

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTEE



Tuesday, 08 October 2024

Democratic and Members' Services
Emma Duncan
Service Director: Legal and Governance

14:00

New Shire Hall
Alconbury Weald
Huntingdon
PE28 4YE

Red Kite Room
[Venue Address]

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

1. **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**
Guidance on declaring interests is available in [Chapter 6 of the Council's Constitution \(Members' Code of Conduct\)](#)
2. **Children and Young People Committee Minutes - 10 September 2024** **5 - 12**
3. **Petitions and Public Questions**

KEY DECISIONS

4. **Healthy Child Programme Commissioning Approach** **13 - 30**
5. **Music Education Hub Funding Consortium Agreement** **31 - 36**

DECISIONS

6.	Ofsted Action plan and update on Sector Led Improvement Programme	37 - 58
7.	Finance Monitoring Report – August 2024	59 - 90
8.	Children and Young People’s Corporate Performance Report	91 - 118
9.	CYP Committee Agenda Plan, Training Plan and Appointments	119 - 138

Date of Next Meeting

26 November 2024

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The Children and Young People Committee comprises the following members:

Councillor Bryony Goodliffe (Chair) Councillor Michael Atkins (Vice-Chair) Councillor David Ambrose Smith Councillor Anna Bradnam Councillor Alex Bulat Councillor Piers Coutts Councillor Claire Daunton Councillor Mark Goldsack Councillor John Gowing Councillor Anne Hay Councillor Samantha Hoy Councillor Alan Sharp Councillor Philippa Slatter Councillor Simone Taylor and Councillor Firouz Thompson Dr Andy Stone (Appointee) Jon Young (Appointee)

Clerk Name:	Tamar Oviatt-Ham
Clerk Telephone:	01223 715668
Clerk Email:	tamar.oviatt-ham@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Children and Young People Committee: Minutes

Date: 10 September 2024

Time: 2.00 pm – 3.29 pm

Venue: Red Kite Room, New Shire Hall, Alconbury Weald

Present: Councillors Ambrose-Smith, Bradnam, Bulat, Costello, Coutts, Daunton, Goldsack, Goodliffe (Chair), Gowing, Hay, Sharp, Slatter, Thompson and Taylor.

Co-opted Members:

Jon Young, Church of England Diocese of Ely

Dr A Stone, Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

221. Changes to Committee Membership

It was resolved to:

appoint Jon Young, Diocesan Director of Education for the Church of England Diocese of Ely, as a co-opted member of the Committee representing the Diocese of Ely, succeeding Sarah Connant.

222. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Atkins, Councillor Hay and Councillor Hoy, substituted by Councillor Costello.

There were no declarations of interest.

223. Minutes – 25 June 2024 and minutes action log

The minutes of the meeting on 25 June 2024 were approved as an accurate record. The minutes action log was noted.

224. Petitions and public questions

There were no public questions or petitions.

225. Education Capital Projects

The Committee considered a report that sought approval to award contracts for capital project delivery to ensure education place sufficiency in Cambridgeshire whilst also adhering to the established decision-making processes within Cambridgeshire County Council's (the Council's) constitution.

In response to questions from individual Members, officers:

- Clarified that a note updating on Waterbeach Primary School would be provided to Members outside of the meeting. **Action Required.**
- Highlighted that the cost of projects could on occasion be inflated against the original estimate and that these projects would need to come through Committee for approval. Officers explained that the report sought retrospective approvals for a number of projects that had been through Committee as part of the Business Planning process, as the Monitoring Officer had highlighted that there had not been sufficient transparency on the projects that had breached the £500,000 key decision threshold.
- Gave assurance that robust arrangements were in place for monitoring capital projects within the contractual framework which included open book accounting, a risk register for each project and a contingency budget.
- Stated that the value of the delegation had been raised from £500,000 to £1 million to allow for cases where schools repairs were required quickly for example due to flood or fire damage to ensure that schools could be kept open in these circumstances where possible.
- Explained that there would be a regular update at spokes on School Capital Projects. Officers gave assurances that local Members would be kept informed regarding ongoing projects in there area.
- Clarified that a contingency of between 5-10 percent was built into project budgets. Officers highlighted that an increase in construction costs were a nationwide issue particularly in relation to the cost of materials and labour shortages.
- Stated that all section 106 agreements were index linked.

Co-opted members of the committee were eligible to vote on this item.

It was resolved unanimously:

- a) to retrospectively award design or professional services and construction contracts which are in breach of the contract procedure rules (the Rules).
- b) agree to awarding and executing the design, professional services and construction contracts for the projects set out in section 3.5.

It was resolved to:

- c) delegate to the Executive Director of Children, Education & Families (CEF), in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the CYP Committee, the authority to award design or professional services, JCT minor works/intermediate contracts and construction contracts up to £1m in value.

226. Children, Education and Families Risk Report

The Committee received a report on the management of risk within the Children, Education and Families Directorate, which included a snapshot of the current Directorate Risk Register.

In response to questions from individual Members, officers:

- Explained that in relation to risk 1, the authority was in a phase of enhanced management and support with regards to the Safety Valve as the authorities current forecasting was off track to meet the original targets set by Government. During this phase funding was paused and conversations were ongoing with the Department of Education (DfE) and neighbouring authorities, and the authority would be going back to the DfE at the end of October with an updated forecast. This was a complex piece of work, however officers were confident that this would be approved and the programme would be back on track with a refreshed timeline and forecast. A report updating the Committee on the Safety Valve was scheduled for the November Committee following the discussions with the DfE and this would address the request from the Audit and Accounts Committee in relation to the internal audit queries. Officers confirmed that currently there was no indication from government on any changes to the future of the Safety Valve programme.
- Stated that the proportion of children with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) in Cambridgeshire was marginally higher than neighbouring counties. The transformation plan focused on meeting children's needs earlier ensuring that local schools could be as inclusive as possible, with the primary driver being that children's needs were met.
- Explained that the authority did hold data in relation to the number of children moving from independent to mainstream schools but that it would be difficult to quantify accurately.
- Highlighted in relation to risk 2, that continued cost pressures on home to school transport were linked to the growth in EHCPs as children needed to be transported to schools that were not in their local area. The authority was seeing a forecast of reduction in mainstream transport in the last few years.
- Confirmed that in relation to risk 3, there was a large amount of ongoing work focused on managing caseloads and workforce capacity and the social care academy and the authority was starting to see an improvement in this area with six newly qualified social workers and three international social workers.
- Commented that in relation to risk 6 all local authorities were continuing to see insufficient amounts of placements for looked after children and there was a national shortage of care placements. Officers stated that the Residential Strategy had been to Committee and was going to Strategy and Resources Committee next month. Officers explained that they would clarify this further in the mitigations for this risk.

- Explained that in relation to the Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) transformation programme Education Resources Bases (ERBs) were having some sign of success with another coming on line in January 2025 and that two special free schools were being delivered through the Free School Programme by the DfE but that the projects had been delayed but that the authority continued to monitor the situation. Officers stated that the ability to be able to negotiate home to school transport costs was an issue across the sector and that it was an extremely tight market.
- Note the continued concerns in relation to school admissions and explained that the admissions team aimed to give schools as much notice as possible before the start of term.
- Stated that the authority was working with the Combined Authority on a number of transport pilots. The Chair clarified that a note on the pilots would be circulated to the Committee. **Action Required.** A Member also highlighted the additional work in this area with highways and transport colleagues through the Local Highways Initiative and partnership working with the Greater Cambridge Partnership that could also be included in the update. Officers acknowledge the suggestion of setting up an operation unit within the authority and explained that they were open to looking into all suggestions. Officers highlighted the constant pressures and complexities in this area with approx. 23-24 thousand journeys a day. Officers stated that they hoped that the new routes would have a positive impact on home to school transport and acknowledged the need for clear and consistent communications with parents/carers on any changes to bus routes and times.

It was resolved to scrutinise the risk management report.

227. Children and Young People Committee agenda plan, training plan, committee appointments and Local Authority school governor appointments

It was resolved to:

- a) note the Agenda Plan and Training plan.
- b) note Local Authority School Governor appointments April to July 2024.

Chair

Children and Young People Committee - Minutes Action Log

Purpose:

To capture the actions recorded in the minutes of Children and Young People Committee meetings and report responses.

Minutes – 12 March 2024

Minute	Report title	Officer responsible	Action	Response	Status
203.	Education Contracts	Sarah Callaghan	Undertook to provide a briefing note on progress around the education transport transformation programme and improved practices.	<p>This report has been rescheduled as we have gone out to procure an independent review of Home to School Transport and it would be sensible to include an update from the review alongside an update on the current transport transformation projects as part of the Transport Strategy update.</p> <p>CEF DMT met on 12 September and agreed to defer the report until February 2025 and an provide an update report will be provided to CYP Spokes in November 24.</p>	Ongoing
206.	Finance Monitoring Report January 2024	Sarah Callaghan	Officers undertook to confirm when a report on the preferred delivery option for Alconbury Weald Secondary and Special School would be brought to the Committee.	Officers have moved the report to February 2024 Committee to ensure that an accurate contract amount will be available when recommending that Members approve entering into contract with the contractor for the construction of Alconbury Weald Secondary School. (Please note on this action it also says Alconbury Weald Special School – this has already been built and opened this	On-going

Minute	Report title	Officer responsible	Action	Response	Status
				September. Previous reports have been to Committee explaining that this campus would be split into two separate projects and it was agreed the Special School would be delivered first).	
206.	Finance Monitoring Report January 2024	Sarah Callaghan	Officers undertook to confirm when a planning decision was expected on Waterbeach New Town Primary.	A briefing on this project will be provided to Spokes in November	On-going

Minutes – 25 June 2024

Minute	Report title	Officer responsible	Action	Response	Status
216.	Finance Monitoring Report - Outturn	Sarah Callaghan	A detailed analysis of school balances including the multiple factors affecting them would be presented to committee in the autumn or early 2025.	A report will be provided at a future Committee – date to be confirmed.	Ongoing

Minutes – 10 September 2024

Minute	Report title	Officer responsible	Action	Response	Status
225.	Education Capital Projects	Sarah Callaghan	Clarified that a note updating on Waterbeach Primary School would be provided to Members outside of the meeting.	Relates to action 206 above.	See action 206
226.	Children, Education and Families Risk Report	Sarah Callaghan	Stated that the authority was working with the Combined Authority on a number of transport pilots. The Chair clarified that a note on the pilots would be circulated to the Committee.	Please refer to action 203. A response to the CA transport pilots will be covered in the same briefing to Spokes in November.	See action 203

Healthy Child Programme Commissioning Approach

To:	Children and Young People Committee
Meeting Date:	8 October 2024
From:	Patrick Warren-Higgs; Executive Director Adults, Health, and Commissioning
Electoral division(s):	All
Key decision:	Yes
Forward Plan ref:	2024/070
Executive Summary:	<p>This report follows an initial paper that came to Committee on 12th March 2024 where approval was granted to commission an integrated Healthy Child Programme (HCP) across both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough local authority areas. This was to maintain the stability of this service, to allow for improvements in delivery to be consolidated and to avoid a dip in performance. A lot of the background information and current commissioning arrangements are discussed in that report. Council and committee meetings - Cambridgeshire County Council > Meetings (cmis.uk.com).</p> <p>This report is building on that decision and is presenting recommendations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The service model and key elements included in the 0-5 and 5-19 elements of this programme; andb) The recommissioning approach, financial envelope and contract duration.
Recommendations:	<p>The Children and Young People Committee are recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. To commission a Universal 0-19 HCP including Health Visiting and School Nursing that follows national commissioning guidance, has a focus on improving outcomes and reducing inequalities and allows flexibility to adapt to local needs by working in place-based integrated teams with other local authority (Education, Social Care and Community), Public Health and NHS services.b. For Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) to enter into a Section 75 Partnering Arrangement with Cambridgeshire

Community Services (CCS) for delivery of this service starting on 1st April 2025 for a duration of 2 years with the option to extend for 2+2 years (Total 6 years).

- c. To agree the annual budget of £9,126,108 for 25-26 of which 3% shall only be paid to the NHS Trust subject to the achievement of performance/outcome targets agreed as part of the Section 75 Partnering Agreement's Annual Development Plan. The Annual budget may be subject to inflationary changes in subsequent years.
- d. To delegate responsibility for awarding and executing the Section 75 Partnering Arrangement for the provision of the Healthy Child Programme starting 1st April 2025 to the Executive Director Adults, Health and Commissioning in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair of the Children & Young People's Committee with the option to extend the arrangement after each 2-year period for a total of 6 years to 31st March 2031.

Officer contact:

Name: Raj Lakshman

Post: Consultant in Public Health

Email: raj.lakshman@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

1. Creating a greener, fairer, and more caring Cambridgeshire

1.1 The HCP will support delivery of Cambridgeshire County Council's Strategic ambitions as detailed below.

1.2 *Ambition 1 Net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2045, and our communities and natural environment are supported to adapt and thrive as the climate changes.*

If selected as per recommendations, CCS, as an NHS organisation, is obliged to adhere to its commitment to net zero. CCS is committed to meeting the ambition and has its own Green Plan that lays out a number of commitments including further telephone and video consultations and holding staff meetings virtually.

Ambition 2: Travel across the county is safer and more environmentally sustainable.

A proportion of the services and meetings are provided virtually which means there is less travel across the area, affecting carbon emissions.

Providers are asked to adopt sustainable travel options whenever possible. If the recommendation for the Section 75 Partnering Arrangement is approved, the current provider is an NHS organisation and therefore is subject to obligations relating to its net zero emissions strategy. The provider also has its own "Green Plan" which has range of initiatives that will support ambitions one and two.

Ambition 3 Health inequalities are reduced.

The commissioned service is universal, but it is targeted at certain high-risk groups who often experience health inequalities and have overall poorer health outcomes. The HCP at its core is a service that enables and empowers families, children, and young people to lead healthy, independent lives prioritising the most vulnerable in society- 'Universal in Reach, Personalised in Response'.

Ambition 4 People enjoy healthy, safe, and independent lives through timely support that is most suited to their needs.

Habits are formed early in life and hence prevention efforts focussed on the early years are most effective in promoting good health throughout life.

Ambition 5: People are helped out of poverty and income inequality.

The service aims to ensure the best possible health outcomes for the population and service users. As a local employer, it also works to reduce poverty through better employment and promoting early intervention and prevention measures to improve physical and mental health and wellbeing as part of the integrated care system. The service supports a 'grow your own scheme' with some staff starting as apprentices and moving up through professional development and completing the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (SCPHN) training.

Ambition 6: Places and communities prosper because they have a resilient and inclusive economy, access to good quality public services and social justice is prioritised.

The service enables people to remain in good health. Children and vulnerable adults, are safeguarded in the context of their families, peers, schools and communities. Our children, young people, and their communities benefit from a whole system approach to improving outcomes.

Ambition 7 Children and young people have opportunities to thrive.

The service is provided to families from conception up to nineteen-year-olds (and up to 25 where appropriate for SEND young people). It assesses the particular needs of children and young people and shapes services to address these needs. It is the implementation vehicle for the Health and Wellbeing Priority One 'We will ensure our children are ready to enter education and exit, preparing them for the next phase of their lives'. At its core the Healthy Child Programme (HCP) is a service that enables and empowers families, children, and young people to lead healthy, independent lives prioritising the most vulnerable in society.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Healthy Child Programme (HCP) which includes Health Visiting for families with children aged 0-5, and School Nursing for families with children aged 5-19, is a national public health programme with an overarching ambition to achieve good outcomes for all children from pregnancy through to 19 years of age. It is funded through the Public Health Grant, and therefore local authorities are subject to the Public Health Grant conditions, which include prescribed (mandated) and non-prescribed (non-mandated) functions.
- 2.2 The national guidance relating to the HCP which was released in June 2023 has undergone modernisation ([Commissioning health visitors and school nurses for public health services for children aged 0 to 19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/commissioning-health-visitors-and-school-nurses-for-public-health-services-for-children-aged-0-to-19)). Whilst remaining universal in reach, it is personalised in response and continues to set out a range of interventions to improve outcomes for all children, reducing inequalities by providing extra support for vulnerable groups. This includes a schedule of interventions which range from community, universal, targeted and specialist support ([Healthy Child Programme Schedule of Interventions Guide - DHSC \(e-lfh.org.uk\)](https://e-lfh.org.uk/healthy-child-programme-schedule-of-interventions-guide)).

The updated model emphasises the health visitor and school nurse roles as leaders of the HCP, whilst acknowledging the important contribution of a range of delivery partners, encouraging collaborative work and more integrated delivery, across health, early years & education, children's services and community and voluntary sector partners.

- 2.3 Our local vision 'To improve health outcomes and reduce inequalities for Children and Young people by providing high quality, safe and accessible services' is outlined in Appendix 1. The national high-impact areas and local outcomes framework are summarised as follows.

Table 1: National High Impact Areas

Early years high impact areas are:	School-aged high impact areas are:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting transition to parenthood and the early weeks • supporting maternal and infant mental health • supporting breastfeeding (initiation and duration) • supporting healthy weight and healthy nutrition • improving health literacy; reducing accidents and minor illnesses • supporting health, wellbeing and development. <p>Ready to learn, narrowing the 'word gap'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting resilience and wellbeing • improving health behaviours and reducing risk taking • supporting healthy lifestyles • supporting vulnerable young people and improving health inequalities • supporting complex and additional health and wellbeing needs • promoting self-care and improving health literacy

[Health visiting and school nursing service delivery model - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-visiting-and-school-nursing-service-delivery-model)

Table 2: Local Children Young Peoples Outcomes Framework

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CYP Outcomes Framework with Key Domains	
1. Maternity	3. Children & Young People are safe from harm
1.1 Increase prevalence of healthy birth weight	3.1 Intervene earlier and more effectively to support children and families at risk
1.2 Reduce Smoking in pregnancy	3.2 Reduce the number of children experiencing harm
1.3 Increase Breastfeeding prevalence	3.3 Fewer new child protection plans starting in the year per 10,000 population
2. Children & Young People lead healthy lives	3.4 Reduce teenage pregnancies
2.1. Reduce hospital admissions for specific conditions that could be managed in the community	3.5 Reduce relative child poverty
2.2 Increase the percentage of children who are a healthy weight and have good oral health	4. Children and young people are confident, resilient, thrive in their learning and are prepared for adulthood
2.3. Improve the emotional wellbeing of children and young people	4.1 Increase access to and take up of high-quality childcare
2.4. Improve the emotional health and wellbeing of new parents	4.2 Increase the percentage of children who are developing well at age 2.5 yrs
2.5. Protect children from infectious diseases	4.3 Increase the percentage of children who are 'school ready' and have a Good Level of Development at the end of Reception
2.6 Reduce hospital admissions for children and young people due to mental health conditions or self-harm	5. Children and Young People engage actively in their communities as young adults
2.7 Increase percentage of young people who report that they are in good health	5.1. Reduce the number of first-time entrants to and reoffending in the youth justice system
	5.2. Reduce proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds who are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training)

[CYP-Outcomes_Sept2023-Cambs-Insight.2.xlsx \(live.com\)](https://www.cambsinsight.com/CYP-Outcomes_Sept2023-Cambs-Insight.2.xlsx)

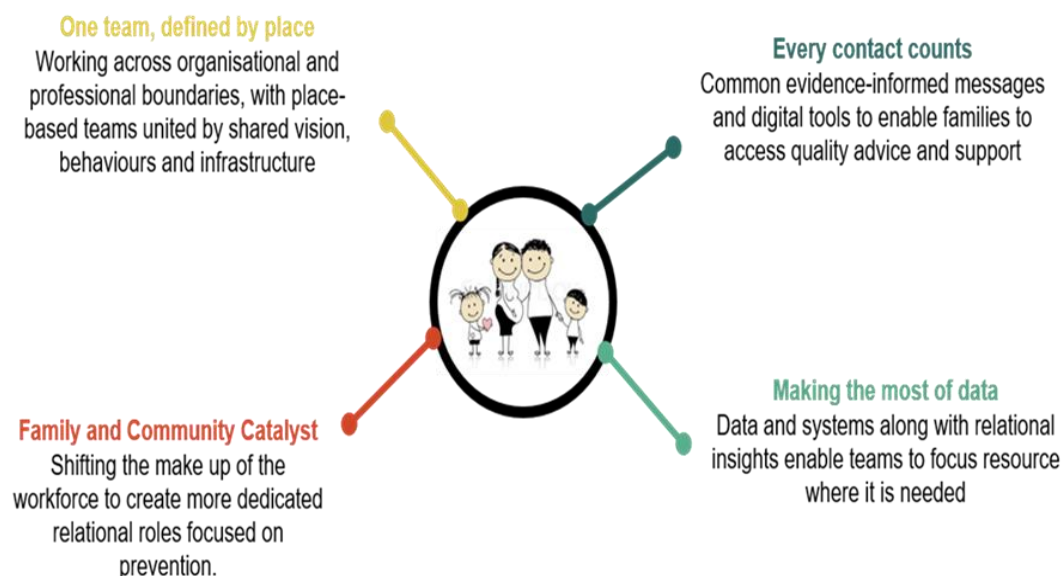
- 2.4 Locally the HCP supports the delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Integrated Care System Strategy and contributes to improving outcomes outlined in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CYP Outcomes framework. As stated above, it mainly supports CCC's Ambition 7: Children and young people have opportunities to thrive, and contributes to Ambitions 3, 4 and 6.

3. Healthy Child Programme - Model of integrated place-based delivery

The HCP's service specification will be developed to ensure alignment and contribution to the below integrated approaches that have been agreed by partners across the local system. These are:

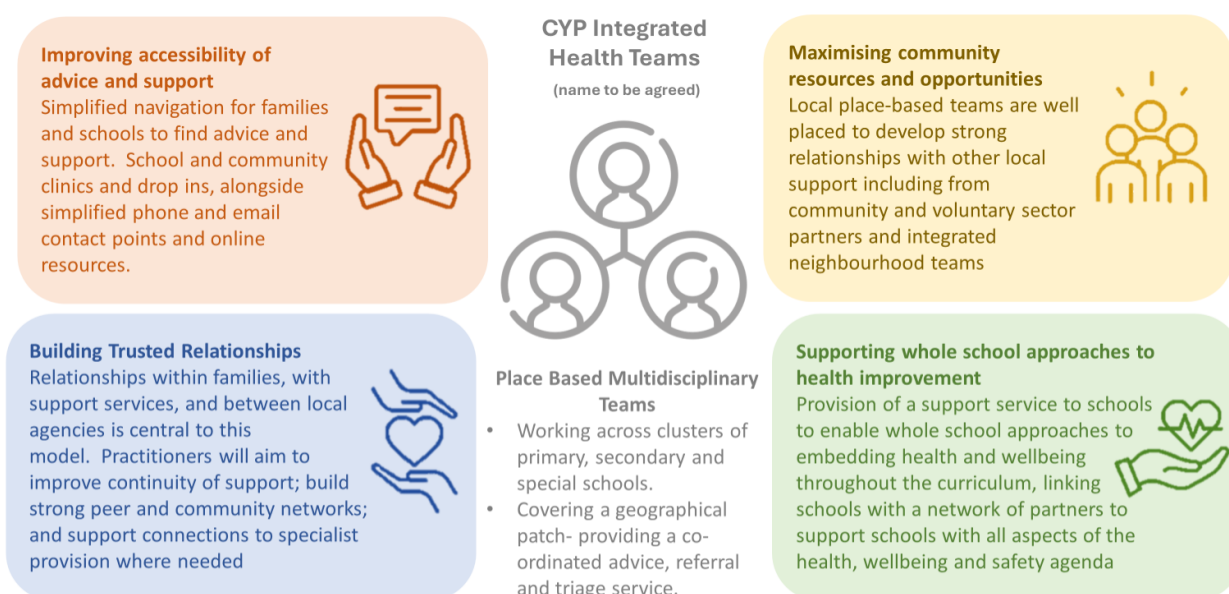
- 3.1 **Best Start in Life/ Family Hubs Programme:** This programme commenced in 2019 to co-ordinate action for the prebirth to 5years age group. The health visiting service (HCP 0-5) works closely with Family Hubs/Child and Family Centres, Early Years settings, local authority targeted support teams, Voluntary Sector organisations, Midwives, GPs, and other NHS services. The ethos is for a 'one-team, making every contact count' approach, built on consistent messaging (shared training and language), and making community connections. Several successful place-based pilots have been implemented through this programme, as well as new integrated delivery models rolled out countywide.

Figure 1: Best Start in Life/Family Hubs integrated place-based model



- 3.2 **School-aged Health Improvement Partnership:** Set up in 2023 to co-ordinate action and make best use of collective resources (Local Authority, NHS, VCSE, Schools, Communities and Families) for the 5-19 year olds (25yrs for children with SEND). The school nursing service (HCP 5-19) works closely with schools, other public health commissioned services (Behaviour Change, Sexual Health, Substance Misuse), NHS services (Mental Health Support Teams & Emotional Health and Wellbeing Teams, School-aged Immunisation Teams) and Local Authority Children's Services (details in Appendix 2). A previous paper explored how this model could be supported further by expanding the remit of the current Healthy Schools Service to become an overarching School-aged Health Improvement and Prevention Service [Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](https://cmis.uk.com/Document.ashx). The advantages of this are set out as follows:

Figure 2: School-aged health improvement integrated place-based model



3.3 These models align with the Cambridgeshire corporate priority of working closer to communities and updated guidance on ‘Working together to safeguard children’ which emphasises that successful outcomes for children depend on keeping a clear child-centred focus in strong multi-agency partnership working across the whole system of help, support and protection and effective work from all agencies with parents, carers, and families.

3.4 Service offer and interventions to be included in updated service specification

3.4.1 The interventions delivered by the HCP in collaboration with system partners aim to:

- help parents, carers or guardians develop and sustain a strong bond with children
- support parents, carers, or guardians in keeping children healthy and safe and reaching their full potential
- protect children from serious disease, through screening and immunisation
- reduce childhood obesity by promoting healthy eating and physical activity
- promote oral health
- support resilience and positive maternal and family mental health
- support the development of healthy relationships and good sexual and reproductive health
- identify health and wellbeing issues early, so support and early interventions can be provided in a timely manner.
- ensure children are prepared for and supported in all childcare, early years and education settings and are especially supported to be ‘ready to learn at 2 and ready for school by 5.

3.4.2 The interventions are delivered at 4 levels- Community, Universal, Targeted and Specialist. These are summarised in Appendix 3 and 4. A new service specification will be developed in consultation with local authority and NHS Children’s services to avoid siloed working and provide a coherent offer to early years settings, schools, children, and families.

- 3.4.3 Early identification and the facilitation of wider support for children with SEND through collaborative place-based working with other services will be prioritised. There will be a focus on identifying developmental delay and meeting needs at the earliest point so that needs do not escalate. This approach will also be used to improve outcomes for other vulnerable groups such as Children in Care, Care leavers, Young carers, Young offenders, Young parents, Children in alternative education provision, LGBTQ+, certain Ethnicities, Socio-economic deprivation (pupil premium), Traveller communities and other children vulnerable to poor outcomes.

4. Alternative Options Considered

- 4.1 Currently a single Section 75 Partnering Arrangement between Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) and the 2 local NHS Trusts, Cambridgeshire Community Services (CCS) and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust (CPFT) is in place. PCC currently delegates this function to CCC, and it is CCC as lead authority that partners with the NHS Bodies for arrangements to deliver the local authorities' prescribed health related functions. A delegation and partnering agreement operates between PCC and CCC.
- 4.2 There are 3 main options for recommissioning with differing approaches within these:

Option 1: Separate Section 75 partnering arrangement between the two local authorities and the NHS Trust, or single Section 75 partnering arrangement.

Option 2: Using the provider selection regime (PSR) to select a provider either via direct award (route C) or Competitive procedure.

Option 3: Bring the Healthy Child programme in-house.

Table 3: Commissioning Approach Options Appraisal

Option	Advantages/benefits	Disadvantages/risks
Separate S75 Partnering Arrangements for each Local Authority (i.e., a s75 agreement between PCC and NHS Body, and a s75 agreement between CCC and NHS Body)	Each LA maintains separate s75 partnering arrangements, contractual and financial risks with the NHS Body/Bodies. Shared risk management as neither LA will be lead local authority for the purposes of the local authority health related function. Efficiencies identified from a cessation of internal monetary transfers between the two LAs. Continuity of service delivery and provision in the recommissioning process. Continuation of strong partnership working between LAs & NHS Provider/s. S75 arrangements can only be formed if it is likely to lead to an improvement in the way in which the functions are exercised, which can be demonstrated. This expectation supports a developmental approach to improvement.	Risks to continuity of service provision/service user impact and geographical disparities should LA wish to change arrangements during the contract term. However, this would be mitigated by the suggested 2+2+2 agreement term as we embed the new models.
Single S75 Partnering Arrangement (Tri-partite between PCC, CCC and a NHS Body)	Similar to above apart from the efficiencies from a cessation of monetary transfers between the two LAs.	More complex tri-partite arrangements between two local authorities and a NHS Body. However, potential to have added levels of complexities compared to 2 separate s75 agreements, as each LA will need to agree carefully how they will exercise any rights or obligations they have under the single agreement and will need to ensure the relationship from commencement is governed in such a manner to enable the collective discharge of rights and obligations under the single agreement/contract. Participant authorities may be jointly and severally liable to the NHS trust/s for their obligations under the agreement.

PSR – direct award C	N/A – option rejected as the current service has not been procured through a competitive process. Section 75 approach is more suited	N/A – option rejected as the current service has not been procured through a competitive process. Section 75 approach is more suited
PSR – competitive procedure	Holds the potential to drive down costs and increase transformation/innovation (although this cannot be guaranteed)	Likelihood is the outcome of this exercise would be to continue with existing provider/s due to the 5 evaluation criteria under PSR (quality and innovation; value; integration, collaboration & service sustainability; improving access, reducing health inequalities, and facilitating choice; social value) Any change of provider/s could result in significant service disruption. Time intensive to complete full competitive tender process within available timescales.
In-house provision	More integrated service with Early Help/Targeted Support, Children's Social Care, Education More transformation possible (although we have been able to transform the service through the term of the current Section 75). More control over the service provision but that comes with more risks.	Risk of losing specialist workforce as there is a national shortage of health visitors and school nurses. Risks of delivering a mandated Public Health service would transfer to the local authority. Requires significant change management with the local authority teams and structures. Lack of appetite from CLT for this option when discussed with earlier paper. Neither LA holds the necessary infrastructure for clinical oversight at present.

