



Childcare Development and Sustainability Service

Commissioning Plan

July 2018

1. Introduction

The overall aim of the Childcare Development and Sustainability Service is to improve outcomes for families, children and young people through access to high quality, sustainable and affordable childcare provision.

The Childcare Development and Sustainability Service helps us fulfil our statutory duties in relation to early years and childcare provision by commissioning an external provider to facilitate and support the local childcare market in order to ensure the provision meets the needs of parents with children.

1.1. Aims of this commissioning strategy

- Increase early years and childcare provision in areas of childcare insufficiency to meet parental needs.
- Support new and existing early years and out-of-school childcare providers in meeting registration, regulatory and legislative requirements
- Engage providers in networks and partnership working to ensure sufficiency and continuity of provision for families in their locality
- Ensure providers have robust business plans in place for an affordable and sustainable service
- Ensure providers increase their awareness and capacity to exploit funding and fundraising opportunities
- Help providers work towards maintaining maximum occupancy rates to improve business efficiency and service access for parents
- Support providers to continuously improve the quality of provision through the delivery of various training programs, by providing advice and direct support.

1.2. Our current commissioning arrangements

In 2012 Bristol Association for Neighbourhood Daycare Ltd. (BAND) were awarded a contract to deliver the Childcare Development and Sustainability Service with an annual contract value of £292,984. This contract was extended and is now due to expire at the end of 2018.

The Service is delivered throughout the City in close consultation with parents, childcare providers and with key strategic partner to provide support, advice and training to childcare providers on the sustainability, development and improved quality of early years and childcare provision. The contract is expected to meet and exceed quality standards such as those requested by OFSTED; offer information, advice and guidance on a range of subjects from financial management to fundraising and policy-making; support voluntary management committees; act as a networking tool; offer free training courses and workshops; and run a free resource library of toys, books and equipment.

Key service indicators include:

- Increased access to provision in identified areas of parental need
- Increased sustainability of provision with robust business planning in place for affordable and sustainable services
- Measurable quality improvements in the delivery of provision with increased number of providers meeting registration, regulatory and legislative requirements
- Increased access to affordable provision by families on low incomes, and families from disadvantaged communities.

In addition to this existing contract, the council has another arrangement with BAND to provide training to childcare providers to meet the statutory welfare standards in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Following consultation, the funding that goes to BAND for training will be included as part of the wider contract to ensure that there is the strong training element is retained.

1.3. Why we are recommissioning this service

Bristol City Council has historically commissioned one external provider to support the childcare sector and help us to achieve our sufficiency duty. Most other local authorities manage childcare contract services in-house, whilst some commission external providers with a much wider remit to provide play and education support services.

Our current contract with the existing provider of the Childcare Development and Sustainability Service is coming to an end and we have already extended this contract as far as is possible. We plan to amend the service specification and overall requirements for the Service to reflect our changing priorities and the reducing overall budget. We will combine another funding stream into this contract to maximize the funding available under this contract and to ensure that our procurement obligations have been met in full.

2. Legal and policy context

As a local authority Bristol City Council is bound by a number of regulations and pieces of legislation regarding procurement including our own Financial and Procurement Regulations, and the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 (the UK enactment of the EU Procurement Directive). The consequences of not following the regulations can be significant and can result in disciplinary actions, loss of EU funding, substantial fines and legal action, damage to the Council and Officer/Members' reputation, and a negative impact on service delivery.

The Childcare Act 2006 and the Education Act 2011 place duties on local authorities in relation to early years and childcare provision to:

- Improve the well-being of children and young people
- Reduce inequalities between children and young people in their area
- Improve the outcomes of young children from birth to five years
- Ensure that there are sufficient, high quality early years places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and childcare places for children aged 5 to 14 (or older if they have additional needs)
- Provide information to families about local childcare provision and other families information.

Under the Childcare Act 2006 Local Authorities are required to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

The definition of 'childcare' includes:

- Day-care for children aged birth to 4 in day nurseries
- Free early learning provision for 3 and 4 year olds
- Free early learning and childcare provision for eligible 2 year olds
- Out of School provision for school aged children
- Childminding provision

Section 6 of the Childcare Act places a duty on English local authorities to secure sufficient childcare for working parents. Section 12 places a duty on English local authorities to provide information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents on the provision of childcare in their area and other services which may be of benefit.

To secure sufficient childcare places, local authorities should;

- Take into account what is ‘reasonably practicable’ when assessing what sufficient childcare means in their area and;
- The state of the local childcare market, including the demand for specific types of providers, in a particular locality and the amount and type of supply that currently exists;
- The state of the labour market;
- The quality and capacity of childcare providers, including their funding, staff, premises, experience and expertise;
- Encourage schools in their area to offer out of hours childcare from 8am and 6pm and to offer flexible sessions;
- Encourage existing providers to expand their provision and new providers to enter the local childcare market.
- Ensure there is sufficient childcare available to meet the needs of disabled children; children from families in receipt of the childcare element of Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit; children with parents who work irregular hours; children aged two, three and four taking up early education places; school age children; and children needing holiday care.

The role of the Local Authority is to facilitate and support the local childcare market to ensure the provision meets the needs of parents with children. The Childcare Development and Sustainability Service will fulfil the authority’s duty to ensure there is sufficient, high quality, affordable and accessible early years and childcare places through effectively supporting and developing the market.

2.1. Safeguarding duties

The Government has defined safeguarding as the process of protecting children from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring they are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care that enables children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.¹

Children Act 2004

Section 10 requires each local authority to make arrangements to promote cooperation between the authority, each of the authority’s relevant partners, and such other persons or bodies who exercise functions or are engaged in activities in relation to children in the local authority’s area as the authority considers appropriate. The arrangements are to be made with a view to improving the well-being of children in the authority’s area – which includes protection from harm and neglect alongside other outcomes.

