

CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT



REVIEW

2017 – 2018

This document provides a summary of the childcare market position in Derbyshire to meet the statutory requirements of the early education and childcare sufficiency duty.

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Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 The purpose of this Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is to meet the statutory duty under sections 6, and 7 of the Childcare Act 2006 in line with the local authority statutory guidance.
- 1.2 The statutory duty requires the local authority to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents or parents who are studying or training for employment for children aged 0 – 14 (or up to 18 years for disabled children).
- 1.3 To measure the need for, and supply of, childcare within the eight districts of Derbyshire.
- 1.4 To identify gaps in the market and, in consultation with partners, plan how to support the market to address them.
- 1.5 The Childcare Act 2006 gives the local authority a key role in shaping the childcare market. Derbyshire County Council is committed to working with providers from the Private Voluntary and Independent sectors (PVI) and the maintained sector, to create a strong, sustainable and diverse childcare market that meets the needs of parents/carers.
- 1.6 The statutory duty requires the Local Authority to report annually to elected members on how the Authority is meeting this duty and include specific information about:
 - the supply and demand of childcare for particular age ranges of children
 - affordability, accessibility and quality of childcare provision
 - details of how any gaps in childcare provision will be addressed.

2. DERBYSHIRE OVERVIEW

2.1 According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2015 Mid-Year Population Estimates Derbyshire's population is around 782,400 this is approximately 1.2 % of the population of England as a whole.

Population of Children in Derbyshire

2.2 Understanding the population of children in the county will help the local authority in the planning of early education and childcare needs. Derbyshire comprises of eight council district areas which are listed individually below.

Figure 1. Population of Children Age 0 to 14 and 15 to 18 with a Disability.

	Under 2 years	2 years	3 & 4 years	5 – 7 years	8 – 10 years	11 – 14 years	15 – 18 years (with disability)	Total 0 – 18 years
Amber Valley	1,913	1,289	2,623	4,076	3,958	5,055	332	19,246
Bolsover	1,362	882	1,799	2,639	2,577	3,089	201	12,549
Chesterfield	1,863	1,097	2,445	3,625	3,357	4,024	280	16,691
Derbyshire Dales	904	533	1,239	1,959	2,072	2,952	190	9,849
Erewash	2,041	1,261	2,576	3,851	3,550	4,614	301	18,194
High Peak	1,818	908	2,016	3,047	3,029	3,853	259	14,930
North East	1,474	875	2,041	3,031	2,932	3,972	248	14,573
South Derbyshire	1,665	1,025	2,220	3,413	3,253	4,082	269	15,927
Total	13,040	7,870	16,959	25,641	24,728	31,641	2,080	121,959

Source: GEM Commissioning Support Unit, December 2015

2.3 Legislation stipulates that the local authority must ensure there are sufficient childcare places where reasonably practical for children age 0 – 14 and disabled children/young adults up to the age of 18. Whilst Figure 1 demonstrates that 31,641 children in Derbyshire ages 11 – 14 could, in theory, require childcare, in reality the demand from this age group is significantly less than other age groups as children in Key Stage 3 are more independent.

2.4 Defining the exact number of disabled children/young people and or those with an additional need is difficult. According to the Gov Uk website¹ around 6% of children/young people are disabled therefore this figure has been used when estimating the number of children young people aged 15 to 18 with an additional need or disability.

Disabled Children and Young People

2.5 There are a number of departments within the local authority that provide services and support to children or young people with a disability or additional need.

2.6 Childcare provision for disabled children/young people is provided by mainstream childcare settings and a number of specialist services provided by both maintained and voluntary organisations. All childcare provision must be inclusive and not treat children less favorably because of a disability or additional need and is required by law to make 'reasonable adjustments'.

2.7 Legislation stipulates that childcare must be available for young people up to the age of 18 with special needs or disabilities. The term 'childcare' may not be suitable for this age group as there is a need to recognise a young person's independence regardless of any additional needs, therefore youth clubs and other activities may be more age appropriate and help develop social skills, confidence and independence whilst having fun with peers. It is not possible to put a figure on the number of places available but there is a wide range of activities and clubs for young people with a disability or additional needs across Derbyshire which are listed on the Derbyshire Local Offer pages at www.derbyshiresendlocaloffer.org.

¹ **Source:** Gov Uk - Official Statistics, Disability facts and figures, Published 16 January 2014, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disability-facts-and-figures/disability-facts-and-figures>

3. EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE PROVISION

CHILDCARE PROVISION FOR CHILDREN 0 – 4 YEARS

3.1 The number of early years childcare providers in the county registered with the Ofsted continues to reduce marginally each year. In the 2014/2015 assessment the number of pre-schools, childminders and day nurseries was 928, this reduced to 882 in Jan 2016 and to 824 in November 2016. These figures do not include childcare providers that offer wraparound childcare for children of school age only. The data for these can be found on page 23.

Number of Early Years Providers in Derbyshire

Figure 2. Ofsted Registered Early Years Childcare Providers in Derbyshire

	Day Nurseries		Pre-schools		Childminders		Total		Change since Jan 2016
	Jan 2016	Nov 2016	Jan 2016	Nov 2016	Jan 2016	Nov 2016	Jan 2016	Nov 2016	
Amber Valley	17	17	20	19	111	104	148	140	-8
Bolsover	14	13	5	5	35	34	54	52	-2
Chesterfield	19	20	4	4	70	63	93	87	-6
Derbyshire Dales	12	9	27	26	34	29	73	64	-9
Erewash	20	18	15	14	98	92	133	124	-9
High Peak	26	26	18	18	86	75	130	119	-11
North East Derbyshire	18	18	15	15	70	63	103	96	-7
South Derbyshire	23	22	24	23	101	97	148	142	-6
Total	149	143	128	124	605	557	882	824	-58
Change since Jan 2016		-6		-4		-48		-58	

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Information and ICT, Children's Services, November 2016

- 3.2 The majority of the reduction is in the childminding sector. The personal circumstances of childminders can change relatively frequently which can impact on their ability to provide childcare. Whilst childminder closures are more frequent they will have less of an impact on the number of overall places as they can care for fewer children than group care settings.
- 3.3 Whilst the table above shows an overall reduction in the total number of early years childcare providers, other sources of data including the number of brokerage issues concur that this has not had a negative impact on the supply of childcare places available to meet demand. The Early Years Sufficiency Service (EYSS) will continue to monitor the local childcare market to ensure it does not indicate a detrimental pattern of decline in available provision.
- 3.4 Additional childcare is likely to be required from September 2017 when some working parents will see their entitlement to free early education (FEE) increase from 15 hours to 30 hours (see paragraph 3.30). Preliminary calculations have shown that there is likely to be a deficit in places across Derbyshire therefore planning is underway to increase the supply of places, where required, to meet the forecasted demand.

Number of Early Years Places in Derbyshire

- 3.5 It is difficult to estimate the exact number of childcare places for children aged 0 - 4 years. A provider will be limited by the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework regarding floor space etc. and insurance policy requirements in terms of the maximum number of children they can care for at any one time, however, due to different patterns of attendance the number of places it can offer may exceed this figure. The data below reflects the number of full time places available.
- 3.6 Similarly, a provider may not have a fixed number places for each age group. Like any other business childcare providers will respond flexibly to meet the demand of the local market, therefore the figures below represent averages across the age groups based on the maximum number of full time places.

Number of Childcare Places for 0 to 2 Year Old Children

Figure 3. Number of places for 0 – 2 year olds (Dec 2016)

	0 - 1 yr. olds	2 yr. olds	Totals
Childminder	590	303	893
Day Nursery	1,300	1,715	3015
Pre Schools	0	1,342	1342
Totals	1,890	3,360	5,250

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Information and ICT, Childrens Services, December 2016

- 3.7 Analysis has been undertaken by comparing the data held by Derbyshire County Council on the number of childcare places compared to population data. This shows that the number childcare places for 0 – 2 year olds across Derbyshire is 5,250. Derbyshire has 20,910 children and young people aged 0 – 2 years, giving an overall figure of approximately 25 childcare places for every 100 children/young person.

$$\begin{aligned} & 5250 \div 20,910 \times 100 \\ & = 25 \text{ places for every 100 children} \end{aligned}$$

- 3.8 The data indicates that there is a place for approximately 1 in 4 children. Maternity and shared parental leave legislation enables parents/carers to take up to a full year off on maternity leave and this can now be shared between both parents. Other leave entitlements such as parental leave may also be used to extend the amount of leave parents/carers can take off with a child. If parents/carers choose to take the first year of a child's life off work this will reduce the demand for childcare for children in this age bracket.

Free Early Education Places for Two Year Old Children

- 3.9 Around 40% of all two year old children are eligible for up to 570 hours per year of government funded free early education (FEE) dependent upon the financial circumstances of their parents/carers. This can be taken as 15 hours per week term time only or as fewer hours over 39 or more weeks of the year.

