

The availability of sufficient and affordable, good quality childcare contributes to the wider council's objectives

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Availability of sufficient early years and childcare places in new communities and housing developments	West Huntingdon & Godmanchester St. Neots Cambs southern fringe Cambs North. Cambourne North Ely		RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Quantify, plan and secure good quality childcare provision, including childminding, in the new housing developments.		Infrastructure	ongoing
Work proactively with District Councils on New Community Development plans and engage in discussions with New Communities teams at County and District Councils		Infrastructure / New Communities / District Councils	ongoing
Continue to implement S106 policy (securing funding to support infrastructure within a community) for Early Years and Childcare.		Infrastructure	ongoing
Use housing completion predictions to ensure that sufficient early years and childcare provision is in place for the first families		Infrastructure	ongoing
Consider provision to deliver childcare across the age ranges to make access easier for parents living in new communities.		Infrastructure	ongoing

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Availability of childcare places matches the demand as a result of demographic change, in-migration across the county and the changes to Welfare System.	City, Chatteris, and some areas of South Cambs	County average per 100 children 25. See individual Locality Profiles for more localised figures	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Monitor and develop (where appropriate) provision for 0-4 year olds across the county, in particular Cambridge City, Chatteris and pockets of South Cambridgeshire.		Infrastructure	ongoing
Increase provision for children over 7 years old, in line with changes in lone parent benefits		Infrastructure	ongoing
Plan for further changes in lone parent benefits being implemented from September 2011		Infrastructure / Job Centre+	By Sept 2011

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Childcare availability in rural areas remain sustainable	Huntingdon, Fenland and East Cambs	22 settings being monitored 5 of which have received sustainability funding in last financial year	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Continue to support the sustainability of childcare provision in rural areas, targeting support appropriately.		Infrastructure	ongoing

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Migrant worker and newly-arrived families have access to information about childcare options and meeting the costs of childcare (affordability).	Wisbech, Huntingdon and City	undefined	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Improve links with children's centres and provider networks in order to improve access to childcare and help with affordability.		Early Years and Childcare Service / Infrastructure / Children Centres	ongoing
Improve links with local community groups to share information.		Migrant Worker Network / Ethnic Minority Network	

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Affordability is not considered a barrier to accessing childcare for Families.	Whittlesey, St.Ives, Ely, Littleport & Witchford, Cottenham & Swavesey, Bottisham, Burwell and Soham Localities. Foster Carers, Teenage Parents, BME, and Traveller Families	41% of families across the county find childcare affordable	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Facilitate and secure better access to information on the Childcare Element of Working Tax Credit for families in Whittlesey, St.Ives, Ely, Littleport and Witchford, Cottenham and Swavesey, Bottisham, Burwell and Soham localities by;		Infrastructure / HMRC	ongoing
Ensure Children's Centre staff and parent support advisers are trained to advise parents of their benefit entitlements.		Locality Teams / Children Centres / Job Centre +	

Closer working with Job Centre Plus to encourage parents to return to work or training	Locality Teams / Children Centres / Job Centre +	
Ensure Childcare Providers have information to sign post on affordability of childcare (e.g. "Help with Childcare Costs pack"), including 'Care to Learn' packages for Teenage parents returning to education	Infrastructure	
Improve links with local voluntary and community groups to share information about supporting families.	Locality Teams / Infrastructure / Childcare Providers	

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
<p>Childcare providers have greater understanding of the needs of children with disabilities and families where English is an additional language.</p> <p>More children with disabilities and families where English is an additional language access mainstream childcare</p> <p>Better information and a simpler funding system supports families in accessing childcare for children with specialist needs</p>	Countywide	<p>Training courses delivered</p> <p>EAL and supporting disability and SEN.</p> <p>No of settings participated academic year 2009-2010</p> <p>SEN 163</p> <p>EAL 161</p> <p>Equalities 99</p>	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Improve the understanding of mainstream childcare providers in meeting the needs of children with disabilities and where English is an additional language		Early Years and Childcare Service	
Simplify the system of information and support for families with disabled children including improved assistance with accessing funding available for childcare.		Commissioning and Enhanced services / C.I.S	
Ensure information and advice is available in Children Centres and through childcare providers		Children Centres / Locality Teams / Infrastructure	

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Availability of childcare 'out of hours' to meet needs of shift workers	Fenland, Huntingdon and East Cambs	Out of hours and overnight childminders across the focus areas 19 out of hours 13 of which offer some overnight care	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Work with childminders specifically to address the need for childcare for parents who work weekends and shifts in Huntingdon, Fenland and East Cambs		Infrastructure NCMA	ongoing

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Increased take up of the free-entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds	Wisbech and Whittlesey Localities Traveller Community, Teenage Parents, EAL, Migrant Workers & BME	38 (of an estimated 100 eligible) children from Traveller community across County	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Increase the availability and uptake of the free entitlement for 3 – 4 year olds to Traveller Community, Teenage Parents, EAL, Migrant Workers & BME		Early Years and Childcare Service / Teenage Pregnancy lead / Locality Teams / Migrant Worker Network	
Promote the availability of the free entitlement for 3-4 year olds in the Wisbech and Whittlesey localities.		Locality Teams / Children Centres / Childcare providers	
Ensure there are sufficient early years places to meet improved demand in these areas.		Infrastructure	ongoing

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Availability of childcare places to meet the increase in hours (10 to 15 a week) for the free entitlement for the most deprived 2 year olds in the county	Wisbech , Huntingdon, City	287 places available for 990 2 year olds living in poverty.	RED
Actions		Who	Time frame
Ensure sufficient places available for the free entitlement for 2 year olds		Infrastructure	ongoing
Support childcare providers to implement the increase in hours (10 to 15 hours a week from Sept 2012)		Infrastructure	Jan 2012

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
The views of children and young people are listened to and utilized when establishing childcare and out of school activities.	Countywide	Undefined	AMBER
Actions		Who	Time frame
Continue to seek, listen to and utilize the views of children and young people when establishing childcare.		Participation and Young People Service / Early Years and Childcare Service / Locality Teams / F.I.S / Infrastructure	ongoing
Work with Children Centre's to seek the views of young parents		Locality Teams	ongoing

Objective	Focus	2011 benchmark	Priority
Employers have information to help them assist employees with finding childcare.	Countywide	undefined	GREEN
Actions		Who	Time frame
Improve information to employers in order for them to assist their employees in finding good quality childcare.		Infrastructure	
Facilitate links between employers and local childcare providers		Infrastructure	