¹ The latest Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance is published here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419595/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children.pdf see also statutory guidance for local authorities on *Schools causing concern* (DfE January 2015) https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/434047/Schools_Causing_Concern_Jan_2015_FINAL_24Mar.pdf

Section 11 places duties on a range of organisations and individuals (including local authorities, schools and contracted service providers) to make arrangements for ensuring that their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged with regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Education Act 2002

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 places a duty on local authorities in relation to their education functions; and on the governing bodies of maintained schools in relation to their functions relating to the conduct of the school or the institution to make arrangements for ensuring that such functions are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Similar duties apply to proprietors of independent schools (which include academies/free schools) and non-maintained schools.

Children Act 1989

The Children Act 1989 places a duty on local authorities to promote and safeguard the welfare of children in need in their area.

2.2. Local policy

2.2.1. Bristol City Council Corporate Strategy 2018- 2022

The Corporate Strategy and related Business Plan set out the priorities for the city over the next few years addressing the themes of:

- Culture
- Education and Skills
- Environment
- Health & Wellbeing
- Housing
- Transport

The strategy and business plan highlights a commitment to work with people and organisations to tackle inequality and focus on fundamental goals – many of which are relevant to this commissioning e.g. tackling food poverty through Breakfast Clubs initiative.

2.2.2. Bristol Children, Young People and Families Strategy 2016 to 2020

This four year strategy covers all services for children, young people and families across the whole of Bristol. It describes how the Children and Families Partnership will work together to make sure children, young people and their families are:

- safe and nurtured
- healthy and active
- respected and involved
- responsible and achieving

² <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/1188753/Corporate+Strategy+2017-2022+D5/c545c93f-e8c4-4122-86b8-6f0e054bb12d>

The priorities in the strategy address poverty and inequality and focus on:

- emotional health and wellbeing
- safe and inclusive communities
- education, employment and skills
- housing

https://www.bristol.gov.uk/en_US/policies-plans-strategies/social-care-and-health/children-young-people-and-families

2.2.3. Bristol: A Learning City

Learning Cities are being established across the world, based on the idea that by working and learning together we can achieve more and in turn this will transform lives, organisations and cities. Bristol has become England's first UNESCO Learning City – part of a world-wide network that champions learning as a way to transform lives, communities, organisations and cities.

We know that Bristol is a great place to learn, with many opportunities available. Our schools are better than ever; our universities are world-class and our cultural and city organisations offer a great breadth of opportunity. However, it is also clear that Bristol is a city of contrasts and not everyone has the same opportunity to learn and prosper.

We want everyone to be proud to learn throughout their lives. Building on existing good practice, our Learning City partners are committed to creating and promoting learning opportunities for everyone, of all ages and from all communities, in all parts of the city.

<https://www.bristollearningcity.com>

2.2.4. Tackling food poverty

Food poverty is the inability to afford, or to have access to, food to make up a healthy diet. It is about the quality of food as well as quantity. The council is working with Bristol Food Banks, Social Enterprises and other partners as part of 'Feeding Bristol' to tackle food poverty within the city.

A major initiative in Bristol is to ensure every school child in the city has access to a Breakfast Club at school by 2020, something which is being kindly supported by the city's faith networks. There is a role for Holiday Play-Schemes and Clubs in tackling food poverty as school pupils who rely on free school meals can face hunger in the holidays.

2.2.5. Bristol City Council's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) and Action Plan.

As part of our statutory duties we are preparing a new CSA and Action Plan. The final plan will not be completed before this contract is awarded, but the team drawing up the assessment will provide an overview of the city's childcare sector to support tendering organisations as part of the tender documentation.

The last CSA and Action Plan³ highlighted a number of strategic priorities relating to the sufficiency of childcare provision in the city and have informed the delivery of the Childcare Development and Sustainability Service.

2.1. National Context

30 hours free childcare

From September 2017 all working parents who earn less than £100,000 per year each have been eligible for 30 hours free childcare for three to four year olds⁴ – double the 15 hours they were previously currently entitled to. With the introduction of 30 hours free childcare there is a concern that the quality of provision could be driven down as some providers have reported that the rate the Government offers⁵ is below the actual hourly cost of childcare⁶. Under the previous scheme of 15 hours free childcare, nurseries could make up for the shortfall by charging parents more for the additional hours. Now the number of free hours has doubled, nurseries who have signed up to the scheme will not be able to charge for additional hours since many families do not require more than 30 hours a week of childcare. This could lead to a reduction in both numbers and quality of provision, and represents a key risk that the council's Early Years Team will focus on in the coming months.

The importance of the quality of early education and childcare has long been recognised. Early education can help disadvantaged children to 'close the gap' in educational attainment with their wealthier peers, but only if it is good quality. The introduction of the 30 hour entitlement will mean significant changes for the childcare market, and it is vital to make sure that these changes do not cause deterioration in the quality of provision.

Working age parents and carers

A major barrier reported by lone parents to finding work was the provision of adequate childcare. 36% of the lone parents interviewed in a DWP survey felt that the availability of local childcare was a problem and 36% felt that affordability was a problem.

It should be noted that the most popular choice of childcare, particularly amongst parents with low incomes, is informal childcare with friends or family.

2.2. Other help for children and young people in Bristol

During 2012-2014, the local authority and partners introduced a series of changes to services for children and young people in Bristol. These changes included the following new ways of working:

³ Bristol City Council's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) and Action Plan for 2011–14 - Recommendations

⁴ To be eligible single parent households must earn a minimum amount – the equivalent of working 16 hours at the national minimum wage.

⁵ Distributing funding allocated for the offer has been achieved via an Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF). Each local authority's hourly rate under the new funding formula is calculated using several criteria, starting with a flat per pupil base rate before adding further funding for 'additional needs' criteria such as deprivation. Once funding for additional needs have been added in, the total hourly rate so far will then be multiplied by an area cost adjustment rating. The government has introduced a minimum hourly funding rate for local authorities, and all providers will receive a minimum of at least £4.30 an hour to offer the 30-hour offer of free childcare. Local authorities can also receive other sources of funding from central government which are not included in the EYNFF. And the DfE calculate that, once these separate funding streams are combined with EYNFF funding, the overall hourly funding rate for early years will average £4.94 per hour.