- 3.10 Two year old children are also entitled to a place if they:
- are children in care
 - have a current statement of special education needs (SEN) or an education health and care plan
 - have left care through special guardianship, an adoption placement or child arrangement order (residence order)
 - receive Disability Living Allowance
- 3.11 Between January 2015 and January 2016 an additional 81 two year old places have been created across Derbyshire. The take up figure in autumn 2016 was 76% which has increased significantly from 50 % in autumn 2014.
- 3.12 Where the data shows an undersupply, the Early Years Sufficiency Service will continue to work with providers to create additional to accommodate more two year olds.
- 3.13 A consultation exercise, distributed through children centres, was undertaken to try to understand some of the reasons parents do not take up their child's two year old place. The consultation focused on a sample of parents who did not take up the offer of a place for their two year old but who took up their universal place when their child was three. 100 questionnaires were sent out with a disappointing return of only 9%.
- 3.14 Parents were asked to tick the reasons they did not take up their two year old place from a list. The results showed that where the place was not taken up the majority of parents felt their child was too young/not ready for pre-school or nursery and parents wanted to keep their child at home with them.
- 3.15 Positively none of the small sample that responded stated that they couldn't find a place or their chosen provider was full. No parents also stated they did not take up their child's place as they were unable to transport their child to the nursery or pre-school.
- 3.16 Just under a third of parents sampled felt they did not think they would be eligible with just over a third stating they did not know about the funding.
- 3.17 The EYSS is currently refreshing the marketing campaign and publicity information for parents including the current postcard mailing system. This will help to ensure that the introduction of the extended entitlement does not impact upon the number of FEE places available for two year olds.

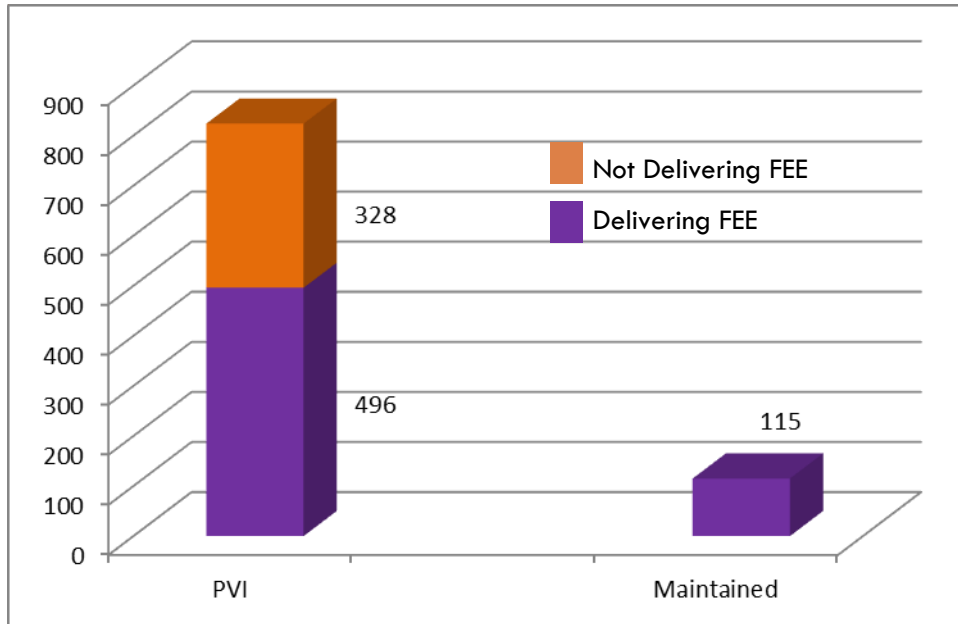
- 3.18 The EYSS will continue to investigate the reasons parents do not take up the offer particularly in areas where take up is low. Work will continue in partnership with front line services such as children's centres, Health Visitors and childcare providers to encourage take up, whilst providing a direct service to parents including brokerage between parent and provider to better meet parental needs.
- 3.19 Further development of places is underway. The EYSS is working closely with schools and providers to re-designate children centres buildings to provide early education places in some areas, and will continue to provide support throughout this process.

Free Early Education Entitlement for Three & Four Year Old Children

The Universal Offer

- 3.20 All three and four year old children are entitled to a maximum of 570 hours per academic year of free early education (FEE) from the term following their third birthday. This can be taken as 15 hours per week term time only or as fewer hours over 39 or more weeks of the year.
- 3.21 The FEE entitlement is government funded and can be provided by day nurseries, pre-schools, childminders and maintained or independent schools.
- 3.22 The free entitlement can have a number of advantages. It may allow a parent/carer to seek employment or training or reduce a parent/carers existing childcare bill, but equally as important is the positive effect it may have on a child's outcomes. It is largely accepted that good quality childcare can improve a child's aspirations and life chances as detailed further in section 5.
- 3.23 In November 2016 there were 824 Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) childcare providers in Derbyshire registered with Ofsted, of which 496 of these were delivering free early education (an increase of 43 since December 2015). In addition there were 115 in the maintained sector (local authority run nursery schools and classes), see Figure 4.

Figure 4. Number of Early Years Providers Delivering FEE



Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Information and ICT, Children’s Services, December 2016

3.24 The majority of those choosing not to deliver FEE are childminders, however within this sector there has been a significant increase in the number of childminders registering with the local authority to deliver this entitlement. This number has risen consistently since 2013 as the table below shows.

Figure 5. No of FEE Registered Childminders per Year

	2013	2014	2015	2017
No. of FEE Registered Childminders	6	81	172	229

3.25 The table below shows the number of childcare places available for three and four year olds across Derbyshire as a whole but it is acknowledged that there will be local variations in supply and demand. The Local Authority has a duty to ensure that every three and four year old child can access a FEE place

Figure 6. Number of Childcare Places for 3 and 4 Year Olds

Childcare Type	3 & 4 yr olds
Childminder	622
Day Nursery	3709
Pre Schools	3062
Independent School Nursery Units	279
Maintained Nursery Schools/Classes	8574
Totals	16,246

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Information and ICT, Childrens Services, December 2016

3.26 Due to single point entry for admissions into reception year, approximately 50% of all four year olds will be in full time school which will reduce the numbers of children requiring an early years place. In December 2016 the estimated figure for three year olds and four year olds not in full-time education in Derbyshire was approximately 7,870 and 4,216 respectively.

3.27 Again a simple analysis can be undertaken which compares the data on the number of childcare places against population data. This shows the number of childcare places for three and four year olds across Derbyshire is 16,246 Derbyshire has 12,086 children and young people aged three and four not in full time school, giving an overall figure of approximately 134 childcare places for every 100 children.

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{16,246 \div 12,086 \times 100} \\ & \mathbf{= 134 \text{ places for every 100 children}} \end{aligned}$$

3.28 This demonstrates that the childcare market in Derbyshire currently has sufficient FEE places to meet the needs of the children in the County. However with the introduction of the 30 hours extended entitlement in September 2017 the demand for places will increase which the surplus places will help to absorb.

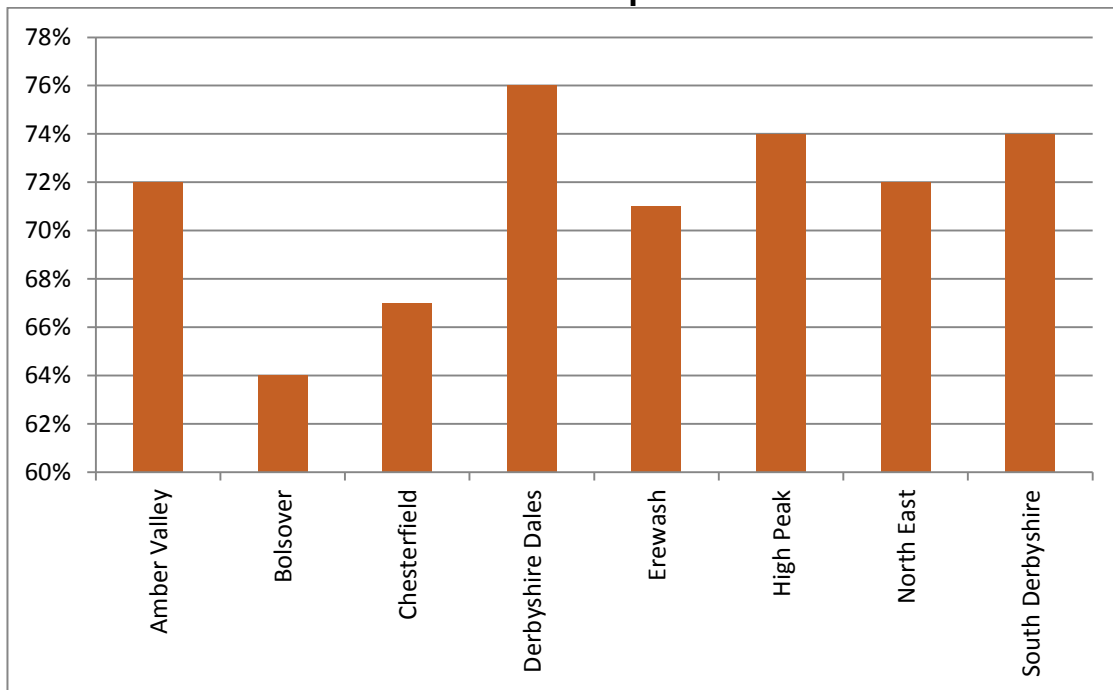
3.29 99% of parents in Derbyshire choose to use take up their children's entitlement of FEE, this compares favourably to the national average of 97% in England as a whole².

