

Cabinet

18 March 2015



Review of Children's Centres in County Durham

Key Decision: CAS/10/13

Report of Corporate Management Team

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Purpose of the Report

1. To report to Cabinet Members the outcome of the consultation carried out between 31 July 2014 and 23 October 2014 on the future of Children's Centre services in County Durham.
2. To make final recommendations on the future of Children's Centre buildings and future service model.

Background

3. Overall, it is forecast that the Council will need to save £225m over the 2011 to 2018 period. This figure is forecast to exceed £250m in 2018/19 based on the forecast public sector funding reductions outlined in the Government's December 2014 Autumn Statement. A sum of £136.9m of savings will have been delivered by the end of 2014/15. Forecasted savings over the MTFP (5) period 2015/16 to 2017/18 of £87.6m are required, with the 2015/16 budget requiring savings of £16.3m to achieve a balanced budget.
4. In accordance with the Council's commitment to review all services, an MTFP target of approximately £1 million savings are expected to be achieved as part of this review.
5. The Early Years Strategy, agreed by Cabinet in March 2014, acknowledged the importance of the early years and a child's experiences pre-birth to the age of five have a major impact on their resilience and future life chances.
6. In County Durham during 2013-2014, 45% of all children who were made subject of a Child Protection Plan were under 5 years old; the most significant reason for this was as a result of neglect. The impact on the development of these children is likely to be significant and necessitates a greater focus on identifying and supporting parents who are raising their children in circumstances which do not maximise their potential.

7. In 2013, outcomes for children measured at the end of Reception year in schools using the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) ¹ profile were worse for children living in our most deprived communities and for those who were eligible for Free School Meals than the rest of the County's children. Whilst the gap between those children living in the top 30% most deprived Super Output Areas (SOAs) and their peers has narrowed slightly between 2013 to 2014, from 12% to 10%, a gap of 10% continues to be wide and is even wider for those children eligible for Free School Meals at 22%.
8. The improvements in performance are beginning to show early indications that, in accordance with the principles contained in the Early Years Strategy presented to Cabinet in March 2014, the implementation of a more targeted approach is impacting positively on outcomes for children. However, a full review of the Children's Centre service delivery model has been required to make sure effective use is made of the Council's resources in order to achieve maximum impact. The Early Years Strategy set out the need for a review that would ensure:-
 - We target support to those who need it most;
 - We ensure the provision of accessible services;
 - We use resources flexibly;
 - We ensure effective community engagement in early years delivery;
 - We continually develop an expert workforce;
 - We improve outcomes for the County's children.
9. On 16 July 2014, Cabinet agreed to consult on 2 proposals on the future of Children's Centre services:-
 - The Community Delivery Model
 - The 43 Children's Centres and the 15 that it is proposed to retain
10. This report summarises the background contained in the July 2014 Cabinet report which led to the decision to consult and presents the consultation findings and the factors that have been considered to inform final recommendations on the proposed Community Delivery Model and which Children's Centres to retain.

Background to Children's Centre Services in County Durham

11. A Children's Centre is defined by the Childcare Act 2006 as a place or places through which early childhood services are made available and at which activities for children are provided.
12. Sure Start Local Programmes (SSLP) were introduced in 1999. The aims of

¹ EYFS –at the end of a child's first year at school, teachers carry out an assessment for each child to identify whether children are achieving a "Good Level of Development" against the three prime Early Years Foundation Stage learning areas of Communication and Language; Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

the programme were to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty, school failure and social exclusion by improving the life chances of children under 4 growing up in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. All programmes were expected to provide a core offer which included family support; outreach and home visiting; good quality play and learning and childcare; health care and advice; and support for families with special needs.

13. The first phase of Children's Centres in 2004, led to 19 Children's Centres being developed from within the SSLP's with a further 11 Children's Centre buildings developed in the second phase. Full designation of these 30 buildings as Children's Centres was achieved in 2006.
14. By 2005/06, (in phase two) the target for County Durham was to make Children's Centres available to 17,600 under-fives in the top 30% Super Output Areas (SOA's)². This involved the creation of a further 13 centres making a total of 43 Children's Centres in County Durham.
15. In phase 3, (2008-10) all under-fives and their families were to have access to Children's Centre services. There was government acknowledgement that these later centres would not need to provide the full core offer of services that applied at the time, but should be sensitive to local needs. No further centres were built in County Durham but the use of existing Children's Centres with further premises identified as 'outreach' bases was expected to broaden access to services.
16. The core offer was revised in 2012 by government and a core purpose agreed, which required Children's Centres to be focussed on:-
 - Improving outcomes for young children and their families, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged families, in order to reduce inequalities in:-
 - i. child development and school readiness;
 - ii. parenting aspirations, self-esteem and parenting skills;
 - iii. child and family health and life chances.
 - Assessing need across the local community;
 - Providing access to universal early years services in the local area including high quality and affordable early years education and childcare;
 - Providing targeted evidence based early interventions for families in greatest need, in the context of integrated services;
 - Acting as a hub for the local community, building social capital and cohesion;
 - Sharing expertise with other early years settings to improve quality;
 - Respecting and engaging parents;
 - Working in partnership across professional/agency boundaries.

² Super Output Area (SOA) is geography for the collection and publication of small area statistics. SOAs give an improved basis for comparison across the country because the units are more similar in size of population than, for example, electoral wards.

Current Children's Centre provision in County Durham

17. The One Point Service currently manages the 43 Children's Centres. Each of the centres covers a defined geographical area and provides a range of services to families within the "reach" area. The "reach" refers to the total number of children under the age of 5 who live within the geographical area covered by the centre.
18. For management purposes the 43 Children's Centres are currently grouped into 15 clusters and details of these along with the number of 0-4 year olds served, including those in the top 30% most deprived areas that are within each locality are set out in **Appendix 2**.
19. County Durham's Children's Centres have not historically differentiated their services to reflect changing requirements nationally and locally, particularly in relation to the need to ensure a particular focus on the most disadvantaged families.
20. Most centres have delivered a very similar range of services regardless of their location and have not targeted effectively. Most services are offered on a universal basis to all families within their reach and many children and families access services provided regardless of whether they or their children have additional needs.
21. Contact with the most vulnerable families has historically been limited. In 2009, levels of contact with families in the top 30% most deprived SOAs were at 20%. This increased to 77% by October 2014 as a result of more recent efforts to target support and services to vulnerable families.
22. This more targeted approach is providing some assurance that those families in greatest need are being supported to access the additional support available through Children's Centre provision. However, in order to ensure contact leads to improved outcomes for children during their early years, it is important to ensure those children in greatest need are receiving good levels of regular contact and engagement with our Children's Centre services. Sustained contact, using 4 or more contacts as the measure, continues to be a challenge. Against a target of 65%, between July 2013 and September 2014 sustained contact was achieved with only 30% of children under 5 living in top 30% areas.
23. There remains a need to ensure services are targeted effectively and made more accessible to those families whose children are vulnerable to poor outcomes, but who are often less likely to attend Children's Centre buildings. Improvements in contacts to date have been achieved through outreach strategies which have made use of a broader range of community buildings through which services are delivered.
24. This is representative of the national picture and many local authorities are undertaking service reviews to target services to those families in greatest need and to be less reliant on fixed Children's Centre buildings.

Early Years Strategy

25. In March 2014, Cabinet approved the Early Years Strategy which sets out three Key Ambitions for children and families during their early years, and the actions required to achieve them. The key ambitions are:-

I. Quality of Care:

All children have access to high quality universal health and learning opportunities that are safe;

II. Equity of Outcomes:

Children who are not making the required progress or whose outcomes are compromised are identified and additional help is provided to them and their families at the earliest possible opportunity;

III. Working Together:

All practitioners involved in the delivery of early years services work together in a coordinated way in the provision of a genuinely joined up, integrated service to children and families.

26. The Early Years Strategy seeks to create a service that:

- Is more accessible, particularly to those who are reluctant to use the service they need;
- Targets our resources to those who need it most;
- Improves support to families through access to services which are well coordinated and focus on improving outcomes;
- Makes sure children are well equipped to engage in learning by the time they reach school age;
- Makes more flexible use of resources to provide the best possible outcomes for children and value for money;
- Requires better joint working between agencies and effective information sharing, and
- Makes better use of community resources by delivering an outreach model.

27. The Early Years Strategy contributes to the Health & Wellbeing Strategy and Children, Young People and Families Plan shared priority to help children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life.

Finance

28. Children's Centres were developed using a variety of available funding streams, namely:-

- Sure Start Capital Grant
- Children's Centre Capital Grant
- Schools Devolved Capital Grant

- European Regional Development Fund
- New Opportunities Funding
- Neighbourhood Renewal Fund
- Single Regeneration Budget
- Primary Care Trust
- Sedgefield Borough Council

29. The total development costs for the 43 centres, was £31,585,165.
30. Many of these funding streams have potential clawback³ restrictions and this has been given full consideration in relation to future arrangements regarding any building it is not proposed to retain.
31. The current Children's Centre budget is £4,908,264. £1,553,976 is for the provision of Children's Centre buildings which amounts to 32% of the overall Children's Centre budget and £3,354,288 for staffing.
32. In accordance with the Council's commitment to review all services, an MTFP target of approximately £1 million of savings are planned to be achieved as part of this review.
33. A revised staffing structure has been implemented in line with the Early Years Strategy designed to secure as many frontline posts as possible within the financial envelope. A sharper focus on service delivery to those families who are in greatest need will provide capacity within the available resource to meet those needs. This will contribute a sum of £244,722 towards the overall saving of approximately £1 million from 1 April 2015.
34. One of the aims of the review is to reduce the cost of the service whilst improving outcomes for children and maintaining front line workers. It is therefore anticipated that the majority of the savings linked to the Children's Centre review will apply to the cost of the buildings. The proposals relating to the reduced number of Children's Centres buildings contained in this report are anticipated to contribute to the MTFP saving of approximately £1 million between 2015/16 and 2016/17, should recommendations be agreed.
35. Recommendations presented in this report include proposals relating to the future use of buildings no longer designated as Children's Centres. For those Children's Centres it is not proposed to retain, in all cases the buildings would remain an asset of the County Council. Occupancy and running costs, together with full repairing and maintenance responsibilities, would be transferred to Schools through a transfer agreement or to third party providers, including Academies, by a lease agreement. For convenience in this report, these buildings are referred to as "transferred" although in practice they would remain an asset of the Council.

³ Children's Centres were built using a range of funding streams, a number of which have potential clawback restrictions. Clawback may be invoked if the Children's Centre building is used for a different purpose to that agreed when the funding was awarded

36. **Appendix 3** sets out in detail the anticipated savings that will be achieved from the transfer of buildings.

Review of Children's Centre Services

37. Prior to the start of the consultation, a range of information and research was used to help shape and develop the proposed service delivery model. These are set out in paragraphs 38 to 42 below.
38. Since April 2013, Ofsted have had a renewed focus in their inspection of Children's Centres nationally on how well or otherwise Children's Centres are engaging with and impacting on improved outcomes for the most vulnerable children and families. Outcomes from Ofsted inspections of Children's Centres in County Durham are attached at **Appendix 4**. Since 2012 the majority of Ofsted judgements have been that our Children's Centres are "Satisfactory" or "Require Improvement".
39. The Department of Education (DfE) Section 251⁴ statement sets out Durham's current planned spend on Children's Centres per capita. The "per capita" for this area of spend is based on the total 0-17 population, which for County Durham in 2014/15 was 100,566. This calculation provides a comparison with planned spend at regional level and with Durham's statistical neighbours. Durham is ranked fourth of twelve when compared with North East authorities, and third of eleven authorities in our statistical benchmark group. In 2014/15 Durham's planned spend is £71 per capita on Children's Centres, the regional average was £57 per capita and Durham's statistical neighbours average is £42 per capita.
40. As part of the review an online Children's Centre Service User Survey was carried out in November 2013. A total of 957 responses were received from parents who use Children's Centres. Using the number of adults that had contact with Children's Centres in the quarter prior to the online survey, this represents a 9% response rate. Of those respondents who provided their postcode, 732 lived within County Durham and of these 58% resided within the top 30% most deprived SOA communities. Responses highlighted the need to improve accessibility of Children's Centre services across the County, rather than relying on fixed bases.
41. A Headteacher Survey on children's school readiness carried out in March 2014 identified concern that some children are entering school with:
- Poor speech and language skills
 - Poor social skills
 - Not toilet trained, and
 - A lack of independence and self-help skills

⁴ Section 251 refers to a summary of planned and actual expenditure by Local Authorities on a range of services relating to children and young people and is published annually by the Dept. of Education

42. In 2013, outcomes for children measured at the end of Reception year in schools using the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 5 profile were:
- On average only 42% in Durham achieved a 'good level of development' (GLD) compared with 52% nationally;
 - 36% of those living in our most deprived communities (top 30%) achieved a GLD compared with 44% nationally;
 - 26% eligible for Free School Meals achieved a GLD compared with 36% nationally;
 - The achievement gap between those children in County Durham who live in our most deprived communities (top 30%) and those eligible for Free School Meals when compared with their peers in County Durham was 12% and 21% respectively.
43. The overall outcome of the review concluded that, despite the current financial pressures on the Council and some improvements in EYFS outcomes for children living in County Durham, the gap between those most disadvantaged children who meet the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals and their peers had not reduced. If the gap in outcomes for these children in County Durham are to be narrowed it will be necessary to propose a change in the way services are delivered so that support through Children's Centre services is provided to those children and families living in the most deprived circumstances.

Update on Performance

44. Since the review, and report to Cabinet in July 2014, the DfE published the 2014 EYFS data, the outcomes of which are as follows:-
- On average, 62% of those children who do not live in the top 30% SOA areas achieve a Good Level of Development (GLD) compared with 65% nationally;
 - 52% of those living in our most deprived communities (top 30%) achieved a GLD compared with 53% of children who live in the most deprived communities nationally;
 - 62% of those children who are not eligible for free school meals achieved a GLD compared with 64% who are not eligible for Free School Meals nationally;
 - 40% of those children eligible for Free School Meals achieved a GLD compared with 45% who are eligible for Free School Meals nationally;
 - The achievement gap between those children who achieved a GLD who

⁵ EYFS –at the end of a child's first year at school, teachers carry out an assessment for each child to identify whether children are achieving a "Good Level of Development" against the three prime Early Years Foundation Stage learning areas of Communication and Language; Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

live in our most deprived communities (top 30%) and their peers who do not live in our most deprived communities in County Durham was 10%;

- The achievement gap between those children who achieved a GLD who are eligible for Free School Meals when compared with their peers who are not eligible for Free School Meals in County Durham was 22%.

45. Durham's EYFS performance between 2013 and 2014 has improved, as can be seen from Table 1, and more children are achieving a good level of development.
46. Whilst the gap in achievement between those children living in our top 30% most deprived communities and their peers has reduced by 2% between 2013 and 2014 and is currently better than the national average, a gap of 10% is nonetheless wide for children who live in our most deprived areas.
47. A similar comparison of outcomes for children who are eligible for Free School Meals and their peers shows that the gap for children who live in County Durham has widened from 21% in 2013 to 22% in 2014 and remains higher than the National average of 19% (See Table 1 below).
48. The data demonstrates that whilst the implementation of outreach strategies and improved targeting of top 30% children and their families for Children's Centre services is beginning to yield some improvements, the gap for these children remains wide and even greater attention must be given to the most deprived children, particularly those eligible for Free School Meals, and their families if the gap in outcomes between them and their peers is to narrow.

Table 1:

EYFS Outcomes 2013 and 2014				
Children achieving a Good Level of Development	2013		2014	
	Durham	National	Durham	National
Children living in 30% most disadvantaged Communities	36	44	52	53
All Other Children	48	56	62	65
Gap	12	12	10	12
Children Eligible for Free School Meals	26	36	40	45
All Other Children	47	55	62	64
Gap	21	19	22	19

49. Children's Centres have developed a targeted focus on improving the engagement of children and families who live in the top 30% most deprived communities in County Durham. Engagement with these families increased from 20% in 2009 to 77% by October 2014.

50. The Council has also sought to provide additional guidance to schools enabling teachers to apply more accurate 'best-fit' judgements against each of the EYFS outcome areas that make up a child's overall "Good Level of Development" judgement.
51. Despite improvements to our GLD figures, the gap between children who are eligible for Free School Meals and their peers has widened by 1%, which further demonstrates child poverty, and its impact, remains of concern.
52. The data confirms that the geographical focus on children living in the top 30% most deprived communities has indeed supported a narrowing of the gap between outcomes for this cohort and their peers and therefore it will be important to maintain this approach to ensure improvement continues. However, there remains a strong and urgent need to target even further our services to those children who are eligible for Free School Meals and their families, regardless of where they live. The revised more flexible outreach model provides the service with a greater ability to target services.

Consultation Proposals

53. The consultation outlined two proposals:

1. The Community Delivery Model – Putting services closer to families

54. The consultation proposed the development of a Community Delivery Model which would take services closer to where children and families live and also make better use of community buildings.
55. This model would benefit children and families by ensuring services were more easily accessible by delivering services in community venues which they may already access, for example schools, libraries, community centres and leisure centres. Implementing this model would provide a more flexible way of delivering services to meet the changing needs of communities without the current constraints of having 43 fixed Children's Centre buildings.
56. This would create an opportunity for community venues to generate additional income through the renting of space for the delivery of Children's Centre services. This would strengthen and help sustain community venues, as well as broadening the range of services offered at a local level.
57. During the consultation, a range of stakeholders, including Area Action Partnerships, County Councillors and members of Local Advisory Boards have identified and recommended community venues which are suitable for the delivery of Children's Centre services (**see Appendix 5**).

2. Children's Centres and the 15 it is proposed to retain

58. The 43 Children's Centres are grouped into 15 clusters as shown in **Appendix**

2. It was proposed to retain one Children's Centre building in each cluster, thereby reducing the number of centres from 43 to 15. These 15 centres, alongside an extensive and flexible network of community venues would deliver services across each cluster and where possible, provide a base for staff.

59. A range of factors informed the proposals regarding which centres should be retained. Within each cluster, these factors were considered and the centre that represented the 'best fit' was proposed. The range of factors and the 15 Children's Centres proposed to retain can be found in **Appendix 6**.
60. The Index of Deprivation 2010 was a key indicator in determining the locations of a reduced number of Children's Centres that were proposed. This ensured that our Children's Centres were located where they are most needed and able to draw on a range of community provision. This would promote successful engagement of families in the top 30% most deprived communities and those in greatest need of additional help.

Consultation Process

61. Cabinet agreed to a 12 week public consultation on the 16 July 2014.
62. The full consultation plan, which set out how we would consult, can be found in **Appendix 7**. The stakeholders engaged and/or consulted with during the period 31 July 2014 – 23 October 2014 were:

- **Service Users**

- Children under 5
- Parents of children under 5, including young parents and parents with a disability
- Parents who use daycare in Children's Centres

- **Partners**

- Area Action Partnerships (AAPs)
- Children and Families Partnership
- Daycare Providers
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Local Advisory Boards (LAB)⁶
- Schools (Headteachers / Governing Bodies)
- Town and Parish Councils
- Voluntary and Community sector organisations

- **Staff**

- One Point staff – Durham County Council (DCC) and County Durham & Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT)
- Wider staff within DCC Childrens and Adult Services
- Other DCC staff

- **Public**

⁶ Local Advisory Boards (LABs) provide Children's Centres with effective governance, vision, sense of purpose and strategic oversight determining the provision offered through the centres.

- **Other**

- All Elected Members
- Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Department for Education
- OfSTED
- Members of Parliament

63. A variety of methods were used during the consultation to enable all stakeholders to actively participate which included:-

- Focus Groups
- Activity Sessions
- Questionnaires
- Parent's Forums/consultation events
- Presentations

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

64. The consultation process was scrutinised by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on 18 December 2014. The Board was satisfied that that the process addressed equality and diversity issues and ensured all stakeholders were able to fully participate in the consultation.

Summary of Submissions Received

65. The full consultation report is available on request and a copy has been placed in the Members Library. Table 2 below provides a summary of the consultation responses.

66. During April to July 2014, Children's Centres had contact with 10,759 adults. Using this measure as an indicative baseline, the questionnaire responses received from parent/carers using Children's Centre services represents a 13% response rate. In comparison with other consultations carried out by the Council, this constitutes a reasonable response.

67. As the proposed new way of delivering Children's Centre services focuses on providing support to those families with the greatest need, it is positive to note that 61% of questionnaire respondents live within the top 30% most deprived areas.

Table 2:

Consultation Method	Meetings to Promote Consultation	Submissions	No. of Participants
Questionnaire		1883	1883
Local Advisory Board	24	23	140
Petitions		2	160
Children's Consultation		249	249
Parent's Forum	15	15	66
Presentations to Area Action Partnerships	14		237
Presentation to Health & Wellbeing Board	1		17
Presentation to Children & Families Partnership	1		18
Presentation to VCS Working Group	1		20
Presentation to Local Council Working Group	1		10
Presentation to Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny	1		15
Email		13	20
Area Action Partnership		1	13
Facebook			9
Letter		7	7
Telephone		7	7
Total	58	2200	2871

68. Capturing the views and experiences of very young children can be challenging and requires imaginative thinking. During the consultation period, family workers engaged with parents and children participating in Children's Centre services using a range of tools e.g. observations, conversations with children and parents, photographs. **Appendix 8** provides further detail on the outcome of this consultation and the views expressed by children during this exercise.
69. The word cloud in Appendix 8 demonstrates children's perceptions of Children's Centres as places to play and describes a broad range of activities which they enjoyed. Whilst their responses differ from parent/carers this reflects the significance of play to children in their early years.
70. Further analysis of the findings will be used to inform the implementation of the proposed Community Delivery Model and quality improvement of early years practice in and through Children's Centres.

Summary of common themes throughout the consultation

71. Common themes have emerged throughout the consultation, through the questionnaire responses and through focus group meetings and other channels of communication such as emails and letters. These are summarised as follows:-

72. **Support for the Proposals**

There was agreement that resource needs to be targeted to those who need it most. Support was also expressed for the proposed Community Delivery Model which will take services closer to where families live. Additional benefits to the voluntary and community sector were also recognised and commented upon in relation to the positive impact upon the sustainability of community venues.