- 4.3 Where Section 75 Partnering Arrangements are likely to lead to an improvement in the way in which the function can be exercised, and consultation with interested parties has been fulfilled, then the local authorities may exercise power to enter into Section 75 Partnering Arrangements.
- 4.4 The recommendation is to move forward with a Section 75 Partnering Arrangement with the CCS for the following reasons:
- CCS are the leading regional provider of HCP services, with a strong track record and can draw on learning and practice from other areas.
 - CCS already have the necessary infrastructure in place to effectively deliver the functions – for example the website and digital offer.
 - A greater proportion of the leadership team are already CCS employees.
 - CCS lead on providing the required contract monitoring information and have the informatics systems in place to work with Commissioners around reporting development requirements.
 - CCS provide the Emotional Wellbeing Service and Mental Health Support Teams in Schools [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mental Health Support Team \(cambspborochildrenshealth.nhs.uk\)](http://cambspborochildrenshealth.nhs.uk) which is funded nationally and the HCP 5-19 team works closely with them.
- 4.5 **In adopting two separate but parallel Section 75 Partnering Arrangements with the NHS trust and the two Councils** each Local Authority will maintain separate partnering, contractual and financial arrangements (by way of S75 Agreement) with the NHS trust and it reduces risk as neither organisation will be the 'Lead Authority' for the purposes of the partnering arrangement. It also allows for efficiencies identified from a cessation of internal monetary transfers between the two Authorities.
- 4.6 As we will be looking to embed significant new practices aligned to place based models described above and acknowledging the changing landscape as the Public Health directorate in the two local authorities separate, it is recommended that we consider this a developmental

period and support with **a duration of 2+2+2 years (total 6 years)**. This would give the option to make any changes, including responding to any new national guidance and local priorities.

- 4.7 The current annual funding envelope for the HCP is **£9,126,108 p.a.** This budget envelope reflects a new skill mix model agreed with the provider (which will improve recruitment and release savings) and incorporates all NHS pay awards and Agenda for Pay uplifts to date.
- 4.8 To ensure a strong focus on meeting key performance objectives this funding will include a percentage linked to performance and this will be reflected in the renegotiated Section 75 Partnering Agreement as set out in the recommendations i.e. the annual budget of £9,126,108 for 25_26 will be reduced by 3% to £8,852,325 p.a. and the additional amount (£273,783) will be paid subject to the achievement of performance/outcome targets agreed as part of the Annual Development Plan. The Annual budget may change in subsequent years to accommodate future NHS pay awards, inflation, changes to service delivery and further skill-mix.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 To commission a Universal 0-19 HCP including Health Visiting and School Nursing that follows national commissioning guidance, has a focus on improving outcomes and reducing inequalities and allows flexibility to adapt to local needs by working in place-based integrated teams with other Local Authority (Education, Social Care and Community), Public Health and NHS services.
- 5.2 For CCC to enter into a Section 75 Partnering Arrangement with CCS for delivery of this service starting on 1st April 2025 for a duration of 2 years with the option to extend for 2+2 years (Total 6 years).
- 5.3 To agree the annual budget of £9,126,108 for 25_26 of which 3% shall only be paid to the NHS Trust subject to the achievement of performance/outcome targets agreed as part of the Section 75 Partnering Agreement's Annual Development Plan. The annual budget may be subject to changes in subsequent years.
- 5.4 To delegate responsibility for awarding and executing the Section 75 Partnering Arrangement for the provision of the Healthy Child Programme starting 1st April 2025 to the Executive Director Adults, Health and Commissioning in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair of the Children & Young People's Committee with the option to extend the arrangement after each 2-year period for a total of 6 years to 31st March 2031.

6. Significant Implications

6.1 Finance Implications

The HCP is funded from the Public Health Grant, Annual budget for 24/25 is £9,126,108. A detailed quarterly finance and staffing monitoring schedule is submitted, and any

underspends are returned to the council and overspends dealt with in year. These clauses will be strengthened in the new arrangements.

6.2 Legal Implications

A local authority may exercise its statutory power to arrange services in scope of Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006. A Partnering Arrangement made under Section 75 NHS Act 2006 for partnership arrangements between NHS bodies and local authorities can include making arrangements for the exercise of certain NHS and local authority health-related functions by the partner.

Section 75 NHS Act 2006 enables NHS bodies and local authorities to enter into arrangements which are prescribed in secondary legislation. The NHS Bodies and Local Authorities Partnership Arrangements Regulations 2000, as amended, is the relevant secondary legislation that sets out details of the permitted arrangements, i.e., that NHS bodies can carry out local authorities' health-related functions together with their NHS functions. Such arrangements can only be formed if it is likely to lead to an improvement in the way in which the functions are exercised.

6.3 Risk Implications

The service submits a Business Continuity Plan which is included as a separate schedule in the Section 75 Partnering Arrangement and any service changes are agreed with the local authority.

6.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

A completed Equality, Impact Assessment (EqIA) form has been submitted (CCC620154694). It's main findings were based on the recent Children and Young People's Needs Assessment that clearly articulated that certain groups experienced health inequalities which reflected their knowledge and access to services.

The HCP is 'Universal in Reach and Personalised in Response'. A large part of their work is linked to safeguarding, SEND and supporting other vulnerable groups such as young parents, young carers, young offenders, parents with learning difficulties, physical or mental ill-health, substance misuse issues.

The new HCP will work with commissioners to shape their services to better address the needs of these groups.

6.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications

Climate Change/Carbon Impact: Incumbent NHS providers have a well-developed digital platform and since staff live locally travel is minimised. Sustainability is one of the ambitions of all NHS organisations.

Environmental: Incumbent providers share estates (child and family centres) and data with children's services.

In addition, the recommended Section 75 means that the current provider CCS, as an NHS organisation, is obliged to adhere to its commitment to net zero and CCS is committed to meeting the ambition. It has its own Green Plan that lays out a number of commitments which highlights some specific areas relating to these services.

6.6 Social Implications

Incumbent Providers are local and provide employment to residents. They have a 'grow your own' scheme which staff can enter at apprenticeship level and progress through SCPHN (specialist community public health nurse) training.

6.7 Human Resource Implications, including health and safety

Monitored at quarterly contract monitoring meetings and monthly checkpoint meetings.

6.8 Procurement or Commercial Implications

A Section 75 Partnering Arrangement reduces the Procurement burden while maintaining robust performance and finance monitoring. This has been advised and supported by Procurement & Legal colleagues.

7. Source Documents

<https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/ccclive/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/2089/Committee/4/Default.aspx>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/healthy-child-programme-0-to-19-health-visitor-and-school-nurse-commissioning/commissioning-health-visitors-and-school-nurses-for-public-health-services-for-children-aged-0-to-19>

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/pathways-healthy-child/>

[Health visiting and school nursing service delivery model - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[CYP-Outcomes Sept2023-Cambs-Insight.2.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

[\(Inflation calculator | Bank of England\)](#)

Cambridgeshire Provider Selection Regime Guidance: Procurement and Commercial Team: [Finance and Resources - Provider Selection Regime - All Documents \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

8. Appendices

Appendix 1- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Healthy Child Programme Vision statement

Vision Statement: To improve health outcomes and reduce inequalities for Children and Young people by providing high quality, safe and accessible services.

Fundamental principles:

Universal in reach

- Ensuring staff feel **safe, motivated, valued, and supported** with access to effective clinical supervision, opportunities for professional development and a stronger sense of identity within roles, to provide enable them to deliver a **high-quality, safe, and effective service to families**.
- Specialist Community Public Health Nurse-led (SCPHNs) services which adopt a skill mixed approach to delivery, **recognising the skills of employees above qualification bandings**, to best respond to the needs of our communities and deliver an effective service.
- Maximising resource through working collaboratively with broader system partners and effective **utilisation of wider community assets**.
- A service which is **accessible and flexible**, using a range of digital, virtual, group and face-to-face support, including a robust self-help offer with easy access to health & wellbeing information and advice.
- Staff **make every contact count** by using **clinical judgement and public health expertise** to seek out and identify perceived, expressed, and assessed needs and vulnerabilities to improve outcomes.

Personalised in response.

- Delivered on days, at times, and in places that are **convenient for our families and young people**.
- Interventions will be **needs-led and targeted to meet needs** of different communities and vulnerabilities, using the principles of single session thinking wherever possible to reduce unnecessary referrals and waits for support.
- Where possible the service will introduce **continuity of carer**.
- **Champion relational working**, with our families and system partners.
- **Coproduction will underpin all aspects** of user-facing service improvements.

Enablers to achieving our vision:

One-team approach

- **Integrated 0-19 years HCP service** across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, using a place-based model and takes a **'whole family' approach** for children of mixed ages.
- **Strong partnership working** with Early Years settings, Child & Family Centres, Voluntary organisations, Schools, Children's services, Children's Mental Health Services and other NHS services such as primary care, specialist therapies and community paediatrics.
- **Robust antenatal and postnatal pathways that include maternity and primary care** alongside community health service provision of the HCP
- **Works alongside other models** of the Integrated Care System such as Integrated Neighbourhood teams and Primary Care Networks.

- Make every contact count [Making Every Contact Count - eLearning for healthcare \(e-lfh.org.uk\)](https://www.e-lfh.org.uk) and utilise consistent messaging across the system.

Outcomes-focused

- Service model will support the delivery of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Children and Young Peoples (CYP) Outcomes. [CYP-Outcomes Sept2023-Cambs-Insight.2.xlsx \(live.com\)](#)
- Delivery of outcomes at an individual, family and population level is central to the service.

Evidence-based

- Makes use of evidence from the Office of Health Inequalities and Disparities (OHID), National Institute for Care Excellence (NICE), Early Intervention Foundation (EIF) and other National resources
- Focus on health promotion, prevention, early intervention.

Appendix 2: Model of delivery for integrated place-based teams (5-19/25 yrs)



Contributing to the new 5-19/25 model

MASG panel representation (Peterborough)

Parent, Young Person, School or other professional identifies a health support need

(This could be related to a specific need including smoking or vaping, healthy weight or toileting; or more complex behavioural or emotional needs where more assessment is needed)

Contact is made with the CYP Integrated Health Team via:

- Referral, email, phone or text to the CYP Integrated Health Team
 - In person via school or community clinics/ drop in sessions
- (Calls, texts and emails are directed to the appropriate place-based team using address given)

Local CYP Integrated Health Team

This team will comprise of the following core services alongside capacity to co-ordinate activities:

- School nursing** (skill mix team led by School nurses, including registered nurses and assistant practitioners)
- MHSTs/ EHWS Service** (skill mix of clinicians who offer advice and direct interventions around mental health and emotional wellbeing)
- Early Help** (Access to parenting and wider family support at a community level and advice around EHAs)
- School-aged Health Improvement and prevention Service (SHIP)** (Programme co-ordinator will ensure links across all place-based teams)
- SEND Support** Reducing duplication in planning and delivery of interventions

These teams will triage incoming referrals, offering immediate help where possible (including information about self-help resources); triage and allocate to appropriate member of the team for interventions, coordinate support from specialist services and support access into community provision.

The Healthy Schools service (part of SHIP) will work with local schools on wider health needs that are identified via supporting strengthening whole school approaches and facilitating access to the wider local partnership.

Specialist Services

The local teams will support access to specialist provision, including those commissioned by PH, the NHS and LA's. These could include weight management, immunisations, mental health, sexual health or substance misuse support.

Specialist level support services will also offer support and advise to case holding practitioners within the local team.

Community Services

As a place-based team there will be strengthened understanding of the local opportunities available to support Children and Young People. This includes local VCS organisations, wider community activities including sport and leisure activities, and wider neighbourhood support including foodbanks and pharmacies.

Appendix 3- Interventions underpinning 0-5 Healthy Child Programme

Community	Universal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver place-based support, basing services from accessible community venues. • Use the most up to date local needs assessment data and local service mapping to ensure the best use of local assets to support families. • Promote local services and encourage community connections, being aware of the impact of wider determinants of health including poverty, housing, employment and education. • Use available communication channels to promote healthy lifestyles. This will include healthy diet and physical activity, oral health, immunisations, and emotional wellbeing. 	<p>In addition to core contact points (antenatal health promoting review, new baby review, 6–8-week review, 1 year review, 2-2.5 year review) the following elements will be universally available to all families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A variety of thematic clinics (e.g., weighing, infant feeding, sleep). • Health reviews for children transferring into the area from another country and screening of records for children transferring into the area from within the UK. • Screening of A&E attendance notifications. • Access to 1:1 advice from a clinician in a Single Point of Access, either by phone, text, or chatbot. • A digital platform (website) which offers information, advice and signposting.
Targeted	Specialist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavioural and development support. • Nutritional support (including infant feeding). • Support for maternal/perinatal mental health concerns. • Care of Next Infant following a death of a baby/infant. • Sleep & excessive crying. • Health Reviews for children transferring into the county following screening process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the identification and addressing of health needs for children on Child Protection pathways. • Undertake Early Help Assessments, working as part of the team around the family and acting as lead professional when appropriate. • Enhanced support for vulnerable families (learning difficulties, Mental health, substance misuse). • Family Nurse Partnership programme for our most vulnerable teenage parents.

Appendix 4 - Interventions underpinning 5-19 Healthy Child Programme

Community	Universal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect and analyse data to ensure that Service understands local priorities and works across the wider system to build community capacity. • Have a broad knowledge of community needs and resources for the 5-19 age group. • Where possible support co-production of appropriate services with young people and families • Signpost children and young people to other sources of health and wellbeing advice and information and/or to other services that already exist locally as needed. • Influence other agencies and sectors to improve health outcomes. • Use available communication channels to promote healthy lifestyles. • Promotion of the service within schools and community spaces, and with those educated at home or in other provisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use community profiling to liaise with schools to agree support. • Health screening – Promote and review responses to 'Getting Ready for Change' digital health questionnaires at key transition points i.e. Reception, Year 6, Year 9 and post 16. • Delivery of School clinics (prioritising secondary schools) to be planned using local knowledge and health profiling data. • Reception aged vision screening programme. • Health reviews for children transferring into the area from another country and screening of records for children transferring into the area from within the UK. • Screening of A&E attendance notifications. • Access for parents and CYP to same day, 1:1 advice from a clinician in a Single Point of Access, either by phone, text or online option. • Online Medication Management training for schools covering asthma, Type 1 diabetes, Epilepsy, Anaphylaxis.
Targeted	Specialist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept referrals (including self-referrals from parents and young people) to offer support, advice, and signposting around the following topics: • Concerns relating to child or young person's health. • Being healthy and making positive choices including supporting maintaining a healthy weight. • Relationships and sexual health. • School transition. • Healthy bladder and bowel advice, including continence support. • Support with health needs (SEND, long-term conditions) • Vulnerabilities impacting health or education. • 1:1 work to include Health Needs Assessment and provide appropriate interventions. Impact evaluated using appropriate goal-based outcome tool, evaluated at each contact. • Provision of clinics to support with toileting issues such as bed-wetting and constipation. • Support the development of Educational Health Care Plans as appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Safeguarding processes and undertake work addressing the health needs for children on Child Protection pathways. • Attendance at Child Protection Case conferences if practitioner is the most appropriate health representative. • Health Needs Assessments offered if clinically valuable as part of the Child Protection process. • Undertaking Early Help Assessments, working as part of the team around the family and acting as lead professional when appropriate.

Music Education Hub Funding Consortium Agreement

To: Children and Young People

Meeting Date: 8 October 2024

From: Martin Purbrick, Executive Director, Children Education and Families

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: Yes

Forward Plan ref: 2024/085

Executive Summary: The new national Music Education Hub Funding Process set out by the Department for Education covers both the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authority areas as a single Hub.

An application to lead the new Hub was made, by agreement between the local authorities, through a consortium bid in the Autumn of 2023.

The successful award made in April 2024 can only be drawn down with a formal Consortium agreement in place between the two authorities.

This has been drafted and agreed with the involvement of legal teams.

- The report outlines the nature of the work the investment supports and the impact on existing provision were this not to be continued.
- The Committee is asked to approve the Consortium Agreement prepared by legal teams so that it can be sealed and the awarded funding can be drawn down.
- The Consortium agreement will enable the lead teams for music education to support existing provision and providers without disruption for children and young people and identify and facilitate new opportunities and development across the County. It will enable the further development of the infrastructure that supports access to musical instrument learning, ensemble participation, experiential projects and support for school music provision development.

Recommendation: The Children and Young People Committee is asked to:

- a) Approve the Consortium Agreement between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities to enable Cambridgeshire County Council to access and distribute the funding awarded by the Department of Education via the Arts Council of England.

Officer contact:

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1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

- 1.1 The report proposal has been evaluated in regards to alignment with the following seven ambitions [Strategic Framework 2023-2028 \(refreshed\) \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- 1.2 This report relates to the following ambitions:
 - Ambition 7 – Children and Young People have opportunities to thrive

2. Background

- 2.1 The purpose of Music Education Hub Funding since 2012 has been to support the objectives of the National Plan for Music Education in the area covered by the investment. The funding is from the Department for Education (DfE) and is administrated by the Arts Council of England.

From 1st September 2024, the DfE awards the funding on an area basis covering both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and requires a single Music Education Hub to operate across the whole area. On 9 October 2023, CCC Corporate Leadership Team approved a consortium bid to be made so that the existing provision for children and young people could be sustained and new opportunities identified, whilst meeting the national requirements. The application for funding, led by agreement by Cambridgeshire County Council, was successful and a formal Consortium agreement needs to be confirmed and sealed by committee to enable the funding to be accessed.

- 2.2 The outcomes of this process will be the investment in the current academic year (24-25) of £1.2 million into music education provision across the combined area. This will be used to support the provision of music education support for schools, progression routes for children and young people and collaborations that broaden access to music opportunities, as set out in the National Plan for Music Education.
- 2.3 The investment will help support the provision of guidance on music education development to all schools in the County in relation to the expectations of national policy and good practice, indirectly supporting all young people in education. It will directly impact over 7000 children and young people, supporting their progression and engagement with the music curriculum, skills and knowledge including playing and performance, singing skills access to resources to support this. It also supports workforce development through the provision of Continuing Professional Development and the generation of new opportunities for careers within the music education sector and formation of collaborations with other music organisations and individuals that brings further investment in activities and financial support.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1 The managers in each area responsible for music education have worked with respective legal teams to create the Consortium Agreement and ensure it meets the expectations and criteria for the investment funding. The Consortium Agreement delegates functions to Cambridgeshire County Council to act as the Lead for the new Music Education Hub Investment Process. Management and Operational structures have been put in place to ensure accountability within individual Consortium Member areas and the overall

accountability for the Music Education Hub itself.

- 3.2 These proposals for structure, operation and governance for the new Music Education Hub Boards and roles of consortium members have been consulted upon with the previous Music Education Hub Boards, senior officers and representative members. They have been discussed and agreed with the Arts Council of England. The terms of reference and management arrangements are in line with expected practice and national guidance and the drafting of the consortium agreement has been looked at in detail by all parties involved.

4. Alternative Options Considered

The alternative options considered by Corporate Leadership Team prior to approving application as a consortium for funding were to apply individually for the investment funding solely for Cambridgeshire or to not make an application.

- 4.1 The option to apply solely for Cambridgeshire was not permitted by the Arts Council of England and Department for Education. Such an application would have been disregarded and unsuccessful.
- 4.2 The option to not apply would have meant the investment funding would be managed by another organisation or Music Education Hub. The work of the current Music Education Hub with providers would have been at risk of ceasing or considerable disruption. This would have impacted children and young people engaged currently, their music education progression and opportunities to continue development of their skills and knowledge. This would also have impacted the viability of providers that carry out this work and could reduce the availability of new opportunities and planned projects and collaborations across the County.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 It was concluded that the Consortium Approach was the best option for securing investment towards the Music Education Work in each Local Authority Area and appropriate structure could be put in place to manage the operation of this with relevant teams. The Consortium Agreement now requires approval and sealing in order to access the funding and support the work with children and young people.

6. Significant Implications

6.1 Finance Implications

Without the investment funding available, viability of provider teams would be at significant risk as annual support forms a significant part of operational budget for work delivered. Appropriate restricted budget processes have been designed and agreed to manage and account for the investment funding, including distribution to Peterborough City Council for work in its area.

6.2 Legal Implications

A formal Legal Agreement is required locally and nationally to support the Consortium Arrangement. There would be a significant risk to Consortium Members given the funding amount (£1.2 million) without this in place.

6.3 Risk Implications

There would be significant impact on music education service provision and reputational risk without this agreement and investment in place which would have a detrimental impact on children and young people and schools in both areas. The management of such investment funding has been successfully achieved since 2012 and no risks are anticipated in supporting the new financial arrangements.

6.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

Approving this agreement does not raise any equality and diversity implications.

- a) A completed Equality, Impact Assessment (EqIA) form ([Equality Impact Assessment Hub](#)) must be attached as an appendix to this report, if appropriate. CCC643540674

6.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications (Key decisions only)

Approving this agreement supports ongoing work by providers to improve sustainability as projects and operational changes already ongoing would continue. The national investment approach has an expectation of sustainable environmental provision and the funding available will help broaden access through mechanisms not requiring travel and other use of technology as well as the recycling and reuse of physical resources such as instruments.

7. Source Documents

7.1 None

Ofsted Action plan and update on Sector Led Improvement Programme

To:	Children and Young People Committee
Meeting Date:	8 October 2024
From:	Executive Director: Children, Education & Families (CEF)
Electoral division(s):	Countywide
Key decision:	No
Forward Plan ref:	N/A
Executive Summary:	The report provides an overview of the sector led improvement work across Children Services and outlines an action plan following the Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority Children Services (ILACS) in March 2024.
Recommendation:	The Children and Young People Committee are asked to note the report.

Officer contact:

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1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

- 1.1 This report reflects Ambition 7: Children and Young People have opportunities to thrive, of the Council's Strategic Framework.

2. Background

- 2.1 In March 2024, Cambridgeshire received a full Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority Children Services (ILACS) which the local authority had been expecting. Ofsted graded inspections of local authorities are every 3 years and there are different types of inspection that take place in the interim period, this framework consists of:
- Inspection of Local Authority Children Services (ILACS) (the main graded inspection)
 - Joint Targeted Area Inspection targeted area inspection (JTAI) of the multi-agency response to children and their families who need help in a local authority area (these are thematic and the theme changes regularly)
 - Focused Visit – evaluate an aspect of service, a theme or the experiences of a cohort of children
 - Annual Conversation – Between Ofsted and local authorities is a formal discussion, alongside self-evaluation, will help local authorities to critically evaluate their own performance and articulate what they think is working well for children in their area.
- 2.2 Prior to Ofsted and with new leadership in place from mid-2023, it was recognised that Cambridgeshire Children Services needed a review of its services to fully understand the strengths and areas for development in the social care system. In July 2023, the Department of Education (DfE) approved funding for Sector Led Improvement (SLI) partnership with Essex. The SLI programme provides an opportunity for Local Authorities to utilise the knowledge, skills and experience of another Local Authority to gain valuable insight and learning to help with their improvement. Essex County Council is already rated as 'outstanding' from Ofsted for its children services.
- 2.3 In Cambridgeshire, the SLI programme included Essex colleagues undertaking various 'diagnostic' visits to teams and services within Children frontline Services to review their key strengths, the areas for development and suggested set of recommendations. In addition, Essex County Council would also undertake a staff survey and provide two practice learning events for staff in early 2024, toolkits and guidance's such as 'wheels of discussions' for practitioners.
- 2.4 Each diagnostic visit consisted of Essex colleagues visiting each team (one team per day) to meet staff members individually to ask questions on their processes, practice and arrangements, followed by case sampling held by the team. Initial verbal feedback would be given to Team Managers on the day and a finalised report being sent within 3 weeks of the visit. Cambridgeshire Team Managers also joined Essex panel for each other's diagnostic visits which provided opportunity to identify areas for join up across teams.
- 2.5 Phase 1 of the SLI took place from August 2023 to March 2024 and the following teams and services were visited. To note that there are normally 4-5 different teams in each service area as they are geographically spread across Cambridgeshire District areas. Each of the services visited are outlined below.

- Assessment Services
- Family Safeguarding Services
- Children in Care
- Leaving Care
- Children with Disabilities 0-25 service
- Child Protection Conferencing
- Independent Reviewing Service
- Missing & Exploitation (thematic diagnostic)

2.6 In addition, Phase 2 started in April 2024 after the DfE agreed additional funding to continue the SLI which included several diagnostic visits of the following services, some of which are still being undertaken to date.

- Targeted Support Services
- Clinical Services
- Fostering Services, including special guardianship orders
- Adoption Services

3. Sector Led Improvement Programme (SLI)

3.1 The staff survey which formed part of the SLI highlighted the following areas:

- More time with children and families advocating for them and understanding their needs
- Improve partnership working with other agencies
- Continued professional development
- Lower caseloads
- Better time management and more admin support
- Quicker approvals for funding
- Smoother transitions to other teams
- More focus on creating the right capacity
- More visibility and access to Senior Managers

3.2 The key strengths from the SLI included:

3.2.1 The workforce:

- Professionals spoke about their children and young people they are supporting with confidence and passion, really care about outcomes for them
- Team Members have a wealth of professional experience between them and feel there is a good investment in staff wellbeing
- Managers know their teams well and support staff well

3.2.2 Relationship with children, young people and their families:

- Children and young people's voice are clear showing the worker's aspirations for them in records and planning
- A strong sense that trauma informed practice is being understood and undertaken in the service
- Teams are passionate about the young people they work with and know them well and form good relationships with them

3.3 The key areas for development include:

3.3.1 Recording:

- Recording was inconsistent on children's files
- Consent to share could be recorded in Liquid Logic system more often and more clearly
- Review records for children and young people who have been in care for extended periods of time appeared to duplicate recording over multiple reviews

3.3.2 Genograms and Chronologies:

- Some teams had no genograms whilst others are not systemic and do not always provide a good picture of the child's family and lacks cultural identity
- Inconsistencies in some chronologies with long lists, rather than clear summary of events and some requiring updating

3.3.3 Supervision:

- Supervisions could be opportunities to expand on curiosity and challenge or encourage forward planning for consistency
- Supervision recording was inconsistent and varied across teams

3.3.4 Cultural Identity:

- Although cultural and identity needs are noted, there could be further scope to explore how these are being considered more and curiosity around relationships
- Expanding the knowledge of social graces to understand better the child's cultural and religious needs on their day-to-day support needs

3.4 The other areas for improvement included the need to plan more effectively to ensure actions are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely). It also highlighted that there are inconsistencies of quality, knowledge and timeliness in different teams.

3.5 During November 2023, half-way through the diagnostic, Cambridgeshire launched its Spotlight Big Six areas which outlined a set of priority areas along with toolkits, guidance's and training for all teams and services to focus on, as outlined below.



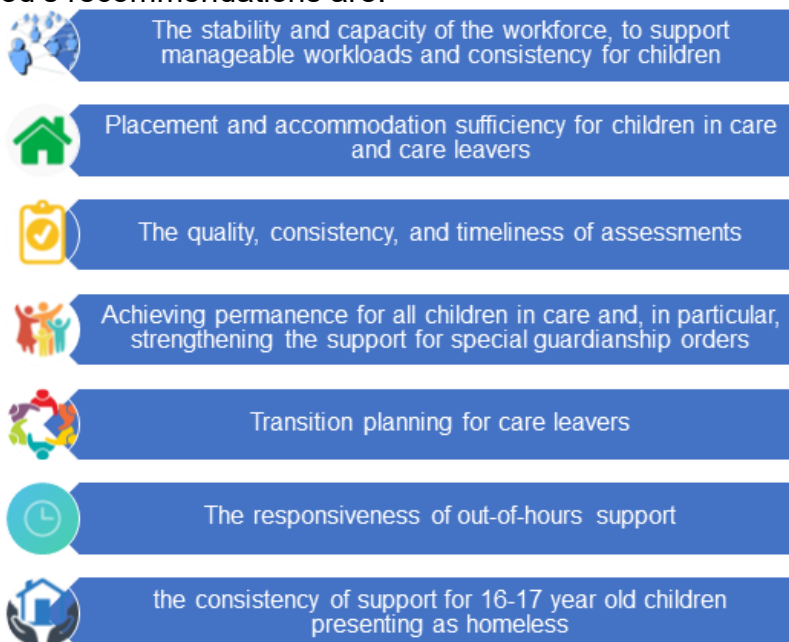
3.6 Essex County Council outlined that they were impressed by Cambridgeshire's proactive approach and highlighted that it was unusual for a Local Authority to respond to these reflections half-way through the SLI.

3.7 Phase 2 of the SLI started in April 2024 with diagnostic visits to Targeted Support and further visits with clinical services, fostering and adoption planned for September and October 2024.

4. Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority Children Services (ILACS) in Cambridgeshire

4.1 Cambridgeshire's last full Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority Children Services (ILACS) was in 2019. In March 2024, Cambridgeshire received an ILACS inspection which ran over a 3-week period. Week one, Inspectors were offsite and requesting key documentation such as our self-evaluation. Weeks two and three, Inspectors were onsite at various local team offices and focus groups and staff meetings were arranged.

4.2 In May 2024, Ofsted's judgement for the overall effectiveness for Cambridgeshire Children Services was 'Requires Improvement to good'. The full outcome can be found [here](#) and an outline of Ofsted's recommendations are:



4.4 Ofsted commented that although there had not been overall improvement since the last inspection, they outlined that 'This inspection, however, did find evidence of concrete and significant improvement in recent months.'

4.3 In response to these recommendation's, Cambridgeshire children services have developed and submitted an action plan to make these improvements over the next year, this can be found as Appendix 1.

4.4 Some work and improvements have started to make progress, including launching the Spotlight Big Six to ensure consistency and quality within assessments. In addition, due to the changes to working arrangements, including processing assessments, caseloads are at the lowest they have been for quite a few years and progress has been made in the recruitment of a permanent workforce with less use of agency staff. The residential strategy focuses more on placement sufficiency within the County.

4.5 It should be noted that Cambridgeshire has now received the judgement 'requires improvement to good' twice in a row. In line with Ofsted and DfE guidance, if the next full inspection outcome is either Requires Improvement or Inadequate then the DfE will consider intervention with Cambridgeshire.

- 4.6 Cambridgeshire County Council is fully committed the ongoing improvement journey ensuring better outcomes for children and their families, learning from quality assurance work and developing a stable, skilled and permanent children's workforce.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 CYP Committee are asked to note the content of the report.

6. Significant Implications

6.1 Finance Implications

There are no significant implications

6.2 Legal Implications

There is a possibility of a significant implication, please note 4.5 within this report.

6.3 Risk Implications

There is a potential risk, please note 4.5 within this report.