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-benchmarking-tool>

Extended Entitlement

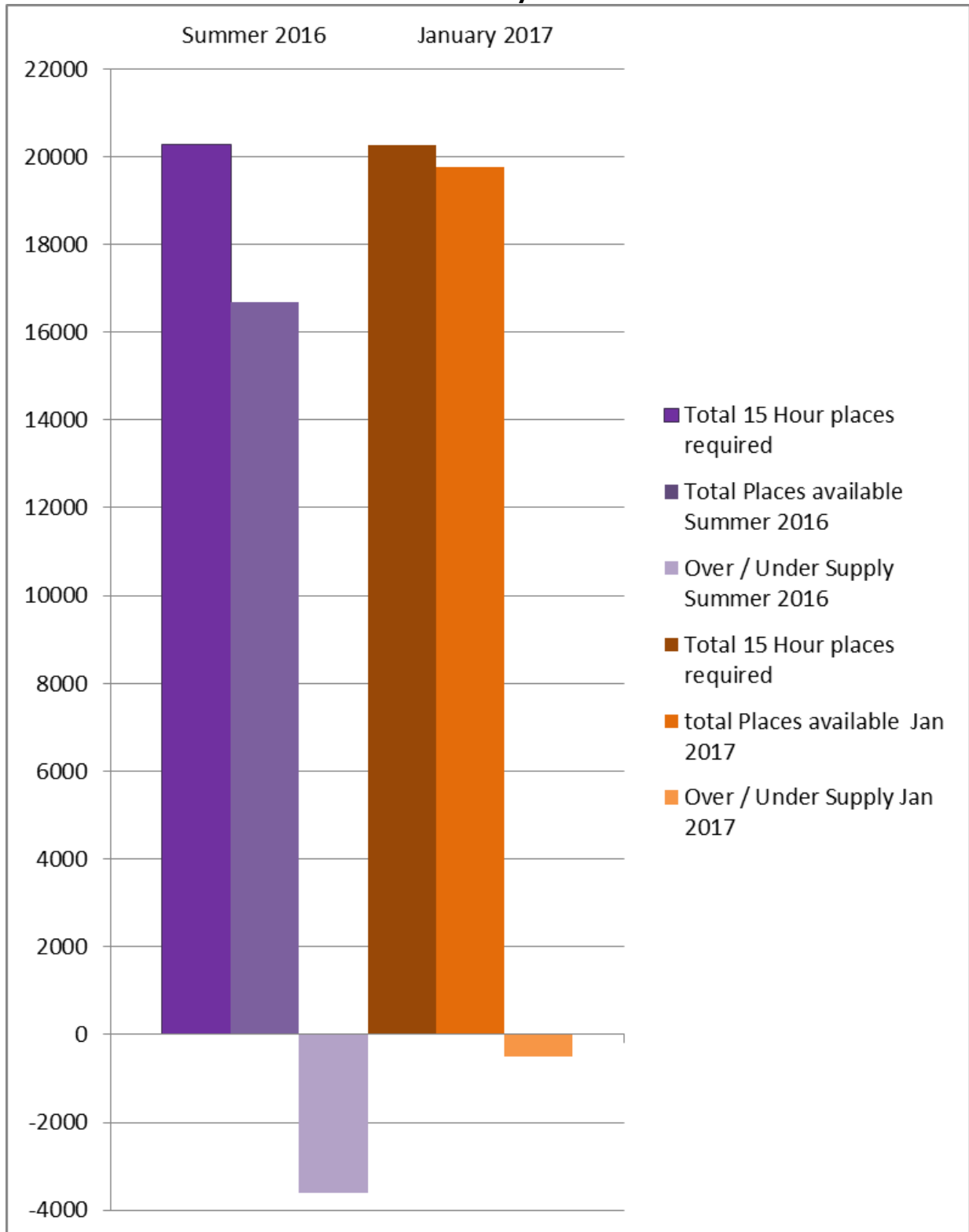
- 3.30 From September 2017 the FEE entitlement for three and four year olds will increase for some children from 570 to 1,140 hours per academic year (15 to 30 hours per week if accessed over 38 weeks of the year).
- 3.31 This additional free childcare is intended to help families by reducing the cost of childcare and will support parents into work or to work more hours, should they wish to do so.
- 3.32 To be eligible families must meet the following criteria:
- Both parents are working (or the sole parent in a lone parent family)
 - Each parent has a weekly income equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum or living wage; and
 - Neither parent has an income of more than £100,000 per year
- 3.33 Families where one parent does not work (or neither parent works) will not usually be eligible but in some circumstances a family will still be eligible where both parents are employed but one (or both parents) is temporarily away from the workplace on maternity/paternity leave, adoption leave or statutory sick pay, or where one parent is employed and one parent has substantial caring responsibilities or is disabled or incapacitated (both based on receipt of specific benefits).
- 3.34 It is recognised that this will have a significant impact upon the demand for FEE places. Whilst the data in paragraph 3.27 demonstrates that there is some capacity in Derbyshire to deliver the 30 hours extended entitlement within existing providers it is acknowledged that there will be areas where there will be a deficit.
- 3.35 The Early Years Sufficiency Service have undertaken a preliminary mapping process at a localised level to establish what places may be required; focusing initially on the areas where there is the greatest percentage of working parents.
- 3.36 Using the census data on working families the average percentages of parents in each district that may be eligible have been calculated. Figure 7 shows that Derbyshire Dales, High Peak and South Derbyshire are the districts estimated to have the highest numbers of families that will be eligible

Figure 7. Average Percentage of Families Eligible for the Extended Entitlement per District



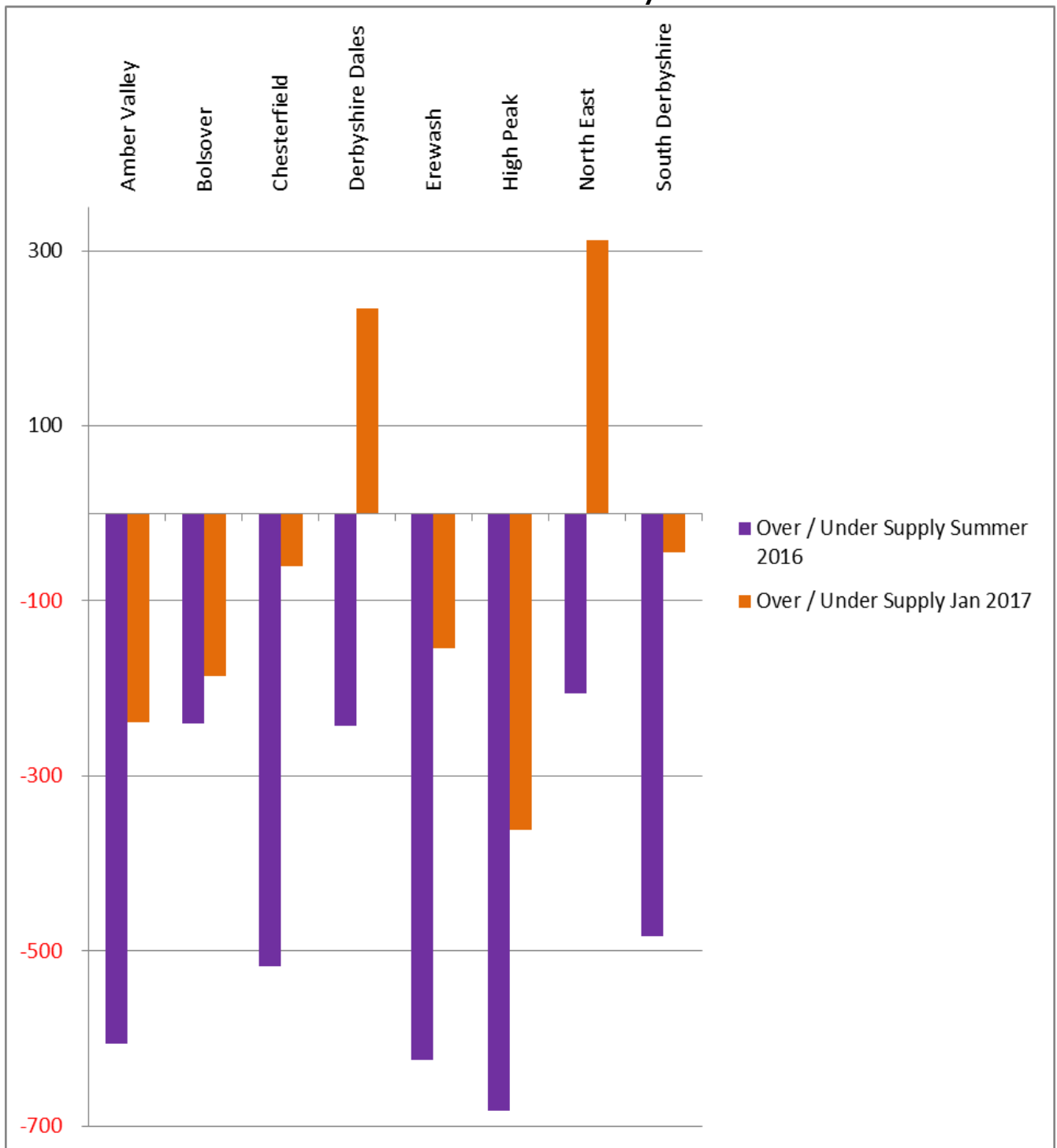
- 3.37 When averaged across the whole of Derbyshire it is estimated that 71% of families will be eligible.
- 3.38 In addition to the census data other sources including NHS birth rate data and the number of existing childcare places in each ward were used to try to calculate how many 15 hour FEE places will be required from September 2017. Where a child is entitled to 30 hours this has been counted as two 15 hour places.
- 3.39 The initial estimations in summer 2016 showed there to be a general undersupply of places across Derbyshire based on the current number of places available compared to the predicated number of places required in September 2017. However in the intervening months, work has taken place to more accurately estimate the number of places that will be required in September 2017.
- 3.40 A huge amount of work has taken place in the last 12 months to secure funding and create new places in the areas of greatest undersupply. This, together with additional information from providers has significantly reduced the deficit in some areas.
- 3.41 This data was then analysed using a formula to try to put a figure on the approximate. The following graph compares the initial estimations with the most recent data on the undersupply.