73. **Concerns Regarding the Reduction of Children's Centre Buildings**

Concerns were raised that the proposals to reduce the number of Children's Centre buildings would result in the loss of a focal point for the community. The need for families to have somewhere to go to seek advice and support remains important to respondents. There was some challenge made about the rationale for making financial 'cuts' in an already underperforming service area.

When there was opportunity for discussion, stakeholders were reassured that proposals aim to improve accessibility of service for children and parents with an emphasis on effective targeting to improve outcomes for those children and families in greatest need.

74. **Consistency and Stability of Staff Resource**

Some respondents identified the importance of needing to ensure there is consistency and stability of staff within a cluster area. This will strengthen trust and relationships with families.

The proposals recognise that people deliver services not buildings and therefore financial savings would predominantly be made from buildings. The family worker restructure will provide an allocation of staffing resource to each area. Family workers will be responsible for the delivery of services to families and for building trusting and effective working relationships with them.

75. **Suitability of Venues for the Community Delivery Model**

Some concerns were raised about the proposed Community Delivery Model in relation to the suitability of some venues. Concern was expressed that in some areas of the County there were few community venues to draw upon for service delivery.

These concerns have been considered as part of the identification of suitable venues for service delivery, see **Appendix 5**. All community venues will be subject to risk assessments and negotiations with alternative providers will take place to secure some continued service delivery from all Children's Centre buildings where occupancy and running costs are proposed to transfer to other providers.

76. Accessibility of Service

The ability for families to access services was paramount and some concern was raised that there are poor transport links in some areas of the County and a potential increase in transport costs for service users.

These comments tended to come from questionnaire respondents. When there was opportunity for direct discussion with stakeholders there was an improved understanding that the proposals would mean services would be closer to families and that families would not be required to travel further.

77. Communication and Implementation

Comments that emerged relating to the implementation of the proposed Community Delivery Model highlighted the need for a coherent service offer across the County. Communication and promotion of services in the proposed new model was deemed to be critical to its success.

Although the core offer will be delivered in accordance with requirements, services will be tailored to respond to local need. A detailed communication strategy will be developed and implemented should Cabinet agree with the recommendations in this report.

Community Delivery Model – Analysis of Responses

78. In summary, 52% of all questionnaire respondents thought there would either be no difference or a positive or very positive impact on the proposal regarding the Community Delivery Model. 48% thought there would be a negative or very negative impact⁷.
79. Comments made, particularly in questionnaires, indicated there was a perception that there would be a reduction in service provision and that buildings would close and services would only continue to be provided in the 15 retained buildings. Concerns were also expressed about impact on the quality of services due to community venues being used rather than purpose built Children's Centre buildings.
80. Some responses expressed concerns regarding the closure of buildings and described challenges in accessing Children's Centre services under the new model. They cited lack and cost of transport, distance and time to travel to activities, and activities delivered in retained Children's Centres becoming oversubscribed.
81. It is significant to note that when there was opportunity to describe the proposals through presentations and face to face dialogue stakeholders responded positively to the proposed Community Delivery Model.

⁷ A full breakdown of all responses is as follows:

17.7% - Very Positive	23.5% - Negative
20.7% - Positive	24.8% - Very Negative
13.2% - No Difference	

82. Presentations were made to 14 Area Action Partnerships, 15 Parent Forums, 24 Local Advisory Boards and other partnership groups (see Table 2 above). Feedback from these 58 meetings, involving 523 participants consistently expressed support for the Community Delivery Model once it had been explained in detail.
83. Analysis has been carried out for each of the 15 cluster areas identifying the percentage of households that are within 1 mile of their nearest potential outreach venue, as recommended by stakeholders or within a 20 minute journey on public transport. The outcome of this analysis is positive with between 95% and 99% of all households being able to access a potential 'recommended' community venue. Home visits will also continue to be available for families who require this level of support.

Piloting the Community Delivery Model

84. During the Children's Centre consultation period a group of four pilot sites were identified to provide an early opportunity to test the Community Delivery Model and also to understand the legalities involved in developing detailed agreements between the Council, schools and academies regarding potential transfer of buildings. Table 3 below outlines schools which were identified for the pilot based upon Children's Centres that are either attached to school buildings or located on school sites. The schools identified were supportive in trialing the delivery model and transfer arrangements.

Table 3

Cluster	Children's Centre	School
Stanley	Catchgate	Catchgate Primary School
Durham Dales	Middleton-in-Teesdale	Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary School
Easington	Murton	Ribbon Academy
Peterlee West	Thornley	Thornley Primary School

85. Each pilot required detailed negotiations with Headteachers to ensure that grant conditions continued to be met to mitigate clawback risk and to ensure the continuation of services for the benefit of the community and the 0-5 population.
86. For those Children's Centres it is not proposed to retain, in all cases the buildings will remain an asset of the County Council. Occupancy and running costs, together with full repairing and maintenance responsibilities, will be transferred to schools through a transfer agreement or to third party providers, including academies, by a lease agreement.
87. These Pilots have informed the development of the required agreements. The

agreements will include a requirement to comply with all conditions of grant funding relating to the Children's Centre for at least the length of time remaining in the terms of the grant. All areas which require agreement will be set out and the agreements will be used for all Children's Centres which have been identified for transfer following Cabinet decision. (See paragraphs 300 to 317 below.)

88. The 4 pilots involved the Family Work Team delivering an increased level of service in the community, which has made services more accessible to local communities, and the schools reconfiguring the Children's Centre space for the increased provision of 2 year entitlement places and/or increasing the school roll.

89. The findings from each pilot are:

Catchgate Children's Centre and Catchgate Primary School

90. The school has reconfigured the space for an increased offer of 2 year entitlement places. The Family Work Team continues to deliver some services in the Children Centre to support children who are eligible for 2 year old nursery places and their families. Other Children's Centre activities are now being delivered in 3 community venues in the Annfield Plain community, these are Annfield Plain Library, Annfield Plain Community Centre and Quaking Houses Village Hall.
91. The benefits of the pilot have been an increase in 2 year places for the community contributing towards the Council's Sufficiency Duty (see paragraphs 307 and 308 below) and an increase in the engagement of targeted families who previously would not access the Children's Centre.
92. There has been no reduction in Children Centre services delivered within this community.

Middleton-in-Teesdale Children's Centre and Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary School

93. The school has reconfigured the space by moving the on-site daycare provider into the Children's Centre space and developing the vacant daycare space into an additional classroom enabling capacity for an increased school roll. Some Children's Centre services continue to be delivered in the Children's Centre space. Other Children's Centre services are being delivered by making increased use of the neighbouring Middleton-in-Teesdale Village Hall.
94. The benefits of the pilot have been an increase in 2 year places for the community contributing towards the LA's Sufficiency Duty. There has also been an increase in school roll improving access to local education for many families.
95. There has been no reduction in Children Centre services delivered within this community.

Murton Children's Centre and Ribbon Academy

96. The school has reconfigured the space into an extension of their 2 year places

due to an increased demand. Some Children's Centre services continue to be delivered in the Children's Centre supporting the 2 year offer in the school. Other Children's Centre activities are now delivered in 3 local community venues, these are The Glebe Centre, Macrae House and Murton Resource Centre which are closer to where many service users live.

- 97. The benefits of the pilot have been an increase in 2 year places for the community contributing towards the LA's Sufficiency Duty.
- 98. There has been no reduction in Children's Centre services delivered within this community.

Thornley Children's Centre and Thornley Primary School

- 99. The school plan to reconfigure the space into an extension of their 2 year places due to an increase in demand. This will require some structural work however this will only be progressed subject to Cabinet's decision. Some Children's Centre services continue to be delivered in the Children's Centre space supporting the existing 2 year offer. Other Children's Centre activities are now delivered in 2 local community venues, Thornley Methodist Hall and Thornley Village Hall.
- 100. There has been no reduction in Children's Centre services delivered within this community.
- 101. The pilot sites have all been successful in facilitating a transfer of Children's Centre services into the community with no loss of service. There have also been additional benefits of improved access to Children's Centre services by the targeted community, increased 2 year places contributing to the Council's Sufficiency Duty and increased school roll capacity.

Community Delivery Model

- 102. This section of the report describes in detail how the recommended Community Delivery Model would operate if implemented.
- 103. The Community Delivery Model will make use of the existing community building infrastructure in County Durham communities as well as being delivered through the retained 15 Children's Centres.
- 104. The range of available community venues that have been identified as suitable for Children's Centre service delivery through the consultation period are set out in **Appendix 5**. The consultation has identified there are a suitable number of available venues in every cluster to enable the Community Delivery Model to be delivered.
- 105. Not all of these buildings will be used all of the time. They will form part of a network of buildings that will offer flexibility of service delivery in relation to the types of activities to be provided and will enable a spread of provision across communities to improve accessibility for children and families. All buildings will be kept under review for accessibility and suitability.

106. A detailed communication plan would be developed to ensure any changes in service delivery, venues and times, are communicated effectively to all service users through the use of a variety of media. Termly timetables would be developed which would set out, well in advance, what activities are to be provided where.
107. There has been a focus on increasing contact with our most vulnerable families. In the last 12 months, 151 venues, in addition to the 43 Children's Centres and not including schools and nurseries, have been used to deliver Children's Centre services.
108. The current process used to identify appropriate community venues for the delivery of Children's Centre services is to broker a venue and an agreement of usage at a local level. All venues are risk assessed as per the Durham County Council Health and Safety Team risk assessment guidance. Venues are chosen due to their proximity to and level of existing engagement of target communities e.g. the existing Children's Centre is situated beyond a convenient walking distance to an estate which houses a high percentage of those families in most need.
109. The proposed Community Delivery Model will strengthen and build upon existing arrangements but on a countywide basis.
110. The suitability of each community building for the delivery of Children's Centre services will be ascertained by community building providers being supported to submit a building specification form. The building, if able to meet the required specification, will then form part of a network of approved community buildings suitable for service delivery. A risk assessment will be held for each building and reviewed before any booking is made.
111. The new model will deliver activities through community venues across the County. Community venues will be 'banded' according to the facilities on offer and an appropriate tariff applied to each which will be used as pricing guidance. In those 28 areas where it is proposed to transfer the existing Children's Centre, the intention will be to ensure there is at least one building that meets the enhanced standard as described in Table 4 below. In most instances, this will be achieved through continued use of the transferred Children's Centre building.

Table 4 – Table to show banding for the hiring of community venues

Band	Description
Minimum	The facility meets the Health and Safety requirements, has toilet facilities and is clean and welcoming and is accessible for disabled people.
Standard	All of the above including suitable storage space and is available for block bookings over a period of 7 weeks.
Enhanced	All of the above with the potential for the use of additional facilities that support EYFS outcomes e.g. kitchen area, IT, outdoor play, space for physical activity, provides full disabled access and is accessible by public

	transport.
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112. The estimated cost of the new service model is £64k. This will be funded through existing service budgets.
113. New arrangements will also require additional travel for staff between venues where services are delivered and there will be additional staff travel costs associated with this. An additional cost for the new model is estimated at £15k and again this will be met from within existing budgets.

Conclusions – Community Delivery Model

114. Whilst the questionnaire responses yielded some negative responses to the proposals relating to the Community Delivery Model, it was clear that support for the model increased when the opportunity was provided to describe it in more detail during presentations and focus group meetings.
115. The pilots, described in paragraphs 84-101 above, demonstrated that the new way of delivering services in a range of accessible community venues did not lead to a reduction in service delivery for children and families.
116. During the consultation a wide range of community venues have been identified as suitable for Children's Centre service delivery. These have been mapped at Children's Centre level to provide assurance that services can continue to be made available within those areas where it is proposed to transfer the existing Children's Centre.
117. Experience to date of using more community venues for service delivery has led to an increase in take-up of services, particularly by those families who live in the top 30% most deprived SOAs and this improved level of contact has contributed to improved EYFS outcomes for some children.

Consultation Analysis relating to the proposed 15 Children's Centres to retain

118. In order to determine recommendations regarding which Children's Centres to retain, a further analysis has been carried out following the 12 week public consultation.
119. Consultation responses from a range of stakeholders have been considered. Views have been gathered in a variety of ways and analysed at cluster level as follows:-
- Questionnaires
 - Individual Representations
 - Social Media
 - Local Advisory Boards
 - Parent Forums

120. An analysis of questionnaire responses has been provided in table format for each of the clusters and set out below. Where the percentage data used in this analysis does not come to the sum of 100%, this is due to rounding.

Review of Data

121. In addition to the above, the data has been further reviewed at cluster level. Data has been updated where possible and includes the 2014 EYFS data which has recently been published.
122. The data used in this analysis has been:-
- The centre with the highest % of children in the cluster not achieving a “Good Level of Development” (EYFS 2014);
 - The centre where the gap in EYFS outcomes between children eligible for FSM and their peers is greatest (EYFS 2014);
 - The centre with the highest level of deprivation (households in receipt of Child Tax Credit or Income Support/Job Seekers Allowance);
 - The centre that offers the best capacity for service delivery and staff accommodation, as any costs incurred to accommodate staff will impact on overall savings;
 - The centre in the cluster that has the highest number of Children in Need
 - The centre in the cluster that has the highest number per 1000 of children subject to a child protection plan;
 - The centre in the cluster with the highest footfall;
 - The centre in the cluster with the highest % of 0-4 who live in the top 30% most deprived SOA.
123. Consideration has also been given to the availability of alternative community resources for service delivery in the areas where it is not proposed to retain existing Children’s Centres, so that assurances can be given regarding continued provision across the whole cluster through the Community Delivery Model. In all clusters it would be the intention to negotiate some level of continued service for children and families in the former Children’s Centres beyond the point of transfer.
124. Information is also provided below regarding options for the transfer of Children’s Centre buildings it is not proposed to retain, subject to Cabinet decision.

CONSETT & STANLEY LOCALITY

1. CONSETT CLUSTER:

Benfieldside, Leadgate and Moorside Children’s Centres

Centre proposed to retain:

Centre recommended to retain:

Moorside Children’s Centre

Moorside Children’s Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES			
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Moorside	599	73%	42% - Moorside 24% - Leadgate 21% - Benfieldside

125. A large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 73%, agreed with the proposal to retain Moorside Children's Centre. Of those respondents who use centres within this cluster, the most popular centre to be retained was Moorside (42%) with 24% preferring Leadgate and 21% Benfieldside. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or did not comment on a centre to retain.
126. A LAB meeting was held during the consultation period involving 13 attendees consisting of 1 health visitor, 4 school representatives, 2 daycare representatives and 6 other partner representatives.
127. The LAB felt that further work should have been carried out on the viability of the Community Delivery Model particularly in relation to delivering efficiencies prior to its proposal. The future sustainability of community venues was also raised as a concern. There was also some concern that family workers would be less accessible for information and advice within communities. The LAB expressed a preference for Leadgate Children's Centre to be the retained Children's Centre on the basis that it is located in a more central point within the locality.

Review of the Data:

Centre Proposed to Retain	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Moorside	Moorside	Benfieldside	Moorside	Leadgate & Moorside

128. Based on the recently published 2014 EYFS Data, the highest percentage of children from top 30% most deprived communities who did not achieve a good level of development (GLD) live within the reach of Moorside Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Benfieldside area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers. Of these two centres, both Leadgate and Moorside Children's Centres offer good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation.

129. The highest % of children living in deprived circumstances live within the Moorside area.

Community Delivery Model:

130. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 2 community venues have been identified for service delivery in Benfieldside and 4 in Leadgate.
131. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar Timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

132. Having given consideration to the consultation responses, the data analysis and the Community Delivery Model in relation to this cluster, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Moorside Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

133. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Moorside Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
Benfieldside	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)
Leadgate	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

2. STANLEY CLUSTER:

Burnhope, Catchgate, Craghead and Stanley Children's Centres

Centre proposed to retain:

Stanley Children's Centre

Centre recommended to retain:

Stanley Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Stanley	589	84%	96% - Stanley 1% - Catchgate

134. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 84%, agreed with the proposal to retain Stanley Children's Centre. The majority of those respondents who use centres in the cluster area supported Stanley as the centre to be retained (96%) with 1% of respondents preferring Catchgate. Other respondents either proposed retaining more than one centre within the cluster or did not comment on a centre to be retained. There were no individual representations or Social Media campaigns relating to the proposal for this cluster.
135. A LAB meeting was held during the consultation period involving 8 attendees consisting of 1 health visitor, 3 daycare representatives, 1 school and 3 other partner representatives.
136. The meeting felt that the obvious centre to retain was Stanley for a range of reasons including, location of the centre in a central point within Stanley, the building as a 2 storey building is a good size and offers good service delivery and office accommodation capacity. Members felt that through using community venues families who have previously been reluctant to use Children's Centre buildings may access services resulting in the engagement of a greater number of families. LAB members felt that the proposal provides an opportunity for greater partnership working with schools and other organisations and better opportunities to work with families who can be hardest to reach.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Stanley	Stanley	Catchgate	Stanley	Stanley

137. Based on the recently published 2014 EYFS Data, the highest percentage of children from top 30% most deprived communities who do not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Stanley Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Catchgate area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers. Of the Centres in this cluster, only Stanley offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation.
138. The highest % of children living in deprived circumstances live within the Stanley area.
139. The highest proportion of all 0-4s live within the Stanley area, whilst the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in the top 30% most deprived SOA live in the Catchgate area.
140. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need live is Catchgate, however the highest number per 1000 of children with a child protection plan live in the Craghead area.

Community Delivery Model:

141. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 3 community venues have been identified for service delivery in Burnhope, 8 in Catchgate and 2 in Craghead.
142. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar Timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

143. Having given consideration of the consultation responses, the data analysis and the Community Delivery Model in relation to this cluster, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Stanley Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

144. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Stanley Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
Burnhope	Transfer to Burnhope Primary School
Catchgate	Transfer to Catchgate Primary School
Craghead	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

DURHAM & CHESTER-LE-STREET LOCALITY:**3. CHESTER-LE-STREET CLUSTER**

Bullion Lane and Pelton Children's Centre

Centre Proposed to Retain: Bullion Lane Children's Centre

Centre Recommended to Retain: Bullion Lane Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Bullion Lane	581	79%	66% - Bullion Lane 25% - Pelton

145. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 79%, agreed with the proposal to retain Bullion Lane Children's Centre. The majority of those respondents who use centres in the cluster area supported Bullion Lane as the centre to be retained (66%) with 25% preferring Pelton. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
146. A LAB meeting was held during the consultation period involving 8 attendees consisting of 3 parents, 1 health visitor, 1 midwife, 1 daycare representative and 2 other partner representatives.
147. The meeting acknowledged that the proposals aim to improve engagement with those families most in need. Members felt that the proposals may improve contact with families living in outlying areas who are reluctant to travel to existing Children's Centres. They also supported the retention of Bullion Lane Children's Centre and highlighted that effective communication and marketing would be key to the success of the Community Delivery Model. Members also commented that community engagement and development is time intensive.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Bullion Lane	Bullion Lane	Bullion Lane	Bullion Lane	Bullion Lane

148. Based on the recently published 2014 EYFS Data, the highest percentage of children from top 30% most deprived communities who do not achieve a GLD live in the Bullion Lane area. Children eligible for FSM living in the Bullion Lane area also experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers. Bullion Lane Children's Centres offer good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation.
149. The highest % of children living in deprived circumstances and the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in the top 30% most deprived SOA live in the Bullion Lane area. Bullion Lane also has the highest number of visits from families with children who live in the top 30% most deprived SOA.
150. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and where the highest number per 1000 children with a child protection plan live is Bullion Lane.

Community Delivery Model:

151. In the area served by the Children's Centre proposed for transfer, 8 community venues have been identified for service delivery in the Pelton area.

152. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

153. Having given consideration to the consultation responses, the data analysis and the Community Delivery Model in relation to this cluster, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Bullion Lane Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

154. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Bullion Lane Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining building in this cluster is as follows:-

Children's Centre Building	Transfer Options
Pelton	Transfer to Pelton Community Primary School

DEERNESS VALLEY CLUSTER:

Brandon, Sacriston and Ushaw Moor Children's Centre

Centre Proposed to Retain:

Brandon Children's Centre

Centre Recommended to Retain:

Brandon Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who use children's centres within the cluster expressed a preference as follows:-
Brandon	614	72%	46% - Brandon 27% - Ushaw Moor 10% - Sacriston

155. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 72%, agreed with the proposal to retain Brandon Children's Centre. Of those respondents who use centres within the cluster, the most popular centre to be retained was Brandon (46%) with 27% preferring Ushaw Moor and 10% preferring Sacriston. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
156. A consultation session for the LAB for this cluster was provided. Only one LAB member participated and requested their views were not included in the

consultation. Meetings were held with parents who are service users within the cluster. Parents from the Ushaw Moor and Sacriston areas expressed a preference for the retention of either Ushaw Moor or Sacriston as car parking was considered a problem at Brandon Children's Centre and the building capacity for service delivery was viewed as more favourable in these two centres.

Review of Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Brandon	Sacriston	Ushaw Moor	Sacriston	Brandon

157. Based on the recently published 2014 EYFS Data, the highest percentage of children from top 30% most deprived communities who do not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Sacriston Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Ushaw Moor area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
158. Only Brandon Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation.
159. The highest % of children living in deprived circumstances live within the Sacriston area.
160. The centre where the highest number per 1000 Children in Need live is Brandon, however the highest number per 1000 of children with a child protection plan live in the Ushaw Moor area.
161. Brandon has the highest % of all visits and visits from families with children who live in the top 30% most deprived SOA. Brandon is also the area that has the highest proportion of 0-4 year olds who live in the top 30% most deprived SOA.

Community Delivery Model:

162. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 9 community venues have been identified for service delivery in Ushaw Moor and 14 in Sacriston.
163. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

164. On balance, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Brandon Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

165. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Brandon Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
Ushaw Moor	Transfer to Silver Tree Primary School
Sacriston	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

4. DURHAM CLUSTER

Kelloe, Laurel Avenue and Sherburn Hill Children's Centre

Centre Proposed to Retain:

Laurel Avenue Children's Centre

Centre Recommended to Retain:

Laurel Avenue Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Laurel Avenue	569	78%	66% - Laurel Avenue 11% - Sherburn Hill 8% - Kelloe

166. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 78%, agreed with the proposal to retain Laurel Avenue Children's Centre. The majority of those respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Laurel Avenue as the centre to be retained (66%) with 11% of respondents preferring Sherburn Hill and 8% preferring Kelloe. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
167. A LAB meeting was held during the consultation period involving 7 attendees consisting of 1 parent, 1 health visitor, 1 school representative, 2 daycare representatives and 2 other partner representatives.
168. The LAB confirmed their support for Laurel Avenue as the centre to be retained, however, expressed the need to ensure the building retains its identity as a Children's Centre for full service delivery not just an accommodation base

for staff. Three Parent Forums were held across this cluster. Kelloe and Sherburn Hill Parent Forums did not support the retention of Laurel Avenue Children's Centre. Laurel Avenue Parent's Forum supported the retention of Laurel Avenue Children's Centre.

