

Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Thursday, 3rd March, 2022 at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston

Agenda

Part I (Open to Press and Public)

No. Item

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are asked to consider any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests they may have to disclose to the meeting in relation to matters under consideration on the Agenda.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 February 2022 (Pages 1 - 6)

4. Questions for Cabinet

To answer any verbal questions and supplementary questions from a county councillor, about any matter which relates to any item under Part I on the agenda for this meeting under Standing Order C35(7).

To submit a question to Cabinet, click [here](#).

There will be a maximum of 30 minutes for the questions to be asked and answered.

Matters for Decision:

The Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) - County Councillor Alan Vincent

5. Procurement Report (Pages 7 - 20)

The Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) - County Councillor Alan Vincent and The Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services - County Councillor Peter Buckley

6. Music Service - Music Hub Vehicle (Pages 21 - 24)

Please note that Appendix 'A' to this report is in Part II and appears as Item No. 21 on the Agenda.

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport - County Councillor Charles Edwards

7. Palette of Materials (Pages 25 - 28)

8. Proposed 2022/23 Highways New Start Capital Programme (Pages 29 - 62)

9. Proposed Prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horses, B6601 Leapers Wood Road and B6601 Roundabout (M6 Junction 35), Over Kellett. (Pages 63 - 72)

The Cabinet Member for Children and Families - County Councillor Cosima Towneley

10. Review of Lancashire County Council Foster Carer Fees (Pages 73 - 84)

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills - County Councillor Jayne Rear

11. Proposed Closure of Wennington Hall School (Pages 85 - 108)

12. The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at Edisford Primary School, Clitheroe (Pages 109 - 130)

Please note that Appendix 'E' to this report is in Part II and appears as Item No. 22 on the Agenda.

13. The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at Brunshaw Primary School, Burnley (Pages 131 - 184)

Please note that Appendix 'B' to this report is in Part II and appears as Item No. 23 on the Agenda.

14. The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at The Roebuck Primary School, Preston (Pages 185 - 238)

Please note that Appendix 'B' to this report is in Part II and appears as Item No. 24 on the Agenda.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth - County Councillor Aidy Riggott

15. An Update on the Lancashire Central/Cuerden Site (Pages 239 - 242)

Please note that Appendix 'A' to this report is in Part II and appears as Item No. 25 on the Agenda.

Matters for Information:

16. Urgent Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Member(s)

The following urgent decision was taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Member in accordance with Standing Order C16(1) since the last meeting of Cabinet, and can be viewed by clicking on the relevant link:

- [Consideration of Local Councillor Decision - Hyndburn Cultural Association](#)

17. Urgent Business

An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Chief Executive should be given advance warning of any Member's intention to raise a matter under this heading.

18. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Cabinet will be held on Thursday 7 April 2022 at 2.00pm at County Hall, Preston.

19. Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

No representations have been received.

Click [here](#) to see the published Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private.

20. Exclusion of Press and Public

The Cabinet is asked to consider whether, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, it considers that the public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A to the

Local Government Act 1972 as indicated against the heading to the item.

Part II (Not Open to Press and Public)

The Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) - County Councillor Alan Vincent and The Cabinet Member for Community and Cultural Services - County Councillor Peter Buckley

21. Appendix 'A' of Item 6 - Music Service - Music Hub Vehicle (Pages 243 - 246)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in the circumstances of the case the public interest of maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills - County Councillor Jayne Rear

22. Appendix 'E' of Item 12 - The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at Edisford Primary School, Clitheroe (Pages 247 - 250)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

23. Appendix 'B' of Item 13 - The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at Brunshaw Primary School, Burnley (Pages 251 - 254)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

24. Appendix 'B' of Item 14 - The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at The Roebuck Primary School, Preston (Pages 255 - 258)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

The appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth - County Councillor Aidy Riggott

25. Appendix 'A' of Item 15 - An Update on the Lancashire Central/Cuerden Site (Pages 259 - 270)

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and Director of
Resources

County Hall
Preston

Lancashire County Council

Cabinet

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 3rd February, 2022 at 2.00 pm in Committee Room 'C' - The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston

Present:

County Councillor Phillippa Williamson Leader of the Council
(in the Chair)

Cabinet Members

County Councillor Alan Vincent
County Councillor Peter Buckley
County Councillor Charles Edwards
County Councillor Graham Gooch
County Councillor Michael Green
County Councillor Jayne Rear
County Councillor Aidy Riggott
County Councillor Cosima Towneley
County Councillor Shaun Turner

County Councillors Azhar Ali OBE and Lorraine Beavers were also in attendance under the provisions of Standing Order No. C14(2).

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

None.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 January 2022

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Questions for Cabinet

One question was asked by a county councillor at the meeting and one question asked by a county councillor, who was not present at the meeting, would receive a written response. The questions and the responses are attached to the minutes.

14. Annual Report of the Director of Public Health 2021-22

With the agreement of the Chair, consideration of this item was brought forward.

Cabinet considered the annual report of the Director of Public Health for 2021-22. It was noted the Directors of Public Health in England had a statutory duty to produce an Annual Public Health Report to demonstrate the state of health within their communities.

Dr Sakthi Karunanithi, Director of Public Health, was invited to present the report to Cabinet, and it was noted that the report highlighted the state of health and wellbeing in Lancashire and how the pandemic had impacted on lives and livelihoods. The report also made six high level recommendations to improve health and reduce inequalities across Lancashire.

Resolved: That;

- i. The high-level recommendations set out in the report be supported; and
- ii. Full Council be asked to consider and note the report.

5. Money Matters 2021/22 Position - Quarter 3

Cabinet considered a report providing an update on the county council's 2021/22 revenue and capital financial position, as at the end of November 2021 and an updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy covering the period 2022/23 to 2024/25.

It was noted that whilst the quarter 3 forecast presented an underspend of £23.45m for the current financial year, there remained a level of uncertainty about the longer-term impacts of the ongoing pandemic. The extent and profiling of any latent impact on price or demand for the county council services also remained unclear.

Resolved: That;

- i. The current forecast underspend of £23.46m on the revenue budget in 2021/22 be noted;
- ii. The revised funding gap of £21.690m in 2022/23 be noted and Full Council on 17 February 2022 be asked to approve that this be met from the uncommitted transitional reserve;
- iii. The revised forecast funding gap of £42.830m by 2024/25 as set out in the revised financial outlook forecast for the council be noted;
- iv. Approval be given for the budget adjustments for 2021/22, and following years' changes, included in the revised Medium-Term Financial Strategy;
- v. The contents of the county council's reserves position be noted;
- vi. The revised 2021/22 capital delivery programme of £165.567m and the forecast outturn of £164.050m be noted;
- vii. Full Council on 17 February 2022 be asked to approve an indicative capital delivery programme of £206.263m in 2022/23; and
- viii. Full Council on 17 February 2022 be asked to approve a Band D Council Tax for 2022/23 reflecting a 3.99% increase including 2% to be used for adult social care as per the new flexibilities.

6. Procurement Report

Cabinet considered a report for a new school build in relation to Ribblesdale High Primary Provision and to authorise the Chief Digital Officer and Head of Procurement to make the decision whether or not to remain with the current supplier for Microsoft Enterprise licensing arrangements or to join the Crown Commercial Services aggregation procurement if that was an ultimately better commercial deal, in line with the county council's procurement rules.

Resolved: That;

- i. The commencement of the procurement exercise for Ribblesdale High Primary Provision as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report be approved; and
- ii. The Chief Digital Officer and Head of Procurement be authorised in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources, HR and Property (Deputy Leader) to make the decision in relation to the Microsoft Enterprise licensing arrangements as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report.

7. Installation of Red Light and Speed on Green Cameras

Cabinet considered a report to procure an infra-red speed camera system at the locations specified in the report. It was noted that the infra-red speed camera system was more effective in picking up speeding offences and required less intrusive installation than camera systems that required cabling to be installed underground at the locations. In addition, the infra-red camera systems could be mounted on standard and passively safe columns or on existing street furniture and were more reliable and easier to maintain.

It was also noted that Appendix A of this report was in Part II and appeared at Item 20 on the agenda.

Resolved: That, approval be given for a waiver of the county council's procurement rules as set out at paragraph 14.2 of Appendix R to the county council's Constitution, to allow a direct award of a contract to be made to Jenoptik Limited in respect of the installation and maintenance of red light and speed on green cameras as set out in the report.

8. Adult Social Care - Provider Fees Uplift Report 2022/2023

Cabinet considered a report setting out the county council's proposed fee uplifts for adult social care services for 2022/23, the financial impact of which had been reflected in the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

Resolved: That, the following uplifts be approved, with effect from 4 April 2022:

- Residential and nursing care
Weekly older people's approved residential care rates
 - Nursing Standard (5.56%)
 - Nursing Dementia (5.63%)
 - Residential Standard (5.48%)
 - Residential Higher (5.67%)
 - Residential Dementia (5.72%)

- Mental Health and Learning Disability Residential/Nursing (5.72%)
- Homecare (all client groups)
 - Off framework providers (4.10%)
 - Framework providers (£1.33 per hour)
- Supported Living
 - Waking hour rate (6.07%)
 - Sleep in rate (per shift) (6.06%)
- Extracare
 - Sheltered schemes with 24 hour domiciliary care (6.07%)
 - Other schemes inc purpose built Extracare (6.07%)
- Direct Payments (4.10%)
- Carers (6.62%)
- Shared Lives (6.62%)
- Day Care(5.77%)
- Respite and Individual Service Funds
Uplift in line with relevant service (e.g. homecare/residential care)

9. Co-ordinated School Admissions Scheme 2023/2024 - Determination of the Qualifying Scheme

Cabinet considered a report on the determination of the statutory scheme and the mandatory timetable for co-ordinating admissions for Lancashire's primary and secondary schools and academies for 2023/2024.

Resolved: That;

- i. The scheme listed at Appendix 'A' of the report, and its accompanying timetable in Appendix 'B' of the report, be approved and adopted as the qualifying scheme for admissions to Lancashire primary and secondary schools and academies for 2023/2024; and
- ii. The Executive Director of Education and Children's Services be authorised to secure the adoption of the scheme by the governing body of each Lancashire voluntary aided and foundation school and academy, in order to inform the Secretary of State for Education that a scheme has been introduced in Lancashire.

10. Determination of Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary and Secondary Schools and Sixth Forms for the School Year 2023/2024

Cabinet considered a report on the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary and secondary schools and sixth forms schools for the school year 2023/2024.

Resolved: That;

- i. The admission numbers and admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary schools, secondary schools and sixth forms for 2023/2024 as listed at Appendices 'A' 'B' 'C' and 'D' of the report, be approved;

- ii. The issues raised by Community and Voluntary Controlled Governing Bodies, and the Community be noted and approval be given for the recommendations set out in response, as set out in Appendix 'E' of the report; and
- iii. The admission numbers and criteria for admission set out at Appendices 'A' 'B' 'C' and 'D' of the report to constitute the Authority's admission arrangements for 2023/2024, be approved.

11. Determination of Home to School Transport Policy - Academic Year 2023/2024

Cabinet considered a report on the annual review of the Home to School Transport policy.

It was noted that there were no changes to the determined policy for the academic year 2023/2024.

Resolved: That, the Home to School Transport Policy for the academic year 2023/2024 as set out at Appendix 'A' of the report, be approved.

12. Cultural Services Fees and Charges Review 2021/22

Cabinet considered a report setting out proposals relating to fees and charges in Cultural Services following an annual review to ensure that they supported service objectives, efficiency, and effectiveness.

Resolved: That, the following changes to Cultural Services fees and charges be approved with effect from the 1 April 2022:

- i. Include people with a physical impairment and those who are deaf or hard of hearing in the list of groups who are exempt from charges for borrowing audio visual materials from libraries;
- ii. Include care leavers under the age of 25 in the list of groups who do not have to pay for the late return of library books;
- iii. Remove the reservation charge for CDs in libraries;
- iv. Remove the charges for craft activities for children and families in libraries;
- v. Offer half price entry for two months in May and June 2022 for National Trust members at Helmshore and Queen Street Mills; and
- vi. Reintroduce the family Xplorer ticket in Museums.

13. Lancashire Library and Museum Strategies 2022-25

Cabinet considered a report on existing strategy documents following a review of Cultural Services and had developed two distinct strategies covering each of the Library and Museum services.

Resolved: That, the Lancashire Library and Museum strategies, as set out at Appendices 'A' and 'B' of the report be approved.

15. Urgent Decisions taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Member(s)

It was noted that no urgent decisions had been taken by the Leader of the County Council and the relevant Cabinet Members, since the last meeting of Cabinet.

16. Urgent Business

There were no items of Urgent Business.

17. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of Cabinet would be held at 2pm on Thursday 3 March 2022 at County Hall, Preston.

18. Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

Cabinet noted the Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private and that no representations had been received.

19. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

20. Appendix A to Item 7 - Installation of Red Light and Speed on Green Cameras

Exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A in the Local Government Act 1972. Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information). It is considered that in the circumstances of the case the public interest of maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Resolved: That, Appendix A of Item 7 - Installation of Red Light and Speed on Green Cameras, be noted.

Angie Ridgwell
Chief Executive and
Director of Resources

County Hall
Preston

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Procurement**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
Delivering better services;

Procurement Report
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Rachel Tanner, Tel: (01772) 534904, Head of Service - Procurement,
rachel.tanner@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

In line with the county council's procurement rules, this report sets out a recommendation to approve the commencement of the following procurement exercises:

- (i) Flat Roofing Works Framework
- (ii) Cold recycled bound materials
- (iii) Provision of earthworks (Zone C) at Samlesbury Enterprise Zone
- (iv) Roving Nights
- (v) Supported Accommodation for Young People

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the requirements of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the commencement of the procurement exercises as set out in Appendix 'A'.

Detail

Appendix 'A' sets out the detail of the procurement exercises and the basis upon which it is proposed to carry out the process including:

- The description of the service/goods/works
- The procurement route proposed
- The estimated contract value
- The proposed basis for the evaluation of the tender submissions

Where approval has been received from Cabinet to undertake a tender process which is deemed to be a Key Decision, the subsequent award of the contract on the satisfactory completion of the tender exercise shall not be deemed to be a Key Decision and can be approved by the relevant head of service or director.

On conclusion of the procurement exercise, the award of the contract shall be made under the county council's scheme of delegation to heads of service and in accordance with the council's procurement rules.

Consultations

Relevant heads of service and key operational staff have been consulted in drawing up the proposals contained within this report.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

The estimated value of the contracts will be contained within the funding arrangements as set out in Appendix 'A'. If significant variations should result from this position a further report to Cabinet will be required.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		

Procurement Title Flat Roofing Works Framework
Procurement Option Open Tender Procedure
New or Existing Provision Existing framework for roofing to be supplemented by this new framework
Estimated Annual Framework Value and Funding Arrangements <p>Estimated spend is between £2m and £4m per annum, £8m to £16m over the life of the framework.</p> <p>Works called off under the Agreement will be funded via capital funding or clients (school, diocese etc) own budget.</p>
Framework Duration The Agreement will commence on the 27 th June 2022 and be let for four-year period with no option to extend.
Lotting Three geographical lots will be established on award of this framework. Approved framework providers under each lot will be ranked, with the highest ranked framework provider offered each call-off until a framework provider accepts the work. The call-off will be based on an agreed price list that covers all aspects of works, material, labour, equipment etc. Framework providers will have the opportunity to offer revised pricing each Spring of the Agreement. The revised pricing, along with the quality score, will be used to re-rank framework providers for each lot.
Evaluation <p>The Agreement will be established by evaluating contractors against the following criteria:</p> <p>Stage 1: mandatory and discretionary grounds to ascertain suppliers' financial, technical capability and ability to demonstrate their experience in operating in compliance with Industry standards. Each tenderer must pass this stage before proceeding to stage 2. The Authority will use the industry standard selection questionnaire.</p> <p>Stage 2: the tender bids will be evaluated on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% technical, quality, and social value • 60% schedule of rates <p>Tenderers will be ranked based on their combined total score under stage 2 for each lot. All compliant tenderers will be invited to join the framework and the respective lots they've been successful in. The framework ranking will be used for the first twelve months of the agreement.</p> <p>Each Spring of the framework, each framework provider may adjust their pricing score, per lot, via a re-opening of competition. Each framework providers quality score will be retained for the life of the framework.</p>
Contract Detail The current roofing framework (lot 12 of the reactive and planned improvement works framework) currently holds more building contractors for the purposes of reactive maintenance and small-scale maintenance improvements than for large

scale roofing refurbishment and replacement. As a result, the Authority does not currently have enough qualified contractors to support the future demand of large scale roofing works without a new framework.

The Authority will establish a new Framework Agreement that is specifically for flat roofing that will ensure the Authority can meet its future flat roofing requirements.

