

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET**

**31 January 2019**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services**

**EARLY HELP SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR  
FAMILIES – (Young People)**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- To inform Cabinet of the early help review public consultation and Equality Impact Analysis (EIA) outcomes.
- To seek approval to implement the proposed redesign of the Early Help Service.
- To seek approval to implement the proposed revised budget for Early Help Services.

**2. Information and Analysis**

The current Early Help structures were established in 2011 and Multi-Agency Teams (MATs) were formed to provide early help services aligned with school clusters. The services that were integrated into these teams were:

- Children's Centres and Sure Start Programmes
- Family Support Workers
- Education Welfare Service
- Youth Service
- Careers Guidance (Connexions Service)

In 2013, a further review of services led to additional services being integrated into MATs:

- Intensive Family Support (forerunner to 'Troubled Families' Programme)
- Family Support Centres
- Domiciliary Care

In 2015, the council had identified budget pressures within early help services and as a response developed the 'Rethink of Early Help Offer' (REHO). This project established a partnership with schools to 're-pool' funds to DCC for the continued delivery of Early Help via MATs. This led to an alignment of

services to meet some school cluster requirements and more of a mixed economy of service provision to families across the Localities.

This history of the development of MATs has led to a wide range of functions, responsibilities and duties that have been devolved to them. This means that the MATs currently deliver services across the spectrum of Universal, Emerging Needs, Targeted Early Help and Statutory Duties, some of which are outlined below.

- **Universal Provision:** Community-based youth clubs, Youth Forums and local participation, parental advice and guidance, School Attendance Panels
- **Emerging Needs:** Early Help Assessments (EHA) and casework, parenting programmes, targeted school youth groups
- **Targeted Early Help:** EHA's and casework where needs are more significant or established, Evidenced-Based Programmes (EBP's) parenting programmes and youth programmes
- **Statutory Duties:** parenting assessments where children are subject to statutory social work intervention and/or care proceedings, supervision of contact between children in care and birth family, missing children return home interviews, support and direction for NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) young people

Last year, the Council gave agreement for Children's Services to commence an engagement process with the workforce in Early Help and key stakeholders to review the early help service provided through the MATs. This was in light of the evolution of this service since its inception in 2011 and to review the effectiveness of the current early help offer.

In addition, the reduced grants and funding available to the Local Authority has resulted in the need to fully review core business and ensure the sustainability of essential service delivery.

The feedback from the workforce and stakeholders provided affirmation that a review was necessary to streamline and clarify the service.

Service for Teenagers provides some direct early help provision to schools and considerable co-ordination of delivery to support teenagers in Derbyshire. Therefore, Services for Teenagers has also been included in the review.

On 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018, Council approved two Cabinet papers, to progress with consultation on a review of Early Help (MATs) and Service for Teenagers.

### Our vision for the future of Early Help Services in Derbyshire:

Early help is targeted at those who most need our help and practice is evidence-based, to ensure we are making the best possible use of our limited resources. It also means we can effect as much positive change as possible in the lives of the children and families we work with.

Early help is everybody's business and not just the local authority's. Some of the best early help arrangements in the country are based on strong partnership models between the local authority, health, schools and the voluntary sector and that's what we want to build here in Derbyshire.

Having strong partnerships in place will mean children and families will get the right level of support at the right stage and that they are not on the receiving end of unnecessary state-intervention which can have negative impacts, particularly when they can access better and more suitable support from universal services.

### Early Help Review Consultation

The main results of the Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) Appendix 1 which assessed impact on protected groups and the public and stakeholder consultation are included at Appendix 2.

The consultation responses and the EIA have led to the proposals being revised to reflect the feedback received, are outlined later in this report.

### Method of Consultation

The early help consultation strategy included a public awareness campaign to promote the consultation using social media, press release leading to news coverage and public notices in community-based settings. Key stakeholder groups were informed at their respective board meetings, e.g. Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Board (DSCB), Children's Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP) Board, Derbyshire Children's Partnership (DCP) and invited to contribute their views.

An online questionnaire survey was open from 7<sup>th</sup> September – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018; the questionnaire received 490 responses.

Letters and petitions have been received – the majority of letters from school clusters and headteachers and two petitions from residents of Ironville regarding the youth provision in the parish.

Focused consultation workshops with schools across the county were delivered during November. Health partners have participated in workshops

to develop an early help pathway which took place between March – November 2018.

The Council's early help workforce has engaged in consultation workshops during May – June 2018 and also provided feedback via the online questionnaire.

### Response to Proposal 1: Family Support

The County Council wants to concentrate on those who need extra help to help prevent problems arising in the future.

The Council is proposing to:

- Reduce the amount of support it offers to all families, concentrating instead on those who most need help to prevent harm to children, reduce family conflict and breakdown and to help parenting and family functioning.
- The council currently helps around 4,000 children and their families and it is proposed that some of these could be better helped by other services (health professionals and schools) rather than by the Council.
- Work with other services to provide parental advice and guidance in parenting groups. This help could include advice about diet, help with mealtime and bedtime routines, love, care and attachment and how to set safe boundaries. Parents and carers would be able in future to discuss sensitive issues in a peer support group with a group facilitator.

### Feedback:

From the online questionnaire:

- 60% of respondents "Strongly Disagree", and a further 15% "Tend to Disagree" with the County Council's proposals.
- 5% of respondents "Strongly Agree" and 8% "Tend to Agree" with the proposals.

On average, 33.5% of respondents raised issues around whether vulnerable children would get the help they need in future. Some respondents also expressed concerns that the Council's proposed changes to Family Support services could place children and young people at additional risk.

The Early Help service operates at a level where children and families have been identified as having 'emerging needs'. Any children who are at

risk of harm would meet the safeguarding threshold and receive a service from social care; these arrangements will not change.

A second issue commonly raised (30.4% of all respondents) was that the Council's proposals for Family Support Services could lead to more expense, problems and work for social care and society in general.

A third issue commonly raised (19.8% of all respondents) was that there was concern that Schools/NHS/Voluntary groups don't have capacity or funding to take on additional work caused by the proposed scaling back of Derbyshire County Council's Family Support Services.

Elected Members are referred to Appendix 2 for the responses made in the consultation. Illustrative comments include the following:

"If services are reduced vulnerable children will fall through the net, there is not enough staff to deliver the current or proposed services". A child/young person under 18.

"I believe there isn't enough support and staff currently to support families and their various needs. This is really worrying that cuts are to be made even further, making an even bigger gap rather than supporting the gap". Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

Feedback from schools has highlighted concerns about their capacity to deliver early help. However, schools have proposed to work in school clusters to commission early help services. There is more concern within the primary sector, particularly for small rural primary schools, as their rurality can make it challenging to operate in school clusters due to geographical distance.

Secondary schools are more able to identify how the pastoral support can be focused to deliver several elements of early help. There are some secondary schools who have previously opted out of our arrangements and they have established their own early help offer.

#### Revision of the Family Support proposal reflecting on feedback:

The proposals consulted upon mirror the arrangements already seen in other Local Authorities including Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Derby City. There is evidence that in Derbyshire our current practice leads to higher levels of state involvement with families, when lower level interventions would be sufficient and beneficial.

For example, 28% of our Early Help Assessments (EHA) led to No Further Action (NFA) and a further 22% of families receive a single agency

intervention. This does indicate that these families could be supported in a different way, with less state involvement.

However, the proposals now include a Transition Team for 3 years and the key purpose of the team is to support agencies to develop their early help offer and aim to increase the capacity of support for families across all agencies.

A new role of 'Early Help Advisor' has been developed to:

- Provide support, advice and guidance on early help work
- Provide local early help workforce development opportunities
- Develop with partners a local directory of services for families

The transition team will monitor the impact of the review and work with partners including the voluntary sector, to identify new external funding opportunities to increase support for Derbyshire families, e.g. Government project funding for 'Reducing Family Conflict' and Public Health funding for children's tier 2 drugs service.

Due to changes in school funding and academisation, there has been a gradual decline in schools re-pooling through REHO to jointly fund the MATs. The Council is therefore proposing to terminate the current REHO re-pooling arrangements with schools from 31 August 2019 and this will mean schools retain that element of their budgets to commission their own early help offer.

The Council will support the schools with understanding the current service and with the development of their own early help arrangements. In addition, the Council is offering a traded model to support schools to undertake 'School Attendance' work via the Services for Schools (S4S) traded services.

The Council's plans for 'Remodelling Social Work' will enable social care to reduce their demand for support from MATs, therefore maximising the capacity of the proposed targeted early help teams to provide early intervention for families. Currently, 25% of MATs capacity is used supporting social care and this will reduce as social care increase their capacity.

The consultation and the EIA have identified an area for focus to prevent children missing education (CME). This includes:

- Children with an unsatisfactory Elective Home Education (EHE) package
- Children in mainstream schools with Special Educational Needs (SEN) requiring support with their post-16 transition planning
- Gypsy and Traveller children requesting support for school placements

Early Help and Safeguarding has developed a joint action plan with Schools and Learning Services, to prevent vulnerable children becoming CME.

Funding for some additional capacity within the SEND service has now been included within the budget, to ensure post 16 transition planning is delivered within mainstream schools.

### Response to Proposal 2: Youth Support

The County Council is proposing in the future to concentrate on:

- Preventing harm to children and young people and helping them stay in education, employment or training and by doing so, support successful moves to adult life.
- Helping the county's most vulnerable teenagers to maximise their potential and move into adult life at college or work and also to develop good relationships with others.

The Council currently provides a range of activities for young people, but as the needs of teenagers change, some of the drop-in youth groups have been found to not always be the best way of helping teenagers who most need support or help them to deal with modern-day issues. In addition, there are other groups in some areas of the county such as voluntary youth groups, which provide the same kind of opportunities and activities.

The Council wants to modernise its work with teenagers who need its help most, either individually or in small groups, as there is evidence to show individual and peer support groups using therapeutic approaches is an effective way to help support vulnerable teenagers.

The Council is proposing to:

- Deliver activities which concentrate on vulnerable teenagers including:
  - Individual support with teenagers and their families
  - Street-based youth work with groups of teenagers, to reduce risks of child exploitation and harm
  - Small groups to support emotional wellbeing and resilience for teenagers and healthy relationships and sexual relationships advice
- Stop funding its generic youth activity clubs. The Council has, however, introduced a new community grants scheme called Action Grants to help more organisations provide a wider range of community-based youth activities for teenagers.

## Feedback:

From the online questionnaire:

- 66% of respondents “Strongly Disagreed”, and a further 12% “Tend to Disagree” with the County Council’s proposals for Youth Services as described.
- 4% of respondents “Strongly Agree” and 7% “Tend to Agree” with the proposals.

There were multiple reasons why respondents disagreed with the proposals. Key themes were:

- The Council should not only continue to provide a Youth Service but should be looking to increase it.
- Youth clubs are a safe place to go.
- This is a vital service and cuts to reduce it could harm children.

Elected Members are referred to the full comments set out in Appendix 2.

Illustrative comments included the following:

“If the youth clubs closed down in Shirebrook I would feel very sad because since I joined here I made lots of friends and if it wasn't for youth club I don't know what I would be doing right now.” A child/young person under 18.

“Derbyshire Youth clubs are excellent early warning and action units and give young people the chance to express the fears and feelings without reprisal or judgement. They are also far more adept at discussing sexual health than Derbyshire schools are. When these safe spaces are taken away where will the children congregate?” Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“Youth teams are needed more with activities to help prevent youth crime and drugs on the street. Make people feel safer and secure without youths hanging around on street corners. Youth workers help and support children with a range of needs from socialising to mental health which is vital”. A Derbyshire Resident.

## Revision of the Youth Support proposal reflecting on feedback:

Within the Transition Team a new role of Youth & Community Engagement Worker has been developed to support the development of voluntary-led groups and support partnership developments.



The post will support:

- Community leaders and parents to set up youth activity groups.
- Signposting for communities to the range of activity groups in the local areas.
- Provide guidance on Youth Action Grants and other funding opportunities for community development.
- Provide voluntary workforce support and guidance, e.g. VCI Passport scheme, safeguarding initiatives and links to locality partnership developments.

To minimise the impact on protected groups identified in the EIA , the youth provision for targeted groups will prioritise the needs of children with disabilities, LGBT+ Children and some gender-based wellbeing youth groups.

Colleagues in Community Safety do work closely with youth workers to deliver street-based youth work as a response to emerging anti-social behaviour in communities. The data suggests this work has a correlation with reduced reports of ASB. The Community Safety Partnerships have lead responsibility to address ASB, it is difficult to predict at the moment the outcome of reduction in this area of youth work. The proposals do include the retention of some street based youth work, which can be deployed to where there are risks posed to children and young people, such as child exploitation, drug abuse and offending. There will be further integration work with the Youth Offending Service, to provide preventative work.

### Response to Proposal 3: Careers Support

The County Council has, up until now, provided careers information, advice and guidance to some children aged 14 to 18 (or 25 for those with special needs or who are disabled). However, schools and colleges have the legal duty to provide careers information and guidance rather than the Council.

Therefore the Council is looking to schools and colleges to provide this advice themselves in future to their students from the range of alternative established providers in their local areas. However, the council would continue to provide careers advice for teenagers aged 16 to 18 (or 25 for those with special needs or who are disabled) who are not in education, employment or training.

### Feedback:

From the online questionnaire:

- 49% of respondents “Strongly Disagree”, and a further 16% “Tend to Disagree” with the County Council’s proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided.
- 4% of respondents “Strongly Agree” and 9% “Tend to Agree” with the County Council’s proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided.

The comments on this proposal were mainly from professionals (see Appendix 4) and these included:

- There is more need for this service in the present economic climate not less.
- Schools and colleges have a legal duty to undertake this work, so it makes sense they do it.

However, within the engagement with schools, we have not received any challenge on the reduction of careers support within schools.

#### Revision of the Careers Support proposal reflecting on feedback:

Whilst Derbyshire County Council must deliver the statutory services in relation to young people who are NEET, there are also a range of discretionary services currently available through both Services for Teenagers and Locality Teams, including targeted support in areas including careers and employability.

There is a broad range of providers who deliver both services and projects to young people who are NEET, sometimes specifically aimed at the NEET cohort and sometimes providing a broad range of youth engagement or employability/training activity that is available to young people. These include: Groundwork, Prince’s Trust, Action for Children, Chesterfield College, Nottinghamshire/Nottingham Futures and Sheffield Futures.

The Council is considering the development of partnership arrangements for an all age careers service with a focus on 16–25 year olds. This will maximise resources across the region and benefit from contemporary ‘Labour Market Information’ (LMI), Workforce development for careers guidance workers and provide opportunities to draw on external funding.

The Council is proposing to review the care leavers’ offer in line with new Government guidance and this will include aspiration and careers guidance work for children in care, preparing them to transition to independent living.

## Services for Teenagers Review

We have reviewed the full range of activities undertaken within this service and proposals for future arrangements are bespoke to the different elements within this service.

Within the Team's structure, there are two distinct categories of activities:

- Managerial functions and oversight of aspects of the Youth Offer within Early Help Services.
- Services that are traded and generate external income.

As the Service for Teenagers is, in the main, not a front-facing service which does not deliver services directly to service users and there will be no significant impact on service users arising from the proposals, public consultation was not required.

On 16<sup>th</sup> July, as part of the formal consultation period, the Services for Teenagers staff group collectively submitted a proposal for an alternative model of service delivery. The proposal was to establish an Employee Mutual model of service delivery; consideration has been given to the employee's proposals and if the criteria for community right to challenge was met and it is not. However, the proposals were creative and worthy of further exploration therefore, an independent consultant was appointed to conduct a rapid, high-level review of the benefits, practicalities and implications of establishing an employee mutual proposal, alongside other alternative models to enable the management team to objectively appraise the options.

The feedback through the high level independent review was detailed and helpful, however the mutual option has been discounted due to the economic viability, the initial cost of establishing a mutual, the legal complexity and the ongoing revenue investment required. In particular there are already a number of established high quality providers in this market and a new mutual would be competing for the same limited funding without the benefit of a long standing track record. Whilst other development options will be considered with partners to progress the employment and skills agenda, the Services for Teenagers' current establishment will be considered within this review and the following arrangements are proposed.

The Council needs to ensure that the relevant, statutory services, such as the Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET) will continue to be offered and that they meet the identified levels of savings.

The Council's duties to undertake NEET/EET data collection and tracking will be delivered by the Council for an interim period and overseen within the new

Transition Team. The current National Careers Service contract will continue under the oversight of the Transition Team, pending the decision on a long-term delivery model for NEET/EET work.

It is proposed that the following services will be disestablished and some duties will end in line with contract end dates and other duties will transfer to the new services.

- Services for Teenagers' management structure will be disestablished and management will be delivered within locality arrangements and the Transition Team.
- The careers service for schools is a traded service and does not generate enough income to cover its full costs. The service will terminate at the end of August. Schools will have access to active external markets of other providers to deliver a schools careers guidance service.
- Talent Match will terminate at the end of the contract.
- Care Leavers Employment Project (CLEP) will be transferred to the new 'Care Leavers Service' and the Council's duties for care leavers will be delivered through that service with the specific CLEP team disestablished at an appropriate point as it will become core delivery.
- Derbyshire's Donut Creative Arts Studio (DCAS) in Chesterfield is currently a shared venue with Fairplay, a 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisation who rent the site and provide support to children and families with additional needs. Fairplay have indicated an interest in expanding the range of provision they offer including continuing to rent the site and expanding their use of it, whilst maintaining some of the open access functions of the site.

The Council has a small number of staff on site and from early discussions with Fairplay their expansion ideas may include undertaking similar duties to the current service provided by the Council. A detailed piece of work has begun to explore the opportunities this creates including any TUPE rights for the Council employees which would mitigate redundancy. This will be the subject of a separate cabinet report following a consultation period with the current service users.

Whilst these proposals change the current delivery models for careers guidance, the Council continues to have a strategic leadership role in relation to employment and skills. This includes the Council's role in ensuring that there is a good active market available for our communities and this remains a Council priority.

### Children with Disabilities

Currently there is an element of support in MATs for children with Education Health & Care (EHC) plans who attend mainstream schools. To maximise efficiency and effectiveness we propose this work will be provided by SEND locality teams in the future. This includes an estimated £0.200m for additional

SEND support although the actual cost is subject to development of job roles and subsequent evaluation of the grades appropriate for those roles.

### Social Care Re-modelling

MATs also support families open to social care and can provide a range of interventions that supports the social worker to enable successful delivery of the family's Child's Plan, e.g. Parenting Assessments and Supervised Contact, Graded Care Profile and parenting programs and youth support work for children at risk of exploitation.

The current estimate is that 30% of the early help resources are used to support this statutory work.

Remodelling of social care in Derbyshire is building capacity and resilience in social care. This remodelling will improve all parts of the social care system and improve outcomes for children and families whose needs meet the Child in Need and Child Protection thresholds for service. The remodelling of social care will reduce the need for early help practitioners to joint work as many of the child cases are open to social care.

### Derbyshire and Locality Children's Partnerships

The recently developed Derbyshire Children's Partnership and Locality Children's Partnerships, along with the DSCB, play a pivotal role in the future commissioning and funding of Early Help. Other key strategic boards include:

- Troubled Families Transformation Programme (operating until March 2020)
- Futures in Mind (Children's Emotional and Mental Health Partnership Board)
- Children's Health Sustainable Transformation Plan (Children's STP Board)
- Schools and Multi Academy Trusts Forums

In consultation with schools, it has been identified that engagement with schools needs to be improved to ensure effective partnership outcomes and closer alignment with schools forum developments. A new communication accountability strategy, will be developed by March 2019, to improve communication and service planning, across all of the partnership arrangements.

## Duties to be undertaken within the proposed new Early Help Service

### Transition Team (3-year project):

From the engagement and consultation with stakeholders over the last 2 years and the analysis of the risks pertaining to the reduction in the Children's Services early help offer, there is a need to provide a transitional approach to support transformation of early help across the whole system. The aim of the proposal is to reduce the potential fragmentation of services around vulnerable children and families by working with partner agencies to improve their confidence in early help work and make the services more efficient for families.

All services across partner agencies are on a journey to ensure efficient use of resources and in this review of early help services, Children's Services is not seeking to pass children's casework to other agencies, but to help to improve the offer to families by reducing confusion in the system and ensure that where families need the State's help, then the Council provides an appropriate level of service delivery. Other agencies are also expected to support families through early help as outlined in Working Together 2018 and the Council will seek to jointly support agencies to comply with their duties and responsibilities. The best early help arrangements tend to be based on strong partnerships between different agencies.

The proposals are for a 3-year transition plan to be developed which is designed to support partner agencies to develop their early help offer and increase children's access to preventative services at the earliest stages of emerging need.

New posts are proposed to support agencies to deliver early help work:

- Early Help Advisor to support the development of early help practice within partner agencies.
- Youth and Community Engagement Worker to support community development and voluntary/parent-led groups
- Early Help Practitioners (Youth) to support priority youth work in areas of specific need. Delivering street based youth work and providing early intervention for children at risk of exploitation.

During the engagement and the consultation phases, workers and stakeholders have provided creative ideas for partnership work through joint delivery and work with the VCI sector to apply for external grants and funding streams. The Transition Team will oversee the implementation of externally funded projects and new Government-funded initiatives, which provide early help opportunities in Derbyshire.

It is envisaged the Transition Team will have the flexibility to identify any emerging areas of concern and develop proposed strategies to strengthen services across the whole partnership system.

#### Targeted Early Help Teams:

Early help casework will be part of the core business conducted by Children's Services. Children and families cases which require an intervention to meet a high level of emerging or entrenched needs, will be undertaken via the Council's new targeted early help teams.

The teams will be using evidence-based programmes and practice to support effective change with families. Our offer will include two primary functions:

- Family Support: to prevent harm to children, reduce family conflict and breakdown, improve parenting capacity and family functioning
- Youth Support: to prevent harm to children, reduce child vulnerabilities and risk of child exploitation, reduce NEET and support successful transitions into adult life.

It is envisaged that the teams will deliver interventions that follow the casework model and also deliver peer support group work programmes, e.g. parenting groups and youth self-esteem groups.

Youth support will provide targeted peer group work and also use a think family approach engaging parents in addressing concerns regarding their children.

For children at risk of exploitation into offending, an intervention pathway with the Youth Offending Services 'Divert Panel' will be implemented.

#### Parenting Assessment and Family Time Teams:

Each locality will have a team that works alongside social care to deliver this early help intervention within safeguarding cases.

Parenting Assessments: are undertaken during a 12-week period working with families to inform the analysis of parenting capacity. The reports are prepared as evidence for court when the Authority is in legal care proceeding.

Family Time (Supervised Contact): is court directed family time and the Authority has a duty to arrange safe supervised transport to an appropriate venue and supervise family time with parent/s.

It is envisaged that a team focused on this area of practice can improve effectiveness, efficiency and provide a quality service for children and families within court procedures.

NEET & EET Duty: the Authority has a duty to provide data returns on the NEET/EET outcomes for 17-19 year olds. This data includes post-16 destinations for school leavers and ongoing data of EET retention up to the age of 18 years old.

Alongside this, the Authority has a duty to provide Careers Information and support for 17–19 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) to enable them to access Education, Employment or Training. The Authority is reviewing a range of options for the delivery of this work. During this period of review, NEET/EET duties will be overseen within the new Transition Team.

School Attendance: schools have a duty to manage school attendance and support improvement in school attendance. The Authority has the duty to implement legal disposals for non-school attendance and preparation of legal evidence and monitoring appropriate use of legal disposals. This also covers duties around tracking 'Children Missing Education' (CME) including Elective Home Education (EHE) children without an appropriate education package.

We know that neighbouring authorities have established a traded business model with schools, for 'school attendance' work. The Schools and Learning Service will develop a 'School Attendance' traded offer and this will be promoted through the Council's 'Services4Schools' catalogue.

Children Centres: The 0-5 year old review has provided a joint financial arrangement with Public Health to retain the current Children Centre Early Help offer at a cost of £2.140 million. The Children Centres have already been reviewed and the service reduced to achieve budget savings. They focus on family support for 0-5 year olds including: early years school preparation and parenting support, which is viewed as essential early intervention work; it is not envisaged to review the Children's Centres as part of this review. DCC is working with health partners on a new model of outcome-based activity to ensure vulnerable young children receive the foundations they need to prevent issues in later life.

#### Workforce Development Programme for future Early Help Services

The Early Help workforce development programme is being reviewed to deliver the appropriate training internally and externally to achieve a workforce with contemporary skills to address modern day issues.

Children's Services have a skilled workforce who have trained in a range of evidence-based interventions. To ensure Council services maximise the



effectiveness of these skills and maintain integrity to therapeutic approaches, Children's Services will seek to establish reflective practice supervision groups, which will complement the operational management structure.

Reflective practice supervision will include: Systemic and Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) family practice, Vulnerable Children and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) practice, Cognitive Behaviour Therapeutic (CBT) approaches etc.

The apprenticeship levy, Government initiatives and regional developments will support the achievement of this transformation and lead to new training partnership arrangements:

- Reducing Parental Conflict programme
- Apprenticeship Pathways including accredited training modules
- Regional training programmes
- External training providers of evidence-based practice

### **3. Human Resources Considerations**

In recent years, the MAT workers and managers have experienced significant instability and insecurity leading to retention issues for the service. This review will seek to establish an Early Help service which is affordable for the future and stabilise the workforce going forward.

An adjoining Early Help in Children's Services Human Resources-themed paper is submitted to Cabinet, in the exempt section of this meeting.

### **4. Financial Considerations**

Currently, the gross expenditure budget allocated to Early Help services and Services for Teenagers is £12.980m. This does not include the budget allocations for Donut Creative Arts Studio (DCAS) and Care Leavers Employment Project (CLEP) which are not within the scope of this review (Cabinet paper 26 April 2018). DCAS will be brought forward into this review in due course when the current complex arrangements can be legally resolved and the work undertaken by CLEP will transfer to the new Care Leavers Service – bringing together the services that support care leavers in a single management structure.

The gross expenditure budget overleaf is funded from the following resources:

	2018-19 budget £m	2018-19 forecast £m
Council budget (reduced by £0.3m in 2018/19)	3.875	3.875
Troubled Families grant income	1.900	1.900
Dedicated Schools Grant – Central Block	1.737	1.737
Dedicated Schools Grant – High Needs Block	0.515	0.515
Dedicated Schools Grant – Early Years Block	0.950	0.050
Re-pooled contributions from schools	3.483	3.055
Income for traded services (includes income from LA schools)	0.520	0.448
Total	12.980	11.580

The table above shows that there is already a shortfall of £1.400 million between the budgeted income streams supporting the services under consideration in this report and the amount of income being received. This shortfall is currently being managed by holding vacancies where possible within the services as a temporary measure.

Looking ahead, Early Help services in the future will require funding from Council budgets only since the other income streams supporting the current level of expenditure are either ceasing or are too unstable to provide the security of funding that the service requires. Expected or known changes to the grant and re-pooled funding from schools are set out overleaf.

Funding source	Current Value 2018-19	Outlook
Troubled Families grant income	£1.900m	To continue to use this funding until exhausted. Estimated balance of grant remaining at 31/3/2019 is £3.000m
Dedicated Schools Grant – Central School Services Block	£1.737m	Access to use funding is contingent on approval from School Forum. Loss of approval is likely to mean loss of the funding to Derbyshire. Department for Education have advised that this allocation to Derbyshire will be reduced from 2020 although no further details are yet available.

Funding source	Current Value 2018-19	Outlook
		Propose to School Forum that funding continues to be allocated towards Early Help for 2019/20 and beyond.
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) – Early Years and High Needs Blocks	£0.565m	Use of Early Years Block funds is contingent upon School Forum approval. For 2019/20, propose to School Forum that a proportion of the funding be allocated to support the current Early Help services until the proposed changes are in place. After that, no more allocations to be made to the LA and are used instead to alleviate expenditure pressures in both the DSG High Needs and Early Years blocks.
Re-pooled contributions from schools	£3.055m	It is proposed that schools will be asked to contribute up to 1 September 2019.

The funding streams are all reducing through cessation of grants, pressure in other areas and the changing arrangements within schools which are increasingly part of multi-academy trusts which span local authority areas. In addition to the £1.400 million shortfall that already exists between budgeted and forecast income, a further £7.257 million is either ceasing, reducing or cannot be committed for sufficient duration to enable a sustainable service at current levels to be provided without unacceptable financial risk to the Authority.

The proposed future Early Help service structure, outlined in the separate confidential Cabinet report, has an estimated staffing cost of £3.727m. In addition, to operate, the service will require a budget of £0.548m to cover office operating costs, staff travel and technology support. The total annual expenditure budget required is estimated to be £4.275m. As well as the proposed new service, the proposed transition team, which will assist schools, partners and other agencies to develop their capacity in supporting children, young people and their families, is estimated to cost £1.787m per annum and is intended to be in place for 3 years. This includes an estimated £0.200m for additional SEND support although the actual cost is subject to development of job roles and subsequent evaluation of the grades appropriate for those roles.

Assuming an implementation date of 1st September 2019, projected income and expenditure and the required budget allocation for Children's Services is shown in the table below.

	2018/19 Budget	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Expenditure						
Staffing	11.834	9.170	5.440	5.440	4.727	3.727
Other costs	1.146	0.924	0.613	0.613	0.586	0.548
Total	12.980	10.097	6.062	6.062	5.318	4.275
Funded by						
Re-pooled contributions from schools	3.483	1.272	-	-	-	-
Troubled Families Income	1.900	2.467	0.180	0.353	-	-
National Careers Service	0.260	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.075	-
School Careers Service	0.260	0.068	-	-	-	-
DSG – Central Allocation (Assumed to decline from 2020/21 at 10% per year. There is a risk that the DfE withdraw the funds at a faster rate)	1.737	1.737	1.563	1.390	1.216	1.042
DSG – High Needs and Early Years Block	1.465	0.235	-	-	-	-
Total Income	9.105	5.959	1.923	1.923	1.291	1.042
Net Council budget requirement	3.875	4.138	4.139	4.139	4.027	3.233

It can be seen from the table above that the proposals achieve a reduction in gross budgeted expenditure of £6.918m between 2018/19 and 2020/21 with a further reduction of £1.787m by 2023/24. The table also shows that the budgeted income is projected to reduce from £9.105m in the current year to an estimated £1.042m in 2023/24. There is a risk that the residual income from the DfE is withdrawn faster than indicated in the above table. Of this reduction in income, £3.055m will then be available to schools to develop their early help services and a further £0.565m will be retained within the Dedicated Schools Grant to fund provision for students with high levels of educational need and early years' provision.

The Adult Careers service provided by staff managed from Services for Teenagers will continue as part of the Transition team. The current annual direct cost (excluding overheads) of providing the service is £0.209m and this is funded by payments from Nottingham Futures of £0.180m each year, a net cost to the Authority of £0.029m.

The proposals within this paper enable a reduction in the net Council budget allocated to Early Help Services of £0.642m by 2023/24. They also reduce the current overspend against budget of £1.400m due to a shortfall in income and increase the sustainability of the service by aligning its size to the Council budget available to support the service and reducing its reliance on variable external income streams. The Authority recognises the importance of the transition team and is supporting the proposals within this report by increasing the budget allocation to the Early Help service by a total of £0.943m to fund this.

Further details of the financial effects of the proposals to establish a re-designed early help service and three year transition team are contained in the accompanying confidential Cabinet paper.

## **5. Legal Considerations**

Services to protect children, prevent children coming into care or to enable a sustained return home, or support children in need (including disabled children) are provided under Sections 47 and 17 of the Children Act 1989.

Section 42A of the Education Act 1997 requires governing bodies to ensure that all registered pupils at the school are provided with independent 13 careers guidance<sup>14</sup> from year 8 (12-13 year olds) to year 13 (17-18 year olds)

In delivering early help services, the Council must also comply with the Equality Act 2010 and in particular the Public Sector Equality Duty. The Council should give 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity and fostering good relations, in the exercising of its functions (such as early help). This need for 'due regard' specifically applies to nine protected characteristics set out in the Act, including age and disability. This ensures that the Council considers the needs of all individuals in shaping policy and delivering services and guarantees that the Council does not disadvantage individuals or groups.

An "Equality Impact Analysis" (EIA) has been developed in parallel with the consultation undertaken. Members' attention is drawn to the Analysis, attached as Appendix 7 to this report. The Analysis identified potential areas of adverse impact and the steps identified to mitigate part of the impact of the proposal are set out in the Analysis.

Insofar as the Equality Act 2010 is concerned, Cabinet Members are reminded that they are under a personal duty, when considering a decision, to have due regard to the need to protect and promote the interests of persons with protected characteristics (e.g. people who are vulnerable on account of age, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, race, disability, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation).

In order to discharge this duty, Cabinet Members are asked to read and give careful consideration to what is said in the report and the analysis of the potential adverse impacts of the proposed changes. Members should also consider for themselves the types of adverse impacts that could result from the proposed changes to the Early Help Service

Members are under a duty to consider whether these potential adverse impacts are justifiable and/or whether they should be mitigated and how. Members should also be aware that one of the available options to them is to decide it is not possible, because of the severity of the impact, to proceed with any or some of the proposals. In that event, it would be necessary for the Council to consider alternative ways of making savings.

Elected Members will also wish to be satisfied that the course of action proposed in the report enables the Council's statutory and contractual duties to continue to be met.

## **6. Social Value Considerations**

Development of community and family resilience to support vulnerable children and young people will be beneficial, including increasing positive parenting in Derbyshire. Key stakeholders will be consulted to review arrangements that can support this agenda. The council's vision is to develop robust partnership arrangements with all agencies across health, schools, communities and the voluntary sector. The proposals include key posts that will focus on supporting early help developments in agencies and local communities.

The proposals for the use of evidence based practice will further develop practitioners' skills around family based solutions, aiming to increase family resilience and a strength in community resilience.

## **7. Equality and Diversity Considerations**

An Equality Impact Analysis (EIA) has been completed (Appendix 1). The proposals have been reviewed based on the EIA and an action plan has been developed to reduce impact for protected groups and ongoing monitoring of impact will be carried out during the transition period.