Review of Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Laurel Avenue	Laurel Avenue	Sherburn Hill	Laurel Avenue	Laurel Avenue

169. The 2014 EYFS Data shows that the highest percentage of children from top 30% most deprived communities who did not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Laurel Avenue Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Sherburn Hill area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
170. Only Laurel Avenue Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation.
171. The highest % of children living in deprived circumstances live within the Laurel Avenue area.
172. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need is Laurel Avenue however the highest number per 1000 of children with a child protection plan live in the Kelloe area.
173. The majority of 0-4s who live in the top 30% most deprived SOAs live within the Laurel Avenue area and this centre also experiences the highest number of visits from this cohort.

Community Delivery Model:

174. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 9 community venues have been identified for service delivery in Kelloe and 6 in Sherburn Hill.
175. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

176. On balance, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Laurel Avenue Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

177. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Laurel Avenue Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
Kelloe	Transfer to Kelloe Primary School
Sherburn Hill	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

PETERLEE & SEAHAM LOCALITY**5. EASINGTON CLUSTER**

Easington and Murton Children's Centre

Centre Proposed to Retain: Easington Children's Centre
Centre Recommended to Retain: Easington Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

Centre Proposed to Retain	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Easington	607	82%	84% Easington 7% - Murton

178. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 82%, agreed with the proposal to retain Easington Children's Centre. The majority of those respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Easington as the centre to be retained (84%) with 7% of respondents preferring Murton. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
179. A LAB meeting was held during the consultation period involving 5 attendees consisting of 2 parents, a health representative, a school representative, and a partner representative.
180. The LAB confirmed their support for Easington Children's Centre as the centre to be retained and for the Community Delivery Model. A consultation session was also provided for parents within this cluster. Parents were concerned about the suitability of community venues for Children's Centre service delivery.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Easington	Easington	Easington	Easington	Easington

181. Based on the recently published 2014 EYFS Data, the highest percentage of children from top 30% most deprived communities who did not achieve a GLD live in the Easington area. Children eligible for FSM living in the Easington area also experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
182. Only Easington Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation. Easington also has the highest proportion of children living in deprived circumstances.
183. Easington also has the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in the top 30% most deprived SOAs and the highest visits to the centre from this cohort.
184. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and children with a child protection plan live is in the Murton area.

Community Delivery Model:

185. In the area served by the Children's Centre proposed for transfer, 6 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Murton area.
186. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

187. Having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Easington Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

188. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Easington Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining building in this cluster is as follows:-

Children's Centre Building	Transfer Options
Murton	Transfer to Ribbon Academy

6. SEAHAM CLUSTER

Seaham Children's Centre

Proposed Centre to Retain:

Seaham Children's Centre

Recommended Centre to Retain:

Seaham Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Seaham	617	87%	98% Seaham

189. As there is only one Children's Centre in this cluster the majority of all responses and from respondents who use Seaham CC approved of the proposal to retain this centre.
190. A LAB meeting was held during the consultation period for the Seaham cluster involving 4 attendees consisting of 1 parent, 1 daycare representative, and 2 other partner representatives.
191. LAB members discussed the potential impact on staffing resource in the implementation of the Community Delivery Model. Members also asked if One Point would still deliver services in centres which had been transferred to schools. They also described how Seaham already operates successfully with an outreach model.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		BUILDING ISSUES
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where do the highest % Children eligible for Free School Meals not achieving GLD live?	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Seaham	Seaham	Seaham	Seaham

192. Given this is the only centre in the cluster, the data supports the retention of this centre. Seaham Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation.

Community Delivery Model:

193. In the Seaham area there are 16 additional community venues that have been identified for service delivery.
194. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is

provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

195. Having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Seaham Children's Centre** for this cluster.

7. PETERLEE EAST CLUSTER

Blackhall and Horden Children's Centre.

Proposed Centre to Retain: Horden Children's Centre

Recommended Centre to Retain: Horden Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES			
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Horden	596	82%	82% - Horden 8% - Blackhall

196. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 82%, agreed with the proposal to retain Horden Children's Centre. The majority of respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Horden as the centre to be retained (82%) with 8% of respondents preferring Blackhall. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
197. There were 11 attendees at the LAB meeting for the Peterlee East Cluster held during the consultation period, consisting of 1 health visitor, 1 midwife, 1 parish councillor, 2 school representatives, 3 daycare representatives and 3 other partner representatives.
198. LAB members felt that moving into community venues would have a positive impact on children in their early years although some parts of the community had limited community venues so this may present a challenge. Members supported the retention of Horden Children's Centre. LAB members felt that other organisations who use the centres to maintain contact with vulnerable people should be consulted on the implementation of the Community Delivery Model.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Horden	Horden	Blackhall	Horden	Horden

199. The 2014 EYFS Data shows that the highest percentage of children from the top 30% most deprived who do not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Horden Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Blackhall area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
200. Only Horden Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation. Horden also has the highest proportion of 0-4s living in deprived circumstances.
201. Horden also has the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in top 30% most deprived SOAs and has the highest proportion of visits to the centre from children in this cohort.
202. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need is Blackhall however the centre where the highest number per 1000 children with a child protection plan live is in the Horden area.

Community Delivery Model:

203. In the area served by the Children's Centre proposed for transfer, 5 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Blackhall area.
204. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

205. On balance, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Horden Children's Centre** for this Cluster.

Transfer Options:

206. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Horden Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining building in this cluster is as follows:-

Children's Centre Building	Transfer Options
Blackhall	Transfer to Blackhall Colliery Primary School

8. PETERLEE CENTRAL CLUSTER:

Dene House, Howlatch and Seascope Children's Centre

Proposed Centre to Retain:

Seascope Children's Centre

Recommended Centre to Retain:

Seascope Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who use children's centres within the cluster expressed a preference as follows:-
Seascope	755	75%	69% - Seascope 14% - Howlatch 3% - Dene House

207. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 75%, agreed with the proposal to retain Seascope Children's Centre. The majority of respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Seascope as the centre to be retained (69%) with 14% of respondents preferring Howlatch and 3% preferring Dene House. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
208. There were 10 attendees at the LAB meeting for the Peterlee Central Cluster held during the consultation period, consisting of 2 parent representatives, 1 midwife, 1 faith representative, 1 school representative, 4 daycare representatives and 1 other partner representative.
209. The LAB felt that the community delivery proposals would have a positive impact. Members felt that easier community access will help engage more families. Whilst members agreed that Seascope has the greatest level of need, more families use Howlatch Children's Centre and there are limited alternative community venues whilst Seascope has an outreach centre available. Members asked whether the quality of services would be affected as sessions would be delivered from buildings that were not purpose built.

Review of the Data

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Seascope	Seascope	Seascope	Seascope	None

210. The 2014 EYFS Data shows that the highest percentage of children from the top 30% most deprived SOAs who do not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Seascope Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Seascope area also experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.

211. Seascope is also the area that has the highest % of children living in deprived circumstances and the highest proportion of children living in top 30% most deprived SOAs.

212. None of the Children's Centres in this cluster are able to accommodate staff and staff working within this area are accommodated elsewhere.

213. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and children with a child protection plan live is in the Dene House area.

214. Howletch has the highest proportion of visits to the centre from children who live in the top 30% most deprived SOAs whilst the proportion of 0-4s from top 30% most deprived SOAs live within the Seascope area.

Community Delivery Model:

215. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 5 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Dene House area and 4 in Howletch.

216. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

217. Having given consideration to the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Seascope Children's Centre**.

Transfer Options:

218. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Seascape Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
Howlatch	Transfer to Howlatch Lane Primary School
Dene House	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

9. PETERLEE WEST CLUSTER:

Haswell, Shotton, Thornley, Wheatley Hill and Wingate Children's Centres

Centre Proposed to Retain:

Wheatley Hill Children's Centre

Centre Recommended to Retain:

Wheatley Hill Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Wheatley Hill	587	77%	64% - Wheatley Hill 8% - Shotton 8% - Wingate 4% - Haswell 1% - Thornley

219. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 77%, agreed with the proposal to retain Wheatley Hill Children's Centre. The majority of respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Wheatley Hill as the centre to be retained (64%) with 8% of respondents preferring Shotton, 8% preferring Wingate, 4% preferring Haswell and 1% preferring Thornley. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
220. 3 LAB meetings were held during the consultation period involving 15 attendees consisting of 2 parents, 1 health visitor, 4 school representatives, 5 daycare representatives and 3 other partner representatives.
221. All LAB meetings confirmed support for the proposed retention of Wheatley Hill Children's Centre. LAB representatives from Thornley and Wheatley Hill were broadly supportive of the community delivery proposals and felt that the move to using community venues in Thornley could have a positive impact. The daycare providers from Haswell and Shotton areas commented on the potential detrimental impact of the loss of direct contact with the One Point Service where buildings were not to be retained. The Wingate LAB expressed how the

impact of the proposals would be dependent upon which services were held where and what may be beneficial to some families may not be to others.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Wheatley Hill	Shotton	Thornley	Shotton	Wheatley Hill

222. The 2014 EYFS Data shows that the highest percentage of children from top 30% most deprived communities live within the reach of Shotton Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in Thornley experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
223. Only Wheatley Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation. Wheatley Hill also has the highest proportion of visits to the centre from children who live in the top 30% most deprived SOAs.
224. The highest proportion of 0-4s from top 30% most deprived SOAs live within the Wingate area.
225. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and children with a child protection plan live is in the Wheatley Hill area.

Community Delivery Model:

226. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 4 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Wingate area, 3 in Thornley area, 2 in the Haswell area and 3 in Shotton.
227. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in these areas post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

228. On balance, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, it is recommended that **Wheatley Hill Children's Centre** is the retained centre for this cluster

Transfer Options:

229. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Wheatley Hill Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
Shotton	Transfer to Shotton Primary School
Thornley	Transfer to Thornley Primary School
Wingate	Transfer to Wingate Nursery School
Haswell	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

FERRYHILL & NEWTON AYCLIFFE LOCALITY:**10. FERRYHILL CLUSTER:**

Chilton, Dean Bank & Fishburn Children's Centres

Centre Proposed to Retain: Dean Bank Children's Centre
Centre Recommended to Retain: Dean Bank Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who use children's centres within the cluster expressed a preference as follows:-
Dean Bank	613	78%	72% - Dean Bank 10% - Fishburn 7% - Chilton

230. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 78%, agreed with the proposal to retain Dean Bank Children's Centre. The majority of respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Dean Bank as the centre to be retained (72%) with 10% of respondents preferring Fishburn, and 7% preferring Chilton. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
231. 3 LAB meetings were held during the consultation period involving 16 attendees consisting of 5 parents, 4 health visitors, 4 school representatives, 2 daycare representatives and 1 other partner representative
232. LAB members from the Dean Bank area felt that the proposal to use community venues may improve engagement and the Children's Centre buildings should be used more during weekends and school holidays. LAB members from the Chilton area expressed concern at the proposed 'loss' of

Chilton Children's Centre describing its vital role in the community, the impact of the loss of funding to the school and how limited public transport will prevent families from accessing services. Members requested the retention of Chilton Children's Centre in addition to Dean Bank Children's Centre.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Dean Bank	Dean Bank & Fishburn	Fishburn	Dean Bank	Dean Bank

233. The 2014 EYFS Data shows that the highest percentage of children from the top 30% most deprived communities who did not achieve a GLD live within the reach of both Dean Bank and Fishburn Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Fishburn area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
234. Only Dean Bank Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation. Dean Bank also has the highest proportion of 0-4s living in deprived circumstances.
235. Dean Bank also has the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in top 30% most deprived SOAs although Fishburn has the highest proportion of visits to the centre from children in this cohort.
236. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and children with a child protection plan live is in the Dean Bank area.

Community Delivery Model:

237. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 11 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Fishburn area and 2 in the Chilton area
238. These additional venues provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility in these areas post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

239. On balance, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Dean Bank Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

240. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Dean Bank Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre Building	Transfer Options
Chilton	Transfer to Chilton Primary School
Fishburn	Transfer to Fishburn Primary School

11. NEWTON AYCLIFFE CLUSTER:

Newton Aycliffe and Shildon Children's Centre

Centre Proposed to Retain: Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre
Centre Recommended to Retain: Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Newton Aycliffe	614	72%	45% - Newton Aycliffe 29% - Shildon

241. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 72%, agreed with the proposal to retain Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre. Of those respondents who use centres within this cluster, the most popular centre to be retained was Newton Aycliffe (45%) with 29% preferring Shildon. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
242. In addition to the questionnaire responses the following representations were received which were in support of Shildon Children's Centre being the retained centre within this cluster:-
- Petition with 110 Signatures
 - "Save Our Children's Centres" Facebook Page with 370 Members
 - Response from local Vicar concerned about the impact on the community of the loss of Shildon Children's Centre
 - A submission from One Point Staff
 - A submission from Parent Representatives at Shildon Children's Centre
243. 2 LAB meetings were held during the consultation period involving 8 attendees consisting of 1 parent, 1 County Councillor, 2 daycare representatives and 4 other partner representative.
244. Representatives from both Newton Aycliffe and Shildon highlighted how Shildon Children's Centre is often accessed by families in crisis and seeking

advice, whilst the One Point Hub is available to the community for such support in Newton Aycliffe. All members acknowledged that engaging the most vulnerable families will always be challenging, regardless of venue.

245. 8 parents from Shildon attended a Parent Forum event held during the consultation. Whilst they agreed with additional outreach sessions being available, they feel families in crisis need a centre to access for advice and support. The parents felt that Newton Aycliffe has more suitable community venues than Shildon and so could operate the Community Delivery Model more easily.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Newton Aycliffe	Newton Aycliffe	Shildon	Newton Aycliffe	None

246. The 2014 EYFS Data shows that the highest percentage of children from the top 30% most deprived communities who did not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Shildon area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
247. Neither of the centres offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation and staff who work within this cluster are accommodated elsewhere.
248. Newton Aycliffe has the highest proportion of 0-4s living in deprived circumstances, the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in top 30% most deprived SOAs. The highest proportion of children from this cohort visit the Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre.
249. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and children with a child protection plan live is in the Shildon area.

Community Delivery Model:

250. In the area served by the Children's Centre proposed for transfer, 13 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Shildon Children's Centre area.
251. The additional venues in Shildon provide assurance that the Community Delivery Model will improve service accessibility post transfer of the Children's Centre building. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

252. Having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses, the petition and social media activity and individual submissions and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would on balance support the proposal regarding the retention of **Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

253. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining building in this cluster is as follows:-

Children's Centre Building	Transfer Options
Shildon	Transfer to Timothy Hackworth Primary School

12. SPENNYMOOR CLUSTER:

Middlestone Moor, Tudhoe Moor and West Cornforth Children's Centres

Centre Proposed to Retain: Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre
Centre Recommended to Retain: Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

Centre Proposed to Retain	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Tudhoe Moor	586	77%	71% - Tudhoe Moor 17% - Middlestone Moor

254. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 77%, agreed with the proposal to retain Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre. The majority of respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Tudhoe Moor as the centre to be retained (71%) with 17% of respondents preferring Middlestone Moor. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
255. A LAB meeting for the Spennymoor cluster was held during the consultation period. There were 7 attendees consisting of 2 health visitors, 2 school representatives, and 3 other partner representatives.
256. LAB members felt that the Community Delivery Model 'made sense' as money needs to be saved and services may be better delivered closer to people's homes.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Tudhoe Moor	Tudhoe Moor	West Cornforth	Tudhoe Moor	None

257. The 2014 EYFS Data shows that the highest percentage of children from the top 30% most deprived communities who did not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the West Cornforth area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
258. Neither of the centres offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation and staff who work within this cluster are accommodated elsewhere.
259. Tudhoe Moor has the highest proportion of 0-4s living in deprived circumstances and the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in top 30% most deprived SOAs whilst Middlestone Moor has the highest proportion of visits to the centre of children from this cohort.
260. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and children with a child protection plan live is in the West Cornforth area.

Community Delivery Model:

261. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 8 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Middlestone Moor area and 5 in the West Cornforth area.
262. These additional venues provide assurance of the Community Delivery Model and will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

263. On balance, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre** for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

264. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre Building	Transfer Options
Middlestone Moor	Transfer to Middlestone Moor Primary School
West Cornforth	Transfer to West Cornforth Primary School

BISHOP AUCKLAND & BARNARD CASTLE LOCALITY:**13. BISHOP AUCKLAND CLUSTER**

Coundon, St Helen Auckland & Woodhouse Close Children's Centre

Centre Proposed to Retain: St Helen Auckland Children's Centre
Centre Recommended to Retain: Woodhouse Close Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

Centre Proposed to Retain	ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES		
	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
St Helen Auckland	669	72%	60% - St Helen Auckland 16% - Coundon 14% - Woodhouse Close

265. The majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 72%, agreed with the proposal to retain St Helen Auckland Children's Centre. The majority of respondents who use centres within this cluster supported St Helen Auckland as the centre to be retained (60%) with 16% of respondents preferring Coundon and 14% preferring Woodhouse Close. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.
266. 2 LAB meetings were held during the consultation period involving 12 attendees consisting of 2 parents, 1 volunteer, 2 health visitors, 2 school representatives, 2 daycare representatives and 3 other partner representatives.
267. Members from the Coundon area discussed how through the implementation of the Community Delivery Model, One Point must work in partnership with early years groups. Members also discussed how use of community venues was already proving to be successful in the Coundon area.
268. LAB members stated a preference to retain Woodhouse Close Children's Centre due to the higher number of families living in the Woodhouse Close community from the top 30% SOA.

269. School representatives in particular identified advantages to the increased capacity within St. Helen Auckland Primary School if the Children's Centre were to be transferred rather than retained. This would have a positive impact on both school roll and daycare provision for children living in this area.
270. Parents highlighted the need for additional community venues to be identified in the Bishop Auckland town centre and for continuity of activities and staff to assist in keeping families engaged.

Review of the Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
St Helen Auckland	Woodhouse Close	St Helen Auckland	Woodhouse Close	St Helen Auckland

271. St. Helen Auckland Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation. The 2014 EYFS data shows that children eligible for FSM living in the St. Helen Auckland area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers.
272. The 2014 EYFS data shows that the highest percentage of children that did not achieve a good level of development and who live in top 30% most deprived communities, live in the Woodhouse Close area.
273. Woodhouse Close has the highest proportion of 0-4s living in deprived circumstances and the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in top 30% most deprived SOAs.
274. Woodhouse Close is also the centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need and children with a child protection plan live.

Community Delivery Model:

275. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 6 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Coundon area and 3 in the St. Helen Auckland area.
276. These additional venues provide assurance of the Community Delivery Model and will improve service accessibility in the cluster post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

277. Reaching a recommendation for which centre to retain in this cluster has proved difficult. In doing so a balanced view has been taken regarding the optimum best fit giving consideration to the range of data. Whilst the

questionnaire responses favoured the retention of St Helen Auckland, LAB members expressed the view that Woodhouse Close should be the retained centre.

278. The data supports the view that higher levels of deprivation persist in Woodhouse Close.
279. One of the factors involved in determining the proposal to retain St. Helen Auckland was the ability of this centre to offer accommodation for staff. During the consultation period additional space to accommodate staff has been identified within the You Can Centre which is located in the Woodhouse Close area adjacent to the One Point Service Hub building.
280. Therefore, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, on balance, based on the high level of needs amongst children living in Woodhouse Close, **Woodhouse Close Children's Centre** should be the retained centre for this cluster.

Transfer Options:

281. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Woodhouse Close Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
St. Helen Auckland	Transfer to St. Helen Auckland Community Primary School
Coundon	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

14. DURHAM DALES CLUSTER:

Evenwood, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Stanhope and Willington Children's Centres

Centre Proposed to Retain:

Willington Children's Centre

Centre Recommended to Retain:

Willington Children's Centre

Analysis of Consultation Responses:

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES			
Centre Proposed to Retain	Total Questionnaire Responses	What % of all respondents agree with the centre proposed to retain?	The Respondents who <u>use children's centres within the cluster</u> expressed a preference as follows:-
Willington	646	76%	73% - Willington 11% - Evenwood 5% - Middleton - in - Teesdale 3% - Stanhope

282. The large majority of overall questionnaire responses to the consultation, 76%, agreed with the proposal to retain Willington Children's Centre. The majority of respondents who use centres within this cluster supported Willington as the centre to be retained (73%) with 11% of respondents preferring Evenwood, 5%

Middleton in Teesdale and 3% Stanhope. The remaining respondents offered a series of different responses including retaining more than one centre within the cluster, proposing a centre from outside the cluster or not commenting on a centre to retain.

283. Four LAB meetings were held during the consultation period involving 14 attendees consisting of 1 parent, 2 health visitors, 2 school representatives, 4 daycare representatives and 5 other partner representatives
284. Members from the Evenwood area understood reasons for reducing the number of Children's Centres but highlighted the difficulty for parents of having to travel for face to face support, booking activities, paying for trips and finding out about services. Members were also concerned regarding the impact of the transfer of the Children's Centre on the broader Randolph Centre building in which the Evenwood Children's Centre is based. They raised concerns regarding the ability to identify an alternative provider for the building. Members from Middleton-in-Teesdale area described how accessing any other centre for families living in the village would be challenging, especially for those reliant upon public transport. Members were supportive of the Middleton-in-Teesdale pilot regarding the transfer of the Children's Centre and recognised the benefits being realised. The daycare provider attached to Stanhope Children's Centre expressed concern regarding the future of the childcare provision dependent upon whoever took ownership of the Children's Centre. Members from the Willington area supported the retention of Willington Children's Centre and highlighted the importance of effective communication in the implementation of the Community Delivery Model.
285. Parents from the Evenwood area reflected the views of the LAB and agreed the community model would benefit families, but felt that Teesdale should retain a centre. They described concerns around the suitability of community venues for the delivery of early years services. Stanhope parents highlighted the need to keep a consistent service in Stanhope. Willington parents identified the need for services to be available for working parents and how valuable children centre services are to families.