<p>Procurement Title</p> <p>Cold Recycled Bound Materials</p>
<p>Procurement Option</p> <p>Open Tender Procedure</p>
<p>New or Existing Provision</p> <p>New requirement for the provision of services to provide Cold Recycled Bound Materials across Lancashire.</p>
<p>Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements</p> <p>The total estimated value of the Framework is £8,160,000 over a four-year term.</p> <p>Funding is to be made available from the Capital budget for Highways. The schemes requiring these materials form part of the capital programme and are limited to the funding available.</p> <p>There is no commitment or guarantee of the value of work and/or number of orders to be placed with the successful tenderers.</p>
<p>Framework Duration</p> <p>The Framework is required for an initial 2-year period commencing in June 2022 with the option to extend for a further 2 years in individual periods of 12 months.</p>
<p>Lotting</p> <p>The Framework will be split into three Lots:</p> <p>Lot 1 – Planing materials mixed with cement. Estimated requirement 10,000 tonnes at a cost of £680,000 per annum.</p> <p>Lot 2 – Planing materials mixed with foamed bitumen. Estimated requirement 10,000 tonnes at a cost of £680,000 per annum.</p> <p>Lot 3 – Planing materials mixed with bitumen emulsion. Estimated requirement 10,000 tonnes at a cost of £680,000 per annum.</p> <p>A single and different supplier will be appointed to each Lot and will fulfil the requirements of that Lot for the duration of the Framework. Suppliers may bid for one or more Lots but may only be appointed to one Lot. The Authority will award the Lots in the priority order of Lot 1, Lot 2, Lot 3.</p> <p>The Framework will also include for contingency planning with the suppliers on the Framework providing backup across the three Lots to ensure security of supply.</p> <p>Appointing three suppliers for the duration of the Framework will encourage a collaborative approach between the Authority and the individual supplier for each Lot.</p>

Evaluation

Quality Criteria: 30%	Pricing Criteria: 70%
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The tender will be evaluated using the following criteria:

Stage 1: The Supplier Questionnaire (Crown Commercial Service (CCS)) that will evaluate suppliers against the following criteria: mandatory and discretionary grounds, economic and financial standing, technical capability questions, relevant experience, Health and Safety and Quality Assurance. Each tenderer must pass this stage in order to proceed to Stage 2.

Stage 2: The tender bids will be evaluated on

- 30% Quality Criteria (each Lot). The Quality Criteria will include social value in the overall weighting.
- 70% Price evaluation (each Lot). Tenderers will price for the materials for their preferred Lot(s). The total price for all material types, plant standdown charge, plant standing charge and testing of materials submitted by each Tenderer will be scored out of 70, per Lot.

The scores awarded for the Quality and Price criterion will be added together to give the Tenderer's overall score, per Lot., which will be used to place the highest scoring supplier for each Lot.

Background

Road planings are produced when the surface layer of a tarmac road or footpath is removed. Road planning is used as an alternative to the complete removal of the road surface. The removed materials are loaded into a vehicle by Lancashire County Council and delivered for disposal or recycling. Planings containing coal tar are considered to be a waste material with hazardous properties. When a road has been identified as containing coal tar strict requirements apply to the removal and disposal of the material. One approach to dealing with materials contaminated with road tar is to reuse them. The process involves pulverising the coal tar, which is contaminated material, then use the arisings to produce a dense, non-permeable material to national standards.

The tar can be mixed with cement or cement and bitumen to encapsulate the contaminated arisings. This recycling process can be mixed as a cold material off site (*ex situ*) under controlled conditions by contractors with the required plant and materials. The recycled material can then be reused on the planed area of road using a conventional paver.

The introduction of Cold Recycled Bound Materials will enable the Authority's Highways Service to reuse road planings which could save an estimated £150 per tonne in disposal costs for contaminated planings (£96.70 of which is landfill tax.)

There are also environmental benefits as the process to mix the recycled materials is carried out as a cold process, this will reduce energy consumption and CO₂e emissions through the use of cold recycled methods over conventional hot mix asphalt.

The use of these materials provides further benefits over conventional hot mix asphalt as they incorporate up to 95% recycled aggregate which eliminates the CO₂e involved in quarrying and transportation of virgin aggregates while also preserving finite resources.

Contract Detail

The Framework and Call Off Agreement for this requirement will be developed with Legal Services.

Procurement Title Provision of Earthworks (Zone C) at Salmesbury Enterprise Zone			
Procurement Option Open Tender Procedure			
New or Existing Provision The contract for Earthworks at Zone A of the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone is now being completed. There is now a new requirement for the next priority phase of the project which is for the provision of Earthworks at Zone C on the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone.			
Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements The value of the works is £4,759,421 (includes £432,675.00 contingency) which will be funded from the Lancashire County Council Capital Programme. All the funding has been secured and is available for this project.			
Contract Duration The Contract for the Earthworks (Zone C) will be for an estimated period of around 9 months			
Lotting No lotting			
Evaluation <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Quality: 30%</td> <td>Financial Criteria: 70%</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Contract will be established by evaluating contractors against the following criteria:</p> <p>Stage 1: The industry standard Supplier Questionnaire will be used to evaluate suppliers against the following criteria: mandatory and discretionary grounds, economic and financial standing, technical capability questions, relevant experience, Health and Safety and Quality Assurance. Each tenderer must pass this stage in order to proceed to Stage 2.</p> <p>Stage 2: The tender bids will be evaluated on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30% Quality (includes evaluation on quality, technical, and social value) • 70% Financial Criteria 		Quality: 30%	Financial Criteria: 70%
Quality: 30%	Financial Criteria: 70%		

Background

The development of the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone requires the provision of further Earthworks at Salmesbury Enterprise Zone. This is part of the enabling works required to prepare the site for development plots within the Enterprise Zone site. The first phase for Earthworks (Zone A) is now being completed. There is now a requirement to place a contract for the next priority phase of the enabling works on the Salmesbury Enterprise Zone which is for Earthworks in Zone C.

The works include the excavation and disposal of soil and stones containing inert hazardous waste which must be removed to a licensed Environmental Agency waste disposal site. After the waste material has been excavated the successful contractor must import limestone and compact the area as per the specification. It is proposed to re-use site won inert material (subject to testing) to form the stone capping layer. Only excavated material considered inert hazardous waste will be removed from site and taken to a license waste disposal site.

<p>Procurement Title</p> <p>Countywide Roving Nights Service</p>
<p>Procurement Option</p> <p>Open Tender Procedure</p>
<p>New or Existing Provision</p> <p>Existing. The current Roving Nights Service contract end date is 30th September 2022.</p>
<p>Estimated Annual Contract Value and Funding Arrangements</p> <p>The potential annual contract value of this service is up to £949,000. The current budget will be able to accommodate annual costs of circa. £950,000 so it is not expected that this level of spend will put pressure on the Council's base budget. The total estimated value over the total duration of the contract is up to £ 2,847,000.</p> <p>This service is funded from the iBCF Grant at present and, as the value of this funding is only confirmed on a 12-month basis, it is only confirmed for the financial year 2022/23. However, this funding has been provided at the same level since 2019/20 and considering one of the three key purposes of the iBCF is to reduce pressures on the NHS including supporting more people to be discharged from hospital (which has been a government priority during the pandemic) it is assessed as relatively low risk that this will reduce or cease in future years. On the basis of this assessment Corporatee Management Team approved a more long-term approach to the commissioning of other iBCF funded services and agreed to take the financial risk on any subsequent funding reductions.</p> <p>An uplift will be applied throughout the term of this contract each April as part of the fee setting exercise across Lancashire County Council, Adult Social Care. The uplifts will be calculated as a weighted average of national living wage, pension, national insurance and other inflationary factors.</p>
<p>Contract Duration</p> <p>The initial contract period will be for 2 years with an option to extend the contract by any number of defined periods provided that the total contract period does not exceed 3 years. Each contract will have a break clause allowing the contract to be terminated at any time giving 6-month notice.</p>
<p>Lotting</p> <p>The Service will be made up of three geographical Lots:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot 1 - Central Lancashire • Lot 2 - East Lancashire • Lot 3 - North Lancashire

There will be no restriction on the number of Lots a Tenderer can bid for. This will allow providers to bid to provide the service across Lancashire or in the area in which they have greater presence, providing opportunity for both small and larger organisations. The highest scoring bid in each lot will be the successful tenderer.

Evaluation

Quality Criteria 60%	Financial Criteria 40%
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Social Value

10% of the award criteria will be allocated to Social Value. The objective will be focused on 'promoting equity and fairness' with a view to help service users maintain their independence.

Contract Detail

The Roving Nights Service forms part of the Authority's Intermediate Care offer alongside Crisis, Reablement, Residential Rehabilitation and Hospital Aftercare. The purpose of the service is to support people who have night-time social care needs to remain living in their own homes, to avoid unnecessary admissions to residential care homes and hospitals, and support hospital discharge.

Predominantly, the service will be used to support people in the short-term following an illness or a change in circumstances; however, longer-term support may be required where ongoing night-time needs have been identified but cannot be met by other means.

The service is only available to people who have eligible social care needs, live in their own home and who have a night-time social care need identified. In the main, the service is a planned and not an emergency service, however, there may be a requirement to respond to urgent needs.

The service operates area-based runs of two carers, 7 days a week, with visits being task focused and around 15 minutes in duration.

The new contract(s) are expected to commence 1st October 2022.

Procurement Title	
Supported Accommodation for Young People	
Procurement Option	
Open Tender Procedure	
New or Existing Provision	
Existing. The current block contracts relating to the provision of supported accommodation for young people all expire by 31 st March 2023. Support is also currently commissioned through spot arrangements via the regional Northwest Flexible Purchasing System (FPS) which is set to continue.	
Estimated Contract Value and Funding Arrangements	
It is intended that block contract arrangements are set up for these services, with a value of up to £4.2m per annum. The total potential value is up to £21m. The total potential value is exclusive of annual inflationary uplifts, which will be set annually for awarded contract(s).	
Contract Duration	
Service contracts will be up to 5 years in length, with break points and potential extensions built in.	
Lotting	
It is anticipated that the delivery of supported accommodation services will be separated into 4 main lots (contract categories) to enable commissioning arrangements to be established on a district, a locality or a countywide footprint dependent upon various factors including the type of service, anticipated demand, efficiency of service delivery and value for money. Each of the 4 contract categories may be further subdivided on a geographical basis, and in total approximately 25 contracts may be let. Lot 1: a) Core: multi-occupancy (6+ units) accommodation-based support service with 24-hour staffing on site; b) Visiting support: accommodation-based and/or dispersed, which can provide either a stepped down level of support from the core or can be accessed directly by young people whose needs can be best met in this service; c) Emergency accommodation. Lot 2: Teenage Parents: visiting or on-site accommodation-based support. Lot 3: Supported Lodgings: Support provided in a home environment by a host householder(s). Lot 4: Short term supported accommodation services for people who are homeless which accepts families, single people and young people.	
Evaluation	
Quality Criteria 60%	Financial Criteria 40%
The award criteria will be: Quality Criteria 60% and Financial Criteria 40%. Social value will form 10% of the quality criteria. The social value objectives will focus on the promotion of training and employment opportunities for the people of Lancashire and building the capacity and sustainability of the voluntary and community sector.	

Contract Detail

The Services will provide support to Children Looked After (CLA), Care Leavers and vulnerable young people including those who are homeless, primarily aged 16 to 21, in accordance with the Lancashire Joint Homeless Protocol. Services will be provided within:

- a) accommodation which is named within the tender documents, or
- b) where accommodation is not named within the tender documentation, tenderers will be required to source suitable accommodation.

The key objectives are to ensure that young people have a safe place to live and have access to the appropriate support to acquire the necessary skills to move on successfully to more independent living and to develop the responsibilities associated with adulthood. The Services support the Authority to fulfil its sufficiency duty in relation to accommodation and improved outcomes for Children Looked After.

Services will be commissioned under block arrangements, where charges to be paid are fixed upon service volumes commissioned.

The needs of young people are wide-ranging and various types of supported accommodation services will continue to be commissioned, including core 24/7-staffed services, visiting support arrangements, supported lodgings and emergency accommodation. Services are currently provided for 368 young people, and for 53 families.

Supported accommodation services for young people are currently unregulated however in December 2021 following a consultation process that commenced in February 2020, the DfE announced the introduction of mandatory national standards from Autumn 2023 which will be overseen by an Ofsted-led registration and inspection regime expected to begin from April 2024. Whilst the new approach aims to minimise administrative complexity and to maximise cost effectiveness and flexibility for providers within in their accommodation portfolios, the cost implications of applying the new standards are unclear, with varying feedback provided in the consultation. A prudent degree of contingency is reflected in the estimated contract value to reflect the uncertainty.

The Authority continues to experience significant budget pressures in relation to placement costs - predominantly for children's home placements - and will strive to ensure that the supported accommodation services will deliver high quality standards and value for money.

In addition to the block-contract services, the Authority will continue to work collaboratively with the wider North-West region and be a named party in regional framework arrangements for spot commissioning.

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Procurement**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
Delivering better services;
Caring for the vulnerable;

Music Service - Music Hub Vehicle

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contacts for further information:

Rachel Tanner, Tel: (01772) 534904, Head of Service - Procurement,

rachel.tanner@lancashire.gov.uk

Tim Rogers, Tel: (01772) 517150, Service Lead - Music

tim.rogers@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

Over the past two years the COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to a considerable gap in the educational, cultural and artistic development of many pupils. Although the music service offered online tuition and ensemble opportunities throughout lockdown, many pupils have been unable to satisfactorily develop their musical skills, as they have been unable to come together to rehearse or perform in bands and orchestras. These social music making opportunities are also vital in helping to attract new players to join groups.

The purchase of a music service vehicle will be an opportunity to inspire thousands of pupils to re-ignite their passion for music or start learning a musical instrument, supporting not only their academic achievement but contributing significantly to their mental health and wellbeing.

The procurement/budget allocation for a music service vehicle was approved by the Capital Board on 2 February 2022. There is time specific grant funding available which is linked to the purchase of the required vehicle, the necessary adaptations and any ongoing maintenance/running costs.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve a waiver of the county council's procurement rules as set out in paragraph 14.2 of the procurement rules of Appendix R to the county

council's Constitution, to allow a direct award of a contract to be made to Torton Bodies Limited, in respect of the supply of a 6.2m body Iveco Daily 72C18 chassis cab, requiring bespoke adaptations and a range of equipment including; wireless sound system and interactive whiteboard to support the requirements of usage.

Detail

This vehicle offered by Torton Bodies Limited has been identified as fit for purpose and has been discussed and agreed at both Music Service and Cultural Services Senior Management Team meetings.

This has been identified as a unique and innovative project to support young people across Lancashire. It will help to support pupils in the most isolated and deprived communities across Lancashire, including pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and vulnerable young people. Delivery of this initiative is in line with the county council's priorities including, delivering better services and caring for the vulnerable, whilst contributing to the Government's levelling up programme.

The vehicle will be used in a number of ways, including:

- To provide a COVID-19 safe environment for tuition and performance
- Provide an isolated teaching space
- Enabling pupils 'hands on' experience of a wide range of musical instruments
- Targeted support for pupils in rural locations and isolated communities
- To support pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- To provide a unique and personalised learning environment
- To provide an interactive and creative space for projects
- As a promotion tool for the music service, including use at musical festivals, and events across Lancashire
- To provide a physical platform for events and performances

Consultations

Discussion with Fleet Services have taken place to identify an appropriate vehicle and route to market.

Implications:

The full implications are included in Appendix 'A' which is exempt from publication for the reasons set out below.

Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in the circumstances of the case the public interest of maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Asset Management**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
Supporting economic growth;

Palette of Materials

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Paul Binks, Tel: (01772) 532210, Highways Asset Manager,
paul.binks@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

The Palette of Materials provides the requirements on the choice and use of materials for new developments including housing, industrial and other third party works such as public realm.

The proposed palette of acceptable materials seeks to address the issue of the increasing use of unsustainable and difficult to maintain materials in developer and third party works on the highway or proposed highway network. The proposed palette seeks to address this by the use of materials that focus on sustainability, ease of procurement, consistency of supply and reducing ongoing maintenance costs/liability.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Approve the approach in development of the Palette of Materials - Code of Practice for Developer and Third-Party Works outlined in this report.
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Strategy and Performance to approve and publish the Palette of Materials Code of Practice in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport.
- (iii) Authorise the Head of Service - Asset Management to permit exemptions from Palette of Materials in appropriate circumstances.

Detail

The need for an approved palette of materials is borne out of the increased use of 'exotic' materials on schemes including public realm works. The materials are chosen and specially imported on a scheme-by-scheme basis and are typically imported from long distance. This means that when any materials fail or third parties need to excavate the materials it is difficult to source replacements, in addition the matching of the colour palette can be problematic. The materials themselves are typically laid on high strength, thin set bedding which requires specialist lifting equipment, which third parties either do not have or choose not to use. The result is that the materials are broken up as part of the third party works and temporary asphalt reinstatement used until similar replacements are sourced, this can take a considerable time and is happening frequently throughout the county.

The Palette of Materials Code of Practice provides the requirements on the choice and use of materials for new developments including housing, industrial and other third party works on proposed or existing highways. The code of practice avoids detail regarding tolerance and other workmanship issues and concentrates on the specifics of the materials themselves with the focus being on sustainability, maintainability, and appearance.

The proposed standard palette of surfacing materials is made up of the following:

- Thin Surface Course
- Stone Mastic Asphalt
- High Stone Content Hot Rolled Asphalt
- Chipped Hot Rolled Asphalt
- Close Graded Asphalt Concrete
- Dense Asphalt Concrete
- Precast Concrete Flags
- Precast Concrete Blocks
- Precast Concrete Kerbs
- Trees

These materials are easily available within the local supply chain, have a history of successful use in Lancashire and are easily maintainable.

It is intended that each material data sheet is studied by each scheme promoter, with particular focus on any application restrictions. Any application of a material in a situation that is restricted will be classed as an enhanced material and as such will attract a commuted sum for the additional maintenance burden placed upon the authority.

The enhanced materials are included with the aim of ensuring sustainability in how they are sourced, a lower initial and life cycle embodied carbon footprint, a record of longevity in service and ease of ongoing maintenance.