Figure 8. Chart Comparing the Supply of FEE Places in Summer 2016 and January 2017



3.42 The data was also broken down to a district level, see Figure 9 overleaf.

Figure 9. Comparison of Estimated Under/Oversupply of Places per District in Summer 2016 and January 2017



3.43 The data above shows the undersupply in each district as a whole however it is recognised that there are a number of specific areas which will need a more targeted approach to ensure there is sufficiency places in September 2017 for all eligible families. The mapping exercise has established eight areas that may experience a significant undersupply (of over 100 places of 15 hours) these areas are listed below in order of greatest to lowest deficit:

- **Gamesley/Glossop**
- **Cotmanhay/Awsworth Road**
- **Belper**
- **Woodville/Midway**
- **Brimington/Hollingwood**
- **Church Gresley/Swadlincote**
- **Wilsthorpe/Sawley**
- **Stenson/Willington**

3.44 In these eight areas, the current data shows the combined deficit of places could be as high as 1,500 places (of 15 hours) however it is important to note that this is only a snapshot and will fluctuate if new provision opens or existing provision closes. It is also influenced by any changes in the number of FEE places current providers intend to offer from September 2017.

Implementing the Extended Entitlement

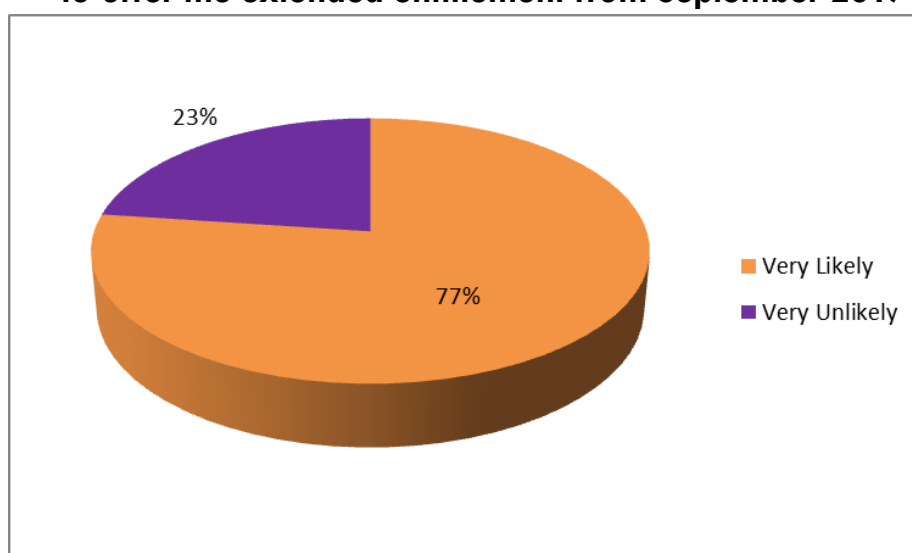
3.45 Work has commenced to create new places in both the maintained and PVI sectors to meet this shortfall by:

- Submission of a funding bid to the Department for Education for capital funding to create new places in the maintained sector
- Working with schools to re-designate the vacated children's centre buildings on school sites to early years provision
- Ongoing support for schools and the PVI sector to increase places in existing provision
- A briefing session was held to consult with 60 PVI to promote partnership working and models of delivery

- Consultation to establish what percentage of providers will be offering the extended offer and identify the number of places they intend to offer.
- Working with Elected Members and Corporate Landlord to identify premises in areas of undersupply and Property Services to advertise leases for such premises.

3.46 A questionnaire was sent out to all PVI and maintained providers in Derbyshire registered to deliver FEE, the response rate was 34%. The data gathered from this exercise shows that, on the whole, providers have responded positively to the introduction of the extended entitlement and are likely to offer the additional hours. However it should be noted that many providers are concerned about the hourly rate.

Figure 10. Pie Chart Showing the Percentage of Providers that are Likely or Unlikely to offer the extended entitlement from September 2017

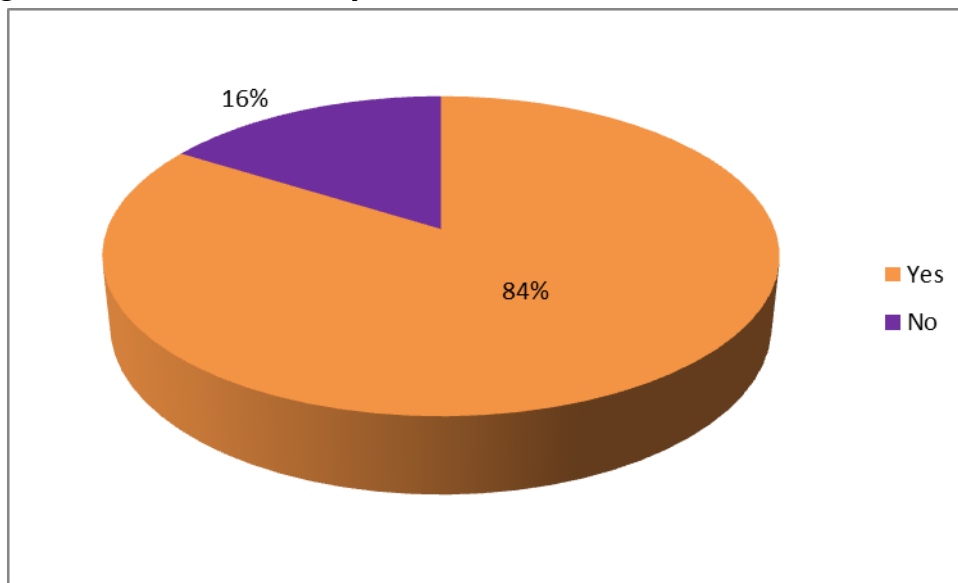


Models of Delivery

3.47 From September 2017 FEE can be offered between the hours of 6.00 am and 8.00 pm and on weekends in order to meet the needs of working parents. This does not mean that every provider has to offer this level of flexibility and clearly there must be sufficient demand for this to be sustainable

3.48 Some providers may struggle to meet some of the flexibility requests and may need to work in partnership with another provider to ensure children can access their full entitlement. The consultation showed that the majority of providers are willing to work in partnership to deliver the extended entitlement where necessary.