## **8. Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

## **9. Background Papers**

- Remodelling Children's Social Work in Derbyshire 2017
- Council Budget Paper 2018
- Health and Social Care Services for 0-5 year olds 2018
- Care Leavers 2018
- Early Help Consultation 2018
- Services for Teenagers 2018
- Early Help Review Public Consultation Report November 2018
- Early Help Review Equalities Impact Assessment Analysis November 2018

## **10. Key Decision Yes**

## **11. Call-in**

Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report?      No

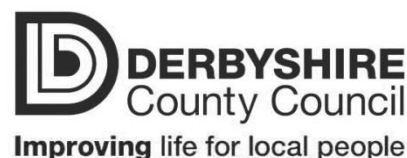
## **12. Officer's Recommendation**

- i) Approval is given for the amended proposals to include a Transition Team for 3 years. To take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.
- ii) Approval is given for the implementation of the proposed new arrangements to deliver targeted:
  - Early Help Family Support
  - Early Help Youth SupportTo take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019
- iii) Approval is given for implementing the proposed new arrangements for provision to support NEET/EET young people to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019
- iv) Approval is given to initiate a consultation with service users of the 'Donut Creative Arts Studio' (DCAS) Chesterfield, on the proposal of a community transfer of the building to 'Fairplay' Chesterfield.
- v) Approval is given for the proposed transfer of the current MAT SEND duties, to the SEND Locality Teams, along with appropriate budget allocation. (As set out in the financial considerations section)

**Jane Parfremment**  
**Strategic Director for Children's Services**

## Appendix 1

### Derbyshire County Council Equality Analysis



Department	Children's Services
Service Area	Early Help
Changes or proposals	Early Help Review
Chair of Analysis Team	Maureen Evans
Date of Analysis	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018
Version	V.2

## 1 Prioritising what is being analysed

### a Description of current service arrangements

Derbyshire County Council's current Early Help Service is delivered by 25 Multi Agency Teams (MATs) across the 6 Children Service localities and deliver a broad range of services. MATs currently deliver early help services for children, young people and families. The service provides support at different levels of need, some examples are outlined below.

- **Universal Provision:** Community based youth clubs, Youth Forums and local participation, parental advice and guidance, School Attendance Panels
- **Emerging Needs:** Early Help Assessments (EHA) and casework, parenting programmes, targeted school youth groups
- **Targeted Early Help:** EHA's and casework where needs are more significant or established, Evidenced Based Programmes (EBP's) parenting programmes and youth programmes
- **Statutory Duties:** parenting assessments where children are subject to statutory social work intervention and/or care proceedings, supervision of contact between children in care and birth family, missing children return home interviews, support and direction for NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) young people

At the time of the report, 4101 children receive support who have an allocated MAT worker and these children will have their needs assessed by using the 'Early Help Assessment' (EHA). The majority of children will then be supported by a multi-agency 'Team Around the Family' (TAF) and these professionals work with the family to deliver a child's plan.



Alongside this some teenagers receive individual support or attend youth activity groups in schools and community bases.

## **b Details of proposals or changes**

### **The council is proposing to:**

Make significant savings within the Early Help budget, so it will reduce from £12.9 million to £4.5 million by 2020. The savings will affect all of these services:

#### **Family Support:**

The Local Authority (LA) is proposing that in the future it will prioritise services for:

- Those who most need help to prevent harm to children, reduce family conflict and breakdown and to help parenting and family functioning receive priority for support.
- Signposting to a range of support services for parental advice and guidance including nutrition, help with mealtime and bedtime routines, love, care and attachment, safe boundaries and parenting groups, which could be available from national online services, local voluntary groups, schools and health.
- Existing families receiving a service would continue to be helped in the way they are now to avoid disruption, while new families requiring support would receive the new family support service.

#### **Youth Support:**

The Local Authority (LA) is proposing that in the future it will prioritise services for:

- Preventing harm to children and young people and helping them stay in education, employment or training and by doing so, support successful moves to adult life.
- Helping the county's most vulnerable teenagers to maximise their potential and move into adult life at college or work and also to develop good relationships with others.

This could mean that some of the local authority drop-in youth groups would close and we will prioritise supporting teenagers who most need help, using practice to deal with modern-day issues.

The new arrangements would deliver youth activities which concentrate on vulnerable teenagers including:

- Individual support with teenagers and their families
- Street-based youth work with groups of teenagers, to reduce risks of child exploitation and harm

- Small groups to support emotional wellbeing and resilience for teenagers and healthy relationships and sexual relationships advice

Existing young people receiving a service would continue to be helped in the way they are now to avoid disruption, while new young people requiring support would receive the new youth support service.

## **Careers**

The county council has up until now provided careers information, advice and guidance to some children aged 14 to 18 (or 25 for those with special needs or who are disabled). However, schools and colleges have a legal duty to provide careers education and independent careers information and guidance, this could lead to unnecessary duplication.

The council is therefore looking to schools and colleges to provide this advice themselves in future to their students from the range of alternative established providers in their local areas. However, the council would continue to provide careers advice for teenagers aged 16 to 18 (or 25 for those with special needs or who are disabled) who are not in education, employment or training.

The changes are proposed to come into place in September 2019 by which time work with current users will have ended.

## **c Rationale for proposed changes**

The Council's early help budget needs to be reduced to £4.5 million; this will mean making savings of £8.4million, however it is proposed that for the first three years a transition team will be established to support partners to develop their early help offer. There is proposed an additional budget of £1m x 3 years to undertake this work.

Schools currently contribute to the early help budget in a re-pooling of funds arrangements. Due to a range of issues impacting on this arrangement, schools are gradually reducing their contributions. The council is proposing to end this arrangement in September 2019 and schools would be supported in the three year transition period to develop their own early help offer.

Accordingly under these proposals, the council's Early Help service will be targeted towards children, young people and families, whose emerging needs are at higher levels of concern thresholds.

## 2 The team carrying out the analysis

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Area of expertise/role</i></b>
Maureen Evans	Principal Practitioner Early Help
Sara Lewis, Chris Milner, Tracey Genders, Emma Cantrill-Jones	Performance Officers
Dave Beris, Liz Morris, Doug Neeley, Nusrat Sohail, Kathryn Goodwin, Vicky Lee, Faye Edwards, Deborah Hadley, Rod Duncan, Adam Cope, Helen Smyth, Tammy Druce, Lisa Marriott	MAT Managers : Locality Reps

“PUBLIC”

### 3. Existing information and consultation based feedback

#### Sources of data and reason for using

<b>Source</b>	<b>Reason for using</b>
Children's Services Performance data	Current data on early help working MAT's performance (Quantative Data)
MAT Manager local feedback on current service delivery.	Feedback from current early MAT Managers (Qualitative) on delivery of services and partnership arrangements.
Early Help Review Public Consultation (Sept – November 2018)	Feedback from service users, partner agencies and professionals.
Schools Workshop Consultations ( November 2018)	Feedback from schools leadership teams.

#### 4 Known impact on different protected characteristic groups and any mitigation

##### Statutory

<p><b>Protected Group</b></p> <p><b>Age including children and families, older people</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Of the 3527 cases 33% were between the ages of 11 and 15. 19.1% were aged 0-4, 31.6% were 5-10 and 16.3% were 16 and above. When comparing against the Derbyshire population; the highest population is between the ages of 5 and 10 year olds at 32.2%. The population for ages 11-15 is 25.5%.</p> <p><b>Amber Valley:</b> Of the 497 cases 33.4% were between the ages of 11 and 15. 23.7% were aged 0-4, 28.8% were 5-10 and 14.1% were 16 and above. When comparing against the Amber Valley population; the highest population is between the ages of 5 and 10 year olds at 32.1%. The population for ages 11-15 is 25.7%.</p> <p><b>Bolsover &amp; North East Derbyshire:</b> Of the 952 cases 36.4% were between the ages of 5 and 10. 17.8% were aged 0-4, 33.4% were 11-15 and 12.4% were 16 and above. When comparing against the Bolsover North East Derbyshire population; the highest population is between the ages of 5 and 10 year olds at 32.3%.</p> <p><b>Chesterfield:</b> Of the 321 cases 29.9% were between the ages of 11 and 15. 19.9% were aged 0-4, 25.2% were 5-10 and 24.9% were 16 and above. When comparing against the Chesterfield population; the highest population is between the ages of 5 and 10 year olds at 32.6%. The population for ages 11-15 is 23.9%.</p>
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	<p><b>Erewash:</b> Of the 492 cases 33.7% were between the ages of 11 and 15. 15.2% were aged 0-4, 28.0% were 5-10 and 23.0% were 16 and above. When comparing against the Erewash population; the highest population is between the ages of 5 and 10 year olds at 32.6%. The population for ages 11-15 is 24.8%.</p> <p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> Of the 692 cases 34.2% were between the ages of 11 and 15. 17.3% were aged 0-4, 30.5% were 5-10 and 17.9% were 16 and above. When comparing against the High Peak and North Dales population; the highest population is between the ages of 5 and 10 year olds at 31.9%. The population for ages 11-15 is 26.7%.</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> Of the 573 cases 33.9% were between the ages of 5 and 10. 22.0% were aged 0-4, 31.8% were 11-15 and 12.4% were 16 and above. When comparing against the South Derbyshire and South Dales population; the highest population is between the ages of 5 and 10 year olds at 32.2%.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback– who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> 50% (approx 1764) of families provided with early help casework will benefit from accessing a more targeted provision which is outlined within the proposals. Moving forward our proposals mean that approximately 1764 families would not receive a service directly from our early help teams. They would be offered support by partner agencies and signposted to a range of services e.g. national online parenting support services, local voluntary groups and multiagency delivered parenting groups etc.</p>

	<p>The Partner agencies have expressed a number of concerns regarding the capacity to provide a comprehensive early help offer for families. Schools and health agencies have raised their concerns about the capacity to provide an early help offer (see consultation report).</p> <p>Whilst the schools will not be re-pooling their contributions to the MATs, some small primary schools expressed their concern about capacity to respond to children's emerging needs.</p> <p>Community Safety partnerships anticipate an impact on the community which is served by MATs. There is a risk that there will be no detached youth work which will impact on emerging community needs, such as Anti-Social Behavior (ASB) or Risks of Child Exploitation (CRE).</p> <p>Health professionals raise concern that reduction in mental health/emotional wellbeing services currently provided by MATs will impact on children and could escalate concerns in schools, social care and Children and Adolescents Mental Health Services (CAMHS).</p> <p>Partner agencies have raised concerns that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MATs provide family support to address inter-parental conflict and strategies to reduce domestic abuse. A reduction of services will negatively impact on accessible services for families.</li> <li>• MATs provide family support for families of children who electively home educate and families of children who are excluded from mainstream education these services will be reduced. It could lead to isolation and additional vulnerability of children not in mainstream education.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Consultation Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60% of respondents strongly disagree and 15% tend to disagree with proposals to change the way Family Support Services operate</li> <li>• 66% of respondents strongly disagree and 12% tend to disagree with proposals to change the way Youth Support Services are provided</li> </ul>
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- 49% of respondents strongly disagree and 16% tend to disagree with proposals to change the way Careers Services are provided

**Amber Valley:**

Schools have expressed concerns as they anticipate a reduction in parenting support groups (5 currently being provided within Amber Valley) which will increase needs/support upon school staff/resources.

**Bolsover & North East Derbyshire:**

Some communities will not benefit from the detached youth work that currently takes place – as a result of this ASB may increase. There are also cuts in community Policing so this will have an even greater impact on our communities.

Schools have been very clear in EH clusters and within the LCP that they will not be able to provide the same level of service to their vulnerable families following the Early Help Review and its ultimate outcome.

CAMHS and GPs are unable to provide the level of support required to meet the needs of children and young people with low level mental ill health – and currently Early Help teams meet this need despite the commissioning of Future in Mind. There are currently government initiatives to increase mental health support for children in schools, this will hopefully fill any future gaps which may appear in service for vulnerable children.

Safe Speak (Children's counselling service) currently have waiting lists of around 8 months before they can offer support to families by which time they could be in crisis. Early Help Teams support children and young people with opportunities to discuss their feelings at a tier 2 threshold. It is envisaged that schools clustering to provide their own early help and implementing new mental health support initiatives will enable children to access a service in the future.



**Chesterfield:**

In Chesterfield we have a proactive Locality Children's Partnership (LCP) which offers positive partnership working to support the diverse needs within the community. There is a willingness to share resources and work together to address those needs using solution focused sub groups with a commitment to positive outcomes for families.

Examples of the work:

- Young People developed and produced a film addressing the dangers of sexting.
- A partnership approach to discouraging young people from being in the Town Centre at night and from attending a Chesterfield night club which was considered unsafe for under 18s.
- A locality wide training programme for Y5 and Y6 students and the professionals that support them on online safety.
- Working together to address the concerns surrounding a gang culture developing in Brimington and Staveley.
- Working with schools health and public health to offer a mental health pilot within the locality.

**Erewash:**

MAT Managers have raised concern that currently Erewash has a 16 to 18 year old cohort of 2150, of which 39 (1.8%) are known to be NEET who currently would be provided with careers advice for teenagers along with additional support to overcome any barriers to engage in the learning participation age requirements.

Erewash Personal Advisors (PAs) currently provide Careers Advice to 15-16 year olds who attend the Erewash and Amber Valley Student Support Centre, alongside additional work to support post-16 transition. However, schools and colleges are fulfilling their legal duty to provide careers education and independent careers information and guidance for 14-18 year olds. Additional support, including Information Advice and Guidance, comes from PAs, in partnership with schools, for those identified as having Risk of NEET Indicators (RONI).

Key issues identified by both agencies, including the local safety partnership, and the children/young people themselves is:

- Substance misuse (by the children themselves but also its impact upon them from parent usage) internet safety and bullying
- ASB and particularly in Erewash, increasing fear of blades being carried, incidents of knife crime and many children admitting to carrying blades for self-protection
- Emotional wellbeing and links to self-harm

All the Long Eaton and Sandiacre reach secondary schools have held joint multi agency meetings, led by MAT, to tackle the growing concerns regarding substance misuse in schools, which has had a direct link to a number of permanent exclusions. This resulted in agreed approaches, agency input and staff training.

The Youth Workers operate targeted sessions in the community as part of detached work, tackling issues such as ASB, substance misuse and relationships.

This is further supported by group sessions based in the remaining Youth Centre provision and in schools. As well as the above issues, there has been a particular focus on tackling low self-esteem, which has been linked to self-harm, and general emotional wellbeing. This includes developing partnership work with CAMHS. A lot of the sessions have been gender specific. In addition, Erewash has operated a group supporting 8-11 year olds in late afternoon sessions. This is primarily a self-esteem group, but has tackled relationships, low levels of self-harm and emotional wellbeing. All those children who attend have been identified via the MAT, in partnership with schools – including some on individual caseloads.

#### **High Peak & North Dales:**

There are several areas of work that may not meet the threshold for a targeted service, e.g. school attendance, school readiness, early intervention with parenting, mediation between parents and schools to ensure the needs of some students are met that are likely to no longer provided. This is likely to be at both primary and secondary age, but it is anticipated that most impact will be at the transition between the two. However, it is felt likely that less Early Help resource will impact on all school age children.

	<p>There is concern that families will be affected with loss of resource to advocate, coordinate services, and liaise with schools and other organisations offering educational provision</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> This locality is experiencing an increase in referrals for children aged 5 -10 years and work closely with partners to provide the most effective response. The future proposals will impact on capacity to continue this work.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Performance data indicates that the service currently undertakes too many Early Help Assessments (EHA) with families and 28% of EHA's lead to no further action and a further 22% of EHA's lead to a single action response to support families. This would indicate that 50% of families could be supported with support from other agencies and signposting to appropriate support services.</p> <p>The proposals include a 3 year transition plan which is designed to support partner agencies to develop their own early help offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools will retain their current contributions to early help REHO re-pooling. This will enable school clusters to employ family support practitioners and deliver an early help offer to families and children.</li> <li>• It is proposed to create a transition team and introduce new posts to support agencies to deliver early help work (Early Help Advisor) and support community development and voluntary/parent led groups (Youth &amp; Community Engagement Worker)</li> </ul> <p>Our core offer will be targeted early help teams based in localities and continue to deliver a targeted early help offer.</p>

- We will develop targeted Early Help Teams, that will:
  - Work with partners to deliver parenting programmes and youth programmes
  - Focus on casework for family support or youth support, where emerging needs are entrenched and aim to prevent escalation to CiN.
- Schools and Learning Dept will be expected to provide a range of traded service options for schools to support their school attendance work.

Locality feedback from across the county demonstrates how we can work across partnerships to address a range of issues to provide early help work with communities and families (see below)

**Chesterfield:**

In Chesterfield we have had to re-evaluate the way we work with schools, as a number have already opted out of re-pooling funds for MAT support and have employed their own early help staff. As a result the MATs are meeting regularly with all Chesterfield schools to offer professional development and advice. An invaluable aspect of this work has been the return to positive relationships with our schools, this provides two way communication and timely appropriate information sharing.

This model of operating in Chesterfield has demonstrated how the new proposals could work with schools and we can learn from this practice moving forward with schools.

**Erewash:**

All the Long Eaton and Sandiacre secondary schools are part of a joint multi agency group, led by MAT, to tackle the growing concerns of substance misuse in schools, which has had a direct link to a number of permanent exclusions. This resulted in agreed approaches, agency input and staff training. This is a good example of partnership working to tackle a specific issue, which has been MAT led but which may need to have leadership taken over by schools.

	<p>In addition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective Partnership Working within Locality</li> <li>• Building upon Multi Agency Meetings led by schools</li> <li>• Volunteer and Peer Support Groups.</li> <li>• Increased use of existing services to delivery provision such as schools/health</li> <li>• Using joint venues for more efficient service provision</li> <li>• Profile of existing provision to avoid duplication and maximise resources</li> <li>• Greater scope of traded service model and income generation</li> </ul> <p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b>  The HPND Locality Children's Partnership (LCP) is active and includes representation from a wide range of services and organisations, including schools. Training is already being offered to schools in some of the areas described above. It is felt that the LCP could be pivotal in identifying early help training needs and offering appropriate training being offered by partner organisations as a collective approach to offering Early Help Services.</p> <p>At the request of the LCP, some mapping work has already been undertaken to identify alternative sources of help and support for children and families in the VCI sector.</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b>  The LCP (Locality Children's Services) is structured to include a wide representation of partner agencies including: health, education and private, community and voluntary sector. The identified priorities accurately reflect the needs of children, young people and families in this locality across the age range from 5 to 18. As such there are a number of partner led initiatives such as the Incredible Years Parenting programme.</p> <p>Increasingly Primary Schools are employing their own family support workers to deliver support with emerging needs.</p>
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<p><b><i>Protected Group</i></b></p> <p><b>Disabled people including mobility, sensory, learning, mental health, HIV, and also include carers and relatives</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Of the 3527 cases we estimate that 5.8% (204) of children may be disabled. The estimated percentage of disabled children in Derbyshire is 4.2%</p> <p><b>Amber Valley:</b> Of the 497 cases we estimate that 4.4% of children may be disabled. The estimated percentage of disabled children in Amber Valley is 4.2%</p> <p><b>Bolsover &amp; North East Derbyshire:</b> Of the 952 cases we estimate that 6.6% of children may be disabled. The estimated percentage of disabled children in Bolsover North East Derbyshire is 4.2%</p> <p><b>Chesterfield:</b> Of the 321 cases we estimate that 5.6% of children may be disabled. The estimated percentage of disabled children in Chesterfield is 4.2%</p> <p><b>Erewash:</b> Of the 492 cases we estimate that 6.3% of children may be disabled. The estimated percentage of disabled children in Erewash is 4.2%</p> <p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> Of the 692 cases we estimate that 6.4% of children may be disabled. The estimated percentage of disabled children in High Peak and North Dales is 4.2%</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> Of the 573 cases we estimate that 4.7% of children may be disabled. The estimated percentage of disabled children in South Derbyshire and South Dales is 4.2%</p>
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**b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback – who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?**

**Derbyshire:**

The new service would prioritise the needs of disabled children and continue to work closely with social care to support disabled children and their families.

Currently MATs contribute to a range of service offers for disabled children and children with emerging mental health needs. Partners from Health and schools have identified some areas where MATs provide early intervention:

- Family Support for children who are pre or post ASD assessment.
- Youth activity groups for children with disabilities.
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health support for young people.

The proposals do retain targeted support for children with disabilities but the service will need to improve signposting to other support services, as it is likely our reduced service will impact on the area of self-help support for families of children pre assessment of disability.

**Amber Valley:**

Children and young people who have low level mental health or need an Education, Health and Care post 16 plans (EHC8) will be adversely be effected.

Amber Valley currently has an Open Door Youth Activity Group located in Heanor which provides targeted support for vulnerable young people with disabilities.

**Bolsover & North East Derbyshire:**

MATs identified some specific areas of work which might be impacted:

- Mental health safety plan and risk assessment

- Support from young people with special educational needs (SEND) with getting EHCPs (Education, Health & Care Plans)
- Support for young people to get EHC8s (Education, Health & Care; post 16 transition planning)
- Identification and support of young carers

#### **Erewash:**

MATs currently provide support to the Special Need schools in Erewash, however most of the children do not live within Erewash and may live in Derbyshire, Derby City or Nottinghamshire this school based offer will be reviewed. As the re-pooling funds for early help will cease, these schools would be in a position to establish their own early help service to support children whilst at school.

#### **High Peak & North Dales:**

A large proportion of cases being referred to MAT are about behavioural issues with a high proportion of ASD/ADHD cases. Pre and post diagnosis, MATs are offering support to families via casework but largely through parent support groups (that have been established by MATs). There is a gap within service for parents from going through the diagnosis and understating the process, evidence collation and using certain parenting strategies to avoid crisis within families. Following diagnosis, lack of provision within the area to continue to support families through various development key milestones in the child/young person's life.

There are currently a number of cases where parents/siblings have disabilities and children are taking on caring responsibilities. (In a lot of cases, parent's mental health is the issue). MATs are offering support, completing EHAs to refer to Young Carers. Again, issues of the rurality impacts on the difficult to establish support groups. This in turn can leave young carers isolated within the community. Young Carers service will need to develop a more effective outreach service in rural areas to support these young people.



**c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist**

**Derbyshire:**

The proposals will not alter the priority in Early Help to support children with disabilities.

The council is also reviewing the SEND services and this will focus on ensuring children with education health and care (EHC) plans, receive the appropriate service from the authority.

At the time of this analysis Children's Services is working with key partners to improve intervention pathways and maximise access to services:

- Children's Health STP Board is reviewing the pathway for ASD assessment to reduce the waiting lists and provide families with support.
- Future in Mind is reviewing pathways for access to early help mental health services and developments around school support strategies for children is being implemented.
- Children's Services has identified the need to review support for children with SEN needing EHC8 plans in mainstream schools.

This would mean that multi agency intervention pathways will help to maximise resources and reduce duplication of service offer.

The council is planning to provide targeted youth activities specifically for children with disabilities and work with key stakeholders to maximise resources.

Across some localities we already have a range of community partnerships to support children with disabilities. Our proposals includes youth and community engagement to support voluntary led groups and work with the VCI sector.

Examples of effective partnerships are listed below:

**Erewash:**

To build upon developed partnership working including the voluntary sector. Erewash is already piloting the Thriving Families approach, particularly in Cotmanhay. Please note that currently this very much Early Help led and supported.

**High Peak & North Dales:**

It is hoped that the parent support groups that have been established can be maintained and made self-sustaining through volunteers and parents.

LCP has already offered some training for parents to help them understand some mental health conditions, and also worked with schools to offer training, e.g., Mental Health first aid, Autism awareness and various topics on mental health issues – anxiety, depression, self-harm etc.

It is anticipated that there will be additional funding provided via Health for mental health services for young people, to enhance the limited school counselling support offered in some schools. However, there may still be a gap in services in terms of parental support and the communication between mental health support and family to ensure consistent support and systemic change occurs in the family home to prevent family breakdown.

**South Derbyshire & South Dales:**

There are a range of partnership arrangements and VCI services that support children with disabilities and mental health issues:

- Trent PTS/Talking Heads- parental mental health services
- Current project in John Port Spencer Academy to align all the services providing emotional wellbeing support and create a clear pathway for referral, reducing duplication.
- ACE Youth Trust (Ashbourne) has just been awarded an Action Grant of 10,000 to deliver 121 and group therapeutic work.
- Disabled children's groups: Little Shout and Shout Out in the Woodville and Swadlincote area.

<p><b><i>Protected Group</i></b></p> <p><b>Gender (Sex) including men and women, boys and girls</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Of the 3527 cases 55.6% were males and 43.7% were females. A small proportion were unknown with the majority of these being unborn children. When comparing against the Derbyshire population; the highest percentage are males at 51.1% with females at 48.9%.</p> <p><b>Amber Valley:</b> Of the 497 cases 55.7% were males and 43.7% were females. A small proportion were unknown with the majority of these being unborn children. When comparing against the Amber Valley population; the highest percentage are males at 51.2% with females at 48.8%.</p> <p><b>Bolsover &amp; North East Derbyshire:</b> Of the 952 cases 56.9% were males and 42.9% were females. A small proportion were unknown with the majority of these being unborn children. When comparing against the Bolsover North East Derbyshire population; the highest percentage are males at 50.5% with females at 49.5%.</p> <p><b>Chesterfield:</b> Of the 321 cases 54.5% were males and 44.9% were females. A small proportion were unknown with the majority of these being unborn children. When comparing against the Chesterfield population; the highest percentage are males at 50.9% with females at 49.1%.</p> <p><b>Erewash:</b> Of the 492 cases 54.7% were males and 44.5% were females. A small proportion were unknown with the majority of these being unborn children. When comparing against the Erewash population; the highest percentage are males at 51.8% with females at 48.2%.</p>
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	<p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> Of the 692 cases 55.2% were males and 44.2% were females. A small proportion were unknown with the majority of these being unborn children. When comparing against the High Peak and North Dales population; the highest percentage are males at 50.8% with females at 49.2%.</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> Of the 573 cases 55.3% were males and 43.5% were females. A small proportion were unknown with the majority of these being unborn children. When comparing against the South Derbyshire and South Dales population; the highest percentage are males at 51.5% with females at 48.5%.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback – who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> The overall access to current services in MATs is slightly disproportionate to the population gender split.</p> <p>We do have a range of gender based youth groups which provide gender discreet support and usually focus on improving self-esteem, emotional wellbeing and healthy sexual relationships. There is a clear evidence base to this form of targeted youth support and this approach to early help will be supported in the proposed new arrangements. A range of examples are listed below.</p> <p><b>Amber Valley:</b> The gender based Youth Groups located in Amber Valley provide a specific role for targeted and referred children based on need, e.g. anxiety, autism, socialisation and their vulnerability, e.g. physical health, emotional health, excluded, at risk of being a victim, electively home educated, under out of school tuition or identified as socially isolated.</p>

	<p>The groups cater for children who would not access school based support or universal groups. The groups are gender specific due to the need to discuss health, sexual health issues and develop self-esteem and confidence in a safe environment.</p> <p><b>Bolsover &amp; North East Derbyshire:</b> Boys from disadvantaged communities are currently supported by targeted Youth Groups delivered through the Early Help Teams (Friday Night Football, Tea Time for Boys, diversionary activities).</p> <p>The vulnerability of girls aged 11-16 in the locality – currently supported by targeted Youth Groups delivered through Early Help Teams</p> <p><b>Erewash:</b> Significant number of MAT cases have a gender related issue and are being supported particularly in terms of low self-esteem, self-harm, emotional wellbeing, sexual health and relationships.</p> <p>There have been gender specific groups run in schools, led by MAT, mostly through the Youth Workers. In addition there are specific girls and boys groups run, which are in receipt of targeted support and have a focus on mental health.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> There will be an overall 50% reduction of provision which is due to the service reduction. It is unknown the exact impact on gender specific work, as we would prioritise this work with our most vulnerable children.</p> <p>The proposed new arrangements will not disproportionately impact on girls or boys and we will continue to deliver gender specific work, as part of our early help offer, e.g.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender based youth groups for improving self-esteem, emotional wellbeing and healthy sexual relationships.</li> <li>• Family support work will seek to proactively involve fathers (where it is appropriate)</li> </ul>
<b>Protected Group</b>  <b>Gender reassignment – including impact, if any, on transgender people</b>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b>  The Early Help Services currently support children and families with Gender Dysphoria (distress experienced when a person does not identify with their assigned gender), within early help casework and LGBT+ youth groups. The number of children experiencing this is difficult to quantify but we are aware that there is an increase in children experiencing Gender Dysphoria.</p>

	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback – who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> The proposals will not lead to a specific impact for this group of young people but we do need to work with partner agencies to ensure we all continue understanding the appropriate support available within health, schools and children’s services.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Support for children with Gender Dysphoria has increased as society and professionals understanding of how this impacts on child development has developed. We will continue to work with health and schools to support children who may need targeted early help support for Gender Dysphoria, if it is appropriate for children’s services to be involved.</p> <p>Children and families are able to seek appropriate health and school support to navigate the challenges of Gender Dysphoria without interventions from children’s services.</p>
<p><b>Protected Group</b></p> <p><b>Race – including all racial groups, including impact, if any, on Gypsies and Travellers</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Of the 3527 cases 86.1% were White British and 13.9% were from other ethnic minority groups. Of those 1% were Other Mixed Background. When comparing against the Derbyshire population; 94.7% of the population are White British.</p>

	<p><b>Amber Valley:</b> Of the 497 cases 88.5% were White British and 11.5% were from other ethnic minority groups. Of those 1.6% were Any Other White. When comparing against the Amber Valley population; 95.6% of the population are White British.</p> <p><b>Bolsover &amp; North East Derbyshire:</b> Of the 952 cases 86.7% were White British and 13.3% were from other ethnic minority groups. Of those 1.2% were Other Mixed Background. When comparing against the Bolsover North East Derbyshire population; 95.6% of the population are White British.</p> <p><b>Chesterfield:</b> Of the 321 cases 83.1% were White British and 16.9% were from other ethnic minority groups. Of those 1.6% were Other Mixed Background. When comparing against the Chesterfield population; 93.1% of the population are White British.</p> <p><b>Erewash:</b> Of the 492 cases 87.2% were White British and 12.8% were from other ethnic minority groups. Of those 1.6% were Mixed: White/Caribbean. When comparing against the Erewash population; 94.1% of the population are White British.</p> <p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> Of the 692 cases 89.1% were White British and 10.9% were from other ethnic minority groups. Of those 1% were Other Mixed Background. When comparing against the High Peak and North Dales population; 95.8% of the population are White British.</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> Of the 573 cases 80.5% were White British and 19.5% were from other ethnic minority groups. Of those 1.9% were Mixed: White/Asian. When comparing against the South Derbyshire and South Dales population; 92.9% of the population are White British.</p>
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**b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback – who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?**

**Derbyshire:**

The higher representative of families from ethnic minority groups represented within our case-work does indicate some groups are impacted by aspects of disadvantage within society. We do have specific areas of work to support traveller children and in some localities this may explain the higher representation, e.g. South Derbyshire and North East Derbyshire.

We also have youth workers who deliver programmes with teenagers to prevent the development of extremism.

Some examples are listed below from the localities.

**Amber Valley:**

Within Amber Valley, there are active far right groups (White Nationalist). The early help services youth provision works address young people's political attitudes to prevent extremism.

Families which require support around the effects of 'Hate Crime' may be adversely affected as they might not be able to access early help if it is not promoted at a community level.

**Bolsover & North East Derbyshire:**

Gypsy and Traveller children are supported by a group 'Showman's Guild' – youth workers based in Pinxton and South Normanton work in partnership with this voluntary group.

Children Missing Education (CME) work by Early Helps Teams is offered to Gypsy and Traveller children

	<p><b>Erewash:</b> 97% of the whole Erewash population is White. The next largest population was Asian at 1%, with the next group being Mixed/Multiple at approximately 1%. There are no known sites exclusively for Travellers within the area. However, there is a Marina in the Sawley area, which at times has been home to families who access the education and support provision in the nearby town of Long Eaton.</p> <p>Currently in Erewash, only low numbers of young people have been referred to Prevent (safeguarding against terrorism).</p> <p>There have been limited reported incidents of children and families being affected by racial harassment/bullying.</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> We believe that the high level of children supported ethnic minority cases as against the locality percentage is due to the number of established gypsy and traveller sites in the area. The MATs support a number of gypsy and traveller children on transit sites and privately owned sites in the locality.</p> <p>The locality has experienced an increase in families requiring support as asylum seekers and MATs provide family support services as part of the child's plan.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> The proposed new arrangements will not impact on any racial groups. However, due to aspects of isolation for some families in Derbyshire, it will require us to continue working with partners to ensure that early identification of any families with emerging needs is achieved. The newly developed locality partnerships for 'Children at Risk of Exploitation' (CRE) will also increase the intelligence around potential grooming of children by extremist groups and we</p>

	are able to provide robust links to the PREVENT panel. These panels have key representatives from police, community safety, education, health and social care and they are tasked with early identification of vulnerable children and families. The future arrangements for early help and safeguarding will prioritise providing support appropriately for these children.
<b>Protected Group</b>  <b>Religion and belief including non-belief, including religious minority communities, Humanists</b>	<b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b>  <b>Derbyshire:</b> Officers working in the MATs play an important role in challenge oppressive practice of some extreme religious doctrines, e.g. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and extremism. All officers would challenge oppressive practice and youth workers proactively raise awareness to the impact of oppressive doctrines and extremism.
	<b>b Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b>  <b>Derbyshire:</b> This work would be able to continue under the proposals.
<b>Protected Group</b>  <b>Sexual orientation – including the impact, if any, on any lesbian, gay and bisexual people</b>	<b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b>  <b>Derbyshire:</b> Across the county MATs have developed some LGBT+ support groups and this is also in partnership with specialist LGBT+ voluntary organisations who support the LGBT+ community and schools. This has included:  <b>Amber Valley:</b> There is an LGBT Group provided by the Alfreton MAT for young people.