Review of the 2014 Data:

	2014 EYFS OUTCOMES		DEPRIVATION	BUILDING SUITABILITY
Centre Proposed to Retain	Where do the highest % Children from top 30% SOA not achieving GLD live?	Where is the gap between EYFS outcomes for children eligible for FSM and their peers largest	Where do the highest % of 0-4s living in households in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA live	Most Suitable Building Accommodation & Service Delivery
Willington	Willington	Middleton in Teesdale	Willington	Willington

286. The 2014 EYFS data shows that the highest percentage of children from the top 30% most deprived communities who did not achieve a GLD live within the reach of Willington Children's Centre. Children eligible for FSM living in the Middleton in Teesdale area experience the largest gap in EYFS outcomes when compared with their peers, however the numbers of children eligible for FSM are in the single figures in this area compared with over 50 who live within

the Willington Area. As such it could be argued that, given the numbers, the gap is greatest in the Willington area.

287. Only Willington Children's Centre offers good space for both service delivery and staff accommodation.
288. Willington has the highest proportion of 0-4s living in deprived circumstances and the highest proportion of 0-4s who live in top 30% most deprived SOAs and also the the highest proportion of children from this cohort who visit the centre.
289. The centre where the highest number per 1000 children in need live is in the Stanhope area however the highest number per 1000 of children with a child protection plan live in the Willington area.

Community Delivery Model:

290. In the areas served by the Children's Centres proposed for transfer, 18 community venues have been identified as suitable for service delivery in the Evenwood area, 14 in the Stanhope area and 4 in the Middleton-in-Teesdale area.
291. These additional venues provide assurance of the Community Delivery Model and will improve service accessibility in this area post transfer of Children's Centre buildings. An exemplar timetable relating to Children's Centre service delivery using a range of community venues is provided at **Appendix 9**. Exemplar timetables for all 15 clusters can be provided upon request and copies have been placed in the Members Library.

Summary:

292. On balance, having given consideration to all of the available data, the consultation responses and the requirements of the Community Delivery Model, this would support the proposal regarding the retention of **Willington Children's Centre** for this cluster

Transfer Options:

293. Subject to Cabinet decision regarding the retention of Willington Children's Centre, the transfer options being explored for the remaining buildings in this cluster are as follows:-

Children's Centre	Proposal for Transfer
Middleton-in-Teesdale	Transfer to Middleton-in-Teesdale Nursery and Primary School
Stanhope	Transfer to Stanhope Barrington CE Primary School
Evenwood	Transfer to other provider taking account of the Durham Ask and the application of proposed criteria (see paragraph 303)

Conclusions - Children's Centres to Retain:

- 294. The questionnaire submissions and qualitative feedback from the various stakeholder meetings, together with a range of statistical data has been reviewed and analysed for each of the 15 cluster areas. This analysis has informed final recommendations for all of the Children's Centre clusters
- 295. Given the variability of both the qualitative and quantitative data for each of the clusters, recommendations have been made based on a balanced "best fit" analysis of all available data, cluster by cluster.
- 296. Analysis of the questionnaire submissions alone confirmed support for all of the 15 Children's Centres it was proposed to retain, however, consultation with LAB members and Parents Forums provided a more mixed response. In most cases these responses concurred with the proposals, although there were a number of exceptions which have been referenced in the relevant cluster sections set out above.
- 297. Data has been updated where possible (see paragraph 122) and reviewed for each of the cluster areas which in the majority of areas supports the original proposals.
- 298. The final recommendations are based on an overall analysis of all of this information and this has supported 14 of the 15 original proposals.
- 299. In relation to the Bishop Auckland cluster, analysis of the data in relation to the prevalence of need and deprivation indicates that the highest proportion of children and families who have the greatest levels of need live within the reach of Woodhouse Close Children's Centre. The retention of this centre was also supported by the LAB for this cluster for these reasons. Therefore, Woodhouse Close Children's Centre is recommended as the most appropriate of the centres within this cluster to retain.

The future use of buildings no longer designated Children's Centres

- 300. Subject to final Cabinet decision, 28 Children's Centres will no longer be designated as such.
- 301. It is the Council's preferred choice that, where possible, the Children's Centre buildings that are not retained should transfer to schools. Of the 28 buildings that would not be retained as Children's Centres, 24 are attached or co-located on a school site. For each of these, consideration has been given to the school's performance and ability to take on the leadership and management of the building and 19 have been identified as being in a position to do so (**Appendix 10**).
- 302. Discussions commenced with these schools during the consultation period. In principle agreement documents have been developed with support from Legal

and Asset services. Eighteen of the 19 Schools identified have agreed 'in principle' to taking on the running of the Children's Centre buildings with the support of their Governing Body. One school is awaiting some additional information to inform a decision.

303. During the consultation period, expressions of interest were received for all of the remaining 9 buildings. It is recommended the transfer of these buildings is taken forward taking account of the Durham Ask, and applying the following criteria:-
- Transfers take place within timescales that will ensure the MTFP efficiency can be achieved;
 - Agreements include any conditions of grant that apply to the building to mitigate the risk of clawback;
 - Where required, the ongoing provision of daycare to ensure the Council can deliver against its duty to provide sufficient daycare places;
 - Future building use supports the Council's strategy in relation to early years and early help.
304. In order to ensure the transfers are achieved within a realistic timescale to enable the MTFP efficiency to be achieved, it may be necessary to advertise a lease via the open market.
305. As stated earlier in this report, in all cases the buildings will remain an asset of the County Council. Occupancy and running costs, together with full repairing and maintenance responsibilities, will be transferred to schools through a transfer agreement or to third party providers, including academies, by a lease agreement.
306. Such agreements would specifically address two aspects of risk to the Council. The first of these is the risk of potential clawback, linked to a number of the funding streams that were used to develop Children's Centres. In identifying potential alternative providers assurances have been sought regarding the future use of the building and compliance with grant requirements. Risk assessments have been carried out and assurances would be provided through transfer or lease agreements that grant conditions will be met where they exist to mitigate the risk of clawback.
307. The second risk relating to transfer of the buildings relates to the Council's "Sufficiency Duty". The Childcare Act (2006) and the associated statutory guidance for local authorities on Early Education and Childcare – September 2014, placed a "Sufficiency Duty" on Councils to secure sufficient childcare, as far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).
308. In addition, in September 2013, the Government imposed a legal duty on Councils to secure early education places for 2 year olds by offering 570 hours over a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year to every eligible child in

the County, the primary focus being on economic disadvantage but also including children who are looked after by the Council and those in receipt of disabled living allowance. In September 2014, 2798 two year olds in the local authority were eligible.

309. A number of the Children's Centre buildings, including those it is proposed not to retain, provide childcare places delivered by a range of daycare providers. Such provision contributes to the Council's sufficiency duty.
310. Therefore, where it is identified that daycare provision must continue so that the Council can meet its duty, a clause will be written into the appropriate agreement stating any proposed change to daycare requires the consent of the Council. This will ensure that daycare provision is protected where it is needed.
311. Currently daycare providers deliver out of 35 Children's Centre buildings. 12 deliver from centres it is proposed to retain and 23 deliver from centres planned to be transferred to schools or third party providers. These daycare providers are charged a flat rate of £25 per square metre for use of the space within Children's Centres. This amounts to a subsidised rate for providers; however, the subsidy has been deemed necessary to facilitate the provision of sufficient daycare places. Providers have been informed that this rate is likely to be reviewed.
312. Once buildings transfer, schools and other potential third party providers will not subsidise private daycare, therefore an increase to actual premises costs will be applied. Providers will be able to access the Council's sustainability funding (see paragraph 313 below) to allow for a manageable increase and so that the Council can continue to meet its sufficiency duty.
313. The sustainability element of the Council's childcare sufficiency funding is used to support the creation of new childcare places, for business support and/or to provide sustainability funding to providers. The process of applying for sustainability funding requires providers to supply detailed financial information. This ensures funding is provided only to those that need it in order to sustain provision and to enable the Council to meet its sufficiency duty.
314. This funding can be used, among other purposes, to provide financial assistance to providers delivering daycare in those Children's Centres it is not proposed to retain, during the two year phasing period.
315. Whilst it is not possible to accurately predict the level of financial support that will be required as this would require access to accounts for the relevant providers, it is estimated available funding is sufficient to meet needs. In addition, business support to the relevant providers will be increased during the phasing period, to enable these settings to run more efficiently.
316. Support for all 28 required transfers of Children's Centre buildings will be provided by Assistant Chief Executive Support Officers with involvement from

Assets, Legal and Procurement Services (if required).

317. Where Children's Centre buildings are being transferred to an alternative provider, TUPE regulations may apply if staff remain when buildings transfer e.g. caretakers, cleaners, and daycare staff. This has been taken into account and will be factored into any agreement or lease with alternative providers. Where a TUPE transfer may be required full consultation with staff and Trade Unions will take place in accordance with DCC Change Management Policy and Procedure.

Rurality

318. It is recognised that rural areas, in particular Weardale and Teesdale (Durham Dales cluster), present their own challenges. Concerns were raised during the consultation regarding the provision of services to families who live in rural isolation.
319. Teesdale Area Action Partnership in particular felt that rurality should have been given greater consideration in respect of cluster areas. As the design of the proposed new service model is to retain one Children's Centre in each cluster area, stakeholders felt that the Durham Dales cluster, being spread over a much larger geographical area should have been considered separately.
320. These views have been fully considered when making final recommendations. There is already a well-established network of outreach venues being used for Children's Centre service delivery in rural areas and this will continue. Some areas will be enhanced through the provision of services in additional community venues as the model develops.
321. The Play Bus, a mobile facility, enables families, even in the most rural areas, to access activities. During the consultation one respondent identified concerns with the reliability of the mobile facility, as their experience had been cancellation of services as a result of the bus being off the road. The One Point Service will ensure the bus is properly maintained and remains fit for purpose, as it is a key element of service provision in rural areas.

Equality Impact Implications

322. The Equality Act 2010 includes a Public Sector Equality Duty which requires public authorities to pay due regard to the need to:
- i. Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act;
 - ii. Advance equality of opportunity;
 - iii. Foster good relations.
323. The Children's Centre Review supports our commitment to equality. By further targeting services to children and families most in need this will enable increased contact with groups identified within the Act.

324. An initial equality impact screening was completed at the beginning of the consultation process and whilst the consultation planning ensured needs of all groups were met, two protected groups were identified as being directly affected by the proposals:

- **Young parents**

Overall there were 1388 responses from parent/carers of which 12% of questionnaire responses were received from young parents/carers aged between 16 and 24 years and 1 response from a parent/carer aged under 16. Comments on the questionnaires by respondents from this group demonstrated consistent concerns of all respondents, but also described the continued need for specific provision for young parents.

“Don't attend any other sessions as Mum feels uncomfortable amongst older parents”

Staff member recording – Parent's Voice

- **Parents with disabled children**

7% of the 1388 parent/carer responses were received from parents and carers of disabled children, or children with a long standing illness. Again, their comments are mostly consistent with all respondents, but reference is made to the importance of consistency in support and provision for some disabled children.

“My grandson is disabled and has got used to using this building for social activities. He does not cope well with change and new surroundings and travel so using a new building or travelling further would not suit him. We have been using the Ushaw Moor building since he was born. The layout is welcoming and safe and familiar for him.”

Free text comment on questionnaire

325. On completion of the consultation a full Equality Impact Assessment has now been undertaken (**Appendix 11**).

326. Careful consideration will be taken of any transition arrangements for all protected groups to mitigate against any detrimental impact. Specific actions, shown below are highlighted within Section 3 of the Equality Impact Assessment.

- Transitional plan to be developed for the transfer/relocation of targeted services including but not exclusive to:-
 - Young Parent's provision;
 - Portage groups and other support groups for disabled children;
 - Support groups for BME families.
- Review the current communication strategy and approaches for the promotion of all Children's Centre services to all users, paying particularly attention to protected/targeted groups;
- Young parents and parents of children with disabilities, will be actively supported to engage with the services on offer and to contribute to

service developments and improvements through engagement in the LABs;

- A Parent Engagement Strategy will be developed and implemented.

Conclusions

327. In making final recommendations on the new service model and on the 43 Children's Centres and the 15 it is proposed to retain, consideration has been given to the following:-

- The outcome of a 12 week public consultation involving all stakeholders;
- The evolution of Children's Centres in County Durham and changes in policy direction between 1999 to date;
- An analysis of needs relating to deprivation, using the Index of Deprivation 2010;
- The impact of our Children's Centres in relation to social, economic and learning outcomes;
- The inspection outcomes for our Children's Centres over the period 2010-14;
- The views of service users as expressed through service user surveys;
- The community venues for delivery of the proposed Community Delivery Model;
- Accessibility and distance to travel to potential community venues and
- The need to make required MTFP efficiency savings.

328. Taking account of all of the above, the following conclusions have been reached and have informed the recommendations to Cabinet:-

- There is overall support for the Community Delivery Model;
- There is broad support for 14 of the 15 Centres it has been proposed to retain;
- A robust analysis of consultation findings and data relating to each of the Children's Centre cluster areas has informed the final recommendations regarding which of the 43 Children's Centres to retain;
- Programmes outlining service delivery in the proposed new model will provide assurance of ongoing provision;
- There are sufficient community venues to deliver the proposed model;
- Four pilot projects have confirmed that Children's Centre buildings can remain viable in alternative use whilst Children's Centre services are delivered to the same level through community venues;
- A strengthening of a targeted approach will support improved outcomes;
- Through the local consultation processes a number of common themes have emerged, all of which can be addressed through a range of mitigating actions.

329. These final recommendations, if agreed, will deliver savings of approximately £1 million towards MTFP requirements over the next two years.

Recommendations

330. Based on the outcomes of the consultation process, it is recommended that Cabinet agree the following recommendations:

- 1. Agree to the implementation of the Community Delivery Model which will ensure the delivery of the full Children's Centre Core Purpose across a range of venues improving accessibility for children and families.**
- 2. Agree to the retention of the 15 Children's Centres set out in Table 5 below, these recommendations have been arrived at following a full consideration of the responses received during the consultation period, a review of the data, suitability of the retained centre and available alternative community venues within those areas where the Children's Centres are proposed for transfer.**

Table 5: CLUSTER	CENTRE RECOMMENDED TO RETAIN:
Consett	Moorside Children's Centre
Stanley	Stanley Children's Centre
Chester-le-Street	Bullion Lane Children's Centre
Deerness Valley	Brandon Children's Centre
Durham	Laurel Avenue Children's Centre
Easington	Easington Children's Centre
Seaham	Seaham Children's Centre
Peterlee East	Horden Children's Centre
Peterlee Central	Seascape Children's Centre
Peterlee West	Wheatley Hill Children's Centre
Ferryhill	Dean Bank Children's Centre
Spennymoor	Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre
Newton Aycliffe	Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre
Bishop Auckland	Woodhouse Children's Centre
Durham Dales	Willington Children's Centre

- 3. Agree to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Children and Adult Services and the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services to determine the alternative providers for the 28 Children's Centre buildings that will no longer be designated as Children's Centres. These 28 centres are set out in Table 6 below:**

Table 6: CLUSTER	CENTRE(S) TO BE DE-DESIGNATED
Consett	Benfieldside Children's Centre Leadgate Children's Centre
Stanley	Catchgate Children's Centre Craghead Children's Centre Burnhope Children's Centre
Chester-le-Street	Pelton Children's Centre
Deerness Valley	Ushaw Moor Children's Centre Sacriston Children's Centre
Durham	Sherburn Hill Children's Centre Kelloe Children's Centre
Easington	Murton Children's Centre
Seaham	n/a
Peterlee East	Blackhall Children's Centre
Peterlee Central	Howletch Children's Centre Dene House Children's Centre
Peterlee West	Wingate Children's Centre Haswell Children's Centre Shotton Children's Centre Thornley Children's Centre
Ferryhill	Chilton Children's Centre Fishburn Children's Centre
Spennymoor	Middlestone Moor Children's Centre Cornforth Children's Centre
Newton Aycliffe	Shildon Children's Centre
Bishop Auckland	St. Helen Auckland Children's Centre Coundon Children's Centre
Durham Dales	Stanhope Children's Centre Evenwood Children's Centre Middleton-in-Teesdale Children's Centre

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LIST OF APPENDICES:-

Appendix 1	Implications
Appendix 2	Children's Centre Reach Benchmarking
Appendix 3	MTFP Savings relating to transfer of Children's Centre Buildings
Appendix 4	OfSTED Inspection Outcomes for Children's Centres
Appendix 5	Potential Community Venues
Appendix 6	Factors that informed initial proposals regarding which Children's Centres to retain
Appendix 7	Consultation Plan
Appendix 8	Children's Centre Consultation – Children's Voices
Appendix 9	Exemplar Timetable
Appendix 10	Children's Centres proposed to Transfer
Appendix 11	Equality Impact Assessment

BACKGROUND PAPERS:-

The following background papers are available and can be provided upon request:-

1. Cabinet Report 16 July 2014
2. Children's Centre Review Consultation Report 31 July 2014 – 23 October 2014
3. 2011 Overview and Scrutiny Committee Report
4. County Durham's Early Years Strategy
5. County Durham's Early Help Strategy
6. Exemplar timetables for all 15 recommended Children's Centres

Appendix 1 - Implications

Finance

The proposals would enable efficiency savings in line with the County Council's Medium term Financial Plan (MTFP). The specific proposals in this report would deliver approximately £1 million from a rationalisation of buildings and a restructure of the staff resource designed to maximise savings whilst minimising reduction in the number of posts. Additional costs relating to the new Community Delivery Model have been identified and existing resources identified to fund this.

Staffing

A re-configuration of the staffing resource which proposed a revised staffing structure was undertaken in 2014 in line with the County Council's Change Management Policies and Procedures. Staff and Trade Unions were fully consulted throughout. This will deliver annual savings of £244,722 from 1 April 2015. The revised structure has secured as many frontline posts as possible within the financial envelope available following the delivery of the MTFP saving. This restructure will deliver a total reduction of 11.83wte posts, however vacancies and requests for ER/VR have ensured these savings were achieved with no compulsory redundancies. The new staffing structure is required to deliver the core offer, regardless of the configuration of Children's Centres across the County.

Risk

There is a potential financial risk associated with the clawback of funding. The Project Team has maintained a 'risk log' to highlight any concerns regarding the progress of the review and this is considered on a weekly basis. The risk of financial clawback to the Council is low as alternative providers will continue to fulfil the conditions of grant.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

A full Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and can be found in **Appendix 11**.

Accommodation

The proposals to reduce the number of Children's Centre buildings could result in changes to accommodation arrangements.

Crime and Disorder - N/A

Human Rights - N/A

Consultation

A 12 week public consultation was undertaken between 31 July 2014 and 23 October 2014 involving all internal and external stakeholders. The consultation plan, delivery and analysis were all approved by the Consultation Officers Group (COG). The Consultation process was also approved by Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on 18 December 2014.

Procurement

Transfers to third party providers that are not schools will take account of the Durham Ask and, where necessary, advertise lease agreements on the open market. The advert for the lease will stipulate that any conditions of grant associated with the Children's Centre building would need to be met and where required, in line with the Council's Sufficiency Duty (see paragraphs 307 and 308 within the body of the report), will stipulate that daycare provision would need to continue to be provided.

Disability Issues

A full Equality Impact Assessment has been completed following the consultation and consideration of the recommendations on all stakeholders, regardless of their ethnicity, disability, gender, age, religion or belief or sexual orientation. (**Appendix 11**)

Legal Implications

The proposals set out in this report are consistent with the Council's statutory responsibilities in relation to Children's Centres as set out in the Childcare Act 2006 and associated Sure Start Statutory Guidance 2013. Other relevant legal obligations are dealt with within the body of this report

Appendix 2 - 'Reach' Comparisons

CHILDREN'S CENTRE REACH BY LOCALITY

Locality	Reach ⁸				
	Number of 0-4 year olds	No. of 0-4 yr. olds in top 30% most deprived areas	% in top 30%	Cluster	Children's Centres
Consett and Stanley	4961	2478	50%	Consett	Leadgate, Benfieldside, Moorside
				Stanley	Stanley, Burnhope, Catchgate, Craghead
Durham and Chester-le-Street	7178	2547	35%	Chester-le-Street	Bullion Lane, Pelton
				Deerness Valley	Brandon, Ushaw Moor, Sacriston
				Durham	Laurel Avenue, Kelloe, Sherburn Hill
Peterlee and Seaham	5657	4477	79%	Seaham	Seaham,
				Easington	Easington, Murton,
				Peterlee East	Horden, Blackhall
				Peterlee Central	Seascape (Peterlee), Dene House, Howletch
				Peterlee West	Wheatley Hill, Shotton, Thornley, Wingate, Haswell
Ferryhill and Newton Aycliffe	4966	2856	58%	Ferryhill	Dean Bank, Chilton, Fishburn
				Newton Aycliffe	Newton Aycliffe, Shildon
				Spennymoor	Tudhoe Moor, Middlestone Moor, West Cornforth
Bishop Auckland and Barnard Castle	4699	2449	53%	Bishop Auckland	Woodhouse Close, St Helen Auckland, Coundon
				Durham Dales	Willington, Evenwood, Middleton in Teesdale, Weardale(Stanhope)
TOTAL	27,461	14,807			

Comparison Table

At 639, County Durham's average 'reach'⁸ per Children's Centre, is currently significantly lower than those of other Local Authorities in our IPF Benchmark Group⁹. On average, these Local Authorities have an average reach of 1,112, which is almost twice that of our current figure. The largest reach figure (3,169 in Sunderland), has been brought about by their recent review of Children's Centres which has resulted in merging their 17 Centres into 5 large centres working through a range of 'outreach' venues. See Table 1 below.

