

Now tell us what you think

We want you to be involved in deciding what children's centre services and support you'd like to be available to you and your family. Please take a few minutes to fill out our questionnaire.

To give your views you can fill in the attached questionnaire:

- Online at derbyshire.gov.uk/ccconsultation
- And hand it in at your local children's centre. If you don't know where this is you can find out by visiting derbyshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres or through Call Derbyshire on 01629 533190.

Our consultation will run until midnight on 21 January 2015 so please get your views back to us by then.

Putting our own house in order

We're saving money by:

- Making sure every penny is spent where it's needed most
- Reducing senior management
- Selling off redundant land and buildings.

Written and produced by Communications, Derbyshire County Council,
County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG. October 2014.

The Derbyshire Challenge

Making difficult decisions together



Have your say on changes to the way we deliver children's centre services

We're facing massive budget pressures like never before and need to cut £157m by 2018.

We need to look at the way we offer children's centre services so we can deliver them in the best possible way to support children and families within our limited budget.

Some services will remain, some will be run differently and some will have to stop. We are having to look at the possibility of closing two children's centres. We don't want to do this but we're having to consider all proposals.

We want you to be at the heart of all the services we provide so we want to know what you think.

The current situation

We currently have 54 children's centres across Derbyshire that offer a range of services suited to the area they are in which includes early education and childcare, health services, and parenting and family support.

We need to reduce the annual £8m cost of running them to meet our cuts target.

We've looked carefully at how much our centres cost to run, how much use they get, and what essential services they provide for children and families in greatest need.



Possible proposals

We are looking at a number of proposals to offer children and families support within our available budget. This includes:

- closing Ashbourne and Duffield children's centres, and their services, as they appear to have relatively low usage, cost a lot to run, and are not in areas of greatest need. Closing Ashbourne Children's Centre would potentially cut £90,000. Closing Duffield Children's Centre would potentially cut £113,000.
- closing Castle Gresley and Langwith children's centres, as the buildings are no longer fit for purpose, and transferring their services to other sites. Castle Gresley's building is suffering subsidence so services have already been moved from the site and relocated to other community buildings. Langwith's building, located at Stubbin Wood School, does not have a lot of users, with nearby Whaley Thorns and Shirebrook children's centres having better attendance. The school now needs to use the space for work with pupils. Closing Castle Gresley and Langwith children's centres and relocating their services would potentially cut £24,000.
- reducing opening hours from five days a week to two days, and some services at; Bakewell, Crich, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Wirksworth, Arkwright, Killamarsh, Tupton, Sandiacre, West Hallam, and Coton-in-the-Elms children's centres. Opening hours may be staggered at centres in particular areas so families could still access services they need within their community, at times they are most likely to want to use them. Community groups would also have the chance to hire rooms in the buildings when they are not being used for children's centre services, to help generate income. Reducing opening hours at these centres would potentially cut £705,000.
- relocating Gamesley Children's Centre and some services from its Melandra Castle Road site to the Gamesley Early Excellence Centre in Winster Mews, as it is already popular with children and families and in an area of greater need. Relocating some services and closing the current Gamesley site would potentially cut £12,000.