	<p><b>Erewash:</b> Erewash has gained a public health grant to establish an LGBT+ support group, to be run in partnership with MATs.</p> <p>LGBT+ group has formed a growing percentage of early help cases and again increasingly part of issue raised by schools. Children/Young People with a full range of issues, from gender identity to sexual orientation, are being supported</p> <p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> HPND early help are currently offering one session per month in a Buxton youth club (Fairfield) for LGBT+ young people. This group is attended by young people from across the locality, from Glossop to Matlock.</p> <p>There have previously been some issues around homophobic bullying that MATs have helped to address. (Overall, there are indications that hate crime in the area may be on the increase)</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> We currently support two LGBT youth groups in the locality, one in Swadlincote and one in Ashbourne. This support is seen as a priority to prevent isolation and provide peer support for young people.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback – who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> The public consultation has had strong representation from various youth groups requesting that their provision continues.</p>

	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Under the proposals this work will continue. Alongside this the LGBT plus group in Derby City will be setting up a new group in the Swadlincote area within the next 12 months and we will continue to signpost young people to appropriate provision.</p>
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<p><b>Poorer and disadvantaged communities and groups, including people who experience financial exclusion (Non statutory)</b></p>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Of the 3527 cases 41.5% are living in the top 30% of deprived areas in Derbyshire. When comparing against the Derbyshire population; 24.6% of the population reside in one of the top 30% deprived areas.</p> <p><b>Amber Valley:</b> Of the 497 cases 36.8% are living in the top 30% of deprived areas in Amber Valley. When comparing against the Amber Valley population; 20.9% of the population reside in one of the top 30% deprived areas.</p> <p><b>Bolsover &amp; North East Derbyshire:</b> Of the 952 cases 53.7% are living in the top 30% of deprived areas in Bolsover North East Derbyshire. When comparing against the Bolsover North East Derbyshire population; 30.2% of the population reside in one of the top 30% deprived areas.</p> <p><b>Chesterfield:</b> Of the 321 cases 54.2% are living in the top 30% of deprived areas in Chesterfield. When comparing against the Chesterfield population; 47.5% of the population reside in one of the top 30% deprived areas.</p>
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	<p><b>Erewash:</b> Of the 492 cases 48.0% are living in the top 30% of deprived areas in Erewash. When comparing against the Erewash population; 31.2% of the population reside in one of the top 30% deprived areas.</p> <p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> Of the 692 cases 32.5% are living in the top 30% of deprived areas in High Peak and North Dales. When comparing against the High Peak and North Dales population; 12.2% of the population reside in one of the top 30% deprived areas.</p> <p>Although HPND is one of the more affluent areas of Derbyshire there are some pockets of deprivation across the locality, including Gamesley, Fairfield, New Mills and Hurst Farm in Matlock.</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> Of the 573 cases 23.6% are living in the top 30% of deprived areas in South Derbyshire and South Dales. When comparing against the South Derbyshire and South Dales population; 9.4% of the population reside in one of the top 30% deprived areas.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback – who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> The early help service delivers family support and youth support to families with emerging needs and this has been described in previous sections. In addition to our casework and targeted group work currently MAT's work with local community leaders that have identified concern for families in poorer and disadvantaged communities. Partnership working is needed to maximise a coordinated response in these communities and currently MATs have staff who are able to attend community meetings and develop community based responses to needs identified in disadvantaged communities.</p>

	<p>Examples from across the county are listed below:</p> <p><b>Amber Valley:</b>  A large number of families who are referred also require a package of support which includes budgeting, financial advice, progress to work, EET opportunities for parents and young people.</p> <p>Ironville young people have MAT evening youth activity groups to support them in a disadvantaged and rurally isolated community.</p> <p><b>Bolsover &amp; North East Derbyshire:</b>  Loss of direct support for Benefits advice, emergency financial/practical support (food parcels when food banks not available)  Signposting vulnerable families to support services including CAB and Chesterfield Law Centre  Supporting families with budgeting and dealing with the impact of challenges with Universal Credit.</p> <p><b>Chesterfield:</b>  <i>Night Time Economy</i>  Chesterfield is a very different town at night, for a variety of reasons, the issues for all agencies have recently increased. Young people and vulnerable adults not only from Chesterfield, arrive from across the local boroughs to congregate in the Town Centre, locality resources have been focused on keeping young people safe and offering positive activities. On-going distraction techniques are used to divert young people from the Town Centre to alternative venues which enable staff to provide interventions leading to positive learning outcomes.</p> <p><i>Knife and Gang Culture</i>  In a specific area of Chesterfield Borough we have an ongoing challenge keeping young people safe. Young People are meeting in large groups and are being identified as a gang,</p>
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we know that this is driven by an ever increasing drug culture, this is having a significant Behaviour effect on community cohesion.

This gang culture is feeding anti-social behaviour, family breakdown, offending behaviours, an increase in young people's drug use and knife crime. Professionals are working together to share intelligence and information, to map the young people and to provide distraction activities

**Erewash:**

Erewash was the first area in Derbyshire to have Universal Credits in place which caused difficulties for a number of families

Currently MAT is a facilitator to the local food banks.

Significant numbers of cases have support around budgeting and receive financial advice through referrals to CAB, who currently run weekly appointments in a Children Centre.

Early Help in Erewash works with and/or signposts to other agencies, critically with DWP, to address out of work and benefit related issues.

Where cases have been closed from Early Help support requirements, the issue of "Adults out of work or at risk of financial exclusion" continues to be challenging for family stability.

**High Peak & North Dales:**

There have been an increasing number of disadvantaged children who have been excluded from school and MATs have worked with them and their families to reduce this level of vulnerability from exclusion.

A large proportion of referrals to do with parents who have difficulties with alcohol or drug dependency, mental health issues and domestic abuse, come from areas that have higher levels of deprivation

**South Derbyshire & South Dales**

The impact of poverty and lack of social mobility is evident in Newhall and Woodville areas and MATs work in partnership with district initiatives, e.g. Aspirations project and foodbanks to support families.



	<p>It is particularly challenging for poor families in isolated rural communities and MATs work with ACE in Ashbourne, to provide outreach support.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b>  Within the proposals new arrangements to support community based services are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth &amp; Community Engagement Workers will be able to engage in community based initiatives, supporting volunteers and signposting to support services, e.g. food banks.</li> <li>• Youth action grants are available to communities to deliver youth activities.</li> <li>• Signposting to CAB and other financial support services will continue.</li> <li>• We will retain links with our DWP representatives to support families with benefit claims, employability workshops and transition issues to universal credit.</li> </ul> <p>The posts within the transition team will ensure there is limited impact within this area of work.</p> <p>The emerging community based youth concerns regarding night time economy, knife and gang culture will be addressed within the locality 'Children at Risk of Exploitation' (CRE) partnership panels and these are jointly led by police and social care.</p>
<b>Rural communities</b>	<p><b>a From existing data and information – who is likely to be adversely affected, how, and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit from the proposals?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b>  Schools and MATs in rural areas have highlighted their concern for vulnerable children and families impacted by rural isolation.</p>

	<p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> Due to HPND being predominantly of a rural nature, there is lack of services to support families with various emerging needs. Some children, young people and families are rurally isolated due to lack of personal or public transport to access services for appointments and support when needed.</p> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b> This locality covers a significant number of rural communities and the referrals we receive do have a direct correlation to the issues resulting from living in these communities including transport and access to other statutory and non-statutory services.</p>
	<p><b>b From existing customer and other feedback including consultation feedback – who is likely to be adversely affected, how and to what degree? Will anyone gain or benefit?</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b> Rural schools are small with teaching headteachers and limited pastoral support. These schools would need to cluster together to fund posts to develop a school early help offer. Travel to access services can limit families' access to some parenting support groups. Urban solutions to issues do not always translate into rural areas due to the economy of scale and at the moment we are unable to predict any potential levels of adverse impact of the proposals.</p> <p><b>Amber Valley:</b> There is a number of isolated communities within Amber Valley, these include Ironville, Crich, Alport, Hulland Ward where there is a difficulty transport with and current need for outreach services which are provided by Early Help.</p> <p><b>High Peak &amp; North Dales:</b> The transition from small rural schools to large secondary is a concern with some children not able to complete this successfully. Young people who are identified as struggling within</p>

	<p>mainstream and needing to access alternative provision are limited due to the geography affecting available options, in turn making them more socially isolated.</p> <p>There is limited access to support groups due to the travel distance, times of transport and the costs this incurs.</p> <p>Mental health support for New Mills – Wirksworth is in Chesterfield at the Den. For Glossop, NHS provision is accessed via Tameside, so access is again an issue. Often the waiting lists for intervention are lengthy for CAMHS support or to be assessed for a developmental condition. This leaves the family at crisis point for some length of time.</p>
	<p><b>c Are there any ways of avoiding or reducing likely possible adverse impact, what are those actions, and how will they assist</b></p> <p><b>Derbyshire:</b></p> <p>Early Help service need to continually seek new methods for service delivery to rurally isolated children and families to access services. In our proposals we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting online advice, guidance and information websites for families. These sites also include individual support lines, e.g. <a href="http://familylives.org.uk">familylives.org.uk</a></li> <li>• Our offer of parenting programmes will rotate around venues to provide better access for families.</li> <li>• We will support schools to identify school clustering arrangements to enable them to create their own school early help offer within their area</li> <li>• Starting Point, the council's referral centre for children's services, provides a professionals advice and guidance service and will provide support to rural schools.</li> </ul> <p><b>South Derbyshire &amp; South Dales:</b></p> <p>Ashbourne has a very proactive voluntary sector providing a range of services to families and young people including: food banks, parenting courses, emotional wellbeing support.</p> <p>The transition team will work with partnerships in rural areas to continue to develop rural approaches to delivery.</p>

**5. Are there any *other* groups of people who may experience an adverse impact because of the proposals?**

Children who are permanently excluded from schools and those who are missing education.

Children whose family have opted for Elective Home Education

Families affected by substance misuse

Families affected by inter parental conflict

Children at risk of exploitation.

Children who are self-harming and injuring.

All of the above are captured in the information listed above but it has been raised by early help services and partners that the current MAT services have developed some expertise in these areas of preventative work and a reduction in services could lead to a lack of early identification.

The children will receive targeted early help under the new proposals and we will work with partners to encourage early identification of needs.

**6. Impact on employees of Derbyshire County Council or prospective employees**

The majority of the saving s will ultimately be achieved by reducing the size of the workforce delivering these services. Employees are likely to experience a period of stress and anxiety about their future employment. The council actively seeks to redeploy employees at risk, but it is possible that some staff could be made redundant.

## 7 Main Conclusions and Recommendations

### Conclusions:

The early help review does need to be set in context of the whole 'early help and safeguarding' system. Remodelling of social care in Derbyshire is building capacity and resilience in social care. This remodelling will improve all parts of the social care system and improve outcomes for children and families whose needs meet the Child in Need and Child Protection thresholds for service.

Early help is an important part of the whole system and research has evidenced that providing the right intervention at the right time can reduce the need for high cost social care services.

Early help is the responsibility of all agencies working with children and families; 'Working Together 2018' guidance on safeguarding children has set out clear responsibilities for all professionals to provide early help.

It is also clear from performance data that families in Derbyshire would benefit from low level early help provided by other agencies and this would be less intrusive approach, allowing families to find their own solutions.

The proposals within the early help review do mirror the service delivery models in neighbouring authorities, e.g. Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Derby City.

Early Help within Derbyshire currently is predominantly delivered by Children's Services. DCC has established a funding contribution from the majority of schools in the county. As this arrangement ends it will take time for schools to establish a schools early help offer. Likewise health partners are reviewing their arrangements to provide early help support to children and families.

If proposals are approved there is no doubt a reduction in the early help offer across the county and there needs to be a clear transition plan with partners to reduce the impact on children and families. Some key agreements on allocation of future resources does mitigate impact on some of the protected groups mentioned above:

### **3 year Transition Plan**

The proposals include a 3 year transition plan which is designed to support partner agencies to develop their own early help offer:

- Schools will retain their current contributions to early help REHO Re-pooling. This will enable school clusters to employ family support practitioners and deliver an early help offer to families and children.
- New posts are proposed to support agencies to deliver early help work (Early Help Advisor) and support community development and voluntary/parent led groups (Youth & Community Engagement Worker)

### **Children's Services targeted early help**

Our core offer will provide targeted early help teams based in localities and deliver a targeted early help offer.

- We will develop targeted Early Help Teams, that will:
  - Work with partners to deliver parenting programmes and youth programmes
  - Casework for family support or youth support ,where emerging needs are entrenched and aim to prevent escalation to CIN
- Schools & Learning service will provide a range of traded service options for schools to support their school attendance work.

The current youth activity for:

- Disabled Children
- LGBT+ Children
- Children with Gender based work to improve emotional wellbeing

The service must make significant savings which require a new set of priorities to be followed; this will see some children, young people and families who would today receive help and support, no longer receiving this support from Derbyshire County Council.

Even with robust partnership working to develop provision in other agencies there will be a change in early help services for families in Derbyshire.

A number of locally based youth clubs will be closed and a reduced capacity to deliver street based youth work will mean some young people will no longer receive a service from Derbyshire County Council.

The offer of a 3 year transition plan provides the ability to work with partners and maximise any new funding opportunities available through government schemes and support the VCI sector with external funding applications for early help projects.

The current proposals have considered the impact on protected groups and a range of strategies are to be implemented that will minimise the impact on these groups.

## 8. Action planning in response to the completed analysis

<b><i>Objective</i></b>	<b><i>Planned action</i></b>	<b><i>Who</i></b>	<b><i>When</i></b>	<b><i>How will this be monitored?</i></b>
<b>What you want to achieve</b>	<b>What you intend to do</b>	<b>Responsible person or department</b>	<b>Timing of action</b>	<b>Monitoring and review arrangements</b>
Implement the Early Help Review as set out in cabinet paper, review and monitor performance and impact. Escalate any risks or negative impact to the transition team plan for resolution.	The Early help project board to monitor the impact of implementing the Early Help review.	Childrens Services Director –Early Help & Safeguarding.	1 September 2019 ongoing for 3 years  1 September 2019	Monthly Early Help Project board will receive work stream group reports monitoring progress, impact and actions to resolve emerging issues.  Monthly performance reports and monitored at Childrens Performance management meetings.

Establish the new core early help service based in localities.	Implement the new service offer and deliver on the priorities for this service	Asst Director Early Help & Safeguarding	1 September 2019	Monitoring of Transition Team performance via monthly performance reports.
Establish the 3 year Transition Team to develop partnership delivery of early help services.	Implement multi agency early help development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information , Advice &amp; Guidance</li> <li>• Workforce Development within external agencies</li> <li>• Directory of local services</li> <li>• Manage externally funded early help projects</li> </ul>	Director Early help & Safeguarding		Quarterly reviews at the Derbyshire Childrens Partnership (DCP)  Quarterly DSCB Early Help Group monitoring of partnership developments.



## 9 Monitoring and review arrangements

Please outline what steps will be taken to monitor and review the implementation of proposals if they are agreed here:

Derbyshire Children's Services Early Help Service will produce monthly performance reports on activity and continue to evaluate the outcomes for children offered a service.

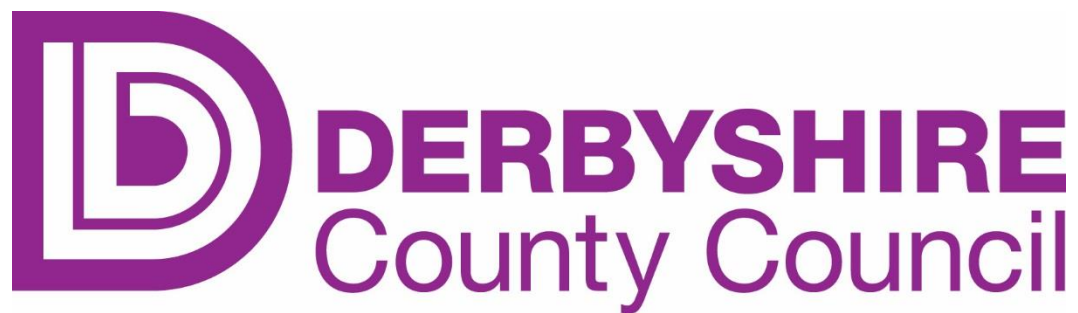
Derbyshire's Early Help project board will monitor the implementation of the proposals, redesign of early help services and oversee the delivery of the Transition Team activity.

Across the footprint of Derbyshire and Derby City key stakeholder boards have agreed an early help vision statement which will support strategic partnership developments.

Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Board (DSCB) will monitor partner agency development of early help services and review activity on a quarterly basis.

Derbyshire Children's Partnership (DCP) will monitor partner agency development of early help services and review activity on a quarterly basis.

Health Childrens Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP) Board will monitor partner agency development of early help services and review activity on a quarterly basis.



**Early Help Review Public  
Consultation Report  
September-December2018**

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

## Executive Summary

At the beginning of September Derbyshire Childrens Services commenced 7 week public consultation with a further 4 week period of stakeholder consultation on the draft proposals to redesign early help services and deliver on the budget reduction.

The consultation comprised of a questionnaire, focus groups led by the Service Director and the Principal Practitioner of Early Help, social media advertising and attendance at various boards and partnership meetings. Over 490 responses were received by the questionnaire alone and many more individuals, organisations and stakeholders responded in email, letters and workshop exercises (These responses are included in appendix 3). Respondents gave insight into current usage and gave meaningful feedback to the proposals:

- A reduction of family support service and focus of new targeted service for families who most need help.
- A reduction of youth support service and focus of new targeted service for young people who most need help.
- Closure of some open access youth activity clubs.
- Reduction of Careers guidance work and focus on the most vulnerable young people , who are likely to need support for a successful post 16 transition to education, employment and training.

The top themes that emerged from the analysis are detailed below and will be addressed in the Cabinet Report and the Equalities Impact Analysis (EIA) Report:

- Vulnerable children may not get help they need/children put at risk
- Reducing Early Help (Family Support Services) may/could lead to more expense/problems/work for Social Care/Society in general.
- Schools/NHS/Voluntary groups don't have capacity/funding for this
- Youth Clubs are a safe place to go and they improve the self-confidence of attendees.
- Youth clubs should not close, as they help prevent young people from being exploited into crime, drugs supply and other risky behaviour.

The diverse range of feedback received throughout the consultation has informed the development of the proposals.

The reduction of family support and youth support provoked the highest levels of disagreement and additional proposals to develop a 3 year Transition team has been designed as a response to these concerns.

### Family Support Services

- Answers to question 1 which relates to how much respondents used existing family support services, show that although 50% to 61% of respondents had never used these services, there were still large

groups of respondents that had either previously used the service (17% to 26%) or currently use these services (13% to 17%).

- Amongst the people that either currently used or had previously used family support services, the most commonly used services were: Help to understand your child's behaviours (42%), Help to keep your child safe (35%), and Help with parenting skills (37%).
- Members of DCC had the highest proportion of respondents currently using most services (22% to 24%). The exception to this was the service Help to keep your child safe where children aged under 18 were the group with the highest proportion using this service (27%).
- For previously used services, Parents/Carers generally had the highest proportions that had used these services (24% to 41%).
- When asked if they agreed with the County Councils proposals to change how family support services were provided (question 2) 60% of respondents strongly disagreed and 15% tended to disagree. Smaller proportions of respondents strongly agreed with the proposals (5%) or tended to agree (8%).
- These high proportions of respondents disagreeing with the proposals were repeated when question 2 was analysed by different respondent groups, eg Parents/Carers. The group with the lowest proportion for strongly disagree (58%) were children under 18, the highest proportions (65% each) were for Parents/Carers of children aged 0-18, Derbyshire residents, and members of DCC staff.
- Question 3 was a free text question that invited respondents to give views on the proposed reorganisation of family support services. 227 people (46.3% of all respondents) completed this question.
- Analysis of the text responses for question 3 suggests the following key issues/concerns were raised by respondents:
  - Vulnerable children may not get help they need/children put at risk (33.5% of all responses). Analysed by respondent groups the exact percentage varied from 23.5% (Children) to 37.4% (Derbyshire Residents).
  - Reducing Early Help (Family Support Services) may/could lead to more expense/problems/work for Social Care/Society in general (30.4% of all respondents). Analysed by respondent groups the exact percentage varied from 11.8% (Children) to 42.6% (DCC Staff).
  - Schools/NHS/Voluntary groups don't have capacity/funding for this (19.8% of all respondents). The exact percentage for different respondent groups varied from 14.8% (DCC Staff) to 46.2% (Members of Partner Organisations). The only group that did not raise this issue were Children.
  - MAT (Family Support) Service works well/valued/needed (18.1% of all respondents). The percentage of people raising this issue varied from 11.5% (Members of Partner Organisations) to 29.4% (Children).

- Not enough existing resources/Staff already under pressure (14.5% of all respondents). Proportions varied by respondent groups from 13% (Derbyshire residents) to 23.5% (Children). The only group that did not raise this issue were people from Partner Organisations.
- 7% of respondents raised miscellaneous issues such as:
  - It should be easier for childcare providers to tap into early help services on behalf of families;
  - Adopted children get 'forgotten'; they are penalised for 'being adopted' whereas if they were fostered, there would be a lot more help available;
  - How would referrals be decided upon in regards to support from health professionals and education providers;
  - Too many new costly government initiatives instead of using services already available to provide the support.

### Youth Support and Careers Services

- Answers to question 4 which relates to how much respondents used existing Youth support services shows that although 44% to 62% of respondents had never used these services, there were still large proportions of respondents that had either previously used these services (13% to 29%) or currently use these services (16% to 26%).
- Amongst the people that either currently used, or had previously used Youth Support Services, the most commonly used services were: Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs (51%) and Careers Advice and Guidance (45%).
- Children aged under 18 had the highest percentages for current use for Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs (66%), Careers Information Advice and Guidance (24%), and Targeted youth groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life (42%).
- Derbyshire residents had the highest percentages for previous use for the services Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs (33%), Careers Information Advice and Guidance (39%), and Targeted youth groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life (17%).
- When asked if they agreed with the County Councils proposals to change how youth support services were provided (question 5), 66% of respondents strongly disagreed, and 12% tended to disagree. The proportions strongly agreeing or tending to agree were lower at respectively 4% and 7%.
- These high proportions of respondents disagreeing with the proposals are mirrored when this question is analysed by different respondent groups. The group with the lowest proportion for strongly disagreed were Parents/Carers (61%), the highest proportion (86%) was for children under 18 years old.

- When asked if they agreed with the County Councils proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided (question 6), 49% of respondents strongly disagreed and 16% tended to disagree. In contrast, 4% strongly agreed with the proposals and 9% tended to agree.
- Analysed by respondent group, 45% to 61% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposals for Careers Services. Children under 18 years old had the highest proportions for strongly disagreeing with the proposals.
- Excluding Children aged under 18 where just 8% tended to disagree, between 16% and 21% of respondents tended to disagree with the proposals. Members of DCC (21%) had the highest proportion in this category.
- When looking at those who agreed with the proposals by respondent group, between 1% and 7% strongly agreed with the proposals, and between 2% and 10% tended to agree with the proposals.
- The group with the highest proportions for strongly agree were Members of Partner Organisations (7%). The groups with the highest proportions for tend to agree were Parents/Carers of 0-18 year olds, members of Partner Organisations and members of DCC staff (10% each).
- Question 7 was a free text question that invited respondents to give views on the proposed changes to Youth Support and Careers services. 184 people (37.6% of all responses) completed this question.
- Analysis of the text responses for question 7 suggests the following key issues/concerns were raised by respondents:
  - Should continue with Service/increase youth work (27.7% of all responses. Analysed by different groups the exact percentage varied from 25.6% (DCC Staff) to 35.3% (Children).
  - Youth Clubs a safe place to go / they improve self-confidence of attendees (14.7% of all respondents). Analysed by respondent groups the exact percentage varied from 7% (DCC Staff) to 52.9% (Children).
  - For Youth Support Services a relatively high proportion (12%) felt these services were vital and cuts could harm children. The exact percentage for different respondent groups varied from 8.8% (Children) to 20.9% (DCC Staff).
  - Careers work was seen as critical to allow young people to make good decisions about careers (8.7% of all respondents). The percentage of people raising this issue varied from 10.9% (Parents/Carers) to 14% (DCC Staff). No people identifying themselves as Children or members of Partner Organisations raised this issue.
  - There is no alternative Youth Support Services provision to that currently provided (7.6% of all respondents). Proportions varied by respondent groups from 5.6% (Derbyshire residents) to 16.7%

(Members of Partner Organisations). The only group that did not raise this issue were DCC Staff.

- 9.8% of respondents raised miscellaneous issues such as:
  - Youth Services being poorly publicised;
  - If youth clubs buildings are shut this will affect more groups than just youth clubs as other groups also use them;
  - Youth workers and pa should concentrate on their roles and not have to do Early Help;
  - People who lack encouragement/guidance at home need a department who can support them

### Who completed the Consultation?

- Of the 490 responses, the largest proportions of respondents were in the following groups: Parents/Carers (42%), Derbyshire residents (46%), and members of DCC Staff (20%). Note, when asked how they were responding to the questionnaire, respondents could choose more than one category.
- Based on response rates per 100,000 of the population, the highest response rate was in Amber Valley district (75.4) and the lowest in North East Derbyshire (25.9)
- 74% of respondents were female, 23% were male, and 3% chose not to state their gender.
- Analysis of respondent's ages, shows that the highest proportion of respondents were aged 31-40 and 41-50 (23% each).
- 10% of respondents considered themselves to be disabled.
- 44 people gave further details of their disability including 11 respondents who had a Disability affecting mobility and nine respondents who had a learning disability. The remaining 27 respondents indicated that they had the following other disabilities: a disability affecting their mental health, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and/ or a disability affecting their physical health such as arthritis. Note respondents were able to choose more than one disability category.
- 88% of respondents chose the ethnic group White British. The smallest proportions of respondents were from the ethnic groups Mixed and Asian/Asian British (1% each).

## **Main Report on the 2018 Early Help Consultation**

### Notes on data provided

- When the Early Help Consultation closed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October there were 490 responses. The number of respondents for different respondent groups such as Parents/Carers is shown as N = on the graphs, eg N= 207 for Parents/Carers.

- The graph show a percentage breakdown of how respondents answered the multiple choice questions. All percentages in the graphs are rounded to the nearest whole percentage point.
- All graphs also display the percentage of respondents that chose not to answer each question or sub-question. This is to enable the reader to more accurately evaluate any results where a large percentage of respondents may have chosen not to answer a question.
- As part of efforts to be seen to providing an impartial analysis of the results, data for the open text questions in the survey, (questions 3 and 7) is displayed in Appendices 1 and 2 exactly as the respondent supplied the data to us including any typing or spelling errors.

## A. Analysis of Results

### 1. The extent that Family Support Services are used

#### Use of Family Support Services - All Respondents (Chart 1a)

- Chart 1a shows the varying responses to the questions 1a to 1d for all respondents relating to how much family support services are used.
- Looking at the results for all respondents only, charts 1a to 1d show that between 50% and 61% of respondents have never used the family support services.
- Despite this, 13% to 17% of respondents say that they are currently using family support services, and 17% to 26% of respondents say they have previously used these services.
- The highest percentages for currently used family support services were Help to understand your child's behaviours (16%) and Help to keep your child safe (17%).
- The highest percentages for previously used family support services were for Help with parenting skills (24%) and Help to understand your child's behaviours (26%).

#### Use of Family Support Services by Different Groups of Respondents (Charts 1b to 1e)

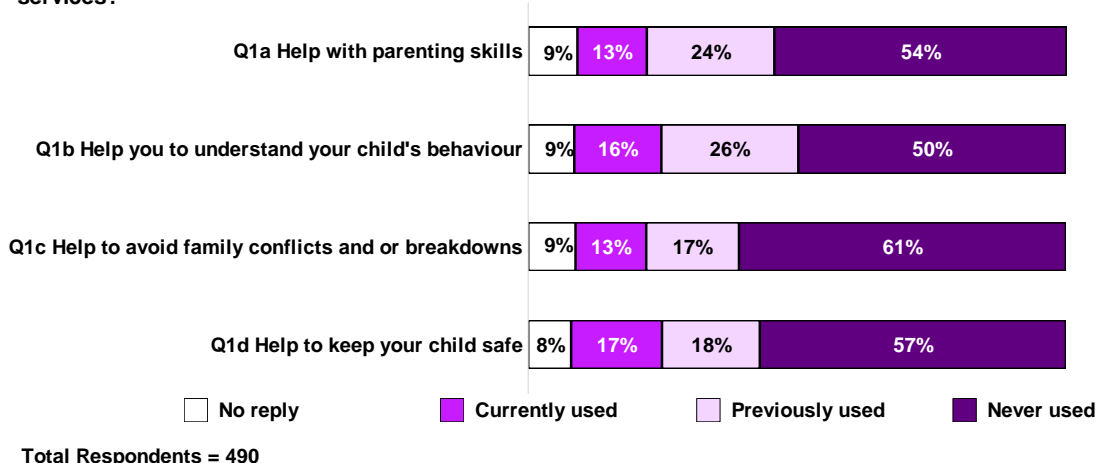
- Charts 1b to 1e show respondents' answers to question 1 in a slightly different format. Here, each sub-question for question 1 is shown as a separate graph, with a proportional bar chart for each sub-group of respondents, eg Parents/Carers, showing how much that service is used by that group of respondents.
- The highest percentages for current use were from members of DCC for the following family support services: Help with parenting skills (22%); Help to understand your child's behaviour (jointly with members of Partner Organisations 24% each); and Help to avoid family conflicts and/or breakdowns (23%). For Help to keep your child safe, the highest percentage for current use was for children aged under 18 (27%).
- The highest percentages for previous use were for respondents identifying themselves as Parents/Carers for the following services:



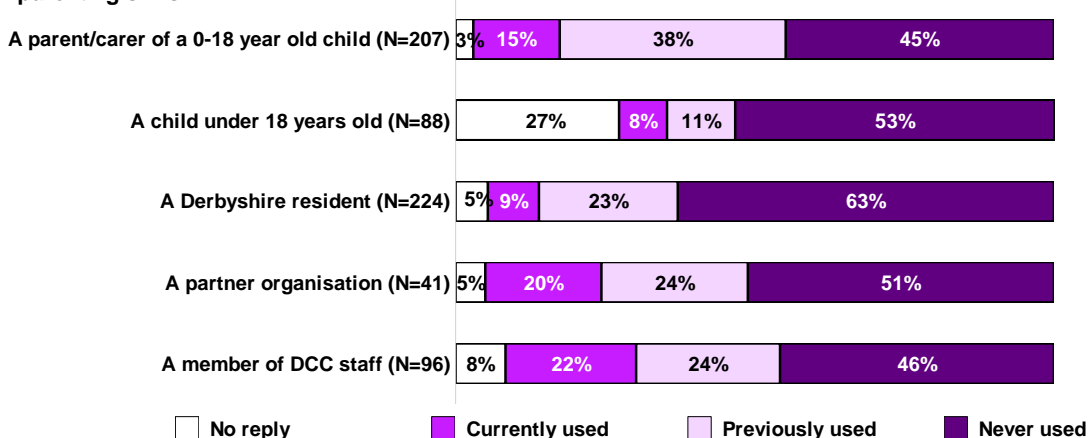
Help with parenting skills (38%); Help to understand your child's behaviour (41%); Help to keep your child safe (27%); and Help to avoid family conflicts and/or breakdowns (24%).

- Derbyshire residents had the highest percentages for people saying they had never used any of the following support: Help with parenting skills (63%); Help you to understand your child's behaviour (57%); Help to avoid family conflicts and/or breakdowns (70%); and Help to keep your child safe (66%).