Table 1

Position	IPF Benchmark Group - current	No Under 5's	No centres Sept '11	Average reach	No centres current	Average reach
1	Durham	27461	43	639	43	639
2	Barnsley	13623	19	717	20	681
3	St Helens	10092	12	841	12	841
4	Wakefield	19918	23	866	23	866
5	Doncaster	17787	21	847	20	889
6	Wigan	18160	20	908	20	908
7	Gateshead	11175	15	745	12	931
8	North Tyneside	11556	12	963	12	963
9	Stockton on Tees	12450	11	1132	12	1038
10	Darlington	6587	6	1098	5	1317
11	Sunderland	15844	17	932	5	3169

⁸ The "reach" refers to the total number of children under the age of 4 who live within the geographical area covered by the Children's Centre.

⁹ The Institute of Public Finance (IPF) compare Local Authorities most similar based on deprivation and demography data.

Appendix 3

The tables below detail the savings to be delivered from each building according to their anticipated transfer date, should cabinet agree recommendations. Savings of approximately £855,231 on buildings will be achieved between 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Children's Centre	Proposed transfer date	Saving delivered 2015/16	Saving delivered 2016/17	Total Saving
Blackhall Children's Centre	2015/16	26,084	0	26,084
Burnhope Children's Centre	2015/16	29,300	0	29,300
Catchgate Children's Centre	2015/16	24,689	0	24,689
Chilton Children's Centre	2015/16	32,913	0	32,913
Fishburn Children's Centre	2015/16	23,985	0	23,985
Howletch Children's Centre	2015/16	36,934	0	36,934
Kelloe Children's Centre	2015/16	29,024	0	29,024
Middlestone Moor Children's Centre	2015/16	24,543	0	24,543
Middleton in Teesdale Children's Centre	2015/16	23,592	0	23,592
Murton Childrens Centre	2015/16	34,774	0	34,774
Pelton Children's centre	2015/16	19,651	0	19,651
Shotton Children's Centre	2015/16	32,833	0	32,833
Stanhope Children's Centre	2015/16	23,545	0	23,545
St Helens Children's Centre	2015/16	55,396	0	55,396
Thornley Children's Centre	2015/16	22,878	0	22,878
Ushaw Moor Children's Centre	2015/16	34,950	0	34,950
West Cornforth Children's Centre	2015/16	17,779	0	17,779
Wingate Childrens' Centre	2015/16	31,757	0	31,757
Benfieldside Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	21,678	21,677	43,355
Coundon Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	12,906	12,906	25,812
Craghead Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	5,631	5,631	11,262
Dene House Children's centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	11,499	11,498	22,997
Evenwood Children's centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	25,486	25,486	50,972
Haswell Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	19,042	19,042	38,084
Leadgate Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	19,682	19,682	39,364
Sacriston Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	13,427	13,426	26,853
Sherburn Hill Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	13,490	13,489	26,979
Sildon Children's Centre	2015/16 to 2016/17	22,463	22,463	44,926
Sub-total		689,931	165,300	855,231

Appendix 4 – Children’s Centres OfSTED Inspection Outcomes (as of 12.11.14)

Locality	Children’s centre	Date of inspection	Overall Effectiveness
Peterlee & Seaham	Blackhall	Oct. '10	Good
Peterlee & Seaham	Seaham	Nov. '10	Satisfactory
Bishop Auckland & Barnard Castle	Coundon	Jan. '11	Good
Peterlee & Seaham	Seascape	Feb. '11	Good
Peterlee & Seaham	Haswell	Feb. '11	Good
Durham & Chester-le-Street	Kelloe	Mar. '11	Satisfactory
Peterlee & Seaham	Wheatley Hill	Mar. '11	Good
Bishop Auckland & Barnard Castle	Evenwood	Mar. '11	Good
Bishop Auckland & Barnard Castle	Middleton in Teesdale	Mar. '11	Good
Ferryhill & Newton Aycliffe	Dean Bank	Mar. '11	Good
Bishop Auckland & Barnard Castle	Weardale (Stanhope)	Mar. '11	Good
Peterlee & Seaham	Howletch	April '11	Good
Peterlee & Seaham	Wingate	April '11	Satisfactory
Ferryhill & Newton Aycliffe	Chilton	April '11	Good
Consett & Stanley	Moorside	Jan. '12	Satisfactory
Peterlee & Seaham	Shotton	Mar. '12	Good
Bishop Auckland & Barnard Castle	Willington	May. '12	Good
Peterlee & Seaham	Horden	June. '12	Satisfactory
Bishop Auckland & Barnard Castle	St Helen Auckland	Oct '12	Satisfactory
Peterlee & Seaham	Thornley	Oct '12	Satisfactory
Consett & Stanley	Benfieldside	Oct '12	Satisfactory
Ferryhill & Newton Aycliffe	Tudhoe Moor	Oct '12	Satisfactory
Consett & Stanley	Leadgate	Jan '13	Satisfactory
Durham & Chester-le-Street	Laurel Avenue	Jan '13	Satisfactory
Peterlee & Seaham	Dene House	Feb '13	Satisfactory
Ferryhill & Newton Aycliffe	Fishburn	Feb '13	Satisfactory
Ferryhill & Newton Aycliffe	Middlestone Moor	Mar '13	Satisfactory

New Inspection Framework – April 2013			
Durham & Chester-le-Street	CLS Cluster (Bullion Lane/Pelton) Group	November. '13	Requires improvement
Durham & Chester-le-Street	Deerness Valley Cluster (Brandon, Sacriston & Ushaw Moor CC)	Feb. '14	Good
Consett and Stanley	Stanley Cluster (Stanley, Burnhope, Catchgate & Craghead)	Apr. '14	Inadequate
Ferryhill and Newton Aycliffe	Newton Aycliffe Cluster (Newton Aycliffe & Shildon)	Apr. '14	Good
Peterlee and Seaham	Easington Cluster (Easington & Murton)	June. '14	Requires Improvement

APPENDIX 5 – POTENTIAL COMMUNITY DELIVERY VENUES

The list of community venues below has been developed based on feedback from stakeholders during the consultation period. 151 of these venues have also been used within the last 12 months to deliver Children's Centre services from.

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY VENUES IN CONSETT AND STANLEY AREA

Benfieldside			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Blackhill Baptist Church Hall	Pemberton Road, Blackhill	DH8 8RT	Benfieldside
Blackhill Community Centre	Derwent Street, Consett	DH8 8LS	Benfieldside
TOTAL			2
Leadgate			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Annfield Plain Central Methodist	Railway Street, Annfield Plain, Stanley	DH8 7SS	Leadgate
Dipton Jubilee Centre	Front Street, Dipton, Stanley, Co. Durham	DH9 9DR	Leadgate
Leadgate Community Centre	Leadgate Community Centre, Plantation Street, Leadgate	DH8 7PP	Leadgate
Leadgate Methodist Church	Unit 4, Tyne Avenue, Consett	DH8 6ER	Leadgate
TOTAL			4
Burnhope			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Lanchester Community Centre	Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester	DH7 0PB	Burnhope
Lanchester Library	Newbiggen Lane, Lanchester	DH7 0NT	Burnhope
Hamsteels Community Hall	Western Avenue, Esh Winning, Co. Durham	DH7 9LS	Burnhope
TOTAL			3

Moorside			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Castleside Community Centre	Drover Road, Castleside, Consett	DH8 9RE	Moorside
Castleside Church	Church Street, Castleside	DH8 9QW	Moorside
Citizen House	Station Road, Consett	DH8 5RL	Moorside
Consett Library	Victoria Road, Consett	DH8 5AT	Moorside
Consett Methodist Church	Station Road, Consett	DH8 5RL	Moorside
Consett YMCA	Parliament Street, Consett	DH8 5DH	Moorside
Delves Lane Community Centre/Village Hall	Delves Lane, Consett	DH8 7BH	Moorside
Glenroyd House	Medomsley Road, Consett	DH8 5HL	Moorside
One Point Hub, Consett	Beechdale Road, Consett	DH8 6AY	Moorside
St. John's Church Hall	Chester Road, Moorside, Consett	DH8 9QW	Moorside
St. Patrick's Church Hall	Victoria Road, Consett, County Durham	DH8 5AX	Moorside
Tesco Community Room	Genesis Way, Consett	DH8 5XP	Moorside
The Phoenix Centre	Phoenix Centre Dunelm Road, Consett, County Durham	DH8 8EG	Moorside
The Salvation Army	Sherburn Terrace, Consett, County Durham	DH8 6ND	Moorside
TOTAL			14
Craghead			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Burnside Resource Centre	Mendip Terrace, South Stanley, Stanley	DH9 6PQ	Craghead
Craghead Village Hall	Middles Road, Craghead, Stanley	DH9 6AN	Craghead
TOTAL			2
Catchgate			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Annfield Plain Library	North Road, Annfield Plain, Stanley	DH9 8EZ	Catchgate
Annfield Plain Methodist Church	3 Front Street, Annfield Plain, Stanley	DH9 8HY	Catchgate
Catchgate Learning Hive	3 Harperley Gardens, Catchgate, Stanley	DH9 8RZ	Catchgate

Catchgate Methodist Church	North Road, Catchgate, Stanley	DH9 8SR	Catchgate
Kyo Laws Methodist Church	Shield Row Lane, Stanley	DH9 7SP	Catchgate
Quaking Houses Village Hall	Second Street, Stanley	DH9 7HQ	Catchgate
South Moor Library	Severn Crescent, South Moor, Stanley	DH9 7PX	Catchgate
South Moor Methodist Church	Park Road, South Moor, Stanley	DH9 7QF	Catchgate
TOTAL			8
Stanley			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Burnopfield Community Centre	Syke Road Burnopfield, Newcastle upon Tyne, County Durham	NE16 6JF	Stanley
East Stanley Methodist Church	Chester Road, East Stanley	DH9 0TU	Stanley
Louisa Sports Centre	Front Street, Stanley	DH9 0TE	Stanley
One Point Hub, Stanley	Front Street, Stanley	DH9 0TE	Stanley
Sleepy Valley Community House	36 Ivy Place, Tantobie, Stanley	DH9 9PT	Stanley
Stanley Community Centre	Tyne Road, Stanley	DH9 6PZ	Stanley
Stanley Events (MUGA)	Tyne Road, Stanley	DH9 6PZ	Stanley
Stanley Youth Centre	Tyne Road, Stanley	DH9 6PZ	Stanley
St. Stephen's Centre	Hollyhill Gardens East, Stanley	DH9 6PG	Stanley
Tanfield Lea Community Centre	Tanfield Lea, Stanley	DH9 0LZ	Stanley
Tantobie Community Centre	Tantobie, Stanley	DH9 9TJ	Stanley
The Activity Den	The Activity Den, Tanfield Lea, Stanley	DH9 9LU	Stanley
TOTAL			12

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY VENUES IN DURHAM AND CHESTER-LE-STREET AREA

Brandon			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Brancepeth Village Hall	Brancepeth, Durham	DH7 8DD	Brandon
Brandon & Carrside Youth Centre	Carr Avenue, Brandon, Durham	DH7 8QG	Brandon
Brandon (Communal Hall)	Silver Courts, Brandon, Durham	DH7 8NP	Brandon
Brandon (Communal Hall)	Sycamore Park, Brandon, Durham	DH7 8PR	Brandon
Brandon Library	Lowland Road, Brandon, Durham	DH7 8NN	Brandon
Brandon Welfare Hall	Brandon Lane, Brandon, Co Durham	DH7 8SH	Brandon
Meadowfield (Communal Hall)	Harry Carr House, Burnigill, Meadowfield, Durham	DH7 8SB	Brandon
Meadowfield Sports Centre	John Street, Meadowfield, Durham	DH7 8RS	Brandon
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs	Parish Centre, Newhouse Road, Esh Winning, Durham	DH7 9LF	Brandon
St. Andrew's Methodist Church	Carr Avenue, Brandon, County Durham	DH7 8QG	Brandon
The Miner's Institute	Church Street, Langley Park, Durham	DH7 9JJ	Brandon
Waterhouses Village Hall	Station Street, Waterhouses, Co. Durham	DH7 9AS	Brandon
TOTAL			12
Sacriston			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
All Saints Church	Carr House Drive, Newton Hall, Durham	DH1 5LT	Sacriston
Bearpark Community Centre	Bearpark, County Durham	DH7 7AG	Sacriston
Cooper Hall Community Centre	Witton Lodge, Sacriston Lane, Witton Gilbert, Durham	DH7 6TF	Sacriston
Framwellgate Community Centre	Front Street, Framwellgate Moor, Durham	DH1 5BL	Sacriston
Framwellgate Moor Medical Centre	50 Front Street, Framwellgate Moor, Durham	DH1 5BL	Sacriston
Heel & Toe	Jordan House, Finchale Road, Framwellgate Moor, Durham	DH1 5HL	Sacriston
Kimblesworth & Plawsworth Community Centre	Springfield, Front Street, Nettleworth	DH2 3PN	Sacriston
Newton Hall Community Centre	Abbey Road, Pity Me, Durham	DH1 5GE	Sacriston

Newton Hall Library	Alnwick Road, Newton Hall, Durham	DH1 5NL	Sacrison
Sacrison Library	Plawsworth Road, Sacrison, County Durham	DH7 6HU	Sacrison
Sacrison Medical Centre	Front Street, Sacrison, Durham	DH7 6JW	Sacrison
St. Peter & St. John's Church	Wesley Close, Sacrison, Co Durham	DH7 6PG	Sacrison
The Fulforth Centre	Front Street, Sacrison, Co Durham	DH7 6JT	Sacrison
Top House	20 Lilac Avenue, Sacrison	DH7 6QF	Sacrison
TOTAL			14
Ushaw Moor			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Beaurepaire (Communal Hall)	Bear Park, Durham	DH7 7DZ	Ushaw Moor
New Brancepeth Comm Centre	Village Hall Rock Terrace, New Brancepeth, Durham, County Durham	DH7 7EP	Ushaw Moor
Quebec Village Hall	Front Street, Quebec, Esh Winning, Co. Durham	DH7 9DF	Ushaw Moor
St. Mary's Parish Centre	Newhouse Road, Esh Winning, County Durham	DH7 9LF	Ushaw Moor
The Bobby Robson Centre	Bracken Court, Ushaw Moor, Durham	DH7 7NG	Ushaw Moor
The Hive - Ushaw Moor	5 Station Road, Ushaw Moor, Durham	DH7 7PX	Ushaw Moor
The Hut - Ushaw Moor	Chestnut Grove, Ushaw Moor	DH7 7LJ	Ushaw Moor
Ushaw Moor Sports Centre	Valley View, Ushaw Moor, Durham	DH7 7LS	Ushaw Moor
Woodland Hall (Communal Hall)	Woodland Road, Esh Winning, Durham	DH7 9JJ	Ushaw Moor
TOTAL			9
Kelloe			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Active Life Centre	Linden Grove, Coxhoe	DH6 4DW	Kelloe
Bowburn Community Centre	Durham Road, Bowburn, Durham	DH6 5AT	Kelloe
Bowburn Library	Durham Road, Bowburn	DH6 5AT	Kelloe
Bowburn Methodist Church	Ash Terrace, Bowburn	DH6 5AS	Kelloe
Bowburn Youth Centre	Bowburn, Durham	DH6 5AN	Kelloe

Cassop Community Centre	Front Street South, Cassop, Durham	DH6 4RJ	Kelloe
Coxhoe Village Hall	Front Street East, Coxhoe, Durham	DH6 4DB	Kelloe
Croxdale Community Centre and Hall	Rogerson Terrace, Croxdale, Durham	DH6 5HL	Kelloe
Quarrington Hill Community Centre	Hill Top House, Front Street, North, Quarrington Hill	DH6 4QG	Kelloe
TOTAL			9
Laurel Avenue			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Belmont (Communal Hall)	Broomside Lane, Belmont, Durham	DH1 2QR	Laurel Avenue
Belmont Community Centre	Sunderland Road, Durham	DH1 2LL	Laurel Avenue
Belmont Library	Cheveley Park Shopping Centre, Belmont, Durham	DH1 2AA	Laurel Avenue
Carrville Methodist Church	High Street, Carrville, Durham	DH1 1BQ	Laurel Avenue
Gilesgate Youth & Community Association	Bradford Crescent, Gilesgate, Durham	DH1 1HN	Laurel Avenue
Laurel Avenue Community Centre	Laurel Avenue, Sherburn Road Estate, Durham	DH1 2EY	Laurel Avenue
Pelaw View Community Centre	Hilda Avenue, Durham	DH1 2EH	Laurel Avenue
Vane Tempest Hall	Maynard's Row, Gilesgate, Co. Durham	DH1 1QF	Laurel Avenue
TOTAL			8
Sherburn Hill			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Arden House (Communal Hall)	35 Prospect View, West Rainton	DH4 6RP	Sherburn Hill
Attlee Square (Communal Hall)	Sherburn, Durham	DH6 1JN	Sherburn Hill
Jubilee Hall	North Street, West Rainton, Co. Durham	DH4 6NU	Sherburn Hill
Ludworth Community Centre	2 North View, Ludworth, Co. Durham	DH6 1NF	Sherburn Hill
Pittington Village Hall	Crossroads, High Pittington, County Durham	DH6 1AN	Sherburn Hill
Sherburn Community Centre	Front St, Sherburn Village, Durham	DH6 1HD	Sherburn Hill
TOTAL			6

Bullion Lane			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Alzheimer's Society	South Approach, Bullion Lane, Chester-le-Street	DH2 2DW	Bullion Lane
Aspire Learning & Wellbeing	Aspire House, Rear of Front Street, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3AW	Bullion Lane
Auckland Communal Room	Chester-le-Street	DH2 2TU	Bullion Lane
Bethel United Reformed Church	Low Chare, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3QF	Bullion Lane
Bournmoor Scout Hall	Robert Forster House, Gill Crescent North, Fence Houses, Tyne &	DH4 6AW	Bullion Lane
Bullion Hall	South Approach, Bullion Lane, Chester Le Street, County Durham,	DH2 2DW	Bullion Lane
Chester-le-Street Community Centre	Newcastle Bank, Chester Le Street, County Durham,	DH3 3TS	Bullion Lane
Chester-Le-Street Cricket Ground	Ropery Lane, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3PF	Bullion Lane
Chester-le-Street Leisure Centre	Burns, Chester-le-Street, County Durham	DH3 3QH	Bullion Lane
Chester-le-Street Library	Station Road, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3DE	Bullion Lane
Chester-le-Street YMCA	South Burns, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3EZ	Bullion Lane
Chester Moor Communal Room	West Street, Chester Moor, Chester-le-Street	DH2 3RS	Bullion Lane
Cornerstones	Chester-le-Street Methodist Church, North Burns, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3TF	Bullion Lane
Emirates Cricket Ground	Riverside Park, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3QR	Bullion Lane
Fence Houses Community Centre	Woodstone Village, Fence Houses, Tyne & Wear	DH4 6DS	Bullion Lane
Gibside Communal Room	Chester-le-Street	DH2 2TS	Bullion Lane
Great Lumley Methodist Church	Front Street, Great Lumley, Chester-le-Street	DH3 4JB	Bullion Lane
One Point Hub, Chester-le-Street	Burns Green, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3QH	Bullion Lane
Park View Community Association	Church Chare, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3PZ	Bullion Lane
Riverside Sports Pavilion	Riverside Park, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3SJ	Bullion Lane
Salvation Army	Low Chare, Chester-le-Street	DH3 3QF	Bullion Lane
TOTAL			21
Pelton			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Brockwell Centre	Craghead Road, Pelton Fell	DH2 2NH	Pelton
Edenfield Communal Room	West Pelton, Stanley, Co Durham	DH9 6SR	Pelton
Grange Villa Enterprise Centre	East Street, Grange Villa, Chester-le-Street	DH2 3LN	Pelton
Pelton Community Centre	Front Street, Pelton, Chester-le-Street	DH2 1DE	Pelton

Pelton Library	Unit 3, The Lavander Centre, Pelton Lane, Chester-le-Street	DH2 1NW	Pelton
Roseberry Grange Community Golf	Grange Villa, Chester-le-Street	DH2 3NF	Pelton
Waldridge Parish Rooms	Waldridge Village, Chester-le-Street	DH2 3SE	Pelton
West Pelton Church	West Pelton, Stanley, Co Durham	DH9 6RT	Pelton
TOTAL			8

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY VENUES IN PETERLEE AND SEAHAM AREA

Easington			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Easington Colliery Library	Seaside Lane, Easington Colliery, Peterlee, County Durham	SR8 3PN	Easington
Easington Social Welfare Centre	Seaside Lane, Peterlee, County Durham	SR8 3PL	Easington
Hawthorn Village Community Centre	The Green, Hawthorn Village, Co Durham	SR7 8SG	Easington
Healthworks	Paradise Lane, Easington Colliery, Peterlee, County Durham	SR8 3EX	Easington
Holy Trinity Church Hall	Front Street, South Hetton	DH6 2UA	Easington
Robin Todd Community Centre	Front Street, South Hetton, County Durham	DH6 2TH	Easington
Seaside Lane Church Hall	Seaside Lane, Easington Colliery, Peterlee, County Durham	SR8 3PL	Easington
Silverdale Family Practice	South Hetton Health Centre, Front Street, South Hetton, Durham	DH6 2TH	Easington
TOTAL			8
Murton			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Macrae House	Sea View Walk, Murton, Seaham	SR7 9NA	Murton
Murton Library	Barnes Road, Murton, Seaham, County Durham	SR7 9QR	Murton
Murton Resource Centre	Woods Terrace, Murton, County Durham	SR7 9AD	Murton
Murton Youth Project	Welfare Park, Murton, County Durham	SR7 9RD	Murton
St. Pauls Methodist Church	Murton, County Durham	SR7 9JA	Murton
The Glebe Centre	Durham Place, Murton, Seaham	SR7 9BX	Murton
TOTAL			6

Seaham			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Dawdon Community Centre	Queen Alexandra Road, Seaham	SR7 7NH	Seaham
Dowe House	South Crescent, Seaham	SR7 7HD	Seaham
Earl House Community Centre	Earl House, Earl Street, Seaham, County Durham	SR7 0DH	Seaham
Eastlea Community Centre	Stockton Road, Seaham	SR7 8DX	Seaham
Masonic Hall	11 North Road, Seaham	SR7 7AA	Seaham
One Point Hub, Seaham	Strangeford Road, Seaham	SR7 8QE	Seaham
Parkside Community Centre	Ash Crescent, Parkside, Seaham	SR7 7UH	Seaham
Seaham Contact Centre	St. John's Square, Sophia Street, Seaham	SR7 7JE	Seaham
Seaham Leisure Centre	The Recreation Ground, Deneside, Seaham	SR7 8NP	Seaham
Seaham Library	St John's Square, Seaham	SR7 7JE	Seaham
Seaham Seaton Village Hall	The Village, Seaham	SR7 0NA	Seaham
Seaham Youth Centre	Strangford Road, Seaham	SR7 8QE	Seaham
Seaview Outreach Centre	The Avenue, Seaham	SR7 8PD	Seaham
Seaview School Pool	Deneside, The Avenue, Seaham	SR7 8PD	Seaham
St. John's Church	Blandford Place, Seaham	SR7 7SA	Seaham
The Recreation Ground	Deneside, Seaham	SR7 8NP	Seaham
TOTAL			16