The Department for Transport's Manual for Streets advocates that:

"One way of enabling designers to achieve local distinctiveness without causing excessive maintenance costs will be for highway authorities to develop a limited

palette of special materials and street furniture. Such materials and components, and their typical application, could, for example, be set out in local design guidance and be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document”

In line with this guidance, the enhanced palette of materials has therefore been developed to better balance the desire for local distinctiveness with sustainability, performance and on-going maintenance.

The proposed enhanced palette of surfacing materials is made up of the following:

- Coloured Stone Mastic Asphalt
- Coloured Chipped Hot Rolled Asphalt
- Coloured Dense Asphalt Concrete
- Porous Flexible Rubber/Aggregate Surfacing
- Unbound Gravel (self-binding gravel)
- Natural Stone Slabs
- Natural Stone Setts
- Natural Stone Kerbs
- Stone Reproduction Kerbs
- Precast Concrete Flags and Blocks incorporating Exposed Aggregate Top Layer

Any additional costs for enhanced materials will normally be a matter for discussion and negotiation during the consultation process for each individual scheme, subject to agreement that higher levels of enhancement will not impose an unreasonable burden of future maintenance on the county council. Where costs for enhanced materials are more than the agreed costs, the scheme promoter may be required to pay a commuted sum contribution to cover future maintenance.

The calculation of commuted sums will calculate the additional maintenance interventions and reactive/revenue maintenance costs required compared to standard materials, with the anticipated additional costs, whether yearly (for reactive/revenue maintenance costs) and/or at set maintenance intervention years then discounted over the life of the development to give a per m² or linear metre rate to be paid to the authority by the scheme promoter. This is in line with County Surveyors Society Guidance Document 'Commuted Sums for Maintaining Infrastructure Assets'.

It is proposed that any deviation from the standard or enhanced palette must be submitted to the Highways Asset Management Team for review and would be subject to approval by the Head of Service - Asset Management, if appropriate.

Consultations

Operational level management in each of Design and Construction, Developer Support, Highways Operations and Asset Management have been consulted throughout the development of the document. In addition, Head of Service - Asset Management, Head of Service - Design and Construction, Director of Highways and Transportation, Director of Strategy and Performance have also been consulted.

Comments received and integrated into the final code of practice will include inclusion of specific materials, commuted sums calculations and the inclusion of an exemption process.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

This code of practice should provide a good framework for managing and reducing the financial and reputation risks placed upon the county council arising from third party works where the subsequent maintenance and operational responsibilities lie with Lancashire County Council.

With respect to Highways Asset Management and Highways Operations, the implemented code of practice should reduce the maintenance burden placed upon the county council, making public spaces and other paved areas easier to maintain, at a reduced cost and reducing the time taken to undertake permanent repairs, this will also reduce the risk of potential personal injury or other claims to the county council resulting from defects in paved areas.

The proposed code of practice includes performance-based specifications for all products and does not include proprietary or branded products, therefore eliminating any potential issues or challenges relating to procurement or competition.

Legal

When works are done on highways maintainable at public expense the standard ought to be such that the county council's duty to maintain to appropriate standard is fulfilled. The standards of materials can be required by the authority acting reasonably.

Commuted sums are already taken when development uses materials and street furniture which increase the highway authority's future maintenance.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Policy Information and Commissioning (Live Well and Age Well)

Part I

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);
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Corporate Priorities: Protecting our environment;

Proposed 2022/23 Highways New Start Capital Programme

(Appendices 'A' to 'I' refer)

Contact for further information:

Janet Wilson, Tel: (01772) 538647, Senior Commissioning Manager,
janet.wilson@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report recommends approval of the addition of the Department for Transport's 2022/23 grant funding allocation for Highway Maintenance to the highway block of the capital programme once confirmed. The report also recommends the proposed apportionment of the assumed level of funding, that is £20.167 million set out at Appendices 'A' and 'B'. The reference to New Starts refers to this "new" funding.

The report also requests approval of a number of detailed programmes of work relating to this funding set out at Appendices 'C' to 'H'. Any revisions required on receipt of the confirmed funding envelope be developed and presented for approval at a future date.

A carbon statement for the carriageway capital programme has been produced which shows a saving of 267 tonnes CO₂e (16.8%) compared with a programme based on traditional material choices. This is detailed at Appendix 'I'.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Approve that the Department for Transport 2022/23 Highway Maintenance funding grant, once confirmed, be added to the Highway Block of the Capital

Programme.

- (ii) Subject to approval at (i) above, approve the proposed apportionment of the assumed 2022/23 Department for Transport Highway Maintenance funding as detailed in the report and at Appendices 'A' and 'B'.
- (iii) then subject to such approval of apportionments in (ii) –
- (iv) Approve the proposed 2022/23 New Starts Highway Maintenance programmes set out as projects at Appendices 'C' to 'H'.
- (v) Approve that any revisions required on receipt of the confirmed funding envelope be developed and presented for approval at a future date.
- (vi) Note the Carbon Statement detailed at Appendix 'I'.

Detail

Funding Source

Confirmation of the 2022/23 highway maintenance grant funding allocations from the Department for Transport is expected in the coming weeks. In previous years the Highways Maintenance Needs allocation and Local Highways Maintenance Incentive funding has been approximately £22 million. However, in 2021/22 the equivalent funding was £16.006 million, supplemented by a Pothole Action Fund allocation of £12.805 million.

Allocation	£m
Highway Maintenance Basic Need	12.805
Incentive Fund (assumes Bond 3)	3.201
Pothole Action Fund	12.805
Total	28.811

To ensure that delivery of the 2022/23 highway programme can commence from 1 April to maximise favourable weather conditions, staff resources and fulfil contractual obligations, a programme of work has been developed based on an assumed allocation of £20.167 million which represents 70% of the 2021/22 allocation of £28.811 million. Cabinet is asked to approve this programme.

A further report will be presented to Cabinet for future approval should any revisions to the programme be required once the final settlement and overall funding envelope has been confirmed.

Apportionment

The Transport Asset Management Plan, approved in 2014, sets out how the county council intends to maintain its publicly maintainable vehicular highway assets (A, B and C roads, unclassified road network, footways, street lighting, traffic signals and structures) over the period 2015/16 to 2029/30.

The performance of the plan is reviewed annually and the latest review presented to Cabinet in September 2021 provided an update on highway condition data as at March 2021. Condition data provided annually was used to review the Transport Asset Management Plan priorities for Phase 2 (2020/21 to 2024/25) and the proposed apportionment, along with the relevant service standards.

The criteria applied to develop the proposed 2022/23 New Starts Programme is aligned with the Transport Asset Management Plan to ensure that a proactive, preventative intervention maintenance programme is developed. The proposed apportionment is detailed at Appendices 'A' and 'B'.

The proposed apportionment takes account of:

- Extensive life cycle modelling that indicates that the level of capital funding received from central government is less than the requirement to maintain the assets to a good condition.
- The publication of the Well Managed Highways Infrastructure: Code of Practice document, (UK Roads Liaison Group: 2016) that has formalised highway authorities' approach to management of risk when maintaining highway assets and the need to fund additional asset related activities.

Programmes

The proposed programme is set out as schemes at Appendices 'C' to 'H'.

The proposed drainage programme contains two elements. One element is aimed at addressing drainage issues identified in the development and delivery of the 2022/23 and 2023/24 carriageway maintenance programmes. The second element is aimed at identifying the risk and impact of flooding to property and highways and addressing these issues.

Carbon Statement

As part of the county council's commitment to move towards Net Zero a carbon statement for the carriageway capital programme has been produced which shows a saving of 267 tonnes CO₂e (16.8%) compared with a programme based on traditional material choices. The Statement is detailed at Appendix 'I'.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

It should be noted that the Transport Asset Management Plan suggests that an annual allocation of approximately £35 million is required to maintain all highway assets effectively and safely. Therefore, significant risks are associated with a reduced allocation. An allocation of £34.75m is considered the minimum level of funding to manage the asset within a reasonable level of risk.

An allocation of £22.75 million is deemed the minimum allocation necessary to manage assets in 2022/23 within acceptable risk levels, though increased risk is incurred.

There are a number of risks associated with receipt of a reduced settlement in 2022/23 including:

- Reduced ability to maintain the progress already made in Phase 1 of the Transport Asset Management Plan in improving the ABC network and maintain it in a good condition through phase 2 of Transport Asset Management Plan.
- Reduced ability to address phase 2 priorities, particularly the urban unclassified network that is currently considered 'poor' and would deteriorate further. This would also have the impact of increased number of structural defects having to be dealt with on a reactive basis, and increased concerns raised by Members and members of the public.
- Increased risk of street lighting column failure, causing risk to the public, throughout Phases 2 and 3 of the Transport Asset Management Plan. This can be mitigated by transferring funds from column replacement to column testing; however, the backlog in column replacement will increase as a result.
- Potential increase in the failure of traffic signal equipment on the strategic road network, throughout Phases 2 and 3 of the Transport Asset Management Plan.
- Risk in effectively assessing bridge condition, including effects of scour and severe weather events, and developing timely maintenance programmes, prejudicing the delivery of priorities of Phase 3 of the Transport Asset Management Plan as well as carrying additional risks during Phase 2.
- Not adequately addressing the Phase 2 priorities during Phase 2 of the Transport Asset Management Plan (up to March 2025) also puts further pressures on the Phase 3 priorities and substantially increases risk through Phase 3 of the Transport Asset Management Plan.
- Not maintaining the ABC network in a good condition through preventative treatments through Phase 2 will not have an immediate effect on condition of the network in Phase 2 of the Transport Asset Management Plan but will increase the maintenance backlog for Phase 3 of the Transport Asset Management Plan. This and the carried over backlog of the unclassified networks to Phase 3 will mean an increased carbon footprint and continued increased levels of structural defects.

The assumed 2022/23 Department for Transport grant funding allocation also assumes that the county council will qualify for Band 3 Incentive funding. The assessment of officers is that the county council will be confirmed as qualifying for Band 3 funding but funding may be reduced if Band 3 status is not achieved.

It should also be noted that the delivery of the proposed programmes/projects is dependent on the 2021/22 highway maintenance programme outturn position which will not be known until spring 2022. The programmes may be subject to change after this date.

Furthermore, there is a risk that some of the detailed highway and transport programmes/projects set out at Appendices 'C' to 'H' may not be delivered or could be delayed due to changes to estimated costs, other priorities emerging within year because of bad weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

Since the bridges and structures programme will require design and consultation, it is anticipated that some elements of the programme may to be delivered over two years. It is proposed that the programme will be subject to review to ensure work is delivered in the most effective time frame with funding being brought forward as required.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is being managed but may result in delays to delivery or an increase in budget estimates.

Financial

It is proposed that the programmes detailed at Appendices 'C' to 'H' be funded from the 2022/23 highway maintenance grant funding from the Department for Transport, assumed to be £20.167 million. Should the level of funding in the Determination of Grant letter be different to the assumed allocation then the implications will be reported to Cabinet.

Due to the nature of the development of the Bridges programme the expenditure profile is:

- 2022/23 - £1.000 million
- 2023/24 - £2.500 million

All structural defects that meet the safety intervention criteria will be addressed and therefore the actual expenditure will reflect operational demand. It is assumed that £8 million will be required in 2022/23 to be funded by:

- £2 million from the Department for Transport's Highway Maintenance Grant.
- £6 million from other funding within the capital programme with Grants received including Highway Maintenance Basic Need and incentive grants being the priority funding and prudential borrowing being a last resort.

Legal

The Authority has a duty to maintain publicly maintainable highways, both vehicular and those which are in the Public Rights of Way network. Maintenance includes drainage and includes maintaining various structures such as some bridges, culverts, etc.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
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N/A		
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Appendix A

Appendix A: Proposed Apportionment of Assumed 2022/23 Highway Maintenance Capital Programme Funding

Proposed Apportionment of Assumed 2022/23 Highway Maintenance Capital Programme Funding	£m
ABC	£2,000,000
Rural Unclassified	£2,000,000
Urban Unclassified	£4,267,000
Footways	£750,000
Moss Roads	£350,000
Localised Deterioration Fund	£250,000
Street Lighting	£1,000,000
Street Lighting (Risk Based)	£500,000
Bridges & Structures	£3,500,000
Bridges & Structures Inspections & Risk Based Assessments	£600,000
Drainage	£500,000
Vehicle Restraint Barriers	£100,000
Traffic Signals	£600,000
Planned additional maintenance of ad-hoc or other highway assets	£800,000
Future Design/Site investigations	£100,000
Structural Defects	£2,000,000
Geotech/Surveys	£100,000
Surveys & Coring for Capital Programme	£750,000
TOTAL BUDGET	£20,167,000

Appendix B – 2022/23 Proposed Criteria to Determine Highway Maintenance New Starts Programme

Highway Maintenance New Starts Programme

The proposed criteria for determining the countywide allocations and the projects to be included in the 2022/23 Highways Maintenance capital programme is set out below:

Asset Class	2022/23 Proposed Criteria
A, B, C Roads	<p>Committed level of investment as set out in the Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP)</p> <p>Pre patching, surface dressing and resurfacing determined on a countywide prioritisation based condition survey data and local parameters which include life expectancy and deterioration modelling. Also includes the number of defects, claims and complaints received. Additionally, the strategic significance is assessed based upon priority gritting routes and higher risk routes.</p> <p>Surface dressing schemes have been ranked based on the principles set out in the TAMP. Carriageway and inlay schemes are ranked on condition (worst first), traffic (type) and use (volume).</p>
Urban Unclassified Roads	<p>Pre patching, surface dressing and resurfacing determined on a countywide prioritisation based on condition survey data and local parameters which include life expectancy and deterioration modelling. Also includes the number of defects, claims and complaints received. Additionally, the strategic significance is assessed based upon priority gritting routes and higher risk routes.</p> <p>Surface dressing schemes have been ranked based on the principles set out in the TAMP. Carriageway and inlay schemes are ranked on condition (worst first), traffic (type) and use (volume).</p>
Rural Unclassified Roads	<p>Pre patching, surface dressing and resurfacing determined on a countywide prioritisation based on condition survey data and local parameters which include life expectancy and deterioration modelling. Also includes the number of defects, claims and complaints received. Additionally, the strategic significance is assessed based upon priority gritting routes and higher risk routes.</p> <p>Surface dressing schemes have been ranked based on the principles set out in the TAMP. Carriageway and inlay schemes are ranked on condition (worst first), traffic (type) and use (volume).</p>
Footways	<p>A countywide allocation prioritisation based on condition survey data and the number of highway safety defects identified. Also includes the number of defects, claims and complaints received.</p>

Asset Class	2022/23 Proposed Criteria
Moss Roads	A strategy for Moss Roads has been approved and includes a prioritised hierarchy of need which has been used to determine the proposed 2022/23 programme
Drainage	Countywide prioritisation based on risk of flooding and potential impact on flooding to property and highway and developed to address drainage issues prior to undertaking carriageway maintenance.
Street Lighting	District Allocation: 70% on the basis of reduction of risk based on condition and 30% on the basis of unexpected failures based on inventory records.
Traffic Signals	Countywide prioritisation based on the age of units beyond their operational life, number of faults attended and vehicle accident records.
Bridges and Structures	Countywide prioritisation based on priority bridges as indicated by condition and strategic importance.
Structural Defects	All defects that meet the safety intervention criteria will be addressed and therefore the actual expenditure will reflect operational demand.
Surveys, coring, and Geotechnical investigations	This will allow an evidence base to be developed to ensure schemes are developed in line with TAMP principles. The programme of works will support the delivery of the 2022/23 capital programmes and the development of the 2023/24 capital programme
Localised Deterioration Fund	Small schemes determined on a countywide prioritisation based on condition, the number of defects, repeat visits to defects, claims and complaints received, along with the route strategic significance.
Planned Additional Maintenance	<p>The following projects are priorities that are currently unfunded and need to be delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Rail Low Bridge Height Signing & Canal Bridge Protection • Weather Stations (yr2) • Cattle Grid replacement in Lancaster District • Trashescreen Safety Work • Carriageway Localised Deterioration • Street lighting -replacement of columns that have failed testing
Risk Based Condition Assessments	<p>This work will ensure that a targeted programme of maintenance can be developed that is evidence based;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Column testing • Vehicle restraint barrier assessments • Bridge risk-based assessments
Future Design / Site Investigation	This funding will help to develop the 2023/24 capital programme

Appendix C: 2022/23 Maintenance of Highways Assets

The following allocations will be used across the ABC, urban and rural road programmes in-year as required:

	Estimate
Cats eyes	£27,383
Anti-skid	£180,980
Red safety surfacing	£108,448
Surface dressing drainage repairs	£90,000
Total Estimate	£406,811

ABC Roads 2022/23 Capital Programme

2022/23 Programme: A, B & C Roads - Resurfacing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Description	Treatment	Estimate
A587	Rossall Road	Cleveleys East; Fleetwood West and Cleveleys West; Fleetwood East	Wyre	Two Sections; Manor Drive to outside number 75, and number 283 to Larkholme Parade	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£258,238
A675	Higher Walton Road	South Ribble East	South Ribble	Barnflatt Close to outside number 241	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£51,853
B5270	Lancaster Road	Wyre Rural Central	Wyre	Between St Oswalds Church and The Bethall Reform Church	Resurfacing	£59,613
C153	Tanhouse Road	Skelmersdale Central	West Lancashire	Roundabout and approaches	Resurfacing	£75,735
C638	Lower Gate Road	Accrington North	Hyndburn	Station Road/Altham Lane to Burnley Lane/Higher Gate Road	Resurfacing	£184,831
B5248	North Road	Chorley Rural West	Chorley	Doles Lane/Marlcop to Carr House Lane	Resurfacing	£228,996
Total Estimate						£859,266