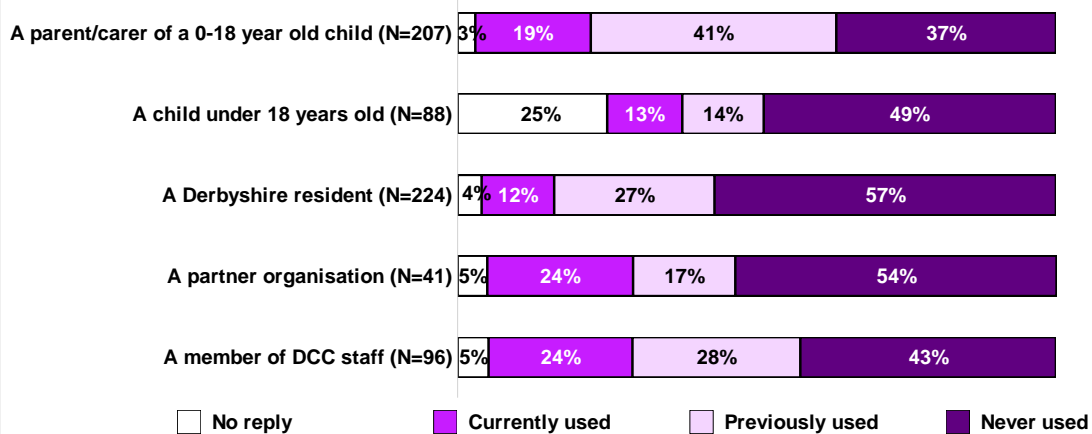
**Chart 1a: Q1 - Do you currently use, or have you previously used, any of the following family support services?**



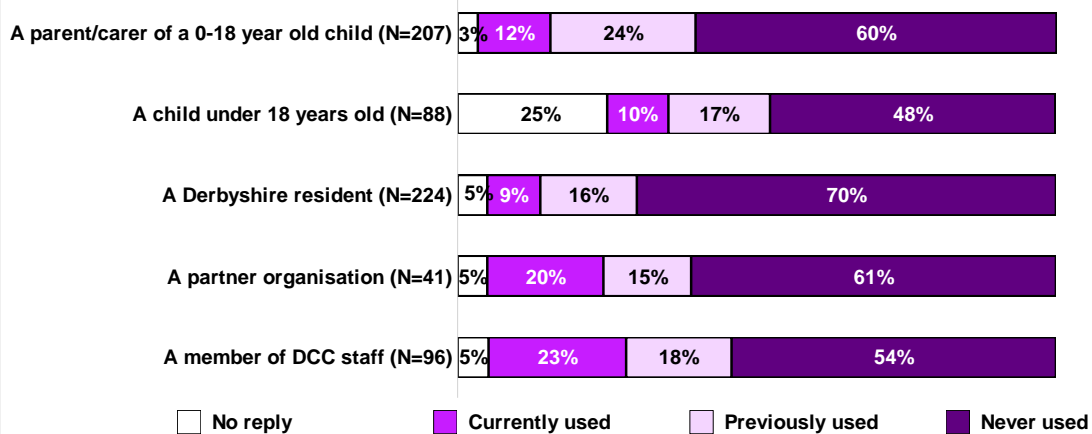
**Chart 1b: Q1a - Do you currently use, or have you previously used, family support services for help with parenting skills?**



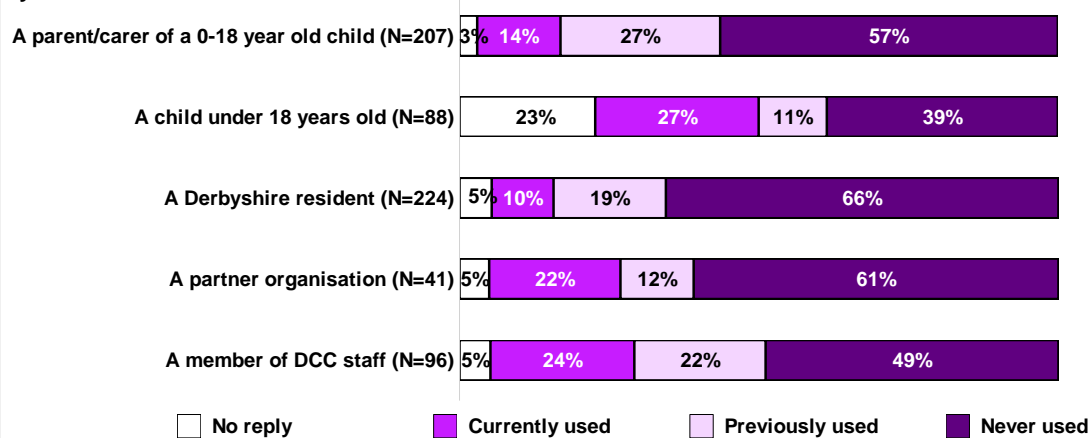
**Chart 1c: Q1b - Do you currently use, or have you previously used, family support services for help to understand your child's behaviour?**



**Chart 1d: Q1c - Do you currently use, or have you previously used, family support services for help to avoid family conflicts and/or breakdowns?**



**Chart 1e: Q1d - Do you currently use, or have you previously used, family support services for help to keep your child safe?**



## 2. Respondents' views on Derbyshire County Council's proposals to change how Family Support Services are provided.

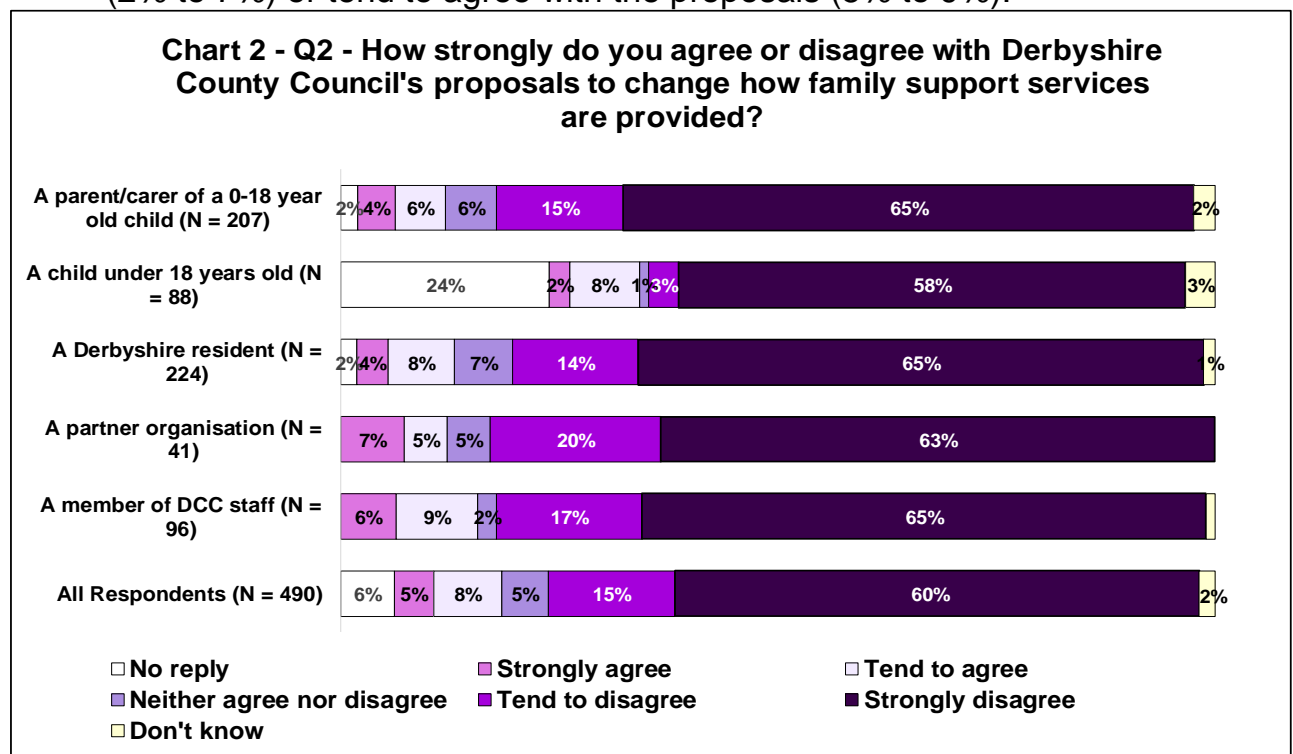
- Chart 2 shows the varying responses to the question 2 “How strongly do you agree or disagree with Derbyshire County Council’s proposals to change how family support services are provided?”

#### All Respondents

- For all respondents, Chart 2 shows that 60% of respondents “Strongly Disagree”, and a further 15% “Tend to Disagree” with the County Council’s proposals.
- 5% of respondents “Strongly agree” and 8% “Tend to Agree” with the proposals.

#### Responses from Different Groups of Respondents

- Chart 2 shows that across all respondent groups, the highest proportions strongly disagreed with the proposals (58% to 65% of respondents). With the exception of children under 18, the second highest proportion of most groups of respondents also tended to disagree with the proposals (14% to 20%).
- Chart 2 also shows lower proportions of respondents strongly agree (2% to 7%) or tend to agree with the proposals (5% to 9%).



### 3. Respondents’ comments on Derbyshire County Council’s proposed changes to Family Support Services

- 227 respondents (46.3% of all respondents) answered question 3.
- The full list of comments is listed in Appendix 1.
- Table 1 overleaf shows for all respondents, and different groups of respondents, the most frequently raised issues/concerns raised by respondents.

Table 1: Issues/Concerns Raised most frequently for Question 3 asking for comments on Derbyshire County Council's Proposed Changes to Family Support Services

Issue/Concern Raised	Respondent Group & the Percentage of that Group that raised the issue					
	All	Parents/ Carers	Child %	Derbyshire Residents %	Partner Organisations	DCC Staff
Vulnerable children may not get help they need/children put at risk	33.5%	36.3%	23.5%	37.4%	30.8%	36.1%
Reducing EH may/could lead to more expense/problems/work for Social Care/Society in general	30.4%	31.4%	11.8%	29.8%	30.8%	42.6%
Schools/NHS/Voluntary groups don't have capacity/funding for this	19.8%	15.7%		19.8%	46.2%	14.8%
MAT Service works well/valued/needed	18.1%	19.6%	29.4%	17.6%	11.5%	16.4%
Not enough existing resources/Staff already under pressure	14.5%	19.6%	23.5%	13.0%		14.8%
Miscellaneous	7.0%	3.9%	17.6%	5.3%	7.7%	9.8%
No other resources/ No where else for help and advice	4.8%	4.9%	11.8%		19.2%	
Protect Existing Service	4.4%	5.9%	5.9%	3.1%	7.7%	3.3%
Restructure/increase size of service	4.4%	2.9%		4.6%	7.7%	4.9%
Poor questionnaire design/needs more consultation	3.5%	2.9%	5.9%	5.3%		3.3%
Makes sense to put careers in schools		2.9%				
Other agencies should take on more work related to their areas of expertise.			5.9%			4.9%
Ask Government for more money				4.6%		
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>61</b>

Notes:

- Total Percentages for all the issues and concerns raised will exceed 100% because people often raised multiple issues when asked to comment on proposed changes to Family Support Services.
- For each group of respondents, the top three issues raised have been highlighted in green.

a) Issues around help for Vulnerable Children

- Table 1 shows that on average 33.5% of respondents raised issues around whether vulnerable children would get the help they need. Some respondents also expressed concerns that the Council's proposed changes to Family Support services could place children and young people at additional risk.
- Analysed by different groups of respondents, between 23.5% and 37.4% of respondents raised issues around whether vulnerable children would get the help they need.
- Representative comments included the following:

"I have found it hard to gain the support I have needed, as I try my best to cope, since the Children's Centres have been closed, help is no longer available unless you are desperate or your child is at risk. It is the help given early that stops this and helps mums like me". A child/young person under 18.  
"If services are reduced vulnerable children will fall through the net, there is not enough staff to deliver the current or proposed services". Member of DCC.

"A lot of families need reassurance from professionals that they are heading in the right direction and I fear that many more children will slip through the net if more cuts are made". A Derbyshire Resident.

"How do you know that reducing the services to all those families won't then lead to increased numbers of children at risk in the future? Sounds like very short term thinking". Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

"I think there will be a lot of families who will not get the support they need and this then having a major impact on the family. More children will end up subject to CP plans". Member of a Partner Organisation.

b) Issues around whether the proposed Changes would result in more problems/higher costs in the long run

- A second issue commonly raised (30.4% of all respondents) was that the council's proposals for Family Support Services could lead to more expense/problems/work for Social Care/Society in general.
- This is reflected in high proportions of people for all respondent groups except children (29.8% to 42.6%) raising this concern. Members of DCC staff had the highest proportion of respondents with this concern.
- Representative comments included the following:

"Without MAT (Family Support Services) no one to help and support leading to greater problems in future". A child/young person under 18.

"I have battled for 8 years to get the help I am LEGALLY entitled to for my autistic son, this delay in you fulfilling your legal duty to us has led to worsening issues that will now take longer lasting and more intense provision than if you'd helped in the first place. Your proposals will mean many, many more families finding themselves in this position and costing you MUCH MORE in the long run. This is a very short sighted and reckless proposal that will wreck any chance of a fulfilling and productive future for many children". Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

"The proposals would do away with preventative work. Only the families already experiencing significant difficulties will receive a service under the proposed system; this has to be more expensive both financially for DCC and emotionally for the families". A Derbyshire Resident.

"Schools are unable to provide the level of support which is being suggested. This is down to the skills and knowledge of the staff but also staffing capacity. Schools are also in a period of budget constraint and need to focus budgets on teaching and learning. It is unlikely that parents will engage with us in the same way as they do with MAT staff. At the current time schools do not have the flexibility in provision to cover the same sort of hours and weeks as the

MAT. There are times when schools have had an input but more specialist advice is needed. Parents appreciate support from someone who is not linked to the school. I would be increasingly concerned that more young people would be at risk if the proposed changes are implemented". A member of a Partner Organisation.

"Very short sighted view from the county council. Short term saving of money which will undoubtedly lead to long term ill-effect and constant fire-fighting rather than 'early' intervention". A member of DCC Staff.

c) Issues around whether Schools/the NHS and other organisation have the capacity to take on any new work generated by the proposed scaling back of Derbyshire County Council's Family Support Services

- A third issue commonly raised (19.8% of all respondents) was that there was concern that Schools/NHS/Voluntary groups don't have capacity/funding to take on additional work caused by the proposed scaling back of Derbyshire County Council's Family Support Services.

- This is reflected in high proportions of people from all respondent groups except children (14.8% to 46.2%) raising this concern. Members of Partner Organisations had the highest proportion of respondents with this concern.

- Representative comments included the following:

"Have schools and health professionals been consulted about fact they may have to offer additional help/support. Who is going to fund schools for this - they may still need professional expertise. Schools are there to teach children". Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

"The proposal that gaps would be plugged by schools, health and voluntary sector input is frankly risible given the reduced funding impacting on these service areas". A Derbyshire Resident.

"As a school safeguarding lead, there has been zero consultation with people in my position. The statement 'we recognise that families may be better assisted by schools/health' or words to that effect is therefore preposterous. You clearly have no idea how few resources I have available to me and the support that I require in ensuring that over a thousand young people are safe every day. I won't be able to run a youth centre in the evening (nor will health I suspect), I won't be able to find funding for staff to go to people's houses and check on welfare, form early help care plans to avoid social care, or seek direct support with attendance - where will that help come from for me?" A member of a Partner Organisation.

"Schools are already struggling to deal with the cases needing 'universal services'. Schools budgets are also being cut which means less staff to deliver the curriculum let alone provide services for children and families in need". A member of DCC Staff.

d) Statements about existing Family Support Services being valued and needed

- A fourth issue commonly raised (18.1% of all respondents) was that MAT (Family Support) Services work well, is valued, and is needed.
- This is reflected in relatively high proportions of people from all respondent groups (11.5% to 29.4%) raising this concern. Children aged 0-18 had the highest proportion of respondents with this concern.
- Representative comments included the following:

“There is clearly a great need for the services previously given and as a result families and individual young people will suffer, reducing their life opportunities and quality of life”. A child/young person under 18.

“Without our family support worker helping to fight for my son (awaiting assessment for ASD, ADHD, sensory processing, speech and language etc), I don't know where we would be. She is amazing help and support to the whole family and without her we wouldn't be where we are now”. Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“In a climate of austerity, loss of voluntary sector services and universal credit. We cannot afford to remove any support from vulnerable families”. A Derbyshire Resident.

“I would be keen for parenting courses to remain as the support has been very valuable to me”. A member of A Partner Organisation and a Parent/Carer.

“Early Help in the form of family support is an important asset to families. Family support is a valuable concept, and from my experience families have really benefitted from their supportive services”. A member of DCC Staff.

e) Concerns raised that already there are insufficient resources and services are struggling

- A fifth issue commonly raised (14.5% of all respondents) was that there are not enough existing resources and Staff are already under pressure, without reducing services further.
- This is reflected in relatively high proportions of people from all respondent groups except members of Partner Organisations (13% to 23.5%) raising this concern. Children aged 0-18 had the highest proportion of respondents with this concern.
- Representative comments included the following:

“If services are reduced vulnerable children will fall through the net, there is not enough staff to deliver the current or proposed services”. A child/young person under 18.

“I believe there isn't enough support and staff currently to support families and their various needs. This is really worrying that cuts are to be made even

further, making an even bigger gap rather than supporting the gap”.  
Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“The last re-organisation streamlined resources and cut some of the Children's Centres. I cannot see how you can possibly reduce provision any further without seriously endangering children's lives. The current service only delivers to the most vulnerable of families, and I believe that you are doing a disservice to the Derbyshire public to claim otherwise”. A Derbyshire Resident and member of DCC Staff

“Staff are already under pressure with high caseloads, affecting the quality they can deliver. There are also lots of staff off sick, showing a lack of value for money and support for staff in their roles”. A member of DCC Staff.

f) Miscellaneous Concerns

- A sixth issue commonly raised (7% of all respondents) were a wide variety of issues which have been grouped collectively under the miscellaneous heading. The exact percentage for different groups varied between 3.9% (Parents) to 17.6% (Children).
- Below is a selection of miscellaneous issues raised by different respondent groups: :

“Feel it should be easier for childcare providers to tap into early help services on behalf of families”. Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year old child.

“NO!!” A child/young person under 18

“Adopted children get 'forgotten'; they are penalised for 'being adopted'; if they were fostered, there would be a lot more help available”. A Derbyshire Resident and member of DCC Staff.

“I would be interested to know how referrals would be decided upon in regards to support from health professionals and education providers”. A member of a Partner Organisation.

“The government are constantly implementing new initiatives that cost a lot of money instead of using services already available to provide the support to be offered. These initiatives do not meet the needs of the local communities so tend to be a waste of money”. A member of DCC Staff.

4. The extent of Respondent's use of Support Services from Youth Workers for Young People Aged 11-18



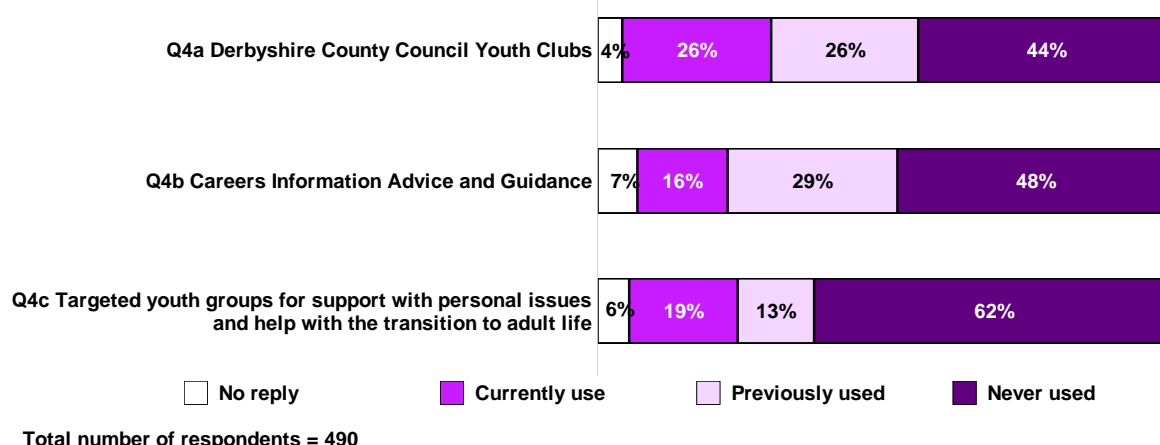
### All Respondents (Chart 3a)

- Chart 3a shows the varying responses to the questions 4a to 4c for all respondents. These questions relate to how much youth support services for 11-18 year olds are being used.
- Charts 3a shows that of the 490 respondents, 44% had never used Derbyshire County Youth Clubs, 48% had never used Careers Information and Guidance, and 62% had never used targeted youth groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life.
- Despite this, 26% currently use Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs, 16% currently use Careers Information and Guidance, and 19% use Targeted Youth Groups support.
- In addition, 26% have previously used Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs, 29% have previously used Careers Information and Guidance, and 13% have previously used Targeted Youth Groups support.

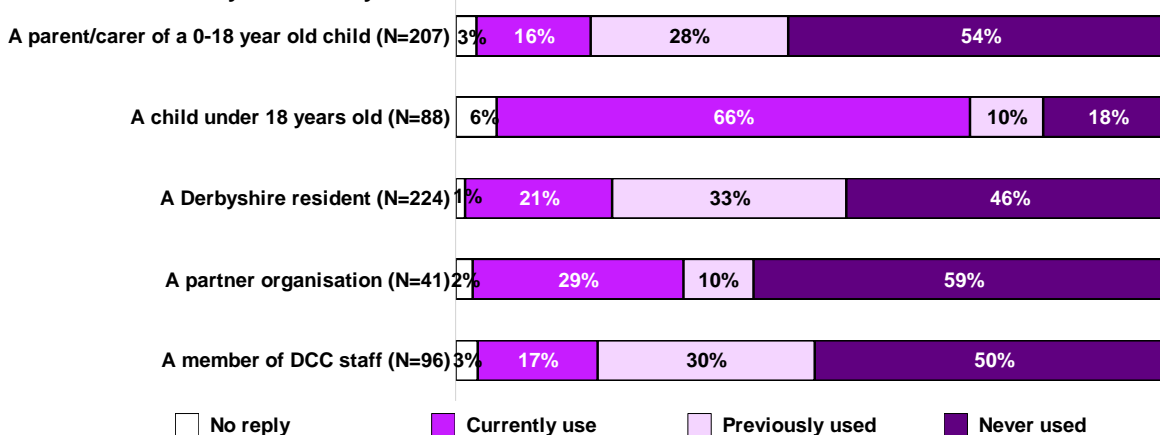
### Responses from Different Groups of Respondents (Charts 3b to 3d)

- Charts 3b to 3d show respondents' answers to question 4 in a slightly different format. Here, each sub-question for question 4 is shown as a separate graph, with a proportional bar chart for each sub-group of respondents, e.g. parents/carers, showing how much that service is used by that group of respondents.
- Children aged under 18 had the highest percentages for current use for Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs (66%), Careers Information Advice and Guidance (24%), and Targeted youth groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life (42%).
- Derbyshire residents had the highest percentages for previous use for the services Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs (33%), Careers Information Advice and Guidance (39%), and Targeted Youth Groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life (17%).
- People from Partner Organisations had the highest percentages for people saying they had never used Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs (59%), and Careers Information Advice and Guidance (59%).
- People from Partner Organisations (73%) and Parents/Carers (72%) had the highest proportions of respondents indicating that they had never used Targeted Youth Groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life.
- It is also noticeable, that for most respondent groups, the proportion of respondents indicating that they have never used this service is highest for Targeted youth groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life (66% to 73%).
- The only group where this is not true are children aged under 18. For this group, the service with the highest percentage for non-use was Careers Information, Advice and Guidance (44%).

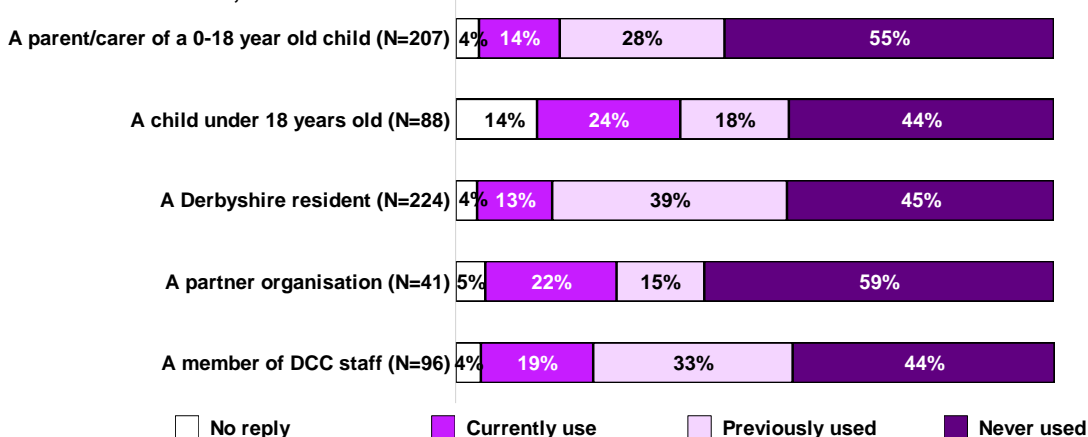
**Chart 3a: Q4 - Do you or your child currently use, or have you previously used, any of the following support from a youth worker for a young person aged 11-18?**

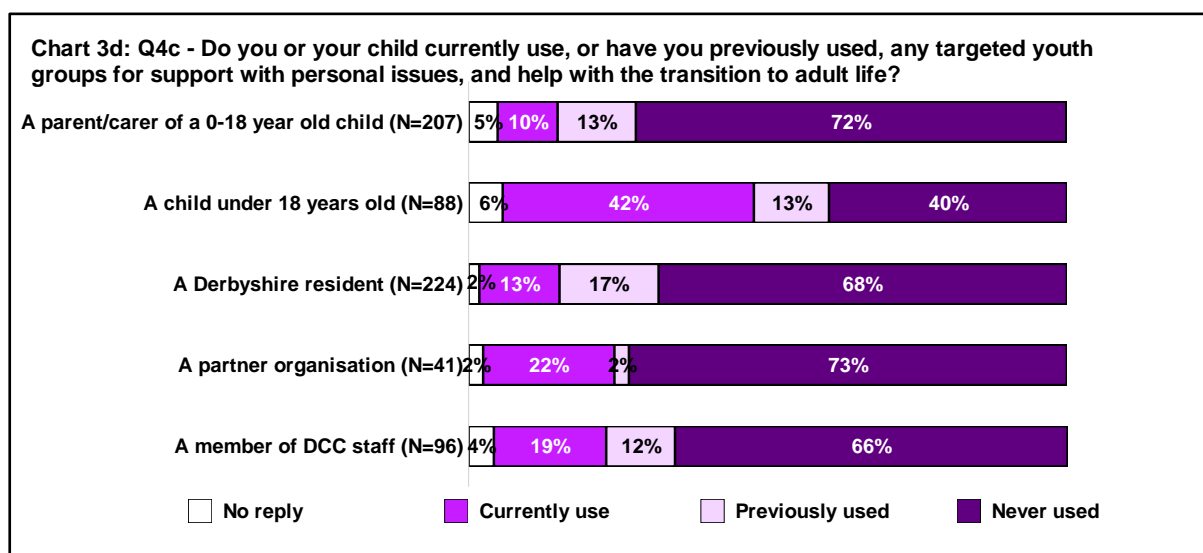


**Chart 3b: Q4a - Do you or your child currently use, or have you previously used, any support from a youth worker from a Derbyshire County Council Youth Club?**



**Chart 3c: Q4b - Do you or your child currently use, or have you previously used, any support for Careers Information, Advice and Guidance?**





## 5. Respondents' views on Derbyshire County Council's proposals to reduce Youth Support Services

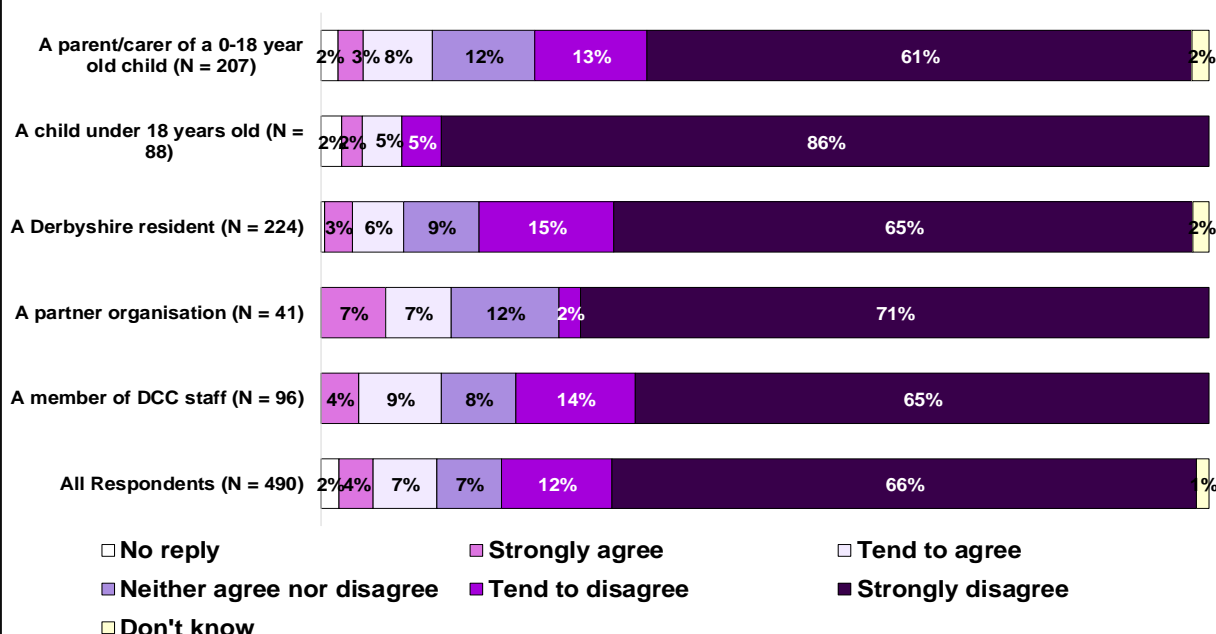
### All Respondents

- Chart 4 shows that 66% of respondents "Strongly Disagreed", and a further 12% "Tend to Disagree" with the County Council's proposals for Youth services as described.
- 4% of respondents "Strongly agree" and 7% "Tend to Agree" with the proposals.

### Responses from Different Groups of Respondents

- Chart 4 also shows how respondents from different groups view the County Council's proposals to reduce youth support.
- For all respondent groups, the highest proportion of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposals (61% to 86%). Children under 18 were the group with the highest proportion that strongly disagreed with the proposals.
- For all respondent groups except people from Partner Organisations, the second highest proportion of respondents tended to disagree (5% to 15%). Derbyshire residents (15%) were the group with the second highest proportion that tended to disagree with the proposals.
- Chart 4 also shows that lower proportions of respondents from most groups strongly agreed (2% to 7%) or tended to agree with the proposals (5% to 9%).

**Chart 4: Q5 - How strongly do you agree or disagree with Derbyshire County Council's proposals to reduce youth support services as described?**



#### 6. Respondents' views on Derbyshire County Council's proposals to reduce the way Careers services are provided

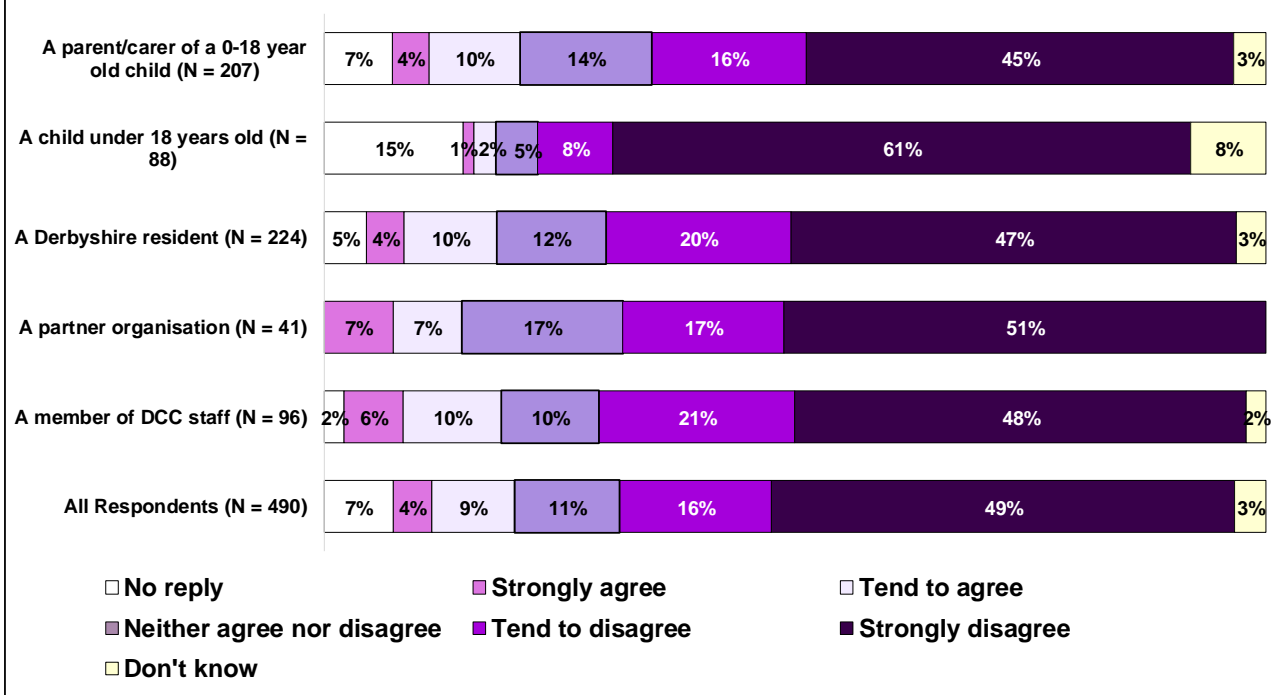
##### All Respondents

- Chart 5 shows that 49% of respondents "Strongly Disagree", and a further 16% "Tend to Disagree" with the County Council's proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided.
- 4% of respondents "Strongly agree" and 9% "Tend to Agree" with the County Council's proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided.

##### Responses from Different Groups of Respondents

- Chart 5 also shows how respondents from different groups view the County Council's proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided.
- For all groups, the highest proportion of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposals (45% to 61% of respondents). Children under 18 were the group with the highest proportion that strongly disagreed
- For all groups except children under 18, the second highest proportion of respondents also tended to disagree with the proposals for reducing the way careers services were provided (between 16% and 21% of respondents). For children under 18, the second highest proportion of respondents chose not to reply to this question (15%).
- Much lower proportions of respondents from most groups strongly agree (1% to 7%) or tended to agree with the proposals (2% to 10%).

**Chart 5: Q6 - How strongly do you agree or disagree with Derbyshire County Council's proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided**



**7. Respondents' comments on Derbyshire County Council's proposed changes to Youth Services and Careers Services**

- 184 respondents (37.6%) answered question 7.
- The full list of comments is listed in Appendix 2. Note, that respondents could identify themselves in more than one respondent group. For example, respondents could be both a parent/carer and a member of staff at Derbyshire County Council.
- Table 2 overleaf, shows for all respondents and different groups of respondents, the issues/concerns that were most often raised in people's comments.

**a) The view that existing Youth Services should continue or even be increased**

- Table 2 (overleaf) shows that on average 27.7% of respondents felt existing Youth Services should continue as they are or be increased.
- Analysed by different groups of respondents, between 25.6% and 35.3% expressed these views. The highest proportion with this view were Children under 18 years old (35.3%).

