

Appendix A3 – Children & Education

2023/24 – P2 Budget Monitor Report

Section A: Revenue Budget Monitor

	Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn	Outturn Variance
P02	£110.4m	£110.4m	£0.0m

May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
0.0									
▲↑									

Position by Division

<i>Quarter 1/Period 2 Budget Monitoring -</i>					
	2023/24 - Full Year				
SERVICE NET EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	Approved Budget	Revised Budget	Forecast Outturn	Outturn Variance	% Outturn Variance
	£000s			£000s	
9 - Children & Education					
15 - Children and Families Services	89,051	88,382	88,382	0	0.0%
16 - Educational Improvement	21,644	21,978	21,978	0	0.0%
1B - Transformation – Our Families Programme	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total 9 - Children & Education	110,695	110,360	110,360	0	0.0%

Key Messages:

Children and Education directorate is forecasting nil variance, at Period 2, on a budget of £110.4m.

Savings Delivery

23/24 Children & Education Directorate Savings Target (£'000s):

2,463

	This month			Last month		
	Total value of savings (£'000s)	Value at risk (£'000s)	Proportion at risk	Total value of savings (£'000s)	Value at risk (£'000s)	Proportion at risk
No - savings are at risk	980	987	101%	N/A - first month of report in 23/24 - no data for last month		
Yes - savings are safe	1,483	0	0%			
SAVING CLOSED - CONFIRMED AS SECURED & DELIVERED	0	0	n/a			
NO RAG PROVIDED	0	0	n/a			
Grand Total	2,463	987	40%			
Represents increased cost rather than saving	-432	0	0%			
n/a - represents last year's saving was due one off only	0	0	n/a			
Grand Total	2,031	987	49%			
n/a - represents a saving was mitigated last year	-144					
WRITTEN OFF	0					
Grand Total	1,887	987	52%			

Top 5 largest savings at risk in year (ordered by size of saving at risk)		
ID	Name of Proposal	Value at Risk in 24/25 (£'000)
NEW2223_CF6b	Review special guardianship order arrangements	988
2324-P23	Early Help in communities, including Children's Centres & Family Hubs	300
2324-P13	Keeping Families Together/ Family Network	98
NEW2223_E2	Introduce nominal charge for first referrals for attendance penalties notices	58
2324-P17	Early Years: Family Information Website	15

Mitigated savings from previous years' that remain 'due' for delivery this year (£m)		
Amount due from previous year(s):	£	0.14
Amount reported at risk:	£	0.13

Key Changes since last month

1.N/a (first month of reporting for the new Financial year)

Key messages/ Comments

- Children & Education directorate starts the 23/24 FY year with 15 savings lines and a target of £2.0m net savings to find (£2.5m when excluding savings which provide an increased cost in 23/24).
- Note this target includes £0.14m of undelivered rollovers from last year that remain due - largest of which relates to 98k rolled over for "Review special guardianship order arrangements".
- The net saving of £1.887m is net of £800k one off investment to deliver savings in Home to School travel. Note nil reporting for P2 for Home to School Travel
- The largest savings at risk are shown in the top right corner - which shows the "Review special guardianship order arrangements" as the largest reported saving at risk for the Directorate at present (this includes the £98k of rollover from previous year), and this is being re-planned with urgency. Early Years: Family Information Service was delivered in 22/23 (expected to be reported green from P3). Further planning activities are underway in relation Family Hubs savings.

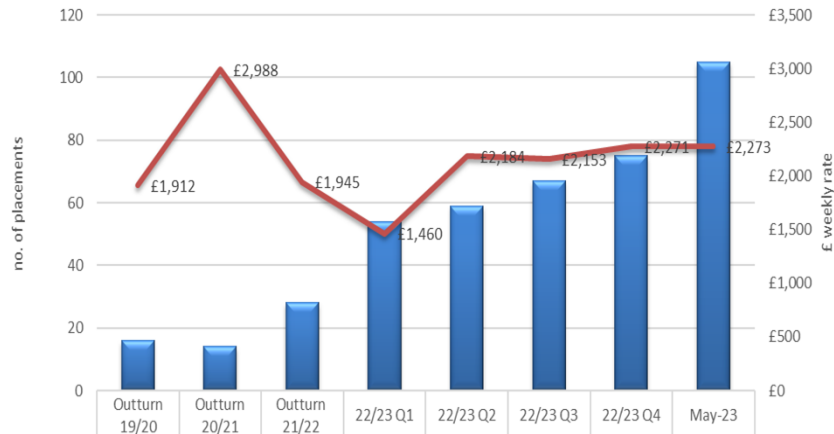
Section B: Risks and Opportunities

Children & Families

The primary area of risk is the placements budget which has seen an increasing number of very high-cost placements and continued reliance on External Supported accommodation (ESA). The emerging risk is assessed as £7.3m.

