2024/25	The Local Authority is required to consult annually and determine the school term dates for Community, Voluntary Controlled and Community Special Schools under Section 32 of the Education Act 2022.	John Bigley	Decision	None	Consultation will take place with schools, parents and other parties during the Spring Term 2024.	Education, Children and Families
Children's Sufficiency Strategy	To seek a decision on the approval of the Children's Sufficiency Strategy and duty in relation to Looked After Children.	Victoria Gibbs/Paul Johnson	Decision		Engagement and co-production will be undertaken with Looked After Children and Care Leavers.	Education, Children and Families
Corporate Parenting Strategy update		Paul Johnson				
Threshold Document Development		Mark Storf				

Standing items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Questions/ Petitions</i> • <i>Budget Monitoring</i> • <i>Work Programme</i> 					
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Items which the Committee has agreed to add to an agenda, but for which no date is set.						
Topic	Description	Lead Officer/s	Type of item <i>Decision/Referral to decision-maker/Pre-decision (policy development)/Post-decision (service performance/ monitoring)</i>	Prior member engagement/ development required <i>(with reference to options in Appendix 1)</i>	Public Participation/ Engagement approach <i>(with reference to toolkit in Appendix 2)</i>	Final decision-maker (& date) <i>This Cttee/Another Cttee (eg S&R)/Full Council/Officer</i>
Engagement with young people	The Policy Committee is keen to hear from to include a wide range of perspectives eg Youth Cabinet, Young Carers, Children in Care Council – as requested by Policy Committee at June 22 meeting. Officer are working up proposals for a separate session to be held outside the formal schedule of Policy Committee meetings September/October 2022	Chelsea Renehan, Head of Youth Services.	Engagement		Engagement session.	N/A

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	To consider how well CAMH services are performing and how well prepared we are for any increase in demand – as requested by Policy Committee at June meeting.	Joe Horobin/Victoria Gibbs	Performance Monitoring	Initial discussion via Portfolio briefing		
Safeguarding Partnership Board Annual Report		Sally Williams				
Traditions Safeguarding Developments		Sally Williams				
Harmony Works	As the Harmony Works project develops, the new body that will lead on the project will emerge. SCC/Music Hub will need to work to decide how we are best represented in this structure.	Kim Wilson				Education, Children and Families.

Appendix 2 – Menu of options for member engagement, learning and development prior to formal Committee consideration

Members should give early consideration to the degree of pre-work needed before an item appears on a formal agenda.

All agenda items will anyway be supported by the following:

- Discussion well in advance as part of the work programme item at Pre-agenda meetings. These take place in advance of each formal meeting, before the agenda is published and they consider the full work programme, not just the immediate forthcoming meeting. They include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers
- Discussion and, where required, briefing by officers at pre-committee meetings in advance of each formal meeting, after the agenda is published. These include the Chair, Vice Chair and all Group Spokespersons from the committee, with officers.
- Work Programming items on each formal agenda, as part of an annual and ongoing work programming exercise
- Full officer report on a public agenda, with time for a public discussion in committee
- Officer meetings with Chair & VC as representatives of the committee, to consider addition to the draft work programme, and later to inform the overall development of the issue and report, for the committee's consideration.

The following are examples of some of the optional ways in which the committee may wish to ensure that they are sufficiently engaged and informed prior to taking a public decision on a matter. In all cases the presumption is that these will take place in private, however some meetings could happen in public or eg be reported to the public committee at a later date.

These options are presented in approximately ascending order of the amount of resources needed to deliver them. Members must prioritise carefully, in consultation with officers, which items require what degree of involvement and information in advance of committee meetings, in order that this can be delivered within the officer capacity available.

The majority of items cannot be subject to the more involved options on this list, for reasons of officer capacity.

- Written briefing for the committee or all members (email)
- All-member newsletter (email)
- Requests for information from specific outside bodies etc.
- All-committee briefings (private or, in exceptional cases, in-committee)
- All-member briefing (virtual meeting)
- Facilitated policy development workshop (potential to invite external experts / public, see appendix 2)
- Site visits (including to services of the council)
- Task and Finish group (one at a time, one per cttee)

Furthermore, a range of public participation and engagement options are available to inform Councillors, see appendix 3.