**Table 2: Issues/Concerns Raised most frequently for Question 7: comments on Proposed Changes to Youth Support and Careers Services**

Concern/Issue Raised	Respondent Group & % of Respondents raising issue					
	All	Parents/ Carers	Child %	Derbyshire Residents %	Partner Organisations	DCC Staff
Should continue with Service/increase youth work	27.7%	31.3%	35.3%	28.0%	33.3%	25.6%
Youth Clubs a safe place to go / they improve self confidence of attendees	14.7%	7.8%	52.9%	7.5%	11.1%	7.0%
This is a vital service, cuts will harm children	12.0%	10.9%	8.8%	14.0%	11.1%	20.9%
Miscellaneous	9.8%	12.5%	11.8%	9.3%	11.1%	
Careers work critical to allow young people to make good decisions about careers	8.7%	10.9%		11.2%		14.0%
There is no alternative youth support services provision to that currently provided	7.6%	9.4%	14.7%	5.6%	16.7%	
With Grant Funding for Youth Clubs there can be issues with long term security for Voluntary sector providers	5.4%	4.7%	2.9%	6.5%		
For both Youth Services and Careers, these cuts will increase costs in the long run	6.0%					11.6%
Schools already stretched/lack of budget/time/expertise for other responsibilities	4.9%	4.7%	7.5%			7.0%
If left with schools young people may not get work experience/careers advice and could make poor decisions.	4.9%	4.7%		6.5%	11.1%	9.3%
Who will prove a service for Mental Health needs		7.8%				
Schools and colleges have the legal duty for careers and makes sense for them to be involved in this		6.3%				
More need for these services in current economic climate not less		4.7%	2.9%		11.1%	
Careers - Who will work with NEET/16-18		4.7%			16.7%	
Changes to Youth Services will mean no help for those with lower levels of need/a universal services needed			2.9%			7.0%
Consultation Flawed/Poor Questionnaire Design				4.7%		
Invest more money/redesign Youth Support Services					11.1%	
The quality of careers work and youth work likely to be variable once moved to schools/voluntary sector						9.3%
For both Youth Work & Careers there is a need to keep experienced workers/organisation						7.0%
For Youth Services/Careers, cuts disproportionately unfair to vulnerable people					11.1%	
<b>Number of Respondents</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>43</b>

**Notes:**

- Total Percentages for all the issues and concerns raised will exceed 100% because people often raised multiple issues when asked to comment on proposed changes to Youth Support and Careers Services.

- For each group of respondents, the top three issues raised have been highlighted in green.

- Representative comments included the following:

“If the youth clubs closed down in Shirebrook I would feel very sad because since I joined here I made lots of friends and if it wasn't for youth club I don't know what I would be doing right now.” A child/young person under 18.

“Derbyshire Youth clubs are excellent early warning and action units and give young people the chance to express the fears and feelings without reprisal or judgement. They are also far more adept at discussing sexual health than Derbyshire schools are. When these safe spaces are taken away where will the children congregate?” Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“Youth team are needed more with activities to help prevent youth crime and drugs on the street. Make people feel more safe and secure with-out youths hanging around on street corners. Youth workers help and support children with a range of needs from socialising to mental health which is vital”. A Derbyshire Resident.

“I think that teenagers are a vulnerable group and find it difficult to talk to adults about issues affecting them. Youth centres are a trusted and secure place they can do this.” Member of a Partner Organisation.

“Children need youth clubs, etc. to help them understand and fit in the community, instead of being left to do whatever they like in the community and end up getting into trouble.” Member of DCC.

b) Issues around Youth Clubs being a safe place to go and improving the self-confidence of attendees

- A second issue commonly raised (14.7% of all respondents) was that Youth Clubs are a safe place to go and they improve the self-confidence of attendees.
- There was a particularly high proportion of children aged 0-18 that made this point (52.9%).
- Representative comments included the following:

“I attend Kirk Hallam's Girl's group. Before coming here, I was very anti-social and I had low self-esteem. Now all of this has changed because of these youth groups. You need to increase these groups”. A child/young person under 18.

“The youth service has drastically helped my child with building their confidence and self-esteem and providing them with aspirations for the future!” Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“The removal of the train will mean that the youth of Ironville will lose the group and the well run and friendly facility that the train offers. The children now will have no place to go, and struggle to communicate with each other due to the loss of the location of the train”. A Derbyshire Resident.

“I believe that it would be very detrimental to young people and the wider community in Derbyshire to close the current youth groups and services which have been identified. Youth groups provide a safe space for young people to socialise and develop into adults with the support of the skilled youth workers

who they engage with. Young people face many pressures whether it be around drugs and alcohol or staying safe online. Having a place where they can spend time safely can assist with reducing potential risk taking behaviour, and also see a decrease in antisocial behaviour in the community. I work for Sexual Health Services and our Sexual Health Promotion team regularly link in with youth groups across the county to offer sexual health education, screening for sexually transmitted infections, and the provision of free condoms to young people. If this community link was removed young people's sexual health would also suffer as many of them would not visit clinics or access other provisions." A member of a Partner Organisation.

"Youth clubs that give teenagers a safe place to go are providing a valuable service as without this service there are likely to be more 'vulnerable' teenagers as they will have nowhere to go but hang round the streets". A member of DCC Staff.

c) Issues around Youth Services being vital and cuts to them leading potentially to children being at risk

- A third issue that was raised (12% of all respondents) was that there was concern that existing Youth Services are vital and proposed changes might increase the risk of harm to children/young people.
- This is reflected in relatively high proportions of people from all respondent groups (8.8% to 20.9%) raising this issue. Members of DCC Staff had the highest proportion of respondents with this concern.
- Representative comments included the following:
 

"Groups bring people together especially when people are going through hard times and don't have anyone. Targeted groups allow people to connect and make friendships." A child under 18 years old.

"A reduction in services will ultimately lead to young people slipping through the net and becoming dysfunctional adults as they no longer reach a specified criteria. Support for more children in the early years can lead to young adults who no longer need to use the service as they have been helped as youngsters and have strategies to be able to cope. It is false economy, although the costs will be transferred to adult services instead as the young person enters adulthood."

A Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

"I believe the support provided by youth support services is such a key thing which is vitally important as it gives young people a purpose to positively get on, make friends and have a sense of belonging." A Derbyshire Resident.

"I am answering this as the Headteacher of a local school who uses the Eckington Services at the Grange. To cut the services back and then put this on to schools and other non-specialists will do only one thing - put children in danger. I cannot be more blunt than that. At the moment, we receive fantastic support, service and advice from the team at The Grange, and know that the families of our children are in a better position due to the services they offer and we access. Reducing this service will result in more families being



made vulnerable, more children being put in danger, and a greater load on schools - which we do not have the training or capacity to handle.” A member of a Partner Organisation.

“Early Help intervention is required to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people and to prevent escalation of Child in Need/Child Protection and serious case reviews. The MATs complete valuable and effective work within the communities including family support, youth work and careers support via the personal advisors which follows the children's services vision to work together, inspire and empower children and young people and their families, and communicates to be the best they can be: safe, healthy, happy, learning and working.” A member of DCC Staff.

d) Careers work is critical to allow young people to make good decisions about careers

- A fourth relatively commonly raised issue (8.7% of all respondents) was that Careers work is critical to allow young people to make good decisions about careers.
- This is reflected in relatively high proportions of people from the groups Parents/Carers (10.9%), Derbyshire Residents (11.2%) and members of DCC staff (14%) that raised this concern.
- Representative comments included the following:

“Youth are a huge issue with cuts to youth clubs, careers, schools, education, and so many children not in school or education. The careers and youth service are a massive part of education and family support to help children and young people thrive when they leave education, to get more young people working, and access the appropriate education and jobs.” Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“The careers provision is vital to help young people explore various options for their future.” A Derbyshire Resident.

“Although Schools now have a responsibility for providing CEIAG to young people there have been surveys completed which have led to question the quality and partiality of the guidance received by young people impacting on their ability to make informed choices about their future pathway. This is particularly the case where schools have VI Forms attached which can impact upon the impartiality of guidance given. The potential impact on young people’s social/economic and financial development is immeasurable; along with costs to the Economy/GDP & Health & Social Care Services; i.e. through long term impact upon Y/P's Mental Health and wellbeing.” A member of DCC Staff.

e) Concerns raised that there are no alternative Youth Support Services provision to that currently provided

- A fifth issue that is relatively commonly raised (7.6% of all respondents) was that where services might be discontinued, there was no alternative Youth Support Services provision to that currently provided.
- This is reflected in relatively high proportions of people from all respondent groups except members of DCC Staff (5.6% to 16.7%) raising this concern. Members of Partner Organisations had the highest proportion of respondents with this concern.
- Representative comments included the following:

“The only thing we have is Train, if it won't be here we wouldn't have nothing to do”. A child/young person under 18.

“Being based in Glossop, we have had the worst of cuts, and services have already been stopped with no outside agency help put in place.” Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“The removal of the train will mean that the youth of Ironville will lose the group and the well run, and friendly, facility that the train offers. The children now will have no place to go and struggle to communicate with each other due to the loss of the location of the train.” A Derbyshire Resident.

“Staff are already under pressure with high caseloads, affecting the quality they can deliver. There are also lots of staff off sick, showing a lack of value for money, and support for staff in their roles.” A member of DCC Staff.

f) Miscellaneous Concerns

- A sixth issue commonly raised (9.8% of all respondents) were a wide variety of issues which have been grouped collectively under the heading “miscellaneous”. The exact percentage for different groups varied between 9.4% (Derbyshire Residents) to 12.5% (Parents/Carers). Note, there were no comments from DCC staff under this heading.
- Below is a selection of miscellaneous issues raised by different respondent groups: :

“I honestly don't know anything about Derbyshire County council supposed support or services and I have children”. Parent/Carer of a 0-18 year child.

“AUP mate”. According to google this is short in texting for “Another Useless Post”. A child/young person under 18

“What is going to happen to the youth club buildings and are you going to close them - and if so what happens to the community groups who use them?”  
A Derbyshire Resident.

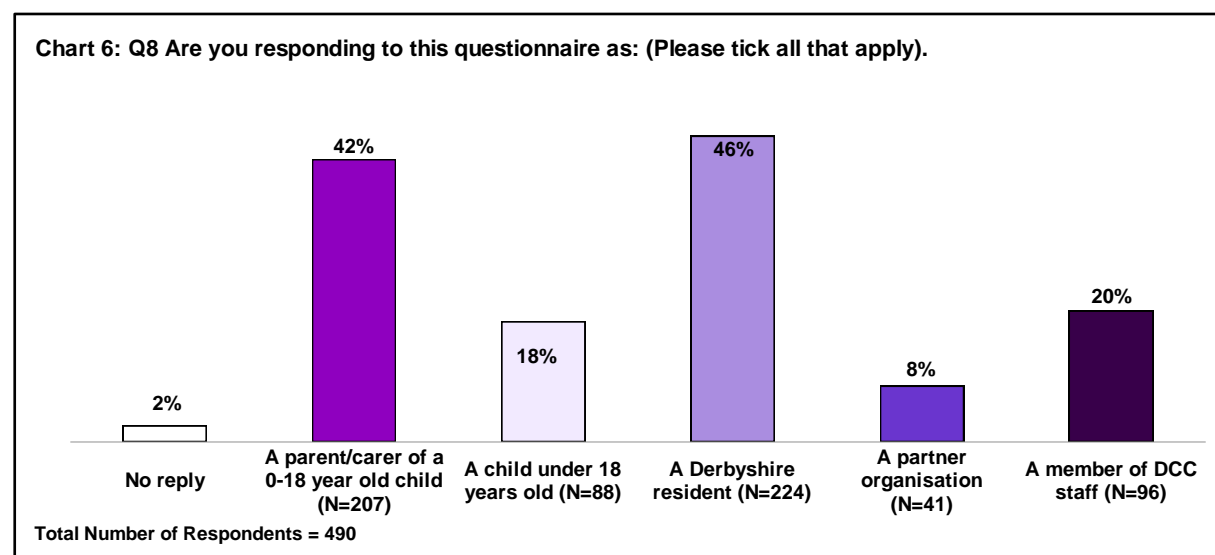
“People who lack encouragement/guidance at home need a department who can support them”. A member of a Partner Organisation.

“Youth workers and pa should concentrate on their roles and not have to do early help, unless their role is Early Help Youth worker”. A member of DCC Staff.

## B. Who Completed the 2018 Early Help Consultation?

### 1. Question 8: Which groups of respondents completed Consultation

- Chart 6 shows which groups of respondents chose to answer the 2018 Early Help Consultation.
- The largest groups of respondents for the consultation were Derbyshire Residents (46%), Parent/Carers of 0-18 year olds (42%), and Members of Staff from DCC (20%)
- Note – respondents were able to choose more than one category for question 8 – hence the total numbers of responses and percentages will exceed 490 (100%).



### 2. Q9: Geographical Analysis of Respondents

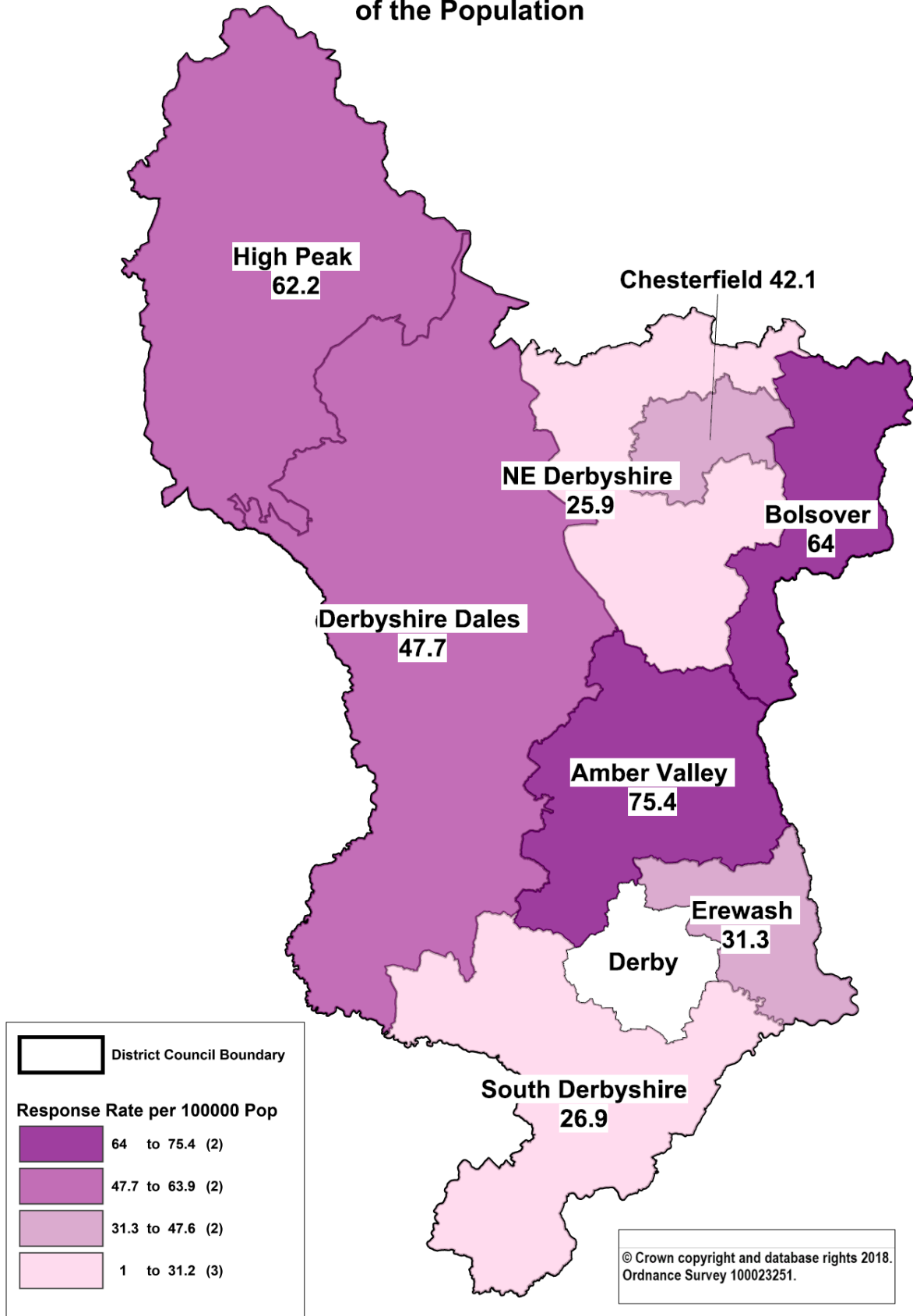
Question 9 asked respondents to provide us with their postcode.

- Of the 490 responses to the survey, 408 had a valid post code. Of these postcodes, 368 (90.2%) could be matched to one of the eight District Councils within Derbyshire. The remaining 40 postcodes were from addresses outside of Derbyshire.
- The counts of respondents from each district are shown in the table below. However, we might expect varying population sizes to be a factor which would influence the number responses within each district. To allow for differing populations the number of responses per district has been calculated as a rate per 100,000 of the population within each District Council area.
- Responses rates per 100,000 of the population are included in the table below, and displayed on the map overleaf. The map shows this information by shading districts with higher rates in darker colours and lower rates in lighter colours.
- The highest response rates were in Amber Valley (75.4 responses per 100,000 of the population) and Bolsover (64 responses per 100,000 of the population).
- The lowest response rates were in North East Derbyshire (25.9 responses per 100,000 of the population) and South Derbyshire (26.9 responses per 100,000 of the population).

Table 3: Number of Response and Response Rate per 100,000 Population in each District

District	No. of Responses	Rank No. of Responses	Est Pop 2016	Rate per 100000 Pop	Rank Responses per 100,000 Pop
Amber Valley	94	1	124,645	75.4	1
Bolsover	50	3	78,082	64	2
Chesterfield	44	4	104,440	42.1	5
Derbyshire Dales	34	6	71,288	47.7	4
Erewash	36	5	114,891	31.3	6
High Peak	57	2	91,662	62.2	3
North East Derbyshire	26	8	100,423	25.9	8
South Derbyshire	27	7	100,334	26.9	7
<b>Derbyshire</b>	<b>368</b>		<b>785,765</b>	<b>46.8</b>	

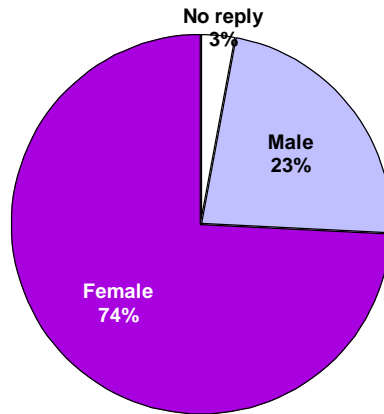
**Map 1: Response Rates in each District Council Area per 100,000 of the Population**



### 3. Q10: Gender Analysis of respondents completing the Consultation

- Chart 7 shows a gender breakdown of the respondents for the 2018 Early Help Consultation.
- Analysis of respondents' gender shows that 74% were female, 23% were male and 3% chose not to answer this question.

Chart 7: Q10 Gender Analysis of Respondents Completing the 2018 Early Help Consultation.

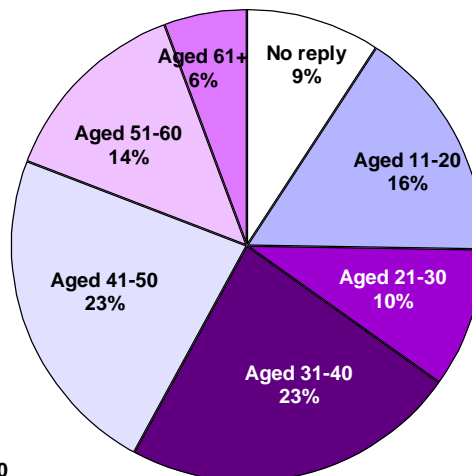


Total number of respondents = 490

#### 4. Q11 – Age Breakdown of Respondents Completing the Consultation

- Chart 8 shows an age breakdown of people that completed the 2018 Early Help Consultation.
- Analysis of respondent's ages, shows that the highest percentage of respondents were aged 31-40 and 41-50 (23% each).
- The lowest percentages were for respondents aged 21-30 (10%) and 61 or over (6%).

Chart 8: Q11 - Analysis of Respondents Completing the 2018 Early Help Consultation by Age Group.

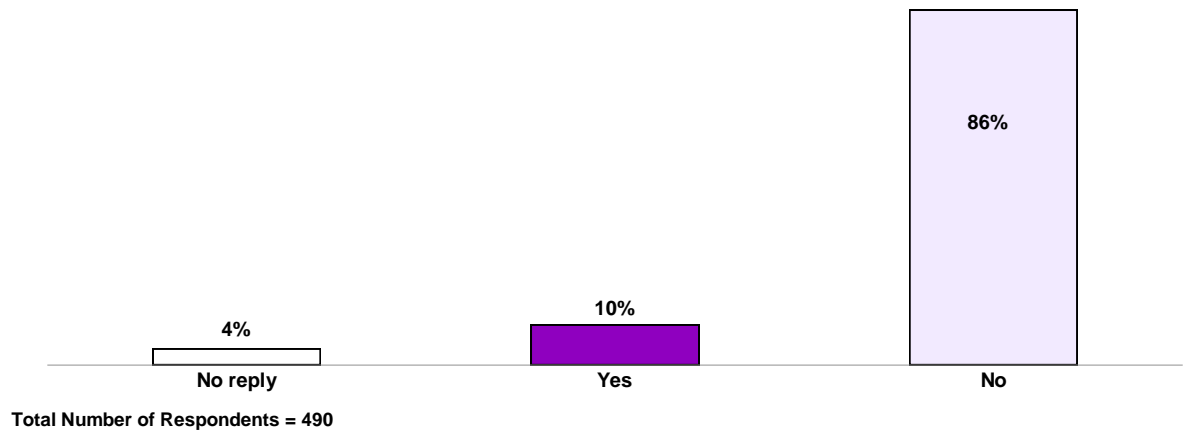


Total Number of Respondents = 490

#### 5. Q12 and Q13 – Numbers of People with a Disability completing the Consultation

- Chart 9 shows that 10% of respondents considered themselves to be disabled.

**Chart 9: Q12 - The Percentage of Respondents Completing the 2018 Early Help Consultation that considered themselves to be Disabled**



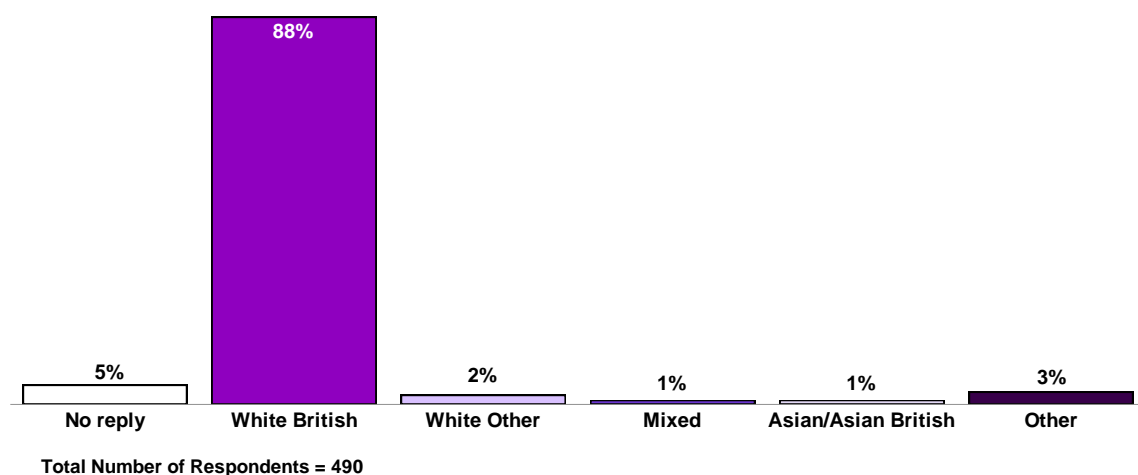
6. Q13 – If you do consider yourself Disabled, what type of Disability do you have?

- Because of the small number of responses to this question, to comply with General Data Protection Regulations' (GDPR) privacy requirements, we are restricted in what can be made publicly available.
- Data that was provided shows that of the 44 people that provided additional detail on their disability, 11 (25%) had a Disability affecting mobility and nine (21%) had a learning disability. The remaining 27 respondents (58%) indicated that they had the following other disabilities: a disability affecting their mental health in various ways, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and/ or a disability affecting their physical health such as arthritis.
- Note: many respondents had more than one disability.

7. Q14 – Ethnicity Breakdown of People Completing the Consultation

- 88% of respondents chose the ethnic group White British. The smallest proportions of respondents were from the ethnic groups Mixed and Asian/Asian British (1% each).
- Note: due to very low numbers, the precise numbers/percentages of respondents from some ethnic groups have been merged with the 'Other' category to protect respondents' privacy as required by GDPR.

**Chart 10: Q14 - Analysis of Respondents Completing the 2018 Early Help Consultation by Ethnic Group.**





**Appendix 1 - Full List of Respondents Comments for Question 3: Comments on Proposals for Family Support Services**

<b>Q3 - If you have any comments to make on the proposed changes please provide details below.</b>
MAT teams provide a valuable service and I believe a reduction in MAT provision will result in more pressure being placed on Social Care resources.
When families don't meet the criteria for the new proposed support, I don't feel other organisations will communicate with other linked services as well or keep an eye out on the families that don't meet criteria but do need support. I feel that schools will have too much responsibility for too many children especially schools in an area where there is a higher level of need such as Cotmanhay.
I continue to be concerned that further reductions to Early Help children's services are leaving high numbers of vulnerable families without the help and support. As a result of this the problems that they experience that may have been resolved with Early Intervention escalates resulting in higher numbers of children meeting the thresholds for social care intervention. Constantly we are being given the message that the numbers of children on child protection plans and going into care must be reduced but the foundations to prevent them reaching that point are constantly being reduced. In terms of youth provision, more young people are participating in crime and anti-social behaviour as there are very little youth enterprises to engage them in.
If services are reduced vulnerable children will fall through the net, there is not enough staff to deliver the current or proposed services.
Early Help in the form of family support is important assets to families. Family support is a valuable concept and from my experience have really benefitted from there supportive services.
Budgets change but unfortunately families needing assistance don't. The increase in needy families has risen significantly in the past 5 years in Derbyshire. I would not like to see the standard of living reduce further for the needy families.
Why can't the local authority see that by taking away the early help intervention we are staking up problems for the future at a bigger cost
Reducing support in early years is a false economy - lobby the Government to get more money Expecting the also cut budgets of schools and NHS to fill the gaps is unrealistic - you surely know they won't be able to
Trying to move the support services out to other organisations, third sector and schools - who also have very limited and drastically reducing budgets and funding is absolutely counterproductive and not what the Council should be looking to do at all. The public sector and local authorities are there to provide services that the market will not. It has a duty - both legally and morally to provide good quality services and support to its residents. Relying on other organisations who may not be able to afford to offer a service will reduce access, may result in a dumping down or provision by non-professionals and may not be offered at all. This is not the way to go - we should protect our services for the most vulnerable.
The previous question is far too early in the questionnaire.
I'm concerned that preventative work will be lost that could reduce the amount of families needing EH in the first place

It is stated that you think that some of the early help that is currently provided by the Council could be provided by education and health services instead. However, health services are also facing financial difficulty. Passing the role to them without additional funding will only be possible if they stop doing something else. I wonder if the other services are aware that this will be an expectation of them without additional funding.

I am concerned that expecting health workers, such as Health Visitors and School Nurses to share the work more than they do at present will be difficult because their funding is also getting to a critically low level.

The proposals would do away with preventative work. Only the families already experiencing significant difficulties will receive a service under the proposed system; this has to be more expensive both financially for DCC and emotionally for the families

Changes must only be made in consultation with other agencies, particularly where it is predicted that changes will impact on those services. This is because all services and agencies are under pressure, because of increased demand and reduced funding. A “whole system” and cross agency approach is essential. In my previous experience, DCC have tended to make their decision and then expect other services to fit in, or pick up the pieces. Support groups can be helpful. Evidence-based packages must be used, staff should be appropriately trained and supported, and thought should be given to ways to help those families for whom group support is challenging, whether because of distance, location or particular needs. It would be beneficial to have a joint approach e.g. with schools, to ensure a pool of trainers is available and to provide timely input. There must be a clear, easy process to refer families on in a timely way when a group approach identifies a greater level of need.

I think schools are well placed to provide these services, but not on the cheap. Schools in areas of high dep should have a funded CFSW.

Early help is a key part of the mental health and wellbeing offer and a cut of this magnitude cannot be offset by interventions delivered in education and health. These services are also very stretched and are already offering their part in the overall provision. It isn't feasible to expect them to be able to deliver interventions that were previously delivered by experienced and trained workers from MAT's. Consultation from MAT's to support them occurs already in most areas, but doesn't remove the need for more intensive interventions. Future in Mind and other strategies, and the funding to increase services, was to be in addition to current provision because the overall spend on children and young people was a very small percentage of the overall spend across all ages. Figures published in these showed that all these interventions deliver future savings over future years across many different sectors, as well as delivering better outcomes for children and families.

Staff are already under pressure with high caseloads, affecting the quality they can deliver. There are also lots of staff off sick, showing a lack of value for money and support for staff in their roles.

How do you know that reducing the services to all those families won't then lead to increased numbers of children at risk in the future? Sounds like very short term thinking.

Cut backs on services provided by DCC will have major long term damaging effect on families and communities in Derbyshire
To cut funding to such an important service by 2 thirds is totally unacceptable and once again the most vulnerable in society are paying the price for government cuts which benefit the well off.
Make them quicker
The current provision is already stretched and cannot meet the demand for the needs to support families. A further reduction in this service is going to mean that families do not get the early help support that they need. It will mean that more families reach the higher threshold before any help is received putting children at greater risk. Schools already provide a lot of support for families through mental health, safeguarding and have no formal training in high level needs providing further early help support will be at the detriment of academic achievement. Schools budgets are also tight so cannot stretch further to provide any more than they are already doing. We recognise our responsibility to provide support but we educationalist not social care backgrounds plus we cannot do the home visits that are needed by many families. As an infant school it is often difficult to access voluntary services due to restrictions on age range.
Not able to read: Background Papers • Health and Social Care Services for 0-5 year olds 2018 Which could potentially have other information in to support/discourage my views/opinions.
I understand the government are making LAs reduce their spending, but you still have the ability to prioritise early help services and continue to invest in Young People. We need more for young people and not less, we are currently failing young people by continuing to cut youth services and support for all our young people.
Services are already stretched and to cut the funding further will leave a lot of children in a vulnerable position and they are likely to 'slip through the cracks'. I feel that there is consistent evidence to show that early intervention services help prevent much larger costs to other services such as social care, police, education and health and cutting funding here is going to have a negative impact on society as a whole. I believe these funding cuts are short sighted.
Very short sighted view from the county council. Short term saving of money which will undoubtedly lead to long term ill-effect and constant firefighting rather than 'early' intervention
It will only result in higher caseloads and more work for social workers when there are limited preventative services. It's a disgrace.
A lot of families need reassurance from professionals that they are heading in the right direction and I fear that many more children will slip through the net if more cuts are made.
Early help services are an important way of helping to integrate vulnerable and disadvantaged families into the universal services available. Cutting them will isolate these families, deprive them of valuable support and increase the likelihood of them failing and falling into crisis.

Parents requiring support will not be able to unless it is seen as emerging need. I don't think lower level preventative support will be available as health visitors already are stretched and I don't think they will be as helpful. Schools won't have the time either, their job is to educate children and school staff often are unrealistic in what they expect families to do. This proposal will put families at risk in my opinion

Only helping the most serious cases means those in the middle range requiring help will miss out and you will end up with more serious cases to deal with; these children will suffer unnecessarily.

By directing all of the support to targeted families will only mean more referrals at a later date, putting more families and children at risk before they get help. By putting staff under the strain of losing their jobs will have a negative effect on their families and children. Yes other services should take up more of the work which is in their fields such as health.

Very short sighted view. Early support and education is the building blocks and foundations to ensure children develop into rounded individuals which would significantly reduce spending later on in life. For every £1 invested in a child you are an £8 return on investment

I work in a school for Nottinghamshire county council and I know how valuable our Early Help Service is. School are already stretched so expecting them to take on extra work, it is not going to happen. I feel this will just lead to more social care referrals and put our vulnerable children at greater risk.

The cuts are horrific, the people who need the support he most are going to suffer. These cuts will cause massive strain in social care which in turn will leave vulnerable and abused children without the full support they need.

Although I have not used the services myself, I am fully aware of the benefits of providing an extensive range of services to young people. The 'proposed changes' appear to be a short-term money saving exercise which will lead to significantly higher costs in the future.

You continue to cut vital services that prevent families from falling into statutory services. Another article last week detailed that the pressures on statutory services is increasing and the more you cut services like family support the more families will fall into stat services as their situation has been able to deteriorate without the vital early help that was being provided. You say other services can fill this gap, there are cuts to the health service meaning no child has a allocated health visitor or school nurse anymore and as schools become academised they do whatever they like with their money which I can guarantee won't be providing relevant early help but filling in a gap before the situation gets bad enough to be able to refer in to statutory services.

Early help support is extremely important to help families who have complex and multiple needs and to encourage multi agency collaboration

The service is vital in helping to prevent or contain the development of social problems (including criminal activity) further down the line as well as helping to maximise children's potential. It is highly likely to be a false economy.