Figure 11. Pie Chart Showing the percentage of Providers who Stated they are Willing to Work in Partnership to Deliver the 30 Hours Extended Entitlement



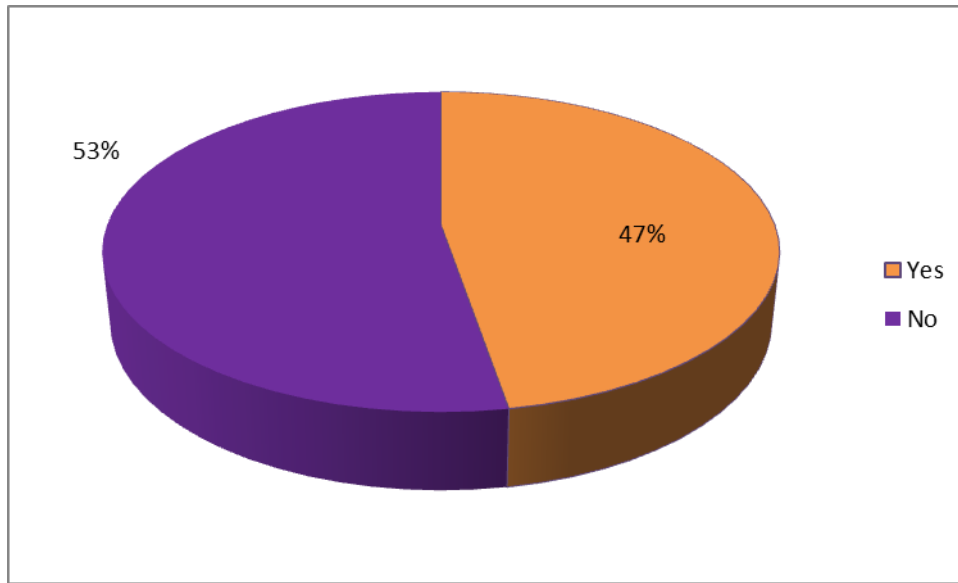
3.49 The Early Years Sufficiency Service (EYSS) will be supporting schools and PVI providers in the in the spring term 2017 with the implementation of the extended entitlement and partnership working.

Consultation with Parents/Carers

3.50 Consultation with parents and carers is an important part of establishing the demand for childcare in all forms. The EYSS will be communicating with Derbyshire parents and carers in the spring 2017 term in relation to the 30 hours extended entitlement to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to establish the demand for different models of delivery.

3.51 Evidence shows that, in general, the message about the extended entitlement is already reaching parents. The consultation with providers showed that many had already received queries from parents. This was more evident in the PVI sector than the maintained sector.

Figure 12. Pie Chart Showing Percentage of Providers that have already received enquiries about the 30 hours extended entitlement from parents



3.52 The EYSS will continue to develop strategies to support providers to implement the 30 hours up to and beyond September 2017.

CHILDCARE PROVISION FOR CHILDREN OVER 5 YEARS

Out of School Childcare Provision

- 3.53 Out of school childcare includes breakfast clubs, after school clubs and holiday clubs and is often referred to as wraparound childcare. This form of childcare can operate either on or off a school site and may be run by the school directly or by Private, Voluntary or Independent partners (PVI).
- 3.54 In addition, many schools provide extra-curricular after school activities such as sports clubs, gardening clubs, film clubs etc. Although these may not be formally classed as childcare they still provide a safe and fun environment for children whilst parents/carers are at work or studying. However these types of clubs may not operate consistently throughout the school year or may vary from term to term and are often only an hour in duration.
- 3.55 It is recognised that good quality wraparound childcare has a positive effect upon children's outcomes. Research has shown that good quality wraparound childcare can improve a child's behavioural, social and emotional skills as well as impacting upon academic performance. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds that attended after school clubs on average achieve two points higher score in their Key Stage 2 assessment in English, Maths and Science than those who did not take part in after school clubs³
- 3.56 Dependent upon specific criteria, not all wraparound provision has to be Ofsted registered and there is no legal requirement to inform the local authority of operation. A provider who only delivers to children age eight or over, or who does not operate for more than two hours a day or provides two activities or less is not legally required to register with Ofsted (but a setting may choose to join the voluntary part of the childcare register to allow parents to claim childcare vouchers). In addition providers do not have to meet specified child/adult ratios if they are caring solely for children over the age of eight.
- 3.57 It is, therefore, difficult to determine the exact number of places. Many non-registered holiday activities are run by local leisure centres or sport centres which may also not be represented in the figures.

³ Wraparound Childcare and holiday childcare, Guidance for local authority maintained schools, academies and free schools, May 2016, p5, paragraphs 12 - 14

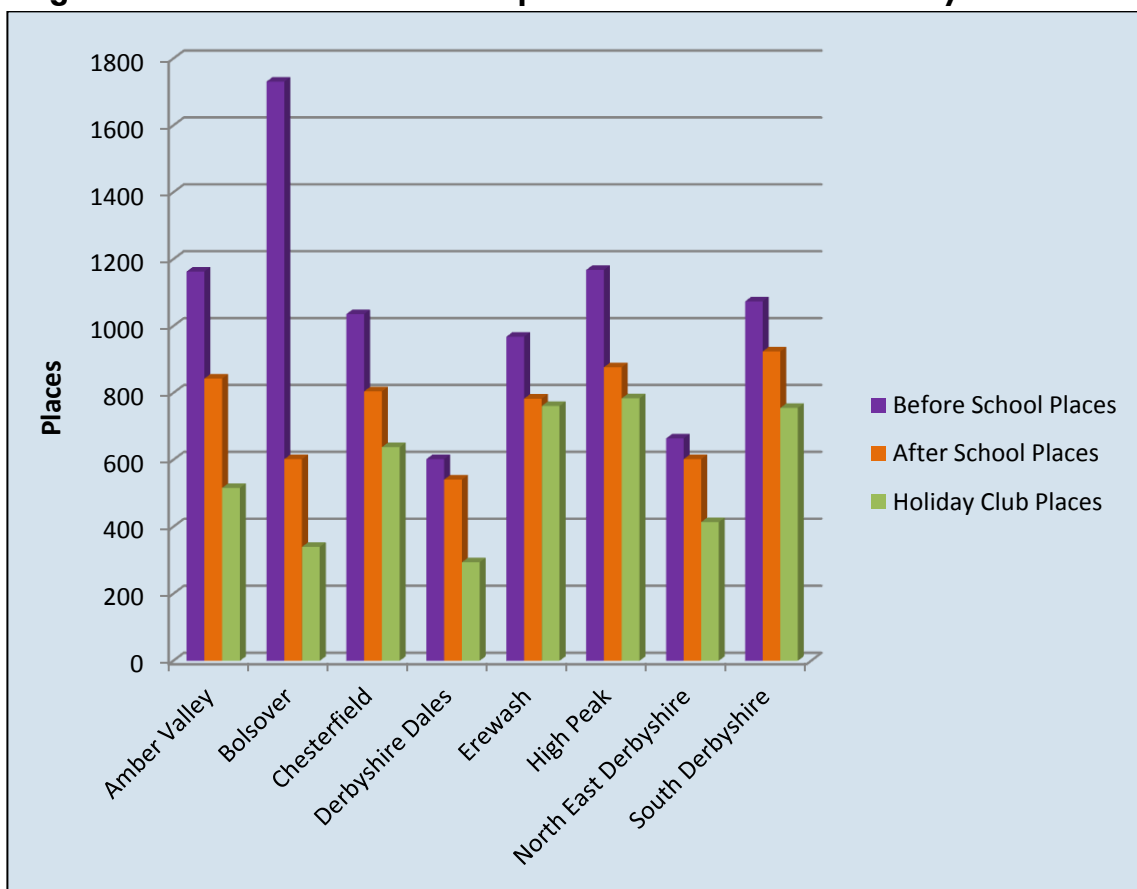
3.58 A large scale mapping exercise was undertaken by the Early Years Sufficiency Service which provided a comprehensive picture of the availability of wraparound childcare. All schools were contacted to establish if they offered wraparound childcare and data was gathered from 97% of all schools in the primary phase.

Figure 13. Number of Wraparound Childcare Places by District and Type

District	Before School Places	After School Places	Holiday Club Places	Totals
Amber Valley	1,163	843	516	2,522
Bolsover	1,731	602	340	2,673
Chesterfield	1,036	805	638	2,479
Derbyshire Dales	602	541	294	1,437
Erewash	968	783	761	2,512
High Peak	1,168	877	784	2,829
North East	664	602	414	1,680
South Derbyshire	1,074	924	755	2,753
Totals	8,406	5,977	4,502	18,885

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Information and ICT, Childrens Services, December 2015

Figure 14. Total number of Wraparound Childcare Places by District



Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Early Years Sufficiency Service, December 2015

3.59 It should be noted that demand for childcare will be significantly lower for young people of secondary school age (11 years and over) as many parents/carers feel their children are independent enough to not require childcare outside of school hours. Therefore when calculating the number of places the calculation has only taken into the number of children in school aged 4 – 11 and 14 years + with a disability.

3.60 As detailed in figure 13 above this exercise showed that the number of wraparound childcare places across Derbyshire is approximately 18,885. Derbyshire has 63,869 children and young people aged 4 – 11 in the primary school phase and disabled young people aged 15 – 18 years, giving an overall figure of approximately 30 childcare places for every 100 children/young person.