2022/23 Programme: A, B & C Roads – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Description	Treatment	Estimate
A587	Rossall Road/ Broadway	Cleveleys East; Fleetwood West and Cleveleys West; Fleetwood East	Wyre	Rough Lea Road to Poulton Road	Surface dressing as part of a multi- treatment scheme	£220,299
A675	Higher Walton Road	South Ribble East	South Ribble	Kittling Bourne Brow to Chorley Road Petrol Station	Surface dressing as part of a multi- treatment scheme	£109,473
A5085	Blackpool Road	Preston South East; Preston East; Preston Central East	Preston	Garstang Road to Ribbleton Avenue	Surface dressing	£194,278
NA	Advanced ABC road pre-patching for 2023/24 surface dressing	As required	As required	ABC road pre-patching in 2022/23 for 2023/24 surface dressing programme	Pre-patching	£450,000
Total Estimate						£974,050

Appendix D: 2022/23 Maintenance of Highways Assets

Unclassified Roads 2022/23 Capital Programme

Urban Unclassified

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Resurfacing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U20133	Brunswick Street	Nelson East	Pendle	Bradshaw Street to Boston Street	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£223,258
U8797	Pilling Lane	Chorley Central	Chorley	Factory Way to the A6	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£37,435
U8247	Roads surrounding Shirley Lane	South Ribble West	South Ribble	Hambelton Close; the junction to the block paving. Arkholme Drive; the junction to the block paving. Full lengths of Lower Hey, Broadcroft, and The Croft. Clifford Avenue; the junction of Shirley Lane to Seven Sands. Seven Sands; the junction of Clifford Avenue to block paving	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£90,667
U19948	Regent Street, Corporation Street and Rakeshouse Road/Regent Street 4-way Roundabout	Brierfield and Nelson West	Pendle	Rakeshouse Road/Regent Street 4-way Roundabout. Regents Street; Cravendale Avenue to Whitewalls Drive. Corporation Street; Regent Street to Burnley Road	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£334,248
U40565	Lyndhurst Road	Burnley Central East	Burnley	Brunshaw Avenue to Todmorden Road	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£107,907
U8392	Rookwood Avenue	Chorley Central	Chorley	Chorley Hall Road to the end at the factory gates	Resurfacing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£31,048
U13504	Birch Avenue	Penwortham West	South Ribble	Beechway to lighting column number 9	Resurfacing	£37,285

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Resurfacing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U11836 & U8491	Beaconsfield and Sycamore Road	Chorley North	Chorley	Beaconsfield Road; Wordsworth Terrace to Harpers Lane. Sycamore Road; Shakespeare Terrace to Coltsfoot Drive	Resurfacing	£56,254
U16672	Hollins Lane	Accrington South	Hyndburn	Newton Drive to Royds Avenue	Resurfacing	£47,383
U11362	Hargreaves Road and surrounding streets	Oswald-twistle	Hyndburn	Full lengths of Hargreaves Road, Brookside View, Calico Close, Rushes Farm Close and New Bury Close	Resurfacing	£200,609
U21701	Mayfield Avenue Estate	Cleveleys East	Wyre	Full lengths of Wigeon Close, Teal Close, Partridge Avenue, Picmere Close and Shore Green	Resurfacing	£47,805
U7475	Lomas Lane	Rossendale South	Rossendale	Bury Road to Cherry Crescent	Resurfacing	£40,282
U20298	Grafton Street	Nelson East	Pendle	Hallam Road to Glenfield Road	Resurfacing	£100,936
U6666	St Albans Road	St Annes South	Fylde	From 12A St Albans Road to the dead end	Resurfacing	£25,449
U18974	Wyresdale Avenue	Heysham	Lancaster	Kingsway to Bowland Road	Resurfacing	£64,496
U19023	Levens Drive	Morecambe Central	Lancaster	Outside number 36 to Lordsome Road	Resurfacing	£112,745
U5635	Wheelton Lane Phase 2	Moss Side & Farrington, Leyland Central	South Ribble	Grasmere Avenue to Golden Hill Lane	Resurfacing	£61,412
U19045	Hampton Road	Morecambe Central	Lancaster	Back Granville Road East to Westminster Road	Resurfacing	£93,120
U40750	Waterbarn Street	Burnley North East	Burnley	Pratt Street to Newman Street	Resurfacing	£130,693

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Resurfacing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U673	Martins Lane	Skelmersdale East	West Lancashire	From number 346 east to the car park area at the end	Resurfacing	£22,153
U20796	High Street	Pendle Central	Pendle	Windy Bank to Buck Street	Resurfacing	£68,517
U23016	Albion Street	Clitheroe	Ribble Valley	Junction with York Street to just past number 12 (near the Tesco entrance)	Resurfacing	£38,731
U45679	Ribble Road and junction area on Welsby Road	Leyland South	South Ribble	From Welsby Road to Lower House Road, including the junction area on Welsby Road	Resurfacing	£22,750
U20057	Leamington Street	Nelson East	Pendle	Full length	Resurfacing	£52,089
U41175	Kipling Place	Great Harwood, Rishton and Clayton-le-Moors	Hyndburn	Full length	Resurfacing	£37,548
U595	Gillibrands Road	Skelmersdale Central	West Lancashire	From the junction to beyond the arrow markings	Resurfacing	£30,074
U18506	Elmsdale Close	Skerton	Lancaster	Full length	Resurfacing	£33,816
U42600	Plover Street	Burnley Central West	Burnley	Full length	Resurfacing	£32,707
NA	22/23 Contingency Budget	As required	As required	Budget to deal with arising issues in-year	NA	£18,310
Total Estimate						£2,199,727

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U20133	Brunswick Street and Surrounding Roads	Nelson East	Pendle	Chapel House Road: Mini roundabout at Brook Street to Halifax Road. Springfield Road: Halifax Road to St Pauls Road. Ethersall Road: Outside number 26 to Langholme Street. St Pauls Road: Outside number 2 to the junction with Ethersall Road. Langholme Street: Chapel House Road to Waidshouse Road. Rikard Road: Langholme Street to Beaufort Street. Beaufort Street: Chapel House Road to Waidshouse Road	Surface dressing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£104,876
U8797	Pilling Lane	Chorley Central	Chorley	House number 84 to Carr Lane roundabout	Surface dressing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£24,368
U8247	Shirley Lane Estate	South Ribble West	South Ribble	Full lengths of Shirley Lane; including West Square, Lanedale Avenue, Clifford Avenue, Applesyke, Manorcroft and Grangefield. Back Lane; number 53 to Shirley Lane. Meadow Way: Back Lane to the end. Orchard Lane; Meadow Way to the bollards. Tarndale: Back Lane to Meadow Way	Surface dressing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£93,173
U19948	Charles Street Estate	Brierfield and Nelson West	Pendle	Charles Street: Reedyford Road to Cravendale Avenue. Cravendale Avenue: The end outside number 90 to Regent Street. Bevan Place: Cravendale Avenue to the end outside number 22. Highfield Crescent: Outside number 1 at Cravendale Avenue to outside number 37 at Cravendale Avenue. Rakeshouse Road: Section 1, Leeds Road to Regent Street roundabout. Section 2 – Regent Street roundabout to Charles Street. Regent Street – Section 1; from Reedyford Road roundabout to Rakeshouse Road/Regent Street Roundabout. Section 2; from Rakeshouse Road/Regent Street	Surface dressing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£141,829

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
				roundabout to the junction with Cravendale Avenue		
U40565	Irene Street Estate	Burnley Central East	Burnley	<p>Athletic Street – Morse Street to Mitella Street</p> <p>Olympia Street; Section 1 Morse Street to Lebanon Street.</p> <p>Section 2, Lebanon Street to Mitella Street.</p> <p>Brockenhurst Street Section 1, Morse Street to Lebanon Street.</p> <p>Section 2; Lebanon Street to Mitella Street</p> <p>Morse Street; Lyndhurst Road to Athletic Street. Irene Street</p> <p>Section 1; Athletic Street to Olympia Street. Section 2; Olympia Street to Brockenhurst Street. Section 3; Brockenhurst Street to Lyndhurst Street.</p> <p>Lebanon Street Section 1; Athletic Street to Lyndhurst Road. Section 2; Lyndhurst Road to Brunshaw Road. Mitella Street; Brunshaw Road to Lyndhurst Road. Celia Street; Prescott Street to Lyndhurst Road. Prescott Street; Mitella Street to Higgin Street.</p> <p>Holmsley Street; Section 1 Higgin Street to Lyndhurst Road.</p> <p>Section 2, Lyndhurst Road to Thursfield Road.</p> <p>Hinton Street; Section 1, Higgin Street to Lyndhurst Road.</p> <p>Section 2; Lyndhurst Road to Thursfield Road.</p> <p>Admiral Street; Section 1; Higgin Street to Lyndhurst Road.</p> <p>Section 2; Lyndhurst Road to Thursfield Road.</p> <p>Linby Street; Lyndhurst Road to Thursfield Road.</p> <p>Linden Street; Lyndhurst Road to Thursfield Road</p>	Surface dressing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£113,125

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U8392	Astley Road Estate	Chorley Central	Chorley	Full lengths of Astley Road, Millwood Glade, Woodfield Road, Highfield Road South, Chorley Hall Road and Millfield Road. Rookwood Avenue; Astley Road to Chorley Hall Road	Surface dressing as part of a multi-treatment scheme	£110,288
U2637	Central Avenue	Leyland South; Euxton, Buckshaw & Astley	South Ribble/ Chorley	Euxton Lane traffic lights to Dawson Lane traffic lights	Surface dressing	£106,586
U2610	Buckshaw Avenue	Euxton, Buckshaw & Astley	Chorley	Central Avenue to Ordnance Road roundabout	Surface dressing	£35,210
U2610	Buckshaw Avenue	Euxton, Buckshaw & Astley	Chorley	Ordnance Road to Horseshoe Drive roundabout	Surface dressing	£23,146
U2610	Buckshaw Avenue	Euxton, Buckshaw & Astley	Chorley	Horseshoe Drive roundabout to TVS traffic lights	Microasphalt	£101,153
U2610	Buckshaw Avenue	Euxton, Buckshaw & Astley; Clayton with Whittle; Chorley Central	Chorley	TVS traffic lights to A6/Seaview traffic lights	Microasphalt	£47,883
U3639	Ordnance Road	Euxton, Buckshaw & Astley	Chorley	Buckshaw Avenue to end of adopted extents just past train station entrance	Microasphalt	£43,755

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U41008	Burleigh Street and Surrounding Roads	Burnley Central East	Burnley	<p>Burleigh Street; Section 1; March Street to Brougham Street. Section 2; Brougham Street to Burns Street.</p> <p>Folds Street; Section 1; March Street to Brougham Street. Section 2 Brougham Street to Burns Street. March Street; Burleigh Street to Princess Way.</p> <p>Clive Street; Section 1; Oswald Street to Folds Street Section 2; Folds Street to Burleigh Street.</p> <p>Cromwell Street, Section 1; Oswald Street to Folds Street Section 2; Folds Street to Burleigh Street.</p> <p>Gordon Street; Section 1; Oswald Street to Folds Street Section 2; Folds Street to Burleigh Street. Section 3; Burleigh Street to Canning Street. Hubie Street; Canning Street to the end.</p> <p>Canning Street; Section 1; Gordon Street to Hubie Street Section 2; Hubie Street to March Street.</p> <p>Burns Street; Brougham Street to Burleigh Street.</p> <p>Belford Street Section 1; Burns Street to Folds Street. Section 2; Folds Street to Burleigh Street.</p> <p>Merton Street; Burleigh Street to Kent Street. Kent Street; Merton Street to Brougham Street</p>	Surface dressing	£115,027
U23110	Littlemoor Road	Clitheroe	Ribble Valley	Littlemoor Road; Whalley Road to Highfield Road. Hayhurst Street; Highfield Road to Pendle Road	Surface dressing	£56,629
U11908	Palatine Avenue and Surrounding Roads	Lancaster South East	Lancaster	Full lengths of Palatine Avenue, Rutland Avenue, Gloucester Avenue, Addle Street, Wakefield Drive, Emerson Street, Devon Place, Durham Avenue, Warwick Avenue, Bedford Place, Chester Place and Kenilworth Place	Surface dressing	£152,896

2022/23 Programme: Urban Unclassified – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U20894	Venables Avenue Estate	Pendle Rural, Pendle Central	Pendle	<p>Venables Avenue; Castle Road to Byron Road</p> <p>Langdale Rise; Section 1; Windermere Avenue to outside number 7. Section 2; adjacent to number 2 to outside number 12.</p> <p>Buttermere Avenue; Langdale Rise to the end outside number 12. Coniston Grove; Windermere Avenue to the end. Hawes Drive; Coniston Grove to the end. Thirlmere Avenue; Coniston Grove to Venables Avenue.</p> <p>Derwent Close; Thirlmere Avenue to the end.</p> <p>Grasmere Close; Thirlmere Avenue to adjacent the side of number 2. Rydal Place; Grasmere Close to the end</p>	Surface dressing	£88,278
NA	Advanced urban road pre-patching for 2023/24 surface dressing	As required	As required	Urban road pre-patching in 2022/23 for 2023/24 surface dressing programme	Pre-patching	£700,000
Total Estimate						£2,058,222

Rural Unclassified

2022/23 Programme: Rural Unclassified – Resurfacing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U5301	Back Lane	West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	From and including 3-way junction near Forest View Holiday Park, to the junction with Deans Lane	Resurfacing as part of multi-treatment scheme	£31,416
U286	Hillock Lane	Burscough and Rufford	West Lancashire	Hall Road to the end	Resurfacing	£40,758
U455	Beechfield	West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	Chorley Road to Chorley Road	Resurfacing	£24,227
U954	Queens Green	West Lancashire West	West Lancashire	School Lane to the end	Resurfacing	£37,162
U10964	Mill Lane	Fylde West	Fylde	Lodge Lane to end of the adopted extents	Overlay	£24,586
U49726	Linaker Drive	West Lancashire West	West Lancashire	Carr Moss Lane to the end	Resurfacing	£37,454
U5327	Wheat Lane	West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	Carr Lane to the cobbled area at the canal bridge	Resurfacing	£89,867
U4858 U4803	Gilbert Street and William Street	Rossendale South	Rossendale	Full lengths of both	Resurfacing	£64,111
U22433	Smithy Lane	Wyre Rural Central	Wyre	Two patches outside Beech House and Round House	Resurfacing	£16,414
U284	Hillcrest Drive	Burscough and Rufford	West Lancashire	Full length	Resurfacing	£20,855
U50410	Barker Lane	Ribble Valley South West	Ribble Valley	From Barker Lane to the end	Resurfacing	£37,597

2022/23 Programme: Rural Unclassified – Resurfacing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U835	Holker Lane	Chorley Rural West	Chorley	Leyland Lane to Nook Farm	Resurfacing	£47,038
U4892	Hothersall Lane	Longridge with Bowland	Ribble Valley	Hothersall Lane to Butcher Fold Farm	Resurfacing	£67,606
U8756	Troutbeck Road	Chorley South	Chorley	Lakeland Gardens to Scawfell Road	Resurfacing	£15,854
U40448	Howgill Lane	Pendle Rural; Ribble Valley North East	Pendle and Ribble Valley	A682 Burnley Road to Coal Pit Lane	Resurfacing	£158,485
U2610	Buckshaw Avenue	Chorley	Chorley Central	Sea View Pub to the Buckshaw Avenue junction	Resurfacing	£30,534
U21549	Midgery Lane	Preston	Preston Rural	Starting 10m after junction with D'Urton Lane to Guild Wheel Gate	Resurfacing	£16,377
U19038	Moss Road	Lancaster	Heysham	The Cattle Grid to Cattle Grid prior to Downlands	Resurfacing	£125,094
Total Estimate						£885,435

2022/23 Programme: Rural Unclassified – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
U5301 U477	Hallowford Lane and Back Lane	West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	Ring O Bells Lane to Course Lane	Surface dressing as part of multi-treatment scheme	£42,827
U10991	Greenhalgh Lane	Fylde West	Fylde	Full length between Back Lane and Fleetwood Road	Surface dressing	£44,642
U294 U3611 U296	Martin Lane, Merscar Lane and Gorst Lane	Burscough and Rufford	West Lancashire	Merscar Lane; Drummersdale Lane to Martin Lane. Martin Lane; Merscar Lane to Gorst Lane. Gorst Lane; Martin Lane to New Lane	Surface dressing	£85,594
U399 U471	School Lane and Carr Lane	Burscough and Rufford & West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	A59 Liverpool Road North to Ring O Bells Lane	Surface dressing	£89,368
U5042	Higher Road	Longridge with Bowland	Ribble Valley	From junction with Forty Acre Lane to Stoney Gate Lane	Surface dressing	£125,411
U905 U5325 U5290	Dark Lane, Blythe Lane and Hobcross Lane	Ormskirk, West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	B5240 Hall Lane to Greetby Hill Lane	Surface dressing	£145,004
U22868 U22863	Pendleton Road and Wiswell Shay	Ribble Valley North East	Ribble Valley	Pendleton Road; from joining Wiswell Shay at the adjacent junction of Old Back Lane, through Wiswell Village to 30 metres before Wiswell Eaves Farm Entrance (at the previous surface dressing finishing point). Wiswell Shay; from A671 Whalley Bypass onto Pendleton Road	Surface dressing	£50,643

2022/23 Programme: Rural Unclassified – Surface Dressing						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Extents	Treatment	Estimate
NA	Advanced rural road pre-patching for 2023/24 surface dressing	As required	As required	Rural road pre-patching in 2022/23 for 2023/24 surface dressing programme	Pre-patching	£300,000
Total Estimate						£883,489