It's difficult to tell what the impact might be. Careers service moving into schools makes sense I suppose although teachers are already overstretched. I am concerned that the focus on the most vulnerable will result in further problems down the line because prevention hasn't been in place for those with low level issues and then they escalate and end up causing more costs in the future.
Families need support especially if they've got small children, if they have no family around them to help these services from Derbyshire county council are vital. I'd these services are cut more families are going feel abandoned and children felt like they have no who will help support them.
More cut backs on an already over stretched family support is going to put children's lives at risk. Not that the higher level managers or councillors take any responsibility if a child unfortunately dies because of all these cut backs.
As a whole, the local communities will be losing out. There seems to be a real move to target the most vulnerable only !!! and this leaves a great many others struggling on the cusp of this. I agree we should help the most vulnerable but people in the middle ground always lose out as the pendulum swings too far in one direction.
Support at early stages, "soft" support i.e. youth clubs, play schemes, help people develop their own inner resilience and ability to deal with stresses, preventing crises that need the councils intervention at a more critical stage
The government are constantly implementing new initiatives that cost a lot of money instead of using services already available to provide the support to be offered. These initiatives do not meet the needs of the local communities so tend to be a waste of money.
A lot of the changes are supposed to be supported by voluntary organisations, but due to funding cuts most of these will not be able to help. Also to rely on a volunteer base does not work and has been proven.
Families need early intervention to prevent families ending up on the brink of social care. Saving money this way is putting children at risk and will increase the money spent on families working with social care. If children are removed from families, which will increase without the help of early help, the local authority will spend substantial money on foster placements, if they can find one and expensive court proceedings. Social care may be a separate budget but all in all it is all local Authority money.
With the stats about children starting school unable to hold a pen, and still in nappies, I think it's incredibly important that there is support for families. Youth provision has already been decimated, and there needs to be more support, not less!
Having worked in this sector for many years I feel that these proposals will result in many families not receiving the support they require initially which will result in a further drain on our already stretched children and family services when families reach crisis point.
I feel the changes would make it difficult for families to access support as not everyone feels able to attend a group.
These services are vital to many families like ours
Any intervention or support is good at an early stage.

This service has many positive outcomes for children and often results in an avoidance of the need for more costly services. The service has highly skilled workers and the authority have invested into this workforce. Funding of this service is a major issue and lies with the government whom have repeatedly cut the budgets to local authorities. Every child matters!

should not be cutting budgets on children's services as clearly it is a required service that needs a lot of input from all involved, how can a service that is greatly needed be cut so much, over half the budget gone how long before an incident happens that a child is dead due to these cuts, staff are pushed past limits.

Not all families in need are currently on the edge of care / child protection orders. A lack of preventative interventions is short sighted and will only add to demand later down the road.

Without mat no one to help and support leading to greater problems in future

The council cut children centres and we the families are suffering now because of this, now you want cut the service further, it's a joke! What happens when families have no support and it's the children that are suffering.

I believe that MAT teams are offering support to families with a wide range of needs and prevents from escalating to Social care. Hence I think MAT needs to be retained as a service in the locality.

It's disgusting! So many children and families need support

The service is already at saturation point with every family or child needing help and support and there are no other services to signpost them to that aren't already struggling themselves o provide a good service

Stop cutting services that are vital to the wellbeing of children and families

MAT are more frequently ineffective and changes need to be made. In my school careers and FE places are organised by staff in school and MAT Pa's mainly do unnecessary paperwork when places for the young people's post 16 are already applied for. Also increasing numbers of parents are complaining about the level of support received from MAT and schools alike. Change would be welcomed.

The amount of funding due to be cut is a very steep reduction. This is very clearly going to have a huge impact over a short period of time and leave a massive gap in the care and services available. These proposals will almost certainly create a huge divide within the community and leave lots of families struggling

Appropriate that the Councils obligations are reduced in this context; other Agencies already available can supply much of the targeted support required for appropriate family functioning.

There will be more children put at risk, by safeguarding, more foster carers will be needed and there isn't enough at the present moment. Children won't feel safe and secure. Developmental development. It all about early intervention for Families which is being cut more and more, my child used to get lots of support for additional needs now we can't be seen to get any support. There will be lots more serious case reviews.

While being supported if my worker was unavailable I could speak to their manager or senior prac? This is where the savings should be made and not taken from the worker. No need for 2 people to do the same job!

Start by restructuring Senior management roles because I don't see the point of several managers in one department overseeing similar roles.

I use these services in that I refer children and their families to them. The early help offered by Derbyshire barely exists as workers are off sick or leave. Those working therefore have massive caseloads - some families are texted every 2 weeks! How can you cut that further? Schools already pay in. Now you're putting more on them! Replace workers unfit to do the job- start giving realistic caseloads and avoid families reaching social care by ensuring it is effective. DO NOT cut it even further.

Without early help services, the number of families reaching crisis point will increase exponentially. Children who could have been supported to stay at home will be at a higher risk of entering care because issues will not be addressed in the early stages. All research supports early help as being the most effective in creating change in families, and that for many families by the time they reach social services level it is too late. DCC need to listen to their social workers and MAT teams that are begging them not to cut our early help services, and instead better fund those services to prevent escalation

These services are so important to many families and their children. Any cuts will serve to impact front line social work in a way that will counteract the current investment in remodelling

I'm of the view the massive reduction in funding of early help services will have detrimental impact on families in Derbyshire. It could put pressure on schools to provide for services which could increase of referrals to social care.

Early help is so important and with reduced services children and families will suffer! Very sad state of affairs and very short sighted.

Services need to be increased not cut

I feel that a reduction in these services by giving other agencies support to implement this will lead to the service being diluted and families who need support but aren't at high risk will not be supported and will result in families not having intervention that would minimise the risk to the children partners ext.

This is a valuable service and if reduced will place many vulnerable young people and families at risk. It should not even be considered!

Services should not be cut and youth work should be put back into Services for Teenagers, not MAT

Less management

Schools and health services are already dealing with an increased amount of issues linked to mental health in our young people. Cutting the family services would add extra pressure to education and health- this is not acceptable. They already have an incredibly demanding job to do. They need all of the support that they can get.

This service provides vital support to families and social care. The cuts which have already been executed have had devastating effects on children and their families and further cuts completely undermines the early help process. This proposal completely ignores findings such as Munro's through the SCR. It ignores findings that early intervention continues to be a key part in working together and safeguarding children

Decreasing the amount of children the MATs help is unfair. And youth work is important and makes a big difference so it should not be cut down

Unrealistic to expect others, also facing cuts, to step in where you are backing out

Need more youth service provision, not less
This is a very small secluded community, we don't have many resources as it is without removing the rest, I have a severely disabled child and I am also disabled myself, our community once thrived when I was growing up here we didn't have to leave the village for anything. You need to be bringing more things back into the village not taking them away. Services are desperately needed here, some parts of the village are already living in poverty and need support services, not everyone has bus fare money and I myself cannot drive due to disability. It's awful the way our village is left to rot away whilst others thrive with paint works and signs that are not needed. There are plenty of other cuts which can be done including keep moving to new council offices and refurbishing all the time.
The community nursery nurse was a massive help to mum with young children when there used to be one in place
Youth Services should be a universal offer for all young people
I think all families should be entitled to early help as early intervention could be the difference between a child needing emergency social care services or fatal, the earlier any need for social care involvement is identified the better outcome for the families and also being available for all families could prevent children slipping through the net
This reduction in service provision is simply down to the Government's underfunding of local Government.
There are so many children and young people being lost. The thresholds for families to get help are too high, the staffing in all areas on the front line has been cut already to disgraceful short levels which means that staff are not able to see the families that would previously have met the lower thresholds, staff are under too much stress and pressure as there isn't enough staff by a long shot, communities that knew and trusted the workers in their environment are no longer using the services and are struggling without them, the trust in the system has gone. Children and young people aren't being seen. The families are able to camouflage problems, mental health and safeguarding traders in particular are not being met and are of major concern. Children and young people are not being able to have their voices heard until for some it's too late. More than ever children are in care as there aren't enough staff in preventative services anymore and care cost the government far more
Ironville youth club is essential in the village and nothing will be available if the train was to close
The support and guidance of the family support workers is invaluable
School budgets are at breaking point. Grants to the voluntary sector are being slashed. The NHS is under continued attack from government....and You are looking to pass Your responsibilities on to them!! Disgraceful
This is putting children in danger and leaving early help to schools who are teachers try to teach not deliver SC
As a teacher in a local secondary school I know that we don't have the time or resources to do more social care. We need the partnership with the MAT team. Our job is to educate. The government need to find more money for you.



Don't cut drop in youth clubs. They provide an invaluable support instantly rather than after due process. Street based is good but not all young people are in the street.
Have schools and health professionals been consulted about fact they may have to offer additional help support. Who is going to fund schools for this - they may still need professional expertise. Schools are there to teach children!
It is good that the Council is recognising that its limited resources should be focused on those most in need and that others need to play their part in helping children and families. However, I still feel that the number of children's centres should be reduced.
Whilst I sympathise with the fact DCC are facing budget cuts, I cannot, with a clear conscience, support cutting a service that is already struggling to meet demand.
Funding cuts for any services will have a huge detrimental long term effect for many families and their children of all ages these services are vital to enable early help and supervision to be implemented to improve mental health and wellbeing. Enabling our young people to thrive and make a positive contribution to society.
The evidence for the efficacy of these changes isn't clear to me. Do we feel confident that our most vulnerable families will actually attend a group support? If there is clear evidence for this, I'd like it to be available.
hello I'm speaking about your youth services I say that the crime rate will rise if these services are suspended they are not just buildings there a safe place for teens and it a place where they can forget about their worries and feel and mix in with the wrong crowds.
The last re-organisation streamlined resources and cut some of the Children's Centres. I cannot see how you can possibly reduce provision any further without seriously endangering children's lives. The current service only delivers to the most vulnerable of families, and I believe that you are doing a disservice to the Derbyshire public to claim otherwise.
Support will not be widely accessible, some parents may not feel comfortable/confident to attend groups relating to routine/ behavioural support and may not receive the support they need as a family.
Although personally I have never required the services to support my children, I do work with families that have benefited hugely from this service and have helped them provide skills to manage things better on their own in the future. I feel the support encourages families to build in confidence on their own abilities and without it, some parents could dip and then end up having social care involvement.
I believe there isn't enough support and staff currently to support families and they're various needs. This is really worrying that cuts are to be made even further, making an even bigger gap rather than supporting the gap.
I think that children who live in families where there are safeguarding issues could slip through the net if it is felt that they don't meet the MAT team threshold and obviously this could put children in danger. It is not always obvious from a referral what is happening until it is "unpicked" I don't think that you can rely on the voluntary sector either as volunteer will never be as reliable as a paid member of staff, in sounds good in theory but in practice unless you are getting paid you can come and go as you please I have personal experience of this. I feel that money could be saved in other ways by not having a museum and taking the library vans

off the road as I don't feel that these are vital services and I feel strongly that children are our future and any service that protects/helps should not be cut in the ways outlined.

I am a headteacher in a primary school situated in a heavily deprived area. As a school we are already under pressure to support a large number of families and rely heavily on MAT teams for support and guidance. Schools are already hugely accountable and further reducing services is going to mean children and families are missed or not supported.

Do other organisations have the skill set or resources available to support the 'Early Help Offer'? I doubt that they do or will which is why I strongly disagree with this approach. How are children/families assessed that need support? Isn't this in direct contradiction to the Home Office 'Early Intervention Foundation' principles? Targeting those children that have 'Adverse Childhood Experiences' early in their childhood and providing sufficient mentor/programme support to help with resilience in crises? Why hasn't the Troubled Families agenda been driven and fully utilised instead of being in perceived disarray?

Children's Centres which used to be a hub of the local community are closed for so many days now that maybe the services would be better provided for in medical establishments, schools, libraries etc., thus saving huge amounts of money maintaining, heating, lighting, cleaning etc. of these buildings that are almost becoming derelict in their appearance.

Bring back the old services

By working with families that had been identified as needing extra help families on the cusp of requiring help could miss out resulting in bigger problems later on

The work early help provide to the community, schools and families is invaluable. They provide additional support to young people who will otherwise be forgotten by the system and suffer as a result

I think the changes could lead to many families "falling through the gaps" who may have previously been picked up through drop in groups. I also do not like the idea of a peer support group. I'd rather seek professional advice rather than ask sue for hers.

Services have already significantly reduced- any further reductions will only place strains elsewhere and more people will lose out.

The services to support young families in Derbyshire are seriously overstretched as it is, with underfunding and understaffing of vital services such as health visitors and MAT teams, not to mention social care! To cut the funding further, by any amount let alone the amount proposed is ridiculous, and it will unfortunately only be a matter of time until another serious case review is needed, thanks to the 'proposed' cuts, which we all know are signed and sealed already.

include education about contraceptives to avoid multiple children from one family unit being taken into care (extreme case)

I think there will be a lot of families who will not get the support they need and this then having a major impact on the family. More children will end up subject to CP plans.
The families supported by the current services are receiving it for a reason.
Vulnerable children need to be safeguarded, but all new mums need support and advice to stop then becoming vulnerable families. I understand that you feel that this can be achieved using other agencies and volunteers. The huge budget cut for children's services is going to put children at risk! I feel that a budget cut is too much and more money needs to go to safeguarding children.
Emerging needs will be missed and families will suffer stress if they don't receive the help they need early enough
Feel it should be easier for childcare providers to tap into early help services on behalf of families
These cuts could make it extremely difficult for some families who still need support and understanding but may not meet criteria. This could lead to family breakdown and even potential safeguarding issues
Surely the whole point of early help services are to help families avoid crisis or to prevent situation escalating? Cutting the services could lead to more situations where the council has to legally get involved due to child safety etc. Surely prevention is better?
This should be retained as a service for parents and users to contact for advice and support.
This such a badly designed questionnaire. I have no idea what you asking me to answer. This is terrible I feel you have taken away my rights as citizens to have a voice, this is an infringement of my human rights and I will seeking legal advice and I will be suing the council.
Early Help intervention is required to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people and to prevent escalation of Child in Need/Child Protection and serious case reviews. The MATs complete valuable and effective work within the communities including family support, youth work and careers support via the personal advisors which follows the children's services vision to work together and inspire and empower children and young people and their families and communicates to be the best they can be: safe, healthy, happy, learning and working.
I have just read the cabinet report, what an absolute waste of public money. The author of this report should be made redundant or held to account and suspended from any further activities. What a terrible report, who could have wrote a load gobble waffle meaningless sentences and think people in the general public know what the council is talking about, what is Connexions in brackets? To start with, what is early help before I ring 999. keep it simple to the point and this questionnaire, well I can't say how your legal department has allowed you to present to the public, it makes no sense what so ever so you have my comments, you are a tokenistic council doing what your best at lying, put up smoke and mirrors, just to cut what you think is easy, it will come back and bite you.

I have battled for 8 years to get the help I am LEGALLY entitled to for my autistic son, this delay in you fulfilling your legal duty to us has led to worsening issues that will now take longer lasting and more intense provision than if you'd helped in the first place. Your proposals will mean many, many more families finding themselves in this position and costing you MUCH MORE in the long run. This is a very short sighted and reckless proposal that will wreck any chance of a fulfilling and productive future for many children.

I've never heard of early years so many of us are already prevented from accessing it

I'm appalled with how you have crafted this hilarious ridiculously half-hearted questionnaire none of the questions or summary to or supporting documents provide any sense of your intentions. This is a ridiculous waste of public funding

I strongly disagree with the proposed changes -

I feel that this is already 'targeted' work and I don't see how this service can possibly be reduced any further without major safeguarding risk arising.

support sometimes needed as much by families not seen as 'at risk'

To ensure that the council works in partnership with all agencies both voluntary and statutory so that children's opportunities are not diminished, as the funding is. If health, NHS, public health and schools worked together seamlessly the change in funding may not have a dramatic impact, though of course there will be one and this has to be publically acknowledged. There should be more pressure put on the government to raise taxes to pay for services which ensure people have a life of dignity not of struggle and hardship.

Insufficient explanation of the proposals has been provided to make this public consultation meaningful. The Cabinet paper is impenetrable to the public. A specific, plain English document should have been prepared to enable effective public engagement What will the new family service look like? What do nebulous terms like "who most need help" and "most vulnerable children" actually mean. How will the threshold be determined? Do other organisations have the capacity, personnel and financial resources to fill the gap and deliver the new service? Has this been discussed and confirmed in principle.

Don't put so much pressure on the schools. They are also struggling to teach these children that need help and especially if they don't have a specific employee in school to put in place all the items the authority is taking away. Where the savings come from - can some of this be used to fund persons to work in schools even on a part time basis!

Are you not just moving the problem to yet another cash poor organisation, e.g. CCG or voluntary sector. Schools don't seem to have ability or time to do more.

Disagree on the closure of the train carriage for young people in Ironville

I would be interested to know how referrals would be decided upon in regards to support from health professionals and education providers.

Adopted children get 'forgotten'; they are penalised for 'being adopted'; if they were fostered, there would be a lot more help available.

Services in Derbyshire are already limited. There is minimal support in the school system and referrals for diagnosis is very difficult to obtain. There is no support network for families or local support groups for the children e.g. youth activities.

Reducing the family services will be detrimental to the families that rely on and very much need the support.

Without the support of early help on more than 1 occasion I have no idea where we would be now. My sons behaviour is now under control and my mental health has improved

I currently have a teenage daughter, both dd and I use the service to support her with anxiety and related school attendance difficulties. Because of anxiety she also refuses to leave the home. We have found the current level of support some help but also need further help (that is not available via anyone) to address her agoraphobia. I feel if the funding levels are cut to almost a third of the current cover the effect for service users will be insurmountable. We live in Glossop and already find we have very limited service delivered here.

Over the past few years, schools have been given more and more responsibility in delivering a wider and role for pupils and families. Within the busy school day, and with the other pressures we are under, it seems ridiculous to expect schools to do more than they already do. We realise, of course, that our role is to look after the whole child, but do not always have the facilities, the staff, or the expertise and knowledge to take on some of the roles we are being asked. We therefore rely on additional support from services such as the MAT Team and NDAP, which is already very stretched. Focusing resources only on those in real need is a false economy - it is clear that prevention and early response is key in preventing young people and families from getting to a critical stage. I am wholly against such a huge cut in resources.

Families struggle to obtain support as it is, especially for children with additional needs. Reducing or removing services would have a devastating impact on hundreds of not thousands of families all across the county.

more funding and workers would help support family's from breakdowns

The proposal that gaps would be plugged by schools, health and voluntary sector input is frankly risible given the reduced funding impacting on these service areas.

Early years services cannot be cut at a time when school budgets are at breaking point, youth services non-existent and voluntary sector services being cut. We need to invest in our young people- if we do that now it saves money in the long term on anti-social behaviour. Drug support etc.

Early intervention is vital when families feel they are in crisis and do not know where to turn. The input from these services can make a hugely effect the future of children and their families

I believe that cutting these roles will have a series negative impact on the young people and the parents. These families will not have support from any other agencies because the MAT are the only team to provide this type of multi-agency support currently within Derbyshire.

The local MAT provides help and support that would otherwise not be available

Early intervention is key to helping families not reach breaking point.

I understand you have to make cuts and see the need to make a more streamlined targeted service, but the cuts will impact on early intervention with youth people in youth groups and this will have a significant impact on the very groups - targeted and more challenging families - so it will in effect increase your work load and serious case load if you're not doing early intervention or targeted youth group work. Whilst, I live in Derbyshire, I also work for DCHS NHS and had the opportunity to deliver to a targeted girls group at Alfreton Polygon - this work is essential and supports the wellbeing of these young women, their personal development and safety, reduces risk of being involved in CSE, and also supports them to have better and more positive relationships with family, friends and in relationship with partners.

Early intervention is a must - this should help prevent things getting more serious. Other agencies are too quick to pass the work to FSWs. They seem to struggle to understand that the services isn't the same as the one we have 5 years ago where we had more staff to be able to do the bedtime routines and diet

early intervention and outreach services are helpful & utilised in rural areas

I have found it hard to gain the support I have needed, as I try my best to cope, since the Children's Centres have been closed, help is no longer available unless you are desperate or your child is at risk. It is the help given early that stops this and helps mums like me.

If early help gets any smaller the impact on the child protection will be overwhelming children will die. If no early help is done children and families will not get a service until the situations much worse. This is very short sighted and will raise costs as early help manage large caseloads of children in need cases that would otherwise go to social care.

I do not use these services myself, but as a professional working in DCC. I am also a resident of Derbyshire. I feel angry and frustrated that the LA has to cut services to our most vulnerable families. It is wrong and unjust and unethical. I do not blame the council as I perceive that you have tried to keep services going as much as possible in comparison to some other LAs. If we have to go down the route, can we consider a model such as that recently described in an article in the New Statesman about Preston? so that the council starts to make money which can be fed back into the community

Services are already few and far between. By going through with further cuts there will be no preventative services or very few. The only way a family will be able to get help is when they are in crisis which is far too late and more expensive all round!

The aim should be to deliver smarter services. Not start with reducing services

Once these issues are identified families need one to one face to face opportunities to talk things through and build a relationship with a professional who can help them for a significant period of time. A workshop will not fulfil this need. It also means homes are not being visited making potentially vulnerable children more at risk as abuse and neglect can be hidden more easily.

Families need all the help they can get and taking away this help or reducing it when its stretched as it is will cause more problems in the future for children

As a governor of a local school. The current demand for safeguarding and child protection are impacting on the ability of the school to meet other requirements for education and our own statutory duties. The loss of early help will further compromise this and impact directly on children, their safety and their education.

Ironville Parish Council strongly objects to the proposed changes (for the Ironville facility in particular) for the following reasons: 1) there was no transparency in the process. When youth services visited Ironville they did not give any notice of the visit or explain why they were there. In addition DCC are required to give notice of consultations to Parish and Town Councils - these come from the central team direct to Clerks so they can be highlighted to the Council and Community. This consultation did not follow this principle and therefore contravenes the Nolan Principles. 2) The number of attendees on the consultation paper is inaccurate - attendees are 40+ not 8 3) Ironville is a disadvantaged community and the Train provides a valued, and much used facility, for young people 4) There has been no engagement with the Railway Carriage who have invested £14k to enhance the facility as they were unaware of these proposals

The process need more consultation from those utilising the services, if this will rely more on Social Services to step in surely they don't have the resource as the NHS would not.

Please do not shut Polygon

I will have nowhere to go if the youth clubs shut

I enjoy going to the youth club and playing football, it's the only thing to do in Ironville.

Due to previous cuts I strongly believe that services are targeted and have been forced to move away from providing universal services

I make friends at the youth club and I enjoy sports and exercise

I don't want the girls group to close

I would feel sad if I don't have the club to come to and it has made me feel comfortable about myself.

If this group closed I would be sad as this group helps with a lot, I couldn't really talk to anyone.

Due to the alarming increase in poor child mental health in the UK I believe family early help support services need to be increased not cut

Go away and leave me alone because I would not have nowhere to go or talk to people

I wouldn't like it being closed as it's bringing out who we are. It's a small group for a reason.

Then how am I supposed to build my confidence? Without this group, I would still be an autistic mess! Kirk Hallam Girls Group.

You shouldn't close it down because if you do, girls that are age won't be able to find someone to go to for advice.

Please don't close down Kirk Hallam Girls Group! If I wasn't here, I'd be at home being anti-social.

The removal of the train will mean my son will have nowhere to spend his time with his friends at a group, well run friendly base because of the closure of the train.

Cuts to voluntary sector services mean those affected by this proposal will not receive any help at all and will end up in crisis and requiring higher level services

It's a false economy early intervention has proved to be successful in reducing support needs later on

The Parish Council, while recognising DCC's financial position and thus its need to make some cuts to services, nevertheless regards this HUGE cut to services for vulnerable people as completely disproportionate. - and thus totally unacceptable.

I am answering this as the Headteacher of a local school who uses Services at the Grange. To cut the services back and then put this on to schools and other non-specialists will do only one thing - put children in danger. I cannot be more blunt than that. At the moment, we receive fantastic support, service and advice from the team at The Grange, and know that the families of our children are in a better position due to the services they offer and we access. Reducing this service will result in more families being made vulnerable, more children being put in danger, and a greater load on schools -which we do not have the training or capacity to handle.

Schools are unable to provide the level of support which is being suggested. This is down to the skills and knowledge of the staff but also staffing capacity. Schools are also in a period of budget constraint and need to focus budgets on teaching and learning. It is unlikely that parents will engage with us in the same way as they do with MAT staff. At the current time schools do not have the flexibility in provision to cover the same sort of hours and weeks as the MAT. There are times when schools have had an input but more specialist advice is needed. Parents appreciate support from someone who is not linked to the school. I would be increasingly concerned that more young people would be at risk if the proposed changes are implemented

I'm not a parent or child and hence would not use these services. I am a highly qualified retired educational professional. Moving services to external groups and street groups will not allow children to receive the breadth of expertise required to provide appropriate support and so more children fall through the net further exacerbating the ever increasing problems vulnerable children and adults (who are parents) face.

Many families depend on this service to get through dark and troublesome times, many children have been able to access education because of the emotional and social support they have had in their early development. Withdrawal of such base support will have a huge impact on children's futures which we should not be putting a price on.

Not enough support is available at present for early help and criteria seems to be getting stricter. If families don't get help early enough they are potentially going to end up under the radar of social care rather than being supported to improve or directed to the correct services at an early opportunity. Taking away or reducing further this already limited offer will cause more issues down the line just like the closure of children's centre support did for struggling families.



As a health care professional many of my patients make use of early help services. Unfortunately many of them already feel the support received is not for long enough and in the primary care setting we do not have the resource to provide parenting advice or the kind of intense support that is often needed. It is also concerning that given lack of funding in child and adolescent mental health despite growing need, some children seen as 'in less need' will progress to more serious problems because their services (such as youth groups) have been withdrawn. These cuts will necessarily put more pressure on health and education that are also short of funds and the voluntary sector whose services are already strained. I feel that these proposals are merely moving the problem from the councils remit to that of other organisations, even if you argue that the councils statutory responsibilities will be met, this will be a poor service for those that need it.

Without the support given by staff when I was struggling to deal with my child's behaviour it would have meant that we could possibly have been a lot worse. Your proposals do not seem to see that work as valuable.

Without our family support worker helping to fight for my son (awaiting assessment for asd, ADHD, sensory processing, speech and language etc.) I don't know where we would be. She us amazing help and support to the while family and without her we wouldn't be where we are now.

I would be keen for parenting courses to remain as the support has been very valuable to me.

The cuts will be a disaster for our children. I've yet to be successful in getting help for my two children. With this proposal I will lose all hope of help.

It's an outcry! There are so many vulnerable families and children who need that additional support to prevent it going to social care level and without the mat teams, children's welfare will be put at risk!

I think that changes will be detrimental to the welfare of our young people

I am a health professional and this service is invaluable. There is nothing else in place to support these vulnerable children until they reach the threshold of safeguarding

I am a GP in South Derbyshire. I am very concerned about these proposals. We have lots of young families who need early help. General practice is already at breaking point. Schools often not supportive. Without continued, substantial council funding families will be left stranded with lots of unforeseen future costs to the council. This is a very short sighted and backwards move. If we were to cut our family input by 2/3 We would be quite rightfully held to account and be ashamed.

Schools do not have staff with the experience or training or to be completely honest even the will to help young people who are struggling to attend school. I believe to make this the sole responsibility of the school would be a grave mistake not to mention a conflict of interest, as in my experience the school will always pressurise a child to remain in attendance at the mainstream school when it is not necessarily in the child's best interests. They will not take into account the emotional wellbeing of the child and have no care with regards to the mental health issues this can create. They are only interested in attendance figures.

I am a Derbyshire GP who regularly refers Patients for early help via the Health Visitor and School Nurse. Please do not make the mistake of thinking that this input is not needed or that other agencies have the capacity and resources to do the work instead - the need will not go away and the demand on other services which are already at breaking point will increase, risking instability

My main concern is that not giving families the support they need at an early stage will lead to escalation and more families reaching the crisis stage so will actually make the overall situation worse.

<https://news.sky.com/story/50000-children-at-risk-from-toxic-trio-of-abuse-addiction-and-mental-health-issues-11527734> You cannot cut the early intervention services that are preventing harm and increasing care requirements for children and young people. We should have fewer social workers not more! You are proposing a short sighted approach which is assuming other stretched agencies can do more. Short sighted too as you assume those agencies including social care and education can engage the most vulnerable, but they are not best placed. What is the council doing to campaign against austerity and for an emergency injection of funding to save the early help services (MATS) 2019/2020? If this goes ahead, the strategy will hit a brick wall and no matter how many social workers you employ, they will not be able to stem the tide. We work on the basis of systemic evidence based practice, yet this proposal ignores all of the research past and current regarding early intervention.

Multi agency teams do not seem to work well, I feel this type of support would be better placed within Social Care teams.

Our current experience is that you have to be at the point of family breakdown before you can access help. It is difficult to understand how your proposals are going to help focus on those in real need as if your criteria becomes even "higher threshold" then people will be left in crisis unsupported.

The other services (schools) that are likely to be asked to fill the gap left by the reduction in MAT services- are less skilled and have less time to do this - so I am worried that families will not be able to access the level of support they need. Any early intervention work that may reduce the need for specialist health services - particularly around mental health - are going to be severely impacted upon. Families with children with SEN or developmental difficulties may also be affected by the lack of access to more specialist parenting advice which MAT teams have the knowledge to provide.

I understand cuts have to be made, realistically giving parental advice sessions where groups of parents can be helped at each session rather than individual sessions could work. It is obviously not tailored to individual situations but it is better than nothing. I also agree that supporting child safety and families who are struggling is a top priority.

As a school safeguarding lead, there has been zero consultation with people in my position. The statement 'we recognise that families may be better assisted by schools/health' or words to that effect is therefore preposterous. You clearly have no idea how few resources I have available to me and the support that I require in ensuring that over a thousand young people are safe every day. I won't be able to run a youth centre in the evening (nor will health I suspect), I won't be able to find funding for staff to go to people's houses and check on welfare, form early help

care plans to avoid social care or seek direct support with attendance - where will that help come from for me?

Decommissioning vast sways of preventative services will just add to demand and therefore financial pressures on the Children's Services department and the council as a whole. E.g. the number of children in care keeps rising at a cost of £100k per child. Removing these service is having a direct impact on support available for parents and family to properly safeguard and look after their children to avoid the intervention of emotionally and financially expensive services.

DCC are putting the most vulnerable young people at risk by making all these disgusting cuts in finance.

In a climate of austerity, loss of voluntary sector services and universal credit. We cannot afford to remove any support from vulnerable families

If we lose these service which helps us... as a parent with a SEN child we often struggle the children's centre and their team have always been there at various parts of our journey. Yet another service the high peak will no doubt lose

I never knew about this I and my family are in need of help and don't know where to turn to

More cuts will continue to decimate our community and create problems that will ultimately cost more money. Please stop trying to make this look like a reasonable exercise in reorganising things and start acknowledging it as a desperate attempt to respond to enormous and unacceptable cuts to funding that is needed. Please resist these cuts loudly, visibly and robustly. That is the only responsible thing to do. The services you want to cut are preventative. Trying to offload them onto other cash strapped services is an impractical cop out. Every service is suffering damaging cuts.

I have grown up children now so am not personally impacted currently. However I believe that any reduction in preventative support will have an adverse effects. There are so many factors why children, young people and families need support throughout life. We should be responsive to these needs, working in partnership with communities to see what they need. Children with additional needs and families living on low incomes and poverty especially may need support at times. To provide good early help services is in the long term cost effective, do not cut these services.

Schools are already struggling to deal with the cases needing 'universal services'. Schools budgets are also being cut which means less staff to deliver the curriculum let alone provide services for children and families in need.

Schools are already incredibly stretched (as are health services) and if even more responsibility is put on them to support vulnerable families, then the situation would become untenable.

Once again, the proposed changes to Early Help appear to hit the people who need DCC's help the most.

I fear that there will be less services available, and that the proposal that health services will provide more services is not going to happen, as health have not been given any extra resource. School nursing and health visiting have both been cut back and are struggling to provide any extra help beyond statutory safeguarding duties
The effects of these cuts will undoubtedly mean a greater need for Social care to become involved, and that budget has already been cut.
I think the help and support provided by council staff helped me and my family so much when we needed it that I would hate to see the service/ expertise disappear.
The groups have really helped me and will be a shame when the Council put a stop to them, preventing other parents in the future benefitting from them.
The less support that families will receive will increase problems we have in society
Completely disagree. Our family would have ended up with two severely depressed parents if the help wasn't so easily accessed. Without the funds the MAT and early help just wouldn't be accessible to all that may need it.
I don't know where this family would be without the early intervention and ongoing support from the MAT, I've found the help invaluable and still make use of what I've learnt. It's given our family a better quality of life and helped both mine and my sons confidence and ability to cope with everyday situations and complications. The early intervention and MAT provide a much needed service and do such a successful job of preventing an escalation to greater risk of harm within families.
While resources are tight it makes sense to prioritise the most urgent and serious situations. But there should be some emphasis on general information/resources available (online?) and guidance on self care and ways to prevent crises occurring where possible
It is not fair and should not be reduced because it helps families to grow and keep each other safe.
MAT practitioners offer vital support and also links to the school setting which help to modify any turbulence which is affecting children and YP's education, aspirations and outcomes. The work needed to support families, Children and YP is not going to reduce.
Every child is vulnerable as is every new parent. It is important that we offer preventative support to all families to keep them out of crisis and or better equip them to deal with a crisis. Being reactive will end up costing the authority and the country much more money. What we should be doing is building resilience in children, young people and adults through Derbyshire County Councils Vision - Working creatively together to support and inspire children, young people and their families to be the best they can be: safe, healthy, happy, learning and working.
Schools have been asked to fund £5m for Early Help services from their own declining budgets, which they are unable to do as has been witnessed by the shortfalls. Now schools are being asked to provide the Early Help service as well as to fund it. In many cases it will be advantageous for Early Help to be delivered by a known and trusted adult within a familiar setting at school. However This will simply put further pressure on school budgets and on teachers and in some cases may not be suitable where relationships with schools have broken down.