Appendix 3 – Public engagement and participation toolkit

Public Engagement Toolkit

On 23 March 2022 Full Council agreed the following:

A toolkit to be developed for each committee to use when considering its ‘menu of options’ for ensuring the voice of the public has been central to their policy development work. Building on the developing advice from communities and Involve, committees should make sure they have a clear purpose for engagement; actively support diverse communities to engage; match methods to the audience and use a range of methods; build on what’s worked and existing intelligence (SCC and elsewhere); and be very clear to participants on the impact that engagement will have.

The list below builds on the experiences of Scrutiny Committees and latterly the Transitional Committees and will continue to develop. The toolkit includes (but is not be limited to):

- a. Public calls for evidence
- b. Issue-focused workshops with attendees from multiple backgrounds (sometimes known as ‘hackathons’) led by committees
- c. Creative use of online engagement channels
- d. Working with VCF networks (eg including the Sheffield Equality Partnership) to seek views of communities
- e. Co-design events on specific challenges or to support policy development
- f. Citizens assembly style activities
- g. Stakeholder reference groups (standing or one-off)
- h. Committee / small group visits to services
- i. Formal and informal discussion groups
- j. Facilitated communities of interest around each committee (eg a mailing list of self-identified stakeholders and interested parties with regular information about forthcoming decisions and requests for contributions or volunteers for temporary co-option)
- k. Facility for medium-term or issue-by-issue co-option from outside the Council onto Committees or Task and Finish Groups. Co-optees of this sort at Policy Committees would be non-voting.

This public engagement toolkit is intended to be a quick ‘how-to’ guide for Members and officers to use when undertaking participatory activity through committees.

It will provide an overview of the options available, including the above list, and cover:

- How to focus on purpose and who we are trying to reach
- When to use and when not to use different methods
- How to plan well and be clear to citizens what impact their voice will have
- How to manage costs, timescales, scale.

There is an expectation that Members and Officers will be giving strong consideration to the public participation and engagement options for each item on a committee’s work programme, with reference to the above list a-k.



Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report:

Marie McGreavy, Strategic Commissioning Manager

Tel: 0114 2735471

Report of: Joe Horobin, Director of Integrated Commissioning

Report to: Education, Children and Families Policy Committee

Date of Decision: 13th December 2022

Subject: The Early Years “Start for Life in Sheffield” Strategy 2023 - 2028

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 1333				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A Climate Impact Assessment has not been undertaken as this report notes the development of the Early Years Strategy and as such at this stage the development of the Strategy does not have any climate impact implications.				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Purpose of Report:

This report is to request that the Education, Children and Families Committee note the intention to develop a new 5-year Early Years Strategy for the city to support Sheffield’s young families to reach their potential.

Recommendations:

The Education, Children and Families Policy Committee is recommended to

1. endorse the proposal to develop a New Early Years Strategy for 2023 to 2028
2. endorse the new title for the Strategy of "Start for Life in Sheffield." This new title is in line with national developments within the Family Hubs Programme and was supported by attendees at the Early Years Event in October 2022.

Background Papers:

None

Lead Officer to complete: -	
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.
	Finance: Kayleigh Inman
	Legal: Louise Bates
	Equalities: Bashir Khan.
	Climate: Jessica Rick
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	SLB member who approved submission: Andrew Jones, Director for Children
3	Committee Chair consulted: Cllr Mick Rooney and Cllr Dawn Dale
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the SLB member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.
	Lead Officer Name: Marie Mcgreavy
	Job Title: Strategic Commissioning Manager Early Years and Early Help
Date: 23rd November 2022	

1. PROPOSAL

- 1.1. This report seeks the endorsement of the Education, Children and Families Committee to develop a new 5-year Early Years Strategy for the city which considers current and planned developments in Early Years both locally and nationally and that supports Sheffield's young families to reach their potential.
- 1.2 The timing of the strategy will allow for changes that have occurred within Early Years during the current strategy to be considered within the development of the new strategy specifically:

Changes to Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS, 2021)

- 1.2.1 Changes have been made to EYFS during the lifetime of the Great Start In Life Strategy in terms of the content of educational programmes.
- they are longer in duration and more in depth
 - there is a new focus on early language and extending vocabulary, with more examples on how to embed and develop vocabulary skills across all seven areas (communication and language, physical development, personal social and emotional development, literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design) as this promotes and improves child development within a broad curriculum.
- 1.2.2 There have been some minor changes to the safeguarding and welfare section, including a new requirement to promote the good oral health of children.
- 1.2.3 The early learning goals have been changed to make them clearer and more specific. They are more focused on the main factors that support child development at age 5.
- 1.2.4 The Development Matters guidance for the Early Years Foundation State has been republished. The age bands have been simplified to avoid tracking activities that do not support child development. The age bands are.
- birth to 3
 - 3 and 4-year-olds
 - children in reception

The introduction of Family Hubs and the Start for Life Offer (2022)

- 1.2.5 Family Hubs are local support centres where families with children and young people aged 0-19 can access a broad and integrated range of early help to overcome difficulties and build stronger relationships. This is often co-located with early years health care and support, such as in Children's Centres. Sheffield is one of 75 Local Authorities chosen to take part in the Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme.

- 1.2.6 This work is in the early stages of development and the Local Area Needs Assessments that are being undertaken will inform delivery and the strategic intent.

The new Infant Mental Health Pathway development (Ongoing from April 2022)

- 1.2.7 A significant part of the DFE funding for Family Hubs is ringfenced for Parent and infant Relationships and Infant Mental Health development and activity.

- 1.2.8 As such Sheffield is in a good position to develop a supportive and clear pathway for families to access early support in this area.

Maternal cultural safety developments (ongoing from 2022)

- 1.2.9 A Maternal Cultural Safety Forum is in place in the city which aims to:

- collaborate on increasing equality in Maternity Service provision, clinical outcomes, and satisfaction for service users from Ethnic Minority backgrounds
- seek views and experiences from Ethnic Minority communities on Maternity Services in Sheffield and identify ongoing or new concerns to be addressed
- communicate developments in Cultural Safety initiatives to staff members, stakeholders, and community organisations
- identify what Sheffield Maternity services could do better to minimise barriers to service access, and ensure they engage and communicate effectively with all the communities we represent and serve.

- 1.2.10 The objectives of the forum are

1. Pregnant women in Sheffield receive information in a format they can access and understand
2. Pregnant women in Sheffield receive care that is culturally sensitive and personally tailored
3. Pregnant women in Sheffield give feedback about their care
4. Pregnant women in Sheffield receive tailored communication about the services available
5. Pregnant women in Sheffield have a personal risk assessment of their health and social circumstances which informs their maternity care pathway
6. All pregnant women in Sheffield have access to vitamin D supplementation to meet their personal needs
7. The collection of timely, accurate and complete health and demographic data informs the development of culturally sensitive maternity care pathways

- 1.3 All of the above developments aim to improve the life chances of young families in our city.
- 1.4 Sheffield families face difficulties as a result of the impact of the Covid Pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis which may impact negatively on the health and wellbeing of our youngest citizens. It is important that we revisit our priorities and approaches to supporting Early Years Children and Families by developing an entirely new strategy for Early Years that will continue to drive improved outcomes for Sheffield's children.
- 1.5 There is a strong evidence base that children's experiences during their early years are likely to shape the rest of their lives, whether it is their attainment at school and in turn their future job prospects, through to their long-term health outcomes. The development of a new Early Years Strategy and its resulting activity aims to support parents and professionals to provide Sheffield children with the best possible start to their life to support better outcomes for Sheffield's future adult population. The strategy will consider all stages from pre- pregnancy to 5 years.
- 1.6 Getting a good start in life and throughout childhood, building resilience and getting maximum benefit from education are important markers for good health and wellbeing throughout life. (Evidence into action: opportunities to protect and improve the nation's health and NHS Five Year Forward View).
- 1.7 Good health, wellbeing and resilience are vital for all our children now and for the future of society. The new strategy will be co-produced with families and professionals and will build upon the existing strengths of the partnerships in the city to identify priorities and those areas where we could collectively improve outcomes.
- 1.8 The Strategy will be led by Early Years and Early Help Commissioning and will engage parents and partners from across the Early Years system including Early Years Childcare providers and Health partners.
- 1.9 Following consultation stakeholder involvement will remain a priority in terms of development of action plans, progression of the activities and oversight via a governance structure which aligns Family Hubs and Start for life within the overarching governance for children and young people.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE

- 2.1. Ensuring available resources are appropriately targeted to support the health, wellbeing and learning of young children, families and those preparing for parenthood is a critical within the current financial environment. The strategy will support confidence that we have the right resources in the right place at the right time.
- 2.2 The development of a new Early Years Strategy for Sheffield will contribute to the ambitions and priorities related to Good Physical and

Mental Health, Education and Economic Wellbeing within the Corporate Plan, Sheffield's Inclusion Strategy and the Sheffield Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2.3 The strategy will align with the strategic goals set out in the 22/23 Sheffield Delivery Plan.

- Fair inclusive and empowered communities.
- Strong and connected neighbourhood which people are happy to call home.
- Tackling inequalities and supporting people through the cost-of-living crisis.
- Happy young people who have the start they need for the future they want.
- Healthy lives and wellbeing for all.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

3.1. Full consultation is planned for December 2022. The consultation will include networks of existing community links to ensure that voices of seldom heard groups are represented in the consultation.

3.2. Focus groups including Heath Visitors, Nursery Nurses, Early Years providers, Early Years Teams, Early Help and Children's Social Care, Sheffield Parent Carer Forum and parenting groups will take place. In addition, online surveys of parent and professional views will be undertaken.

3.3 Other Early Years consultations and opportunities for feedback have taken place over the last two years relating to Family Centres, Education and School Readiness and these findings will also contribute to the strategy development.

3.4 Consultation undertaken as part of the Early Years Event held on 20th October 2022 has highlighted potential priorities which will be further tested with professionals and parents during the planned consultations.

- the impact of deprivation and the cost-of-living crisis
- addressing Health and wellbeing inequalities,
- Early Years Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- emotional and Mental Health
- speech and Language
- parental engagement, home, and community learning environments

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1. Equality implications

4.1.1 Decisions need to consider the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. This is the duty to have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

4.1.2 The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

4.1.3 An Equality Impact Assessment has been started and will take into consideration all evidenced impact of inequality in early years.

4.2. Financial and Commercial Implications

4.2.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

4.3 Legal Implications

4.3.1 This Strategy will support the Council to meet its duties under the Childcare Act 2006, which requires local authorities to improve the outcomes for all young children, reduce inequalities and ensure that there is high quality early years provision locally.

4.3.2 There are no direct legal implications in revising the existing 'A Great Start in Life 2019 - 2022' strategy. Whilst there is no legal requirement to have a strategy, there is a Government expectation that progress will be made. Approval of the New Early Years Strategy 2023 – 2028 will consider potential legal implications as part of the usual organisational processes, as required.

4.3.3 There are no direct legal implications in revising the existing 'A Great Start in Life 2019 - 2022' strategy. Whilst there is no legal requirement to have a strategy, there is a government expectation that progress will be made. Approval of the New Early Years Strategy 2023 – 2028 will consider potential legal implications as part of the usual organisational processes, as required.

4.4. Climate Implications

- 4.4.1 There are no climate implications arising out of this report. However, there is the intention to do a CIA as part of the development of the strategy as it's recognised that there will be impacts/opportunities in the delivery of the strategy.

4.5. Other Implications

- 4.5.1 There are no other identified implications arising from this report.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 The current Great Start in Life Strategy could be refreshed however the level of change locally both locally and nationally in terms of the issues facing families, the impact of the pandemic and the national developments around EYFS and Family Hubs present an opportunity to consult and co-produce a new Early Years Strategy that can positively impact on the lives of children and young people.
- 5.2 As such it is recommended that a new strategy be developed for 2023 to 2028.

6. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1. The Current Early Years Strategy is ending in March 2023. It is vital that the city has a new Early Years strategy that considers not only the developments in Early Years outlined above but also has relevance in terms of the issues facing the families and children of Sheffield in the current economic climate.



Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report: Matthew Peers
Strategic Commissioning Manager

Tel: 07891 545952

Report of: *Director of Integrated Commissioning*

Report to: *Education Children and Families Policy Committee*

Date of Decision: *N/A – Policy Development*

Subject: *Special Educational Needs and Disability Sufficiency Briefing*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? <i>(Insert reference number)</i>				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<p><i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i></p>				

Purpose of Report:

Provide committee with a briefing on special educational needs and disability sufficiency.

The briefing and subsequent discussion will inform the refresh of the special educational needs and disability sufficiency plan.

The refreshed plan will then be published an appendix to the Sheffield Inclusion Strategy.

As no decision is being sought, impact assessments have not been completed.

Special Educational Needs and Disability Sufficiency Briefing

The purpose of this report is to outline Sheffield's special educational needs and disability (SEND) sufficiency position and strategic intentions in this area.

Included in this report is an overview of the strategic position and intent in relation to special educational needs and disability (SEND) sufficiency.

This report is not seeking a decision from committee, it is providing an overview to highlight intentions in this area, enabling committee discussion on priorities in this area.

This will then inform the refreshed SEND sufficiency plan.

As this report is not seeking a decision, the usual impact assessments have not been completed – they will be in future for any report recommending a decision.

Specific areas of SEND sufficiency which require committee decisions, will also be brought as appropriate in future.

SEND sufficiency is a statutory duty under part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

The focus of this duty is on ensuring access to education, for children and young people up to the age of 25 with an Education, Health, and Care Plan.

This means sufficiency covers all educational settings, from mainstream through to independent settings. Activity must therefore take place across the whole of education to deliver sufficiency.

SEND Sufficiency activity is linked to, and part of, the wider co-produced Sheffield Inclusion Strategy. This provides a co-produced basis for our activity and focus in this area.

Regular discussions and engagement also take place with Parent Carer Forum, education sector and wider partners.

SEND sufficiency is an area under high pressure, and there is a need to further grow SEND places in both mainstream and special, on top of what has already been delivered.

Demand for SEND places has been rising for the last decade and is forecast to continue for the foreseeable future.

This rising demand is currently continuing, despite wider population shifts (such as falling birth-rate).

To respond to this demand, the number of special school places in Sheffield has been increased by 20% since 2018.

A new special school, Discovery, has been opened (September 2022) and a second special school is under construction, due to open in 2024.

There has also been investment into mainstream schools via increasing locality funding, and an increase in the number of integrated resource places in the city – 6 new provisions in the last two years, an approx. 30% increase.

Looking ahead an additional 300 special school places are likely to be required in the next five years (there are currently approx. 1500).

The bid recently submitted for a new special free school is part of the response to this, other areas of response are covered later in the briefing.

Alongside development of special school places, there is a need to support more mainstream inclusion.

In Sheffield, 49% of children with an Education Health Care Plan are in special school, versus a national average of 34%. We need to work with the schools' sector and partners to change this position.

The areas of need creating the greatest pressure are autism spectrum condition and social, emotional mental health.

Sheffield has very high rate of need in autism, approximately 40% of Education Health Care Plans are in this area of need

We have the highest rate of autism in secondary and special schools amongst our statistical neighbours.

We also have the highest rate amongst the core cities for autism in special school.

Following autism, the second highest area of need is social, emotional mental health need.

As with autism, this is a complex area of need with many different presentations and nuances for children and young people with these needs.

Sufficiency activity is therefore primarily focusing on meeting and managing these two complex areas of need.

Without the pressure from these two areas of growing need, it is unlikely that a significant increase in specialist places would be needed.

To respond to this, a strategic intent has been developed, guided by three principles, which aim to put inclusion at the forefront of our activity.