⁶ NDNA Annual Nursery Survey 2016

- **First Response** – A single place for people to call if they are concerned about a child or young person, or think they need some help. It aims to provide preventative services to help families early and brings together specialist teams in a joined up approach to protect vulnerable young people and support parents. First Response may give advice about services available or make referrals to an area-based Early Help Team or to a social work team.
- **Citywide area-based ‘Families in Focus’ services** – To get the right help to children sooner. There are three area-based Families in Focus Teams who coordinate requests for help referred from First Response and support those children and families who don’t need a social worker, but still require some help.
- **Integrated 0-25 service** for disabled and SEN children and young people including council and health staff.
- **Think Family** - The council is a top-performing local authority in the Government’s Troubled Families programme. Key workers spend up to six hours a week with families to tackle issues such as youth crime, employability and anti-social behaviour. The programme has contributed to reducing police call outs, domestic abuse and school exclusions.

These changes to services reflect national research and best practice using early support principles. They identify each service or provision within a level spectrum known as universal, targeted or specialist. Children and families can require support in just one area, at one time, they can need support in more than one area and they can need support to prevent them moving into the next level .The focus is always on early intervention and prevention in order to reduce the need for specialist services or provision. Access to support is through assessment and the local authority threshold document shows how children and families’ needs are assessed and supported.⁷

3. Childcare provision in Bristol

3.1. Number of providers by type

Bristol has a rich, diverse and mixed economy of childcare provision and the Early Years Service has continued to invest in quality improvements and business and sustainability support across all childcare sectors in Bristol.

The following numbers of early education providers are registered with Ofsted in Bristol⁸:

Early education providers by type	Number of providers
Early Education Providers - Private , Voluntary and Independent Sector	145
Early Education Providers - Nursery Classes	40
Early Education Providers - Nursery Schools	12

The table below shows the number of Out of School providers by type and area in Bristol⁹.

Out of School Provider	East Central	North	South	N/A	Total
After-School Club or	26	37	30	1	94

⁷ Guidance on Bristol’s thresholds is published here:

http://www.bristol.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/children_and_young_people/child_health_and_welfare/Final%20Thresholds%20guidance%20February%202014.pdf

⁸ Source: Tribal database November2017

⁹ Source: Tribal database December 2017

Activity					
Breakfast Club	25	41	32	10	108
Holiday Out of School Scheme	10	25	14	4	53
Out of School Care	30	46	31	13	120

In addition to this, Bristol has 429 childminders. Support for childminders is not within the scope of this contract but it is expected that the Support Service will work in partnership with the Childminding Support Service on childcare development initiatives and training. The support service will also provide support and information on the Voluntary Childcare Register for after school activity providers.

3.2. Number of childcare places

Registered places are the number of children that may attend the provision at any one time. Registered places are not the number of places occupied, nor the number of children who may benefit from receiving places through providers offering sessions at different times of the day. Place numbers are only collected for providers on the Early Years Register.

At end March 2016 there were 7,735 Ofsted registered Early Years places for Childcare on non-domestic premises in Bristol, in addition to 2,474 for Childminder places¹⁰.

We estimate that there are currently places for up to 4,057 children to attend Breakfast Clubs in Bristol. This estimate is based on the 44 out of 108 Breakfast Clubs who have indicated the maximum number of children they can facilitate. For Out of School Care we estimate there are 4,410 places in Bristol based on information from 67 out of 119 providers. There are also an estimated 2,526 places for Holiday Out of School Schemes in Bristol based on information from 36 out of 53 providers.

Type of Extended School Provision	Estimated total number of places available in Bristol ¹¹
Breakfast Clubs	4,057
Out of School Care	4,410
Holiday Out of School Schemes	2,526
After School Clubs	Not known

3.3. Staff qualifications

A recent review of provider staff qualifications for Early Years settings in Bristol¹² found that 40% (n=98) of settings had ‘graduate leadership’ – i.e. at least one member of staff with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, or Early Years Teacher Status.