Blackhall			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Blackhall Community Centre	Hesleden Road, Hartlepool, Cleveland	TS274LH	Blackhall
Blackhall GP Practice	Hesleden Road, Blackhall Colliery, Hartlepool	TS27 4LQ	Blackhall
Blackhall Library	Blackhall Colliery, County Durham	TS27 4HD	Blackhall
Blackhall Resource Centre	68 Middle Street, Blackhall, Hartlepool	TS27 4EA	Blackhall
Kasco House, Blackhall Rocks	Blackhall Rocks, Blackhall	TS27 4NA	Blackhall
TOTAL			5
Horden			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Horden Library	Sunderland Road, Horden, Peterlee	SR8 4PF	Horden
Horden Centennial Centre	Blackhill Road, Horden, Peterlee	SR8 4LX	Horden
Horden Social Welfare Centre	Seventh Street, Horden	SR8 4LX	Horden
Horden Youth and Community Centre	Eden Street, Horden, County Durham	SR8 4LH	Horden
Roseby Road Wellbeing Centre	Roseby Road, Peterlee	SR8 4RJ	Horden
Salvation Army – Horden Corps	Dene Street, Horden	SR8 4JY	Horden
The Ark	Sunderland Road, Horden, County Durham	SR8 4PF	Horden
TOTAL			7
Dene House			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
One Point Hub, Peterlee	Peterlee Leisure Centre, St Cuthberts Way, Peterlee	SR8 1AF	Dene House
Peterlee Leisure Centre	St Cuthberts Way, Peterlee	SR8 1AF	Dene House
Peterlee Memorial Methodist Church	Bede Way, Peterlee, Co Durham	SR8 1AD	Dene House
St. Cuthbert's Church	Manor Way, Peterlee, Co Durham	SR8 5QW	Dene House
The Guide House	Sunshine Day Nursery, O'Neill Drive, Peterlee, Co Durham	SR8 5UD	Dene House
TOTAL			5

Howlatch			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
East Durham College	Willerby Grove, Peterlee, Co Durham	SR8 2RN	Howlatch
Oakerside Community Centre	Oakerside Drive, Peterlee	SR8 1NR	Howlatch
Peterlee Library	Burnhope Way, Peterlee	SR8 1NU	Howlatch
The Pavillion	Helford Road, Peterlee	SR8 1EN	Howlatch
TOTAL			4
Seascape			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Edenhill Outreach Centre	77-79 Edenhill Road, Peterlee	SR8 5DD	Seascape
Hill Rigg House	Lowhill Road, Peterlee	SR8 2DW	Seascape
TOTAL			2
Haswell			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Hazlewell Centre	Windsor Terrace, Haswell, County Durham	DH6 2DY	Haswell
Lisa Dixon Centre	Burt Close, Haswell, County Durham	DH6 2DA	Haswell
TOTAL			2
Shotton			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Shotton and District Community Centre	Bridge Road, Shotton Colliery, County Durham	DH6 2PQ	Shotton
Shotton IT Resource Centre	Shotton Parish Rooms, Friar Street, Shotton Colliery	DH6 2PA	Shotton
Shotton Library	Co-operative Terrace, Shotton Colliery, County Durham	DH6 2LW	Shotton
TOTAL			3

Thornley			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Thornley Methodist Hall	Dunelm Road, Thornley, County Durham	DH6 3HY	Thornley
Thornley Village Hall	High Street, Thornley, County Durham	DH6 3EL	Thornley
Trimdon Station Community Centre	Station Road East, Thornley, County Durham	TS29 6BS	Thornley
TOTAL			3
Wheatley Hill			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Greenhills Community Centre	Wheatley Hill, County Durham, County Durham	DH6 3JS	Wheatley Hill
Scout Hut	Black Lane, Wheatley Hill, County Durham	DH6 3JN	Wheatley Hill
The Greenhills Centre	Stephen's Terrace, Wheatley Hill, County Durham	DH6 3JS	Wheatley Hill
Wheatley House Communal Room	Cemetery Road, Wheatley Hill, County Durham	DH6 3JX	Wheatley Hill
TOTAL			4
Wingate			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Station Town Methodist Church Hall	Front Street, Wingate, County Durham	TS28 5EF	Wingate
Wingate Community Centre	55 Front Street West, Wingate, County Durham	TS28 5AA	Wingate
Wingate Family Centre	Partridge Terrace, Wheatley Hill, County Durham	TS28 5AA	Wingate
Wingate Training Base	Partridge Terrace, Wingate, County Durham	TS28 5BD	Wingate
TOTAL			4

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY VENUES IN FERRYHILL AND NEWTON AYCLIFFE AREA

Chilton			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Chilton Health Centre	The Health Centre, Durham Road, Chilton	DL17 0EN	Chilton
Chilton Library	Durham Road, Chilton, Ferryhill, Co Durham	DL17 0EX	Chilton
TOTAL			2
Dean Bank			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Ferryhill and Dean Bank Institute	St Cuthbert's Terrace, Ferryhill	DL17 8PP	Dean Bank
Ferryhill Clinic	The Surgery, Durham Road, Ferryhill	DL17 8JJ	Dean Bank
Ferryhill Library	North Street, Ferryhill, Co Durham	DL17 8HX	Dean Bank
Ferryhill Station Outreach Centre	Ferryhill Station Primary School, Ferryhill	DL17 0DB	Dean Bank
One Point Hub, Ferryhill	Broom Road, Ferryhill	DL17 8AN	Dean Bank
The Ladder Centre	5 Consiton Road, Ferryhill	DL17 8EZ	Dean Bank
TOTAL			6
Fishburn			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Ceddesfeld Hall, Sedgfield	Rectory Row, Sedgfield	TS21 2AE	Fishburn
Fishburn Youth & Community Centre	Butterwick Road, Fishburn	TS21 4ED	Fishburn
Sedgfield Library	Front Street, Sedgfield	TS21 3AT	Fishburn
Sedgfield Methodist Church	North End, Sedgfield	TS21 2BT	Fishburn
Sedgfield Parish Hall	Front Street, Sedgfield	TS21 3AT	Fishburn
St. Alban's Church Hall	Trimdon Grange, County Durham	TS29 6HB	Fishburn
St. Catherine's Church Hall	Front Street, Fishburn	TS21 4AA	Fishburn
Trimdon Grange Community Centre	Salters Lane, Trimdon Grange	TS29 6PB	Fishburn
Trimdon Library	Church Road, Trimdon Village	TS29 6PY	Fishburn
Trimdon Station Community Centre	Station Road East, Trimdon Station	TS29 6BS	Fishburn
Trimdon Village Hall	Hallgarth Road, Trimdon Village	TS29 6JX	Fishburn

TOTAL			11
Middlestone Moor			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Bowls Pavillion, Jubilee Park	Jubilee Close, Spennymoor	DL16 6GA	Middlestone
Byers Green Community Centre	85 High Street, Byers Green, Spennymoor	DL16 7PQ	Middlestone
Byers Green Methodist Church	High Street, Byers Green, Spennymoor	DL16 7PQ	Middlestone
Kirk Merrington Community Centre	Front Street, Kirk Merrington, Spennymoor, County Durham	DL17 7HZ	Middlestone
Middlestone Moor Community Centre	Albion Street, Middlestone Moor, Spennymoor	DL16 7AP	Middlestone
Spennymoor Leisure Centre	High Street, Spennymoor	DL16 6DB	Middlestone
St. Paul's Centre	St. Pauls Gardens, Spennymoor	DL16 7LS	Middlestone
Trinity Methodist Church	Rosa Street, Spennymoor	DL16 7NB	Middlestone
TOTAL			8
Tudhoe Moor			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Spennymoor Health Centre	Spennymoor	DL16 6ED	Tudhoe Moor
Spennymoor Library	24 Cheapside, Spennymoor	DL16 6DJ	Tudhoe Moor
Spennymoor Settlement	O'Hanlan Street, Spennymoor, County Durham	DL16 6RY	Tudhoe Moor
Spennymoor Youth and Community Centre	Merrington View, Bessemer Park, Spennymoor	DL16 6PP	Tudhoe Moor

St. Andrew's Community Centre	The Vicarage, St Andrew's Church, St Andrew's Road, Spennymoor, County Durham	DL16 6NE	Tudhoe Moor
St. David's Church Parish & Community Hall	Tudhoe Lane, Spennymoor	DL16 6LL	Tudhoe Moor
Tudhoe Community Centre	118 St David's Close, Spennymoor	DL16 6TA	Tudhoe Moor
TOTAL			7
West Cornforth			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Bishop Middleham Hall	Bishop Middleham	DL17 9AL	West Cornforth
Cornforth House, Cornforth Partnership	66-70 High Street, Cornforth, Durham	DL17 9HS	West Cornforth
West Cornforth Community Centre	Station Road, West Cornforth	DL17 9LA	West Cornforth
West Cornforth Library	High Street, West Cornforth	DL17 9HP	West Cornforth
West Cornforth Village Hall (Holy Trinity Church)	High Street, West Cornforth	DL17 9HP	West Cornforth
TOTAL			5
Newton Aycliffe			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Agnew Community Centre	Morrison Close, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 4QZ	Newton Aycliffe
Aycliffe Village Hall	12 North Terrace, Aycliffe Village, County Durham	DL5 6LF	Newton Aycliffe
Burnhill Community Centre	Sid Chaplin Drive, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 7PA	Newton Aycliffe
Cobblers Hall Surgery	Carer's Way, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham	DL5 4SE	Newton Aycliffe
Middridge Village Hall	Walker Lane, Middridge, Co. Durham	DL5 7JN	Newton Aycliffe
Neville Community Centre	Neville Parade, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 5DH	Newton Aycliffe
Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre	Beveridge Arcade, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham	DL5 4EH	Newton Aycliffe
Newton Aycliffe Library	Central Avenue, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 5QG	Newton Aycliffe

Newton Aycliffe Youth and	Burn Lane, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 4HT	Newton Aycliffe
Oakleaf Sports Complex	School Aycliffe Lane, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 6QZ	Newton Aycliffe
One Point Hub, Newton Aycliffe	Burn Lane, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 4HX	Newton Aycliffe
Pioneering Care Centre	Carers way, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 4SF	Newton Aycliffe
School Aycliffe Community Centre	Eastfields Road, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 6QH	Newton Aycliffe
Simpasture Court Community Room	Livin Housing Ltd, Simpasture Court, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 5JZ	Newton Aycliffe
St. Clare's Church Hall	St.Cuthbert, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 5NT	Newton Aycliffe
The Eco Centre	Moor Lane, Newton Aycliffe	DL5 5AQ	Newton Aycliffe
Woodham Community Centre	St. Elizabeth Close, Woodham, Co Durham	DL5 4UE	Newton Aycliffe
Xcel Centre	Long Tens Way, Aycliffe Business Park, County Durham	DL5 6AP	Newton Aycliffe
TOTAL			18
Shildon			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Eldon Community Centre	Main Road, Eldon, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham	DL14 8XB	Shildon
Foundations	50-54 Church Street, Shildon, County Durham	DL4 1DR	Shildon
Jubilee Field's Community Centre	Jubilee Road, Shildon, County Durham	DL4 2AL	Shildon
Locomotion	NRM Shildon, County Durham	DL4 1PQ	Shildon
Shildon Alive	Church Street, Shildon, County Durham	DL4 1DS	Shildon
Shildon Health Centre	Church Street, Shildon, Co Durham	DL4 1DU	Shildon
Shildon Library	Church Street, Shildon, County Durham	DL4 1DU	Shildon
Shildon Methodist Church Hall	Main Street, Shildon	DL4 1AH	Shildon
Shildon's People Centre	20 Main Street Shildon	DL4 1AH	Shildon

St. John's Church	1a Burnie Gardens Shildon	DL4 1ND	Shildon
Sunnydale Leisure Centre	Middridge Lane, Shildon, County Durham	DL4 2EP	Shildon
The Civic Hall	Main Street, Shildon	DL4 1AH	Shildon
The Rest House	Council Offices, Civic Hall Square, Shildon, County Durham	DL4 1AH	Shildon
TOTAL			13

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY VENUES IN BISHOP AUCKLAND AND BARNARD CASTLE AREA

Coundon			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Busy Base Outreach Centre	High Street, Eldon Lane, County Durham	DL14 8TD	Coundon
Coundon Library	The Eden Centre, Victoria Lane, Coundon	DL14 8NP	Coundon
Leeholme Welfare Hall	Leeholme	DL14 8HH	Coundon
Mickle Grove Community Hub	18 Mickle Grove, Leeholme, Bishop Auckland	DL14 8XL	Coundon
St. Phillips Traveller Site	St. Phillips Park, Coundon, Bishop Auckland	DL14 8XG	Coundon
Station View Surgery	The Eden Centre, Victoria Lane, Coundon	DL14 8NP	Coundon
TOTAL			6
St Helen Auckland			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Selby Close Community Hub	Selby Close, St Helen Auckland, Bishop Auckland	DL14 9ED	St Helen Auckland
St. Helen's Parish Centre	The Vicarage, St Helen Auckland, Bishop Auckland	DL14 9EN	St Helen Auckland
West Auckland Memorial Community Centre	Memorial Hall, Darlington Road, Bishop Auckland	DL14 9HT	St Helen Auckland
TOTAL			3
Woodhouse Close			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Auckland Youth and Community Centre	Auckland Boys Club, Walker Drive, Bishop Auckland	DL14 6QL	Woodhouse Close
Bishop Auckland Town Hall	Market Place, Bishop Auckland	DL14 7NP	Woodhouse Close
Bishopgate Medical Centre	178 Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland	DL14 7EJ	Woodhouse Close
Cockton Hill Methodist Church	21 Cockton Hill Road	DL14 6EN	Woodhouse Close
Four Clocks	154A Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland	DL14 7EH	Woodhouse Close
Henknowle Community Centre	Cumbria Place, Bishop Auckland	DL14 6TJ	Woodhouse Close
One Point Hub, Bishop Auckland	Walker Drive, Woodhouse Close	DL14 6QW	Woodhouse Close
Taylor Road Outreach Centre	Henknowle, Bishop Auckland	DL14 6EB	Woodhouse Close
UCAN Centre	The Goodall Centre, Walker Drive Bishop Auckland	DL14 6QN	Woodhouse Close

Wear Valley Christian Centre	South Church Road, Bishop Auckland	DL14 7JX	Woodhouse Close
Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre	Woodhouse Lane, Bishop Auckland, County Durham	DH14 6JX	Woodhouse Close
Woodhouse Close Library	Woodhouse Lane, Bishop Auckland, County Durham	DL14 6JX	Woodhouse Close
Woodhouse Close Methodist and Church of England Church	Proudfoot Drive, Bishop Auckland	DL14 6PD	Woodhouse Close
TOTAL			13
Evenwood			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Barnard Castle Outreach Centre	Stoneleigh, Galgate, Barnard Castle	DL12 8EY	Evenwood
Barnard Castle YMCA	48 Galgate, Barnard Castle, County Durham	DL12 8BH	Evenwood
Bowes Village Hall	Bowes, Barnard Castle	DL12 9HU	Evenwood
Butterknowle Village Hall	Pinfold Lane, Butterknowle	DL13 5PP	Evenwood
Cotherstone Village Hall	Moor Road, Barnard Castle	DL12 9PH	Evenwood
Eggleston Village Hall	Eggleston, Barnard Castle	DL12 0AE	Evenwood
Gainford Village Hall	Main Road, Gainford, Barnard Castle	DL2 3DY	Evenwood
Hamsterley Village Hall	Saunders Ave, Hamsterley, Bishop Auckland	DL13 3QF	Evenwood
Ingleton Village Hall	Jubilee Hall, Front Street, Ingleton	DL2 3HL	Evenwood
Marwood Social Centre	Kinninvie, Barnard Castle	DL12 8SH	Evenwood
One Point Hub, Barnard Castle	Ing Lane, Shaw Bank, Staindrop Road, Barnard Castle	DL12 8TD	Evenwood
Staindrop Scarth Hall	South Green, Staindrop	DL2 3LD	Evenwood
Stainton Grove Community Centre	Barnard Castle	DL12 8UE	Evenwood
TCR The Hub	Shaw Bank, Staindrop Road, Barnard Castle	DL12 8TD	Evenwood
Teesdale Leisure Centre	Strathmore Road, Barnard Castle	DL12 8DS	Evenwood
Toft Hill Village Hall	Toft Hill, Barnard Castle, County Hall	DL14 0JB	Evenwood

Winston Village Hall	Front Street, Winston, Darlington	DL2 3RJ	Evenwood
Witham Hall	3 Horsemarket, Barnard Castle	DL12 8LY	Evenwood
TOTAL			18
Middleton-in-Teesdale			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Lunedale Community Centre	Carlbeck, Lunedale	DL12 0TG	Middleton-in-Teesdale
Mickleton Village Hall	Mickleton Village Hall, Mickleton, Barnard Castle	DL12 0JY	Middleton-in-Teesdale
Middleton-in-Teesdale Village Hall	Chapel Row, Middleton-in-Teesdale	DL12 0SN	Middleton-in-Teesdale
UTASS	9-11 Chapel Row, Middleton-in-Teesdale	DL12 0SN	Middleton-in-Teesdale
TOTAL			4
Stanhope			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre
Cows Hill Village Hall	Cows Hill, Bishop Auckland, County Durham	DL13 1DA	Stanhope
Durham Dales Centre	Castle Gardens, Stanhope, Bishop Auckland	DL13 2FJ	Stanhope
Eastgate Community Centre	All Saints Church, Eastgate, County Durham	DL13 2HT	Stanhope
East Hedleyhope Village Hall	Consett, County Durham	DH8 9NL	Stanhope
Frosterley Village Hall	17 Front St, Frosterley, Bishop Auckland	DL13 2QW	Stanhope
Ireshopeburn Institute	41 Front Street, Ireshopeburn, Bishop Auckland	DL13 1ER	Stanhope
Killhope Mine	Cows Hill, Upper Weardale, County Durham	DL13 1AR	Stanhope
Rookhope Village Hall	Front Street, Rookhope, County Durham	DL13 2AW	Stanhope
St. John's Chapel – Barrington Hall	Front Street, Bishop Auckland, County Durham	DL13 1BE	Stanhope
St. Johns Chapel	Town Hall, Market Place, Upper Weardale	DL13 1QQ	Stanhope
Weardale House - YMCA	Ireshopeburn, County Durham	DL13 1HB	Stanhope
Wearhead Village Hall	42 Front Street, Wearhead, County Durham	DL13 1BP	Stanhope
Westgate Village Hall	43 Front Street, Westgate, Bishop Auckland	DL13 1SD	Stanhope
Witton Le Wear Community Centre	9 Station Road, Witton-le-Wear, County Durham	DL14 0AN	Stanhope
TOTAL			14
Willington			
Name	Address	Postcode	Centre

Crook Cricket Club	Dawson Street, Crook, Co Durham	DL15 8NH	Willington
Crook Fire Station	Peases Way, Crook, Co. Durham	DL15 9GR	Willington
Crook Library	Civic Centre, North Terrace, Crook, County Durham	DL15 9ES	Willington
Crook Outreach	Crook Health Centre, Hope Street, Crook	DL15 9HU	Willington
North Bitchburn Community Centre	North Bitchburn Cricket Ground, North Bitchburn	DL15 8AL	Willington
Phoenix Centre	Watling Terrace, Willington, County Durham	DL15 0HL	Willington
Roddymoor Allotments Community	Roddymoor Allotments, Roddymoor, County Durham	DL15 9QN	Willington
Salvation Army Crook	Queen Street, Crook, County Durham	DL15 8QQ	Willington
Spectrum Leisure Complex	Hunwick Lane, Willington	DL15 0JA	Willington
St Andrew's Chapel	Dawson St, Crook	DL15 8NH	Willington
St. Catherine's Community Centre	6 South St, Crook	DL15 8NE	Willington
St. Cuthbert's Centre	Church Hill, Crook	DL15 9DN	Willington
Stanley Crook Community Centre	High Road, Stanley, Crook, County Durham	DL15 9SN	Willington
Stanley Way Community Hub	43 Stanley Way, Billy Row, Crook, Co. Durham	DL15 9TF	Willington
Playbus		N/A	
Tow Law Community Centre	Dans Castle, Tow Law	DL13 4AY	Willington
Tow Law Outreach	Tow Law Community Centre, Ironworks Road, Tow Law	DL13 4AY	Willington
West Durham Youth and Community Resource	New Rd, Crook	DL15 8PU	Willington
Wheatbottom Community Hub	20 Wheatbottom, Crook, County Durham	DL15 9HB	Willington
TOTAL			18 + Playbus

Appendix 6 - Factors considered to inform proposals of which 15 Children's Centres to retain that were consulted on.

Population:

1. the proportion of children aged 0-4 in the top 30% Super Output Areas (SOA) in the cluster who live in the centre's 'reach' area;
2. the proportion of all children aged 0-4 in the cluster who live in the centre's 'reach' area.

Practical issues:

3. the building's capacity to deliver services;
4. the building's capacity to accommodate those staff who work in the area.

Current use of the Children's Centre building:

5. the centre in the cluster that had the highest proportion (%) of all visits by children and parents to centres in the cluster between April 2011 and September 2013;
6. the centre in the cluster that had the highest proportion (%) of all visits by children and parents from the top 30% SOAs in the cluster area in the same period.

Financial issues

7. the centre in the cluster subject to the highest level of potential clawback from any funder;
8. the centre in the cluster with the highest level of potential clawback from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);
9. whether a centre or space within it, may be needed to accommodate an increase in school places to 2017 (which might represent an opportunity to mitigate against the risk of clawback);
10. whether a centre, or space within it, may be needed to provide additional space for nursery places for vulnerable 2 year olds (as above).