Appendix E

Appendix E: 2022/23 Maintenance of Highways Assets

Moss Roads 2022/23 Capital Programme

2022/23 Programme: Moss Roads						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Description	Treatment	Estimate
C164	Hoscar Moss Road Phase 1	West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	Ring 'O'Bells Lane to Level Crossing	Investigation and remedial works	£13,640
C106	Segars Lane Phase 2	West Lancashire West	West Lancashire	Fine James Brook to Headbolt Lane	In-situ recycling	£97,055
U342	Green Lane Phase 3	West Lancashire North	West Lancashire	From A59 for 350m	Resurfacing	£70,120
C414	Woods Lane Phase 2	Wyre Rural Central	Wyre	Skitham Lane to New Lane (excluding recently reconstructed passing places)	Resurfacing	£144,302
U18 / U1033	Plex Moss Lane	West Lancashire East	West Lancashire	Full length from Sefton boundary to A5147 Southport Road/New Street	Investigatory works	£24,883
Total Estimate						£350,000

Appendix F: 2022/23 Maintenance of Highways Assets

Footway 2022/23 Capital Programme

2022/23 Programme: Footways						
Road No	Project Name	Division	District	Scheme Description	Treatment	Estimate
B6241	Watling Street Road	Preston Central East	Preston	Both sides between Eastway and Sir Tom Finney Way	Footway Reconstruction	£303,453
C383	West Drive	Cleveleys East, Cleveleys South and Carleton	Wyre	Both sides between North Drive and Amounderness Way	Footway Reconstruction	£212,538
U10536	Lowdnes Street	Preston Central East	Preston	Both sides from Trafford Street to Eldon Street	Footway Reconstruction	£63,279
U13703	Martinfield Road and surrounding footways	Penwortham East and Walton le Dale	South Ribble	Martinfield Road, Bishopsway, Pope Lane, Pope Walk, Abbey Walk, Woodlands Avenue, Padway, Hawksbury Drive, Leyfield, Moss Acre Road, New Lane, Stud Holme Crescent, Lilac Avenue	Footway preventative works	£53,938
U8188	Ribble Avenue and surrounding footways	Fylde South	Fylde	Ribble Avenue, Sagar Drive, Westway, Lamaleach Drive, Hodgson Avenue, Orchard Close, Eastway, Derwent Drive, Douglas Drive	Footway preventative works	£43,570
U8728	Collingwood Road and surrounding footways	Chorley Central	Chorley Central	Collingwood Road, Yeadon Grove, Manston Grove, Lydd Grove, Ringway, Walgarth Drive, Lindsay Drive, Isleworth Drive, Chelmsford Place, Hornchurch Drive	Footway preventative works	£38,384
NA	Footway patching for slurry sealing	As necessary	As necessary	Footway patching for slurry sealing	Pre-patching	£34,838
Total Estimate						£750,000

Appendix G: 2022/23 Maintenance of Highways Assets
Bridges 2022/23 Capital Programme

2022/23 Programme: Bridges				
Project Name	Division	District	Project Description	Estimate
22/23 9308 Mallard Footbridge	Morecambe North	Lancaster	Scheme Development	£20,000
22/23 608 White Horse Railway	Wyre Rural East/Preston Rural	Wyre	Construction	£30,000
22/23 6602 Peel Road	Fylde	Fylde	Design and reconstruction	£330,000
22/23 4410 Maudland Canal Bridge	Preston Central West	Preston	Maintenance repairs	£120,000
22/23 946 Enfield Canal Bridge	Accrington North/Great Harwood, Rishton and Clayton-le-Moors	Hyndburn	Maintenance Painting	£250,000
22/23 6511 Hapton Station	Padiham and Burnley West	Hyndburn	Maintenance Painting	£180,000
22/23 1020 Pendle Water	Pendle Hill/Brierfield and Nelson West	Pendle	Bridge Maintenance	£180,000
22/23 5650 Balcony Footbridge	Skelmersdale East	West Lancashire	Bridge Maintenance	£200,000
22/23 9661 Lark Hill Lane	Mid Rossendale	Rossendale	Bridge Replacement	£125,000
22/23 1165 Bradford Bridge	Clitheroe/Ribble Valley North East	Ribble Valley	Scheme Development	£20,000
22/23 4009 Houghtons Road	Skelmersdale West/Skelmersdale Central	West Lancashire	Bridge Maintenance	£250,000
22/23 4008 Hospital Subway	Skelmersdale West	West Lancashire	Bridge Maintenance	£250,000
22/23 1008 Carr Road Canal	Brierfield and Nelson West	Pendle	Bridge Maintenance	£145,000
22/23 4661 Yorkshire Street Aqueduct	Burnley Central East/Burnley North East	Burnley	Maintenance Painting	£145,000

2022/23 Programme: Bridges				
Project Name	Division	District	Project Description	Estimate
22/23 9436 Old Sol's Bridge	Ribble Valley South West/Ribble Valley North East	Ribble Valley	Maintenance Painting	£15,000
22/23 6376 Barrowford Road Culvert	Pendle Central	Pendle	Bridge Maintenance	£75,000
22/23 9880 Heys Footbridge	Great Harwood, Rishton and Clayton-le-Moors	Hyndburn	Maintenance Painting	£145,000
22/23 9285 Hargreaves Railway Footbridge	Leyland South/Leyland Central	South Ribble	Scheme Development and Bridge Maintenance	£145,000
22/23 6573 Wildmans Culvert	Ribble Valley South	Ribble Valley	Bridge Maintenance	£45,000
22/23 4696 Gillians Lane	Pendle Rural	Pendle	Bridge Maintenance	£45,000
22/23 6604 Bay Gate Cottage bridge and retaining wall	Ribble Valley North East	Ribble Valley	Bridge Maintenance	£45,000
22/23 Bridges Structural Maintenance West	Countywide as necessary	Countywide as necessary	Structural maintenance to bridges, footbridges and retaining walls	£395,000
22/23 Bridges Structural Maintenance East	Countywide as necessary	Countywide as necessary	Structural maintenance to bridges, footbridges and retaining walls	£345,000
Total Estimate				£3,500,000

Appendix H: 2022/23 Maintenance of Highways Assets

Traffic Signals 2022/23 Capital Programme

2022/23 Programme: Traffic Signals				
Project Name	Division	District	Project Description	Estimate
Glasson Dock Swing Bridge, Lancaster	Lancaster Central	Lancaster	Traffic Signal Asset Replacement Scheme Controller replacement; low voltage to extra low voltage. Replacement of all traffic signal heads from Halogen to LED. Review to ensure installation is fully operational	£60,000
Tag Lane, Ingol, junction near Dovedale Avenue, Preston	Preston West	Preston	Traffic Signal Asset Replacement Scheme Controller replacement; low voltage to extra low voltage. Replacement of all traffic signal heads from Halogen to LED. Review to ensure installation is fully operational	£30,000
Blackpool Road, Lea, junction near Aldfield Avenue, Preston	Preston South West	Preston	Traffic Signal Asset Replacement Scheme Controller replacement; low voltage to extra low voltage. Replacement of all traffic signal heads from Halogen to LED. Review to ensure installation is fully operational	£30,000
Torrisholme Road West of St Chads Drive (Eastbound), Lancaster	Skerton	Lancaster	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000
Torrisholme Road West of St Chads Drive (Westbound), Lancaster	Lancaster Skerton	Lancaster	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000
Lytham Road, at its junction with Haddon Place (Eastbound), Preston	Preston Central West	Preston	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000

2022/23 Programme: Traffic Signals				
Project Name	Division	District	Project Description	Estimate
Lytham Road, at its junction with Haddon Place (Westbound), Preston	Preston Central West	Preston	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000
Burnley Road, South of its junction with Honey Holme Lane (Northbound), Burnley	Burnley Rural	Burnley	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000
New Road, West of its junction with Todmorden Road (Eastbound), Burnley	Burnley Rural	Burnley	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000
Todmorden Road, North of its junction with New Road (Southbound), Burnley	Burnley Rural	Burnley	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000
Bacup Road, South of its junction with Burnley Road (Northbound), Burnley	Burnley Rural	Burnley	Over height Detection System Refurbishment Scheme Full refurbishment of the existing over height detection installation including, new controller, LED signs, over height detection, poles, ducting, loops and cabling	£60,000
Total Estimate				£600,000

Appendix I: 2022/23 Maintenance of Highways Assets **Carbon Statement for 2022/23 Proposed Carriageway Capital Programme**

An assessment of the scope 3 emissions of the proposed carriageway capital programme for 2022/23 has been undertaken. This shows a carbon footprint of approximately 1324 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalence (CO₂e) from the programmes' activities, with a saving of 267 tonnes of CO₂e, representing a 16.8% saving. This has been achieved through the use of warm mix asphalt on the majority of resurfacing and reconstruction schemes and the continued development and use of in-situ and ex-situ recycling. The savings are equivalent to over 1.3million miles driven by an average passenger car, which equates to taking 116 cars off the road for a year.

Treatment areas and emissions are divided between the road classification programmes and treatments and are shown in tables 1 and 2 below. Table 3 provides an average of the cost and CO₂e footprint per m² of each treatment across all road classification programmes.

Treatment Area (m ²)	Ex-situ Recycling	In-Situ Recycling	Reconstruction	Resurfacing	Surface Dressing	Sub-total
ABC	0	2,700	13,162	24,128	71,613	111,603
Urban	540	0	26,479	31,299	173,911	232,229
Unclassified	5,910	0	10,788	8,517	92,176	117,391
Rural Unclassified						
Sub-total	6,450	2,700	50,429	63,944	337,700	461,223

Table 1: Total treatment areas by programme and by treatment

CO ₂ e (tonnes)	Ex-situ Recycling	In-Situ Recycling	Reconstruction	Resurfacing	Surface Dressing*	Sub-total
ABC	0	26	125	108	89	348
Urban	4	0	232	158	269	663
Unclassified	43	0	98	39	133	313
Rural Unclassified						
Sub-total	47	26	455	305	491	1,324

Table 2: Total CO₂e (tonnes) emissions by programme and by treatment

*CO₂e for surface dressing **includes** the footprint of the asphalt required for pre-patching

	Average kgCO ₂ e consumption per m ² treated	Average cost per m ² treated
Surface Dressing	1.45	£7.30
Resurfacing	4.77	£25.21
Reconstruction	9.02	£43.26
Ex-situ Recycling	7.31	£53.81
In-situ Recycling	9.63	£35.95

Table 3: Average treatment CO₂e emissions and cost per m²

The Transport Asset Management Plan (TAMP) introduced in 2014 moved away from a 'worst first' approach in favour of an approach whereby the underlying condition of the network was addressed via the use of early intervention preventative maintenance strategies. This approach enabled the council to make more efficient use of our resources and through the first phase of the TAMP, from April 2015 to March 2020 aimed to improve the condition of the ABC network. The second phase of the TAMP, April 2020 to March 2025 aims to maintain the condition of the ABC network by the use of preventative treatments such as surface dressing and improve the condition of the urban unclassified road network.

With regards to cost, the programme data in tables 1 to 3 show that preventative maintenance strategies such as surface dressing can treat large areas of the network at minimal cost: approximately a quarter of the cost per m² of resurfacing and less than sixth of the cost of reconstruction. Assessing the programme with regards to CO₂e shows that surface dressing represents 73% of the proposed works programme by area but just 37% by CO₂e emissions. As such surface dressing treatments result in the lowest CO₂e footprint per m², with the CO₂e footprint of surface dressing being approximately just over a quarter of that of resurfacing, while nearly less than a seventh of reconstruction.

Reconstruction works account for 11% of the proposed works programme by area but 34% of the CO₂e footprint. The majority of this reconstruction work is focused on the unclassified network, as identified as identified in Phase 2 of the TAMP and borne out by the condition of the network.

It is clear therefore from the assessment of the CO₂e footprint of the programme that the TAMP approach not only provides the most efficient use of monetary resources but also allows significantly larger areas of the network to be maintained to a good standard at the lowest CO₂e footprint.

The high CO₂e footprint of reconstruction schemes can be reduced by approximately 25% by the use of ex-situ recycled materials instead of hot mix asphalt. Extending the use of ex-situ recycling to all reconstruction schemes would have provided an additional saving of 114 tonnes of CO₂e. There are discrete operational differences and challenges to using ex-situ recycled material over traditional hot mix asphalt, which has limited its use to date. However, through its use of the last 2 years confidence is growing and will be eased by the commencement of a new framework contract for the supply of ex-situ recycled materials in the next financial year.

There may also be scope to combine ex-situ recycling and surface dressing to provide additional cost and CO₂e savings, although again this has significant operational and technical challenges but is being investigated and progressed. In addition, if used on resurfacing schemes where just the top 40-50mm of surface is replaced this could also potentially provide an additional approximate 10% CO₂e saving on top of those realised on resurfacing schemes via the use of warm mix asphalt.

Beyond the CO₂e savings made through ex-situ recycling it is also important to consider that it reuses finite resources such as aggregate and bitumen, providing consequential benefits such as reduced environment impact through reduced quarrying and crude oil processing.

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Service - Highways**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
Lancaster Rural North;

Corporate Priorities:
Supporting economic growth;

Proposed Prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horse drawn vehicles, B6601 Leapers Wood Road and B6601 Roundabout (M6 Junction 35), Over Kellett.

(Appendices 'A' - 'B' refer)

Contact for further information:

Ray Bennett, Tel: (01772) 531182, Highways Development Control,
ray.bennett@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report sets out Traffic Regulation Order proposals to introduce a 40mph speed limit, prohibition of Stopping and Prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horse Drawn Vehicles, along the B6601 Leapers Wood Road and B6601 Roundabout (M6 Junction 35), detailing one unresolved objection.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the Traffic Regulation Orders as advertised and confirm sealing of the associated Orders.

Detail

Lancaster City Council's Planning Committee approved a planning application (17/01133/FUL) on 9 May 2018 to develop land adjacent to the A601(M) south of Junction 35 near Carnforth for a car showroom, with vehicular access taken directly from the then A601(M) approximately 160m north of B6254 Kellett Road.

The section of the A601(M) between the B6254 Kellett Road and the M6 Junction 35 roundabout, including the roundabout itself, were at the time designated special roads and covered by motorway regulations.

To facilitate safe access to the approved development it was necessary to remove motorway status and implement a lower speed limit, which required the revocation of the special road status of that part of the A601(M) and Junction 35 roundabout.

Cabinet approved this proposal on 3 December 2018 and the special road status of the A601m between the B6254 Kellet Road and the M6 Junction 35 roundabout, including Junction 35 roundabout was revoked by the Secretary of State for Transport on 4 March 2020.

The road has subsequently been redesignated as the B6601 and given the name Leapers Wood Road and the car showroom development has been constructed and its access named Electric Drive.

Only vehicular traffic accesses the development (Electric Drive) via B6601 Leapers Wood Road. A separate street lit access specifically for pedestrians and cyclists, provided as a condition of planning approval for the site, serves the development directly from B6254 Kellett Road. This runs parallel to B6601 Leapers Wood Road, (site layout plan attached at Appendix 'A' refers).

B6601 Leapers Wood Road has no specific pedestrian or cyclist facilities. Beyond Electric Drive there is no connectivity via B6601 Leapers Wood Road to routes (pedestrian, cycle or vehicular) other than the motorway network, being the M6 and the remaining section of the A601(M) which connects M6 junction 35 to the A6 Scotland Road.

There is no need for pedestrian or cycle traffic to travel along B6601 Leapers Wood Road as Electric Drive is served by the route provided as part of the development from B6254 Kellett Road.

Officers consider it necessary in the interests of highway safety at this time to reintroduce restrictions normally associated with motorway status, limiting access to vehicle classes suitable for accessing motorway network to avoid unnecessary vehicle movements along B6601 Leapers Wood Road and discourage access to the motorway network by inappropriate users.

As such temporary restrictions were introduced to limit the road use to appropriate vehicle classes in addition to a reduced 40mph speed limit and restrictions on stopping along the length of the road.

Three permanent Orders covering the same restrictions have subsequently been advertised with one objection being received to one of the three Orders as detailed below, being the prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horse Drawn Vehicles, (prohibition order plan attached at Appendix 'B' refers).

It is proposed that the prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horse Drawn Vehicles will be examined with a view to revoking the order (if implemented) at an appropriate point in the future should the remaining section of the A601(M) have its special road status removed.

National Highways (formerly Highways England) which is the Highway Authority for the M6 fully endorses the proposal to restrict access to appropriate vehicles only via B6601 Leapers Wood Road.

Currently the northerly section of A601(M) remains subject to motorway restrictions and there is no guarantee that they will be removed. As such it is Officers' advice that the objection received to the Prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horse Drawn Vehicle Order does not raise sufficient concerns so as to not make the Order. As such it is recommended that Cabinet approves the sealing of all three Orders as advertised.

Consultations

On 5 August 2021 three sperate road Traffic Regulation Orders were advertised for a 4-week period until 2 September 2021 in connection with B6601 Leapers Wood Road: -

1. B6601 Roundabout and Leapers Wood Road, Over Kellett, Lancaster, 40mph Speed Limit Order.
2. B6601 Roundabout and Leapers Wood Road, Over Kellett, Lancaster, Prohibition of Stopping Order.
3. B6601 Roundabout and Leapers Wood Road, Over Kellett, Lancaster Prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horse Drawn Vehicle Order.

The county council received no objection to either proposal 1, the 40mph speed limit, nor proposal 2, the prohibition of stopping order.