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{18,885 \div 63,869 \times 100} \\ & \mathbf{= 30 \text{ places for every 100 children}} \end{aligned}$$

Wraparound Childcare on School Sites

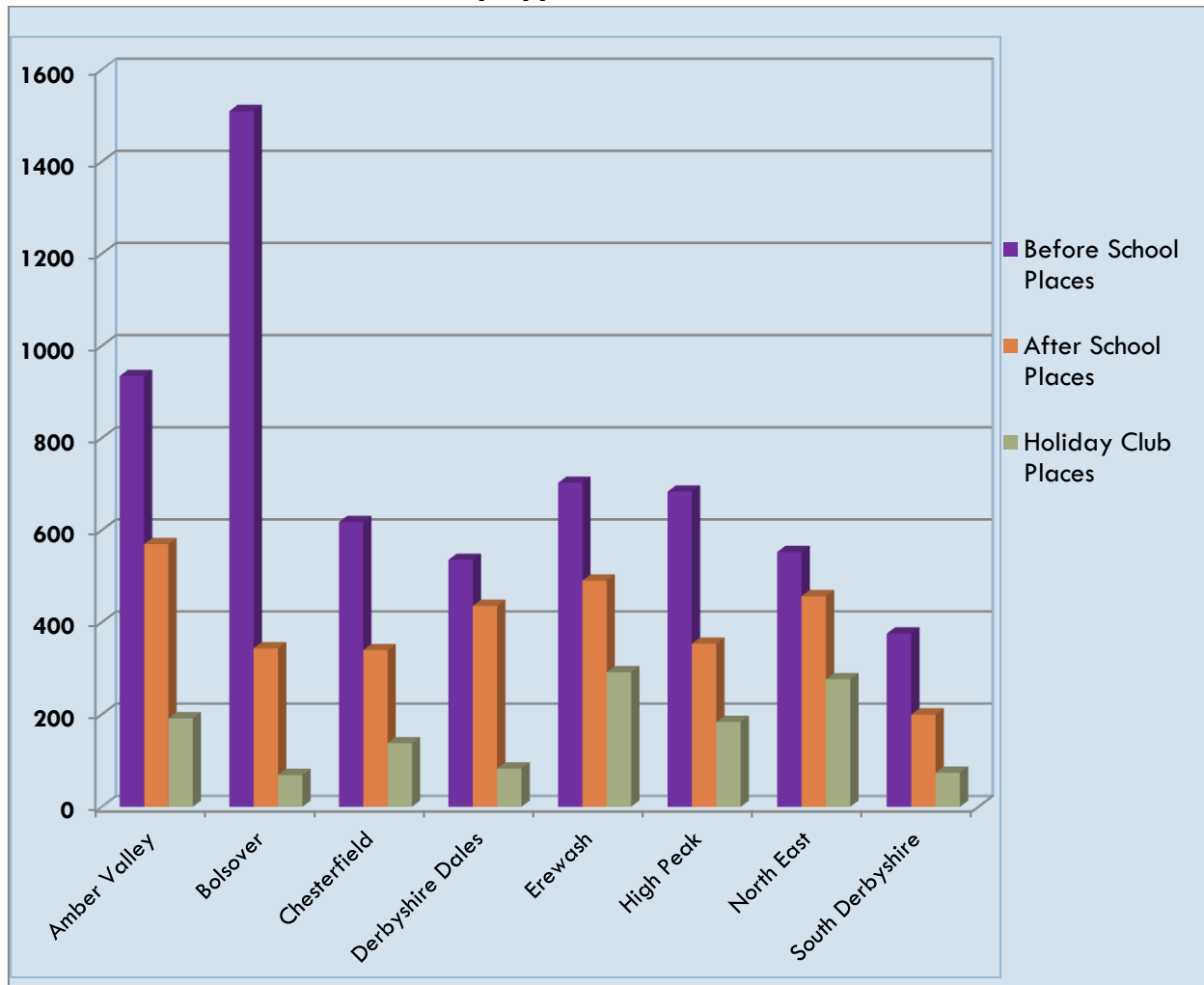
3.61 The data also showed that over half of schools in the primary phase offer a breakfast club on the school site. The exercise also revealed that a number of secondary schools also offer a breakfast club to pupils.

3.62 Approximately a third of schools in Derbyshire provide an after school club on their site. This data refers only to childcare provision and does not take into account extra-curricular after school activities such as gardening clubs, film clubs etc. which many schools also run after the end of the school day.

3.63 A smaller percentage of schools provide pupils with a holiday club on site (12%) however the data has shown that this does not indicate a lack of provision, moreover that this area of childcare is provided in the main by PVI providers off school sites (see figure 15 below).

3.64 In 2016 parents were given the 'right to request' that their child's school should consider establishing wraparound childcare, or allowing PVI providers to use the school facilities to deliver childcare at times when the school is not using them. Whilst it is not compulsory to offer wraparound childcare at parental request, schools should not refuse a request without reasonable justification.

Figure 15. Number of Wraparound Childcare Places on School Sites by Type and District.



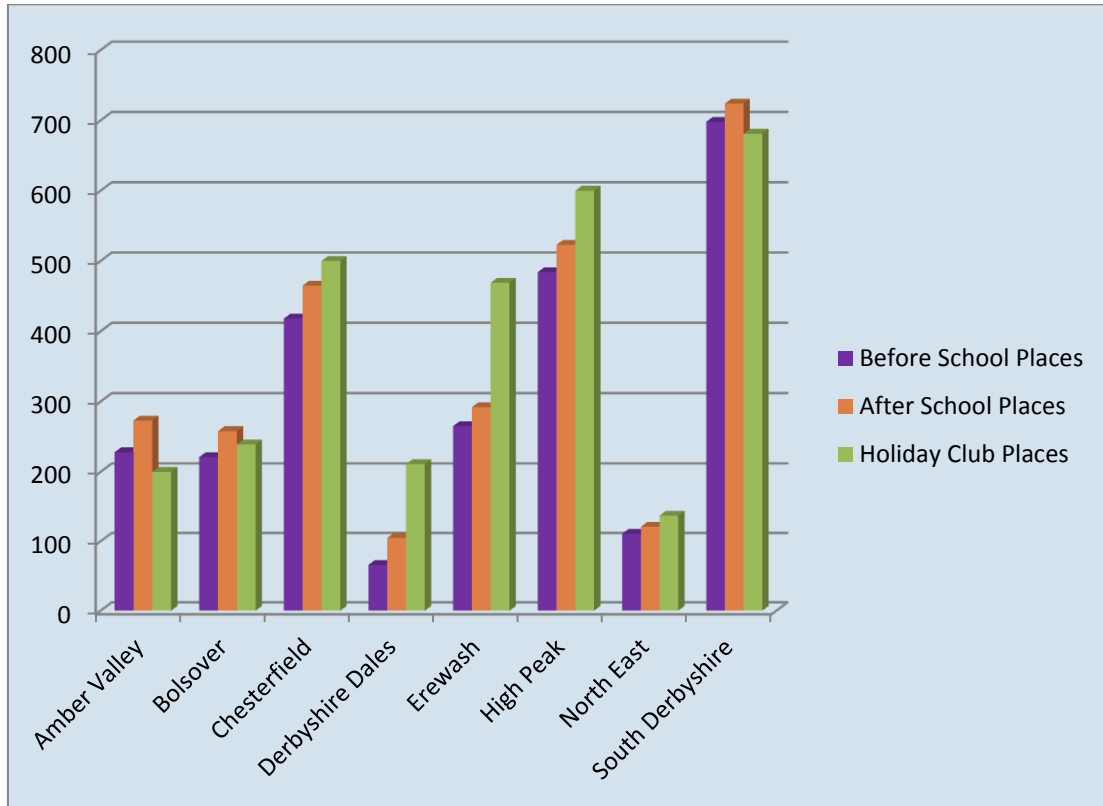
Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Childcare Sufficiency Service, December 2015

3.65 It is noted that Bolsover district has a significantly higher number of breakfast club places than the other districts. This is due, in part, to more schools in the Bolsover district receiving support to create breakfast club provision (See section 3.68) and the model of breakfast clubs adopted. Many schools in Bolsover have breakfast clubs that are open to all children on the school roll and indeed some offer breakfast club as part of the school day rather than before school.

Private, Voluntary and Independent Providers (PVI)

3.66 PVI childcare providers are an important part of the childcare picture and do not always operate on a school site. There are a significant number of wraparound childcare places that are delivered by PVI childcare providers away from school sites by day nurseries, childminders and out of school clubs.

Figure 16. Number of Wraparound Places in the PVI Sector by Type and District



Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Childcare Sufficiency Service, December 2015

3.67 The data demonstrates that South Derbyshire has the highest number of PVI providers and places across all care types than all other districts whilst North East Derbyshire has the fewest. Where provision in the maintained sector (schools) is high the PVI sector is generally low.

Breakfast Club Programme

3.68 Over the last few years the EYSS and Public Health have been working in partnership to support the creation of school breakfast clubs across Derbyshire with the aim of promoting the importance of eating a healthy breakfast and improving attendance, attainment and behaviour in pupils.

3.69 Initially in 2013 a pilot was set up to support the creation of breakfast clubs at 24 primary/junior schools with the highest numbers of pupils entitled to free school meals. This pilot was very successful and in 2015 an additional 13 schools were offered the opportunity to access free food for their existing breakfast club via a charity called FareShare who distribute surplus food from the food industry.