6.4 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no significant implications

6.5 Climate Change and Environment Implications (Key decisions only)

There are no significant implications

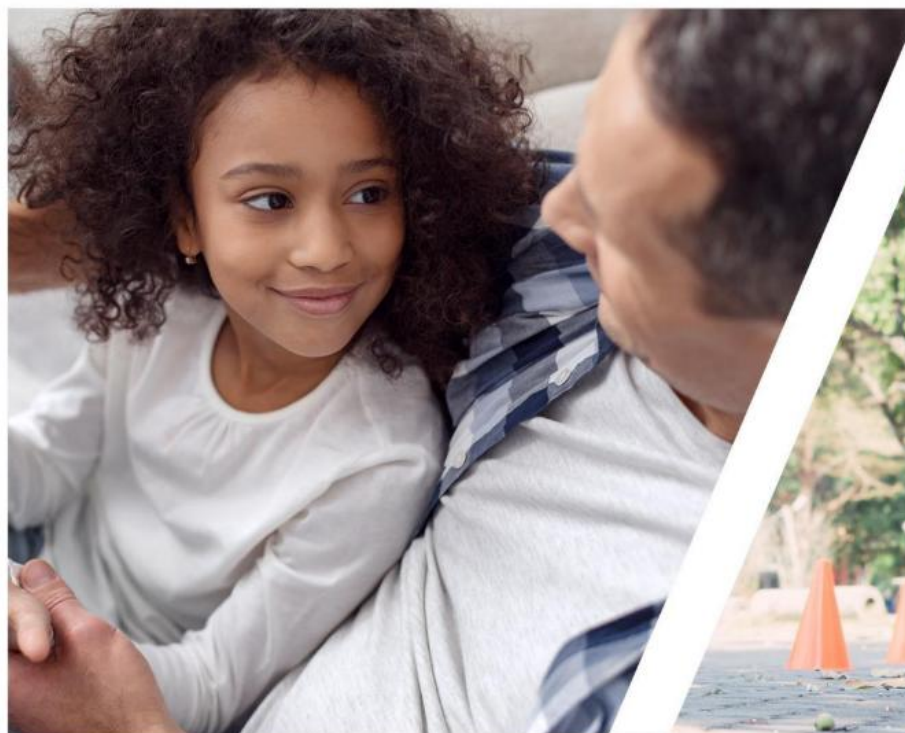
7. Source Documents

- 7.1 None

Children's Services

Ofsted Action Plan

July 2024





The key recommendations identified by Ofsted:

-  The stability and capacity of the workforce, to support manageable workloads and consistency for children
-  Placement and accommodation sufficiency for children in care and care leavers
-  The quality, consistency, and timeliness of assessments
-  Achieving permanence for all children in care and, in particular, strengthening the support for special guardianship orders
-  Transition planning for care leavers
-  The responsiveness of out-of-hours support
-  the consistency of support for 16-17 year old children presenting as homeless

Aligned with the Ofsted recommendations and the direction of travel for Cambridgeshire's Children, Education and Families (CEF) services, our key principles will be to make rapid improvement and ensure consistency of our core functions across our services. Cambridgeshire will ensure there is a collaborative approach with partners as one united multi-agency workforce to ensure safe and sound practice across the system. We will measure our performance and, more importantly, the impact and outcomes for children, young people and their families, ensuring their voices are heard and influence continuous improvement. Cambridgeshire will thrive to become an 'Outstanding' children services local authority.



The following correlates with each of the recommendations from Ofsted and outlines Cambridgeshire's key actions for making improvements in each of these areas

1. WORKFORCE

No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
1.1	Building Capacity: Staff capacity, capability and resilience are continuously strengthened. This allows the multi-agency workforce to realise their full potential and ensure that we have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the right professional with the right skills in the right roles/place at the right time at the right cost within budget to support manageable workloads and consistent, stable services for children 	Practice is increasingly consistent due to the increase in the permanent workforce with manageable workloads, all of whom work within a culture of continuous personal and team improvement.	Executive Director: Children, Education & Families (CEF)	March 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the number of agency staff to 15% Reduction in caseloads to a maximum of 25 in Assessment (<i>upto 20 in other teams</i>) Decrease in the number of staff avoidably leaving Cambridgeshire Understanding and bridging the skills-gap within the workforce Continuous professional development increases with customised learning programmes 	Caseloads reducing currently at 29 during July 24 (Jan = 40+)



No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
1.2	Structuring Work: Children, Education & Families (CEF) is structured to deliver our ambitions. Roles are designed to deliver our objectives and creating interesting work for people, encouraging collaborative ways of working.	Preventative services have been redesigned to better align to collaborate with specialist areas of children social care and partners	Executive Director: Children, Education & Families (CEF)	March 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in the number of repeat referrals made into the service Retention of staff continues to increase Reduction in the number of children and young people coming into care 	In July 2024 26.9% (a decrease since December 2023 which was 35.97%)
1.3	Managing outcomes: Objectives within Children, Education & Families (CEF) are fully aligned, performance is measured, and feedback is used to change and transform services	<p>Evaluation of impact of learning and development</p> <p>Performance Improvement</p> <p>Measure and report on return of investment</p>	All Children, Education & Families (CEF) Directors	December 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big six spotlight areas lead to improvement in case recording and outcomes Reduction in caseloads to a maximum of 25 in Assessment (<i>upto 20 in other teams</i>) Increase in cases reaching timelines Reduction in sickness absence 	Caseloads reducing currently at 29 during July 24 (In January 2024 these were 40+)



No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
1.4	Delivering continuous improvement: There is a focus on continuous improvement. Our people use internal and external sources to come up with new ideas and approaches, supported by a culture that encourages innovation.	<p>There is continuous improvement in caseload management, quality and timeliness of workload by:</p> <p>Updating and upgrading in accuracy and quality within our Self-Assessment on a 6-monthly basis</p> <p>Sector Led Improvement Programme (SLIP) input contributes to continuous improvement</p> <p>Progressive use of</p>	All Children, Education & Families (CEF) Directors	January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff accessing and utilising business intelligence to better understand their areas and to improve levels of assessment, analysis and interventions Business systems are accurately recording information within the establishment with increasing oversight and analysis Quality and timeliness of assessments have improved Reduction in caseloads to a maximum of 25 in Assessment (<i>upto 20 in other teams</i>) 	<p>Access has now been rolled out to Managers to access this information regularly</p> <p>Training with managers is being undertaken</p> <p>Caseloads reducing currently at 29 during July 24 (Jan = 40+)</p>



No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
		<p>feedback from those using our services which show the impact of our work on their lived experience</p> <p>Children, Education & Families (CEF) audit activity highlights areas for focus</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from staff (health check & surveys) provides continuous improvement and improved emotional wellbeing for staff Voice of the child more evident throughout the child's journey 	



2. PLACEMENT SUFFICIENCY

No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
2.1	Residential strategy and sufficiency strategy are refreshed to ensure placement availability and affordability - Explore and identify properties to support Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC)	The right accommodation to meet need is identified and implemented	Head of Children's Commissioning	December 24	Sufficient accommodation placements are available when required	
2.2	Increase in-house foster carers - Refocusing fostering campaign in line with sufficiency need.	Foster homes are available for those coming into care	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	March 25	Increase in the number of foster carers by 7 (<i>subject to panel approval by October 24</i>)	
2.3	Increasing emergency placements for children coming into care	The right accommodation to meet need is identified and implemented	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	March 25	Specialist carers are trained and in place to support children with high complex needs in an emergency	By September 2024, we will have four carers who are approved to support children with highly complex needs in an emergency
2.4	Implement the mocking-bird model	Building better relationships between children, young people and foster families	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	January 2025	Children living with foster carers build confidence, resilience within a caring community	



No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
2.5	Provider framework for 16+ & 18+ accommodation (pricing and service delivery framework)	The right accommodation to meet need is identified and implemented	Head of Children's Commissioning	March 25	Sufficient and affordable placement availability	A provider has been identified and in place since 1 st July 2024
2.6	Quality assurance of placement sufficiency in place and established	Effective monitoring has been established to ensure continuous improvement	Service Director: Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	March 25	Collaborative working across services to ensure improvements are recognised and made	



3. ASSESSMENTS

No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
3.1	Service Redesign to be in line with geographical demand and review of key processes, particularly in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) - Early help / targeted support 	Ability to meet demand	Service Director: Children's Social Care	March 25	Improved quality, consistency and timeliness of assessments	New MASH screening template in place from end of August 2024
3.2	Create and increase capacity where needed to meet ongoing and future particularly within MASH & Assessment	Ability to meet demand	Service Director: Children's Social Care	March 25	Improved quality, consistency and timeliness of assessments	Managers to use 10 days oversight to review level of intervention/assessment
3.3	Training on the key big-six areas	All professionals have a consistent approach to the big six areas	Service Director: Children's Social Care	October 24	Improved quality and consistency across the workforce	Consistent training from Learning and Development Service Meetings and bite-size sessions being offered to teams and service.
3.4	Continued work on threshold consistency and building better partnership working and joint processes to meet need	Thresholds are understood and consistent across partner agencies, mostly delivered through collaborative conversations	Service Director: Children's Social Care	March 25	Improved quality and efficiency of referrals	



No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
3.5	Ensuring quality assurance to understand practice quality and assessment needs	increases in depth, analysis and clear coverage of the key domains	Service Director: Children's Social Care & Service Director Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	March 25	In-service Audits are undertaken regularly with some collaborative multi-agency audits and audits which include children and families where possible.	Audits have taken place during July 2024 and will be included in service action plans going forward



4. PERMANENCE

No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
4.1	Develop, agree and implement permanence planning protocol	Clear and shared understanding of how permanence will be achieved	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	May 2024	Improved timeliness and quality of permanence planning	This is finalised and approved by the Directorate Management Team (DMT)
4.2	Permanence tracking panel fully operational and joined up approach for children in care and embed pre-proceedings meeting (PPM) into the overarching processes - Review criteria - Streamline processes - Joined up approaches - Linked to tracking on business systems	Clear tracking of permanence arrangements Less churn of social workers for children in care Continuously improving placement stability Sufficient oversight to ensure each child in care has a special person they trust	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	September 24	Improved timeliness and quality of permanence planning	
4.3	Quality assurance for Dispute Resolution Process (DRP) work	Review audit of Permanence has been completed and key areas identified for focus	Service Director: Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	October 2024	Improved timeliness and quality of permanence planning	Analysis report of DRPs completed in August 2024



5. CARE LEAVERS

No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
5.1	Improve the Pathway plan completion rate	Pathway plans are completed within time with audits showing increasing quality Equity of service between 16–25-year-olds	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	March 25	Increase to the completion rate of pathway plans within timescale	
5.2	Update and relaunch the Local offer website. Ensure the involvement of young people to co-produce the local offer	Care Leavers have access to additional support needed to start their adulthood.	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	September 2024	Information is easily accessible and available to young people	Working with Young People currently
5.3	Enhance preparation for independence support to young people from 14 years	Care leavers feel fully support and prepared for leaving care	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	November 2024	Appropriate capacity is in place to start support from 14+	Working with young people, foster carers and internal colleagues
5.4	Launching 'Education, employment and training' (EET) empowerment forum to support young people	Care leavers feel fully support and prepared for leaving care	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	May 24	Young People are clear of where to gain support for 'Education, employment and training' (EET)	Complete



No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
5.5	Develop apprenticeship/work experiences opportunities for Care Leavers (Levels 1,2 and 3 offered with preparation)	Care leavers feel fully support and prepared for leaving care	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	October 24	A clear and transparent process for Care leavers to access work and training opportunities	Work Experience has been completed. Working on the apprenticeship opportunities
5.6	Working with District Councils for a clear Housing pathway for Care Leavers	Care leavers feel fully supported through their future accommodation needs No Care Leavers in unsupported accommodation unless this is assessed as unnecessary	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	December 24	Accommodation needs for Care Leavers are clear and transparent	Band A bidding agreed for Care Leavers with a start date currently being agreed.
5.7	Strengthening our processes for oversight on emergency placements (inc Bed & Breakfasts (B&Bs))	A seamless process for emergency placements	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	March 25	Reduced rate of use of B&Bs	Tracking is in place. All young people will be presented to External Placement Panel for oversight
5.8	Allocation of Personal Advisors at 17 ½ years old	Care Leavers feel fully support and prepared for leaving care	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	September 24	Appropriate capacity is in place to support Care Leavers	Six Personal Advisors have been appointed



No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
5.9	Increase Voice of Care Leavers to influence policy and service design	Care Leavers feel fully heard to influence future service redesign	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	ongoing	Voice of the Care Leavers can be evidenced	Work in progress
5.10	Corporate Parenting Strategy	Care Leavers feel fully heard <i>(to note the corporate parenting strategy applies to all children equally, whatever their age)</i>	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	October 24	Voices of Care Leavers can be evidenced throughout the Corporate Parenting strategy	
5.11	Improved and earlier preparation planning for transition planning 16/17 year-olds in care	Care leavers feel fully support and prepared for leaving care	Service Director of Corporate Parenting, Fostering & Adoption	September 24	Appropriate capacity is in place to support Care Leavers	

6. OUT-OF-HOURS SUPPORT

No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
6.1	Review the effectiveness, timeliness and practice of the current Emergency Duty Team (EDT) service and their delivery of out of hours support (i.e. agreements etc)	Emergency Duty Team (EDT) are reviewed and a future plan in place	Service Director: Children's Social Care	December 2024	Out of hours support is consistent	This is currently under review



7. HOMELESSNESS 16-17 YEAR OLDS

No	Item	Outcome	Responsible Officer	Timescale	Success criteria	Progress
7.1	Review current process and practice to ensure a joined-up approach with services and partners (including District housing).	Consistent approach across services for handling with homelessness of 16/17 year old	Service Director: Children's Social Care	November 24	Better support in place to assist 16/17 years old who are homeless	There is a shared draft protocol has been reviewed and this includes collaborative intervention between Housing and Children's Social Care. Awaiting final approval
7.2	Ensure access to advocacy which includes 16/17 homeless when assessment takes place to ensure clear transparent understanding and advice	Young people feel supported	Service Director: Children's Social Care	December 24	<p>Better support in place to assist 16/17 years old who are homeless</p> <p>Better recording on local children's system to ensure continuous improvement</p>	

Finance Monitoring Report – August 2024

To:	Children and Young People Committee
Meeting Date:	8 October 2024
From:	Executive Director: Children, Education and Families Executive Director: Finance and Resources Director of Public Health
Electoral division(s):	All
Key decision:	No
Forward Plan ref:	Not applicable
Outcome:	To provide the Committee with the August 2024 Finance Monitoring Report for Children, Education and Families. The report is presented to provide the Committee with the opportunity to comment on the financial position as at the end of August 2024.
Recommendation:	The Children and Young People Committee are asked to note the report.

Officer contact:

Name: Martin Wade
Post: Strategic Finance Manager
Email: martin.wade@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01223 699733

1. Background

- 1.1 Finance Monitoring Reports (FMR) are produced monthly, except for April, by all services. They report on a range of financial information to enable a view of each service's financial position to be taken.
- 1.2 Budgets for services are agreed by Full Council in the business plan in February of each year and can be amended by budget virements. In particular, the FMR provides a revenue budget forecast showing the current projection of whether services will be over or underspent for the year against those budgets.
- 1.3 The detailed FMR for Children, Education and Families (CEF) is attached at Appendix A. As noted previously the budgets within Appendix 1 are now being shown gross and net, to provide details of any income or grant funding associated with each policy line, and to align with the presentation within in the business plan.
- 1.4 The table below provides a summary of the budget within CEF, with further detail being available in Appendix A:

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Service Area	Net Budget 2024/25 £000	Actual to end of August £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
3,222	Children, Education and Families - Non-DSG	148,781	54,606	7,308	4.9%
11,730	Children, Education and Families - DSG	0	5,612	11,730	0.0%

- 1.5 The table below provides a summary of the budgets within the Adults and Public Health FMR which come under the responsibility of the CYP:

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Service Area	Net Budget 2024/25 £000	Actual to end of August £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
0	Children's Commissioning - Staffing	1,376	596	0	0.0%
0	Adults, Health and Commissioning Total	1,376	596	0	0.0%
0	Children Health	10,519	2,800	-1	0.0%
0	Children Health Total	10,519	2,800	-1	0.0%

2. Main Issues

- 2.1 Further details of the CEF position, including explanatory narrative and relevant technical appendices can be seen in Appendix A.

3. Alignment with ambitions

- 3.1 Net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2045, and our communities and natural environment are supported to adapt and thrive as the climate changes
There are no significant implications for this ambition.
- 3.2 Travel across the county is safer and more environmentally sustainable
There are no significant implications for this ambition.
- 3.3 Health inequalities are reduced
There are no significant implications for this ambition.
- 3.4 People enjoy healthy, safe, and independent lives through timely support that is most suited to their needs
There are no significant implications for this ambition.
- 3.5 Helping people out of poverty and income inequality
There are no significant implications for this ambition.
- 3.6 Places and communities prosper because they have a resilient and inclusive economy, access to good quality public services and social justice is prioritised
There are no significant implications for this ambition.
- 3.7 Children and young people have opportunities to thrive
There are no significant implications for this ambition.

4. Significant Implications

- 4.1 Resource Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.2 Procurement/Contractual/Council Contract Procedure Rules Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.3 Statutory, Legal and Risk Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.4 Equality and Diversity Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.5 Engagement and Communications Implications
There are no significant implications within this category.
- 4.6 Localism and Local Member Involvement

There are no significant implications within this category.

4.7 Public Health Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

4.8 Climate Change and Environment Implications on Priority Areas:

4.8.1 Implication 1: Energy efficient, low carbon buildings.

Status: Neutral

4.8.2 Implication 2: Low carbon transport.

Status: Neutral

4.8.3 Implication 3: Green spaces, peatland, afforestation, habitats and land management.

Status: Neutral

4.8.4 Implication 4: Waste Management and Tackling Plastic Pollution.

Status: Neutral

4.8.5 Implication 5: Water use, availability and management:

Status: Neutral

4.8.6 Implication 6: Air Pollution.

Status: Neutral

4.8.7 Implication 7: Resilience of our services and infrastructure, and supporting vulnerable people to cope with climate change.

Status: Neutral

5. Source documents

5.1 Source documents

As well as presentation of the FMR to the Committee the report will be made available online.

5.2 Location: [Finance monitoring reports - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Directorate: Children, Education and Families
Subject: Finance Monitoring Report – August (period 5)

Contents

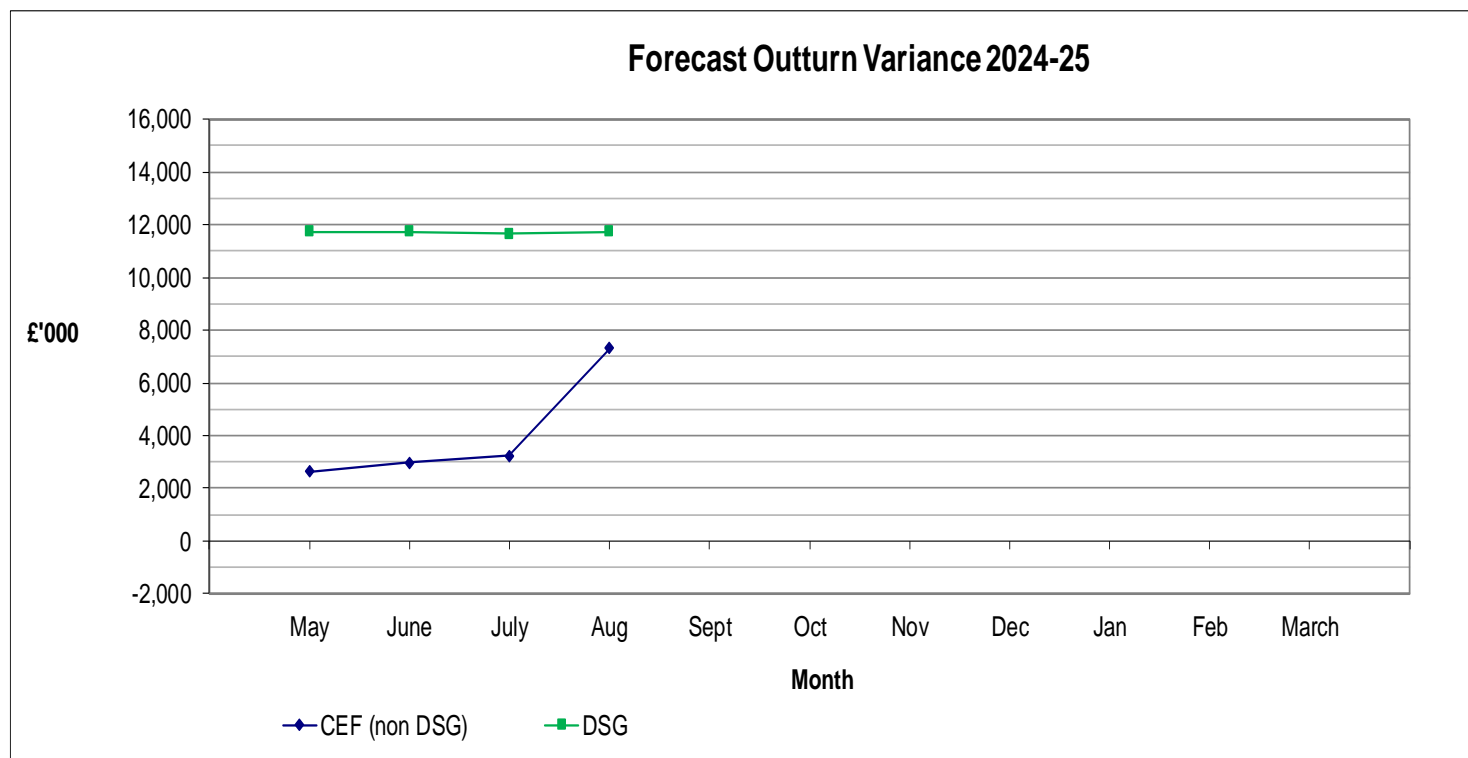
Section	Item	Description
1	Revenue Executive Summary	High level summary of information and narrative on key issues in revenue financial position
2	Capital Executive Summary	Summary of the position of the Capital programme within Children, Education and Families
3	Savings Tracker Summary	Summary of the latest position on delivery of savings
4	Technical Note	Explanation of technical items that are included in some reports
5	Key Activity Data	Performance information linking to financial position of main demand-led services
Appx 1a	Service Level Financial Information	Detailed financial tables for Children, Education and Families main budget headings
Appx 1b	Service Level Financial Information	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) financial tables for Children, Education and Families main budget headings
Appx 2	Service Commentaries	Detailed notes on revenue financial position of services that have a significant variance against budget
Appx 3	Capital Appendix	This contains more detailed information about the capital programme, including funding sources and variances from planned spend.
<i>The following appendices are included quarterly as the information does not change as regularly:</i>		
Appx 4	Savings Tracker	Each quarter, the Council's savings tracker is produced to give an update of the position of savings agreed in the Business Plan.
Appx 5	Technical Appendix	Each quarter, this will contain technical financial information showing: Grant income received Budget virements Earmarked & Capital reserves
Appx 6	Maintained Schools	Each quarter, this will contain summary financial information showing: Numbers of maintained school with deficit budgets Revised maintained school balance forecasts

1. Revenue Executive Summary

1.1 Overall Position

At the end of August 2024, Children, Education and Families is projected to be £7,308k overspent on core funded activities and £11,730k overspent on Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) activities.

1.2 Summary of Revenue position by Directorate



1.2.1 Childrens, Education and Families – Non DSG

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Service Area	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual to date £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
-750	Executive Director	2,734	0	2,734	422	-750	-27.4%
0	Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	3,766	-557	3,209	1,206	0	0.0%
0	Fostering, Adoption & Corporate Parenting	28,357	-8,707	19,650	15,151	0	0.0%
1,013	Targeted Support & Childrens Social Care	29,081	-4,212	24,869	9,176	782	3.1%
-41	Education	71,299	-15,325	55,975	14,036	2,846	5.1%
3,000	Commissioning	33,986	-715	33,271	12,167	4,000	12.0%
0	LDP and Prevention	9,864	-791	9,073	4,861	430	4.7%
3,222	Total Expenditure	179,088	-30,307	148,781	57,020	7,308	4.9%
0	Schools	0	0	0	-2,414	0	0.0%
3,222	Total	179,088	-30,307	148,781	54,606	7,308	4.9%

1.2.2 Children, Education and Families – DSG

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Service Area	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual to date £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
14,000	Education (DSG)	117,721	-805	116,916	47,227	14,000	12.0%
0	Commissioning (DSG)	245	0	245	123	0	0.0%
14,000	Total Expenditure (DSG)	117,966	-805	117,161	47,349	14,000	11.9%
-2,270	Schools (DSG)	537,613	0	537,613	89,453	-2,270	-0.4%
0	Financing (DSG)	1,951	-656,725	-654,774	-131,190	0	0.0%
11,730	Total (DSG)	657,530	-657,530	0	5,612	11,730	0.0%

1.3 Significant Issues

The overall position for Children, Education and Families non-DSG budgets to the end of August 2024 is a forecast overspend of £7.308m.

Children in Care Placements –The council is facing a projected £4M deficit in the budget for children's external placements. This is primarily driven by an increase in the number of young people requiring care, rising placement costs and limited provider availability of suitable providers. To manage this, we are monitoring costs through weekly package reviews and implementing strategic initiatives such as the Sufficiency Strategy. We are engaging with providers to secure more sustainable and economical placements for children. There continues to be increasing demand of statutory care placements for children that are unable to remain in the family care setting affected by extra familial harm (risks outside the home); acute mental health needs and those are acutely affected by their neuro developmental needs resulting in family breakdowns.

Targeted Support and Childrens Social Care – A revised net forecast overspend of £782k is now being reported for Targeted Support and Childrens Social Care. Continuing reliance on agency staff within the Integrated Front Door (IFD), Assessment and Family Support & Safeguarding teams. This has been offset in part by the application of one-off grant carry forward and the cessation of previous Family Safeguarding contracts. As part of the business planning process for 2025-26 options to support the workforce in these areas have been developed based on demand analysis and forecasted improvement activity. In addition, the IFD/Assessment service will be receiving 6 newly qualified social workers (SWs) and 3 International SWs in September as part of its effort to recruit more permanent social workers. We are continuing to engage with our internal recruitment team to bolster our permanent recruitment drive and campaigns. We are also ensuring that any requests for agency staff are being rigorously reviewed at the Children's Expenditure Panel.

Education – A revised net forecast pressure of £85k is now being reported for Education services (excluding Home to School Transport). A reduction in the number of recipients has resulted in a forecast underspend on historic teachers' pensions of £350k. This is being offset by pressures within the ICT service (£175k) and SEND Specialist Services (£250k) as well as other small variances.

The SEND Specialist Services pressure is due to the continued pressures within the Educational Psychology service. The service continues to experience increasing demand which cannot be met from

within the substantive team and is therefore being met through use of locum Education Psychologists. This is as a direct result of the increase in requests for Education Health and Care Needs Assessments (EHCNA) that is impacting on all SEND services. This is a national trend and is not isolated to Cambridgeshire. The service is continuing to consider the best value approach to meeting the increasing demand. The current forecasting suggests this position will worsen by year end due to do the demand outweighing capacity.

To drive down demand for EHCPs and reduce spend, a SEND recovery plan has been agreed within an Inclusion for All 0-25 programme that will strengthen the focus on Inclusive Practice through an end-to-end review of SEND. This will enable a review of resources against the pressure points in practice to reconfigure spend so that there is funding in the right places. In scope of this work, all non-statutory provision across the wider Education department will be reviewed to ensure the gaps in capacity that is driving the reliance on high-cost locums is reduced. The strengthened governance within the Inclusion for All programme will accelerate the pace and tighten the grip and focus of this work. However, the scale of the issues are large and the changes implemented are in a dynamic environment where demand is outstripping the cultural shift in practice to generate change.

The ICT Service is forecasting an overspend of £175k as a result of the continued reduction in spend by schools on ICT hardware due to increasing financial challenges. The service is looking at ways to mitigate this overspend and amend the delivery model for future years.

Home to School Transport – The Home to School Transport Service is currently forecasting £2.7m overspend for the 24-25 Financial Year. This is because of unforeseen growth in demand, for example an additional 2,000 routes being implemented for the 24-25 Academic Year across just mainstream services.

The demand underpinning escalated transport costs is driven by a combination of a surge in demand for children and young people meeting the criteria for transport (largely through the growth in children with SEND) and the costs associated with meeting this demand where the transport itself is costing more to deliver. To drive down these costs, a transformation programme is in place that is aiming to reduce demand by a consistent application of The Home to School Transport Policy, alongside a review of contractual arrangements and routes.

A lack of local special school places has contributed to the increase in transport demand as children are more often requiring transport to a specialist private school that can meet their needs.

Despite changes in the transport team structure and processes, there is a strong focus on service review to mitigate continued overspends. This is to include processes for earlier forecasting, transport procurement plans and utilising the opportunity of the pending consultancy review.

Children's Disability Service - The 0-25 Disability Service is currently forecasting an overspend of £430k due to the increase in demand and need across the direct payment budget, community support and Camplay holiday clubs, as well as a budget pressure created by the intensive therapeutic support hub (ITSH).

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) – Appendix 1b provides a detailed breakdown of all DSG spend within Children, Education & Families Services. The budget figures are gross of recoupment for academies and High Needs place funding.

A cumulative DSG deficit of £40.015m has been brought forward into 2024-25. To the end of August, the reported net DSG forecast is £11.730m. Work is underway to remodel demand and develop new approaches to manage costs whilst meeting the increase level of need. This will form part of a resubmission of our Safety Valve Agreement to the DfE later this term.

Maintained Schools – An increasing number of schools have submitted deficit budgets for the 2024-25 financial year. Work is currently underway to review revised deficit recovery plans and work with schools to develop further options for sustainable budgets in future years. Strategy, Resources and Performance Committee have now approved delegated responsibility to the Executive Director: Finance and Resources to be able to approve license deficit applications for schools with deficits in excess of 5% of their annual school budget. Appendix 6 provides a summary of the latest status of those schools which submitted a deficit budget for the 2024-25 financial year.

2. Capital Executive Summary

At the end of August 2024, the capital programme forecast underspend is zero. The level of slippage and underspend in 2024-25 is currently anticipated to be £3,065k and as such has not yet exceeded the Capital Variation Budget. A forecast outturn will not be reported unless this happens.

3. Savings Tracker Summary

The savings trackers are produced quarterly to monitor delivery of savings against agreed plans.

4. Technical note

On a quarterly basis, a technical financial appendix will be included as Appendix 5. This appendix covers:

- Grants that have been received by the service, and where these have been more or less than expected.
- Budget movements (virements) into or out of the directorate from other directorates, to show why the budget might be different from that agreed by Full Council.
- Service earmarked reserves – funds held for specific purposes that may be drawn down in-year or carried-forward – including use of funds and forecast draw-down.