3.4. Quality of childcare provision

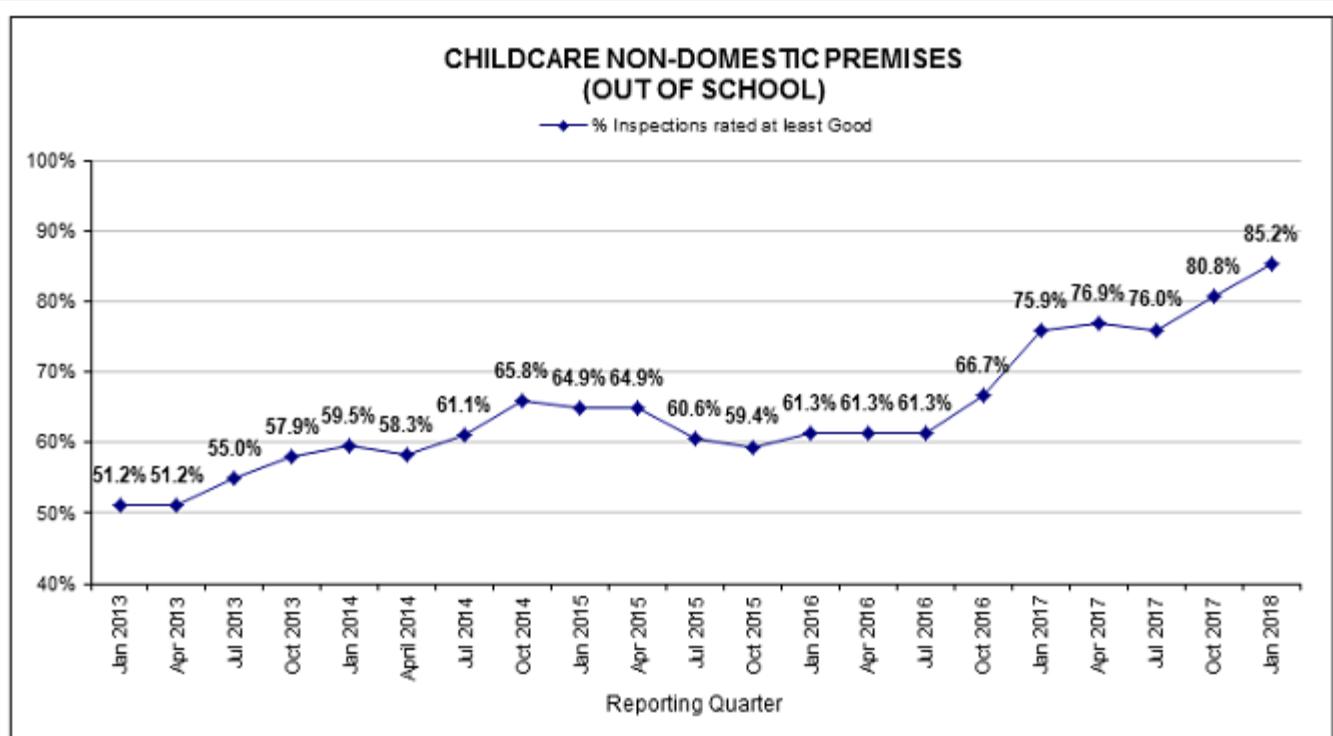
The Childcare Development and Sustainability Service will work extensively with childcare providers to support the quality of settings including safeguarding and DfE welfare requirements. The graph

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-march-2016>

¹¹ Source: Tribal database and provider information December 2017

¹² Bristol City Council Early Years Census January 2017

below shows that under the current contract childcare providers have consistently exceeded targets in relation to the percentage of providers judged good or better by Ofsted. Bristol's childcare provision is performing above national levels; 96.6% of provision has been assessed as good or outstanding compared to 95% nationally and 96% for the South West. Ofsted outcomes have improved by 34% in the Out of School sector over the duration of the current contract, from 51.2% in January 2013 to 85.2% in January 2018.



The importance of the quality of early education and childcare has long been recognised. Early education can help disadvantaged children to 'close the gap' in educational attainment with their wealthier peers, but only if it is good quality.

The first five years of life shape children's life chances and it is in the early years that the socio-economic gaps in children's outcomes start appear. Research¹³ found that by age three there are large and systematic differences between children from lower and higher income families and these gaps persist throughout childhood, as later attainment tends to be heavily influenced by early development. Childcare in particular has an important impact with children who attended high quality childcare found to be earning more, on average, than those who did not. This applied even for children whose performance in relation to others had deteriorated during the school years.

High-quality care improves the life chances of all children, especially disadvantaged children and research shows that high quality childcare gives young children the best start in life by improving their emotional and social development and has a positive impact on educational attainment. The Effective Provision of Pre-School Education (EPPE) Project found¹⁴ that children's achievements in language, reading and numeracy increased in proportion to the time they spent in pre-school. The

13 The Foundation Years: Preventing Poor Children Becoming Poor Adults, UK Government Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances

14 Sammons, P. et al (2004) EPPE: tech paper 8a/b, Measuring the impact of pre-school on children's cognitive progress over the pre-school period. Institute of Education.

project demonstrated the positive effects of high quality early years provision on children's intellectual and social behavioural development.

Another advantage of attending good quality childcare is that qualified and experienced staff may be able to pick up signs of behavioural problems or slower language or cognitive development earlier on, and provide additional support to the child and their parents to make a difference to outcomes before they start school, or help to broker access to wider support services. This could change the child's trajectory between the ages of three and five and so determine how well they do at school.

Sufficient high quality childcare also has a significant positive impact on the local and national economy allowing more parents/carers to work. It increases their earnings and their contribution to both the local and national economy.

The table below compares the Ofsted inspection ratings for Bristol non-domestic childcare providers and Childminders with those of our statistical neighbours¹⁵ and other core cities in England.

Ofsted inspection ratings @ 31/3/2017

Childcare Non-domestic premises				Childminders						
	Total inspections	Number good or outstanding	% good or outstanding		Total inspections	Number good or outstanding	% good or outstanding			
England	20,626	19,681	95.4%	England	33,015	30,427	92.2%			
South West	2,229	2,149	96.4%	South West	3,163	2,966	93.8%			
STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS				STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS						
Bournemouth	72	69	95.8%	Rank	7	Bournemouth	97	91	93.8%	3
Brighton and Hove	122	120	98.4%		1	Brighton and Hove	96	89	92.7%	5
Bristol	138	133	96.4%		6	Bristol	310	289	93.2%	4
Coventry	110	107	97.3%		5	Coventry	229	209	91.3%	9
Derby	78	71	91.0%		11	Derby	129	118	91.5%	7
Leeds	255	249	97.6%		3	Leeds	679	641	94.4%	2
Plymouth	92	90	97.8%		2	Plymouth	119	108	90.8%	11
Portsmouth	80	78	97.5%		4	Portsmouth	80	76	95.0%	1
Reading	64	60	93.8%		9	Reading	92	84	91.3%	8
Sheffield	142	134	94.4%		8	Sheffield	295	271	91.9%	6
Southampton	87	81	93.1%		10	Southampton	153	139	90.8%	10
TOTAL	1,240	1,192	96.1%			TOTAL	2,279	2,115	92.8%	
CORE CITIES				CORE CITIES				Rank		
Birmingham	420	383	91.2%	Rank	8	Birmingham	425	377	88.7%	5
Bristol	138	133	96.4%		3	Bristol	310	289	93.2%	2
Leeds	255	249	97.6%		1	Leeds	679	641	94.4%	1
Liverpool	147	137	93.2%		7	Liverpool	169	149	88.2%	6
Manchester	136	127	93.4%		6	Manchester	289	233	80.6%	8
Newcastle upon Tyne	98	95	96.9%		2	Newcastle upon Tyne	140	126	90.0%	4
Nottingham	83	78	94.0%		5	Nottingham	146	119	81.5%	7