The level of economic and social needs of the centre's reach area:

11. the centre in the cluster with the highest proportion (%) of 2 year olds in the cluster eligible for free nursery provision;
12. the centre in the cluster with the highest proportion (%) of children living in households in receipt of Child Tax Credit, Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance;
13. the centre in the cluster with the highest number per 1000 of children 'in need';
14. the centre in the cluster with the highest number per 1000 of children subject to a child protection plan;
15. the centre in the cluster with the highest number per 1000 of children 'looked after'.

The level of achievement of young children in the centre's reach area:

16. the centre in the cluster with the highest proportion (%) of children in the cluster not judged as achieving a 'good level of development' in Early Years Foundation Stage Profile 2013 (EYFSP '13 and '14);
17. the centre area where the % point gap between children eligible for Free School Meals and their peers is widest (EYFSP '13 and '14).

All Children's Centre buildings are relatively new and condition surveys confirmed that none require significant capital investment.

Table 1 below summarises the Children's Centres it was proposed for retention in the July 2014 cabinet report that were consulted on.

Table 1

Locality	Children's Centre (CC) Proposed for Retention	Children's Centre Cluster	Cluster Coverage
Consett and Stanley	Moorside CC	Consett	Leadgate, Benfieldside, Moorside and Consett
	Stanley CC	Stanley	Catchgate, Burnhope, Stanley and Craghead
Durham and Chester Le Street	Bullion Lane CC	Chester-le-Street	Chester-le-Street and Pelton
	Brandon CC	Deerness Valley	Brandon, Ushaw Moor, Framwellgate Moor and Sacriston
	Laurel Avenue CC	Durham	Sherburn Hill, Durham City, Kelloe
Peterlee and Seaham	Easington CC	Easington	Easington, Murton
	Seaham CC	Seaham	Seaham
	Horden CC	Peterlee East	Horden, Blackhall
	Seascape CC	Peterlee Central	Peterlee Centre, Howletch, Dene House
	Wheatley Hill CC	Peterlee West	Wheatley Hill, Wingate, Shotton, Haswell, Thornley
Ferryhill and Newton Aycliffe	Dean Bank CC	Ferryhill	Ferryhill, Chilton, Fishburn
	Tudhoe Moor CC	Spennymoor	Tudhoe Moor, Middlestone Moor, West Cornforth, Spennymoor
	Newton Aycliffe CC	Newton Aycliffe	Newton Aycliffe, Shildon
Bishop Auckland and Barnard Castle	St Helen Auckland CC	Bishop Auckland	Bishop Auckland, St Helen Auckland, Woodhouse Close, Coundon
	Willington CC	Durham Dales	Wear Valley, Teesdale, Weardale

Appendix 7

Consultation Plan May 2014

Introduction

This document describes how the Council will consult on a proposed new approach to Children's Centre Service Delivery in County Durham.

It is proposed that we will consult on :-

- The Community Delivery Model – Putting services closer to families;
- The proposal for the 43 children's centre buildings and the 15 it is proposed to retain.

2. Background

There are currently 43 Children's Centres in County Durham which were developed using the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000 to 2007 to ensure that centres were situated closest to those families experiencing significant disadvantage across a range of indicators such as income, health, education and housing.

The One Point Service currently manages Children's Centres in five geographical areas (localities) and the Service brings together Integrated Health and Local Authority Services.

Children's Centres have played an important part in the lives of children and families across County Durham towns and villages over the last 10 years, and a wide range of services and support has been available. However, despite the availability of these services, County Durham's children are less ready to start school and fewer achieve a good level of development at the end of the reception year than others in the region and nationally.

In addition, the Council is facing the challenge of significant cuts to public funding and the Council's current Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) requires it to make savings of approximately £224m from 2011- 2017. The total 2014/15 and 2015/16 MTFP savings target attached to this review amount to approximately £1 million, but the proposals outlined in the review will improve service delivery and enable children and families to continue to access the full range of Children's Centre services in more venues. To do this, we are proposing a community based model which will provide us with a service which is more flexible and can better meet the needs of children and families who need additional support.

Reducing the number of Children's Centres whilst increasing our use of community buildings as outreach venues for service delivery, will ensure continued support for children and families to achieve improved outcomes throughout their earlier years. Despite the proposed reduction of Children's Centres, the community based model will mean services will be delivered in more venues, not less. Resource will be spent on people not buildings.

The purpose of the Children's Centre Review Project is to ensure that Durham County

Council's Children and Adults Services robustly and objectively review the current provision of Children's Centres in line with the Early Years Strategy and the requirements of the County Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

3. Timescales

The proposed consultation exercise will run for 12 weeks and will start on 31 July 2014 until 23 October 2014. A full analysis of the consultation results will then be undertaken and a report will be presented to Cabinet in Spring 2015.

As the consultation includes the school summer holiday period, this will provide us with opportunities to successfully engage with parents and children that will be participating in Children's Centre summer activities. However, we intend to re-launch the consultation week beginning 8 September 2014 to maximise engagement from all interested parties.

4. Contact Officer

The Project Manager for the Children's Centre Review is Fiona Smith who has established various Workstreams to manage and deliver aspects of the Project.

Contact Details:

Fiona Smith
Children's Centre Review Project Manager Tel:
03000 26 16 70 (VPN)
Mob: 07769239687
Email: fiona.smith@durham.gov.uk

5. Stakeholders (please list)

The consultation process will involve a range of stakeholders who have an interest in this review and a range of consultation methods will be used to maximise involvement and participation levels from all interested parties. Stakeholder groups include :-

Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) Children

under 5

Children and Families Partnership Daycare

Providers

DfE

Health partners

- ☐ Clinical Commissioning Groups
- ☐ (North Durham CCG, Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG)

- Foundation Trusts:
- (Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust, City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust)
- NHS Commissioning Board Local Area Team - Durham, Darlington and Tees
- Public Health England

Local Advisory Boards

Members

- All Members
- Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Members of Parliament

OFSTED

Parents

- Parents of children under 5, including young parents and parents with a disability.
- Parents who use daycare in Children's Centres

Schools

- Head Teachers
- Governing Bodies

Staff

- One Point staff (LA and Health)
- Wider staff within CAS
- Other DCC staff

Town and Parish Councils

Voluntary and Community sector organisations

7. Consultation Process and Methods

A variety of methods will be used during the consultation to enable all stakeholders to actively participate and the attached action plan details the specific planned activity (see **Appendix A**). This will include:-

- Focus Groups
- Activity Sessions
- Questionnaires
- Parent's Forums/consultation events
- Presentations

8. Geographical Area

This review affects the whole County as there are currently Children's Centre buildings in all electoral wards/divisions. The consultation aims to gather feedback from all interested parties and will be open to all stakeholders who are directly affected by the proposal.

What we need to say

Our Vision

Durham County Council is committed to providing high quality services to support families and their young children to be healthy, ready for school and achieve their full potential and Children's Centre services have an important part to play in this. We propose to change the way we work to target support to children and families who need the support the most.

Key Principles

We will maintain 15 Children's Centres across County Durham enabling us to continue to deliver Children's Centre services by applying the following key principles:-

1. Help those children and families most in need of support as early as possible;
2. Involve children, families and partners in helping to shape our services;
3. Deliver services in places that are as close as possible to where children and families live;
4. Focus our resources on frontline staff rather than on buildings.

The Community Delivery Model – Putting services closer to families

We want to make our service more accessible to children and families by delivering them closer to where families live. We want to do this by making better use of community buildings and facilities like libraries, schools, leisure and community centres, for the delivery of services to support children and families during their early years. This will move away from the requirement for families to come into Children's Centres to access support and services.

The 43 Children's Centres are currently grouped in to 15 "clusters". The proposal is that we maintain one main Children's Centre in each cluster. This will reduce the number of Children's Centres we have in County Durham from 43 to 15. These centres alongside an extensive and flexible network of community venues will deliver services across the cluster and provide a base for staff. We will seek to find alternative uses for the other 28 centres to ensure services benefiting children and families can continue to be delivered.

The retained centre would accommodate staff to be able to coordinate services across each cluster using a number of community venues in addition to home visits. These are the places families tell us they already go to. Services will therefore be available from more venues, not less.

This will improve the flexibility of service delivery whilst reducing the Children's Centre building costs for the Council and protect front line staff and services.

The proposal for the 43 Children's Centre buildings and the 15 it is proposed to retain

The One Point Service manages Children's Centres across five localities covering all of County Durham. Within the five localities Children's Centres are grouped into 15 clusters. The proposal is that we maintain one main Children's Centre in each cluster which would reduce the number of centres from 43 to 15.

We have made recommendations on which Children's Centre buildings should be retained in each cluster. The table below outlines these recommendations :-

Locality	Cluster	Proposed Children's Centre to retain	Current Children's Centres
Consett and Stanley	Consett	Moorside Children's Centre	Benfieldside, Leadgate, Moorside
	Stanley	Stanley Children's Centre	Burnhope, Catchgate, Craghead, Stanley
Durham and Chester-le-Street	Chester-le-Street	Bullion Lane Children's Centre	Bullion Lane, Pelton
	Deerness Valley	Brandon Children's Centre	Brandon, Sacriston, Ushaw Moor
	Durham	Laurel Avenue Children's Centre	Kelloe, Laurel Avenue, Sherburn Hill
Peterlee and Seaham	Easington	Easington Children's Centre	Easington, Murton
	Peterlee East	Horden Children's Centre	Horden, Blackhall
	Seaham	Seaham Children's Centre	Seaham
	Peterlee Central	Seascape Children's Centre	Dene House, Howletch, Seascape
	Peterlee West	Wheatley Hill Children's Centre	Haswell, Shotton, Thornley, Wheatley Hill, Wingate
Ferryhill and Newton Aycliffe	Ferryhill	Dean Bank Children's Centre	Chilton, Dean Bank, Fishburn
	Spennymoor	Tudhoe Moor Children's Centre	Middlestone Moor, Tudhoe Moor, West Cornforth
	Newton Aycliffe	Newton Aycliffe Children's Centre	Newton Aycliffe, Shildon

Bishop Auckland and Barnard Castle	Bishop Auckland	St Helen Auckland Children's Centre	Coundon, St Helen Auckland, Woodhouse Close
	Durham Dales	Willington Children's Centre	Evenwood, Middleton in Teesdale, Weardale (Stanhope), Willington

What has been used to inform our proposal?

Due to the savings the Council needs to make, we can only afford to keep 15 out of the 43 Children's Centre buildings if we want to protect frontline staff and service delivery.

There are also other issues that have highlighted the need for change. These include:-

- ☐ the needs of children and young people in County Durham;
- ☐ the views of parents and carers through a survey carried out in 2013;
- ☐ the views of some of our partners such as schools;
- ☐ Ofsted inspection outcomes;
- ☐ legal requirements;
- ☐ what other local authorities provide; and
- ☐ The impact of Children's Centres in relation to outcomes for children and families.

The information above highlighted to us that a review of our Children's Centre services was required and so we had to look in more detail at all our 43 centres so that we could put some proposals together to make improvements. The factors below were used to help us to develop our proposal and recommendations which include the development of a new Community Delivery Model. This will result in a reduction of Children's Centre buildings from 43 to 15 but will give us opportunities to have greater flexibility to deliver services in more venues, closer to where children and families live. The factors include:-

- Where under 5s live in County Durham
- Where families need more support
- Where under 5s are not reaching their potential
- Centres which can provide space to deliver activities and provide accommodation for staff.

We are confident that the proposed new Community Delivery Model will positively impact on families and give the Council greater flexibility to deliver in more venues, closer to where families live whilst achieving the necessary savings.

8. Links to other Significant Consultations

MTFP consultation.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Sub Group	Consultation Activity/Method/Considerations	Timescale
Area Action Partnerships (AAPs)		Presentations and information to be provided to 14 AAP Boards.	Consultation period 31st July 2014 – 23rd October
Children under 5	Including disabled children and BME children	Consultation activity delivered through Children's Centre activities in all localities, including portage groups, other groups supporting disabled children and BME groups	Consultation period 31st July 2014 – 23rd October 2014
Children and Families Partnership		Presentation of key messages and advising how representatives can participate in the consultation.	22nd September 2014
Daycare Providers	All	Circulation of Key Messages	Consultation period
		Presentation at termly meeting including information re responding to the consultation	31st July 2014 – 23rd October 2014
		Questionnaire - online/paper	
Health partners	Clinical Commissioning Groups (North Durham CCG, Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG)	Presentation to the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board	3rd September 2014
	Foundation Trusts:	Presentation to the County Durham	3rd September 2014

	(Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust, City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust)	Health and Wellbeing Board	
	NHS Commissioning Board Local Area Team - Durham, Darlington and Tees	Presentation to the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board	3rd September 2014
	Public Health England	Circulation of Key Messages – Briefing Note	Consultation period
			31st July 2014 – 23rd October
Local Advisory Boards		To be coordinated at a locality level including :-	Consultation period
		Focus Group	31st July 2014 – 23rd October
		Questionnaire	
Members	Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Presentation of key messages and advising how representatives can participate in the consultation	25th September 2014
OFSTED		Inform of Consultation	30th July 2014
Parents	Parents of children under 5, including teen parents, parents with children with a disability	Parent Forums	31st July 2014 – 23rd October 2014

	and parents with a disability.	Questionnaires (paper/online) – one to one support available where needed.	
		All materials to be reviewed – Easy Speak	
		Social Media	
		Young parents groups	
		Groups for BME families	
	*Parents who use daycare in Children's Centres	*It is likely that parents who may be directly affected by the proposed reduction in centres may need additional opportunities to contribute to the consultation and these will be made available on request.	Consultation period 31st July 2014 – 23rd October 2014
Schools	Head Teachers	Questionnaire – online/paper	31st July 2014 – 23rd October
		Information available on Extranet	
	Governing Bodies	Article in Termly Governor Newsletter including consultation methods	Consultation period 31st July 2014 – 23rd October
Staff	One Point staff (LA and Health)	Intranet – One Point page Staff briefings	Continuous updates
	Wider staff within CAS	Intranet (and/or a focus group where necessary)	Consultation period 31st July 2014 – 23rd October
	Other DCC staff		
Town and Parish Councils	Local Council Working Group	Presentation at Local Council Working Group	5th September 2014

		Letter to all councils (including how to feedback) – emailed to clerks.	
		Representation on AAPs	
Voluntary and Community sector organisations	Voluntary & Community Sector Working Group	Presentation at VCS Working Group	16th September 2014
		Questionnaire link distributed through appropriate medium e.g. Durham Voice	
		Representation at LABs and AAPs	

Appendix 8

Children's Centre Consultation - Children's Voices

Children's perspectives are important in reviewing services. Capturing very young children's view and experiences can be challenging and require imaginative thinking. During the consultation period, family workers engaged with parents and children participating in Children's Centre services using a range of tools e.g. observations, conversations with children and parents, photographs. 249 children were involved across the County.

The responses received did not directly relate to the consultation questions but provided valuable insight into how very young children view Children's Centre activities, and what parent's value when receiving Children's Centre services.

For example, parents were asked to describe “What would make a good session for your child at the centre”. Parents supporting their children to participate in the consultation gave examples of:

- Interacts with all children and is happy
- Enjoys being with other children

Word Cloud 1 is a visual representation of parents comments. The more frequent a word was used, the bigger it appears in the word cloud:-



- Coming to see people
- Playing lots of games

[illegible]

Further analysis of the findings will be used to inform the implementation of the Community Delivery Model and quality improvement of early years practice in and through Children's Centres.

Children's Centre Cluster

Activities Timetable

Fun



Health



Training



Support

EXEMPLAR

EXEMPLAR

Time Together

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
<p>Well Baby Clinic (Drop in) 9.00am - 10.00am Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month **Community Venue</p> <p>Music & Movement (Drop in) (Term time only) 9.30am - 10.15am (0-5 years) Childrens Centre</p> <p>Time for 2s Programme (Invitation only) 6wks 1.00pm - 2.30pm **Community Venue</p> <p>Bouncin' Babes (Drop In) (Term time only) 1.30pm - 3.00pm **One Point Service Hub</p> <p>Well Baby Clinic (Drop in) 1.30pm - 3.00pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>Well Baby Clinic (Drop in) 9.15am - 11.30am Children's Centre</p> <p>Music & Movement (Drop in) (Term time only) 9.30am - 10.15am (0-2years) 10.30am - 11.15am (2-5years) **Community Venue</p> <p>Time for 2s Programme (Invitation only) 6 wks 1.00pm - 2.30pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>Well Baby Clinic (Drop in) 9.30am - 10.45am Childrens Centre</p> <p>Let's Play and Learn 18 months - 3 years (Drop in) (Term time only) 1.30pm - 3.00pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>Let's Play and Learn 18 months - 3 years (Drop in) (Term Time only) 9.30am - 11.00am **Community Venue</p> <p>Music & Movement (Drop in) (Term Time Only) 1.00pm - 1.45pm (0-2years) 2.00pm - 2.45pm (2-5years) Children's Centre</p>	<p>Breastfeeding Support Group 10.00am - 12.00pm **Community Venue</p> <p>Little Chipmunks (Drop In) (Term time only) 1.30pm - 3.00pm Childrens Centre</p> <p>Little Kickers Dads/Male Carers only 1.00pm - 2.00pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>Stay & Play for Childminders (Monthly drop in) Every 1st Tuesday in the month 9.30am - 1.30am **Community Venue</p> <p>Activities for families with children with a disability or additional needs *details to be confirmed (booking essential)</p>

CC—Children's Centre

* Booking Essential

** Community venue addresses are listed on pg7

EXEMPLAR

Time for you

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
<p>*Healthy Cooking on a Budget 6wks Childrens Centre 10.00-11.30 Please note this adult learning course is delivered by Pre-School Learning Alliance</p> <p>*Maths L1 & L2 Qualification 9.30am - 12.30pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>*Communication Information (one off session, booking essential with limited crèche places) 9.30am - 11.30am **One Point Service Hub</p> <p>Infant Feeding Choices Workshop for expectant mums 2.00pm - 4.00pm Childrens Centre 2nd Tuesday of month.</p> <p>Family Nurturing Programme (Invitation only) 12.45pm - 2.45pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>*Healthy Cooking on a Budget 1.00pm - 3.00pm 6wks **Community Venue</p> <p>*Paediatric First Aid Certificated Course 4wks 9.30am - 12.30pm **One Point Service Hub</p> <p>*Child Safety Course 6wks 1.30pm - 3.00pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>*Communication Information (one off sessions, booking essential with limited crèche places) 9.30am - 11.30am Childrens Centre</p> <p>*Healthy Cooking on a Budget 1.00pm - 3.00pm 6wks **Community Venue</p> <p>Common Childhood Illnesses Course (Invitation only) **Community Venue</p>	<p>SAIF GROUP (Drop In) 10.00am - 12.00pm **Community Venue</p> <p>Citizens Advice Bureau Drop in 9.00am - 10.00am Appointment only 10.00am - 12noon **One Point Service Hub</p> <p>*Level 2 Teaching Assistants Course **Community Venue Please ask for future course dates</p> <p>*Level 1 Supporting a Child's Learning and Development 1.00pm - 3.00pm **Community Venue</p>	<p>Monthly: Birth & Beyond 10.00am - 12.00noon **Community Venue Last Friday of the month.</p> <p>Childminder Information Session 6.30pm - 7.45pm **One Point Service Hub</p>

CC—Children's Centre

* Booking Essential

** Community venue addresses are listed on pg7

EXEMPLAR

What's New...

Communication Information one off monthly sessions

The sessions are to support mams, dads, carers to understand the important role they play in their child's development of speech, language and communication, whilst learning new strategies and approaches to be used at home.

Calling all young parents!

Pamper Party at Community Venue

Starting in April 2015

11.00am - 2.00pm

(booking required; lunch and crèche provided)

Come and tell us what you would like to see happening from your local centre.

Autism Workshops

Starting 16 January 2015

9.30am - 11.30am

Community Venue

(6wks course, booking essential)

Easter Activities

Look out for our Easter activities coming soon!

Addresses of community venues in use during this term will be provided in this section:



Note to parents - Always ask for proof of identity

Never be afraid to ask a professional for their identification badge. All One Point staff carry proof of identity and are required to show it to you when carrying out visits. If they do not show you their identification cards, please make sure you ask to see it before allowing them to enter your home.

Our staff would rather be safe than sorry and would not take offence at this request.

For information on all of our sessions contact the
Children's Centre.

ABC2: Course for young parents.

Adult Learning & Skills: for information on English, maths and Teaching Assistant courses.

Baby Massage: Invitation only. Please speak to your Health Visitor.

Bouncin' Babes: A relaxed informal drop in session for babies under 9 months and their mams, dads, carers.

Family Nurturing Programme: 11 week fun parenting course for mams, dads and carers who would like to learn how to get the best out of family life.

Let's Play & Learn (18 months plus): Fun, hands-on play session for your toddler to meet new friends and learn new skills.

Music & Movement: A range of rhymes and action songs.

SAIF Group: A monthly support group for parents of children with additional needs.

Time for 2s: 6wk programme for children who are nearly 2yrs old filled with fun packed play sessions and new learning experiences.

Paediatric First Aid Course: Increased knowledge for parents on First Aid for children.

Child Safety Course: Learn how to reduce accidents involving children.

Common Childhood Illnesses Course: Advice on common illnesses that can affect your child.

Healthy Eating on a Budget: Learn how to prepare quick, inexpensive meals.

Food Safety Course: Food hygiene and safety information.

Little Chipmunks: Fun filled and creative session for children under 5 and their mams, dads and carers.

Stay and Play for Childminders: Peer support session with activities for children.

Little Kickers: Professional led football session to learn new skills, build confidence and be physically active.