3.70 This programme has been extended further in 2016 and an additional 23 schools in key stages 1 and 2 will receive support with opening or running a breakfast club. This will mean that over the course of the 5 year programme, a total of 60 breakfast clubs will have been created or supported, equating to approximately 20% of the total number of schools in the primary phase in Derbyshire and 44% of all the schools in the deciles 1 to 5.

Figure 17. Number of Schools Supported with Breakfast Club Provision by District

District	No. of schools funded
Amber Valley	8
Bolsover	15
Chesterfield	11
Erewash	7
Derbyshire Dales	1
High Peak	16
North East Derbyshire	10
South Derbyshire	2
Derbyshire Total	60

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Childcare Sufficiency Service, January 2015

3.71 As the funding was targeted at schools in areas of deprivation this has meant that the funding was not distributed to equal numbers of schools in each district.

3.72 An annual report was compiled to evaluate the programme between 2015 and 2016, some of the main findings included:

- All schools (100%) felt the breakfast club had a positive impact on both attendance and readiness to learn in class.
- A further (77%) of schools felt that the breakfast club had a positive impact on behaviour in class.
- 46% (reduced from 75%) reported that, amongst other interventions, the breakfast club had contributed towards children achieving better than the expected levels of attainment.
- All schools involved were able to provide examples of other benefits the breakfast club brought including developing social skills and expanding friendship groups.

3.73 Clearly these findings will have a positive impact on children's learning and may improve aspirations and attainment in the longer term.

4. DEMAND FOR CHILDCARE

Enquiries

- 4.1 The number of childcare related enquiries from parents or carers is a good indicator of demand and can highlight gaps in provision, particularly where there is a high percentage of unmet demand in a specific area. In 2016 Derbyshire County Council's Families Information Service received 268 enquiries regarding the availability of childcare. Of these, only four cases could not be resolved and were referred to the Early Years Sufficiency Service (EYSS) which acts as a broker between any prospective/new providers or existing providers to see if childcare needs can be met. Brokerage referrals are monitored to ensure they do not indicate an undue lack of childcare in a particular this area.
- 4.2 All of the aforementioned brokerage cases were requests for wraparound childcare, and two were in rural areas. Rurality brings its own specific challenges to childcare provision, such as accessibility and sustainability. Small, dispersed populations and long distances to travel make childcare services more difficult to deliver in isolated communities.
- 4.3 Legislation places a duty on the local authority to secure sufficient childcare taking into account what is '**reasonably practicable**'. Where the EYSS is made aware of any unmet childcare need, an attempt to brokerage a practical solution will always be sought however any solution has to be viable in terms of sustainability.

Sustainability

- 4.4 Demand must always be balanced against sustainability. All providers need to ensure they can function as a solvent business and it may not always be financially viable for a provider to amend their working practices to meet the needs of just one or two parents. Any childcare provision whether in the maintained or PVI sector, will need to attract enough children to make it sustainable and ensure long term viability.
- 4.5 The EYSS provides business support to providers as required. Managing the childcare market is a part of the local authority statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare places to meet demand. This involves not only creating, but supporting existing provision to ensure these places remain available to meet demand. In particular, this is important to accommodate the extended entitlement when this comes into effect in autumn 2017.

4.6 Staffing costs are the largest outgoing for childcare providers and the cost of employing staff can increase year on year. Employers must ensure they pay their staff at least the minimum wage and may choose to pay the living wage rate. In addition the national insurance contributions also increased from April 2016. Clearly these factors will impact upon the sustainability of childcare provision.

5. QUALITY OF CHILDCARE

Quality of Provision

- 5.1 Evidence shows that the quality of childcare is a significant factor affecting a child’s future chances. High-quality early education improves children’s school readiness and cognitive development, whilst poor-quality early education does very little to boost children’s development⁴.
- 5.2 The quality of early provision is measured through inspections undertaken by Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education). Ofsted is the sole arbiter of quality and through the inspection process, each setting will receive one of four grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement or inadequate) depending on the inspection findings.

Inspection Grades of Early Years Provision in Derbyshire

- 5.3 Figure 18 provides data on the inspection outcomes of registered early years and childcare providers at their last inspection.

Figure 18. Ofsted Inspection Grades by Provider Type

	Outstanding		Good		Requires Improvement /Satisfactory		Inadequate	
	Derbyshire	National	Derbyshire	National	Derbyshire	National	Derbyshire	National
Childminders	8%	13%	81%	76%	10%	10%	0%	1%
Childcare on Non-Domestic Premises (Day Nurseries/Pre-schools)	10%	17%	86%	77%	3%	4%	1%	1%

Source: Ofsted, Childcare Inspections and Outcomes as at 31 August 2016, <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-august-2016>

- 5.4 As the table shows the quality of provision across Derbyshire is high and therefore quality is unlikely to be a barrier in increasing the number of places available to accommodate the 30 hours extended entitlement.

⁴ 2014 Joseph Roundtree Foundation, <https://www.jrf.org.uk/blog/30-hours-free-childcare-worth-fighting>

- 5.5 The Early Years & Childcare Service will continue to support providers to improve the quality of delivery and meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Ofsted. The quality of provision plays an important part in the sufficiency of places.
- 5.6 All new childminders are offered a place on the local authority's fully accredited Basic Induction and Training course (BIRT) which consists of eight modules and focuses on essential childcare sector skills and knowledge. Through this, and the support offered through the registration process by the Childcare Improvement Service (Quality Team), the majority of childminders and out of school provision achieve good or outstanding at their first Ofsted inspection.

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

- 5.7 Since April 2015 childcare providers delivering the free nursery education entitlement for three and four year olds have been able to apply for additional funding of up to £302.10 per year, per eligible child, to support children from families on certain benefits. Children are also eligible if they are looked after by the local authority, adopted from care or have left care under a special guardianship or residence order.
- 5.8 It is estimated that 20% of the population are eligible for EYPP, which means there are approximately 2,539 three and four year old eligible children in early years' settings in Derbyshire.
- 5.9 In the 2016 summer term EYPP payments were made for 1440 eligible children to childcare providers in both the PVI and maintained sectors across Derbyshire. This represents around 57% of the number of children who could claim this additional funding which is an increase of 24% since 2015.
- 5.10 The identification of eligible children relies upon parents making schools and settings aware so that they are able to apply for the funding. In order to ensure as many parents inform schools and settings as possible, publicity work will continue to improve the take up and therefore benefit the setting and the eligible children.

6. AFFORDABILITY OF CHILDCARE

Average Childcare Costs

6.1 Cost can be one of the main barriers to childcare. Figure 19 gives an indication of the average cost of childcare in Derbyshire, however it can be difficult to compare providers with accuracy as opening times or sessions times will vary and costs will reflect this. In addition there will be differences in what is included in the fees. Some providers may include items such as nappies, meals and may offer discounts for siblings or shorter sessions whilst others may not.

Costs of Early Years Childcare

6.2 Data is gathered annually by The Families Information service on the current cost of childcare. These have been analysed for each District and the average costs for each type of early years childcare is shown below.

Figure 19. Table Showing Average Costs for Early Years Childcare by Provider Type and District

	Childminder (per hour)	Day Nursery (per day)	Pre-schools (per session)
Amber Valley	£3.43	£43.25	£9.10
Bolsover	£3.70	£34.95	£8.84
Chesterfield	£3.77	£40.28	£8.50
Derbyshire Dales	£4.23	£37.78	£10.04
Erewash	£3.62	£40.63	£7.65
High Peak	£3.62	£36.83	£9.77
N.E. Derbyshire	£3.72	£36.29	£9.26
S. Derbyshire	£3.86	£41.58	£9.24
Derbyshire Average	£3.74	£38.95	£9.05

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Information and ICT, Children's Services, January 2017

6.3 Childcare for younger children is often the most expensive due to factors such as staff/child ratios etc. Most parents find that their childcare costs reduce as their child grows and all children are entitled to some form of free nursery education from the age of three which can often be deducted as hours from a parents/carers childcare bill.

6.4 Using the data above the following average price increases have been calculated in Figure 20. Clearly the costs for pre-schools have seen proportionally higher increases than other types of childcare. Reasons for this could be that most pre-schools do not own their own buildings and may have to increase their fees to cover the costs of rental increases or due to the implementation of the National Living Wage.

Figure 20. Table showing Price Increase Across Childcare Types

	Childminder (per hour)	Day Nursery (per day)	Pre-schools (per session)
Average price increase	£0.03	£0.87	£0.80
Average % of price increase	1%	2%	10%

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Information and ICT, Children's Services, January 2017

6.5 The Early Years and Sufficiency Service (EYSS) will continue to monitor the increase in the cost of childcare particularly in relation to pre-schools to ensure that this does not become a barrier to access.

Costs of Wraparound Childcare

6.6 Data on the costs of out of school childcare was collected through a large scale mapping exercise undertaken by the EYSS in autumn 2015 which still provides the most accurate and current data available.