To ensure that our strategic intentions are focusing in the right areas, three guiding principles have been developed with partners and stakeholders:

- Children with SEND should be able to be as much a part of their local community as any other child, with their friends and peers.
- We need to support more mainstream inclusion by being innovative, recognising the challenges and working in partnership with our schools, localities, Academy Trusts, and other partners such as health.
- We need to deliver a controlled growth in special school places, which is sustainable and appropriately utilised.

These principles will be further tested and refined with stakeholders as sufficiency work continues.

The purpose of these principles is to ensure that we are putting improving family's experiences, supporting more inclusion, and meeting need at the forefront of our work.

The strategic intentions are focused on mainstream growth, controlled development of special school places, and improvements to post 16 provision.

To deliver sufficiency and uphold our principles, strategic intentions are focusing in supporting:

- Greater mainstream inclusion.
- Growing special school places in a controlled manner.
- Improving and growing post 16 provision.

For mainstream, this means we are aiming to develop more integrated resources – these provisions enable children with an Education Health Care Plan to access both mainstream and specialist support, in a mainstream setting.

As part of our sufficiency planning, we are setting an aspiration to double the number of integrated resource places (currently approx. 300) over the next five years. Increasing these places should enable need to be met earlier and deliver a better experience for families.

Work is also taking place with the sector to understand the issues and barriers to inclusion, to understand and resolve them.

Increasing mainstream will deliver cost benefits for the Local Authority.

As an example, an average integrated resource place costs (all per year) approx. £15,000 versus £25,000 (with all costs included) in special or £65,000 on average in an independent setting.

Through the recent special school bid, as well as the recent opening of Discovery, and the second new school due in 2024, we are aiming to deliver a controlled growth in special school places.

These places will be well defined and delivered through long-lasting capital solutions, providing places for future generations.

In post 16, we are seeking to improve the offer and the number of places available for young people with SEND.

We know this is an area of the system which requires improvement, as recognised by the Accelerated Progress Plan that is currently in place with the Department for Education and NHS England.

Plans to improve this offer are being developed, in doing this we are seeking to improve preparation, and transition into adulthood – giving young people the best chance to succeed as adults.

Improving the post 16 places available, should also release secondary aged special school places for younger year groups as young people move into this improved offer in year 12, rather than remaining in special school post 16.

Through all the areas above, we are seeking to work in strong partnerships across the education, health and care sector.

Different areas of sufficiency are being worked on and will be brought to committee for decision as required.

There are many areas of activity taking place under the banner of sufficiency.

Key priorities are the development of integrated resources and improvements to post 16.

These areas will be captured presented to committee for decision making as required. The committee's approval in September 2022 of a new special school was an example of this.

A key next step will see the refresh of the sufficiency plan completed in 2020, this will sit as an appendix to the Sheffield Inclusion Strategy.

As highlighted, the Sufficiency Plan is currently being refreshed, on-going activity is taking place with stakeholders such as the Parent Carer Forum to inform this.

The intention is to then publish the Sufficiency Plan as an appendix to the wider Sheffield Inclusion Strategy, which activity in this area is part of.

The Committee are asked to note the contents of this briefing, highlight any areas of clarity and lead decision making in specific areas as required in future.

The Committee are asked to note the contents of the report and highlight any areas of clarity, concern, or priorities to be considered.

These areas will then be fed into sufficiency activity and the refresh of the plan as necessary.

Area of special educational needs and disability sufficiency which require Committee decision making, will be brought to committee as required in future.

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Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report: Sam Martin, Head of Commissioning Vulnerable Adults

Tel: 0114 2735027

Report of: *Director of Integrated Commissioning*

Report to: *Education Children and Families Policy Committee*

Date of Decision: *Briefing for December Committee. Decision in Jan 2023*

Subject: *All Phase Mainstream Commissioning Plan 2023-2026 – Headlines Report*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? People/TB/BK/280722				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<p><i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i></p>				

Purpose of Report:

Provide committee with a briefing on mainstream sufficiency across all phases - Early Years, Primary, Secondary and Post 16 sectors.