¹⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-interactive-tool-lait>

Childcare Non-domestic premises					Childminders				
	Sheffield	142	134	94.4%	4	Sheffield	295	271	91.9%
TOTAL		1,419	1,336	94.2%		TOTAL	2,453	2,205	89.9%

4. Bristol demographics

4.1. A growing population

In Bristol there are approximately 95,590 children under 18 with an increase of around 1,390 children in the last year. In the decade 2005-15, the number of children aged 0-15 living in Bristol is estimated to have increased by 11,700 (16.2%), compared to an increase of 6% in England and Wales.¹⁶.

This increase has been largely amongst the under 8 year olds and in particular among the 2-5 year olds (an increase of 36%), and this group will of course lead to an increase in each age category as they grow up. The growth in the number of under-5s in the last decade (+7,100) is the fourth highest nationally. In recent years the fastest rising age band in Bristol has been in ages 5-9. Bristol's child population (under 16) is rising in all areas of the city, with the highest rise in South Bristol. This change of population in the city is likely to be increased with the significant amount of family housing that will be built in South Bristol in the next five years.

Area	0-14 Population 2012	0-14 Population 2015	Population change	Population change %
East Central	26520	27456	936	3.53%
North	27618	28667	1049	3.80%
South	22060	23257	1197	5.43%

The wards that have seen the biggest increase in children aged 0-14 are Bedminster and Cabot and there is likely to now be significantly more demand for childcare in these areas.

Bristol Child Population Projections¹⁷

Ward	0-14 Population 2012	0-14 Population 2015	Population Change	%
Bedminster	1806	2017	211	11.68%
Cabot	1046	1165	119	11.38%
Bishopston	2544	2765	221	8.69%
Hillfields	3007	3262	255	8.48%
Brislington East	2134	2309	175	8.20%
Frome Vale	1824	1970	146	8.00%
Lockleaze	2549	2745	196	7.69%
Hengrove	2055	2207	152	7.40%
Horfield	2170	2322	152	7.00%

¹⁶ <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/policies-plans-strategies/bristol-isna-statistics-and-data>

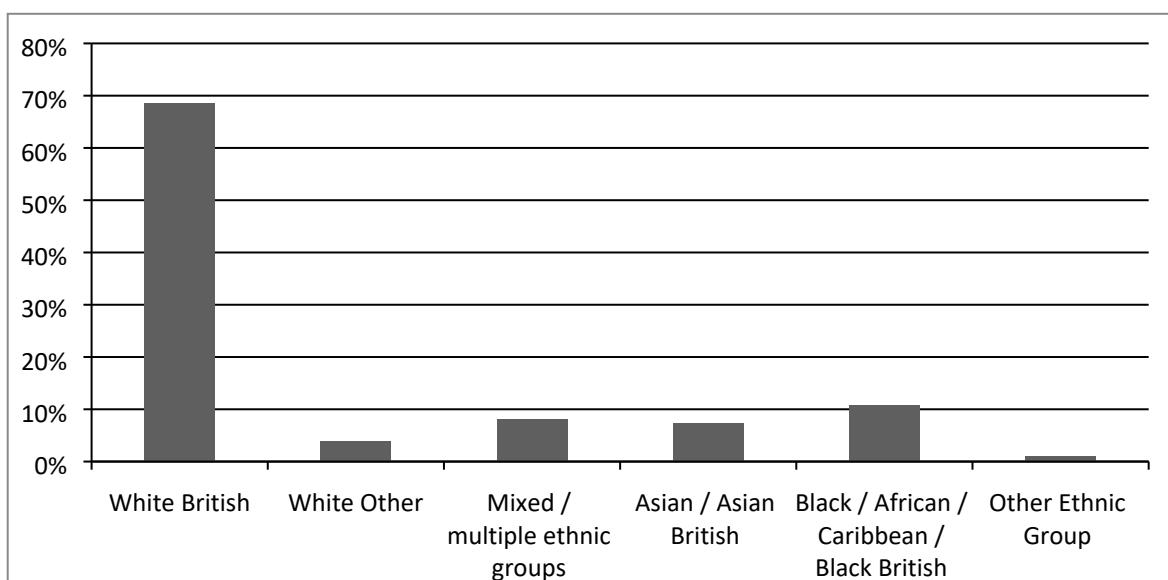
¹⁷ 2014-based Subnational Population Projections – Bristol, Population Projections Unit, ONS, Crown Copyright 2016

Bristol child population projections by age 2017-2022

AGE	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0-5	37,310	37,344	37,749	38,411	38,986	39,498
6-10	27,322	28,064	28,237	28,270	28,271	28,325
11-15	22,414	23,348	24,389	25,166	25,919	26,559
16-17	8,540	8,322	8,428	8,770	9,166	9,504
Total	95,589	97,077	98,803	100,614	102,342	103,887

4.2. An increasingly diverse population

Ethnicity of children 0-17 in Bristol¹⁸



The Bristol population has become increasingly diverse. 22% of the overall population is not 'White British' and there are now at least 45 religions, at least 50 countries of birth represented and at least 91 main languages spoken by people living here. Changes to population characteristics have been concentrated in the inner city and inner east areas of the city. Other than White British the largest populations by ethnic group are Non-White British, African (of whom a large proportion are of Somali heritage), Black Other, Pakistani, Caribbean and Indian.