However, the county council has received one objection to proposal 3, the prohibition of Pedestrians, Equestrians, Cycles and Horse Drawn Vehicle Order.

This is detailed below: -

Objection

"I wish to object to the proposed permanent ban on non-motorised traffic on the B6601.

This road has been demoted from motorway status to allow development, e.g. of a Porsche centre. This road is the only road to access said site.

As far as I can tell, not being able to visit the site in person until after your response deadline, this proposed TRO makes the site completely inaccessible to those classes of traffic, which is fundamentally at odds with your responsibilities as a Highways Authority.

The reason given of "avoiding danger" is quite laughable given that this is a mere single carriageway B road, when a few miles away you have dual carriageways like the A683 that are entirely legal to cycle on (and seem to lack reasonable alternatives). The only way to completely eliminate road danger is to close every road."

In response, Officers contacted the Objector and confirmed that the premises and site accessed via Leapers Wood Road, known as Electric Drive, has a separate illuminated pedestrian and cycle access running parallel to B6601 Leapers Wood Road which connects to B6254 Kellett Road. As such the site is fully accessible via sustainable modes such as walking and cycling and there is no need for cyclists to travel along Leapers Wood Road to access the site. There is no footway adjacent to Leapers Wood Road itself, which of course was formally motorway, for pedestrians to use.

Officers also confirmed that beyond Electric Drive the carriageway of Leapers Wood Road leads directly to the existing motorway network of the M6 and A601M only. The road does not connect to any non-motorway routes at this time. As rightly pointed out previously the road was part of the A601M route, and the road has now been reclassified to the B6601. Following reclassification restrictions pertaining to motorway use were lost. However, in the interests of highway safety it remains necessary to re-introduce those restrictions through the legal orders advertised to ensure access to the motorway network continues to be restricted to the appropriate vehicle classes only.

Subsequently the Objector reaffirmed their objection: -

"It has come to my attention that Lancashire County Council is potentially looking to remove the special road status of the remainder of the A601(M).

<https://www.lancs.live/news/lancashire-news/m6-link-road-carnforth-change-22040846>

If this is indeed the case, then one of the bases for restrictions that you cite, restricting access to the motorway network, will (no) longer hold true, and would offer a potentially useful bypass of Carnforth.

Even if motorway restrictions were to remain in place, there is a similar layout in Leicester, at the junction of the M1, M69, and A5460, where the only legal route for NMUs is to circle around the roundabout and back up the A5460. I'd have thought that the signs indicating the start of motorway restrictions would be effective enough at keeping NMUs off the network.

Consequently, at the current time I still do object to the proposal. If the remaining section of the A601(M) were certainly to remain a motorway, then I would have no objection to the restrictions, although I wouldn't see them as necessary either. However, with the fate of that road in question, I see harm in restrictions being imposed should the road cease to be a special road. On the contrary, I don't see any real harm arising from the absence of restrictions while the A601(M) remains a motorway - perhaps a few cyclists going around the roundabout, rather than trying to turn right out of the business park. But if the non-motorised access is of the quality you indicate, I don't see why a cyclist who wasn't lost would choose to go that way anyway, so I suspect this is an academic issue.

I certainly don't want to see restrictions imposed on the current A601(M) if it ceases to be a special road, merely on the basis that it leads to only the M6

and the B6601 that prohibits pedestrians and cyclists. I'd ask that the future status of the A601(M) be determined, and then the former/current A601(M) considered holistically.

In the interim I wouldn't object to the renewal of temporary traffic orders as are currently imposed."

In response Officers contacted the Objector and confirmed that the prohibition orders objected to were formed and advertised prior to the separate considerations of the northerly section of the A601(M) taking place.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Currently there are no legal orders regulating the use of the B6601 Leapers Wood Road in accessing the motorway network (M6/A601(M)). Although signage is in place, following the implementation of now expired temporary orders, these are unenforceable. As such non-motorised traffic, inclusive of pedestrians, can legally traverse the road towards motorway which is considered a safety concern. Likewise, until sealed the advertised 40mph speed limit is unenforceable as is the no stopping at any time order.

Financial

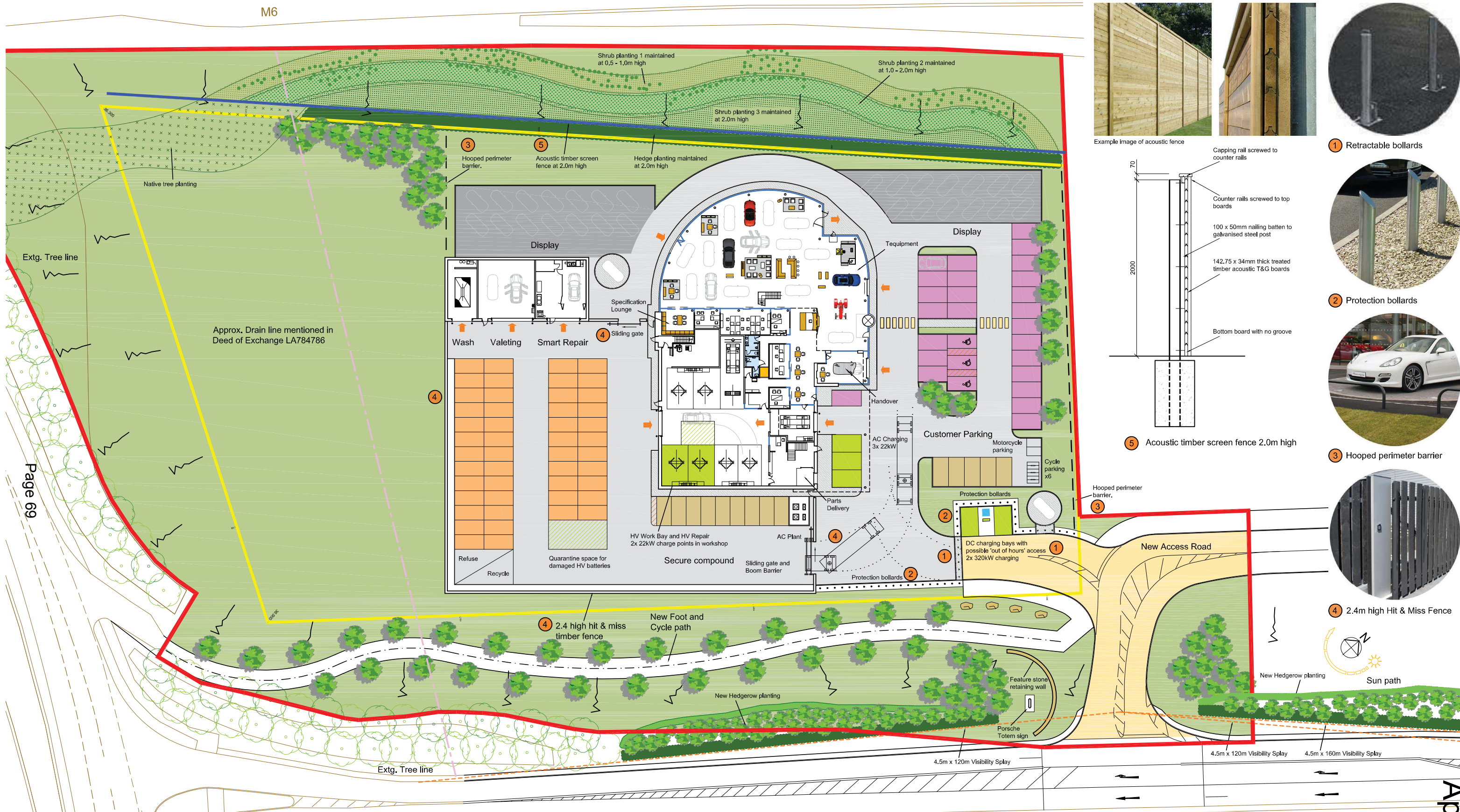
All costs associated with the implementation of the three Traffic Regulations Orders are being borne by the developer linked with planning application 17/01133/FUL under the terms of a Section 278 (Highways Act) agreement with the Highway Authority.

Legal

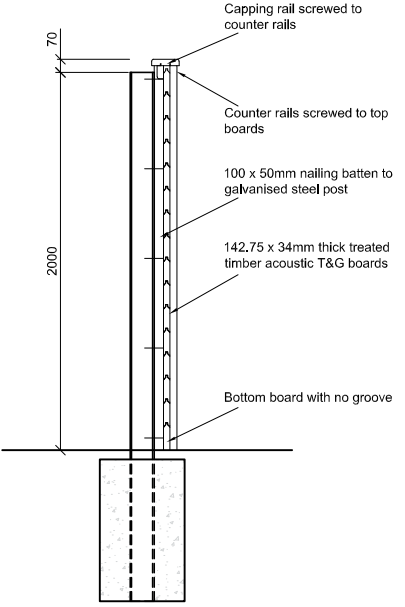
The alternative pedestrian/cycle route is private and has not been dedicated as highway.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
N/A		



Example image of acoustic fence



Acoustic timber screen fence 2.0m high

1 Retractable bollards



2 Protection bollards



3 Hooped perimeter barrier



4 2.4m high Hit & Miss Fence



Sun path

Parking Key

- Customer Parking
- Staff Parking
- Service Parking
- Display parking

AREAS

PORSCHE BUILDING GIA (Excl. Canopy)	1,445 sq.m (15,554 sq.ft)
FIRST FLOOR GIA (Incl. Parts)	375 sq.m (4,036 sq.ft)
WASH / PREP.	236 sq.m (2,540 sq.ft)
TOTAL	2,056 sq.m (22,066 sq.ft)

SITE AREA (Red Line)	5.2 acres
PARKING (Excl. Display)	Approx. 96 Spaces

NOTE

Scheme proposal prepared on developer plot information. A detail site survey is recommended prior to development of detail design.

View to site entrance



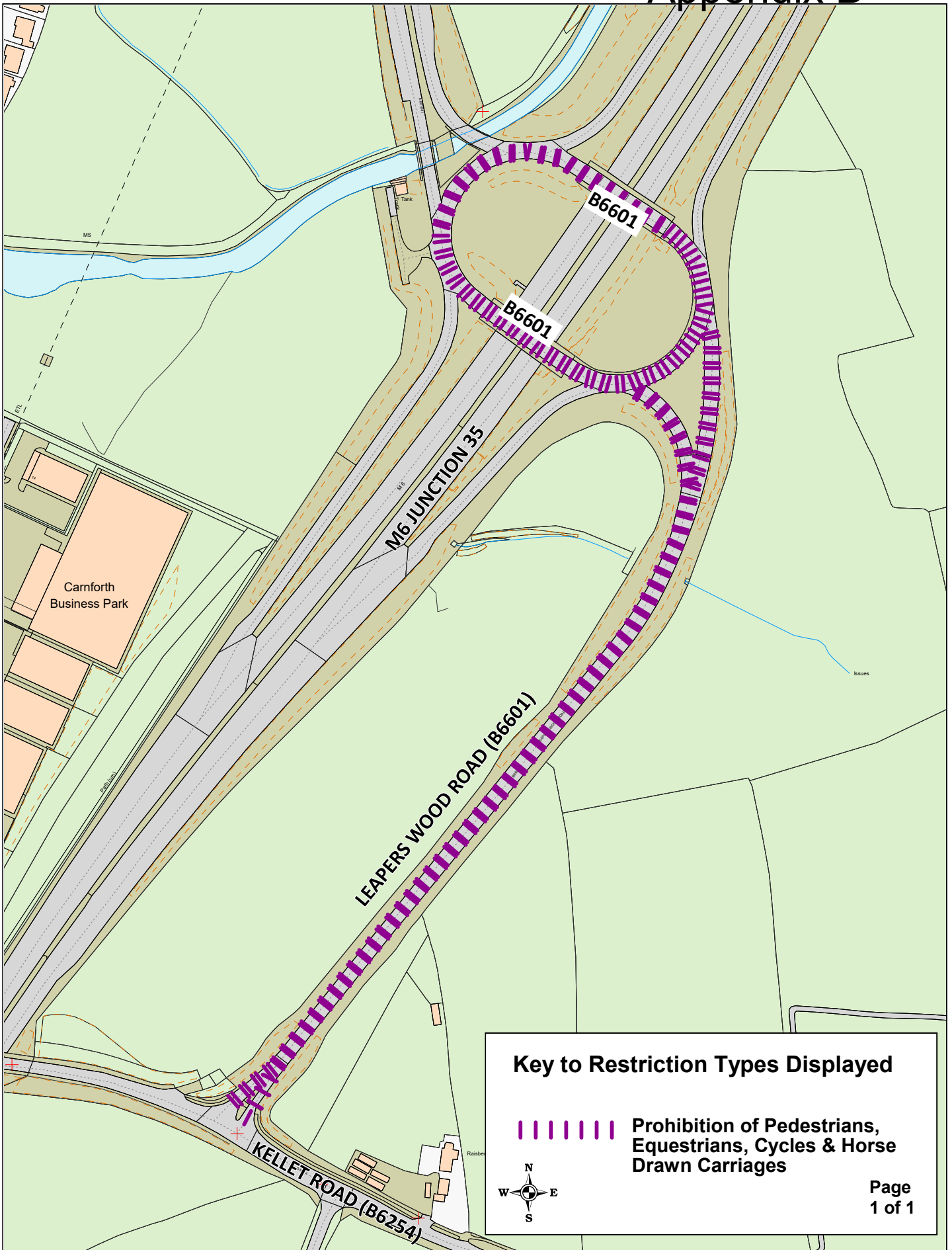
Planning


Project	PORSCHE, M6 Jct35, CARNFORTH NEW PORSCHE CENTRE
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Axis 3 Design	architectural design and services
Unit 10 Athens Court Athena Drive Tachbrook Park Warwick CV34 6RT Telephone : 01926 833570	

Rev L 6 Cycle spaces indicated, detail added to EV charge points
KJC 01/04/17

Drawing	SCHEME PROPOSAL	
Scale	Date	Drawn
1:300@A1	04/04/17	KJC
Job No.	Drawing No.	Revision
P204	02	L



<div><div>Lancashire</div><div>County Council</div><div></div></div>	<div>Leapers Wood Road (B6601) and the B6601 Roundabout, Over Kellet</div>	<div>© Crown copyright. All rights reserved Lancashire County Council Licence No. 100019820 2021</div>	SCALE	1 : 3000
		<div>Phil Durnell Director of Highways and Transportation</div> <div>P.O. Box 100, County Hall, PRESTON PR1 0LD</div>	DATE	16/07/2021
			DRAWING No.	JL/04-20/s278/A601(M)
			DRAWN BY	TJP
			Scale with care as distortion may occur	

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Fostering, Residential and Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
Caring for the vulnerable;

Review of Lancashire County Council Foster Carer Fees

Contact for further information:

Paul McIntyre, Tel: (01772) 538323, Head of Service – Fostering, Residential and Adoption Lancashire & Blackpool
paul.mcintyre@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report proposes a revised payment structure for all approved Lancashire County Council Foster Carers. The proposals put forward are informed by detailed analysis of the financial support arrangements that exist in comparator Local Authorities and Independent Fostering Agencies.

The proposed changes will deliver increased financial support to Lancashire Foster Carers, comparable to the allowances and fees that are received by carers for other local authorities and those who foster for an Independent Fostering Agency.

The overarching aim is to support the recruitment and retention of Lancashire Foster Carers against a national backdrop of insufficient carers for the children who require placements. This will support our 'Where our Children Live' strategic aims to place children close to their home and networks of support, whilst seeking to reduce reliance on more costly Independent Fostering Agency placements.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C20 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve the payment structure to Lancashire County Council Foster Carers as set out in the report.

Detail

Current payments to Foster Carers are made up of two elements – the 'Boarding Out' payment which is intended to reflect the direct care costs and is nationally reviewed and updated each year, and the 'Skills Fee' (referred to in this report as the 'fee') element which is paid to carers based on their experience and contribution to the service. The overall amount of the Skill Fee payments (based on three skill Tiers in Lancashire, with an additional Tier 3+ payment level specific to children with significant health / disability needs) has not changed since 2011, and Lancashire has therefore fallen significantly behind other local authorities.

The Fostering Services National Minimum Standards 2011 relating to foster carer fees are as follows:

Standard 28 - Each foster carer receives at least the national minimum allowance for the child, plus any necessary agreed expenses for the care, education, and reasonable leisure interests of the child, including insurance, holidays, birthday, school trips, religious festivals, etc, which cover the full cost of caring for each child placed with her/him.

Standard 30 - Financial and other support is provided to all foster carers according to an objective criteria that does not discriminate against foster carers that have a pre-existing relationship with the child. Family and friend foster carers may require some services to be delivered in a different way, but there should be equity of provision and entitlement.

The ongoing national Independent Review of Children's Social Care highlights a national picture of fostering services that is reflected in Lancashire as follows:

- the overall size of the fostering sector has grown in recent years, but a significant proportion of this growth is kinship fostering (those with an existing relationship to a named child and caring for that child under fostering regulations).
- Demand for foster placements exceeds availability with the lack of sufficiency most apparent for older children with more complex needs and sibling groups. This means that children within this profile are more likely to be placed with Independent Fostering Agency carers, or in a residential care home, despite the initial request for a fostering placement.
- Fostering can be challenging and high rates of drop out are seen, requiring significant recruitment to maintain provision levels.
- Recruitment of foster carers is challenging, with a projected national shortfall of 25,000 carers over the next 5 years. In 2021, the mainstream (non-kinship) Independent Fostering Agency sector grew by 525 households, whilst the local authority fostering sector shrunk by 35 households, with 79% of new enquiries being directed towards Independent Fostering Agencies.
- Independent Fostering Agency placements cost an average of £790 a week. In Lancashire, this means that although the proportion of children in mainstream county council foster placements and Independent Fostering Agency placements are broadly comparable, the costs are not. £165,000 per week is spent on in house placements versus £352,000 per week spent on Independent Fostering Agency placements, based on analysis from June 2021.