**Please ask us if you would like this document
summarised in another language or format.**

03000 261 111

CAS10548 Children and Adults Services, CMI Team 2013

Appendix 10 – Children’s Centres proposed to transfer to schools

	Children’s Centre	Name of School	Ofsted		In Principle Agreement signed
			Date	Judgement	
1	Blackhall	Blackhall Colliery Primary School	18/12/2012	Good	✓
2	Burnhope	Burnhope Primary School	22/10/2013	Good	✓
3	Catchgate	Catchgate Primary School	23/10/2012	Good	✓
4	Chilton	Chilton Primary School	05/04/2011	Good	Verbal Agreement
5	Fishburn	Fishburn Primary School	11/06/2014	Good	✓
6	Howletch	Howletch Lane Primary School	11/04/2011	Good	✓
7	Kelloe	Kelloe Primary School	21/10/2013	Requires Improvement	✓
8	Middlestone Moor	Middlestone Moor Primary School	09/07/2013	Good	Verbal Agreement
9	Middleton-in-Teesdale	Middleton-in-Teesdale Nursery and Primary School	05/05/2011	Outstanding	Verbal Agreement
10	Murton	Ribbon Academy	16/04/2013	Good	Verbal Agreement
11	Pelton	Pelton Community Primary School	01/02/2012	Good	✓
12	Shildon	Timothy Hackworth Primary School	25/04/2012	Good	Awaiting Response
13	Shotton	Shotton Primary School	06/03/2012	Good	✓
14	St. Helen Auckland	St. Helen Auckland Community Primary School	20/11/2014	Good	
15	Stanhope	Stanhope Barrington CE Primary School	30/04/2014	Outstanding	✓
16	Thornley	Thornley Primary School	22/09/2010	Good	✓
17	Ushaw Moor Children’s Centre	Silver Tree Primary School	08/11/2013	Requires Improvement	✓
18	West Cornforth	West Cornforth Primary School	27/09/2012	Good	✓
19	Wingate	Wingate Nursery School	04/12/2013	Outstanding	✓

The remaining 9 Children's Centres – proposed to transfer taking account of the Durham Ask

20	Benfieldside
21	Coundon
22	Craghead
23	Dene House
24	Evenwood
25	Haswell
26	Leadgate
27	Sacrison
28	Sherburn Hill

MTFP Reference: CAS 5.17 – Review Services for Early Years
Durham County Council – Altogether Better equality impact assessment form

NB: Equality impact assessment is a legal requirement for all strategies plans, functions, policies, procedures and services. We are also legally required to publish our assessments.

You can find help and prompts on completing the assessment in the guidance from page 7 onwards.

Section one: Description and initial screening
Section overview:

Service/team or section: Children's Services, Children and Adults Services

Lead Officer: Carole Payne, Head of Children's Services

Initial Screening: 24 January 2014

Updated: June 2014

Updated: September 2014

Updated: November 2014

Subject of the Impact Assessment: (please also include a brief description of the aims, outcomes, operational issues as appropriate)

An update is provided on pages 2 and 3 of this assessment relating to MTFP 2015/16 savings.

Purpose

This assessment reviews the equality impact of carrying out a strategy review and public consultation on the future proposals for the delivery of Early Years Services in County Durham through the provision of Children's Centre services.

Background information

Children's Centres have played an important part in the lives of children and families across County Durham towns and villages over the last 10 years, and a wide range of services and support has been available. However, despite the availability of these services, County Durham's children are less ready to start

school and fewer achieve a good level of development at the end of the reception year than others in the region and nationally.

In addition, the Council is facing the challenge of significant cuts to public funding and the Council's current Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) requires it to make savings of approximately £225.4m over the period 2011- 2018. The total MTFP savings target attached to this review amount to approximately £1 million (2015-2017), however, the proposals outlined in the review will also improve service delivery and enable children and families to continue to access the full range of Children's Centre services in more venues. To do this, a Community Delivery Model is proposed which will provide a service which is more flexible and can better meet the needs of children and families who need additional support.

Consultation Plan

A consultation plan and timeline will be developed in preparation for a potential public consultation. The communication plan will ensure that all stakeholders including service users, employees, partners and elected members are given full opportunities to provide views on the proposed options for future delivery. After the end of the consultation period, information from the questionnaires and responses will be collated and analysed and a report on the options available produced.

June 2014 – update

The 'Early Years Strategy' was agreed by Cabinet on 19.03.14. Discussions are currently ongoing with regard to the review of Children's Centres, as part of the strategy. A full equality impact assessment will be completed in December 2014

September 2014 - update

On 16.07.14, a report was presented to Cabinet which set out the detail of a review of the current service delivery model in view of the new Early Years Strategy and the role / requirement of Children's Centre buildings to deliver improved outcomes. The outcome of the review proposed a new model of service delivery for children and families in the early years and gave consideration to implications for the existing stock of Children's Centre buildings in the implementation of the new model.

The proposals put forward for consultation as a result of the review were intended to improve service delivery, while at the same time reduce the cost base of the service. This will be achieved by retaining as many front-line staffing posts as possible, reducing the number and cost of fixed buildings and making more use of community venues to improve access and use of these services.

Proposals outlined within the July 2014 Cabinet report set out an approach which would;

- Shift emphasis from the provision of buildings to the provision of services;
- Deliver services closer to where families live;
- Concentrate resources where deprivation levels and needs are highest;
- Deliver services which are directly linked to local needs and outcomes;
- Retain the flexibility to move points of delivery as community needs change;
- Make better use of existing buildings in the heart of communities such as libraries, leisure centres, youth centres, community centres and schools and

- Reduce the financial, managerial, administrative and regulatory burdens faced by the Council linked to the current Children's Centres.

In undertaking the review, the following had been considered: the evolution of Children's Centres; an analysis of need relating to deprivation; the impact of Children's Centres in relation to social, economic and learning outcomes; OfSTED inspection outcomes; the views of service users and required efficiency savings.

The report sought Cabinet agreement to consult on the proposals contained in the report, namely the proposed Community Delivery Model and a proposed change to the number of Children's Centres from 43 to 15 and which centres should be retained.

Cabinet agreed to a public consultation commencing 31.07.14 for 12 weeks until 23.10.14, which would present the proposals to all key stakeholders. Cabinet also agreed to receive a final report in Spring 2015, which would make recommendations following the consultation and include a full Equality Impact Assessment.

November 2014 - update

The consultation was completed on 23 October 2014. A consultation report has been drafted, providing an overview of the consultation process and findings. In summary, the responses to the two consultation questions were:-

Community Delivery Model:

- 52% of respondents believe the proposal will have a very positive or positive impact or no impact at all.
- 48% of respondents believe the proposal will have a negative or very negative impact.
- Feedback from 58 meetings, involving 523 participants consistently expressed support for the model once it had been explained.
- Parent/Carers described the importance of consistency in service provision within the implementation of the Community Delivery Model.

The 43 Children's Centres and the 15 it is proposed to retain:

- The majority of questionnaire respondents supported the proposed centre to be retained in all 15 clusters.
- Most Local Advisory Boards were in support of the proposed centre to be retained.

Who are the main stakeholders: General public / Employees / Elected Members / Partners/ Specific audiences/Other (please specify) –

Children's Centre service users, parents/carers/guardians, 0-5 early years population, Elected Members, partners and employees.

Is a copy of the subject attached? No

If not, where could it be viewed?

Documents are available on request including:

- Report to Cabinet on 19.03.14 regarding the Early Years Strategy

- Report to Cabinet on 16.07.14 regarding the review of Children's Centres

Initial screening

Prompts to help you:

Who is affected by it? Who is intended to benefit and how? Could there be a different impact or outcome for some groups? Is it likely to affect relations between different communities or groups, for example if it is thought to favour one particular group or deny opportunities for others? Is there any specific targeted action to promote equality?

Is there an actual/potential negative or positive impact on specific groups within these headings?

Indicate :Y = Yes, N = No, ?=Unsure

Gender	Y	Disability	Y	Age	Y	Race/ethnicity	Y	Religion or belief	Y	Sexual orientation	Y
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How will this support our commitment to promote equality and meet our legal responsibilities?

Any consultation will take into account the requirements of individuals and their views, by providing a variety of methods for all to participate and will respect the individual needs of all people across the range of protected characteristics.

November 2014 - update

The consultation findings have been analysed and actions identified below in Section Two will inform the Children's Centre Review Implementation Plan.

Reminder of our legal duties:

- Eliminating unlawful discrimination & harassment
- Promoting equality of opportunity
- Promoting good relations between people from different groups
- Promoting positive attitudes towards disabled people and taking account of someone's disability, even where that involves treating them more favourably than other people
- Involving people, particularly disabled people, in public life and decision making

What evidence do you have to support your findings?

A strategy review and consultation is likely to have some impact on service users and their carers, families and friends. At this stage, an initial screening is appropriate. However, a full impact assessment will be carried out in due course to accompany any future report to Cabinet.

June 2014 - update

The Early Years Strategy, agreed by Cabinet on 19.03.14, was developed in consultation with key stakeholders and aims;

- to provide a framework for future service structures / delivery mechanisms;
- efficiencies in light of austerity / spending reductions
- increase accessibility and improve outcomes by improving service delivery and
- develop and maintain the workforce

The provision of universal early years' services, together with a more targeted approach to reach those children and families who experience disadvantage will continue.

Decision: Proceed to full impact assessment – Yes

Date: 25.11.14

If you have answered 'No' you need to pass the completed form for approval & sign off.

Section two: Identifying impacts and evidence- Equality and Diversity

Section overview: this section identifies whether there are any impacts on equality/diversity/cohesion, what evidence is available to support the conclusion and what further action is needed.

	Identify the impact: does this increase differences or does it aim to reduce gaps for particular groups?	Explain your conclusion, including relevant evidence and consultation you have considered.	What further action is required? (Include in Sect. 3 action plan)												
Gender	<p>Proposed new service delivery models will have a proportionately greater impact on women including pregnant women and new mothers as the majority user.</p> <p>The loss of Children’s Centres as an access point may have an impact upon vulnerable women wishing to access face to face advice/support within Children’s Centres within their own community.</p>	<p>The majority of adults accessing Children’s Centre services are women. As at 1.12.14 there were 36386 adults registered with Children’s Centres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 22560 (62%) women• 13826 (38%) men <table><tr><th colspan="3">Questionnaire respondents</th></tr><tr><th>Gender</th><th>Number</th><th>Percentage</th></tr><tr><td>Male</td><td>154</td><td>8%</td></tr><tr><td>Female</td><td>1669</td><td>92%</td></tr></table>	Questionnaire respondents			Gender	Number	Percentage	Male	154	8%	Female	1669	92%	<p>Communication and engagement strategies should reflect methods which will effectively engage male and female carers.</p> <p>Sufficient time will be allocated around Children’s Centre activity sessions to enable service users to access information and advice from Children’s Centre workers</p>
Questionnaire respondents															
Gender	Number	Percentage													
Male	154	8%													
Female	1669	92%													

	<p>Dads and/or male carers are less likely to engage in Children’s Centre services.</p> <p>The adoption of the Community Delivery Model gives the service further opportunities to use venues which may be more appealing to dads or male carers.</p>	<p>Involvement and engagement of fathers and carers is still low,</p> <table><tr><th colspan="3">Children’s Centre database</th></tr><tr><td>Dads Registered</td><td>14087</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Dads contacted in the last 12 months</td><td>3633</td><td>26%</td></tr></table> <p>Centres continually to offer gender specific provision (Dads Groups) to mitigate against this.</p>	Children’s Centre database			Dads Registered	14087		Dads contacted in the last 12 months	3633	26%	<p>Opportunities to use sports centres, youth centres and other community venues should be considered to assist in the engagement of Dads and male carers.</p>
Children’s Centre database												
Dads Registered	14087											
Dads contacted in the last 12 months	3633	26%										
	<p>Predominantly women may be prevented from accessing Children’s Centre services in community venues due to timing of sessions conflicting with school drop off and pick up times of older siblings.</p>	<p>Women and young children may be prevented from accessing Children’s Centre activities when they need to drop off or collect older siblings from nursery or school if accessing services in different locations.</p>	<p>Start times of sessions will need to be further considered to allow for travel time to community venues in some localities.</p>									
	<p>Parents who undergo gender re-assignment are likely to experience additional needs for support, particularly as they transition, together with the support needs of the children in the family</p>		<p>Family support would be allocated on a case by case basis.</p>									
Age	<p>The move to the Community Delivery Model will maintain Children’s Centre service delivery For children aged 0-5 and their families. Already 151 community venues are used across County Durham to deliver Children’s Centre services.</p>	<p>Children’s Centres provide services to children aged 0-5 and their families, so these children will be directly affected by the proposals.</p>	<p>Regular communication is essential as we move through transition to the Community Delivery Model and transfer ownership of Children’s Centres to schools and/or other organisations to ensure that impact on service delivery is shaped and informed by service users.</p>									
	<p>637 (38%) of respondents to the consultation questionnaire believed that the review will have a positive impact on outcomes for children and their families.</p>	<p>42% of adults registered with Children’s Centres in County Durham are aged between 25 and 34 years. This group also contributed the higher number of questionnaires, with 690 (51%) of parent/carer responses.</p>	<p>Further attention will need to be given to the establishment of robust parental engagement methods, particularly in those areas where Parent Forums are not currently available to ensure parents are able to contribute their views.</p>									

Age cont.	Where parents of children under 5 and other consultation participants had the opportunity to engage in dialogue and seek further understanding of the proposed changes they reported a higher level of support for the proposals.									
	Suitable alternative community venues will need to be identified where the provision needs to be relocated due to a centre being transferred to a school or other organisation.	Young parents are offered targeted support through some Children’s Centres in County Durham, according to demand, e.g. 526 parents aged 19 and under are registered with Children’s Centres in County Durham with 365 (69%) having used centres in the last year.		Targeted provision will continue to be planned and delivered working with partner organisations. Relocation of groups to alternative venues will be well planned and young parents will be consulted.						
Disability	Parents of disabled children described the benefit of accessing Children’s Centre services and the challenges presented by changing provision for children with additional needs. Families identified as requiring additional support will be identified and allocated support. The proposals within the Children’s Centre Review will not affect this.	Whilst all Children’s Centre services are inclusive, specific support is offered to children with disabilities through family support and group provision. Currently 105 children are identified as disabled on the Children’s Centre database and 70 (67%) of those registered received Children’s Centre services in the last year. 103 (7%) of parent/carer questionnaire respondents stated that their child has a disability or long standing illness.		All community venues will be risk assessed and considered for access for all Children’s Centre users. Targeted provision will continue to be planned and delivered working with partner organisations. Relocation of groups to alternative venues will be well planned and parents of disabled children will be consulted.						
Disability cont.	Portage groups currently running in Children’s Centres proposed to be transferred will need particular consideration in terms of their transfer and planning. Disabled Parent/Carers may face		<table><tr><td></td><td>Total respondents to question no. 6 regarding impact of proposals</td><td>Disabled Parent /Carers</td></tr><tr><td>No. OF Respondents</td><td>*1659</td><td>58</td></tr></table>		Total respondents to question no. 6 regarding impact of proposals	Disabled Parent /Carers	No. OF Respondents	*1659	58	This transfer will be carefully planned to consider the needs of particular children who do not adapt easily to change. Identify current locations of sensory spaces and equipment and plan for their relocation where possible. Identify other venues where disabled
	Total respondents to question no. 6 regarding impact of proposals	Disabled Parent /Carers								
No. OF Respondents	*1659	58								

	<p>additional barriers in relation to accessing Children’s Centre services.</p>	<table><tr><td>POSITIVE</td><td>637</td><td>15</td></tr><tr><td>Percent %</td><td>38%</td><td>26%</td></tr><tr><td>NO DIFFERENCE</td><td>219</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Percent %</td><td>13%</td><td>9%</td></tr><tr><td>NEGATIVE</td><td>802</td><td>38</td></tr><tr><td>Percent %</td><td>48%</td><td>66%</td></tr></table> <p>Evidence would suggest that disabled parent/carers are less supportive of the Community Delivery Model.</p>	POSITIVE	637	15	Percent %	38%	26%	NO DIFFERENCE	219	5	Percent %	13%	9%	NEGATIVE	802	38	Percent %	48%	66%	<p>children may access sensory provisions and include appropriately in Children’s Centre offer where there is demand.</p> <p>A focus group will be held with disabled parent/carer service users to determine any concerns regarding the Community Delivery Model and reasonable adjustments will be made to service delivery.</p>																		
POSITIVE	637	15																																					
Percent %	38%	26%																																					
NO DIFFERENCE	219	5																																					
Percent %	13%	9%																																					
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Race/Ethnicity	<p>BME children and their families may require targeted or family support to ensure positive outcomes in their early years.</p> <p>The provision of targeted groups and family support will mitigate against the effects of barriers in terms of race.</p>	<p>Families from BME backgrounds may face increased disadvantage in society generally.</p> <table><tr><td colspan="3">Children’s Centre database</td></tr><tr><td>Children Registered</td><td>25429</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>White British</td><td>18074</td><td>71%</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>793</td><td>3%</td></tr><tr><td>Unknown</td><td>6562</td><td>26%</td></tr></table> <p>The two largest groups are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 177(0.7%) - White other• 157 (0.6%) - Polish <table><tr><td colspan="3">Questionnaire respondents</td></tr><tr><td>Ethnicity</td><td>Number</td><td>%</td></tr><tr><td>White</td><td>1753</td><td>98.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Black or Black British</td><td>7</td><td>0.4%</td></tr><tr><td>Asian or Asian British</td><td>5</td><td>0.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Mixed</td><td>13</td><td>0.7%</td></tr><tr><td>Travelling Community</td><td>4</td><td>0.2%</td></tr></table>	Children’s Centre database			Children Registered	25429		White British	18074	71%	Other	793	3%	Unknown	6562	26%	Questionnaire respondents			Ethnicity	Number	%	White	1753	98.3%	Black or Black British	7	0.4%	Asian or Asian British	5	0.3%	Mixed	13	0.7%	Travelling Community	4	0.2%	<p>Targeted provision will continue to be planned and delivered working with partner organisations.</p> <p>If the relocation of groups to alternative venues is necessary it will be well planned and parents of families from BME backgrounds will be consulted.</p>
Children’s Centre database																																							
Children Registered	25429																																						
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Mixed	13	0.7%																																					
Travelling Community	4	0.2%																																					

		Arab or Middle Eastern	2	0.1%																				
Religion or belief	No specific impact identified.	Churches and faith buildings may be used as community venues for children centre services. Use will need to be monitored to ensure it does not prevent some families from accessing Children’s Centre services.			Monitor use of church/faith venues for impact.																			
Sexual orientation	Families with gay or lesbian parents may face additional discrimination in society and Children’s Centres contribute to mitigating the effects of this for vulnerable families in this group.	<table><tr><th colspan="3">Questionnaire respondents</th></tr><tr><th>Sexual orientation</th><th>Number</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Heterosexual</td><td>1697</td><td>98.4%</td></tr><tr><td>Bisexual</td><td>9</td><td>0.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Gay woman/lesbian</td><td>13</td><td>0.8%</td></tr><tr><td>Gay man</td><td>5</td><td>0.3%</td></tr></table> Sexual orientation is not routinely recorded on the Children’s Centre database			Questionnaire respondents			Sexual orientation	Number	%	Heterosexual	1697	98.4%	Bisexual	9	0.5%	Gay woman/lesbian	13	0.8%	Gay man	5	0.3%	Family support would be allocated on a case by case basis.	
Questionnaire respondents																								
Sexual orientation	Number	%																						
Heterosexual	1697	98.4%																						
Bisexual	9	0.5%																						
Gay woman/lesbian	13	0.8%																						
Gay man	5	0.3%																						

How will this promote positive relationships between different communities?

Children's Centres will continue to promote the well-being of all children aged 0-5 living in County Durham.

The Children's Centre Team will contribute to narrowing the achievement gap by engaging the families in our communities least likely to experience good outcomes and support them to achieve positive outcomes for themselves and their children. To do this Children's Centres will target services through:-

Individuals – working in partnership with both universal service providers and specialist service providers to offer support to those families identified as having additional needs and requiring additional support.

Content – All activities provided will be determined by the identified needs of the local community and target families.


Geography – Ensuring that provision is accessible to those communities who most need it.

Section three: Review and Conclusion

Summary: please provide a brief overview, including impact, changes, improvements and any gaps in evidence.

The proposal has potential impact across all the protected characteristics, but with particular impact on women, pregnancy and maternity, age and disability. The majority of adults accessing Children's Centres are women. Barriers to access may arise under proposals due to timing and/or location of sessions in community venues and this may have particular impact for some, especially women. Timing of sessions and travel issues will be carefully considered as part of proposals. Involvement of dads and male carers remains low and opportunities within the proposed model to utilise community venues such as sports centres may improve male involvement. Children's Centres provide services to children aged 0-5 and their families, therefore proposals will impact on these groups. The majority of adults registered with centres are aged between 25 and 34 years. Establishment of effective parental/carers engagement methods will be an essential part of planning to ensure inclusion and opportunities for all to contribute. Young parents (aged 24 and younger) are offered targeted support and this will continue with relocation to alternative venues having a planned approach shaped by consultation with younger parents. Specific support currently offered for disabled children will continue and reasonable adjustments made, where necessary, for disabled children and disabled parent/carers. Targeted provision will continue with any relocation to alternative venues having a planned approach shaped by consultation with parents of disabled children. All community venues will be assessed in terms of access. Transfer of portage groups will be carefully planned to consider particular and individual needs. The new proposed model will continue to provide targeted provision and family support where need is identified to ensure positive outcomes for early years. Use of alternative community venues may improve involvement and access for some families. Use of church and faith facilities will be monitored to identify any barriers. No other specific impacts have been identified in terms of race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

Action to be taken	Officer responsible	Target Date	In which plan will this action appear
Transitional plan to be developed for the transfer/relocation of targeted services including	Paul Shadforth, Service Manager,	February 2015	Children's Centre Review Business Continuity Plan

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young Parent's provision • Portage groups and other support groups for disabled children • Support groups for BME families 	One Point Service		
Review the current communication strategy and approaches for the promotion of all Children's Centre services to all users, paying particularly attention to protected/targeted groups	Paul Shadforth Service Manager, One Point Service	April 2015	Children's Centre Review Business Continuity Plan
Appoint Parent and Community Engagement workers	Paul Shadforth Service Manager, One Point Service	April 2015	Children's Centre Review Business Continuity Plan
Develop Parental Engagement Strategy	Paul Shadforth Service Manager, One Point Service	April 2015	Children's Centre Review Business Continuity Plan
When will this assessment be reviewed?	Date:		
Are there any additional assessments that need to be undertaken in relation to this assessment?	No		
Head of Service - sign off: Carole Payne Head of Children's Services			
Service equality representative – sign off: Claire McLaren Service Quality and Development	