The briefing and subsequent discussion will provide the headlines of the All Phase Mainstream Commissioning Plan which is a 3 year plan 2023-2026.

Once members are appraised of the Headlines, the detailed plan will then be presented to the committee in January for a decision on whether we can undertake a consultation on the Commissioning Plan in the Spring 2023 with our key partners and stakeholders.

Feedback from the consultation will then be taken into account prior to a proposed formal publication of the Commissioning Plan in late summer 2023.

All Phase Mainstream Commissioning Plan 2023-2026: Headlines Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of Mainstream Sufficiency across all phases: Early Years, Primary, Secondary and Post 16 sectors

This report is not seeking a decision from committee at this point, it is providing an overview of our mainstream sufficiency plan, enabling committee discussion on the strategic priorities and Action Plans for each sector.

The Commissioning Plan, which covers the period 2023 to 2026, is a three-year rolling plan that will be reviewed annually. It sets out how the Local Authority, in accordance with its statutory duty, seeks to ensure there are sufficient learning places in the right locations to meet demand, while at the same time fulfilling our other responsibilities to raise education standards.

Once members are apprised of the headline messages, the detailed All Phase Mainstream Commissioning Plan 2023-2026 will then be presented to Committee in January 2023 for a decision.

Strategic Objective

Securing sufficient good quality learning places

Ensuring sufficient good quality Early Education and Childcare provision for working parents and those in education or training, and access to Funded Early Learning places.

Providing a good quality primary and secondary school places for every child when pupil populations are high and managing surplus places when pupil populations fall.

Ensuring sufficient good quality post 16 places for young people to transition into adulthood.

SCC has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient childcare and school places

Sheffield City Council has statutory duties under several pieces of legislation including the Education Act 1996, the Childcare Act 2006 and the Children and Families Act 2014 to ensure sufficient childcare and school places, promote parental choice, diversity, and fair access.

The Department for Education's [White Paper](#) 'Opportunity for all – strong schools with great teachers for your child' published in March 2022, sets out a clear role for every part of the school system including local authorities.

Context

A 'bulge' in population put pressure on the primary sector, but they are now experiencing surplus places

Birth rates in Sheffield increased 25% between 2002 and 2012, creating a 'bulge' in population. The increase or 'bulge' in population initially put pressure on the primary sector, but these cohorts of pupils have moved through the sector, so it is now experiencing a surplus of places.

Over the planning period 2023-2026, our forecasts show that, in line with reducing births, there will continue to be areas of falling demand for early years and primary places, but the level of surplus places varies across the planning areas. Office for National Statistics forecasts suggest that the birth rate will continue to remain low with gradual year on year increases to the end of the decade.

The bulge in population is now in the secondary sector; there are not enough

Secondary school places have been at or near full capacity since 2018/19. Over the planning period 2023-2026 our forecasts show that there will continue to be areas of growing demand for secondary school places, but demand is not evenly distributed across the city. We have particular pressure for secondary school places in the southwest of the city in addition to other planning areas, e.g., Planning Area 5 which is in the northeast of the city. However, beyond this planning period,