As at the end of December 2021, Lancashire had 551 fostering households, of which 366 offered matches to non-connected children. The county council has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient foster care placements providing the appropriate skills and location are available for children who require them. In line with the national picture, fostering provides placements for approaching two thirds of all looked after children in Lancashire. Whilst this is likely to remain a mixed economy of delivery there are strong financial and quality of care rationale to support the delivery of in-house fostering services.

The county council's recruitment service aims to recruit 75 new mainstream foster carers per year. Social and financial factors in the last year have contributed to a significant reduction in enquiries to foster, with a projected approval rate for the current year of approximately 50 carers. There is a further concern that 21% of non-connected fostering households are currently within the age group 60+ which, over the coming years, will lead to natural retirement from their fostering roles. Whilst it is acknowledged that the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the performance of delivering against this recruitment target, there is further concern as to how Lancashire's current payment model may be impacting on the recruitment and retention of foster carers.

As highlighted above dropout rates are nationally high for fostering and recent economic and social trends are likely to have exacerbated this, with a significant number of foster carers at or beyond typical retirement ages. In Lancashire, there were 64 resignations (for many reasons) during the financial year 2020-21, and this number was exceeded during April to December 2021, which saw 71 resignations. This highlights the need to retain existing foster carers and to attract new carers to Lancashire, above the current levels.

Proposed changes

The proposed changes are recommended to ensure Lancashire County Council recognises and values the current foster carers by offering a competitive payment scheme that supports the recruitment and retention of in-house foster carers. Some Lancashire foster carers have transferred to Independent Fostering Agency providers that offer the same level of payment as they currently receive (Tier 3), but without the need to demonstrate any additional contribution to the service, as is the requirement for Tier 3 in Lancashire. The loss of such carers results in significantly increased placements costs for the children already in their care, as well as loss of future placement options.

The proposed payment structure is intended to:

- reflect the increasing complexities of children entering the care system;
- separate the functionality of contribution to the service and peer mentoring out from caring for the child;
- simplify the payment process, by linking fees to the ages of children;
- be competitive in the rates that are paid, in line with increased living costs;
- reflect the need to deliver sufficiency of good quality placements with a healthy balance of in house and external Independent Fostering Agency provision;

make the payment of the fees clearer, fairer, more transparent, and accessible.

The current payment structure is as follows:

Foster carers are paid in 4 levels (Tiers 1 – 3 and then Tier 3+):

- Tier 1 and 2 are based on the standard role of being a foster carer.
- Tier 3 is based on being able to care for children with more complex needs, as well as contributing to the Fostering Service.
- Tier 3+ is paid to those carers who care for children presenting with significantly more complex needs.
- Allowances and fees are calculated per week per child.

Consultations

A combination of consultations took place via Zoom workshops, an online survey and email exchanges. The feedback from these sessions has been incorporated into the proposals developed. Consultation took place with:

- Foster carers;
- Foster carer Forum representatives; and
- Social workers, Managers, and support staff in the Support to Permanence and the Recruitment and Assessment teams.

The following points were strongly represented:

- The level of fees paid should not be directly linked to the contribution to the service. This was strongly expressed during the Zoom consultations, although less strongly represented in the survey.
- The combined payments of the allowance and fee elements are not meeting the full costs of caring for a child.
- Fees should be determined by the skill or experience of the carers and/or the needs of the child, with age or need of the child being strongly represented, and with particular reference to children presenting with complex needs.
- Achieving Tier 3 can be complex and difficult to achieve, and the annual review of this status creates financial insecurity for foster carers.
- There should be a reward or incentive for experienced carers.

Proposed changes:

1. Renaming:

The Skill fee allowance to be renamed the Foster Carer Fee, therefore the overall financial support paid to foster carers will be inclusive of a) the nationally defined 'Boarding Out' allowance, and b) the Lancashire Foster Carer Fee, where applicable. This is a shift from the current tier system of payments, to a payment allocated to the foster carer based mainly on the age of the child.

2. Fees to foster carers:

For all foster carers from the point of approval of fostering status at Panel, payments will be based on the following age-banded groups:

Age 0 -10	£200 per week
Age 11-17	£240 per week

This structure is consistent with the fee structures being developed by other local authorities, and provides a simple and fair basis of payment linked to the needs and demands of children being placed.

3. Contribution to the service:

Instead of service contribution being reflected within the skills fee/Tier payment, those carers who wish to, and are able to provide additional support functions, will be recompensed for doing so as shown below (some of which are already paid roles, marked with an #):

Role	Rate payable
Designated lead - marketing lead, wellbeing lead etc	£10 per hour
Communities Coordinator*#	£200 per month
Trainer (Skills to foster#, lead on support groups)	£10 per hour
Mentor as part of Mentoring academy	£10 per hour
Interview panel	£100 per panel for a full day or pro rata for less

*Fostering Communities are based on the principles of the Mockingbird project whereby the Communities Coordinator - as an experienced foster carer - supports 4 others fostering families through peer support and an extended family model, with an emphasis on respite and inter household support.

All foster carers are encouraged to contribute to the service and take on voluntary roles for their personal development, as follows:

- Contribution to the development of the service for example being part of a task and finish group).
- Becoming a Fostering Forum representative.
- Becoming a Corporate Parenting Board representative.
- Attending a marketing event or contribution to a marketing campaign.
- Becoming a buddy to another foster carer.
- Support group/information evening/marketing surgery presentations.

4. Fee Plus

'Tier 3+' is currently paid to those foster carers who look after children with significant additional needs, often associated with complex health and/or disability needs. The

foster carer receives an additional weekly amount of £115 on top of their Tier fee and Boarding Out allowance (i.e. a Tier 3 carer currently receives £345 per week plus Boarding Out allowance under Tier 3+). The proposal is to create a wider structure of additional carer fees that apply to:

Category 1) being children who –

- have complex needs (including but not limited to health/disability);
- are placed on remand under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act or matched and placed via an out of hours emergency (paid for the first 4 weeks of placement); or
- have moderate to severe disability and are open to our Children with Disabilities Social Work Team.

Category 2) being children who -

- are stepping down from a residential placement;
- have experienced multiple fostering breakdowns;
- are assessed as requiring a solo fostering placement; or
- are placed on a 28-day task centred basis with a carer who has been assessed as being able to deliver time limited assessment-based placements for children with complex placement needs.

This will be based on a Carer Fee of £345 per week for children in the 1st category, and a Carer Fee of £400 per week for children in the 2nd category. This will support the identification of placements within our own resources and locality for children who have significant additional needs, and/or children who are likely to be placed in more expensive placement settings (including residential placements from £2,500 per week upwards). Given the savings that would be achieved from a step-down placement, or cost avoidance for prevention of escalation into high-cost placements, these payments will not be time-limited or subject to review within the duration of the placement, other than:

- where the child has been assessed as requiring a solo placement; or
- where the placement is linked to a time limited health need (for example, a baby who is withdrawing after maternal drug use during pregnancy).

Experience and research show that linking payments to review periods undermines the effectiveness of such schemes and inadvertently rewards negative outcomes for children in placements.

5. Payment for sibling group placements:

When a sibling group of 3 or more children are matched and placed at the same time and have been fostered for a period of 2 months, foster carers will receive an additional incentive of a one off £1,000 payment.

6. Festival, birthday, and holiday allowances:

These additional allowances will be set at rates linked to the age-related boarding out payment of the child. The following multipliers are proposed, with rates set out in the table below:

Birthday and Religious Festival: Each 1 x boarding out allowance.
 Holiday: 2.5 x the boarding out allowance

Age Group	Holiday	Birthday	Religious Festival
0 – 4	£345	£138	£138
5 – 10	£380	£152	£152
11 – 15	£432.50	£173	£173
16 – 17	£505	£202	£202

7. All fees paid to foster carers (excluding allowances relevant to the child) are linked to the Consumer Price Index and uplifted annually accordingly:

This will provide Foster Carers with some financial stability and ensure that the Carer Fee keeps pace with the cost of living to enable fostering to remain affordable.

8. Foster carers transferring from another Local Authority or Independent Fostering Agency with Lancashire children in their care:

Foster carers will have the option to transfer into Lancashire, if appropriate, on a no detriment basis, meaning that they will receive the same fees from Lancashire as they had directly received in the previous agency, until the Lancashire child in their care leaves their care or turns 18. This can be a disincentive to carers seeking to become Lancashire foster carers but maintaining the current payment is at least cost-neutral (if coming from another local authority) or cost-saving (if transferring from an Independent Fostering Agency) when costs to the agency placement budget are considered. This will only apply to the Lancashire child they have in their care at the point of transferring. Any subsequent placements made with a carer transferring to Lancashire will be paid at the standard fee.

9. Long service award:

For those foster carers that have fostered for Lancashire for a continuous period of 5 years or more, it is proposed that, from 1st April 2022, anniversary long service awards will be introduced. An award will be paid to carers at their next applicable long service date, at the rates set out below:

5 years	£500
10 years	£1000
15 years	£1500
20 + years at increments of 5 years	£2000

10. Payments to existing carers / placements:

The payment structure outlined in this report will apply to all fully approved registered in house foster carers of Lancashire County Council as set out below:

Fee	Applicable to	Applicable from	Length of payment
Age banded fee	All current and future placements	1/4/2022	Duration of fostering placement
Designated lead	Those foster carers selected to undertake this role	1/4/2022	Duration of task
Community coordinator	All coordinators undertaking this role	1/4/2022	Duration of task
Trainer	All foster carers selected to undertake this role	1/4/2022	Duration of task
Mentor	All mentors undertaking this role	1/4/2022	Duration of task
Interviewer	All foster carers selected to undertake this role	1/4/2022	Duration of task
Fee+ Complex needs	All current and future placements that are agreed by the Senior Manager as currently meeting this requirement	1/4/2022	Reviewable
Fee+ PACE	All current and future placements relating to Police & Criminal Evidence Act placements	1/4/2022	Duration of fostering placement and no longer than 4 weeks
Fee+ Out of Hours	All future children matched and placed by the Emergency Duty Team	1/4/2022	Duration of fostering placement and no longer than 4 weeks
Fee+ Step down from residential to foster care	All future placements applying to this category	1/4/2022	Duration of fostering placement
Fee+ Multiple fostering placement breakdowns	All children currently in placement and going forward, who has in the last year experienced, as agreed by the Senior Manager	1/4/2022	Duration of fostering placement
Fee+ Requirement for solo fostering placement	All current and future placements specifying this requirement	1/4/2022	Until the requirement for a solo placement no longer exists
Fee+ Moderate to severe disability	All current and future placements applying to this category	1/4/2022	Duration of fostering placement
Fee+ 28-day assessment placement	All future placements applying to this category	1/4/2022	Duration of fostering placement

Foster carers transferring in from another fostering agency	All foster carers transferring in from April 2022 with a Lancashire child in their care	1/4/2022	Duration of the fostering placement of the Lancashire child in their care at the time of the transfer
Long service award	All foster carers at the upcoming anniversaries as specified	1/4/2022	Once off at the point of the anniversary mark that is applicable
Sibling groups of 3 or more	All future foster placements made from April 2022 that apply to this category	1/4/2022	Once off payment after the children have been in the care of the foster carer for two months

Current Tier 3 or Fostering Focus carers will receive the same level of payment linked to their current placements where the transfer to the new fee arrangements would result in a lower level of payment.

Taken as a whole, these proposals will offer the following:

All approved foster carers after their full assessment will receive a good baseline fee.

Carers caring for children with significantly complex needs or being prepared to accept children that are generally more difficult to match, for example, step down from residential care, teenagers and large sibling groups, will receive additional fees that reflect the care needs they are meeting and the commitment required from them.

Lancashire's fees will be competitive with neighbouring local authorities and independent fostering agencies (the carer payment element).

The needs of the child often increase in line with their age, and this is reflected in the fees.

Experienced carers that are loyal and continue to choose to foster for Lancashire are rewarded with a long service fee.

Holiday, birthday, and festival allowances are linked to the age of the child.

All fees will be linked to an inflationary increase that will take account of the increase in costs in caring for a child.

Those foster carers that have the capacity and motivation to make a wider contribution to the service can be rewarded for doing so, without creating pressure and retention risks for those carers who care for children with significant needs but do not feel able to make a wider contribution to the service.

Implications for Staying Put and Special Guardianship arrangements

Staying Put is a scheme that enables a foster care placement to be extended as a "Staying Put" arrangement from the young person's 18 birthday, generally up to their

21st birthday. Under the current policy, Staying Put carers who were in receipt of a Skill Fee as a foster carer immediately prior to the Staying Put arrangement, receive a Staying Put Fee of £115.00 per week up to the young person's 19th birthday and a reduced fee of £57.50 from 19th to 21st birthday. The county council's Staying Put Policy makes a commitment to avoiding a significant reduction in payments to carers linked to the transition to 'Staying Put'. It is acknowledged that a separate review of Staying Put financial arrangements will be required as a result of these changes to foster payments, including consultation between the Leaving Care Service, carers, care-experienced adults, and Finance.

Under the county council's current Special Guardianship policy (*A Special Guardianship Order is a legal order that enables a child to live with a carer on a permanent basis outside of the looked after children system*), a special guardian caring for a child at the point that the Order is granted is entitled, for two years, to receive the skill fee (referred to as an enhancement) that was payable under the fostering arrangement. It is proposed from 1 April 2022, that the age-related Fee as outlined above will apply. The initial rate will be paid in accordance with the Fee, based on the age of the child at the date that the Order is granted, with subsequent inflationary uplift(s) and, where applicable, an increase in the Fee if the child moves into the older age band during the two-year enhancement period.

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

No significant Risk Management implications have been identified; the estimated cost of this proposal will be met from within the Fostering Service Budget.

Financial Implications:

In 2020/21, the county council spent a total of £37.6m on fostering services, of which £17.9m (including £13.7m specifically for allowances and fees) was spent on the in-house service and £19.7m on placements commissioned via Independent Fostering Agencies. As outlined above, sufficiency of foster carers is not only a challenge for Lancashire but is a national issue that is placing significant financial pressure on local authority budgets. In addition to the Sufficiency Duty, a value for money duty is placed upon the county council. Whilst there will always been a mixed economy of in-house and Independent Fostering Agency provision, the county council is able to provide greater value for money due to economies of scale that can be achieved. In addition to the cost differential between in-house and Independent Fostering Agency provision, lack of foster carers for older children and young people is forcing the county council to commission residential children's home placements at a much higher fee than is paid for foster care. Growing the in-house service therefore continues to be a key objective to meet both our Sufficiency and value for money duties.

The basis of the proposals set out above is to provide a flexible payment structure that meet the needs of our children and value our foster carers, according to the needs and ages of the children. The proposals, and financial implications, can be summarised into three areas:

- Fees to foster carers (including Fee Plus) and Other allowances (Birthday, Festival, Holiday)
- Paid Contribution to the Fostering Service
- Long Service awards

Fees to foster carers and Other Allowances

The proposal to change from skill-related payment arrangements to an age-based - and in some instances, Fee Plus - payment model will have a financial impact for most of the county council's existing foster carers. The table below shows the impact on weekly fees for each tier of carer, depending upon the age of the child(ren) they care for:

Age	Proposed	Variance to current		
		v T2	v T3	v T3+
0-4	£338.00	£85.00	-£30.00	-£45.00
5-9	£352.00	£85.00	-£30.00	-£45.00
10	£352.00	£85.00	-£30.00	£15.00
11-15	£413.00	£125.00	£10.00	£15.00
16-17	£442.00	£125.00	£10.00	£15.00

A summary of the financial implications, per placement per annum, of implementing the changes to Other Allowances is presented below:

Age	Financial impact per YP/annum			
	Holiday	Birthday	Festival	Total
0-4	£58	£24	-£34	£48
5-10	£36	£38	-£20	£54
11-15	£19	£59	£1	£79
16-17	-£36	£88	£7	£59

Based on the representative cohort of foster placements on 31 December 2021, the proposals are expected to require additional recurrent funding of £3.070m for the fee element, an additional £0.047m for other allowances, and £0.012m for sibling group placements from the proposed implementation date of 1 April 2022.

Paid contribution to the Fostering Service

It is estimated that payments in relation to paid services will total approximately £0.105m. An annual uplift will be applied, and the rates will be subject to regular review in consultation with carers.

Long Service Awards

Current data indicates that over the next three years, on average 80 foster care households will be eligible for Long Service awards, at an estimated cost of £0.065m per annum.

In summary the proposals outlined would require additional funding, totalling £3.254m based on the financial modelling that has been undertaken. It is anticipated that the changes to the payment model will be a positive step in growing the foster care Service, and that savings will be achieved from a higher number and proportion of in-house placements compared to Independent Fostering Agency placements, and that higher residential fees can be avoided. There are, however, multiple factors that are impacting upon foster carer sufficiency, both regionally and nationally. It is therefore considered prudent at this stage to only reflect savings, once those savings have been evidenced. The impact of the changes will be subject to regular monitoring, and the impact reflected in the ongoing Medium Term Financial Strategy updates.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Executive Director of Education and Children's Services**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
Lancaster Rural East;

Corporate Priorities:
Caring for the vulnerable;
Delivering better services;

Proposed Closure of Wennington Hall School

(Appendices 'A' to 'C' refer)

Contact for further information:

Dave Carr, Tel: (01772) 532066, Director of Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health
dave.carr@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

On 2 December 2021, Cabinet agreed to a statutory notice being published to begin a representation period on the proposed closure of Wennington Hall School. A statutory proposal document was published in relation to the proposed closure of the school, with implementation commencing on 31 August 2022. The representation period took place from 10 December 2021 to 7 February 2022.