5. Key Activity Data

5.1 Key activity data to the end of August 2024 for **Children in Care Placements** is shown below:

	BUDGET				ACTUAL (August 2024)				OUTTURN		
Service Type	No of placements Budgeted	Annual Budget	No. of weeks funded	Average weekly cost per head	Snapshot of No. of placements Aug 2024	Yearly Average	Forecast Outturn	Average weekly cost per head	Yearly Average budgeted placements	Net Variance to Budget	Average weekly cost diff +/-
Residential - disability	4	£1,462k	52	£7,028	11	5.53	£2,358k	£8,442	1.53	£896k	£1,414
Residential - secure accommodation	1	£1,396k	52	£26,852	0	0.00	£k	£0	-1.00	-£1,396k	-£26,852
Residential schools	6	£662k	52	£2,122	6	5.13	£614k	£2,360	-0.87	-£48k	£238
Residential homes	51	£15,421k	52	£5,815	53	51.87	£15,547k	£6,642	0.87	£126k	£827
Independent Fostering	151	£7,346k	52	£936	186	177.01	£9,270k	£1,031	26.01	£1,924k	£95
Tier 4 Step down	1	£348k	52	£6,695	0	0.00	£k	£0	-1.00	-£348k	-£6,695
Supported Living	2	£776k	52	£7,460	2	1.41	£532k	£6,319	-0.59	-£244k	-£1,141
Supported Accommodation 16+	33	£3,286k	52	£1,915	32	24.31	£3,357k	£2,541	-8.69	£71k	£626
Unregulated	5	£101k	52	£387	4	2.54	£48k	£373	-2.46	-£53k	-£14
Growth/Replacement	2	£1,664k	52	£16,002	14	6.21	£5,485k	£23,651	4.21	£3,821k	£7,649
Additional one off budget/actuals	0	£k	0	£0	0	0.00	£k	£0	-	£k	£0
Mitigations required	0	£k	0	£0	0	0.00	-£748k	£0	-	-£748k	£0
TOTAL	256	£32,462k			308	274.01	£36,462k		18.01	£4,000k	
In-house Fostering	170	£4,224k	56	£444	162	150.69	£3,823k	£452	-19.31	-£401k	£8
In-house fostering - Reg 24	35	£400k	56	£204	20	27.85	£282k	£206	-7.15	-£118k	£2
Family & Friends Foster Carers	20	£400k	52	£385	37	32.20	£727k	£402	12.20	£327k	£17
Supported Lodgings	0	£k	0	£0	2	1.24	£18k	£0	0.00	-£5k	£0
Mitigations / growth							£198k			£198k	
TOTAL	217	£5,062k			221	211.98	£5,047k		-18.94	£k	
Adoption Allowances	80	£991k	52	£238	80	80.00	£858k	£206	0.00	-£133k	-£33
Special Guardianship Orders	292	£2,482k	52	£163	286	286.85	£2,165k	£145	-5.15	-£317k	-£19
Child Arrangement Orders	41	£350k	52	£164	40	39.63	£281k	£136	-1.37	-£69k	-£28
Mitigations / growth							£518k			£518k	
TOTAL	413	£3,822k			406	406.48	£3,822k		-6.52	£k	
OVERALL TOTAL	886	£41,346k			935	892.47	£45,331k		-7.45	£4,000k	

NOTES: In house fostering payments fund 56 weeks as carers receive two additional weeks payment during the summer holidays and one additional week each for Christmas and birthday.

Appendix 1a – Children, Education and Families Detailed Financial Information (non DSG)

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Committee	Note	Budget Line	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual to date £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
Executive Director									
-750	CYP	1	Executive Director	79	0	79	422	-750	-949%
0	CYP		Central Financing	2,655	0	2,655	0	0	0%
-750			Executive Director Total	2,734	0	2,734	422	-750	-27%
Service Director – Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement									
0	CYP		Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	3,766	-557	3,209	1,206	0	0%
0			Service Director – Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement Total	3,766	-557	3,209	1,206	0	0%
Service Director – Fostering, Adoption & Corporate Parenting									
0			Fostering and Supervised Contact Services	10,689	-396	10,293	4,372	0	0%
0			Corporate Parenting	11,411	-7,619	3,793	8,415	0	0%
0	CYP		Adoption	6,257	-693	5,564	2,365	0	0%
0			Service Director – Fostering, Adoption & Corporate Parenting Total	28,357	-8,707	19,650	15,151	0	0%
Service Director – Targeted Support & Childrens Social Care									
-258		2	Strategic Management - Children's Social Care	3,604	0	3,604	1,277	-375	-10%
1,600		3	Integrated Front Door	4,398	-208	4,190	2,617	1,600	38%
-329		4	Family Support & Safeguarding	4,733	-175	4,558	1,414	-329	-7%
0			Youth Offending Service	4,175	-1,331	2,844	1,392	-0	0%
0		5	Targeted Support Service	9,845	-376	9,469	4,002	-114	-1%
0	CYP		Support to Parents	2,326	-2,122	204	-1,527	0	0%
1,013			Service Director – Targeted Support & Childrens Social Care Total	29,081	-4,212	24,869	9,176	782	3%

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Committee	Note	Budget Line	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual to date £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
Service Director Education									
0			Strategic Management – Education	3,176	-61	3,115	2,352	0	0%
31			Early Years Service	4,672	-4,057	615	-533	31	5%
0			School Improvement Service	1,466	-607	859	488	-0	0%
-66			Virtual School	1,987	-1,501	486	566	-66	-14%
16			Outdoor Education (includes Grafham Water)	2,304	-2,381	-77	-276	15	20%
-25			Cambridgeshire Music	2,826	-2,851	-25	462	-25	-100%
104	6		ICT Service (Education)	1,632	-1,832	-200	-468	175	88%
-350	7		Redundancy & Teachers Pensions	4,750	-579	4,171	2,646	-350	-8%
<u>SEND Specialist Services (0 - 25 years)</u>									
250	CYP	8	SEND Specialist Services	4,962	-79	4,883	2,401	250	5%
0	CYP		High Needs Top Up Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0%
0	CYP		Alternative Provision and Inclusion	743	0	743	760	0	0%
250			SEND Specialist Services (0 - 25 years) Total	5,705	-79	5,625	3,161	250	4%
<u>0-19 Place Planning & Organisation Service</u>									
0	CYP		0-19 Organisation & Planning	1,553	-980	573	147	55	10%
0	CYP		Education Capital	213	0	213	-7,321	0	0%
0	CYP	9	Home to School Transport – Special	25,260	-180	25,080	7,825	2,090	8%
0	CYP		Children in Care Transport	2,165	0	2,165	563	-0	0%
0	CYP	10	Home to School Transport – Mainstream	13,591	-216	13,374	4,425	671	5%
0			0-19 Place Planning & Organisation Service Total	42,782	-1,376	41,405	5,638	2,816	7%
-41			Service Director Education Total	71,299	-15,325	55,975	14,036	2,846	5%
Service Director Commissioning									
3,000	CYP	11	Children in Care Placements	33,157	-695	32,462	12,180	4,000	12%
0	CYP		Commissioning Services	829	-20	809	-13	0	0%
3,000			Service Director Commissioning Total	33,986	-715	33,271	12,167	4,000	12%

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Committee	Note	Budget Line	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual to date £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
Service Director LDP and Prevention									
0	CYP	12	Children's Disability Service	9,864	-791	9,073	4,861	430	5%
0			Service Director LDP and Prevention Total	9,864	-791	9,073	4,861	430	5%
3,222			Total	179,088	-30,307	148,781	57,020	7,308	5%
Schools									
0	CYP		Primary and Secondary Schools	0	0	0	1	0	0%
0	CYP		Schools Financing	0	0	0	0	0	0%
0	CYP		Pools and Contingencies	0	0	0	-2,014	0	0%
0			Schools Total	0	0	0	-401	0	0%
3,222			Overall Children, Education and Families Total	179,088	-30,307	148,781	54,606	7,308	5%

Appendix 1b – Children, Education and Families Detailed Financial Information (DSG)

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Committee	Note	Budget Line	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual to date £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
Service Director Education									
0	CYP		Early Years Service	2,626	0	2,626	603	0	0%
0	CYP		Virtual School	0	0	0	0	0	0%
<u>SEND Specialist Services (0 - 25 years)</u>									
0	CYP		SEND Specialist Services	7,250	-10	7,240	3,199	-0	0%
0	CYP		Funding to Special Schools and Units	47,798	0	47,798	13,578	0	0%
0	CYP		High Needs Top Up Funding	37,817	0	37,817	13,255	0	0%
0	CYP		SEN Placements	20,290	-588	19,702	10,197	-0	0%
0	CYP		Out of School Tuition	7,035	0	7,035	2,973	-0	0%
0	CYP		Alternative Provision and Inclusion	7,085	-101	6,984	2,858	-0	0%
14,000	CYP	13	SEND Financing – DSG	-14,686	0	-14,686	287	14,000	95%
14,000			SEND Specialist Services (0 - 25 years) Total	112,590	-699	111,891	46,348	14,000	13%
<u>0-19 Place Planning & Organisation Service</u>									
0	CYP		0-19 Organisation & Planning	2,442	-106	2,336	249	0	0%
0	CYP		Home to School Transport – Special	63	0	63	26	0	0%
0			0-19 Place Planning & Organisation Service Total	2,505	-106	2,399	275	0	0%
14,000			Service Director Education Total	117,721	-805	116,916	47,227	14,000	12%
Service Director Commissioning									
0	CYP		Commissioning Services	245	0	245	123	0	0%
0			Service Director Commissioning Total	245	0	245	123	0	0%
14,000			Total	117,966	-805	117,161	47,349	14,000	12%

Forecast Outturn Variance (Previous) £000	Committee	Note	Budget Line	Gross Budget £000	Income Budget £000	Net Budget £000	Actual £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %
Schools									
0	CYP		Primary and Secondary Schools	473,785	0	473,785	54,944	0	0%
0	CYP		Nursery Schools and PVI	60,921	0	60,921	34,037	0	0%
-2,270	CYP	14	Schools Financing	2,907	0	2,907	473	-2,270	-78%
0	CYP		Pools and Contingencies	0	0	0	0	0	0%
-2,270			Schools Total	537,613	0	537,613	89,453	-2,270	0%
Financing									
0	CYP		Financing DSG	1,951	-656,725	-654,774	-131,190	0	0%
0			Financing Total	1,951	-656,725	-654,774	-131,190	0	0%
11,730			Overall Children, Education and Families DSG Total	657,530	-657,530	0	5,612	11,730	0%

Appendix 2 – Service Commentaries on Forecast Outturn Position

Narrative is given below where there is an adverse/positive variance greater than 2% of annual budget or £100,000 whichever is greater for a service area.

Note	Commentary vs previous month	Service Area / Budget Line	Net Budget £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %	Commentary
1	Previous	Executive Director CEF	79	-750	-949%	The Vacancy Factor for Children Education Families (CEF) is currently forecast to overachieve by £750k.
2	Previous	Strategic Management - Children's Social Care	3,604	-375	-10%	One off underspend within the Strategic Management budget. Committed to be used in FY 2025-26.
3	Previous	Integrated Front Door	4,190	1,600	38%	The Integrated Front Door and Assessment service is forecasted to overspend by £1.6m in FY 2024-25. Additional agency staff have been recruited in MASH and Assessment's whilst the current structures are being reviewed. There are high levels of agency staff both within and over budgeted establishment, which is more expensive than employing permanent staff.
4	Previous	Family Safeguarding	4,558	-329	-7%	The Family Safeguarding budget is forecasted to underspend by £329k due to grant carry forward, coupled with 2 of the Family Safeguarding model contracts not being renewed in FY 24-25.
5	New	Targeted Support Service	9,469	-114	-1%	Targeted Support Service is forecasting an underspend of £114k due to the ending of a contract and non-salary underspend
6	Previous	ICT Service (Education)	-200	175	88%	The £175k forecast position is a result in the continued reduction in spend by schools on ICT hardware due to increasing financial challenges. The service is looking at ways to mitigate this overspend and amend the delivery model for future years.
7	Previous	Redundancy & Teachers Pensions	4,171	-350	-8%	Based on the reduction in the number of eligible recipients an opening forecast underspend of £350k is being reported for teachers pensions.
8	Previous	SEND Specialist Services	4,883	250	5%	The Education Psychology service is currently forecasting an overspend of £250k. The service continues to experience increasing demand which cannot be met from within the substantive team and is therefore being met through use of locum Education Psychologists. This is as a direct result of the increase in requests for Education Health and Care Needs Assessments (EHCNA) that is impacting on all SEND services.

Note	Commentary vs previous month	Service Area / Budget Line	Net Budget £000	Forecast Outturn Variance £000	Forecast Outturn Variance %	Commentary
9	New	Home to School Transport – Special	25,080	2,090	8%	The revised £2.7m forecast across mainstream and SEND transport is a result of a continuing increase in demand and complexity of need.
10	New	Home to School Transport – Mainstream	13,374	671	5%	
11	Previous	Children in Care Placements	32,462	4,000	12%	The revised £4m forecast overspend is primarily due to a small number of young people in very high-cost placements. If forecast to year-end, these placements would result in a more significant overspend position, however, the service is working hard with relevant agencies to secure placements at more manageable costs and therefore we do not expect these to continue for the full year.
12	New	Disability Service	9,073	430	5%	The 0-25 Disability Service is currently forecasting an overspend of £430k which predominantly reflects the increase in demand and need across the direct payment budget, community support and Camplay holiday clubs. In addition to this there has been pressure created by the intensive therapeutic support hub (ITSH) which is no longer being implemented.
13	Previous	SEND Financing – DSG	-14,686	14,000	95%	The current forecast DSG deficit is reflective of continuing pressures and increasing demand within the High Needs Block (HNB).
14	Previous	Schools Financing - DSG	2,907	-2,270	-78%	Budgeted underspend on the DSG Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) to mitigate HNB pressures.

Appendix 3 – Capital Position

3.1 Capital Expenditure

Original 2024-25 Budget as per Business Plan £000	Committee	Scheme Category	Total Scheme Revised Budget £000	Total Scheme Forecast Variance £000	Budget Carried-forward 2024-25 £000	Budget Re-phasing 2024-25 £000	Additional/Reduction in Funding 2024-25 £000	Revised Budget for 2024-25 £000	Actual Spend (August) £000	Forecast Outturn Variance (August) £000
17,767	CYP	Basic Need - Primary	119,409	0	1,018	-995		17,790	6,718	-1,103
43,433	CYP	Basic Need - Secondary	173,348	0	8,102	-17,566		33,969	18,361	-516
1,040	CYP	Basic Need - Early Years	8,531	0	588	0		1,628	168	0
2,435	CYP	Adaptations	11,473	0	1,228	-890		2,773	597	-846
3,250	CYP	Conditions Maintenance	24,375	0	507	0	375	4,132	959	0
780	CYP	Devolved Formula Capital	6,999	0	2,079	0	-21	2,838	0	0
20,951	CYP	Specialist Provision	89,120	0	597	-5,221	416	16,743	8,336	-600
150	CYP	Site Acquisition and Development	750	0	0	0		150	0	0
550	CYP	Temporary Accommodation	6,300	0	0	0		550	104	0
1,749	CYP	Children Support Services	9,521	0	0	0		1,749	0	0
-16,707	CYP	Capital Variation	-46,817	0	0	4,359		-12,348	0	3,065
1,213	CYP	Capitalised Interest	2,844	0	0	0		1,213	0	0
76,611		Total CEF Capital Spending	405,853	0	14,119	-20,313	770	71,187	35,243	0

There are six schemes with significant variances (>£250k) either due to changes in phasing or changes in overall scheme costs to be reported this month.

Ref	Directorate / Committee	Commentary vs previous month	Scheme	Scheme Budget £m	Budget for 2023-24 £m	Forecast Outturn Variance £m	Cause	Commentary
1			Basic Need - Primary					
1a	CEF CYP	Previous Month	Littleport	6.0	4.2	-1.2	Phasing	Planning delays has resulted in works starting start September 24 with expected completion late summer 25 with kitchen works carried out in holidays in 2025.
2			Basic Need - Secondary					
2a	CEF CYP	Previous Month	Darwin Green (North West Fringe) secondary	34.66	1.0	-0.3	Phasing	Slippage due to lack of progress in design. Due to developer planning issues scheme will be delivered for 2027 completion.
2b	CEF CYP	Previous Month	Witchford Village College	1.380	1.316	-0.416	Underspend	Underspend due to tender price lower than planned.
4			Adaptations					
4a	CEF CYP	New	Townley Primary	1.60	1.396	-0.496	Phasing	Delays due to highways work required and the timing of this. Further £200k slippage due to delay in authorising the project spend. Completion now slipped to May 2025
4b	CEF CYP	Previous Month	Willingham Primary	.892	.40	-0.3	Phasing	Design work has not yet completed and has been slower than originally anticipated, start on site delayed until next financial year.
8			Specialist Provision					
8a	CEF CYP	Previous Month	Highfield Littleport	8.0	2.8	-0.6	Phasing	Slippage due to revised start on site from November 2024 to January 2025 due to redesign, omission of alterations and for increased externals due to requirement for turning circle.

3.2 Capital Variations Budget

Variation budgets are set annually and reflect an estimate of the average variation experienced across all capital schemes, and reduce the overall borrowing required to finance our capital programme. There are typically delays in some form across the capital programme due to unforeseen events, but we cannot project this for each individual scheme. We therefore budget centrally for some level of delay. Any known delays are budgeted for and reported at scheme level. If forecast underspends are reported, these are offset with a forecast outturn for the variation budget, leading to a balanced outturn overall up to the point when rephasing exceeds this budget.

3.3 Capital Funding

Original 2024-25 Funding Allocation as per Business Plan £000	Source of Funding	Budget Carried- forward 2024-25 £000	Budget Revisions 2024-25 £000	Revised Budget for 2024-25 £000	Forecast Spend - Outturn (August) £000	Forecast Variance - Outturn (August) £000
12,479	Basic Need	0	0	12,479	12,479	0
3,450	Capital maintenance	2,051	350	5,877	5,877	0
780	Devolved Formula Capital	2,079	-21	2,838	2,838	0
0	Schools Capital	0	0	0	0	0
20,354	S106 contributions	21,619	-14,945	27,028	27,028	0
9,312	Other Specific Grants	797	-5,155	4,954	4,954	0
0	Other Contributions	0	0	0	0	0
0	Other Revenue Contributions	0	0	0	0	0
30,236	Prudential Borrowing	1,518	-2,884	28,870	28,870	0
0	Prudential Borrowing (Repayable)	21,619	3,087	-10,859	-10,859	
76,611	Total Funding	14,119	-19,543	71,187	71,187	0

Appendix 4 – SAVINGS TRACKER – CEF Quarter 1

Directorate	Committee	Type	Business Plan Reference	Title	Planned Savings 2024-25 £000	Forecast Savings £000	Variance from Plan £000	% Variance	RAG	Forecast Commentary
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.001	Children's Disability operational savings	-96	-96	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.003	Targeted Support operational savings	-65	-65	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.004	Family Safeguarding Service	-200	-200	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.005	Social Care and Education Transport	-582	0	582	100%	Black	Continuing increases in demand and complexity of need have result in additional cost pressures across transport budgets.
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.007	Children in Care Placements High-Cost Placements Review	-1,000	0	1,000	100%	Black	Despite efforts to drive down costs from unregistered placements the budget is still showing a pressure relating to a small cohort of Young People who are unable to step down provision.
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.008	Children in Care Placements Unregulated Placements reduction in costs	-250	0	250	100%	Black	Despite efforts to drive down costs from unregistered placements the budget is still showing a pressure relating to a small cohort of Young People who are unable to step down provision.
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.009	Early Years Service contract savings	-19	-19	0	0%	Green	On Track

Directorate	Committee	Type	Business Plan Reference	Title	Planned Savings 2024-25 £000	Forecast Savings £000	Variance from Plan £000	% Variance	RAG	Forecast Commentary
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.010	Home to School Transport	-87	-87	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.011	Residential Strategy - Children in Care placements Saving	-435	0	435	100%	Black	Budget adjustments made based on investment and savings assuming a January 2025 start however project rescope and revised start date Oct 2025 which will be reflected in 25-26 Business Plan.
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.012	School Improvement Service operational savings	-49	-49	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 saving	A/R.6.013	Corporate Parenting	-200	-200	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2023-24 cfwd	A/R.6.255 (2023-24)	Children in Care Placements	-1,000	0	1,000	100%	Black	Despite efforts to drive down costs from unregistered placements the budget is still showing a pressure relating to a small cohort of Young People who are unable to step down provision.
CEF	CYP	2023-24 cfwd	A/R.6.255 (2023-24)	Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance	-45	-45	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 income	A/R.7.101	Early Years additional income	-4	-4	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 income	A/R.7.102	School Improvement Service	-47	-47	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 income	A/R.7.103	Children's Targeted Support	-15	-15	0	0%	Green	On Track

Directorate	Committee	Type	Business Plan Reference	Title	Planned Savings 2024-25 £000	Forecast Savings £000	Variance from Plan £000	% Variance	RAG	Forecast Commentary
CEF	CYP	2024-25 income	A/R.7.104	Children's Disability - increase in external income	-10	-10	0	0%	Green	On Track
CEF	CYP	2024-25 income	A/R.7.105	Educational Safeguarding additional income	-7	-7	0	0%	Green	On Track

APPENDIX 5 – Technical Note

5.1 The table below outlines the additional Children, Education and Families grant income, which is not built into base budgets.

Grant	Awarding Body	Amount £000
Grants as per Business Plan		
Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers	Home Office	7,040
Supporting Families	Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC)	1,977
Early years Wraparound	DfE	1,944
Holiday Activity Fund (HAF)	DfE	1,928
Cambridgeshire Music Hub	Arts Council	823
Supported Accommodation Reforms Grant	DfE	809
Youth Offending Good Practice Grant	Youth Justice Board	707
Adoption Support Fund	DfE	625
Public Health	Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)	616
Staying Put	DfE	285
Virtual School	DfE	227
Personal Advisor Support to Care Leavers & Homelessness	DfE	176
Social Worker Apprenticeship	DfE	154
Turnaround Programme 2022-2025	Secretary of State for Justice	150
Leaving Care allowance - uplift	DfE	134
Crime and Disorder Reduction Grant	Police & Crime Commissioner	127
Non-material grants (+/- £160k)	Various	184
Total Non-Baselined Grants 24-25		17,907
Financing DSG	DfE	117,161
Total Grant Funding 24-25		135,068

The non-baselined grants are allocated across the Children, Education and Families directorates as follows:

Directorate	Grant Total £000
Children & Safeguarding	14,215
Education	3,076
Various (Public Health)	616
TOTAL	17,907

5.2 Virements and Budget Reconciliation (Children, Education and Families)

(Virements between Children, Education and Families and other service blocks)

	Period	£000	Notes
Budget as per Business Plan		148,900	
Multiple Directorates (all)	Apr	14	Post BP, pre initial budget load adjustments
Multiple Directorates (all)	Apr	-200	Public Health Strategic Management in budget reduction 2023-24
Commissioning Services	May	194	Children's Advocacy new contract
Executive Director - CEF	May	73	Salary budget transferred from Adults Exec to Children Exec
Children's Centres Strategy	June	-200	Transfer contribution from PH reserves via Corporate to CEF
Budget 24-25		148,781	

5.3 Children, Education and Families Earmarked Reserve Schedule

Budget Heading	Opening Balance 2024-25 £000	Movements 2024-25 £000	Balance at Quarter 1 £000	Year End Forecasted Balance £000	Reserve Description
Strategic Framework Priorities Reserves:					
Transport invest to save	292	0	292	144	To support programme of work to deliver savings in Social and Education Transport.
SAFE Project	96	0	96	0	Partnership Development Approach to Data Analyst in respect of Extra Familial Harm & Exploitation
Cambs Art Reserve	65	0	65	55	Art Collection Restoration Fund. Providing cultural experiences for children and young people in Cambridgeshire.
Other investment reserves	241	0	241	118	Small grant balances
Corporate risk reserves relating to services in this directorate:					
Children's risk reserves	163	0	163	100	Reserve for exceptional staffing costs
Other risk reserves	1	0	1	0	Union reps funding for 2024-25
Ringfenced Reserves:					
Regional Adoption Agency Reserve	793	0	793	419	Funding to cover CCC legacy adoption costs following transition to a Regional Adoption Agency.
Local Safeguarding	354	0	354	304	Local Safeguarding carry forward amount. Annual contributions from internal and external bodies.
Trading unit account	146	0	146	0	Cambs Music building fund and commissioned work reserve
Improvement programme	154	0	154	0	Children's improvement programme reserve
UASC Grant Reserve	170	0	170	0	Risk reserve to mitigate Home Office grant funding decisions
PFI School Sinking Fund	2,188	0	2,188	2,038	Thomas Clarkson PFI reserve to cover inflation increases.
Other ringfenced contributions	464	-340	124	65	Grant funding to support education settings and Residual school facing grants.
Earmarked Reserved Relating to CEF	5,129	-340	4,789	3,245	

(+) positive figures represent surplus funds.

(-) negative figures represent deficit funds.

5.4 Children, Education and Families Capital Reserve Schedule

Budget Heading	Opening Balance 2024-25 £000	Movements 2024-25 £000	Year End Forecasted Balance £000	Reserve Description
Education Capital	2,079	0	279	Devolved Formula Capital
Education Capital	11,145	0	6,146	Capital Other Grants
Education Capital	0	0	0	Capital Basic Need
Education Capital	2,252	0	0	Capital Schools Condition
Primary Schools	36	0	36	Insurance – Primary
Central Financing	314	0	314	Schools General
TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVES	15,827	0	6,775	

(+) positive figures represent surplus funds.

(-) negative figures represent deficit funds.

APPENDIX 6 – Maintained Schools

The table below provides a summary of the value of balances held by maintained schools as at 31st March 2024 (excluding academy convertors):

2022-23	(Deficit) / Surplus	Nursery	Primary	Special	Total	Change from 2022-23
4	(£100k+)	2	3	1	6	2
3	(£60k) – (£100k)	0	3	0	3	0
3	(£20k) – (£60k)	1	11	0	12	9
3	(£10k) – (£20k)	0	3	0	3	0
1	(£1k - £10k)	0	7	0	7	6
7	£0k - £10k	0	5	0	5	-2
6	£10k - £20k	0	5	0	5	-1
28	£20k - £60k	0	19	0	19	-9
17	£60k - £100k	0	17	0	17	0
19	£100k - £150k	2	16	0	18	-1
11	£150k - £200k	1	8	1	10	-1
13	£200k - £300k	0	10	0	10	-3
2	£300k - £400k	0	3	1	4	2
8	£400k+	1	4	0	5	-3
125	Total	7	94	3	124	-1

School level balances can be viewed in Appendix A of [Schools Balances and DSG Financial Health - July 2024](#) presented to Cambridgeshire Schools Forum in July 2024.

The following maintained schools have all submitted deficit budgets for the 2024-25 financial year:

School	Status
Brunswick Nursery School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Colleges Nursery School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Huntingdon Nursery School	Formal Warning Notice issued – Structural solutions being explored.
The Fields Early Years Centre	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Ashbeach Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
Castle Camps Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Eastfield Infant School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
Fen Drayton Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required (extension granted due to fire).
Grove Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Revised budget balances in-year.
Gt & Lt Shelford Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Hardwick and Cambourne Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Hauxton Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Hemingford Grey Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Linton Infant School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit License approved.
Lionel Walden Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Mayfield Primary School	Notice of Concern to be issued – Deficit License approved.
Meridian Primary School	Notice of Concern to be issued - Budget resubmission required.
Orchard Park Comm. Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
Queens Federation	Notice of Concern issued and RIG in place. Deficit to be addressed across the Federation.
Shirley Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
Spinney Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Spring Meadow Infant School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
St Anne's Primary School	Notice of Concern issues – Budget resubmission required. Structural solutions being explored.
St Helen's Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
St Matthew's Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
Steeple Morden Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Trumpington Meadows P	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required recognising use of balances across the Federation.
Westfield Junior School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Wheatfields Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Budget resubmission required.
Wyton Primary School	Notice of Concern issued – Deficit Licence approved.
Castle Special School	Sector review to be undertaken.
Granta Special School	Sector review to be undertaken.
Samuel Pepys Special School	Sector review to be undertaken.

Children and Young People's Corporate Performance Report

To: Children and Young People Committee

Meeting Date: 8 October 2024

From: Executive Director, Children, Education and Families

Electoral division(s): All

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: Not Applicable

Executive Summary: This report provides an update to the Committee on the performance monitoring information for the 2024/25 quarter 1 period, covering April 1st to June 30th.

Recommendation: The Children and Young People Committee is asked to:

- a. Note performance information and act, as necessary.

Officer contact:

Name: Richard Springbett

Post: Governance and Performance Manager, Strategy and Partnerships

Email: Richard.Springbett@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

1. Creating a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire

- 1.1 This report analyses the key performance indicators (KPIs) which directly link to Children and young people have opportunities to thrive. Due to the complex nature of KPIs, some indicators may also impact other ambitions.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Performance Management Framework sets out that Policy and Service Committees should:
- Set outcomes and strategy in the areas they oversee.
 - Select and approve the addition and removal of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the committee performance report.
 - Track progress quarterly.
 - Consider whether performance is at an acceptable level.
 - Seek to understand the reasons behind the level of performance.
 - Identify remedial action.
- 2.2 This report, delivered quarterly, continues to support the committee with its performance management role. It provides an update on the status of the selected Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which track the performance of the services the committee oversees.
- 2.3 The report covers the period of quarter 1 2024/25, up to the end of June 2024.
- 2.4 The most recent data for indicators for this committee can be found in the dashboard at Appendix 1. The dashboard includes the following information for each KPI:
- Current and previous performance and the projected linear trend.
 - Current and previous targets. Please note that not all KPIs have targets, this may be because they are being developed or the indicator is being monitored for context.
 - Red / Amber / Green / Blue (RAGB) status.
 - Direction for improvement to show whether an increase or decrease is good.
 - Change in performance which shows whether performance is improving (up) or deteriorating (down).
 - The performance of our statistical neighbours. This is only available, and therefore included, where there is a standard national definition of the indicator.
 - KPI description.
 - Commentary on the KPI.
- 2.5 The following RAGB criteria are being used:
- Red – current performance is 10% or more from target.
 - Amber – current performance is off target by less than 10%.
 - Green – current performance is on target or better by up to 5%.
 - Blue – current performance is better than target by 5% or more.
 - Baseline – indicates performance is currently being tracked in order to inform the target setting process.
 - Contextual – these KPIs track key activity being undertaken, to present a rounded view of information relevant to the service area, without a performance target.
 - In development - KPI has been agreed, but data collection and target setting are in development.

3. Main Issues

3.1 Current performance of available indicators monitored by the Committee is as follows:

Status	Number of KPIs	Percentage of KPIs*
Red	9	45%
Amber	2	10%
Green	4	20%
Blue	3	15%
Baseline	-	-
Contextual	2	10%
In Development	-	-
Suspended	-	-

**Figures may not add to 100 due to rounding.*

3.2 The following indicator will not be updated this quarter:

3.2.1 Indicator 128: Percentage of Education, Health and Care plan assessments completed within timescale.

Following the introduction of the Impulse Nexus system, which went live on 13 May 2024, there was a phase of data migration which concluded in August and any remaining migration work has been moved onto small works briefs to be monitored by the Education Systems Programme Board.

Work is now being undertaken to build reporting functionality linked to the new system. A further update will be provided to this committee in the next iteration of the quarterly performance report due in January 2025.

3.3 There are 7 Green and Blue indicators for commentary this quarter. Below are some examples.

3.3.1 Indicator 8: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Primary Schools)

The continued positive position in the percentage of schools good or better is hugely encouraging. There continues to be a large number of schools awaiting inspections especially in the academy sector where they are now over 3 years since they joined a trust. However, the vast majority of schools inspected this year have been judged as good schools. The service continues to work closely with maintained schools to ensure schools are ready for inspection including review safeguarding and the school's self-evaluation. Where there is not the assurance that a school will achieve good, the service is intervening to ensure rapid improvement in performance. This can include issuing warning notices, providing additional support or looking at other structural changes to provide capacity. The service has secure judgement on all our schools and the last year the service was accurate in all of assessments for schools. The service continues to work closely with academies to ensure improvement.