Figure 21. Table Showing Average Costs for Out of School Childcare by Provider Type and District

	Breakfast Club Session	After School Session	Holiday Club Session (per day)
Amber Valley	£3.89	£8.06	£32.22
Bolsover	£3.32	£8.33	£31.16
Chesterfield	£3.86	£8.92	£31.43
Derbyshire Dales	£3.97	£9.69	£35.43
Erewash	£5.60	£10.00	£31.49
High Peak	£4.06	£9.74	£31.78
N.E. Derbyshire	£3.73	£7.23	£29.58
S. Derbyshire	£5.49	£9.25	£33.71
Derbyshire Average	£4.24	£8.90	£31.53

Data Source: Derbyshire County Council, Early Years Sufficiency Service, Children's Services, Autumn 2015

Affordability and Sustainability

- 6.7 In order for childcare to be sustainable providers need to ensure their operating costs are met by the income generated. At the same time, childcare needs to be affordable to parents and carers. There are a number of different schemes available to parents/carers to ensure childcare costs are not a barrier to accessing employment or training (see below).
- 6.8 The local authority cannot determine the pricing structure of individual childcare providers, as with other business sectors, childcare is influenced by market forces. However, the local authority has a legal duty to ensure there is sufficient affordable childcare and where a gap in the market is identified, it may consider providing alternative arrangements to meet this duty.
- 6.9 The Statutory Guidance document that is issued by the Department for Education stipulates that Local authorities should not intervene in providers' private businesses outside of a child's early education place which includes charges for provision outside a child's FEE place.

Help with Childcare Costs

- 6.10 There are a number of schemes available to parents and carers to help with childcare costs. Parents and carers must select the scheme that is best suited to their personal circumstances as, for example, employee childcare vouchers may affect the amount of tax credits payable.

Tax Credits

- 6.11 The childcare element of Working Tax Credit can help cover some of the cost of childcare. Up to 70% of childcare costs can be claimed (a maximum of £122.50 a week for one child or £210.00 a week for two or more children) but is dependent upon income, hours worked and childcare costs. To be eligible parents/carers must be working over 16 hours per week and use an Ofsted registered childcare provider.

Universal Credit

- 6.12 Universal Credit is the new benefit system that will eventually replace tax credits and other benefit schemes and is being phased in between April 2013 and October 2017. Universal Credit will be paid as a single monthly payment that will include a standard allowance plus other 'elements' one of which will be

childcare. Parents/carers may be eligible for up to 85% of their childcare costs per month (up to £646.35 for one child and £1,108.04 for 2 or more children)

Childcare Voucher Scheme (Salary Sacrifice Schemes)

- 6.13 Employers can offer financial support to employees with children through childcare voucher schemes. These allow parents/carers to pay their childcare costs directly from their salary before tax and national insurance deductions are made, therefore, saving the employee money by reducing the amount of tax payable. A maximum of £55 per week or £243 per month can be claimed in childcare vouchers depending on how much the parent/carer earns and when they joined the scheme.
- 6.14 If a provider is not required to register with Ofsted they can still choose to register on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register. By doing so this not only ensures that the provider is adhering to good practice but they will also receive an Ofsted registration number which allows parents/carers to pay for their childcare through voucher schemes or claim tax credits towards their childcare fees.
- 6.15 However this scheme will eventually be replaced by the Tax-Free Childcare Scheme and will be closed to new entrants in April 2018

Tax-Free Childcare Scheme

- 6.16 The Government will be introducing a new tax-free childcare scheme in 2017 which will be an alternative to the existing voucher schemes. To qualify, parents will have to be in work, and each earning at least £115 a week and not more than £100,000 each per year.
- 6.17 Under this system 20% of annual childcare costs will be paid for by the Government⁵. Parent/carers will be able to open an online account through the Gov Uk website and pay into it in order to cover childcare costs. For every 80p paid into this account the Government will pay in an additional 20p, (equivalent to a 20% contribution and is same as the basic rate of tax), up to a maximum contribution of £2,000 a year per child (or £4,000 per year for a child with disabilities).
- 6.18 The new scheme will be open to families with children under 12 (and children with disabilities up to the age of 17) who are not already claiming tax credits

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tax-free-childcare-10-things-parents-should-know/>

to help with childcare costs. It is estimated that two million families will benefit from this new system as, unlike the voucher system it is not reliant on employers offering the service and can be accessed by self-employed parents/carers.

FEE Entitlement for Two, Three and Four Year Olds

- 6.19 At present all three and four year old children and around 40% of all two year olds are entitled to up to 15 hours a week FEE. This can significantly reduce their childcare bills and therefore support parents/carers to work or train to work.
- 6.20 The extended entitlement is intended to help families by reducing the cost of childcare further and giving them more flexibility in the hours they can claim. It is anticipated that this will support parents into work or to work more hours, should they wish to do so.

7. FUTURE PLANNING

- 7.1 The publishing of the annual Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is only one part of the local authority's legal duty in managing the childcare market to ensure there is sufficient childcare. It must be recognised that the statistics and data are fluid and constantly changing. This document only provides a snapshot of the position of the childcare market at any given time. Nevertheless, this assessment still provides a good indication of trends or areas for further investigation and action, and the tools used in the production of the assessment enable on-going analysis and monitoring of the childcare data.
- 7.2 The Early Years Sufficiency Service (EYSS) will continue to manage the childcare market in Derbyshire taking into account all available data and developing new data streams where possible to identify gaps in the market and future trends that may require action. Where a gap in the market is identified the EYSS will endeavor, where reasonably practicable, to meet the needs of parents/carers whilst taking into account the financial viability of new and existing provision.
- 7.3 With the Government's commitment to increase the free nursery education entitlement from 15 to 30 hours for working parents from September 2017, the priority for the local authority's Early Years and Childcare Service will be to ensure the sufficiency and quality of places for three and four year olds
- 7.4 Support will continue to be provided by the local authority to ensure childcare providers have robust business practices and is key to Derbyshire maintaining sufficient childcare places.
- 7.5 Based on the findings of this Childcare Sufficiency Assessment the action plan has been reviewed and updated to assist the local authority in its duty to manage the childcare market.

8. Childcare Sufficiency Action Plan 2017/18

Outcome	Action	How	Who	When
Amber Valley				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	<p>EYSS and FIS</p> <p>EYSS</p>	<p>April 2017</p> <p>February 2017</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of FEE places available in the Belper area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of Nursery Unit at St Johns CE Primary, Belper Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places Identify premises in areas of undersupply and promote opportunities for leasing premises. 	<p>EYSS and Schools Development</p> <p>Early Years and Childcare Service</p> <p>EYSS, Elected Members and Corporate Landlord, Property Services</p>	<p>September 2017</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>September 2017</p>

Outcome	Action	How	Who	When
Bolsover				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	EYSS and FIS EYSS	April 2017 February 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure there are sufficient FEE places in the Bolsover District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places 	Early Years and Childcare Service	Ongoing
Chesterfield				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	EYSS and FIS EYSS	April 2017 February 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of FEE places available in the Brimington/Hollingwood areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places Identify premises in areas of undersupply and promote opportunities for leasing premises. 	Early Years and Childcare Service EYSS, Elected Members and Corporate Landlord, Property Services	Ongoing September 2017

Outcome	Action	How	Who	When
Derbyshire Dales				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	EYSS and FIS EYSS	April 2017 February 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure there are sufficient FEE places in the Derbyshire Dales District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places 	Early Years and Childcare Service	Ongoing
Erewash				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	EYSS and FIS EYSS	April 2017 February 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of FEE places available in the Cotmanhay/Awsorth Road areas Increase the number of FEE places available in the Wilsthorpe/Sawley areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of nursery provision at Larklands Infant School, Ilkeston Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places 	EYSS and Schools Development Early Years and Childcare Service	September 2017 Ongoing

Outcome	Action	How	Who	When
Erewash (cont.)				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement (cont.)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify premises in areas of undersupply and promote opportunities for leasing premises. 	EYSS, Elected Members and Corporate Landlord, Property Services	September 2017
High Peak				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	EYSS and FIS EYSS	April 2017 February 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of FEE places available in the Gamesley/Glossop areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of nursery provision at Simmondley Primary School Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places Identify premises in areas of undersupply and promote opportunities for leasing premises. 	EYSS and Schools Development Early Years and Childcare Service EYSS, Elected Members and Corporate Landlord, Property Services	September 2017 Ongoing September 2017

Outcome	Action	How	Who	When
North East Derbyshire				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	EYSS and FIS EYSS	April 2017 February 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure there are sufficient FEE places in the North East Derbyshire District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places 	Early Years and Childcare Service	Ongoing
South Derbyshire				
Ensure parents have access to the extended entitlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with parents to ensure they are aware of their entitlement and to identify demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates on Website and online survey Promotion at Derbyshire Money Week Event 	EYSS and FIS EYSS	April 2017 February 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of FEE places available in the Church Gresley/Swadlincote areas Increase the number of FEE places available in the Woodville/Midway area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver a programme of support for Schools and PVI providers to create new places Identify premises in areas of undersupply and promote opportunities for leasing premises. 	Early Years and Childcare Service EYSS, Elected Members, Corporate Landlord, Property Services	Ongoing September 2017