places to meet demand	forecasts show that there will be areas across the city with declining demand for secondary places.
The bulge will move through to the post 16 sector and peak in 2028/29	Year 12 learner numbers are forecast to increase in 2023/24 and will continue to rise each year, reaching a 'peak' beyond this planning period in 2028/29 where we predict a Year 12 population of over 7,300 pupils.
Demand is increasing for Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) places	Demand is rising for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) places and is forecast to continue to rise, driven primarily by pupils with Autism Spectrum Disorder and those with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. Sufficiency covers provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities across all settings including mainstream and specialist school places. A separate briefing on SEND sufficiency is also being presented to this Committee.
Housing plans impact on the demand for childcare and education places	<p>Sheffield City Council aims to deliver 2,305 new homes per year by 2039 with 50% of these being in the central area. The council has also embarked on an ambitious programme to deliver 3,100 additional new council homes by 2029 – a combination of new builds and purchased properties.</p> <p>As housing development plans progress in the medium to longer term, future projections for school planning areas may change. Future versions of the housing plans will provide more clarity on these issues.</p>
Planning	
Many factors affect the demand for places, some of which cannot be planned for	Examples of unplanned variables include inward and outward migration, including migration into and out of the UK; cross border movement (children moving to schools in other local authority areas); changes in the housing market and housing developments; parental preference; changes in private education provision; rural sustainability; and impact of welfare reforms.
We have already worked to meet our statutory duties and own ambitions	<p>Early Years: Produced annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessments; monitored the impact of Covid on the childcare market; completed a Parental Childcare Survey; completed a Childcare Provider survey; stimulated demand; promoted Tax Free Childcare; encouraged providers to take a sustainable business approach; provided Quality Improvement Support to providers; provided advice/guidance to parents/carers; maintained a Directory of all Sheffield Childcare Providers.</p> <p>Primary: Negotiated additional school places in areas of deficit; agreed temporary reduction in Pupil Admission Numbers at schools; consulted with schools and Trusts; introduced falling rolls fund for 2021/22.</p> <p>Secondary: Negotiated additional school places; commissioned new schools; agreed permanent expansions at schools; consulted with schools and Trusts; moved to a city-wide allocations system.</p> <p>Post 16: Opened a new free school sixth form academy; introduced new sixth form places at secondary schools from 2023/24; proportionate sixth form increases linked to school expansions; increased sixth form provision for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.</p>
We are working to increase inclusive provision for	Several interventions have already been put in place, including additional support for Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators and growth of Integrated Resources, where children with Special

SEND within mainstream schools	<p>Educational Needs and Disabilities split their time between mainstream classes and receiving support in the Integrated Resource.</p> <p>We need to further develop inclusive provision in schools, develop more Integrated Resources, and support more children and young people to be supported and achieve in their mainstream school. A focus area in this will be improving transition between different phases of school, particularly primary to secondary.</p>
Creating additional school places is challenging, especially due to a lack of capital funding	<p>The creation of new provision is complex and cannot always be achieved by incremental expansion and growth of existing provision. The scale of the development and associated upfront costs of establishing a new school building present a challenge when funding is limited, and different funding sources are required to align for a single purpose.</p> <p>The availability of capital has become increasingly limited. The capital grant funding the government has provided to contribute towards meeting the 'basic need' for school places i.e., to resource the provision of additional places, is much reduced.</p>
When making decisions we need to consult with stakeholders	<p>We are seeking the views of our key stakeholders and partners within the early years, childcare, primary, secondary and post 16 sectors including: parents and carers, parents' forums, Learn Sheffield, early education and childcare providers, school leaders (via the Primary and Secondary Heads Partnership Group), governors, academy trusts, dioceses, colleges, training providers, local planning authorities, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board, developers and other interested parties.</p>

Action Plans 2023-2026

We have created mainstream sufficiency Action Plans for each sector to ensure we meet our statutory duties and own ambitions	<p>Early Years: Reduce inequalities through provision of sufficient, high quality, accessible, and inclusive early education and childcare places; promote inclusion by offering support and information to parents and professionals; consider the impact of planned housing on the likely demand for early education and childcare places across the city; promote early education and childcare.</p> <p>Primary: Temporarily reduce Pupil Admission Numbers where appropriate; work with identified schools where pupil numbers are not expected to recover in the long term to consider appropriate options; to consider temporary / permanent expansions of schools in areas of high local demand; consider the impact of new housing developments and changing migration patterns on primary school demand; effective use of the school estate.</p> <p>Secondary: Increase Pupil Admission Numbers with existing schools; permanent expansions in the southwest of the city; consider the impact of planned housing on the likely demand for secondary places across the city; temporary and potential permanent expansions in Planning Area 5; create a falling rolls plan post 2024; effective use of the school estate.</p> <p>Post 16: Ensure sufficiency of post 16 places; consultation with post 16 sector; consider the impact of planned housing on the likely demand for post 16 places across the city; ensure sufficient post 16 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities places.</p>
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