3.3.2 Indicator 118: Number of young first time entrants to the criminal justice system, per 10,000 of population

There has been a very significant decrease this quarter from last quarter and overall Cambridgeshire's figures remain similar to regional and national comparators.

The Youth Justice Service have received Turnaround funding for 2 years to deliver targeted prevention work through the Diversion Support Team (DST) / Turnaround work that specifically focuses on prevention activity. The team started delivering interventions at the start of last financial year, this earlier intervention with young people at high risk of becoming involved in offending will have directly positively impacted the FTE performance measure. An evaluation of the DST / Turnaround is currently being carried out locally and nationally and the initial findings are extremely positive with focussed intervention so far leading to very few young people going on to offend.

This financial year there have been two additional DST posts set up from police Hot Spot funding which is in place just for this financial year. This has been providing significant additionality to the prevention and diversion work.

The reduction in FTEs is also linked to a greater use of diversion of young people to informal outcomes through the Out of Court decision making panel following the new Youth Justice Board Case Management Guidance on the use of Out of Court Disposals. This work continues following the recent HMIP inspection of Youth Justice with greater focus on earlier interventions managed jointly with the Constabulary as part of updated working and processes.

Detailed commentary and summary of each indicator can be found in Appendix 1.

3.5 There are 9 red indicators for commentary this quarter. Below are some examples.

3.5.1 Indicator 3: Number of children in care every 10,000 population under 18

The number of children in care continues to slowly rise, although Cambridgeshire remains below both its statistical neighbours and the England average. A significant rise has been observed in older adolescents with complex needs who have experienced considerable trauma, who present with challenging behaviours. The service are proactive in supporting our children through long-term care arrangements and, where required we commissions specialist services to provide timely support and facilitate recovery. In parallel, the service consistently explores reunification options where appropriate. The service strives to secure permanency for children at the earliest opportunity through adoption plans or applications for Child Arrangements Orders or Special Guardianship Orders.

3.5.2 Indicator 133: Percentage suspensions (All children)

Cambridgeshire has seen growth in suspension as the implications of Covid and more challenging behaviour in schools are seen. As a result of the cost-of-living crises, increasing numbers of disadvantaged children from poorer backgrounds are being suspended and are therefore not meeting expected school standards.

The growth in suspensions are below national levels of increase and consistent with our statistical neighbours.

For primary, the approach around Cambridgeshire therapeutic thinking is to support schools

to use a therapeutic approach to understanding and analysing behaviour, considering past experiences to create pro-social and positive relationships between children and adults. This approach is based on an equitable and inclusive offer for all children. For secondary, the BAIP (Behaviour Attendance Improvement Partnership) model which devolves funds for Appropriate Alternative Education from the High Needs Block to schools is used. It is for Head teachers to control the decision-making process by giving Heads direct financial control of the budget. Key benefits of the BAIP model are localised decision making, collaboration and working in partnership between Heads, historically low levels of permanent exclusions and peer challenge on managing behaviour.

Detailed commentary and summary of each indicator can be found in Appendix 1.

- 3.6 There are 2 indicators which have been identified as contextual. Not all indicators have targets. This may be because targets for these KPIs are being developed or the indicator is being monitored for context.
- 3.7 As part of the ongoing review of the indicators presented to committees, it has been identified that there are several indicators that require their targets to be reviewed and benchmarked. Work will now be undertaken with services to review the current indicators, any changes will be highlighted in the next iteration of this quarterly performance report.

4. Conclusion and recommendations

- 4.1 3.1 shows the breakdown of RAG status for this committee's indicator set. Of the indicators updated this quarter, 2 indicators saw an improvement in performance from the quarter 4 paper, reported to the committee in June 2024:
- 1 indicator moved from **Amber to Green**: Indicator 9: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Secondary Schools)
 - 1 indicator moved from **Green to Blue**: Indicator 11: Percentage of 2 year olds taking up the universal entitlement (15 hours)

16 indicator's performance RAG status has remained unchanged:

- Indicator 1: Percentage children whose referral to social care occurred within 12 months of a previous referral
- Indicator 2: Number of children with a Child Protection Plan every 10,000 population under 18
- Indicator 3: The number children in care every 10,000 population under 18
- Indicator 7: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Nursery Schools)
- Indicator 8: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Primary Schools)
- Indicator 10: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Special Schools)
- Indicator 116: Rate of referrals to Children's Social Care per 10,000 of population under 18
- Indicator 117: Proportion of children subject to a Child Protection Plan for the second or subsequent time
- Indicator 118: Number of young first-time entrants to the criminal justice system, per 10,000 of population

- Indicator 128: Percentage of Education, Health and Care plan assessments completed within timescale
- Indicator 130: Key Stage 2 Reading, writing and maths combined to the expected standard (All children)
- Indicator 131: Key Stage 4 Attainment 8 (All children)
- Indicator 132: Percentage of persistent absence (All children)
- Indicator 133: Percentage suspensions (All children)
- Indicator 134: Percentage receiving place at first choice school (Primary)
- Indicator 135: Percentage receiving place at first choice school (Secondary)

5. Significant Implications

- 5.1 This report monitors quarterly performance. There are no significant implications within this report.

6. Source Documents

- 6.1 Appendix 1: CYP Corporate Performance Report Q1 2024-25

Produced on: 18 September 2024



Performance Report

Quarter 1

2024/25 financial year

Children and Young People Committee

Governance & Performance
Cambridgeshire County Council
governanceandperformance@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Key



Data Item	Explanation
Target / Pro Rata Target	The target that has been set for the indicator, relevant for the reporting period
Current Month / Current Period	The latest performance figure relevant to the reporting period
Previous Month / previous period	The previously reported performance figure
Direction for Improvement	Indicates whether 'good' performance is a higher or a lower figure
Change in Performance	Indicates whether performance is 'improving' or 'declining' by comparing the latest performance figure with that of the previous reporting period
Statistical Neighbours Mean	Provided as a point of comparison, based on the most recently available data from identified statistical neighbours.
England Mean	Provided as a point of comparison, based on the most recent nationally available data
RAG Rating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red – current performance is off target by more than 10% • Amber – current performance is off target by 10% or less • Green – current performance is on target by up to 5% over target • Blue – current performance exceeds target by more than 5% • Baseline – indicates performance is currently being tracked in order to inform the target setting process • Contextual – these measures track key activity being undertaken, to present a rounded view of information relevant to the service area, without a performance target. • In Development - measure has been agreed, but data collection and target setting are in development
Indicator Description	Provides an overview of how a measure is calculated. Where possible, this is based on a nationally agreed definition to assist benchmarking with statistically comparable authorities
Commentary	Provides a narrative to explain the changes in performance within the reporting period
Actions	Actions undertaken to address under-performance. Populated for 'red' indicators only
Useful Links	Provides links to relevant documentation, such as nationally available data and definitions

Indicator 1: Percentage of children whose referral to social care occurred within 12 months of a previous referral

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
20.0%	↓	27.0%	25.0%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
21.3%	21.5%	Red		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the level of re-referrals into children's social care. A re-referral could mean that the child's needs were not previously fully met, or a significant incident has occurred to change their circumstances.

This measure is expressed as a percentage of children, with a referral to social care, within the reporting month, who have had a previous referral to social care which opened within the last year.

A referral is defined as a request for services to be provide by children's social care. It is in respect of a child who is currently not assessed to be in need. New information relating to children who are already assessed to be a child in need is not counted as a referral.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y)*100$$

Where:

X = The number of children with a referral who also have a previous referral starting within the last 12 months.

Y = The number of children with a referral this month.

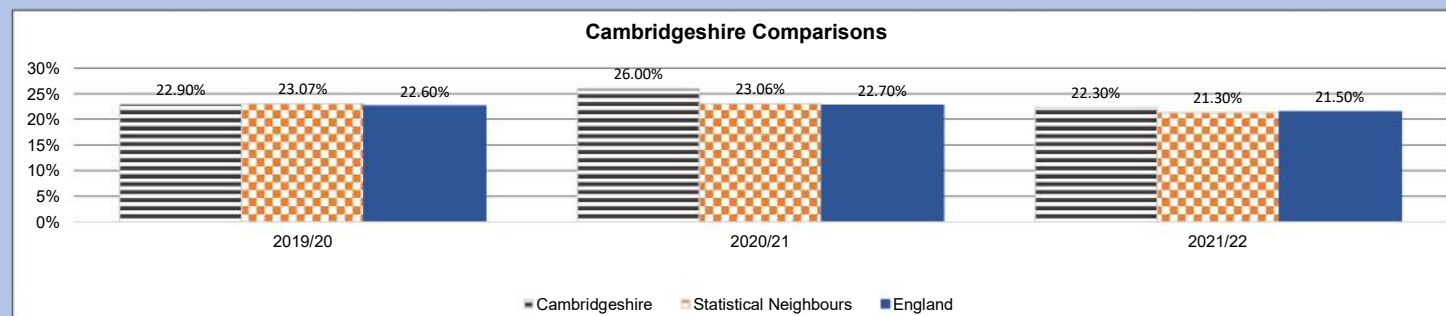
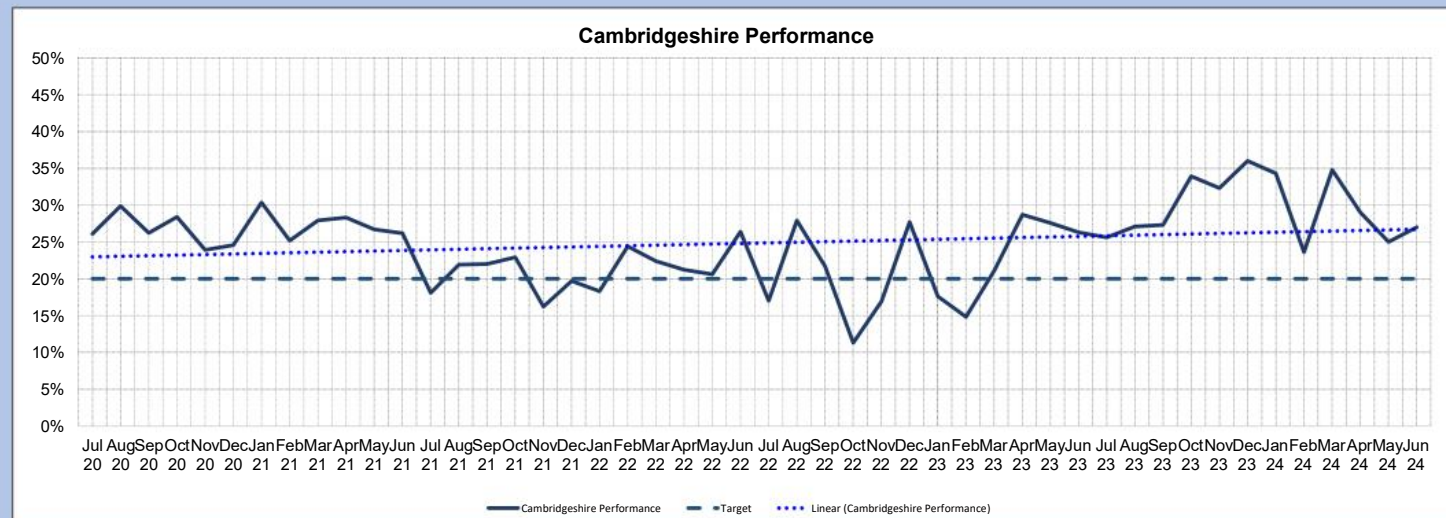
Sources: Department for Education; Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT); Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

Useful Links

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



Commentary

The re-referral rate over the last 12 months have been inconsistent between 25%-34% which is above our neighbours' statistical mean of 21.3%. Audits in August completed by Quality Assurance suggest that threshold application is improving and the quality of assessment in some cases are good whilst some are inconsistent with significant delays in the assessment being completed. Whilst this feedback is encouraging about the progress being made, there will need to be continued focus on assessment analysis and the use of family chronologies so that there is a more consistent response to the risk and needs identified in referrals and a reduction in re-referrals.

Actions

-Quality Assurance unit and the service to undertake a further audit of re-referrals to support the focus and identified areas of improvement.

-The service will work with L&D to roll out further training on the importance of using chronology and analysis in reaching an informed decision on cases and focusing on the risk of cumulative harm to children.B22

-Continued focus on ensuring that case transfers are smooth so that there is better joined up work when case work is transitioning from one team to another. Similarly, when cases are stepping down to services, there is Continued focus on the Quality of handovers to support relationship building and assist the receiving worker in focusing on the identified needs of the family.

Indicator 2: Number of children with a Child Protection Plan every 10,000 population under 18

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
21.1	↓	31.4	32.0	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
38.1	42.1	Red		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the number of children at risk of significant harm within the county.

A Child Protection Plan is put in place where a child is at risk of significant harm. This plan sets out the action needed to keep the child safe and to promote their welfare.

This measure is expressed as the rate of children with a Child Protection Plan, at month end, for every 10,000 population (0-17).

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 10,000$

Where:

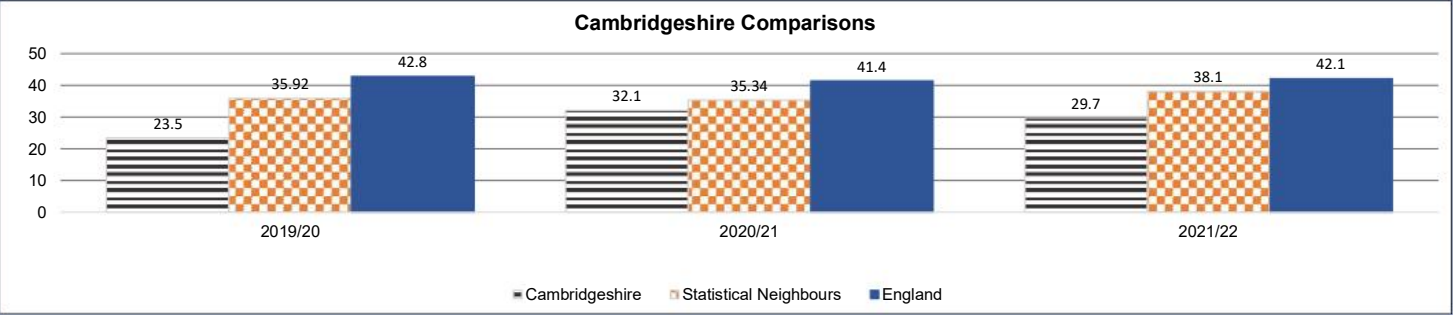
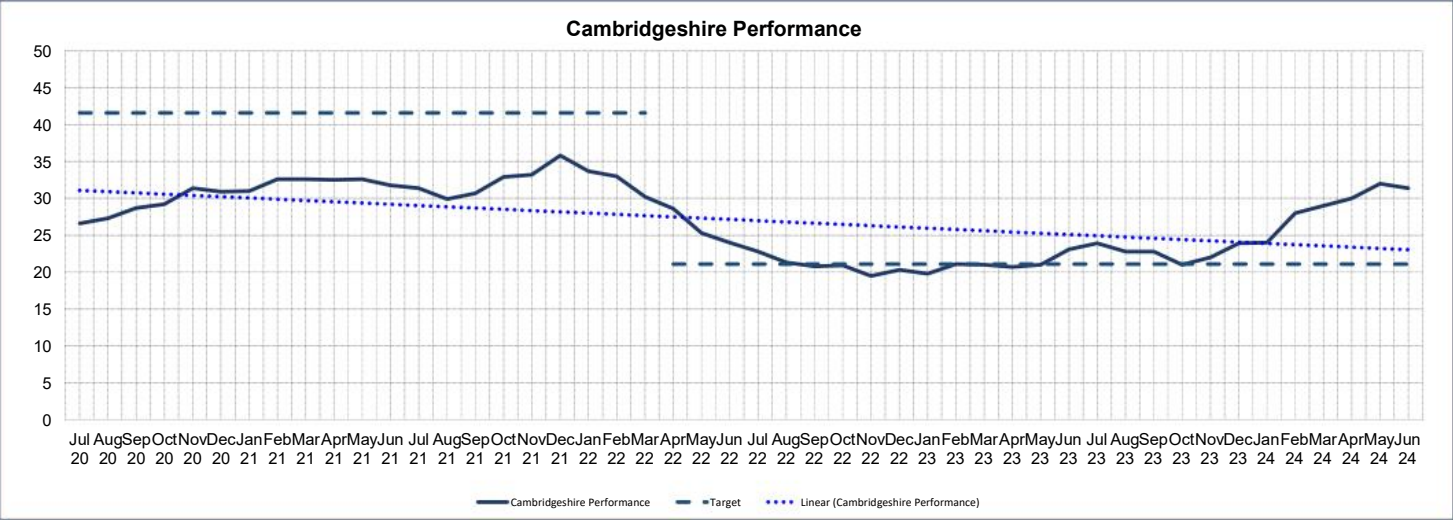
X: The number of children with a Child Protection Plan at month end.

Y: The population of 0 to 17 year old children.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

Useful Links

- [Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)
- [The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)
- [Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



Commentary

At the end of Q1 2024 the number of Cambridgeshire children per 10,000 subject to a CP Plan was in the higher range when comparing this figure with statistical numbers, smaller is deemed to be better. During October 2023 there was a rise in numbers which plateaued during December 2023 and January 2024. A further rise in numbers was seen during February 2024 and May 2024 with a slight decline June 2024. Work undertaken to help understand the rise in numbers has shown that whilst some Initial Child Protection Conferences requested result in a Child In Need Plan these numbers are low indicating the correct children are being brought to an Initial Child Protection Conference and made subject to a CP Plan. On going work will continue to understand children's journeys and previous involvement by the service and partners.

Actions

Indicator 3: Number of children in care every 10,000 population under 18

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
40.0	↓	47.8	47.0	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
53.1	67.0	Red		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the number of children who are in the care of the local authority. This measure is expressed as the number of children in care as a rate for every 10,000 children aged 0 to 17. Children in care include all children being looked after by a local authority:

- Children subject to a care order under section 31 of the Children Act 1989.
- Children looked after on a voluntary basis through an agreement with their parents under section 20 of the Children Act 1989.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) \times 10,000$$

Where:

X = The number of children in care at month end.

Y = The population of 0 to 17 year old children.

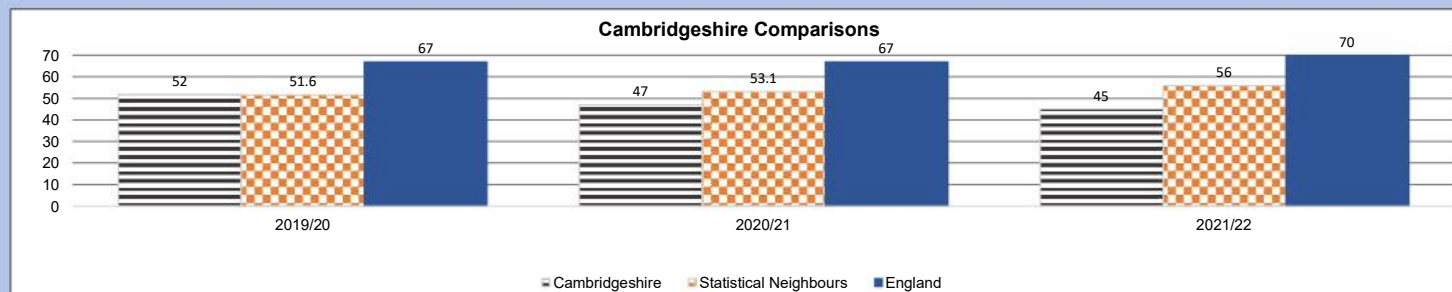
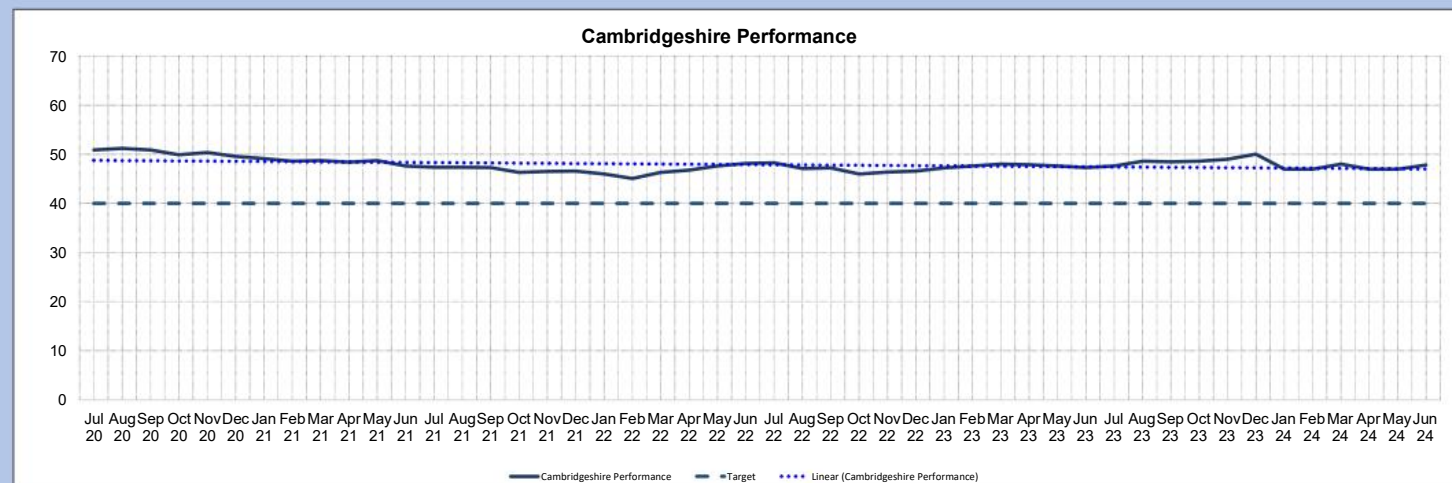
Sources: Department for Education; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

Useful Links

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



Commentary

The number of children in care continues to slowly rise, although Cambridgeshire remains below both its statistical neighbours and the England average. A significant rise has been observed in older adolescents with complex needs who have experienced considerable trauma, who present with challenging behaviours. The service are proactive in supporting our children through long-term care arrangements and, where required we commissions specialist services to provide timely support and facilitate recovery. In parallel, the service consistently explores reunification options where appropriate. The service strives to secure permanency for children at the earliest opportunity through adoption plans or applications for Child Arrangements Orders or Special Guardianship Orders.

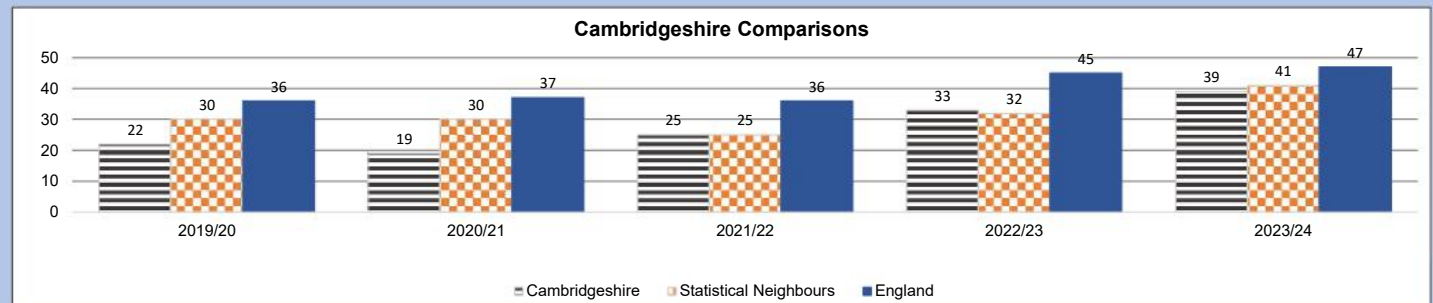
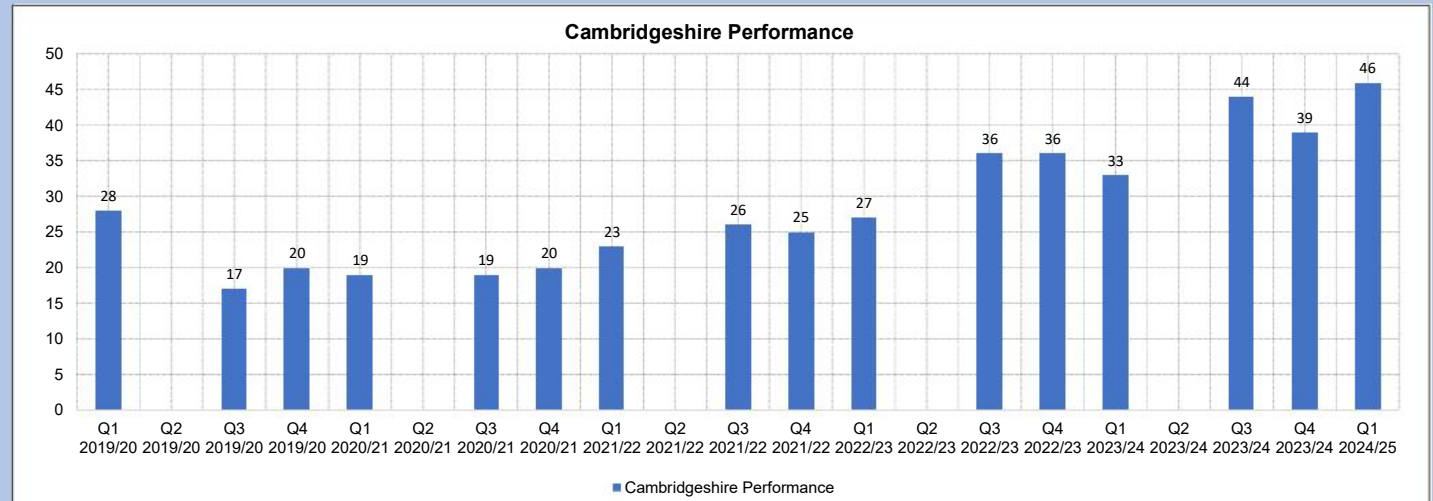
Actions

The service continues to review children's placements at the weekly panel to track cases and ensure children are provided the right support at the right time. The service continues strive to find adoptive and SGO placements for children. Where possible family options such as connected persons assessments are completed. We continue to have a focus on reunification at the earliest opportunity where it is safe to do so.

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Quarter	Previous Quarter	Change in Performance
Contextual	↓	46.0	39.0	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
41.0	47.0	Contextual		

Indicator Description

Number of young people aged 16&17 who have a current Education, Health and Care Plan and are either Not in education, employment or training (NEET) or their situation is not known as a ratio per 10,000 people.



Commentary

The actual number of SEND young people who are NEET or not known situation is 69 young people with a % of 9.3% of all SEND young people aged 16-17. This is an increase of 7 young people and 1.0% from last quarter. These figures are higher than previous years and have been steadily increasing over last 3 years. The figures this quarter are positive in comparison with local and statistical neighbours average which are 11.0% and 10.0% respectively. Part of the reason for increased numbers in NEET is due to lack of suitable provision for post 16 especially foundation learning and alternative education provision.

The number of alternative education provision for post 16 has been declining in recent years and this has impacted on the NEET figures for SEND young people. A new Post 16 commissioning framework is being developed which will hopefully help to improve these figures together with the work being developed Countywide around our approach to increasing provision to support young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET.

Useful Links

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

Actions

Indicator 7: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Nursery Schools)

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
100.0%	↑	100.0%	100.0%	Unchanged
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
100.0%	97.9%	Green		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded nursery schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded nursery schools, at month end.

Calculation:

$(X/Y)*100$

Where:

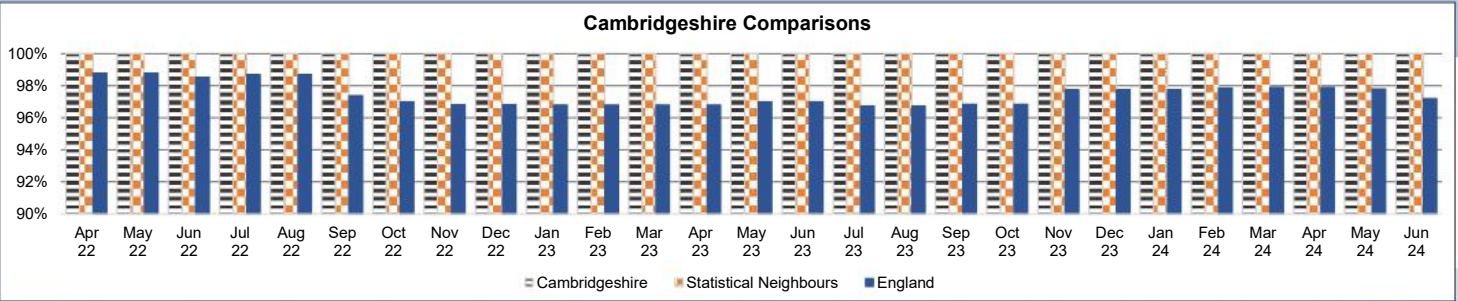
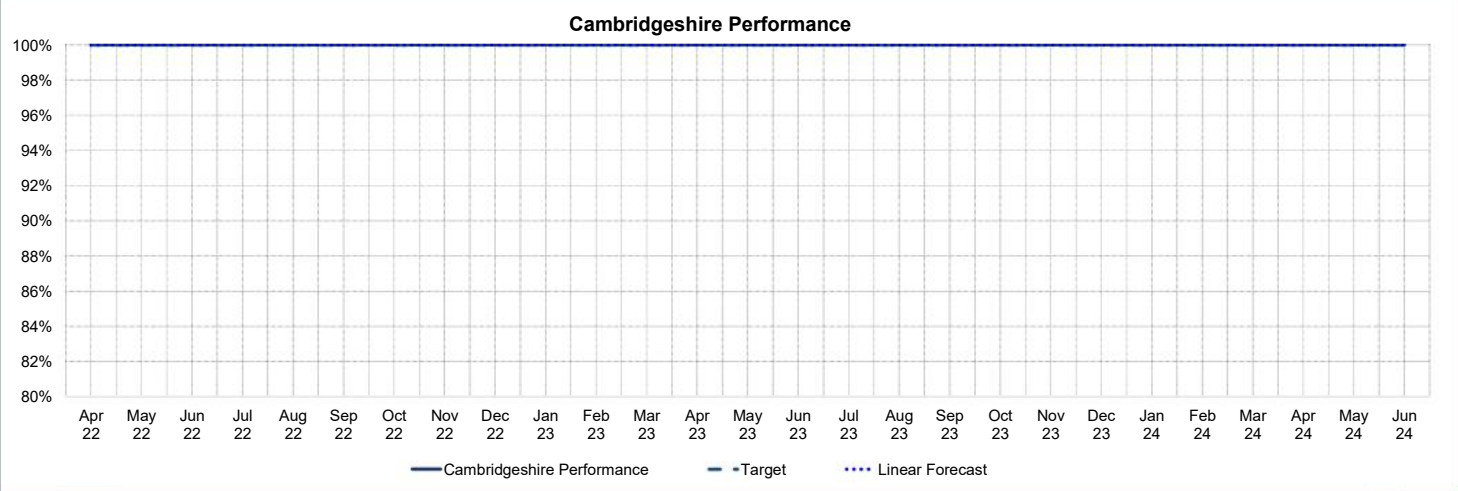
X = The number of children attending state funded nursery schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded nursery schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

- [Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)
- [Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)
- [The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

There are 7 maintained nursery schools in Cambridgeshire. All have been judged by Ofsted to be either Good or Outstanding.