There has been a significant increase in the number of ESA placements this year as represented in the chart below. This cost of ESA provision is estimated to be £12.2m this year, a 38% increase on last year.

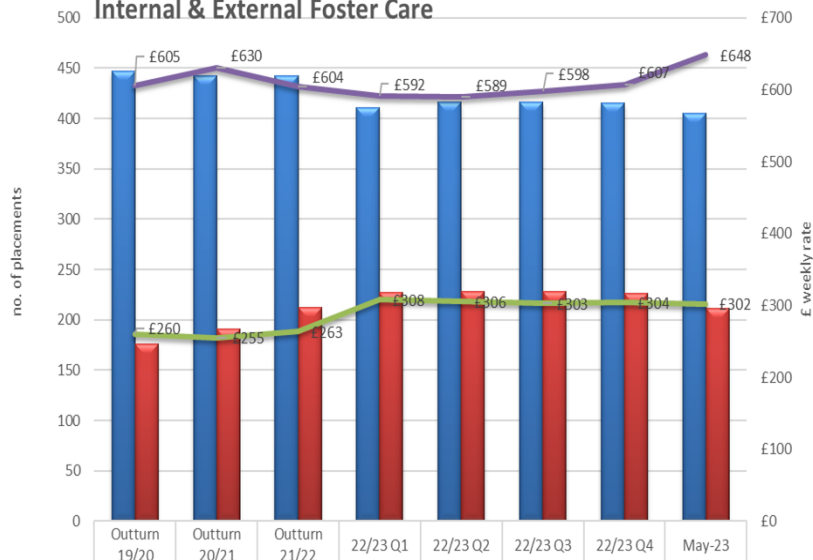
External Supported Accommodation



External supported accommodation - average no. of placements	16	14	28	54	59	67	75	105
External supported accommodation - average net weekly cost	£1,912	£2,988	£1,945	£1,460	£2,184	£2,153	£2,271	£2,273

Conversely, demand for In-house fostering has reduced when compared to the final quarter of the last year.

Internal & External Foster Care



Inhouse foster care - average no. of placements	447	442	442	411	416	416	415	405
Independent foster care - average no. of placements	176	191	212	227	228	228	226	211
Inhouse foster care - £ average net weekly cost	£260	£255	£263	£308	£306	£303	£304	£302
Independent foster care - £ average net weekly cost	£605	£630	£604	£592	£589	£598	£607	£648

Education Improvement

The increasing demand and cost for transport support poses an additional risk to the Home to School Transport Service. The service demand saw 28 new transport routes added so far this year, a 10% increase on the number of routes

The emerging risk is assessed as £2.1m

Division	Service	Risk or Opportunity	Description of Impact	Risk (Opportunity) £'000	Likelihood %	Net Risk (Opportunity) £'000
15	Placements	Risk	Forecast mostly based on steady state. Further work required to factor in net growth and impact	TBC	TBC	TBC
15	Savings delivery	Risk	Risks of some delivery slipping into future years identified on savings tracker. Further risk on delivery of management/workforce and change targer	TBC	TBC	TBC
16	Home to School Transport	Risk	EHCP backlog could impact the level of Home to school transport need during the year. Current forecast takes account of known trends but not the risk of additional spike from queries pending in the inbox	TBC	TBC	TBC
15	Children and Families Service	Risk	Placement Costs	5,209	100%	5,209
16	Educational Improvement	Risk	Home To School Transport Costs	2,128	100%	2,128
Total						7,337

Section C: Capital

Approved Budget	Revised Budget	Expenditure to Date	Forecast Outturn	Outturn Variance
£31.4m	£31.4m	£1.3m 4% of Budget	£28.4m 90% of Budget	(£3.0m)

Gross Expenditure by Programme		Current Year (FY2023) - Period 2				Performance to budget	
		Budget	Expenditure to Date	Forecast	Variance	Expenditure to date	Forecast
Ref	Scheme	£000s				%	
Children & Education							
CRF2	CRF2 – South Bristol Youth Zone	5,786	53	5,786	0	1%	100%
PE01	School Organisation/ Children's Services Capital Programme	11,785	141	8,763	(3,021)	1%	74%
PE02	Schools Organisation/SEN Investment Programme	10,178	1,054	10,178	0	10%	100%
PE03	Schools Devolved Capital Programme	1,330	0	1,330	0	0%	100%
PE05	Children & Families - Aids and Adaptations	110	0	127	17	0%	116%
PE06	Children Social Care Services	2,232	22	2,232	0	1%	100%
Total Children & Education		31,421	1,270	28,416	(3,004)	4%	90%

Key Messages:

There are no significant variances to report on Children and Education capital programme.