**Appendix 2 - Full List of Respondents Comments for Question 7: Comments on Proposals for Youth Support and Careers Services**

<b>Q7 - If you have any other comments to make on the proposed changes please provide details below.</b>
County Council Youth Services are part of a massive multiagency network. I don't feel that the concerns presented with youths today would be sufficiently dealt with by volunteers in the same recorded and shared way of the councils employees.
I'm a bit confused as not all of the youth activities proposed to stop are youth clubs - some are targeted sessions which don't even happen in any of the DCC youth clubs. What is going to happen to the youth club buildings and are you going to close them - and if so what happens to the community groups who use them?
Youth work needs to be assessed and continued in its areas of strength.
See previous comments - remarks about capacity of agencies to replace DCC
Despite the offer of grants these won't sustain a decent youth service offer provided by external bodies. It will mean that offer is concentrated in areas where there will be a 'paying' public and viable large populations leaving our rural young people isolated and without any offer. Assuming that schools and others can offer a coherent and professional careers service when they are already stretched with many other responsibilities will probably mean that our young people either don't get work experience or good careers advice or provision is patchy. Is this really the best we can do for our young people who are the future of our communities?
It is appreciated that cuts have to be made due to government budget constraints, but rather than have a grants scheme (for those that have the ability and expertise to fill out a grants form) it would be much more productive to have the grant scheme funding budget set aside for 'borderline' cases where a panel (made up of independent residents/users/experts/professionals) is convened to make a case by case decision.
I'm concerned at further reduction to drop in clubs

The budget reduction is very large over a short period - I'm concerned that many children and young people will be put at risk.
All the proposals are based on provision of service to those with identified high levels of need; nothing for those with emerging needs who should be helped before life changing difficulties develop
Again it's about funding. I think the money should move away from MATs. Referral is time consuming and wasteful, schools and colleges can respond in a more meaningful way as they know the students already.
I have past experience of referring into and working alongside MAT in another area and hold them in high regard so I feel sad that DCC is having to consult on this and am sure it wasn't a decision taken lightly. They do empower children and families and promote good outcomes. They are a key part of overall service provision alongside health and education. Supporting the third sector to provide services that were previously council services will only succeed in terms of delivering positive outcomes if the funding is secure and longer term. Short term grants currently cause a lot of uncertainty in this sector and do not allow them to realise the vision of supporting statutory sectors. This a general issue across the country and across sectors.
Currently, the standard of youth support and careers can be monitored and quality assured. By moving to third sector organisations, the quality of these could be questionable meaning the service young people will receive could not be suitable. By offering just targeted groups within DCC, we are grouping together all the young people with 'issues' and not giving them the opportunity to engage with 'normal' young people. Targeted youth groups only work when universal runs alongside. Costs of ASB, substance misuse, crime etc. will outweigh the costs of youth groups in the long run. These changes are very short sighted.
I feel Careers Guidance and support for young people post 16 and parents is very critical in terms of young people continuing in education/training and to make informed decisions about their future careers/learning.
Make them quicker and save some cash
If schools and colleges have a legal duty to provide the support then it makes sense to cut the role from MAT's to save money.
The idea of more street based workers is essential, communities have been forgotten and we need skilled and experienced youth workers in the heart of communities regularly to rebuild trust with communities and young people.
Schools do not have the budget, staff or time to be a) a bigger part of the early help offer, b) offer more careers guidance whilst c) providing valuable learning opportunities and education
Youth support services and careers service offer very valuable support and advice to young people at a crucial time in their lives. Without these to turn to young people are more likely to make poor and uninformed decisions which could significantly affect their life chances.
The youth clubs keep our kids off the street and prevent them getting into trouble
Young people need as much help as possible in this economic climate.
Young people are our future but taking away their support will only have a negative effect on them. However youth workers and pa should concentrate on their roles and not have to do early help, unless that is their role early help youth worker.

Typical Tories
Youth workers and personal assistants in my opinion are overpaid and don't have a case load nor overall work load reflect their pay. A cut in youth services and personal advisers is needed as I feel family support workers cover the majority of this work anyway
In a period of rising youth crime, the provision of democratically controlled youth services are vital. This is not an area that should be left to the vagaries of the voluntary sector.
I feel that the issues surround our youth today are increasing, the use of substances, sexual abuse and harm against each other, mental health issues etc. There is a huge gap here to ensure our young people are properly support let's and getting the education they need in these areas to prevent such behaviours. However I do feel school needs to step up and do more, I feel more consultations with schools to deliver such programmes in schools is needed, this way more young people could be reached.
Youth workers and career advisors are important to help young people who need extra support and guidance
It would be a false economy to withdraw support to vulnerable children in our communities. By taking support away from those who need it the most will probably cost more money in the long term. To reduce careers and youth support would mean that those children who need targeted support to raise their aspirations and plan for a safe, prosperous and happy future could be jeopardised and only the children from more stable subconscious expect to achieve their full potential.
Regarding youth services, I understand that drop ins are hard to get the teenagers to come into and if attendance is consistently low then it makes sense not to plough tons of money into them. I would ask for reassurance that current service users would be given the individualised support suggested regardless of need given their commitment and engagement with the service this far. What concerns me is what happens if there are no voluntary groups operating in a certain area?
If schools are to take on the roles ditched by Derbyshire County Council then they should be given the necessary funding for it.
Youth and career services are needed for youngsters who are at a critical stage of their lives to help them move on and not fall into and become problems that are more long term and expensive for the council to try and fix later
I think it is a good idea for schools and colleges to provide careers support.
Youth workers provide invaluable support to young people. They have an ability to work with young people in ways that other professionals cannot. The local authority is the best placed to provide joined up and consistent support across more than one school.
Just because I haven't used these services, it doesn't meant that I won't in the future, so they need to be in place for my family and for others.
What support will schools receive to offer these services? We already have many services staffed by minimum people due to cuts as well in cuts in pay. These children and families require support from experienced knowledgeable workers who feel valued, not from workers who are exhausted, don't feel valued and are constantly worried about losing their jobs.

I feel cutting the services for youths would make the current situation worse. There is a big issue in the local community of young people doing drugs and engaging in gang related behaviour and by cutting services, this problem will only escalate!

The youth group that our daughter go to is her life saver. It is the only club/ group that she socialises all week. She suffers with anxiety and if this closes then she would stay in her room all week get more anxiety and may be depression. I am totally against this.

DCC has well trained careers advisors. Derbyshire will not be doing its future employees or employers justice by cutting this service. The support given to NEET young people is vital.

There is no proper support for children who are leaving school to find a carer especially if they are not sure what they want to do. Children need youth clubs, etc. to help them understand and fit in the community, instead of being left to do whatever they like in the community and end up getting into trouble.

Schools cannot and do not provide independent careers advice for young people, particularly ones with sixth forms. It is proven that early careers advice is critical to good decision making and improved confidence.

Reducing everything that's been put into place to support families isn't the way to go, the services are offered because they are needed, find the money needed from somewhere else don't take it from services needed.

One of my sons started dabbling in drugs as a 15-year-old and was nearly excluded from school. We encouraged him to get involved in the local youth club and he ended up doing loads of music activities and positive arts stuff, trips and residential that somehow distracted him away from all that bad influences. Don't know what would have happened if there had been no youth clubs at that point. It completely changed him. He ended up doing a volunteering course and now works for the NHS as a nurse. Please don't get rid of youth clubs. Teenagers need that interaction with other positive teenagers, not just being put in groups of problem ones.

Young people today desperately need these services. Without them some of them will be lost and lonely and will fail when they wouldn't have if they had this support

I can understand the financial pressure the council is under but I wonder whether schools and the community have the capacity to provide the level of service currently provided by the council. I have a horrible premonition that we may end up saving money in the short term but we all end up paying the price in the long term because young people didn't get the support they needed from community groups or the support and advice they needed for careers.

Alfreton Polygon Friday Night club has been increasing in number week on week. We do activities inside and sports outside and see workers there if we need help. Last week there were 30 of us. How can it close!!???? Our workers told us they have to open through the summer but that's when numbers drop a lot, but now we've moved into Yr 11 there's loads of young people go! Those who don't go anymore are the ones causing trouble in Tesco and fighting on Grange Street Park every week. At least in the youth club we are safe, warm and supervised. The staff don't bother us if we don't want to do activities but they are always there if we need them.



The youth support in Fairfield Buxton is used by a large amount of children. Majority coming from families which do not always meet their child's needs and it's their safe place to go on a Thursday evening where they have support and can talk to youth workers and volunteers about any issues or concerns
Although Schools now have a responsibility for providing CEIAG to young people there have been surveys completed which have led to question the quality and partiality of the guidance received by young people impacting on their ability to make informed choices about their future pathway. This is particularly the case where schools have VI Forms attached which can impact upon the impartiality of guidance given. The potential impact on young people's social/economic and financial development is immeasurable; along with costs to the Economy/GDP & Health & Social Care Services; i.e. through long term impact upon Y/P's Mental Health and wellbeing.
Youth team are needed more with activities to help prevent. Youth crime and drugs on the street. Make people feel more safe and secure without youths hanging around on street corners Youth workers help and support children with a range of needs from socialising to mental health which is vital
I sense most action and decision making have already been decided by committee members and this early help review questionnaire is just paper chase for tick boxing.
Derbyshire Youth clubs are excellent early warning and action units and give young people the chance to express the fears and feelings without reprisal or judgement. They are also far more adept at discussing sexual health than Derbyshire schools are. When these safe spaces are taken away where will the children congregate?
Employ specific careers officers rather than making MAT workers to everything!!!
Please see my previous comment - this applies to youth and careers services as well
Youth services are so important in recognising CSE and other risks that can lead to vulnerable young people being exploited. Who will provide career advice to those not on school or college? Schools are quick to exclude student these days!
I feel schools and colleges should be responsible for careers advice
These services need to be modernised
The services provided from early help are fundamental in supporting children and their families before they reach crisis point and early help can avoid issues escalating to that level
Schools can offer very good careers advice. However, pupils who are at risk of being NEET require extra help and support- it is essential that schools still receive help with vulnerable groups of young people.
This is complete madness and will only lead to inflated costs in the future
See comment above, unrealistic to expect others to fill your place

The youth services in Derbyshire are already very targeted, I struggle to see how these can be reduced further and able to protect the young people in the locality. Youth workers reduce the number of referrals that are made to starting point by meeting with young people and giving them the support they need in projects and groups. Youth workers tend to have the better relationships with young people and families out of all professionals. I know many young people who have built good relationships with the local youth workers and have gained a lot from their support which has prevented them needing further more intense support later on in life which would cost the authority more.

In areas of high deprivation youth work is vital for young people and provision should not be reduced or taken away

As previous what are the residents of Ironville going to do without them, a lot of elderly are suffering too with lack of support

I honestly don't know anything about Derbyshire County council supposed support or services and I have children

All Youth Services and Career Advice Services should remain a universal offer

I know it's a lack of funds available but schools also have this issue and it could lead to a case of passing the child forward and back and the child not really knowing who to go to for career as advice. I think it will put a disadvantage to the children who already don't know who they can talk to and whose parents may not have an interest in their careers.

Once again the reduction in service is down to underfunding of local Government.

Disgusting that the adults and young people are not been given the guidance and support to gain confidence through courses and support through 1 to 1 to allow them to gain qualifications and get into work. Not enough support for mental health. No understanding of the communities and their needs. No money put into the staffing and services will cost the government more to sort out the massive mess they have got themselves into. You don't listen to what the people want

To lower the age to 21

By walking away from your responsibility to provide careers advice you are leaving the way clear for private firms to provide a much reduced service at an inflated price...much as the government is doing with our NHS

Careers should be dealt with via school they understand the academics employee someone to support with college applications and section making

Schools have their own agendas. They are part of the process, not the whole process.

For far too long the Council has retained old, not fit for purpose, expensive to run youth centres which must be expensive to maintain and do not attract today's young people. These should be shut down and any resulting savings reinvested into direct work with the most vulnerable.

I think services need to be available for all kids in Derbyshire, my son has little access to groups because he's not need or in a targeted group, that isn't fair cause he could end up in one of those groups without good safe provision

A reduction in services will ultimately lead to young people slipping through the net and becoming dysfunctional adults as they no longer reach a specified criteria. Support for more children in the early years can lead to young adults who no longer need to use the service as they have been helped as youngsters and have

strategies to be able to cope. It is false economy, although the costs will be transferred to adult services instead as the young person enters adulthood.

Young people need a place to hang out!! They need to be able to form those bonds and gain trust. It's not just about learning through 10mins here and there it's about giving young people an opportunity to gain confidence to be able to ask those questions they wouldn't normally ask.... experience things and listen to new ideas learning trust and compromise within a group of people the same age.. Youth workers are doing a fantastic job and they need a designated place to do this the closing of our youth buildings is an outrage. People raise money and put a lot of work into making these hubs successful they will then be empty buildings another place to get vandalised and trashed... causing more aggravation and the council will then spend more policing repairing etc... It's an outrage you can only cut so much before it starts to back fire with negative effect. Ironville youth club railway carriage is not the one to close... no other secure building in the village with facilities.

Again, I don't know whether the changes to YS were just dreamt up or if research has been done I don't know how well the QA is on community groups. An example of how things can go wrong is the national service idea of David Cameron's which has proven expensive and ineffective as it wasn't based upon good research. We could just throw (less) money at pointless schemes. It's a false economy to keep paying money (even if less money) into ineffective schemes and programmes. A benefit of LA services is that they have robust QA.

My son only goes out when the youth club is open as he feels safe and welcome there and it's the only thing for the kids to do around ironville

Cutting youth services will lead to increase in ASB. Deprive young people of powerful resources that support them

Youth Service - you cannot expect local people to 'volunteer' and support young people in the same way as the current Youth Workers do. They do not have the necessary skills that are required to deal with the complex situations that often arise. Careers Service - Schools will simply not be able to deliver this service 'in house' they have neither the time nor the knowledge and as a consequence our young people will be seriously disadvantaged when making important choices which will affect them for the rest of their lives.

In terms of youth clubs, these will be too targeted and young people needing low level support for self-esteem/ mild mental health issues may not be targeted and therefore will not receive the support. Support will only be offered to targeted groups e.g. low economic wealth and those from middle class families will not be able to access much needed support at a critical age from an independent source (not school). Why should people who pay council tax not be able to access the services that they pay for?

I feel young people need youth provisions available to them to help them socialise in a positive way and have a place where they can feel safe and a place to talk with professionals about any issues they are facing - which is not always available at school. The careers provision is vital to help young people explore various options for their future.

<p>Youth are a huge issue with cuts to youth clubs, careers, schools, education and so many children not in school or education. The careers and youth service are a massive part of education and family support to help children and young people thrive when they leave education to get more young people working and access the appropriate education and jobs.</p>
<p>I think cuts to young people's services will affect the outcomes for young people in their future lives.</p>
<p>The irony of the council focusing on preventing harm are only going to bring about harm by not providing our young adults in the first place. Services are already hugely cut with higher crime rates and public order issues.</p>
<p>Independent is required everything is now in schools they are missing kids out they just want to hit targets</p>
<p>The youth work provide to the community, schools and families is incredibly important to the safety of young people. They provide additional support to young people who will need support outside of working and school hours. The relationship with youth workers is valuable in maintaining relationship and gaining information to help keep the community and residents safe.</p>
<p>I think that teenagers are a vulnerable group and find it difficult to talk to adults about issues affecting the. Youth centres are a trusted and secure place they can do this.</p>
<p>No hope for some young people.</p>
<p>If you stop funding the youth clubs you are then relying on volunteers to set up programmes to support the teenagers. What happens when no groups are in the area to support them? What happens then?</p>
<p>There will be many missed opportunities and children and young people will suffer in the long run.</p>
<p>Careers advice in schools needs to be regulated to ensure its effectiveness</p>
<p>I think careers advice should be a school responsibility. As for youth work, I agree drop in services aren't the best way. Street work is good. I know a team visit the skate park in Matlock and talk to kids using it - I feel this approach is good. My son has spoken positively about the team and the way they interact with the kids down there.</p>
<p>this should not be cut and kept</p>
<p>Once again I feel I don't know what you are asking, what you are reducing, I can't see Careers mentioned in your badly worded, littered with poor grammar! Cabinet report yet you have it as a key question you don't have permission to consult on this question. This is evidence of a project team doing work that have no understanding what they are consulting or reducing, this is the evidence required to legal action. I feel sorry for you staff teams!</p>
<p>Early Help intervention is required to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people and to prevent escalation of Child in Need/Child Protection and serious case reviews. The MATs complete valuable and effective work within the communities including family support, youth work and careers support via the personal advisors which follows the children's services vision to work together and inspire and empower children and young people and their families and communicates to be the best they can be: safe, healthy, happy, learning and working.</p>

Terrible questionnaire, see my previous comments.
My son is in a SEN school that has received NO careers guidance input for several years! The staff work hard and have neither the time OR experience to do the job of trained career guides!
You charge for schools for this service so can you cut this. You are absolutely stupid and have no idea of what you are asking has a junior created these ridiculous questions
if rely on schools giving careers advice there will be no consistency across the county and it will increase the gap for some children for those having opportunities and life chances and ones that do not. Social mobility will reduce further in society increasing the gap between those 'with' and those 'without'. Having individual youth groups from the voluntary/charity sector will reflect the local community i.e. areas where people have time and funds and the confidence to set up groups will do so and other areas will lack services. Again the gap will increase and inequality will grow. Having council overview should ensure there are equitable services across Derbyshire. It should not depend on where you live for available services.
I agree that the current method of youth club delivery is not meeting the emerging needs of young people - attendance figures testify to that. However I feel that the consultation material paints a very rosy picture of the activities available to young people in the community. In rural areas particularly activities and places where teenagers can just "be" with their friends are very limited. Infrequent and in many places non-existent public transport means that access to activities can only be reached with parental involvement - an option not always attractive to a teenager craving independence. Therefore I strongly support the Council becoming more involved in Street based youth work - but this need to be widespread and plentiful to be effective.
Youth group attendance numbers and outcomes should be analysed before scrapping all the groups. Also the staffing numbers should be looked at. In the course of a previous job I attended youth groups, some poorly attended and yet sometimes 3 or 4 DCC staff in attendance.
Disagree with the closure of Ironville train carriage
Teachers have enough on their plate - Career advisers are specialists in that particular field - if this service gets swallowed up in schools, the service will fail. There are not enough accessible youth clubs available for teenagers with special needs, autism in my son's case.
My son is 10 years old, I will be using the youth services in the very near future and feel this support is essential to aiding his progress in relation to multiple disabilities.
The vulnerable desperately need the support, if it is removed then we are failing the future. A local Panorama program highlighted failings supporting the mental health of young people (HYM/CAMHS) and the lack of funding and the criteria. Also highlighted were multiple attempts at suicide before services were introduced. I believe that the DCC support would provide early intervention and possibly prevent irreparable damage to the youth of today. Cuts to the services will only add to the already mounting problems.

Without an overarching service which is responsible for the county, we are in danger of ending up with pockets of good and not so good practice. This will have a detrimental impact on our young people.

It is unsustainable to cut these services to this extent, whilst recognising the reduced amount of funding available to local authorities, it is time for the administration to push back to central government the dangerous impacts of these intended cuts to services.

Reducing the Youth Groups will reduce the amount of quality and positive impact youth workers can have on Young people and their families. The quality training and experience that youth workers have can support to keep these Young people, engaged within education, safe and will give the young people within Derbyshire a voice. Derbyshire County Council have not done a full investigation into their youth groups, they have asked for statistics from each locality in relation to the groups but they have not investigated into the positive work that is performed. They have not spoken to the young people about what the projects mean to them, what help and support it provides for them and the positive impact this has on their lives. Cutting groups will isolate young people and take away their voice. I believe volunteers may not have the skills or the knowledge to offer these young people what is needed within their community - this will lead to them not having a voice.

Have you considered U-Explore <http://website.u-explore.com/>. This is a careers platform that is free to the end user.

I have seen, having worked in London, the decimation that cutting of youth services and youth groups has done there - it's not just about accessing local community based funding. These groups are drop in hubs, places where young people can simply talk and get together in a safe protected space - this is missing - utterly missing in so many communities now and youth knife crime and drug crime is rising. Youth groups work informally and are a great opportunity to chat in a safe space - run courses around things like sexual health, staying safe, recreational drug use etc. Not every young person wants to be in an intensive 121 type set up nor do they need to be. The value of youth and community work in a youth setting is reported on and verified through research. Don't try and negate this work - you will end up having to deal with the horrendous impact of cutting these services though the impact on young people and the consequent impact on their communities as they grow older.

We need services for teenagers and young adults to show them there is a big wide world outside of Swadlincote, we need to encourage them to learn, travel and be well rounded people.

youth groups are an effective way to build trusting relationships with youth workers and provide a safe space for young people to socialise keeping them off the streets

I believe that it would be very detrimental to young people and the wider community in Derbyshire to close the current youth groups and services which have been identified. Youth groups provide a safe space for young people socialise and develop into adults with the support of the skilled youth workers who they engage with. Young people face many pressures whether it be around drugs and alcohol or staying safe online. Having a place where they can spend time safely can assist with reducing potential risk taking behaviour, and also see a decrease in antisocial behaviour in the community. I work for Sexual Health Services and our Sexual Health Promotion team regularly link in with youth groups across the county to offer sexual health education, screening for sexually transmitted infections and the provision of free condoms to young people. If this community link was removed young people's sexual health would also suffer as many of them would not visit clinics or access other provisions.

There is nowhere to go for impartial careers advice and schools don't have the capacity to do it all. NEET children will get missed out.

Again, the LA should not have to cut back any of these services. we should be protesting more loudly and fighting for a fairer country

You should not be passing the buck to another underfunded area. Perhaps you could work together and support each other, therefore sharing the load and cost. The young people mentioned would not lose out.

Youth clubs are valuable places for young people to go and be supported by professional qualified Youth Workers who can recognise in children and young people issues and vulnerabilities. They are another important part of child protection processes that safeguard the most vulnerable children. Careers advice in schools is already a concern and I think further reducing this would have an impact on young people knowing what opportunities are available.

If you rely on a "grant" who would meet the criteria? I'm assuming if you receive benefits you would be successful but what about those who are struggling due to working. Again we seem to reinforce the "benefit culture".

Keep youth clubs on

It makes me feel safe. I will have nowhere to go if the youth clubs shut

If the train shuts, there will be a lot of anti social behaviour and maybe an increase in crime

I attend my local youth club regularly 3 times a week and by closing it down I wouldn't have nothing to do and it would affect kids at my age's behaviour.

Teenagers still need somewhere to go every targeted support introduced! Cost of rental of buildings ? In Bolsover. We don't have a stand along carer service - the MAT worker supported my son ??? An extremely poor questionnaire, how are people going to access who don't have access to this link, which has been sent to my work??? The questions are meaningless.

Going to girls group make me happy

It has made me improve on my self-esteem and it would make me feel isolated without the group

I have maked loads of new friends

We need to invest time and money into our youth, they are our future and are being seriously let down by the elder generation. Never before has the world been such a stressful place for teenagers, statistics evidence this clearly. More suicides,

self harming, depression, anxiety, school drop outs -we need to invest more not less
I attend Kirk Hallam Girls Group and I made new friends and I never go out.
We attend KH girl's group, if anything reduce it! It helps people with low self esteem.
We attend Kirk Hallam's girls group, they have helped entirely and prevented me from becoming a cold blooded boy controlling and abolishing my action.
I attend Kirk Hallam's Girl's group. Before coming here, I was very anti-social and I had low self-esteem. Now all of this has changed because of these youth groups. You need to increase these groups.
I have made many friends at Kirk Hallam Girls group
The removal of the train will mean that the youth of Ironville will lose the group, well run and friendly facility that the train offers. The children now will have no place to go and struggle to commute with each other due to the loss of the location of the train.
The only thing we have is Train, if it won't be here we wouldn't have nothing to do.
It's a false economy you are just shifting responsibility onto other services and increasing the likelihood of disaffected youth, antisocial behaviour and petty crime.
The Parish Council, while recognising DCC's financial position and thus its need to make some cuts to services, nevertheless regards this HUGE cut to services for vulnerable people as completely disproportionate. - and thus totally unacceptable.
I am answering this as the Headteacher of a local school who uses the Services at the Grange. To cut the services back and then put this on to schools and other non-specialists will do only one thing - put children in danger. I cannot be more blunt than that. At the moment, we receive fantastic support, service and advice from the team at The Grange, and know that the families of our children are in a better position due to the services they offer and we access. Reducing this service will result in more families being made vulnerable, more children being being put in danger, and a greater load on schools -which we do not have the training or capacity to handle.
People who lack encouragement/guidance at home need a department who can support them
Schools provide significant careers advice however we are unable to maintain contact as they leave at 16. Who would pick these young people up? Youth groups are an essential part of the community development and being able to refer students to specific groups is essential. Other youth groups offer more generalised support rather than targeted work which can be completed in the current settings
You need to improve the service instead of taking it away! Support families and their children instead of causing destruction.
Reducing provision via closures is not the way to go, nor is offering small grants to external providers. DCC should look to undertake a complete overhaul based in best or good practice (i.e. models that are proven to protect the vulnerable and provide genuine support)



The lack of jobs available is increasing and therefore careers are becoming elitist as university fees etc. prevent students from joining. Apprenticeships should be more widely available with the apprentice levy being removed for businesses as they are then more likely to be able to afford to engage rather than resent this.

The Youth Service does not provide Careers Advice so the question is not only misleading it will not pick up the real life situation - it is a confused questionnaire. Careers advice has always been provided by professionally qualified Careers Advisors and Personal Advisors who are able to provide independent, impartial information advice and guidance. This has been seen by the government as being crucial to the support to young people to ensure they are able to access provision that meets their needs and aspirations. It is also assumed that young people will only be able to access appropriate support when they have reached a crisis point and no preventative work will be done in a more generic area. Those who need the support will not necessarily access this if they are not able to see themselves as being part of a 'normal' group. I do not believe that your proposals will serve the children and young people of Derbyshire fairly.

Being based in Glossop, we have had the worst of cuts and services have already been stopped with no outside agency help put in place.

The youth service has drastically helped my child with building their confidence and self esteem and providing them with aspirations for the future!

. We have lots of young families who need help. General practice is already at breaking point. Schools often not supportive. Without continued, substantial council funding families will be left stranded with lots of unforeseen future costs to the council. This is a very short sighted and backwards move.

Help, support and advice for young adults with special educational needs should be able to be supported by experienced people away from mainstream schools to ensure they are given the opportunity to reach their potential by gaining the support of experienced staff with the time to work with them to this end.

We are dealing with the effects of poverty and unemployment already and reducing services will only increase this. Unless there is evidence that confirms these services are ineffective we will be in a situation where people have to deteriorate to the point of becoming eligible for services before we can support them. Prevention is better than cure

Again, the careers service seems a very expensive way of doing things, Personal Assistants in MAT are paid £30,000.

There is already a huge lack of service provision for older disabled children, basically the council is saying it's washing its hands of providing these services and instead hoping other people who are less experienced and qualified will put together some sort of provision to help the older children in return for grant money. This is likely to result in a total lack of provision in many areas (like Somercotes where I live) or clubs or groups which are poorly run or quickly open and close due to poor management. I think it's a mistake to remove these core services - it will lead to problems with mental and physical health in the long term.

How will the LA fulfil its statutory duties around 16-18 learners who aren't in meaningful pathways?

Early intervention from careers service and youth clubs support people in making informed decisions. If the input is not made this misinformed decision and consequences will be made
School budgets are slashed! How is it realistically expected that within a framework of higher class sizes , loss of support staff and resources that teachers are able to take on anything extra
Please resist the cuts. Do so loudly, visibly and enthusiastically. Don't insult the public's intelligence by mildly describing them as necessary reorganisation of services and asking the turkeys to vote for Christmas. Don't let the people you are supposed to serve by letting our community go down without even a fight. Surely you can see that this is wrong? What does it take for you as a council to stand up and be counted? Will the grants you are offering provide continuous, long term funding for the services that matches what would have been spent in house? I guess not, otherwise there wouldn't be a saving, which is all this is about isn't it? We do not want outsourcing in any case. Again it is a cop out to try to offload the services you are cutting to other services, and those services will not be equipped to do the job.
As before....I moved to Derbyshire 2 years ago so this doesn't apply to me personally now. However from my parenting experience I think it is essential to provide services for young people especially in transitional years.
Youth clubs that give teenagers a safe place to go are providing a valuable service as without this service there are likely to be more 'vulnerable' teenagers as they will have nowhere to go but hang round the streets.
The youth if today are the country's - and Derbyshire's - figure. We should be investing more in helping them find the right careers, not less.
Whilst I can understand the council is struggling with budgets I feel the services they provide are invaluable to the young people of Derbyshire. Support can equal Prevention which is better for the individual and cheaper for the council in the long term.
That we disagree with Ironville Youth Club closing, and money has just been spent to get it back to scratch. My daughter doesn't actually go out unless the youth club is on.
We disagree that Ironville Youth Club should be closed.
Helps teenagers mentally and to change for better. Youth clubs are happy.
Caroline Bradshaw is an outstanding practitioner and supports YP at risk of becoming NEET to positive outcomes.
Youth services need consistency of provision by qualified and respected individuals who can build long term relationships with young people in the community they serve. Whilst voluntary groups are well-meaning, the short term nature of grants and lack of required qualifications and links to other services make them less able to provide a constant service that young people and their Carers can rely on.
This provides a safe place for us to hang out, it gets us off the street.
We like Friday nights with Keely and with all??
Aup mate
We are Friday nights because they let us bond and spend time with our mates and have an indoor area to hang out

I think it will be crap. We will have nowhere to go and all Shirebrook will be crap and the youth club is the best thing ever.
NO
Don't do it!
none
AUP
My child didn't use any of these because she is not in relevant age
Schools are not financially able to cater for the careers needs of all pupils and the quality of careers. Education varies significantly with the result that many pupils do not receive the objective/informed help they need to make the right choices for them.
Totally excludes "NEET" young people who do not have SEN.
Groups help people find people who are going through the same situations and it helps people make friends
Groups bring people together especially when people are going through hard times and don't have anyone. Targeted groups allow people to connect and make friendships.
I believe the support provided by youth support services is such a key thing which is vitally important as it gives young people a purpose to positively get one, make friends and have a sense of belonging.
Bigger youth groups are extremely useful in keeping youth off the streets, creating sense of community and helping well-being. They should still be funded and run.
If the youth clubs closed down in Shirebrook I would feel very sad because since I joined here I made lots of friends and if it wasn't for youth club I don't know what I would be doing right now.
Ironville youth club is essential in the village and nothing will be available if the train was to close
Ironville Parish Council strongly objects to the proposed changes (for the Ironville facility in particular) for the following reasons: 1) there was no transparency in the process. When youth services visited Ironville they did not give any notice of the visit or explain why they were there. In addition DCC are required to give notice of consultations to Parish and Town Councils - these come from the central team direct to Clerks so they can be highlighted to the Council and Community. This consultation did not follow this principle and therefore contravenes the Nolan Principles. 2) The number of attendees on the consultation paper is inaccurate - attendees are 40+ not 8 3) Ironville is a disadvantaged community and the Train provides a valued, and much used facility, for young people 4) There has been no engagement with the Railway Carriage who have invested £14k to enhance the facility as they were unaware of these proposals
I enjoy going to the youth club and playing football, it's the only thing to do in Ironville.
I make friends at the youth club and I enjoy sports and exercise
The train is the only reason I come out.