The most recent estimates suggest that 28% of children (under 16) belong to a Black, Asian or minority ethnic (BAME) group, considerably higher than the average for the total population of 16% BAME. Using an alternative definition of population diversity¹⁹, 32% of children belong to the non-'White British' population, compared to the all-age Bristol population average of 22%.

Rates vary considerably across the city; 50% of children in the Inner City & East are BAME, a much larger ratio than the 20% in North & West and 13% in South. Across wards the variation is even greater, ranging from 6% BAME in Whitchurch Park to 83% in Lawrence Hill.

In summary Bristol is seeing a rapid growth in its child care population and its population is becoming more ethnically diverse, with a changing distribution across the city.

¹⁸ Based on Nomis DC2101EW - Ethnic group by age 0-17 (ONS Census 2011)

¹⁹ Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic group (BAME) population includes all groups with the exception of all White groups. Non-'White British' population includes all groups with the exception of White British.

4.3. Deprivation

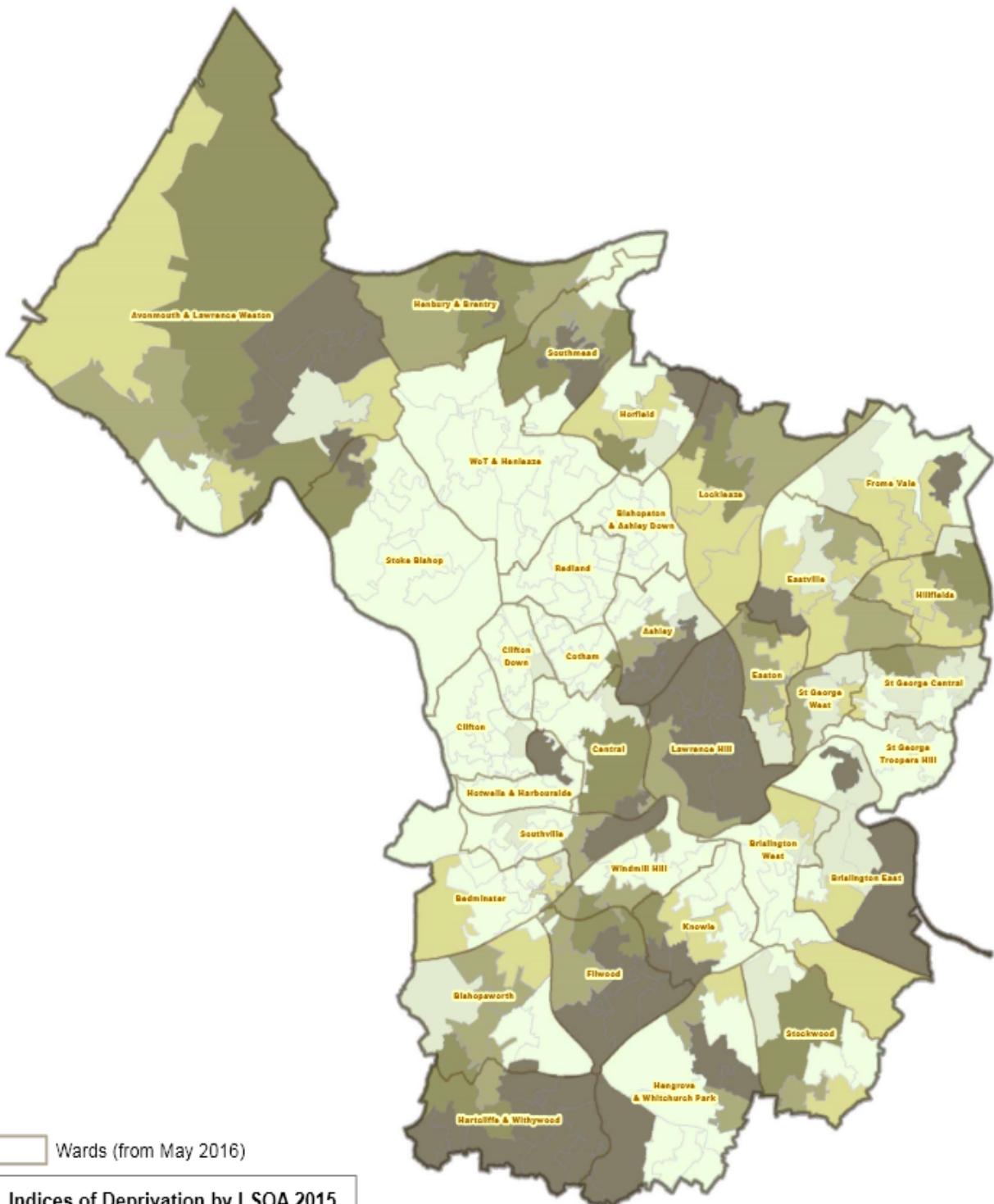
The greatest levels of deprivation in Bristol are in Hartcliffe & Withywood and Filwood in South Bristol, and in Lawrence Hill in the Inner City, but there are also pockets across the outer part of North Bristol (esp in Lawrence Weston, Southmead and Lockleaze). 16% of Bristol's total population lives in the 10% most deprived areas compared to 14% in 2010 – an increase of two percentage points. 22% of Bristol's children live in the 10% most deprived areas, and 14% of Bristol's older people. Bristol has 42 'areas' in the most deprived 10% in England. Of these 42 areas, 26 are in the most deprived 5% and 6 areas are in the most deprived 1% in England.

In 2010, only 1 area was in the most deprived 1% in England. However, since 2010 Bristol's relative rank in terms of Multiple Deprivation has increased (got worse) more than the other Core Cities, but from a less deprived starting point.