One maintained nursery school was inspected in Q1 and achieved a Good outcome, following an ungraded Section 8 inspection in the previous year.

Actions

Indicator 8: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Primary Schools)

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
90.0%	↑	91.9%	92.4%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
92.2%	92.9%	Green		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded primary schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded primary schools, at month end.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

Where:

X = The number of children attending state funded primary schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded primary schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

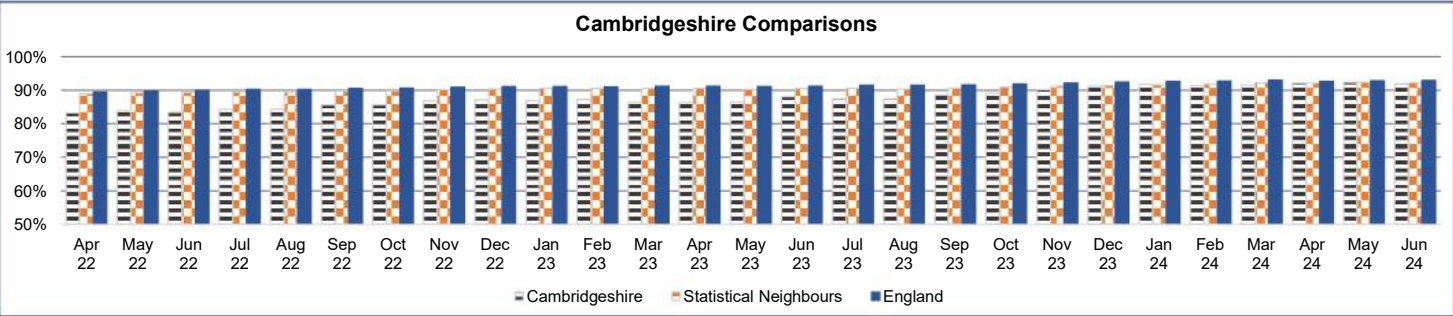
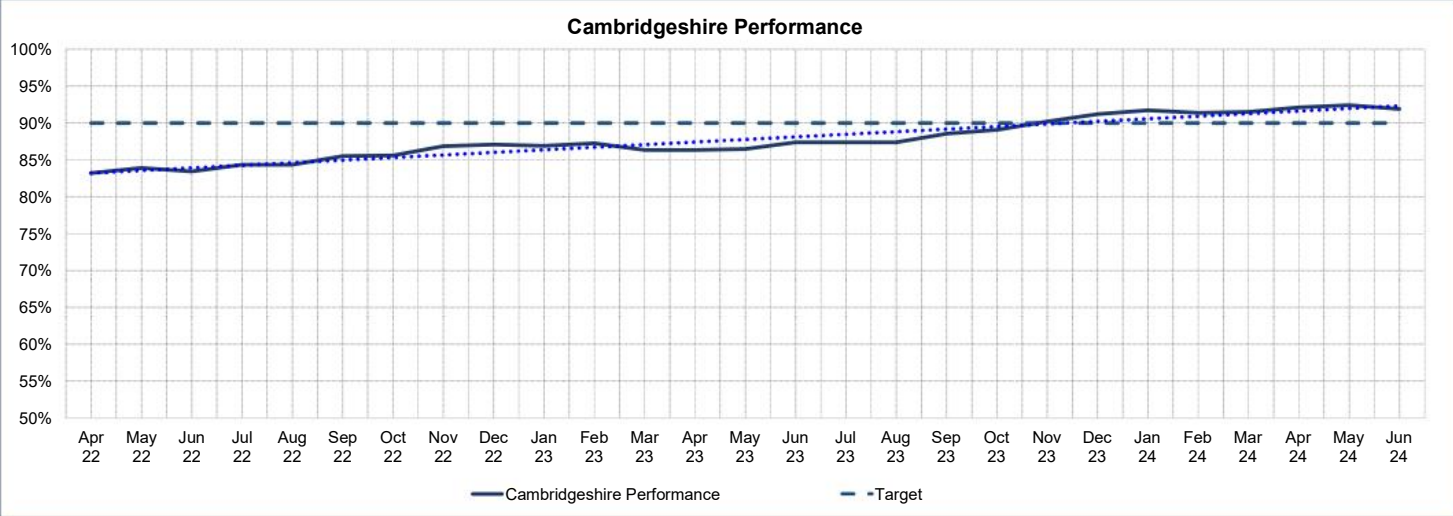
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

[Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

The continued positive position in the percentage of schools good or better is hugely encouraging. There continues to be a large number of schools awaiting inspections especially in the academy sector where they are now over 3 years since they joined a trust. However the vast majority of schools inspected this year have been judged as good schools. The service continues to work closely with maintained schools to ensure schools are ready for inspection including review safeguarding and the schools self-evaluation. Where there is not the assurance that a school will achieve good, the service is intervening to ensure rapid improvement in performance. This can include issuing warning notices, providing additional support or looking at other structural changes to provide capacity. The service has secure judgement on all of our schools and the last year the service was accurate in all of assessments for schools. The service continues to work closely with academies to ensure improvement.

Actions

Indicator 9: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Secondary Schools)

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
90.0%	↑	91.3%	84.4%	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
91.6%	85.5%	Green		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded secondary schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded secondary schools, at month end.

Calculation:

$(X/Y)*100$

Where:

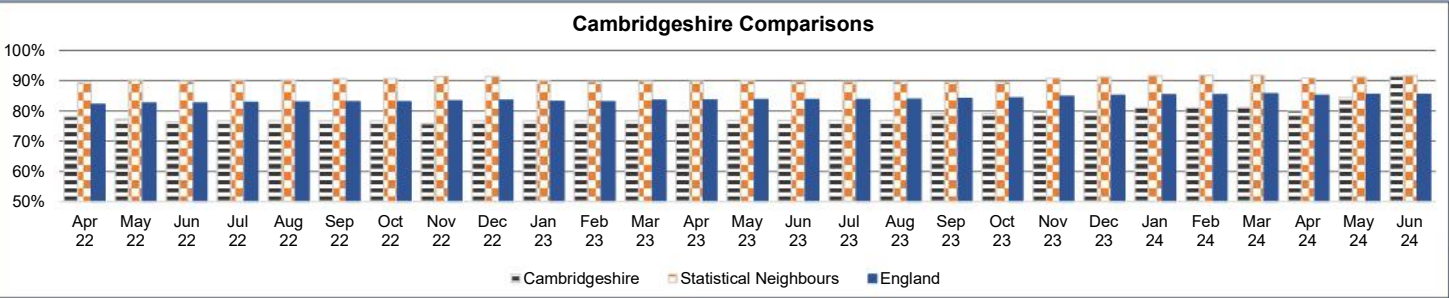
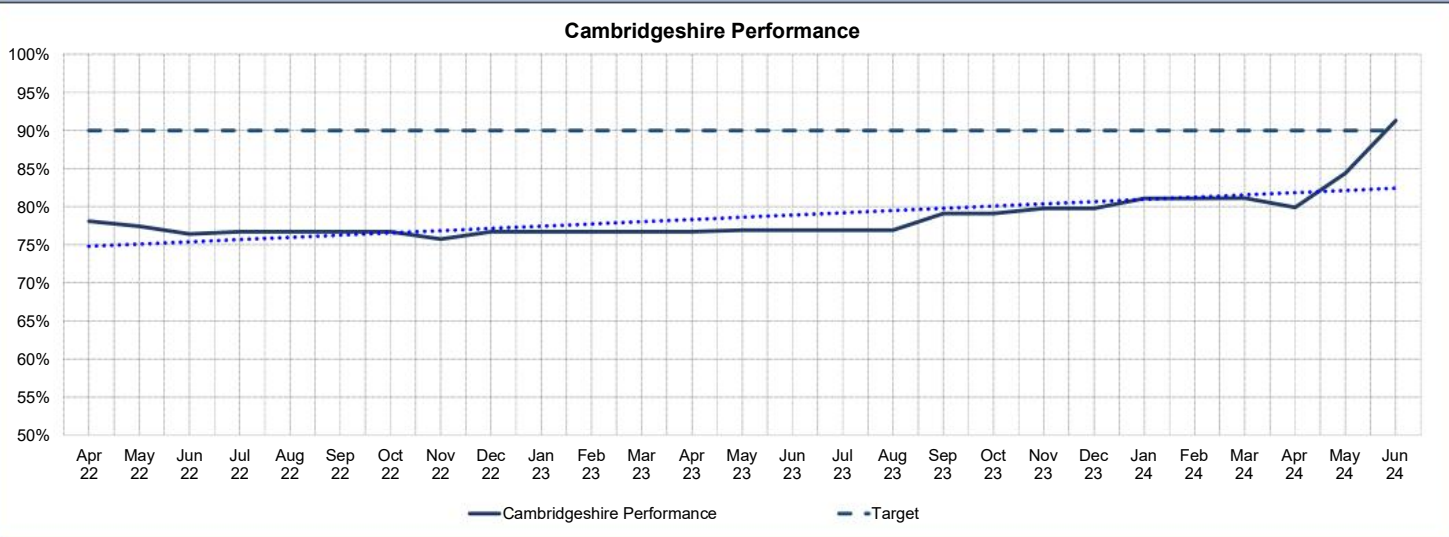
X = The number of children attending state funded secondary schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded secondary schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

- [Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)
- [Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)
- [The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

All secondary schools in the county are Academies. All but two schools are part of multi-academy trusts with the remaining two set up as single academy trusts (SATs). The overall level of schools which are good or better is of concern. The service is awaiting publication of Ofsted reports from two schools who were previously judged as requiring improvement. Cambridgeshire Secondary Heads association have identified the need to work more closely together on key elements of school improvement.

Actions

Indicator 10: Ofsted - Pupils attending schools that are judged as Good or Outstanding (Special Schools)

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
100.0%	↑	62.9%	88.5%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
89.2%	92.0%	Red		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows how many children are attending state funded special schools which have been judged, by Ofsted inspection, to be Good or Outstanding.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded special schools, at month end.
Calculation:

$$(X/Y) \times 100$$

Where:

X = The number of children attending state funded special schools judged as good or outstanding at their latest Ofsted inspection.

Y = All children attending state funded special schools where the school has had an Ofsted inspection.

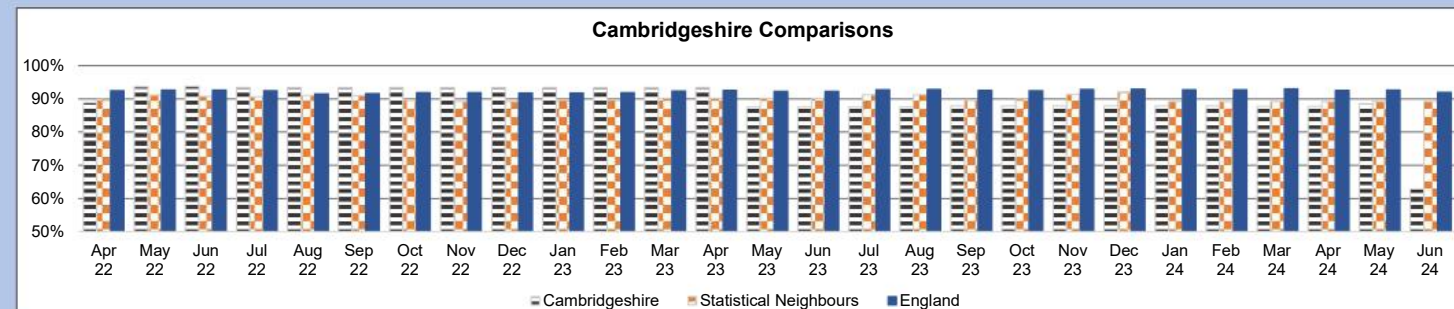
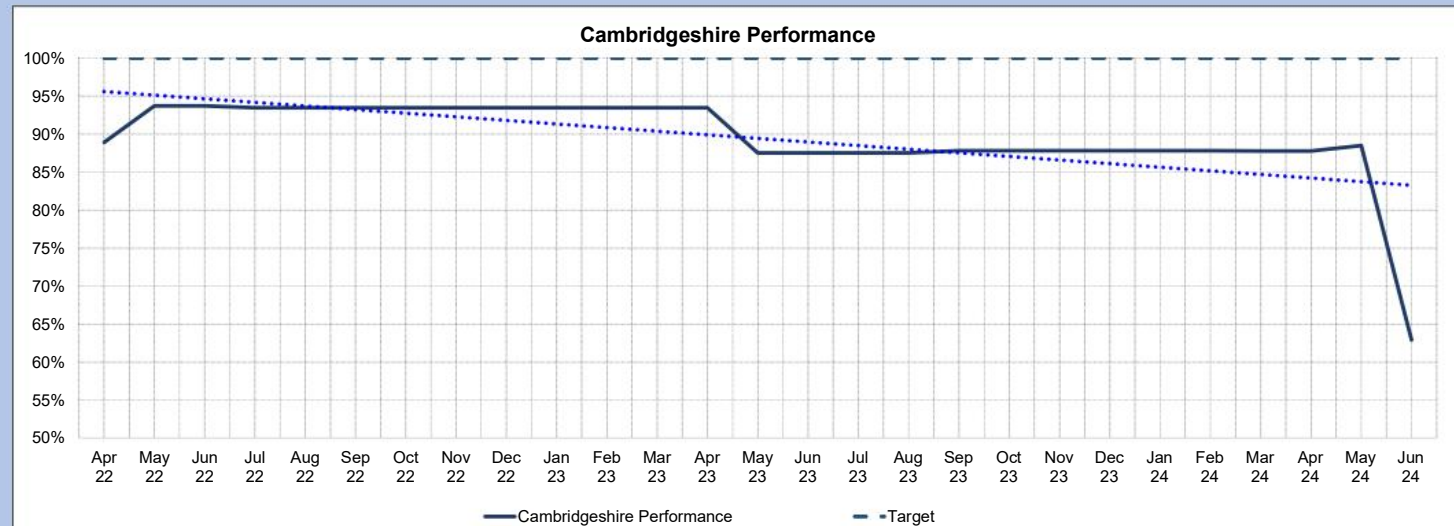
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

[Ofsted Management Information webpage for state funded school inspections and outcomes](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

There is strong work between special schools in Cambridgeshire. One school, which is requires improvement, has recently moved Trust and is making positive progress towards 'good'. The one school from 2019 that has a legacy judgement of 'inadequate' has since been reinspected in January of this year. The improvements resulted in a judgement of requiring improvement overall with good in 3 of the 4 areas.

Actions

Indicator 11: Percentage of 2 year olds taking up the universal entitlement (15 hours)

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Term	Previous Term	Change in Performance
75.0%	↑	78.9%	74.6%	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
78.4%	74.8%	Blue		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the proportion of children benefitting from some funded early education.

All 4 year olds have been entitled to a funded early education place since 1998. In 2004 this was extended to all 3 year olds. From September 2013, the entitlement to 15 hours of funded early education every week was extended to 2 year olds. This was to meet the Department for Education's eligibility criteria.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

Where:

X = The number of 2 year olds taking up places.

Y = All of the 2 year old population eligible for funded early education.

NB: Where they are receiving funded provision at more than one provider, they have only been counted once. This is a unique count of children.

The estimated number of eligible children is derived from data supplied to the Department for Education by the Department for Work and Pensions in November 2016 on the number of children believed to meet the benefit and tax credit eligibility criteria.

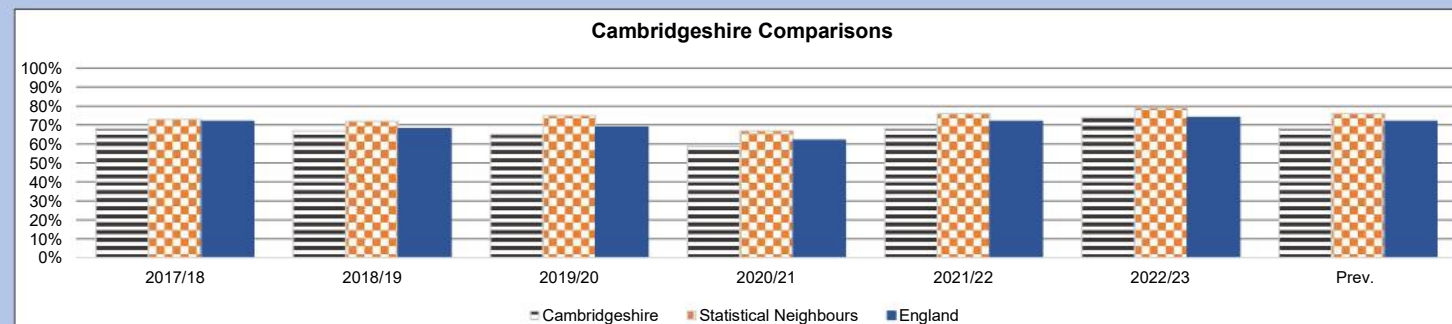
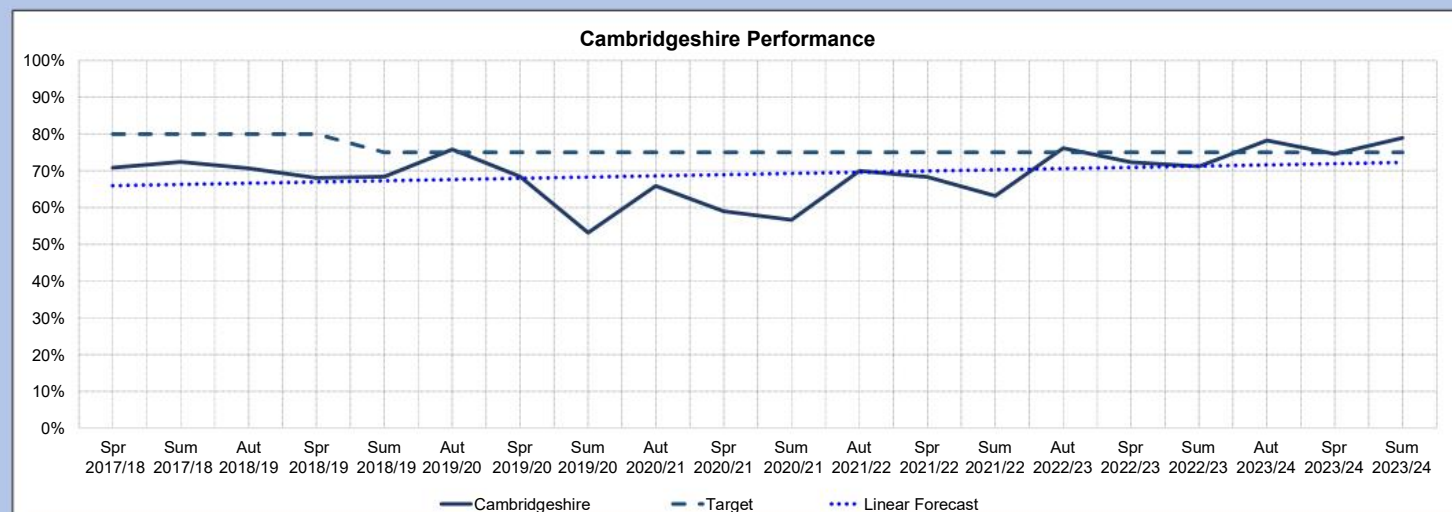
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

[Department for Education Statistics: Childcare and Early Years](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

The proportion of families taking up their two-year funded offer (due to disadvantage) is increasing, however there are barriers to accessing provision (some families are unsure how to use their free code, some settings do not offer places until children have attained a minimum age and DWP data doesn't match data held by CCC meaning we are unable to let families know of eligibility)

The current percentage of children taking up Funded Two places in Cambridgeshire is 73.2%, which is slightly below the national percentage of 74.8%. In comparison to our statistical neighbours Cambridgeshire remains 8th out of 11 (improved from 10th out of 11 in 2021). The number of children eligible for two-year-old funding due to disadvantage has fallen since 2022, and whilst our take up rate is lower than national it is increasing and the gap between Cambridgeshire and National has narrowed by 2.4% in the past five years.

The expansion of 15 funded hours to two year olds of working families, starting in April 2024 had minimal impact on the take up of Funded two places due to disadvantage. There has been a slightly lower take up in Summer 2024 of funded two places (802 as opposed to 822 in Summer 2023), however this is in line with the decrease in eligibility and shows that funded 2 places do not seem to have been impacted by the expanded working two offer.

Data from the Education Capital & Place Planning Team shows that Cambridgeshire has a good spread of providers allowing funded two year olds to access places in their provision.

Actions

Indicator 116: Rate of referrals to Children's Social Care per 10,000 of population under 18

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
25.0	↓	44.0	50.0	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
41.1	44.8	Red		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the level of referrals into children's social care.

A referral is made when there are concerns expressed about the safety and wellbeing of a child.

This measure is expressed as the number of referrals to children's social care for every 10,000 population under 18. A referral is defined as a request for services to be provided by children's social care. It is in respect of a child who is currently not assessed to be in need. A referral may result in:

1. An initial assessment of the child's needs
2. The provision of information or advice
3. The referral to another agency
4. No further action

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) \times 10,000$$

Where:

X = The number of referrals to social care within the month.

Y = The population of 0 to 17 year old children.

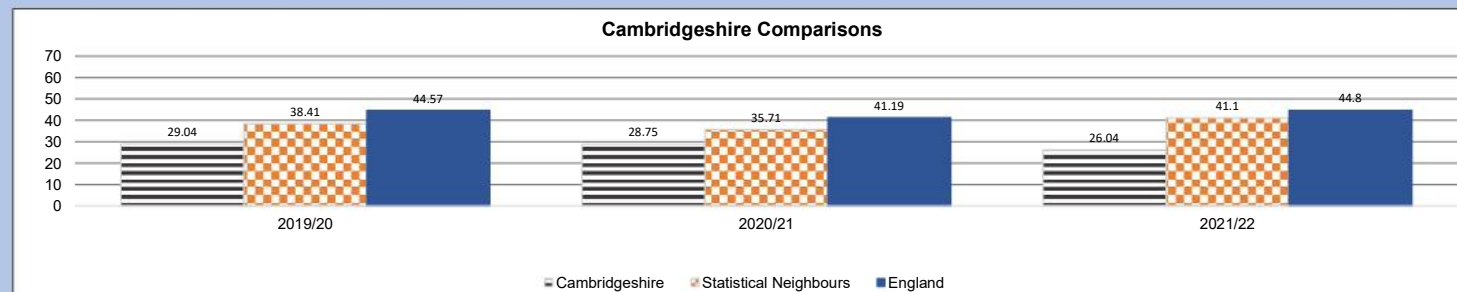
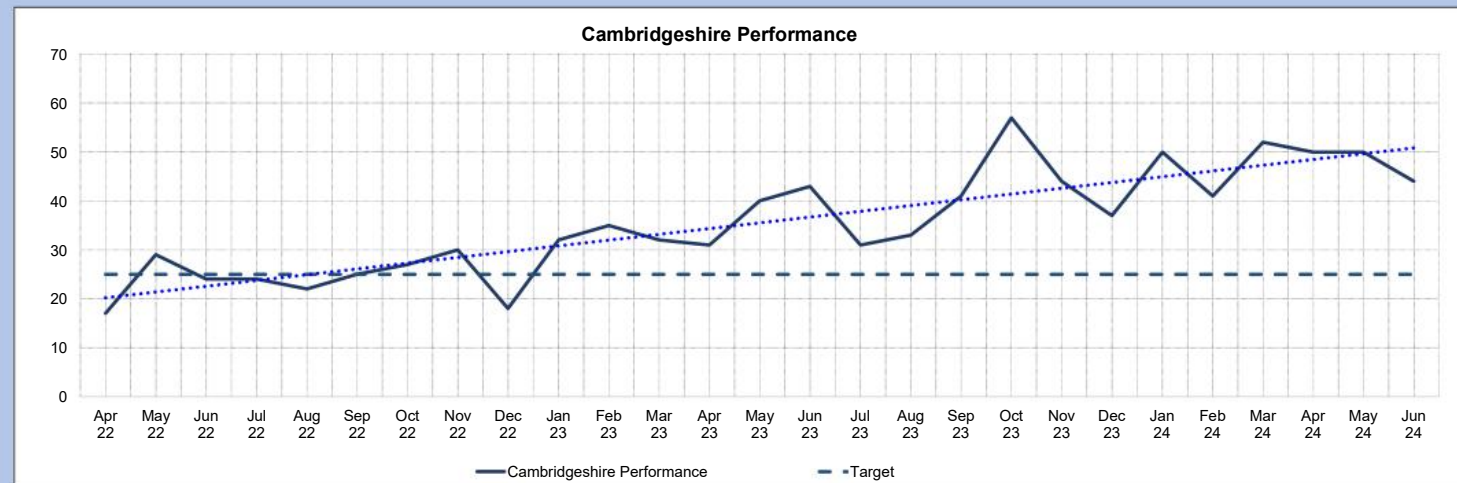
Sources: Department for Education; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

Useful Links

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)



Commentary

The number of referrals in the last 3 years have been stable but high in comparison with statistical neighbours. The statistical mean for neighbours is 41.1 whilst we had 44.0 in the month of July and 50.0 in August 2024. A lot of work has taken place in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in order to improve partner agencies decision-making. Focussed work has taken place on sharing of information and streamlining of the referral process, which has included refreshing the MASH manual and threshold document. We are beginning to see the improvement in the work undertaken by the MASH as a significant number of cases are progressing to early help for support where safeguarding intervention is not required.

Actions

MASH have streamlined the referral process and this remains under constant review. Rejection of contacts with no consent is now embedded in the practice. MASH Manual has been formerly agreed and signed off by the Safeguarding Board and implemented. A revised threshold document is under review by the partnership. Work with partners to reinforce the need to obtain consent is ongoing. The identification of support for low level needs is transferred directly to the Early Help Hub.

Indicator 117: Proportion of children subject to a Child Protection Plan for the second or subsequent time[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
21.0%	↓	8.9%	6.9%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
24.6%	23.3%	Blue		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the number of children at risk of significant harm for a second or more times. Re-registration of a child indicates that the actions to reduce the risk of harm were not successful or significant event has occurred to change their circumstances.

This measure is expressed as a percentage of children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan at any time during the year, who had previously been the subject of a Child Protection Plan, or on the Child Protection Register of that council.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

Where:

X = The number of children with a Child Protection Plan at month end, who have had a previous child protection plan.

Y = The number of children with a Child Protection Plan, at month end.

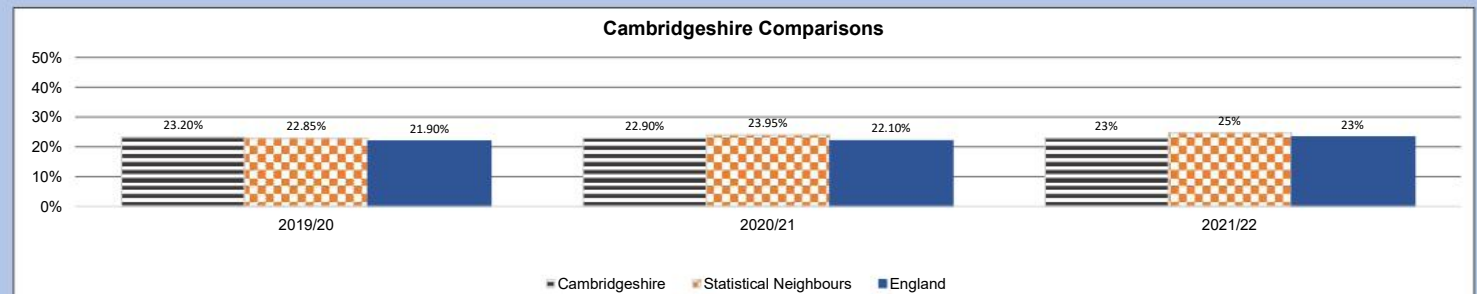
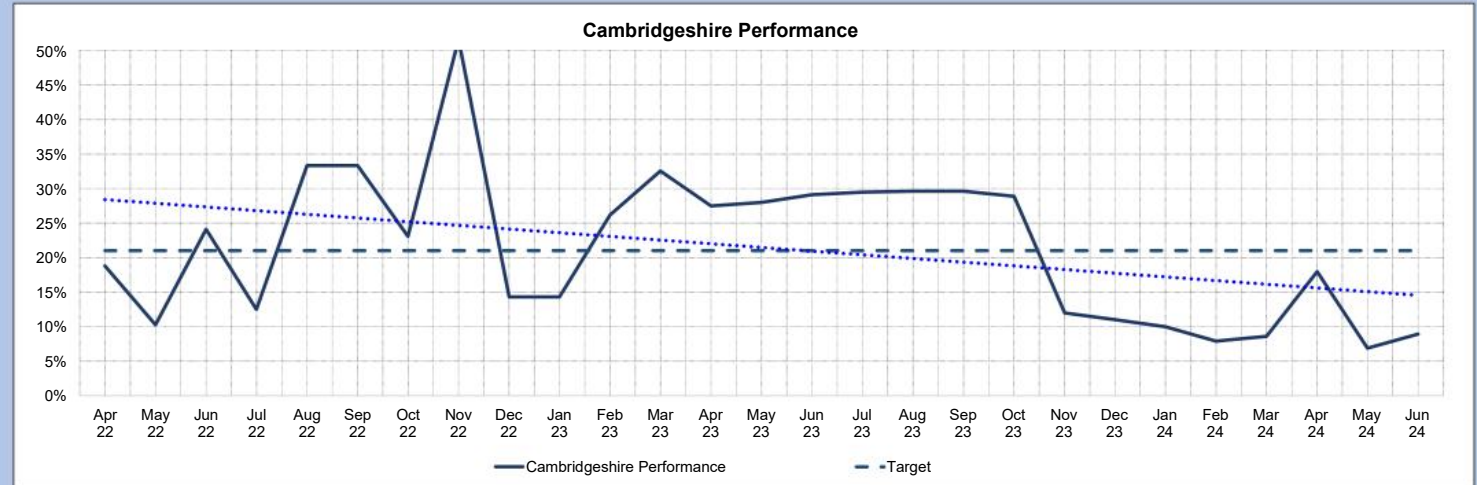
Sources: Department for Education; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.

Useful Links

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)

**Commentary**

The number of children who were subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second period spiked in October 2023 but reduced to comparable levels during November and December 2023 and January and February 2024. At the end of Quarter 4 there was an increase in the number of children made subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second time. This number spiked further during April and reduced during May and June.

When comparing with statistical neighbours the rate of repeat Child Protection Plans for Cambridgeshire children is in the higher mid-range.