### Appendix 3: Additional letters/emails/petitions received during consultation.

Date Received	Name of responder/organisation	Statement in letter	No of people represented
Oct-18	Sharon James - Head teacher - Bramley Vale Primary School	<p>By Letter:</p> <p>I am writing to you on behalf of the BEST (Bolsover Excellence Schools' Trust) cluster of 10 primary and infant schools and our associate secondary school – The Bolsover School.</p> <p>We would like to express our concerns over the proposed cuts to the Early Help Offer. Please take this letter as our joint consultation questionnaire.</p> <p>As a group of schools we are extremely worried about the affect the cuts will have on our children. We feel that if services are cut, then many vulnerable families will not get the support that they need. We currently feel swamped by the increasing demand on schools to provide support for children and families who are struggling and feel this will just increase to breaking point.</p> <p>In schools, we find particular services vital to the day to day running of schools. The services that we cannot do without are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational welfare support, including attending attendance panel meetings. These have a real impact on improving attendance and outcomes for children.</li> <li>• Family resource workers through the MAT teams. These are vital to help support our families through difficult times. Family resource workers ensure that there is early intervention with families which prevent these families from needing more intense support in the future. Family resource workers have a huge impact both in outcomes and with children's health and wellbeing. They also help to support the relationship between home and school.</li> <li>• Courses to help support our families and parenting advice. These courses give our parents and young people the confidence and skills to ensure that they have successful futures.</li> </ul> <p>We are also worried about the fact that social care services rely on the MAT team to support families who fall below threshold but that they are concerned about. Without the MAT team, we feel that these families will be very vulnerable.</p> <p>We think it is short-sighted to cut the budget to these vital services, as the impact will be that more families need more intense support in the future. Prevention and early</p>	cluster of 10 primary and infant schools and associate secondary school - The Bolsover School

		intervention are key to ensure that families are not left unsupported and that children are not put at risk of harm.	
05.10.18	Stuart Turner - Head teacher - Killamarsh Junior School	<p>By email: I'm contacting you on behalf of the headteachers of our local Eckington cluster: 9 in total including the Eckington Secondary.</p> <p>We would like to see if you are available for a meeting to discuss the changes in the Early Help Offer that on the horizon and see if there is any way we a cluster can support the maintenance of our current MAT or an adapted version of it.</p> <p>We realise funding of this would be different compared to current arrangements and also realise that there are uncertainties ahead but we would welcome the opportunity to explore alternatives with you in the hope to secure some of the excellent services we have received from Eckington and Dronfield MAT in the past.</p> <p>I appreciate you will be spending a lot of time fielding questions on this subject but if you could indicate a few dates times you would be available in this month or early November we will endeavour to free up our diaries to have a positive forward looking conversation with you. Hope to hear when your able.</p>	headteachers of our local Eckington cluster: 9 in total including the Eckington Secondary
21.10.18	Steve Atkinson Independent Chair DSCB	<p>Letter: Proposals to Change the Early Help Service</p> <p>I am writing in my capacity as the Independent Chair of the Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board to comment on the proposals being considered to make changes to the Early Help Service in the county. I appreciate having the opportunity to make what I hope are constructive comments.</p> <p>I fully appreciate the financial drivers for considering these changes – ongoing reductions in funding from central government, allied to the removal of time-limited grant funding streams reaching the end of their allocation. The Council has some difficult decisions to make.</p> <p>I appreciate also an argument which suggests that there will be some children and families who are and have been generously supported, compared to the levels of support and funding provided in other authorities. The Council has to ensure that it provides value for money and that the most vulnerable children and their families receive priority. Making a judgement on the 'right' level of support is also fraught with difficulty.</p> <p>Nevertheless, being charged with holding to account agencies in Derbyshire which are themselves responsible for safeguarding children in the county, I am obliged to comment where I consider that an initiative being taken by</p>	

		<p>any agency or agencies carries a risk to effective safeguarding.</p> <p>Definition of 'Early Help': I suggest that the Council, with its partners, should review its current definition of Early Help and what it means for children and families, as set out in the joint vision statement with Derby City Council, ensuring that all partners are enabled to contribute to the definition. By that means, it will be clear to all partners – statutory and third sector – that they are expected and obliged to identify and respond to those children and families who are most in need.</p> <p>Continuity: it is welcome that the Council has committed to the maintenance of Early Help services which are 'legally required' and that it aims to increase its work with teenagers who most need its help. However, the level and quality of that support will be critical in maintaining or improving the outcomes for children and their families. It is welcome also that the Council intends to continue Early Help support to those currently in receipt to avoid unnecessary disruption. However, it should be clear that the 'legal requirement' relates to that under Working Together 2018 to provide Early Help to obviate the need for more intensive and expensive services later in life. The Council should consider very carefully any initiative or action which might miss opportunities to invoke Early Help appropriately, thus putting at risk the well-being of a child/children at a later date.</p> <p>Expectations on Families: the proposals refer to the future provision of parental advice and guidance by means of peer support groups, with a group facilitator. It will be vital that adequate support is provided to peer group activity, in terms of quantity and quality. Positive encouragement will be necessary to families, many of whom will take time to assimilate non-local authority engagement. Again, the Council should consider extending the period of implementation, if necessary.</p> <p>Expectations from Health agencies and Schools: There is an expectation that health agencies and schools will extend their support to absorb that reduced by the Council; in the case of schools, this extends to the provision of careers advice. Whilst this is a reasonable expectation in sharing the load of early help, the Council should take account of other additional expectations on schools in the area of Safeguarding, let alone education, and should be sensitive in the level of expectation. Accordingly, the initiative may take longer than the anticipated two years to become embedded and the Council may need to consider extending this period in due course.</p> <p>Funding Provision: From my recent knowledge and perception, as elsewhere in the country, the Council is expected to be both the first and last stop in supporting via Early Help provision. The comparisons made with funding</p>	
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		<p>from other Councils should be extensive and transparent, if the trust necessary to gain partner support is to be secured.</p> <p>Following from the points above – if expectations are clear and shared, this is very likely to involve more work from other agencies and the third sector. There is potential in the recently-launched Action Grants scheme, which will allow some of the ‘savings’ to be reinvested in the work of other agencies and the third sector, especially in relation to youth support work. However, the overall funding allocated to the scheme must be carefully considered and the targeting of these grants will need to be to those initiatives which evidence shows will have the greatest and most positive impact. I will be asking for assurances to the Safeguarding Children Board regarding the robustness of the evidence base and its application in relation to Early Help provision.</p> <p>Measuring the Effect: this follows from all the points above in that, whatever the final shape of the provision for the future, the Safeguarding Children Board will seek evidence of the impact of the changes on individual children (and their families), as well as collectively across the county. Indicators such as numbers of Children in Need, Children on Child Protection Plans and general contact numbers will form part of that analysis at each Board meeting, so that the Board can ask pertinent questions about how effective is the new policy and practice in providing help at the right time and in the right way to support children as early as possible.</p> <p>Contribution from the Safeguarding Children Board: I will be asking the Safeguarding Children Board to monitor both the planning and the implementation of any changes very closely. This will be in order to identify and bring to the attention of the Council very swiftly any evidence of shortcomings and, indeed, of any improvements in the safety and well-being of children in Derbyshire as a result of these strategy changes. In addition, the Board and its multi-agency subgroups will seek to support partners to find new and different opportunities to deliver early help and, thereby, meet the statutory duty outlined in Working Together 2018, to which I drew attention earlier in this response.</p> <p>Both the monitoring and the support will be conducted in a constructive manner, but both will challenge any aspects which Board members consider do not meet the requirement on local agencies to safeguard and promote the well-being of children in Derbyshire. I trust that the Council and its partners will continue to respect that position.</p> <p>I hope that these points are accepted in the constructive spirit in which they are offered and are given due consideration in decisions made about the future of Early Help in Derbyshire. I will be happy to discuss any of the issues raised in this response, should that be helpful.</p>	
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		<p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Steve Atkinson Independent Chair Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board</p> <p>cc Cllr Alex Dale Maureen Evans – Principal Social Worker</p>	
21.10.18	<p>Diana Munro - Clerk to the Governors - Whitwell Primary School</p>	<p>By email: I am attaching a letter from the Governing Body of Whitwell Primary School sent to DCC Children's Services in response to the consultation on the reduction in funding for the Early Help Offer.</p> <p>Text in letter: The Governing Board of Whitwell Primary School is concerned to be informed about the proposal to reduce the funding for the early Help Offer from £12.9m to £4.5m by 2020. At a recent meeting of the Governing Board the Headteacher described how Early Help is a vital service which offers positive support to many vulnerable families in Derbyshire and that without this service there could be a greater likelihood of children being at risk of significant harm or experiencing family breakdown. The governors understand the pressures on the County Council's budget and that services need to be reduced and spending prioritised, however they feel that this particular service should be a priority for the Council due to the far reaching benefits it has to Derbyshire's children and families. The availability of Early Help has ensured that many families do not have to be referred to Social Care as they can be supported before they hit crisis and go on to meet the threshold for more serious or statutory interventions. A reduction in the Early Help Offer will only increase the pressure upon Social Care. At the recent DCC Safeguarding Conference it was noted that 76% of serious case reviews were for children who were not under child protection.</p> <p>The school is aware of the huge impact the reduction in the Children's Centre Service has had. The school now has many children who arrive in school at Nursery at 3 years old who have extremely poor speech and language or who have limited social and interaction skills. Often this is as a result of parents who do not have the skills themselves but who can change this with the right support. In the past these children would have been supported through the Children's Centres and the governors believe that a similar cut to the Early Help Offer will have a direct negative impact upon children and young people in Derbyshire.</p> <p>The school understands its responsibilities within the Early Help Offer and with this in mind they have re-pooled their contribution to the service. The school works closely with the local Multi Agency Team to ensure they can support the families and children to the best of their ability. This</p>	



		<p>includes supporting the children through various interventions and having an 'open door' policy to support parents. In addition, our pastoral teaching assistant works exceptionally hard to develop a positive relationship with the parents. However, the school does not have the skills or the resources to support families in the home, or to support children out of school time during the school holidays, a time when vulnerable families are under more pressure due to the children being at home and difficulties heightened. The school believes that working with families before they hit crisis is much more than cost effective than trying to support these families via Social Care after something serious has happened which has a much greater impact upon the child and their family.</p> <p>It is the Governing Board's conclusion that the planned reduction in the funding for the Early Help offer may provide some relief to the current budgetary problems of Derbyshire County Council but that it is a short-term solution that risks family difficulties going unresolved and escalating to the point of statutory intervention by the Local Authority and thereby incurring a far greater cost, both financially and socially.</p>	
"24.10.18 - passed to us by Maureen"	Ironville Youth Club	<p>"Petitions received: Ironville Youth Club - The Train Carriage"</p> <p>The letter below is going to Derbyshire County Council (DCC) as a "Collective Residents" Response from our village. DCC are proposing to stop providing the Youth Workers that run our club. Without Youth Workers our club will close.</p> <p>Please read the letter and Sign the separate sheet, also – if you are a village resident, please tick that box. The more signatures we get the more power we have. (This "Collective Residents' Response" must close on 18<sup>th</sup> October.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) IRONVILLE YOUTH CLUB – TRAIN CARRIAGE</li> <li>2) Ironville is an isolated rural village with a restricted public bus service and no other public transportation. (No trains or trams).</li> <li>3) We are a deprived area, with relatively high levels of unemployment.</li> <li>4) Our Youth Club is well liked and much used by the youths of the village, a lot of activities take place there, the carriage location has been in use for many years.</li> <li>5) Our youth club is very popular, with about 20 youths regularly attending, sometimes a lot more. We totally disagree with the DCC figure of 8 youths attending, and are at a loss to understand how you have arrived at that figure.</li> <li>6) One of the DCC Youth Workers lives in the village and knows the kids very well. This DCC Youth Worker actually buys and cooks food for some of the</li> </ol>	425 names on the petitions

		<p>less fortunate kids. This comes out of the worker's own pocket! The youth Club and the village are so closely integrated.</p> <p>7) We have just finished a major refurbishment, following an earlier DCC surveyors report. The cost was £14,000 and was met in part by local fundraising activities within the village. This is a real blow to community spirit and morale, the money was hard to come by.</p> <p>8) Withdrawing funding jeopardises future of the Youth Club. There would be a great danger of closing. The club is such an important and integral part of the village, we are pleading for DCC to reconsider this plan.</p> <p>9) Funding cut-backs will increase the risk of children being taken into care, no one wants that.</p> <p>10) The consequence of cut-backs would be increased Social care costs, and increased Health &amp; Youth Justice costs. No one wants that.</p> <p>11) These cut-backs are targeting the very services that address the root cause of youth problems.</p> <p>12) The Children's Commissioner for England, (Anne Longfield) says this about what type of cuts. "there is a real danger the children will 'fall-through-the-gaps'. Risking School Exclusion, and falling prey to gang violence.</p>	
07.12.18	Letter from Ruth George MP, Member of Parliament for High Peak	<p>I write in regard to the current proposals to transfer the lead responsibility for Early help work to schools from September 2019. I have very serious concerns about the impact of these proposals on vulnerable families in High peak and on our schools.</p> <p>I am aware that under the existing arrangement, since 2015 schools have repooled their budgets under REHO arrangements to provide a county-wide Early Help service. I understand that this approach was positively externally evaluated by S4W, although I have been unable to locate a copy of that evaluation and I would be most grateful if you send it to me.</p> <p>Feedback from schools indicates that they find this system works well and the vast majority of schools continue to repool. In January 2017, it was reported to the Schools Forum that 403 of the 408 Derbyshire schools continued to repool in this way, but the recent cabinet paper asserts that this model is financially unsustainable and that the Council is currently plugging a £2.1 million funding gap. It is difficult to understand where this funding gap is coming from given that the repooling rate appears to have been relatively stable since the REHO model was introduced and I would be grateful for your explanation.</p> <p>Under the current proposals, schools will no longer be expected to repool budgets to fund MAT work, but instead they will be expected to provide Early Help Services themselves. I am very concerned about the extra pressures</p>	

		<p>this will put on schools at a time when there are already too many competing demands on budgets and staff resources. Schools tell me that there is no additional capacity in their workforce to take on these additional duties and significant investment would be required in additional staff, training and resources to enable schools to deliver this work.</p> <p>From the Cabinet paper, there does not appear to be any proposal for an appropriate funding allocation to take account of these new requirements for schools, but I would be grateful if you could let me know if this is not the case and if so, what the allocation will be.</p> <p>The linked proposal for a fully traded Education Welfare Service will further add to the increased pressure on schools. They will be faced with either identifying a pot of money to buy in the service from an already overstretched budget or finding a member of staff who can take on that role within school. It is clear in my conversations with schools that there is not the spare capacity in the system to allow schools to take on this work individually.</p> <p>Early help and Education Welfare work are very different in nature to the general education duties of a school. School staff are education professionals who are trained and experienced in working with children. They have neither the training nor professional expertise needed to deliver these services directly to adults who are in often very challenging circumstances who need to be persuaded to change their behaviours. This requires an entirely different type of expertise which is delivered by qualified specialist professionals for that reason.</p> <p>Whilst schools are certainly well-placed to support families and provide a link between the family and other services, asking schools to take lead on this provision will fundamentally change the nature of their relationships with their families. There is a great risk that asking schools to lead Early help work with some of their families will result in the family disengaging with the school to the detrimental of their child.</p> <p>The recent Review of School Permanent Exclusions by the Improvement and Scrutiny committee highlighted the pressures schools are already under to fill the gaps in services previously provided by the Council. They identified that “early help for children and families who struggle to cope emotionally and socially is not as readily available as it was” and assert that “this potentially could be contributing to escalation in the factors that contribute to the development of challenging behaviours in young people”. In their evidence, school shared their concerns that “schools are seeing families in crisis and the intensive family support provision previously provided by external agencies has been reduced in response to budget pressures”.</p>	
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		<p>To reduce the service further would inevitably increase the pressure on schools and on families, leading to a vicious circle of increasing needs in families and children, and more pressure on teachers and on schools.</p> <p>The recommendation from the Review of School Permanent Exclusions that “the Authority (through the mechanism of the Future in Mind programme and associated commissioning activities) ensures that the expectations placed on schools to support mental health needs of young people are not overly reliant on schools filling the gap in community provision to the detriment of the time available to teachers to fulfil their primary role of education children” was accepted by Cabinet on 26 July 2018. The Early Help proposals as they currently stand do not demonstrate this commitment to safeguard the primary role of schools.</p> <p>I am very concerned that this proposal will lead to a fragmented service where children and families slip through the net. There is no indication in the consultation documents of how the proposed arrangements might work with families who have children at more than one school or how children who are not attending school will be supported. Devolving the support to school level will leave families who are already struggling at risk of falling through the gaps of a piecemeal service. The presentation given to schools recently acknowledged that one of the issues with the current arrangements is “Postcode variance of available services due to variable re-pooling from schools and differing custom and practice.” These proposals appear to exacerbate this issue by the dismantling of the existing county-wide service.</p> <p>Schools tell me that at the recent consultation event, it was suggested that schools use their REHO money to directly employ a Family Support Worker. The costs associated with this far outweigh the contribution made through the REHO programme and for many schools this is just not a feasible option. There was a suggestion that schools come together in clusters to employ a family support worker between them, but this fails to take into account the different levels of need in our schools which would be magnified by coming together in such small groups of schools. It is likely that in each cluster, the caseload of any shared worker would be dominated by families from areas where levels of MAT support are particularly high and not equitably spread across the employing cluster. Given the argument for the Review is that the REHO approach isn’t sustainable, it seems problematic to suggest that the solution be REHO on a smaller more local scale.</p> <p>The impact of these cuts will fall directly on our most vulnerable families. Schools are already struggling to support children with additional need as you are aware from my previous correspondence and these proposals will disproportionately affect these families.</p>	
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		<p>I am very concerned that we would see a rise in numbers needing to access statutory services and huge pressures on the already creaky social care system. All the evidence shows that early intervention is the key and pound for pound is much more effective investment than crisis response.</p> <p>Please would you respond to the points I have raised in this letter and I would urge you to reconsider removing this vital service.</p>	
12.12.18	Letter from Debbie Greaves, H/T – Simmondley Primary School to Jane Parfremment	<p>RE: EARLY HELP REVIEW</p> <p>I write in regard to the current proposals to transfer the lead responsibility for Early Help work to schools from September 2019. I have very serious concerns about the impact of these proposals on vulnerable families in High Peak and on our school.</p> <p>I am aware that under the existing arrangement, since 2015 schools have repooled their budgets under REHO arrangements to provide a county-wide Early Help service. I understand that this approach was positively externally evaluated by S4W, although I have been unable to locate a copy of that evaluation and I would be most grateful if you could send it to me.</p> <p>Feedback from schools indicates that they find this system works well and the vast majority of schools continue to re-pool. In January 2017, it was reported to the Schools Forum that 403 of the 408 Derbyshire schools continued to re-pool in this way, but the recent cabinet paper asserts that this model is financially unsustainable and that the Council is currently plugging a £2.1 million funding gap. It is difficult to understand where this funding gap is coming from given that the re- pooling rate appears to have been relatively stable since the REHO model was introduced and I would be grateful for your explanation.</p> <p>Under the current proposals, schools will no longer be expected to repool budgets to fund MAT work, but instead they will be expected to provide Early Help Services themselves. I am very concerned about the extra pressures this will put on my school at a time when there are already too many competing demands on budgets and staff resources. I can tell you that there is no additional capacity in our workforce to take on these additional duties and significant investment would be required in additional staff, training and resources to enable my school to deliver this work.</p> <p>From the Cabinet paper, there does not appear to be any proposal for an appropriate funding allocation to take account of these new requirements for schools, but I would be grateful if you could let me know if this is not the case and if so, what the allocation will be.</p>	

		<p>The linked proposal for a fully traded Education Welfare Service will further add to the increased pressure on my school. I will be faced with either identifying a pot of money to buy in the service from an already overstretched budget or finding a member of staff who can take on that role within school. It is clear in my conversations with other local schools that there is not the spare capacity in the system to allow schools to take on this work individually.</p> <p>Early Help and Education Welfare work are very different in nature to the general education duties of a school. School staff are education professionals who are trained and experienced in working with children. They have neither the training nor professional expertise needed to deliver these services directly to adults who are in often very challenging circumstances who need to be persuaded to change their behaviours. This requires an entirely different type of expertise which is delivered by qualified specialist professionals for that reason.</p> <p>Whilst my school is certainly well-placed to support families and provide a link between the family and other services, asking schools to take the lead on this provision will fundamentally change the nature of their relationship with their families. There is a great risk that asking schools to lead Early Help work with some of their families will result in the family disengaging with the school to the detriment of their child.</p> <p>The recent Review of School Permanent Exclusions by the Improvement and Scrutiny committee highlighted the pressures schools are already under to fill the gaps in services previously provided by the Council. They identified that "early help for children and families who struggle to cope emotionally and socially is not as readily available as it was" and assert that "this potentially could be contributing to escalation in the factors that contribute to the development of challenging behaviours in young people". In their evidence, schools shared their concerns that "schools are seeing families in crisis and the intensive family support provision previously provided by external agencies has been reduced in response to budget pressures".</p> <p>To reduce the service further would inevitably increase the pressure on my school and on families, leading to a vicious circle of increasing needs in families and children, and more pressure on teachers and our school.</p> <p>The recommendation from the Review of School Permanent Exclusions that "the Authority (through the mechanism of the Future in Mind Programme and associated commissioning activities) ensures that the expectations placed on schools to support mental health needs of young people are not overly reliant on schools filling the gap in community provision to the detriment of the time available to</p>	
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		<p>teachers to fulfil their primary role of educating children" was accepted by Cabinet on 26 July 2018. The Early Help proposals as they currently stand do not demonstrate this commitment to safeguard the primary role of schools.</p> <p>I am very concerned that this proposal will lead to a fragmented service where children and families slip through the net. There is no indication in the consultation documents of how the proposed arrangements might work with families who have children at more than one school or how children who are not attending school will be supported. Devolving the support to school level will leave families who are already struggling at risk of falling through the gaps of a piecemeal</p> <p>service. The presentation given to schools recently acknowledged that one of the issues with the current arrangements is "Postcode variance of available services due to variable re-pooling from schools and differing custom and practice." These proposals appear to exacerbate this issue by the dismantling of the existing county-wide service.</p> <p>Schools tell me that at the recent consultation event, it was suggested that schools use their REHO money to directly employ a Family Support Worker. The costs associated with this far outweigh the contribution made through the REHO programme and for many schools this is just not a feasible option. There was a suggestion that schools come together in clusters to employ a family support worker between them, but this fails to take into account the different levels of need in our schools which would be magnified by coming together in such small groups of schools. It is likely that in each cluster, the caseload of any shared worker would be dominated by families from areas where levels of MAT support are particularly high and not equitably spread across the employing cluster. Given the argument for the Review is that the REHO approach isn't sustainable, it seems problematic to suggest that the solution be REHO on a smaller more local scale.</p> <p>The impact of these cuts will fall directly on our most vulnerable families. My School is already struggling to support children with additional need as you are aware these proposals will disproportionately affect these families.</p> <p>I am very concerned that we would see a rise in numbers needing to access statutory services and huge pressures on the already creaky social care system. All the evidence shows that early intervention is the key and pound for pound is much more effective investment than crisis response.</p> <p>Please would you respond to the points I have raised in this letter and I would urge you to reconsider removing this vital service.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p>	
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		Debbie Greaves Headteacher	
12.12.18	Letter from Mrs Jo Griffin MA – H/T, Tintwistle Primary School	<p>I write in regard to the current proposals to transfer the lead responsibility for Early Help work to schools from September 2019. 'I have very serious concerns about the impact of these proposals on vulnerable families in High Peak and on our schools.</p> <p>I am aware that under the existing arrangement, since 2015 schools have repooled their budgets under REHO arrangements to provide a county-wide Early Help service. I understand that this approach was positively externally evaluated by S4W, although I have been unable to locate a copy of that evaluation and I would be most grateful if you send it to me.</p> <p>Feedback from schools indicates that they find this system works well and the vast majority of schools continue to repool. In January 2017, it was reported to the Schools Forum that 403 of the 408 Derbyshire schools continued to repool in this way, but the recent cabinet paper asserts that this model is financially unsustainable and that the Council is currently plugging a £2.1 million funding gap. It is difficult to understand where this funding gap is coming from given that the repooling rate appears to have been relatively stable since the REHO model was introduced and I would be grateful for your explanation.</p> <p>Under the current proposals, schools will no longer be expected to repool budgets to fund MAT work, but instead they will be expected to provide Early Help Services themselves. I am very concerned about the extra pressures this will put on schools at a time when there are already too many competing demands on budgets and staff resources. Schools tell me that there is no additional capacity in their workforce to take on these additional duties and significant investment would be required in additional staff, training and resources to enable schools to deliver this work.</p> <p>From the Cabinet paper, there does not appear to be any proposal for an appropriate funding allocation to take account of these new requirements for schools, but I would be grateful if you could let me know if this is not the case and if so, what the allocation will be.</p> <p>The linked proposal for a fully traded Education Welfare Service will further add to the increased pressure on schools. They will be faced with either identifying a pot of money to buy in the service from an already overstretched budget or finding a member of staff who can take on that role within school. It is clear in my conversations with schools that there is not the spare capacity in the system to allow schools to take on this work individually.</p>	



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		<p>who have children at more than one school or how children who are not attending school will be supported. Devolving the support to school level will leave families who are already struggling at risk of falling through the gaps of a piecemeal service. The presentation given to schools recently acknowledged that one of the issues with the current arrangements is "Postcode variance of available services due to variable re-pooling from schools and differing custom and practice." These proposals appear to exacerbate this issue by the dismantling of the existing county-wide service.</p> <p>Schools tell me that at the recent consultation event, it was suggested that schools use their REHO money to directly employ a Family Support Worker. The costs associated with this far outweigh the contribution made through the REHO programme and for many schools this is just not a feasible option. There was a suggestion that schools come together in clusters to employ a family support worker between them, but this fails to take into account the different levels of need in our schools which would be magnified by coming together in such small groups of schools. It is likely that in each cluster, the caseload of any shared worker would be dominated by families from areas where levels of MAT support are particularly high and not equitably spread across the employing cluster. Given the argument for the Review is that the REHO approach isn't sustainable, it seems problematic to suggest that the solution be REHO on a smaller more local scale.</p> <p>The impact of these cuts will fall directly on our most vulnerable families. Schools are already struggling to support children with additional need as you are aware from my previous correspondence and these proposals will disproportionately affect these families.</p> <p>I am very concerned that we would see a rise in numbers needing to access statutory services and huge pressures on the already creaky social care system. All the evidence shows that early intervention is the key and pound for pound is much more effective investment than crisis response.</p> <p>Please would you respond to the points I have raised in this letter and I would urge you to reconsider removing this vital service.</p>	
19.12.18	Email from Dorothy Phillips	<p>As Chair of Charlesworth VC Primary School, Charlesworth, Glossop, I am writing to express my gravest concern regarding the proposals to reduce the existing MAT Service and to place additional responsibilities on schools to fill the shortfall in service provision that this proposal will create. I have read the very lengthy and detailed letter that the MP for High Peak has sent to you and rather than repeat all the objections and concerns itemised within that letter, I wish to place on record that I heartily agree with all of them.</p>	

		<p>I would, therefore, as part of your consultation process, ask you to officially note my objections to this proposal for the same reasons as outlined in the letter from Ms. George MP.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Dorothy Phillips</p>	
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## Appendix 4 – Copy of Questionnaire



### Our Early Help Review - consultation questionnaire

Derbyshire County Council directly delivers a substantial 'Early Help Offer' which is funded through its own budget and other grant schemes.

Changes to the funding arrangements have resulted in the need to review services to ensure that children and young people most in need of help continue to receive it. The council also wants to make sure it concentrates its resources on the type of activities which evidence shows supports them most effectively.

Like every council in the country Derbyshire is facing challenges to stretch its funding further than ever before and is looking closely at all its services to ensure they are as efficient as possible and help it make the savings it needs to make while also ensuring essential services are maintained.

For some services this will mean taking a different approach to how they are run or funded in the future.

Early help is support for children and young people aged up to 18 (or 25 for those with special needs or who are disabled) and their families early on when problems emerge. Some of the early help provided is legally required and the council will continue to make sure it provides this.

Early help can be needed at any stage in life from pre-birth to adulthood and applies to any problem that a family is finding it hard to deal with on their own.

Early Help includes:

- **Family support:** including advice to parents and helping them to build good relationships with their children
- **Youth work:** including help for young people aged 11 upwards to help their social development and attendance at school or college
- **Careers information, advice and guidance:** including advice and help for teenagers about their choice of careers and the move from school to college
- **Work with social care:** including looking at parenting where there are concerns about children
- **Volunteer support:** providing support and training for adult volunteers to help with parent-led community groups

The county council is proposing to change its Early Help Offer in future to concentrate on children and young people who most need help and on the type of support which evidence shows will work most effectively for them. This will mean a significant reduction in the help it offers to some families in the future.

Providing early help is the responsibility of all public organisations including schools - not just the county council's. The funding for Derbyshire County Council's current Early Help Offer is £12.9m of which £2.5 is used to meet legal duties.

In addition Derbyshire County Council is committed to providing early help services to the most vulnerable children to prevent risk of harm or breakdown in their family situation and will therefore use some of its own funds to provide services in the future despite the reductions in other grants and funding.

It is proposed that the council's budget for early help services will be £4.5m by 2020 – this includes support for vulnerable teenagers and other legal duties. Changes to the service would take two years to be fully implemented.

Derbyshire County Council is also retaining its Children's Centres service which supports families and children aged up to five.

The council will support other organisations to improve the early help services they provide as far as is possible over the next two years. However, there will still be an overall reduction in the services that are offered in the future if the proposals detailed in this questionnaire are approved following this consultation.

In summary, Derbyshire County Council is proposing to reduce its Early Help Offer to ensure services are targeted at the families and children who need most help and on the type of activities and support which has been proven to work best for them.

If the proposed changes detailed in this consultation are approved, the council will support other organisations to improve the early help services they provide.

This consultation is to seek your views on the proposed changes to Derbyshire County Council's early help provision. You can read about the proposed changes and the reasons for them in more detail in this report (Early Help Review Cabinet paper)

**Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. For enquiries please contact the Early Help Team on 01629 539132 or 01629 536418**



We will treat all information that you give in the strictest confidence. Your identity will never be revealed.

## Family Support

The county council wants to concentrate on those who need extra help to help prevent problems arising in the future.

The council is proposing to:

- Reduce the amount of support it offers to all families, concentrating instead on those who most need help to prevent harm to children, reduce family conflict and breakdown and to help parenting and family functioning. The council currently helps around 4,000 children and their families and it is proposed that some of these could be better helped by other services (health professionals and schools) rather than by the council.
- Work with other services to provide parental advice and guidance in parenting groups. This help could include advice about diet, help with mealtime and bedtime routines, love, care and attachment and how to set safe boundaries. Parents and carers would be able in future to discuss sensitive issues in a peer support group with a group facilitator.

Please note that if the proposals detailed above are approved following this consultation, families currently receiving a service would continue to be helped in the way they are now to avoid disruption while new families requiring support would receive the new family support service.

**Q1 Do you currently use, or have you previously used, any of the following family support services? (Please select one box on each row)**

	Currently used	Previously used	Never used
Help with parenting skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help you to understand your child's behaviour	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help to avoid family conflicts and or breakdowns	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help to keep your child safe	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q2 How strongly do you agree or disagree with Derbyshire County Council's proposals to change how family support services are provided?**

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q3 If you have any comments to make on the proposed changes please provide details below:**

characters remaining left

## Youth Support

The county council is proposing in the future to concentrate on:

- Preventing harm to children and young people and helping them stay in education, employment or training and by doing so, support successful moves to adult life.
- Helping the county's most vulnerable teenagers to maximise their potential and move into adult life at college or work and also to develop good relationships with others.

The council currently provides a range of activities for young people but as the needs of teenagers change some of its drop-in youth groups have been found to not always be the best way of helping teenagers who most need support or help them to deal with modern-day issues. In addition, there are other groups in some areas of the county which provide the same kind of opportunities and activities.

The council wants to increase its work with teenagers who most need its help either individually or in small groups as there is evidence to show this is a good way to help support vulnerable teenagers.

The council is proposing to:

- Deliver activities which concentrate on vulnerable teenagers including:
  - individual support with teenagers and their families
  - street-based youth work with groups of teenagers, to reduce risks of child exploitation and harm
  - small groups to support emotional wellbeing and resilience for teenagers and healthy relationships and sexual relationships advice
- Stop funding its youth clubs listed in the Proposed Youth Activity Closures. The council has however introduced a new community grants scheme called Action Grants to help more organisations provide a wider range of community-based youth activities for teenagers (see below).

There are many organisations including voluntary groups which already offer a range of youth activities across Derbyshire.

Derbyshire County Council has launched its Action Grants scheme which it hopes will encourage and support more of these groups to develop a wider range of community-based activities for local teenagers.

You can find more information about Action Grants here [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/action](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/action)

If the proposals detailed above are approved, the council would advise teenagers about other opportunities that may be available in their communities to reduce the overall impact of changes to the service.



## Careers

The county council has up until now provided careers information advice and guidance to some children aged 14 to 18 (or 25 for those with special needs or who are disabled). However, schools and colleges have a legal duty to provide careers education and independent careers information and guidance.

The council is therefore looking to schools and colleges to provide this advice themselves in future to their students from the range of alternative established providers in their local areas. However, the council would continue to provide careers advice for teenagers aged 16 to 18 (or 25 for those with special needs or who are disabled) who are not in education, employment or training.

If the proposals detailed above are approved, new arrangements would not be implemented before September 2019 when all individual support for current users would have been completed. New users would access the new service.

**Q4 Do you or your child currently use, or have you previously used, any of the following support from a youth worker for a young person aged 11-18? (Please select one box on each row)**

	Currently use	Previously used	Never used
Derbyshire County Council Youth Clubs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Careers Information Advice and Guidance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Targeted youth groups for support with personal issues and help with the transition to adult life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q5 How strongly do you agree or disagree with Derbyshire County Council's proposals to reduce youth support services as described?**

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q6 How strongly do you agree or disagree with Derbyshire County Council's proposals to reduce the way careers services are provided?**

Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q7 If you have any other comments to make on the proposed changes please provide details below:**

characters remaining left



## About you

The following questions are about you and will help us understand the views of different demographic groups and of people living in different areas of Derbyshire.

Q8 **Are you responding to this questionnaire as:** *(Please select all that apply)*

- ☐ A parent/carer of a 0-18 year old child
- ☐ A child under 18 years old
- ☐ A Derbyshire resident
- ☐ A partner organisation
- ☐ A member of DCC staff

Q9 **What is your home postcode?**

Q10 **Are you:**

☐ Male

☐ Female

Q11 **What was your age at your last birthday?**

Q12 **A disabled person is someone who has a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Do you consider yourself disabled?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Q13 **If you do consider yourself disabled, what type of disability do you have?** *(Please select all that apply)*

☐ Disability affecting mobility

☐ Disability affecting hearing

☐ Disability affecting vision

☐ A learning disability

☐ Other

If 'Other', please specify

**Q14 What is your ethnic group?**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> White British       | <input type="radio"/> White Other         |
| <input type="radio"/> Mixed               | <input type="radio"/> Asian/Asian British |
| <input type="radio"/> Black/Black British | <input type="radio"/> Chinese             |
| <input type="radio"/> Other               |   |

If 'Other', please specify

## Data Sharing and Confidentiality

The information you provide is anonymous and will help us to understand your support needs and develop our services to meet these.

If you do provide your contact details, these will only be used for the following purposes:

1. To enable an adviser to contact you to help you with your future plans
2. To update the contact details we have for you within Derbyshire County Council, in case we need to contact you in the future

I give my consent for the personal information outlined below to be used only for the purposes described. Please note you have the right to withdraw this consent at any time. Should you wish to do so, please contact:

**Please confirm your consent:**

☐

**Provide your contact details below if you wish to:**

Q15 Name:

Q16 First Line of Address:

Q17 Postcode:

Q18 Telephone Number:

Q19 Email:

For more information on how Derbyshire County Council Children's Services uses data we hold about you, how long we keep it and your rights relating to this, e.g. to have it corrected, erased, restricted, transferred or to see your records, please go to our website at [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/privacynotices](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/privacynotices).

Or contact:

Information Governance Officer, Children's Services Department  
Derbyshire County Council  
Room 361  
County Hall  
Matlock  
DE4 3AG  
Email: [cs.dpandfoi@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:cs.dpandfoi@derbyshire.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01629 532011

If you have any concerns or complaints about how we handle your personal data you can also contact the above department.

If you are not satisfied with our response you have the right to raise your concern with the Information Commissioners Office at:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545745 if you prefer to use a national rate number.

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

**Thank you for completing this questionnaire**