Bristol Wards & Deprivation

N



Wards (from May 2016)

Indices of Deprivation by LSOA 2015

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Rank

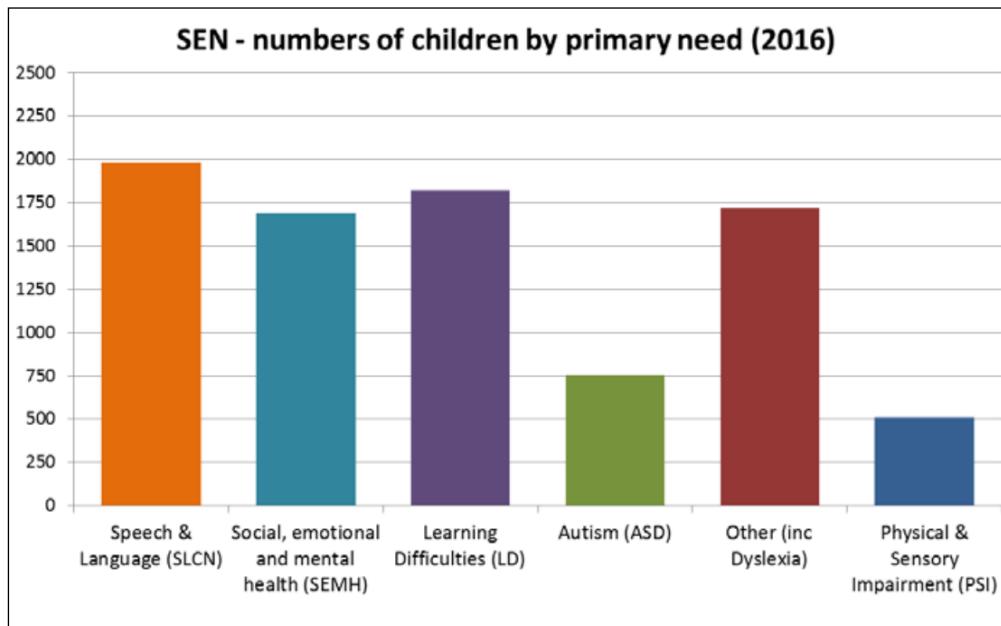
- 0-10% most deprived nationally
- 11-20% deprived
- 21-30% deprived
- 31-40% deprived
- 41-50% deprived
- Less deprived than average nationally

0 0.5 1 Miles

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Bristol City Council. 100023408. 2010
Produced by Information & Analysis Team
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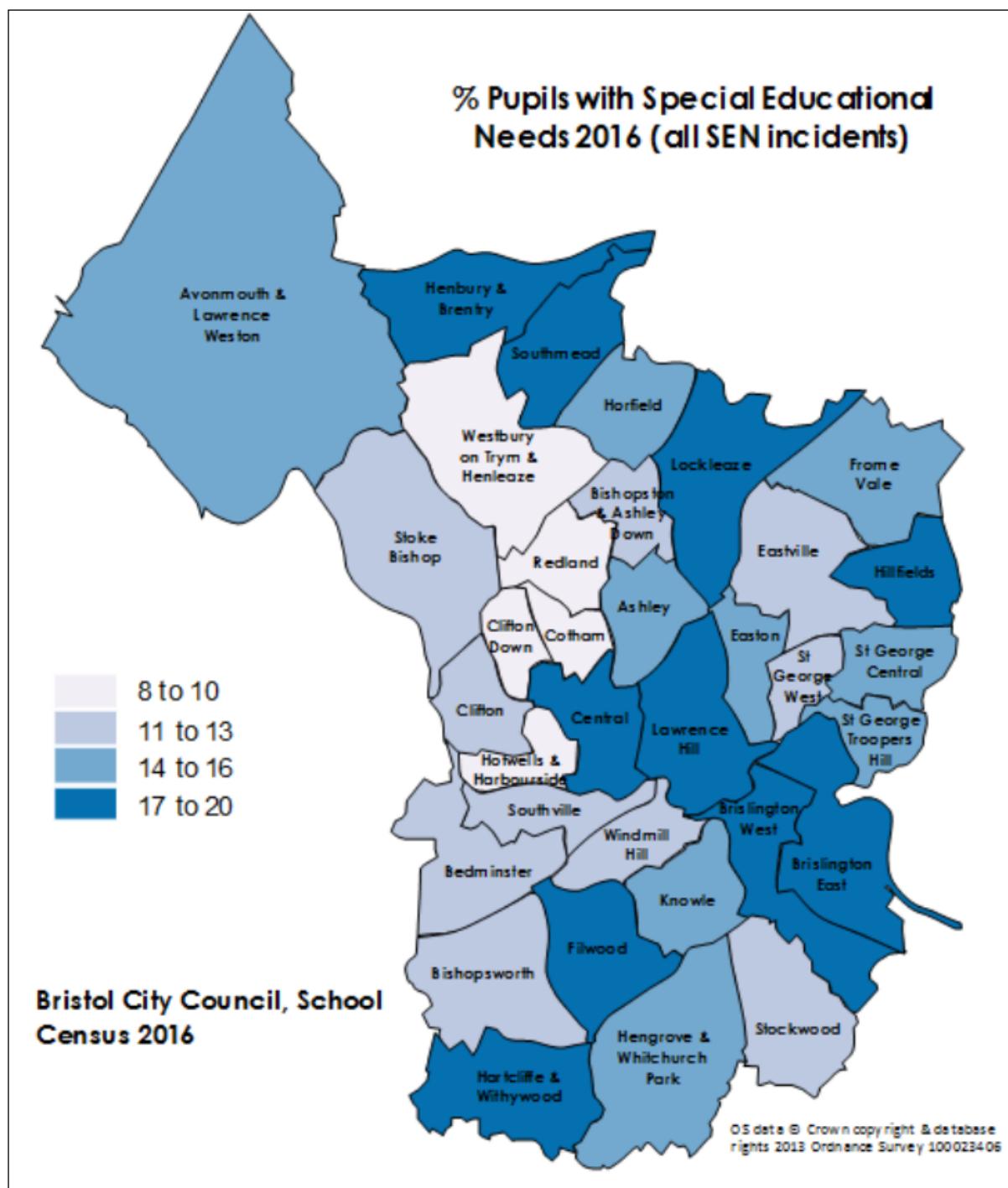
4.4. Special educational needs (SEN)

Overall in 2016 there were approx. 8,800 (15.2%) children in Bristol schools with some level of Special Educational Needs (SEN)²⁰.