Work continues to review repeat periods of Child Protection. Findings show during Quarter 1 the shortest period of time children were subject to a Child Protection Plan before step down was 6 months and the longest period of time children were subject to a Child Protection Plan before step down was 16 months. A review of children's journeys will continue to help understand reasons for repeat Child Protection.

Actions

Indicator 118: Number of young first time entrants to the criminal justice system, per 10,000 of population

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement		Current Quarter	Previous Quarter	Change in Performance
3.94	↓		1.59	3.83	Improving
Cambs Mean Yearly	Statistical Neighbour Mean Yearly	England Mean Yearly	RAG Rating		
15.9	13.2	16.1	Blue		

Indicator Description

This indicator is a Youth Justice Board National measure. It shows the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system where first time entrants are defined as young people (aged 10 to 17) who receive their first substantive outcome. These are outcomes relating to a youth caution, youth conditional caution or court disposal. The measure is expressed by the rate for every 10,000 population.

Calculation:

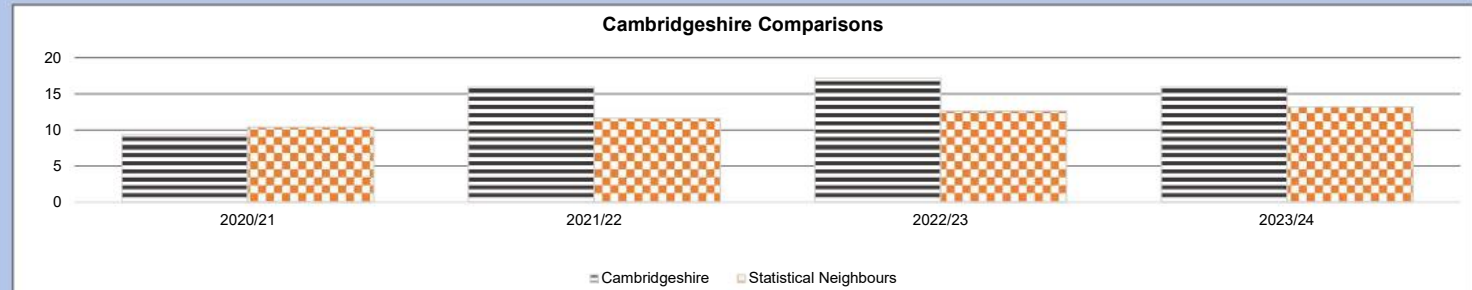
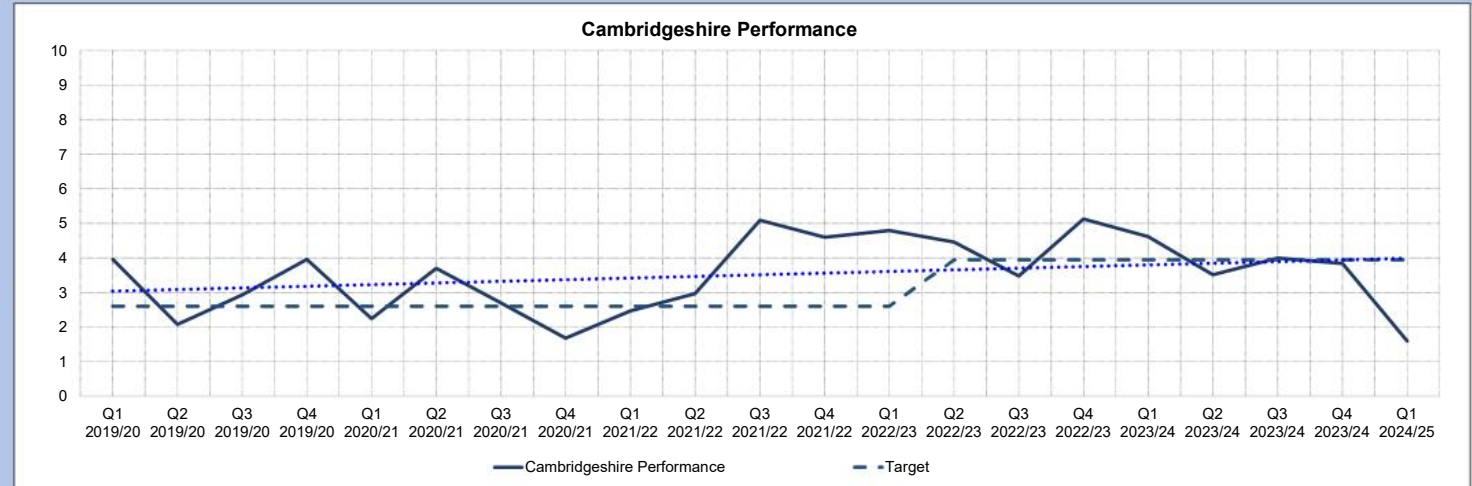
$(X/Y) \times 10,000$

Where:

X = The number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system aged 10-17 in the month.

Y = The population of 10 to 17 year old children.

Sources: Ministry of Justice; LG Inform; Cambridgeshire County Council Policy, Insight & Programmes Team.



Commentary

There has been a very significant decrease this quarter from last quarter and overall Cambridgeshire's figures remain similar to regional and national comparators.

The Youth Justice Service have received Turnaround funding for 2 years to deliver targeted prevention work through the Diversion Support Team / Turnaround work that specifically focuses on prevention activity. The team started delivering interventions at the start of last financial year, this earlier intervention with young people at high risk of becoming involved in offending will have directly positively impacted the FTE performance measure. An evaluation of the DST / Turnaround is currently being carried out locally and nationally and the initial findings are extremely positive with focussed intervention so far leading to very few young people going on to offend.

This financial year there have been two additional DST posts set up from police Hot Spot funding which is in place just for this financial year. This has been providing significant additionality to the prevention and diversion work.

The reduction in FTEs is also linked to a greater use of diversion of young people to informal outcomes through the Out of Court decision making panel following the new Youth Justice Board Case Management Guidance on the use of Out of Court Disposals. This work continues following the recent HMIP inspection of Youth Justice with greater focus on earlier interventions managed jointly with the Constabulary as part of updated working and processes.

Actions

The greatest challenge is that the funding for the Diversion Support Team through Turnaround and Hot Spot policing is ending in March 25 as it is fixed term. It is hoped that this may be extended from Government following the general election but this is very uncertain in the current national economic climate. This would be a huge loss as the impact of the DST is very profound across Children's Services and partner agencies, and impact being able to deliver skilled and targeted interventions to those at risk of offending. Funding is being explored for this as a priority as the loss of this team would be very negative for this whole area as well as the performance measures themselves. The current picture of Local Authority funding does mean though that it is highly unlikely that there will be additional funding from this source. There was some funding potentially allocated within the core YJS budget but currently this is earmarked to be removed as part of 10% reductions of the LA contribution to the YJS budget, meaning that there is no alternate funding available at this time. It is expected that there will be some challenge from the YJ Management Board in relation to the proposed budget reductions though the board have limited direct influence around LA decision making in this regard.

Following the recent HMIP inspection there has been a particular action plan priority on Out Of Court work which makes up the majority of Youth Justice interventions now. Extensive work has taken place on updated protocols and processes which allows for a much more effective and 'Child First' approach to this work. The updated policies and processes are now approved and in place leading to a more coherent

Useful Links

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

[Department of Education - Children in Need Statistics](#)

Indicator 128: Percentage of Education, Health and Care plan assessments completed within timescale

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
70.0%	↑	5.19%	5.21%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG rating		
31.7%	49.1%	Red		

Indicator Description

Education, Health and Care plans for children and young people aged up to 25 were introduced on 1st September 2014. This was part of the Special Educational Needs and Disability provisions in the Children and Families Act 2014.

This indicator shows the percentage of Education, Health and Care plan assessments completed within 20 weeks. It includes exception cases.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

Where:

X = The number of Education, Health and Care plan assessments issued within the month that took 20 weeks or less to complete. This number includes exception cases.

Y = The number of Education, Health and Care plans assessments issued within the month.

The Cambridgeshire County Council target of 70% was set in June 2018. This was when this indicator was included in corporate performance reporting. Before this, no target was set.

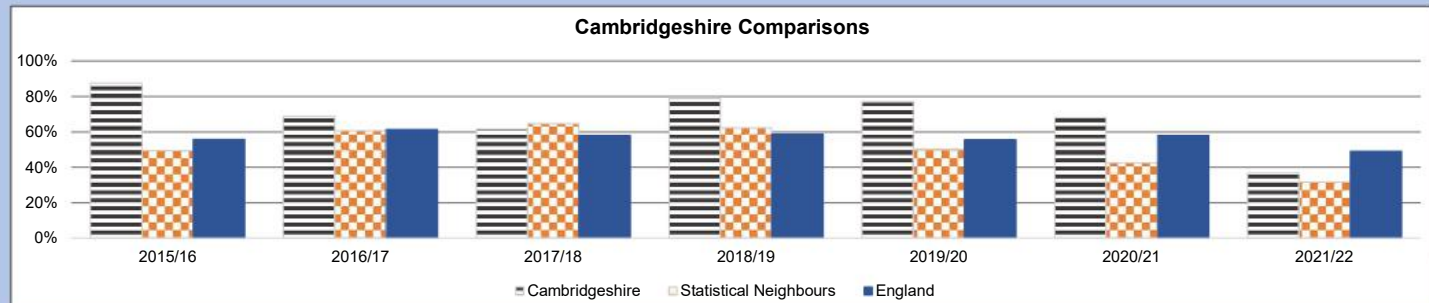
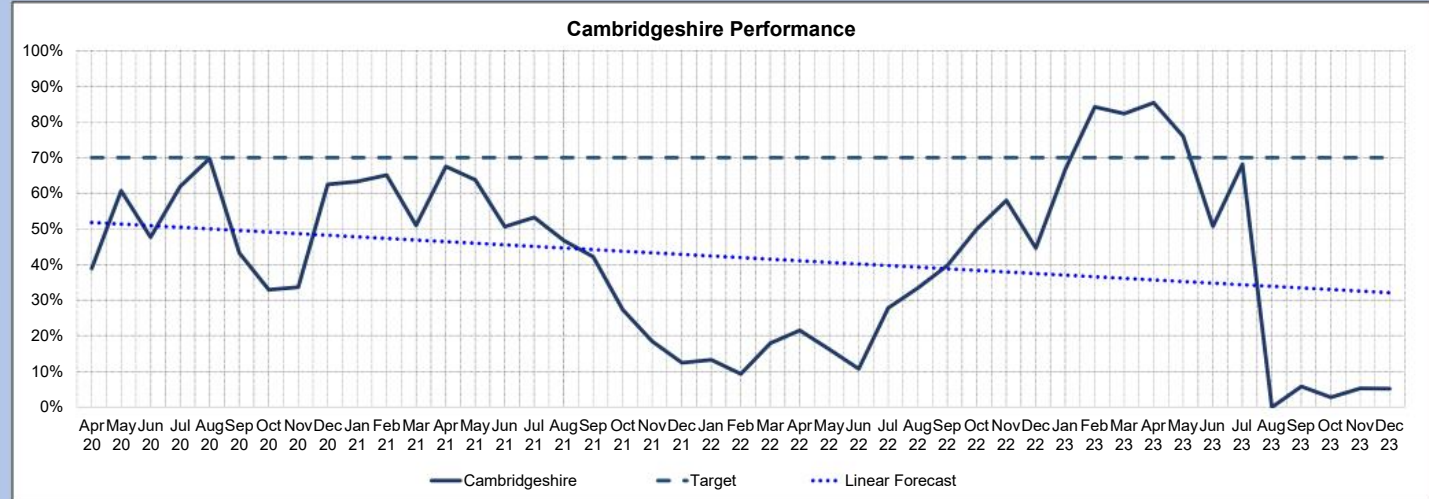
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

[Department for Education Statistics: Special Educational Needs](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

Following the introduction of the Impulse Nexus system, which went live on 13 May 2024, there was a phase of data migration which concluded in August and any remaining migration work has been moved onto small works briefs to be monitored by the Education Systems Programme Board.

Work is now being undertaken to build reporting functionality linked to the new system. A further update will be provided to this committee in the next iteration of the quarterly performance report due in January 2025.

Actions

Indicator 129: Number of young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training, or Unknown, every 10,000 of population

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Month	Previous Month	Change in Performance
Contextual	↓	326.0	327.0	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG rating		
578.0	539.0	Contextual		

Indicator Description

Number of young people academic age 16 and 17 who are Not in Education, employment or training (NEET) or their situation is not known as a ratio per 10,000 people.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y)*10,000$$

Where:

X = The number of young people aged 16&17 who are NEET/Unknown.

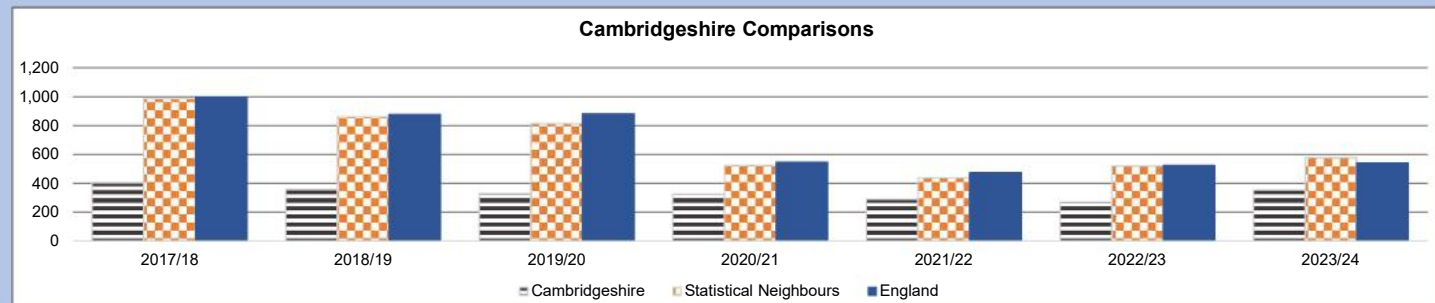
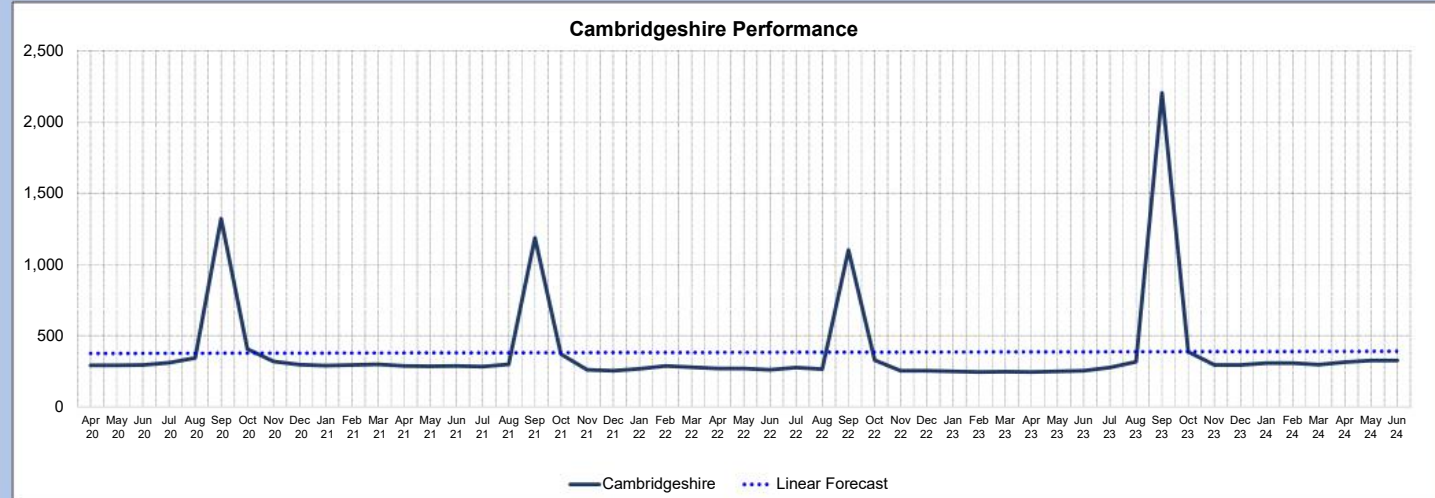
Y = The population of 16&17 year old children.

Sources: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Children's Team

Useful Links

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

The number of young people with a situation of NEET or not known in June 2024 was 481 making a % of 3.6%. This is a slight reduction from previous month, however is a slight increase from the last quarter in March 2024 by 16 young people. It is usual for this time of year for NEET figures to increase slightly as young people start to consider what they may go on to do in September and September Guarantee processes kick in around support for that. In comparison with local and statistical neighbours (5.5% and 5.8% respectively) Cambridgeshire's result is better than those averages which is largely due to the very low numbers that are not known and the great work of our client researchers tracking our young people. Cambridgeshire's NEET figures over the last few years have stayed stable, however the figures this year have increased slightly. Other local authorities are also reporting on increases of NEET figures as well. There has been a number of alternative training provisions and funding stopping for providers from central government over the last few years and this has had an impact on the NEET figures. The strategy that is being developed includes a key strategic objective to identify more provision for young people who cannot attend mainstream further education provision.

Actions

Indicator 130: Key Stage 2 Reading, writing and maths combined to the expected standard (All children)

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
65.0%	↑	57.9%	58.0%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
58.9%	59.8%	Red		

Indicator Description

This indicator measures the attainment of children, in state-funded schools, at the end of Key Stage 2.

This measure is expressed as the percentage of children in all state funded schools at end the end of the academic year.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

Where:

X = The number of children at the end of Key Stage 2 with a valid result showing they have reached the expected standard in all three subjects.

Y = The number of children at the end of Key Stage 2 with a valid result.

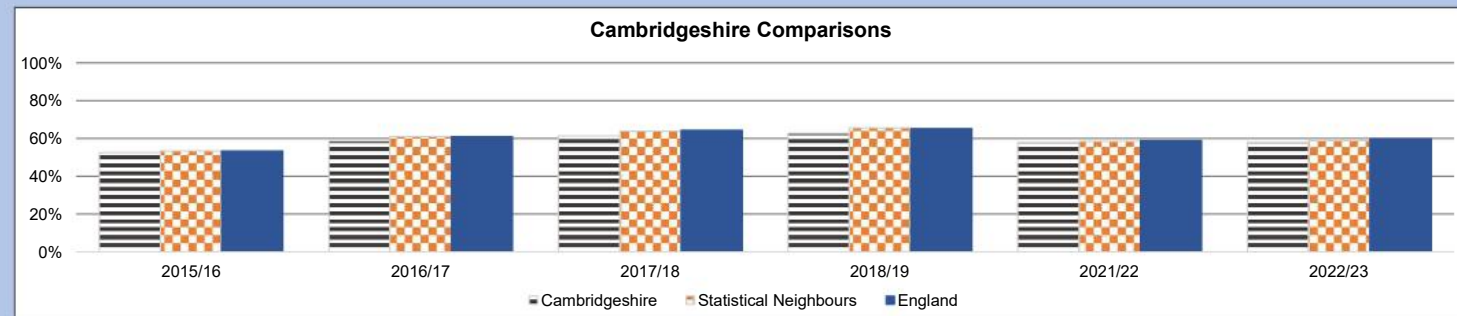
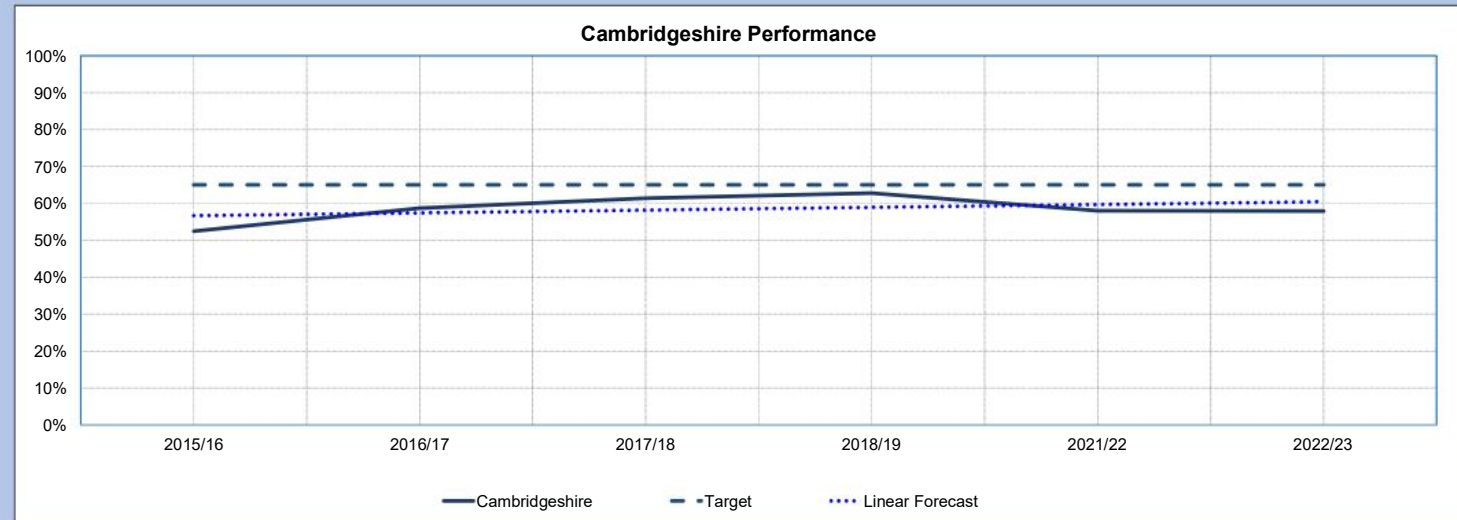
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

[Department for Education Statistics: Key Stage 2](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

This has been updated with the DfE's revised data for 22-23 which was released in November 2023. Writing is both the national and local area of focus. The service is working closely with the local teaching school hub to support LA maintained and academy schools to improve their writing outcomes.

Actions

Indicator 131: Key Stage 4 Attainment 8 (All children)

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
50.1	↑	48.7	51.7	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
47.9	46.4	Amber		

Indicator Description

Attainment 8 measures the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications. These include:

1. English. Double weighted if the combined English qualification, or both language and literature are taken.
2. Maths. Double weighted.
3. Three further qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate.
4. Three further qualifications that can be GCSE (including English Baccalaureate subjects).
5. Any other non GCSE qualifications on the Department for Education approved list.

This measure is expressed as an average score derived from the scores of children in all state funded schools at end the end of the academic year.

Calculation:

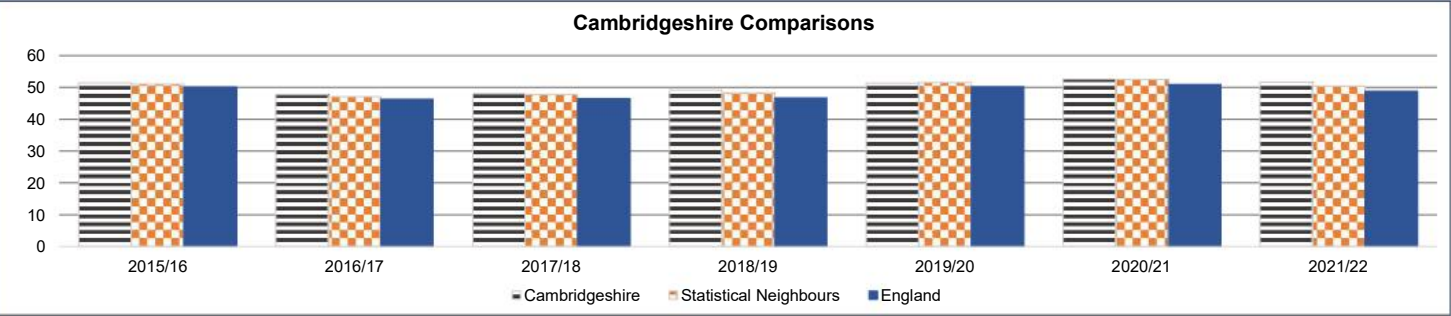
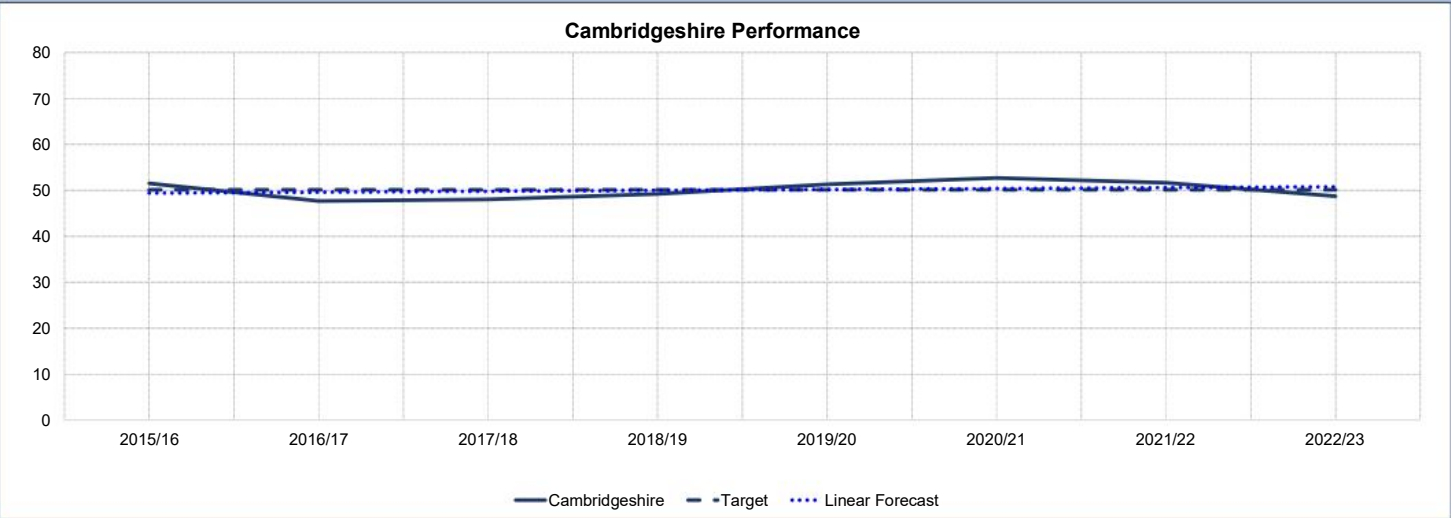
X/Y

Where:

X = The sum of all pupils Attainment 8 scores

Y = The number of children at the end of Key Stage 4 with a valid Attainment 8 score.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.



Commentary

Although the KS4 outcomes are below the target set, Cambridgeshire have maintained the position above its statistical neighbour and the national overall percentage. There is still further work to do and the service continue to work with the secondary heads and CEO's to improve the provision further.

Actions

Useful Links

- [Department for Education Statistics: Key Stage 4](#)
- [Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)
- [The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

Indicator 132: Percentage of persistent absence (All children)

[Return to Index](#)

September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
8.5%	↓	18.5%	21.2%	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
21.3%	22.5%	Red		

Indicator Description

In law, parents of children of compulsory school age (5 to 16) are required to make sure their children receive a suitable education by regular attendance at school. Failure to follow this law can lead to prosecution.

Local authorities are responsible in law for making sure that pupils attend school. Schools are required to take attendance registers twice a day. Once at the beginning of the morning session and once during the afternoon session.

In their register, schools are required to say whether pupils are present, away on an approved educational activity, or are absent. Where a pupil of compulsory school age is absent, schools have to show if their absence is authorised or unauthorised by the school.

Since the beginning of the 2015/16 academic year, pupils have been identified as persistent absentees if they miss 10% or more of their possible sessions.

This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) \times 100$$

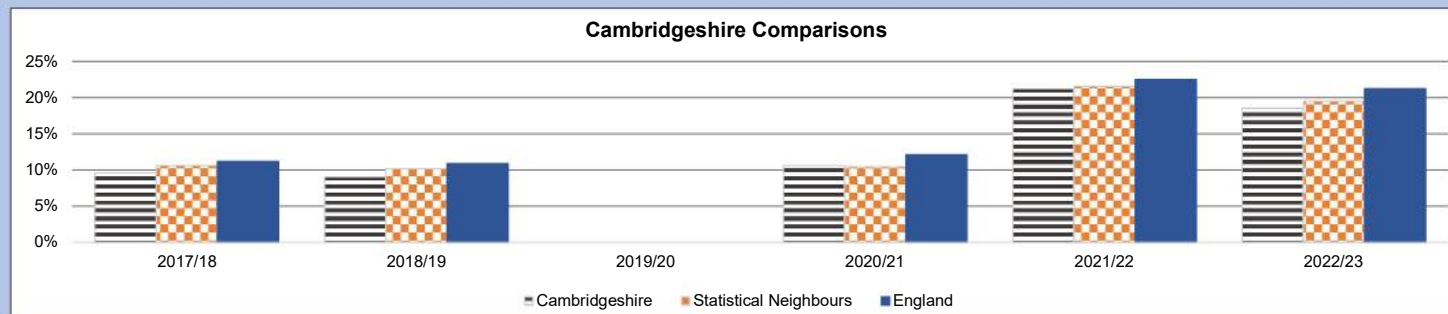
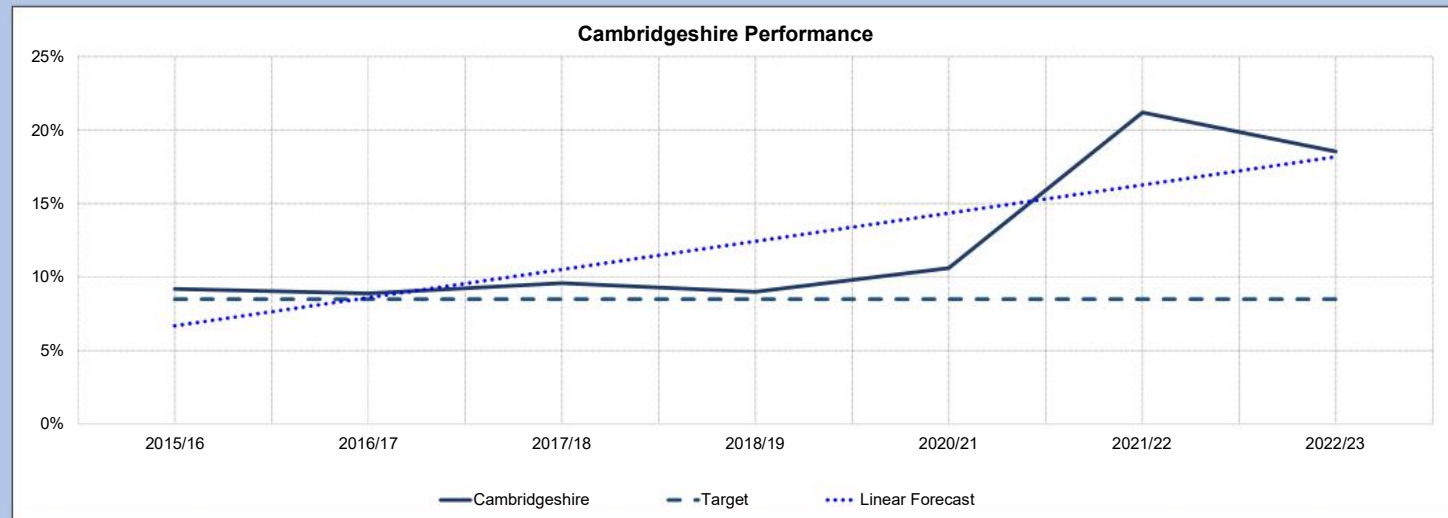
Where:

X = The number of enrolments classed as persistent absentees.