Across Bristol numbers of children with SEN are higher in more deprived areas. By ward, numbers of pupils with SEN are highest in Hartcliffe & Withywood and Filwood, followed by Lawrence Hill and Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston. In contrast, there are less than 50 SEN children in Clifton Down. The diagram below shows pupils with SEN as a percentage of all Bristol pupils in that ward.

²⁰²⁰ January School Census 2016; Bristol City Council. This is all SEN incidents, including where the school provides additional support "in-house", and included 275 out-of-area pupils in Bristol schools.



4.5. Working Families

The working age population in Bristol has increased by 28,700 people (10%) since 2005 compared to an increase of 6% in England and Wales as a whole, and there are now more working parents than ever. In 1996 (when comparable records began) 67% of married or cohabiting mothers with dependent children were in work and by 2014 this had increased to 72%. The Office for National statistics found that men with children are more likely to work than men without, and the percentage of lone mothers in work in 2014 was 62.3%.²¹

²¹ Families in the Labour Market, December 2014, Office for National Statistics

For the period January to March 2017, there were 7.3 million children living in working households and the percentage of children living in working households was at a record high of 58.7%, an increase of 1.4 percentage points over the past year²².

The 2017 Modern Families Index found that 75 per cent of parents surveyed would assess their childcare before taking on a new job or promotion - this is shown as a particularly strong element for mothers, seen in 81 per cent of respondents for 2017 up from 56 per cent for 2016.

5. Projected demand for places

As a result of the growing child population and other factors the take up of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEE) in Bristol has been steadily increasing over the past 3 years and we expect this to increase with the increase in entitlement to 30 hours.

Bristol	2014	2015	2016	January 2017
% 3 & 4 year olds accessing FEE	88.2%	87.1%	88.3%	88.8%
% 2 year olds accessing FEE	59.5%	52.8%	61.8%	72.2%

Across England, the childcare market shows signs of unmet demand for places and in the South West there are approximately 40 childcare places per 100 children (DfE 2016a²³). Increases in the number of working parents, the young person population and increased take up of FEE will put further pressure on the childcare market and highlights the need for continued investment in this contract to work with current and potential providers to ensure sufficiency, sustainability and high quality.

6. Equality and diversity

The Service is to provide the childcare sector with support, and because it is not a front line operational service we do not anticipate that the proposed changes to contract will directly negatively impact on people with protected characteristics' access to services, levels of representation or quality of life. Please see the full Equalities Impact Assessment for more information.

7. Our commissioning priorities

Bristol City Council faces a significant funding gap for the period 2017-2022²⁴. This makes it crucial that we contain the council's spend on all services whilst meeting our statutory duties as a local authority. There is a 24% saving for the new contract. The reduced funding will focus the contract on sufficiency, sustainability and safeguarding in out of school and holiday childcare provision. The contract will include an element of training delivery to meet the required Welfare and Safeguarding Standards. Professional development to support the quality of education provision is provided by the Early Years Team.

²² Working and workless households in the UK: Jan to Mar 2017, Office for National Statistics

²³ 'Childcare providers and inspections as at 31 March 2016'. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/childcare-providers-and-inspections-as-at-31-march-2016>

²⁴ <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-spending-performance>

Following consultation, it is clear that training and continuing professional development (CPD) is very highly valued in the childcare sector. In order to ensure that there is as much capacity to provide this as possible, this contract will bring together two funding sources, and the total annual contract value will be £305,000. The contract will be sufficiently flexible to allow for changes to delivery and to the value of the contract, should the childcare landscape or the council's finances significantly change. The following table shows the different funding streams:

	Provider	Annual funding 17-18	Pro rata annual value 01-04-18 to 31-12-18	Annual funding 01-01-19 on
Childcare Development and Sustainability Contract	BAND	£292,984	£292,984	
CPD Service Level Agreement	BAND	£105,774	£45,205	
Combined Childcare Development and Sustainability Contract	To be determined following competitive tender			£305,000

We will continue to focus on our statutory duties but provide a reduced CPD.

8. Our procurement recommendations

We propose to recommission the Childcare Development and Sustainability Service as one citywide contract with limited changes to the current service specifications, to focus on sustainability and safeguarding, and also provide training to the childcare sector.

The contract will be for two years with the option to extend the contract by one year. There will be no inflationary uplift for the duration of the contract. Bidders will be expected to factor in any increased costs into their proposals. Annual contract reviews will take place each year and the financial position and changes will be considered as part of this.

9. TUPE

Current and potential providers will need to be aware of the implications of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE).

When a service activity transfers from one provider to another, the relevant employees delivering that service transfer from the old to the new provider and must transfer on the same contractual terms and conditions of employment. The new provider/employer takes on all the liabilities arising

from the original employment contracts. The council will obtain from current providers basic information about the employees who will potentially be affected by this commissioning process.

Bidding providers will need to consider the cost and other implications of TUPE. The council will provide bidders with the information it has collected from current providers about the employees who will be potentially affected. Providers must seek their own legal and employment advice on TUPE. It is the responsibility of bidders/ providers to satisfy themselves regarding TUPE requirements.

10. Next Steps

Indicative timetable for commissioning strategy and procurement of new service

Stage	From	To
Opportunity for providers to submit tenders to deliver Childcare Development and Sustainability Service	09/07/2018	10/08/2018
Advise Contract Award	01/10/2018	01/10/2018
TUPE and implementation	01/10/2018	31/12/2018
New Contract Start	01/01/2019	01/01/2019

11. Further information

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Web-page:

- https://www.bristol.gov.uk/en_US/schools-learning-early-years/early-years-and-childcare