Y = The number of enrolments.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

[Department for Education Statistics: Pupil Absence](#)
[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)
[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)


Commentary

Persistent Absence rates = 21.2 % Cambs 22.7% England (most recent full year data 21/22) Nationally the impact of COVID still evident. Contributing to the PA levels are levels of children and Young People presenting with Emotional School Based Avoidance exerting pressures on the school systems. Working in partnership with Public Health has provided funding that provides schools with preventative tools to better engage pupils and families increasing levels of attendance. Disadvantaged pupils still represent higher levels of PA. The Cambridgeshire Attendance Service are working on a tool kit to focus on the attendance levels of pupils in special schools. Although CCC across the board performs in line with our statistical neighbours and above the English National performance - we do have poorer outcomes for our pupils @special schools.

Actions

Working together to improve school attendance issued August 2024. This new guidance sets out the following expectations for LAs to:

- Rigorously track local attendance data to devise a strategic approach to attendance that prioritises the pupils, pupil cohorts and schools on which to provide support and focus its efforts on actions to unblock area wide barriers to attendance.
- Have a School Attendance Support Team which provides the following core functions free of charge to all schools (regardless of type):
 - Communication and advice: regularly bring schools together to communicate messages, provide advice and share best practice between schools and trusts within the area.
 - Targeted Support Meetings (TSMs): hold regular conversations with schools, using school attendance data to identify pupils and cohorts at risk of attendance and agree targeted actions and access to services for those pupils with poor attendance. Agree targeted actions and access services for those pupils.
 - Monitor and improve the attendance of children with a social worker through their Virtual School
 - Legal intervention: take forward attendance legal intervention (using the full range of parental responsibility measures) where voluntary support has not been successful or engaged with.

Indicator 133: Percentage suspensions (All children)

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September 2024

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
3.7%	↓	7.9%	6.2%	Declining
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
8.1%	9.3%	Red		

Indicator Description

A suspension refers to a pupil who is excluded from a school but remains on the register of that school because they are expected to return when the exclusion period is completed.

This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) \times 100$$

Where:

X = The number of suspensions recorded across the whole academic year.

Y = The number of pupils (sole and dual main registered) on roll as at census day in January of the academic year.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

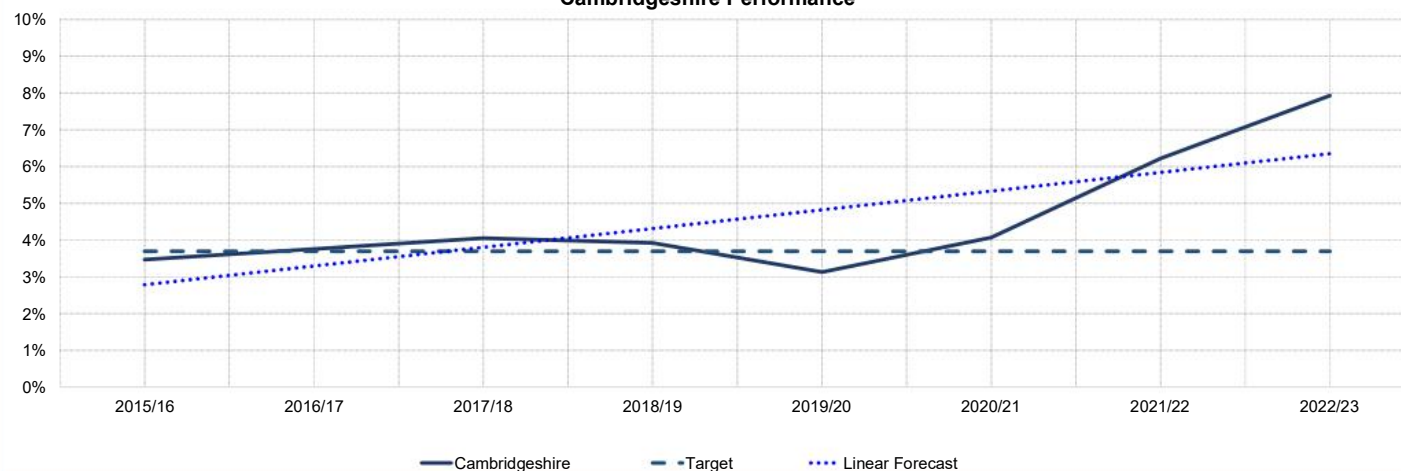
Useful Links

[Department for Education Statistics: Exclusions](#)

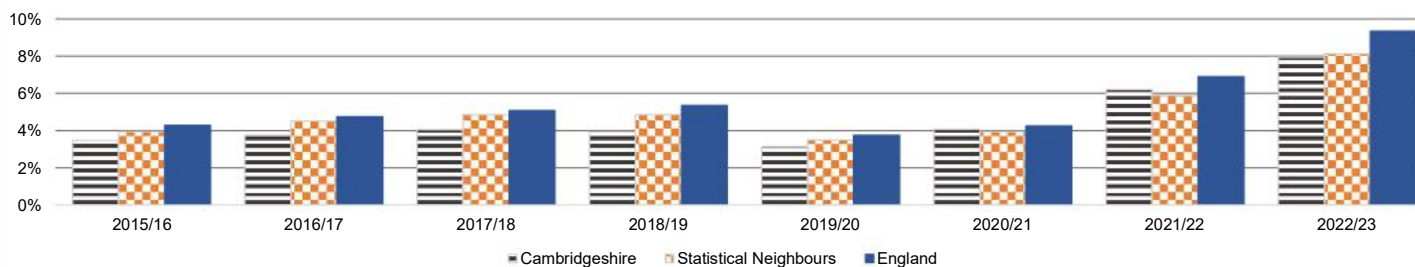
[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)

Cambridgeshire Performance



Cambridgeshire Comparisons



Commentary

Cambridgeshire has seen growth in suspension as the implications of Covid and more challenging behaviour in schools are seen. As a result of the cost-of-living crises, increasing numbers of disadvantaged children from poorer backgrounds are being suspended and are therefore not meeting expected school standards.

The growth in suspensions are below national levels of increase and consistent with our statistical neighbours.

For primary, the approach around Cambridgeshire therapeutic thinking is to support schools to use a therapeutic approach to understanding and analysing behaviour, considering past experiences to create pro-social and positive relationships between children and adults. This approach is based on an equitable and inclusive offer for all children.

For secondary, the BAIP (Behaviour Attendance Improvement Partnership) model which devolves funds for Appropriate Alternative Education from the High Needs Block to schools is used. It is for Head teachers to control the decision-making process by giving Heads direct financial control of the budget. Key benefits of the BAIP model are localised decision making, collaboration and working in partnership between Heads, historically low levels of permanent exclusions and peer challenge on managing behaviour.

Actions

Indicator 134: Percentage of children receiving a place at first choice school (Primary)

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
93.0%	↑	95.9%	94.8%	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
93.0%	93.2%	Green		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the proportion of applicants for primary school places which have received preferred offers.

This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

$(X/Y) \times 100$

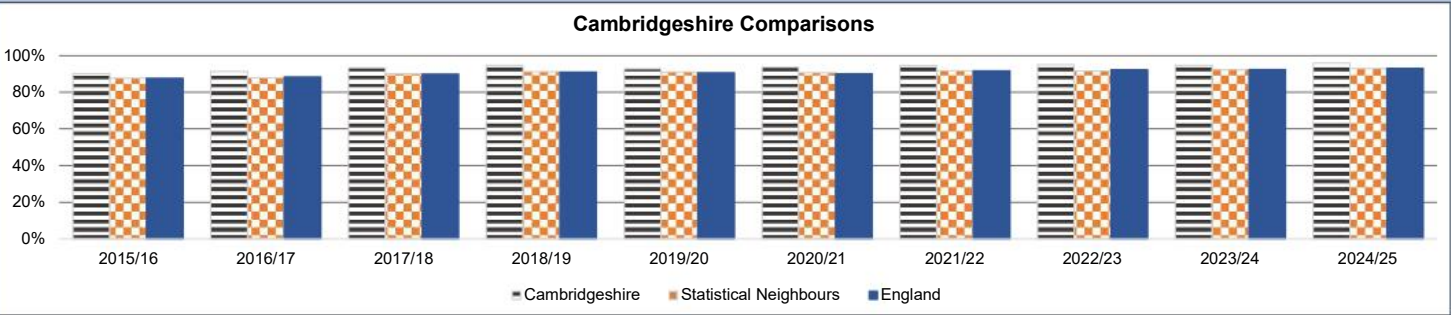
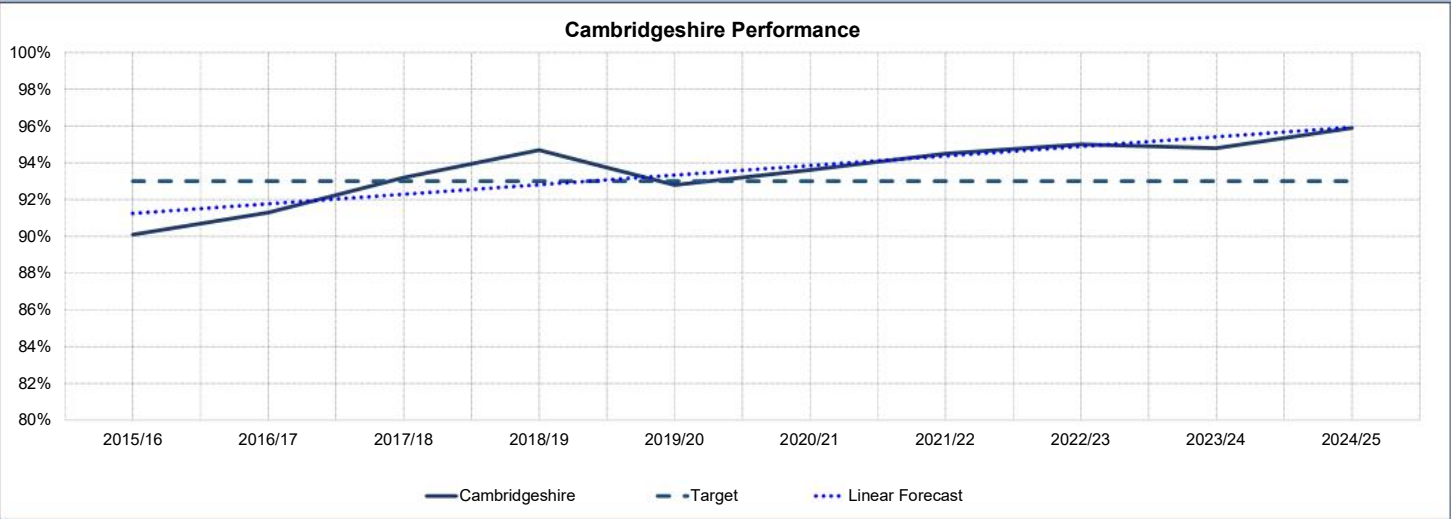
Where:

X = The number of children receiving a place at their first choice school.

Y = The number of applications received.

Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

- Useful Links**
- [Department for Education Statistics: School Applications](#)
 - [Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)
 - [The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

The proportion of Cambridgeshire children offered a place at their first choice primary school in September 2024 has risen again. A total of 95.9 per cent will be going to their preferred school – up from 94.8 per cent last year and the highest percentage since 2021. The proportion offered a place at their first, second or third choice school has also risen – from 98.7 per cent last year to 99.1 per cent this year. This means only 0.9 per cent (58 pupils) have been allocated places at other schools, down from 1.3 per cent (84 pupils) in 2023. This year saw a slight fall in the total number of applications for a primary school place – from 6457 in 2023 to 6418 this year.

Actions

Target	Direction for Improvement	Current Year	Previous Year	Change in Performance
91.0%	↑	87.1%	86.5%	Improving
Statistical Neighbour Mean	England Mean	RAG Rating		
85.6%	82.9%	Amber		

Indicator Description

This indicator shows the percentage of applicants for Year 7 places for entry at the start of the new academic year, who were allocated their first choice school. This measure is expressed as a percentage.

Calculation:

$$(X/Y) \times 100$$

Where:

X = The number of children receiving a place at their first choice school.

Y = The number of applications received.

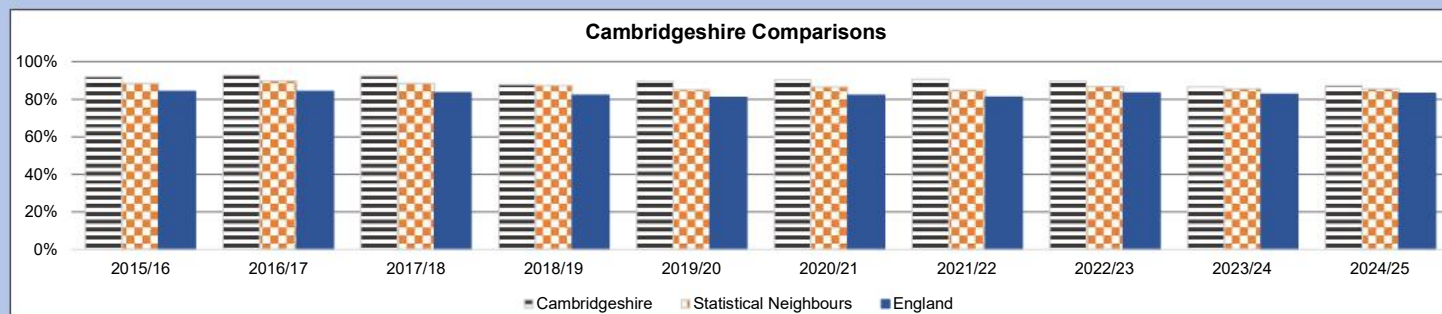
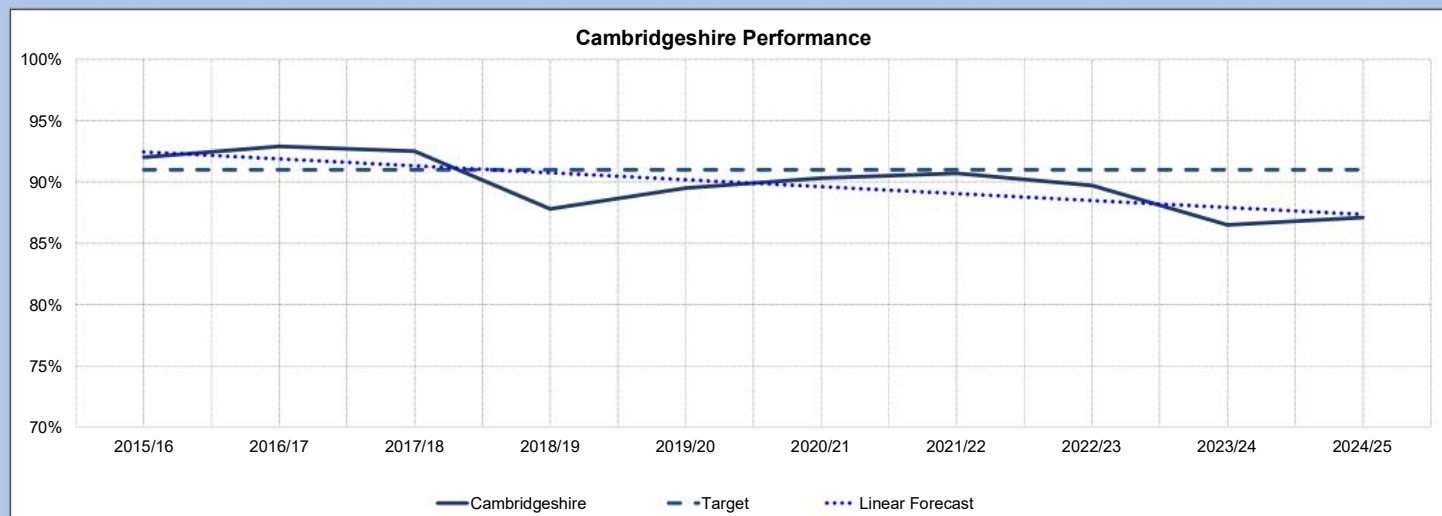
Source: Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence: Education Team.

Useful Links

[Department for Education Statistics: School Applications](#)

[Local Authority Interactive Tool \(LAIT\)](#)

[The local area benchmarking tool from the Local Government Association](#)



Commentary

A greater percentage of Cambridgeshire students received their first choice secondary school compared to September 2023.

A total of 87.7 per cent were offered a place at their first choice school – up from 87.1 per cent last year.

The proportion offered a place at their first, second or third preference school also rose – from 95.4 per cent in 2023 to 95.6 per cent in 2024.

The total number of places offered were fewer than last year – 7224 compared with 7413.

Actions

Children and Young People Committee Agenda Plan

Published on 2 September 2024

Updated 30 September 2024

Notes

The definition of a key decision is set out in the Council's Constitution in Part 2, Article 12.

* indicates items expected to be recommended for determination by full Council.

+ indicates items expected to be confidential, which would exclude the press and public.

The following are standing agenda items which are considered at every Committee meeting:

- Minutes of previous meeting and Action Log
- Agenda Plan, Training Plan and Appointments to Outside Bodies and Internal Advisory Groups and Panels

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
08/10/24	Quarterly Performance Report (Q1)	R Springbett	Not applicable	26/09/24	30/09/24
	Healthy Child Programme Commissioning Approach	R Laksman	2024/070		
	Finance Monitoring Report - August	M Wade	Not applicable		
	Ofsted Action Plan	M Purbrick	Not applicable		
	Music Education Hub Consortium Agreement	M Gunn	2024/085		
26/11/24	Children's Workforce Strategic Plan	M Purbrick	Not applicable	14/11/24	18/11/24
	Finance Monitoring Report - October	M Wade	Not applicable		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	Corporate Parenting Strategy 2024 [via CPSC]	R Chambers	2024/039		
	Childcare Access Funds and After School Clubs	A Brooker	2024/035		
	SEND Safety Valve Update	S Callaghan	Not applicable		
14/01/25	Schools and Early Years Revenue Funding Arrangements 2025/26	M Purbrick	2025/004	02/01/25	06/01/25
	Determined admission arrangements	S Callaghan	Not applicable		
	Re-Commissioning of Young People's Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services	V Thomas	Not applicable		
	Quarterly Performance Report (Q2)	R Springbett	Not applicable		
	Children's Occupational Therapy provision 2025/26	L Roberston	2025/011		
	Scrutiny of Draft Business Plan and Budget	M Purbrick	Not applicable		
	Deed of Variation to enable the building of the permanent accommodation of Wisbech Free School	R Pinion	2025/012		
	Education Performance	S Callaghan	Not applicable		
	Sufficiency Strategy	L Munt	2025/013		
25/02/25	Quarterly Performance Report (Q3)	R Springbett	Not applicable	13/02/25	17/02/25
	Finance Monitoring Report – January	M Wade	Not applicable		
	The Award of Design and Construction Contracts for Education Projects Included in the Council's Approved Business Plan	R Pinion	2025/010		
	Transport Strategy	S Callaghan	2025/014		

Committee date	Agenda item	Lead officer	Reference if key decision	Deadline for draft reports	Agenda despatch date
	Alconbury Weald Secondary School Construction Contract	A Revell	2025/015		
03/06/25	Finance Monitoring Report - May	M Wade	Not applicable	22/05/25	26/05/25
	Outturn 2024/25 Finance Monitoring Report	M Wade	Not applicable		

Please contact Democratic Services democraticservices@cambridgeshire.gov.uk if you require this information in a more accessible format

Children and Young People (CYP) Committee Training Plan

The training plan provides details of training sessions which have taken place during the current Council and topics for potential future training sessions and visits.

PREVIOUS TRAINING 2021-2023

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
1.	Children & Young People Committee induction	To brief Members of the role and responsibilities of the Children and Young People Committee	High	15.06.21 12.00-2.00pm	Executive Director: People and Communities	Teams	All CYP Members	Cllrs Ambrose Smith Atkins Bywater Bradnam Bird Bulat Coutts Daunton Goodliffe Gowing Hay Hoy Prentice Kindersley M King J King Sharp Slatter Thompson Taylor van de Ven
2.	Member Induction Programme: Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee	To brief new and returning Members and Substitute Members on the responsibilities of the	High	12.07.21	Nicola Curley/ Myra O'Farrell	Teams	Members and Substitute Members	Cllrs Ambrose Smith Bird Bradnam

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee					of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee	Bulat Goodliffe M King Slatter van de Ven
3.	Safeguarding	To brief Members on safeguarding issues and responsibilities	High	08.10.21	Director of Children's Services	Teams	All Members	Cllrs Bulat Goodliffe Taylor Thompson Bird Bradnam Coutts Cox Condrion Gowing Nethsingha van de Ven Meschini
4.	Corporate Parenting and the Fostering Service		High	22.10.21 10.00am - 12.30pm	Assistant Director: Regional Adoption and Fostering	Virtual	All Members	Cllrs Atkins Bulat Goodliffe Hay Slatter Taylor Kindersley Nethsingha van de Ven
5.	Ofsted – Inspection Framework – Key areas of focus in assessing quality	Cambridgeshire children's services will have a focussed visit from Ofsted at some time in 2022, and a graded inspection in 2023. The aim:	Director of Children's Services	02.12.21 12pm – 1pm	Director of Children's Services	Virtual		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		<p>Introduce to the framework for inspection used by Ofsted</p> <p>How we ensure that we are prepared for inspections.</p>						
6.	Education Finance	Members gain a clear understanding of education funding and council decision making.		10 th Jan 2022 12.30 – 2pm	Service Director: Education & Strategic Finance Business Partner	Teams	All CYP Members	Atkins, Bulat, Goodliffe, Daunton, Coutts, Meschini, Bywater, Slatter, Taylor, M King, Bradnam
7.	Education - Attainment	Members gain a clear understanding of the assessment system used in schools.		23 rd March 2022 12 – 1.30 pm	Service Director: Education	Teams	All CYP Members	Cllrs Atkins, Daunton, Bulat, Coutts, Hay, Kindersley, M King, Taylor
8.	Supporting the mental and emotional health needs of children in care/on the edge of care	To introduce CYP Members and the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to the clinical framework and how it		7 th April 2022 1.30 – 2.30	Assistant Director Safeguarding and Quality Assurance	Virtual	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting	Cllrs Atkins, Bradnam, Goodliffe, M King, Hay,

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		supports our foster carers and contributes to the emotional wellbeing of children and young people.					Sub Committee	Hoy and Slatter
9.	The Role of the Foster Carer	To introduce CYP Members and the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to the role of the Foster Carer, and the part they play in impacting positively on the lives of children in care		21 October 2022 – confirmed & booked 12pm-1pm	Ricky Cooper Fiona Van Den Hout	Virtual	All Members	Cllrs: G Wilson, C Daunton, A Whelan, H Cox Condron, S King, A Bradnam, A Bulat, S Taylor, B Goodliffe
10.	Estimating Demand for Education Provision Arising from New Housing Developments	To brief Members on the process of estimating demand for education provision for new housing developments.		28.09.23	Alan Fitz	Teams	CYP members and substitutes	Cllrs Ambrose Smith, Atkins, Bulat, Count, Coutts, Daunton, Goldsack, Goodliffe, Hay, Read, Slatter, Stone, Thompson

CURRENT TRAINING JANUARY 2024 – DECEMBER 2024 – the majority of training sessions will be recorded and can be accessed via the members training area link - [Our Development for Members](#).

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
11.	Children & Young People and Corporate Parenting Committee overview	To brief Members of the role and responsibilities of the Children and Young People Committee and corporate parenting sub committee	Utilising reserve CYP committee TBC	Executive Director Children Education and Families: Martin Purbrick	Microsoft Teams/Member seminar	All Members		
12	Corporate Parenting Roles and Responsibility LGA Training	To brief Members and Substitute Members with responsibilities to represent Corporate Parenting	13 th May 2024	Service Director Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement: Liz Clarke and Service Director Fostering and Adoption: Ranjit Chambers.	Bespoke Training delivered in person at New Shire Hall.	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee	Attendees: Officers: Caroline Tote – LGA Trainer Ranjit Chambers Dee Revens Sophine Rankine Members: Cllr Bradham Cllr Alex Bulat Cllr Andrew Wood	Completed & recorded – recording accessed via Our Development for Members.

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
							Cllr Anne Hay Cllr Brian Milnes Cllr John Gowing Cllr Philippa Slatter Cllr Piers Coutts Cllr Ros Hathorn Cllr Adela Costello	
13.	Safeguarding refresher course	To brief Members on safeguarding issues and responsibilities	23 rd April 2024 12-1	Acting Service Director Targeted Support and Children Social Care: Raul Burton	Microsoft Teams/Member seminar	All Members		Completed & recorded – recording accessed via Our Development for Members.
14	Childs Journey (Broken down into 4 parts – see 4 a-d)	Members to obtain a briefing on the teams/ service objectives, by meeting managers and hearing about the day in	20 th September 2024 12 - 2	Representatives in Children Family and Education.	Virtual meeting	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting		Completed & recorded – recording accessed via Our

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		the life of a Social Worker/Front line worker.		Led by Principal Social Worker Tapiwa Julius		Sub-committee		Development for Members.
14a	Start of the Childrens Journey	Members to understand the Integrated front door, including, MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub), MET (Missing and Exploited and Trafficked Team), Early Help Hub, Assessment Team and EDT (Emergency Duty Team).	20 th September 2024 12 - 2	Representatives in Children Family and Education. Led by Principal Social Worker Tapiwa Julius	Virtual meeting	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		Completed & recorded – recording accessed via Our Development for Members.
14b	Early intervention and social care involvement for families subject to a Child in Need Plan, Child Protection or PLO.	Members to understand the Targeted Support, Family Safeguarding, Adolescent and Child Protection Conference.	20 th September 2024 12 - 2	Representatives in Children Family and Education. Led by Principal Social Worker Tapiwa Julius	Virtual meeting	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		Completed & recorded – recording accessed via Our Development for Members.

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
14c	Corporate Parenting Service including Children in Care teams and Care leavers teams	Members to understand the Children in Care teams and Care Leavers	20 th September 2024 12 - 2	Representatives in Children Family and Education. Led by Principal Social Worker Tapiwa Julius	Virtual meeting	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		Completed & recorded – recording accessed via Our Development for Members .
14d	Fostering and Adoption	Members to understand with Fostering, Adoption and Supervised Contact services.	20 th September 2024 12 - 2	Representatives in Children Family and Education. Led by Principal Social Worker Tapiwa Julius	Virtual meeting	All CYP members and Corporate Parenting Sub-committee		Completed & recorded – recording accessed via Our Development for Members .
15	Ofsted – Inspection Framework – Key areas of focus in assessing quality	Understanding of Cambridgeshire children's services focus and graded inspections. The aim: Introduce to the framework for inspection used by Ofsted How we ensure that we are prepared for inspections.	29 th January 2024	Executive Director Children Education and Families: Martin Purbrick	Microsoft Teams	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting sub committee		Completed – recording unavailable

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
16	Meeting with Young People's Council)	Members to meet the young people's council and understand how the service engages with children in care to help improve delivery of service.	Autumn 2024	Head of Service Corporate Parenting: Catherine Issacs	Microsoft Teams	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting sub committee		
17	Education - Finance	Members gain a clear understanding of education funding and council decision making.	January 2025 (January 2024 completed)	Service Director Education: and Strategic Finance Business Partner	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members		
18	Education - SEND	Members to gain a clear understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is SEND? • SEND Support in schools and settings • Exclusions 	Autumn 2024	Assistant Director: SEND & Inclusion	Microsoft Teams/Member seminar	All CYP Members		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) • High Needs Block and EHCP Demand in Cambridgeshire • Cambridgeshire's SEND Transformation Programme 						
19.	Performance Management Framework	An introduction to the Performance Management Framework and review of the Children and Young People's Committee's key performance indicators.	Autumn 2024	Executive Director Children Education and Families: Martin Purbrick and Service Director Education: and Business Intelligence	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members and corporate parenting sub committee		
20	Place Planning 0-19; Admissions, Attendance, Elective	To brief Members about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Council's statutory 	Autumn 2024	Assistant Director Education	Microsoft Teams	All Members		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
	Home Education (EHE), Children in Education/ Employment/Training	<p>responsibilities with regard to commissioning educational provision and DfE guidance which informs decisions on design and build projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the roles and responsibilities of internal and external partner organisations, including the DfE, Multi-Academy Trusts and the Diocesan Boards for Education the business planning processes involved in commissioning educational provision 		Capital & Place Planning:				
21	Education Transport	Members gain further understanding of education transport processes	November 2024	Assistant Director Education	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members & appeal		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
				Capital & Place Planning:		committee members		
22	Education - Attainment	Members gain a clear understanding of the assessment system used in schools.	May 2025	Service Director Education:	Microsoft Teams	All CYP Members		
23	Supporting the mental and emotional health needs of children in care/on the edge of care	To introduce CYP Members and the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee to the clinical framework and how it supports our foster carers and contributes to the emotional wellbeing of children and young people.	Autumn 2024	Service Director Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement: Liz Clarke, joint with the CPFT.	Teams	CYP Members and Corporate Parenting Sub Committee		
24	Commissioning Services – what services are commissioned and how our services are	How: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cambridgeshire's needs are Analysed to inform 	28 November 2024	Service Director: Commissioning & Head of Service	Microsoft Teams	All members		

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
	commissioned across Children Services	<p>recommendations made to internal governance boards, and ultimately Committees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How we work with internal and external partners and stakeholders to Plan and develop services responding to gaps in need and themes in demand. • What we Do to deliver this need, via open and transparent procurement activity • How we Review both internal and externally commissioned services to evidence value for money, positive outcomes and to 		Children's Commissioning				

	Subject	Desired Learning Outcome/ Success Measures	Date	Responsibility	Format of Training	Audience	List of attendees	% of elected members of the Committee attending
		continually shape service delivery.						
25	The role of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE),		Autumn 2024	Service Director Education:				
26	Safeguarding & the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)	To brief Members on Safeguarding issues and responsibilities		Service Director QAPI/ Janet Farr	Virtual	All CPSC Members invited		
27	Meeting the Needs of Children in Care	To include briefings from Education, SEND, Clinical Team		Service Director/HOS CP	Virtual	All CPSC Members invited		
28	Secondary and Primary School Allocation of Places	About secondary and primary school allocation of places with particular focus around issues in Wisbech and Chesterton area	Thursday 9 th May 2024 12.30 - 1.30pm	Assistant Director Education Capital & Place Planning		All Members		Completed
29	Trauma informed training	Training specifically on trauma for Councillors to feel well informed on trauma	Dates offered in Sept (17 th or 23 rd Sept 4:15-6:15pm)	Virtual Schools	In person	All Elected Members		Completed

For more information contact [Emma Nederpel](#)