As part of the statutory process, a decision should now be taken about the proposal and this will be done by Lancashire County Council, which is the decision maker. If the authority does not make a decision within two months from the end of the representation period, the proposal and any representations about the proposal must be passed to the schools adjudicator for a decision.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Consider the information in this report.
- (ii) Approve the proposal as detailed in the statutory notice to close Wennington Hall School, with effect from 31 August 2022.

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| <p>(iii) Approve that an appropriate statutory decision letter be sent out, as specified under legal requirements, to give the reasons for the decision to those who are to be informed of them.</p> |
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Detail

Wennington Hall is a local authority maintained residential special school, for children and young people aged 11 to 16, with social emotional and mental health needs. The school has a designated capacity of 80 pupils, including 20 single occupancy residential places for 38 weeks a year. There are currently 15 young people on roll. Eight of the remaining 15 pupils will have turned sixteen during the course of the current academic year and will therefore leave the school in July 2022. All pupils now attend on a day basis and there are no longer any residential pupils.

On 1 June 2021, the Leader of the County Council and the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills approved, on behalf of Cabinet and in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order C16(1), that a stage 1 consultation be undertaken on the proposed closure of Wennington Hall School. The associated report highlighted that, following the process to procure an appropriate independent provider to take over the running of the educational provision at Wennington Hall School, no contract could be awarded. Prior to the procurement, no appropriate academy sponsor could be identified and the Minister agreed the revocation of the Academy order, subject to a provider being found, which did not leave the county council the option to maintain the school. The school's financial viability remained threatened so there was little option but to consult on the proposed closure of the school.

The consultation received four responses and highlighted a number of concerns should the school be closed. In the main, these related to the impact of redundancy, specifically loss of income, financial security and professional reputation. There were also concerns raised about the sufficiency of alternative education places for pupils affected by the closure.

On 2 December 2021, Cabinet gave approval for a stage 2 statutory notice to be published, and for a stage 3 representation period to be undertaken in relation to the proposal to close Wennington Hall School. The reasons for the proposal were the same as contained within the stage 1 consultation that, as no appropriate academy sponsor could be found, no contract with a provider to run the school could be awarded and, as the Minister had agreed the revocation of the Academy order, subject to a provider being found, the county council did not have the option to maintain the school and the school's financial viability remains threatened.

There is a defined statutory process in the School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 which must be followed before making a decision on the closure of a maintained school. This is supplemented by further guidance on the process published by the Department for Education.

There are five statutory stages for this proposal as set out below:

Action	Start
Cabinet approval to consult	1 June 2021
Stage 1 Consultation	6 September to 17 October 2021
Report back on consultation and Cabinet decision whether to publish Statutory Notice	2 December 2021
Stage 2 and 3 Publication of Statutory Notice and representation period	10 December 2021 to 7 February 2022
Stage 4 Decision - CURRENT STAGE	3 March 2022
Stage 5 Implementation	Following decision with closure on 31 August 2022

The county council published a stage 2 statutory notice and an accompanying proposal document on the council website on 10 December 2021, the first day of the stage 3 representation period. The Stage 3 representation period was initially planned to run to 31 January 2022, but was extended to 7 February 2022, to provide additional time for receipt of any representations following publication of the notice in the Lancaster Guardian on 30 December 2021.

No responses were received during the representation period.

The county council, as decision maker, must now determine whether to close the school.

The statutory notice, accompanying proposal, and the Equality Impact Assessment can be found at Appendices 'A' to 'C' respectively.

Factors Relevant to all Types of Proposal

Local authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in their area, to promote high educational standards, to ensure fair access to educational opportunity and to promote the fulfilment of every child's educational potential. To help local authorities to meet their duties and restructure local provision, they have the power to close all categories of local authority maintained schools. Reasons for closing a maintained mainstream school include where it is surplus to requirements (for example there are sufficient places in neighbouring schools to accommodate displaced pupils) or where it is failing and there is no viable sponsored academy solution.

The Department for Education's statutory guidance for decision-makers deciding prescribed alteration and establishment and discontinuance proposals, published in November 2019, sets out a number of factors which must be taken into consideration for all types of proposal. These factors have been considered in the development of the full proposal to close Wennington Hall School, as set out at Appendix 'B'.

Conclusions

The factors which led to the proposal to consult on the closure of Wennington Hall School remain. No appropriate academy sponsor could be found. The Minister had agreed the revocation of the Academy order, subject to a provider being found to take over the school. Following the process to procure an appropriate independent provider to take over the running of the educational provision at Wennington Hall School, no contract could be awarded. The county council is not left with the option to maintain the school and the school's financial viability remains threatened.

Ofsted's last full inspection of the school took place in July 2019, judging the school to need significant improvement. This followed the previous full inspection by Ofsted in December 2016, which rated the school as in need of special measures. This indicates the school has not shown sufficient evidence of improvement during this period, and that it requires new arrangements to secure substantial improvement.

If the decision is taken to close Wennington Hall School, places for children for whom it is agreed that special school provision continues to be required will take account of parental preference, the child's views, distance from home and the confidence of the proposed school to meet the identified needs. Schools within the maintained and non-maintained/independent sector will be considered. The local authority will continue to work with the school to ensure stability in provision, and to work on implementing the decision during the remainder of the Spring and Summer Term, prior to the proposed closure on 31 August 2022.

More broadly, the SEND Sufficiency Strategy 2020 supports the presumption for mainstream provision, as outlined in the SEND Code of Practice. Following Cabinet approval in September 2021, 7 SEND units within primary schools are currently being set up, each providing for up to 16 children with social, communication and interaction needs, and feasibility studies for more SEND units are being carried out in another 9 mainstream schools. An additional 132 places are also being made available by expanding 2 existing special schools. In addition, the creation of satellite extensions to other special schools on mainstream sites will enable children to benefit from the expertise of specialist teachers, at the same time as being able to enjoy inclusive opportunities alongside mainstream peers. The creation of these additional places will help ensure sufficient specialist provision is available in the future, should Wennington Hall School close.

This report demonstrates that, on the basis of the Department for Education criteria, the decision maker is recommended to approve the proposal to close Wennington Hall School, with effect from 31 August 2022.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

The authority has a statutory duty to secure high quality school places for its residents. Alternative school places can be secured for current pupils affected by the proposed closure of Wennington Hall School.

Human Resources

There are implications for staff employed in the school and although compulsory redundancies will be inevitable should the school close, the county council's Human Resources team has been in contact with all the staff to make them aware of their options for the future.

Financial Implications

The school has a cumulative deficit of over £1.77million. This deficit is currently forecast to rise by circa £0.8 million in 2021/22, circa £1.0 million in 2022/23 and £1.0 million in 2023/24, if no further action is taken.

When a local authority discontinues its maintenance of a school, a deficit balance reverts to the authority and will need to be funded from the authority's budget. There is therefore a financial risk to the county council.

Equality and Cohesion

An Equality Impact Analysis has been provided at Appendix 'C'.

Property Asset Management

Should there be a determination to close the school, the county council would continue to be responsible for property holding costs, until such time as the future of the site is determined. Should a subsequent decision be taken to dispose of the site, then the Department for Education guidance on transactions relating to school land would need to be taken into account.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

Wennington Hall public notice and complete proposal

Wennington Hall School - proposed closure

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Lancashire County Council, PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD intends to close Wennington Hall School, Lodge Lane, Wennington, LA2 8NS on 31 August 2022.

The proposal arises because of continuing low educational standards at the school over a prolonged period of time; the failure of the Regional Schools' Commissioner to secure a sponsor to convert the school to an academy; the inability to award a contract to take over the maintenance of the school by an independent sector provider; and the school's lack of financial viability.

The local authority's opinion is that this proposal is not related to any other proposals that have been, are, or are about to be published.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal.

In respect of the public safety offered by social distancing, requests for copies of the complete proposal should be made by telephone or email rather than by visiting the school or any other venue.

Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from Susan Strother via telephone on 01772 534404 or by email to susan.strother@lancashire.gov.uk. Please put 'Wennington request' in the subject box.

Copies can also be accessed through the Lancashire County Council website:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/929160/wennington-hall-complete-proposal-2021.pdf>

Any person may object to, or make comments on, the proposal by emailing Susan.strother@lancashire.gov.uk

Please put 'Wennington response' in the subject box.

Alternatively, postal representation can be made by writing to:

Susan Strother,
Property Asset Principal,
Education and Children's Services Room 2:27,
Lancashire County Council PO Box 100,
County Hall
Preston
PR1 0LD.

To be considered as part of the decision-making process to determine the proposal, responses must be received no later than 5pm on Monday 7 February 2022.

Publication Date: 10/12/21

Explanatory Notes

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, information about representations to the published proposal may be accessed by members of the public.

All forms of responses to the consultation held from 6 September to 17 October 2021 were taken into account before the publication of this notice.

MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 15 PROPOSALS TO DISCONTINUE WENNINGTON HALL SCHOOL

Extract of Schedule 2 to The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 (as amended):

Contact details

1. The name and contact address of the local authority or governing body publishing the proposals and the name, address and category of the school it is proposed that should be discontinued.

The proposal to close:
Wennington Hall School
Lodge Lane
Wennington
LA2 8NS

is published by Lancashire County Council, the relevant local authority. Wennington Hall is an 11-16 community special school with on-site residential facilities.

The local authority can be contacted at the following address:

Susan Strother,
Property Asset Principal,
Education and Children's Services Room 2:27,
Lancashire County Council PO Box 100,
County Hall
Preston
PR1 0LD.

Or by emailing:

susan.strother@lancashire.gov.uk

Implementation

2. The date on which it is proposed to close the school or, where it is proposed that the closure be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.

It is proposed to close the school on 31st August 2022.

Wherever possible, Lancashire County Council (LCC) will ensure pupils are not disadvantaged if the decision is taken to close the school.

Reason for closure

3. A statement explaining the reason why closure of the school is considered necessary.

The proposal arises because of low educational standards, the failure to identify a sponsor to convert the school to an academy, the school's low pupil numbers and lack of financial viability.

Low educational standards

Ofsted's last full inspection of the school took place in July 2019, judging the school to need significant improvement. This followed the previous full inspection by Ofsted in December 2016, which rated the school as in need of special measures. This indicates the school has not shown

sufficient evidence of improvement during this period and requires new arrangements to secure substantial improvement.

Conversion to an academy

In line with national policy for schools causing concern, the Department for Education's Regional Schools' Commissioner (RSC) issued LCC with an academy order. LCC and RSC sought to identify a sponsor to convert the school to an academy as part of a multi-academy trust.

Despite repeated attempts, a sponsor could not be found to lead this conversion, which has left the school with an uncertain long-term future.

In September 2019, the RSC wrote to LCC to advise that approval had been given to revoke the academy order, subject to LCC sourcing an appropriate independent provider to take over the running of the educational provision at Wennington Hall School. The revocation of the directive academy order is contingent upon the discontinuance of the provision as a maintained school.

Maintenance of the school within the independent sector

Approval was given by LCC's Cabinet to commence the formal procurement process intended to secure the future of Wennington Hall School in January 2020. The implementation of this decision was delayed due to the national pandemic but the invitation to tender was published in October 2020. The process for receipt of tenders closed in December 2020. Despite an extensive procurement process to find an independent provider with the ability to maintain and develop the provision and site, only 1 tender was received. At the end of the evaluation process, it was not possible to award the contract. This means that the conditions of the revocation of the academy order have not been met.

Pupil numbers and financial viability

As of September 2021, the school had 17 pupils on roll, well below its potential capacity of 80. In 2019, when the outcome of the Ofsted inspection showed that the expected improvements in provision identified in the previous report had not been achieved and the school was therefore still not judged by Ofsted to be 'good', the local authority stopped placing additional pupils in the school. This means that numbers on roll have shown a steady decline and this has had a significant impact on the financial viability of the school, which has been in deficit since 2017. The school now has a cumulative deficit of over £1.77million, as a result of maintaining higher staffing levels, to ensure pupils are adequately safeguarded, and additional transport costs due to reducing, and now no, residential placements. This deficit is currently forecast to rise by around £1.1million in 2021/22 and will continue to grow if no action is taken. This has prevented substantial improvements being made to the site and to the range of provision offered.

Consultation

In accordance with the School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013, a stage 1 consultation period ran from 6th September to 17th October 2021. During this consultation period, a total of 4 individual responses were received, all from members of staff.

Given the benefits of continuing to adhere to social distancing rules, it was decided not to offer physical consultation events. Instead, a virtual event for Union Representatives was held on 15th September 2021. 6 Representatives attended this event on behalf of 4 Unions. Other virtual events for any interested parties were offered during the week of 20th September but were cancelled due to no bookings being made.

Conclusion

LCC has concerns that Wennington Hall is not able to provide the standard of education required as a maintained school and believes that this would be best addressed by closing the school and transferring the remaining children to other appropriate educational establishments. This concurs with the DfE's view, as demonstrated by their revocation of the directive academy order being made contingent upon the discontinuation of the local authority's maintenance of Wennington Hall in favour of an independent provider. The school's rapidly growing and significant financial deficit makes it not viable and impacts negatively on the provision of other LCC services.

Pupil numbers and admissions

4. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

Wennington Hall School is a special school for boys. The school has the capacity to provide secondary education for boys aged 11 to 16 with Education, Health and Care Plans, whose needs cannot be met in mainstream secondary schools due to their social, emotional and/or mental health needs

The school has a designated capacity of 80 pupils. As of September 2021, 17 children were on roll; but the number is reducing as some parents decide to accept places at other schools. In September 2021, the only year groups with children still on roll were Y9, 10 and 11 (age 13-14, 14-15 and 15-16). There are facilities on site to provide 20 single occupancy residential places. There are currently no pupils in residence.

Included in these numbers is one young person in the care of the local authority.

Displaced pupils

5. A statement and supporting evidence about the need for places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

The local authority is proposing to close Wennington Hall School. During the school summer holiday period 2021, just before the stage 1 consultation period began, centrally employed officers held conversations with each family about their wishes for their sons' futures. Places at other appropriate educational settings were offered to them all. The children who returned to Wennington in September were either those awaiting finalisation of arrangements to move elsewhere, or those whose parents did not want them to move. The local authority is confident that there are sufficient places available in other schools to accommodate all current pupils.

6. Details of the schools or further education colleges at which pupils at the school to be discontinued will be offered places, including:

a) any interim arrangements.

b) the provision that is to be made for those pupils who receive educational provision recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs; and

c) in the case of special schools, the alternative provision made by local authorities other than the authority which maintains the school.

The families of each child have already been offered places at alternative schools but have chosen to keep them on the roll of Wennington Hall.

The proposal is to close the school at the end of the academic year 2021/2022.

By the start of the Spring Term 2022, it is anticipated that there will be 14 children on roll, 7 in Y11. Arrangements for annual reviews have been made to take place during November for all the children, after which time the agreed next steps will be officially pursued.

Places for children for whom it is agreed that special school provision continues to be required will take account of parental preference, the child's views, distance from home and the confidence of the proposed school to meet the identified needs. Schools within the maintained and non-maintained/independent sector will be considered.

Notes from individual meetings with 5 boys in Y10 held in October 2021 record desired career paths and preferences for the next place of study. 2 named Carnforth High School as their preferred school and 3 Lancaster and Morecambe College. Some of the boys have already benefitted from taster sessions at the college. Further discussions about the pursuit of these options will be held at the annual review meetings.

It is proposed that the children will have a personalised, carefully planned transition from Wennington that will begin as soon as it is felt appropriate for each child.

7. Details of any other measures proposed to be taken to increase the number of school or further education college places available in consequence of the proposed discontinuance.

The SEND Sufficiency Strategy 2020 supports the presumption for mainstream provision, as outlined in the SEND Code of Practice. 7 SEND units within primary schools, each providing for up to 16 children with social, communication and interaction needs are being set up. Feasibility studies for more SEND units are being carried out in another 9 mainstream schools. An additional 132 places are being made available by expanding 2 existing special schools and there has also been cabinet agreement to create satellite extensions to other special schools on mainstream sites. This will enable children to benefit from the expertise of specialist teachers at the same time as being able to enjoy inclusive opportunities alongside mainstream peers. The creation of these additional places will help ensure sufficient specialist provision is available in the future, if Wennington closes.

Impact on the community

8. A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community of the closure of the school and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

Wennington Hall draws its pupils from a wide area of Lancashire. It is a county-wide provision and very few pupils come from the immediate locality, so the potential closure will have minimal effect in terms of e.g. increased home to school travel time, on children and their families in the local neighbourhood.

Some of the school's staff are resident in the local area and would be affected by closure. The authority is aware of the potential impact on the emotional wellbeing and mental health brought about by the current status of the school and its uncertain future. LCC's Human Resources team is already involved in making sure all staff are aware of their options for the future and there is a good track record for avoidance of compulsory redundancies. The school commissions a

counsellor who works with both staff and children and the school is also engaged with the LCC funded Emotional Health in Schools and Colleges support programme for staff.

If a decision is made to close the school, the building will be handed back to the local authority on the designated closure date, 31st August 2022. LCC's Cabinet would need to approve any change of use or any disposal of the site. This would involve Secretary of State approvals which can be quite lengthy, however no decision can be made on the future use of the site until a decision is made to close the school.

Although it would not be the desired scenario, if the property were to be left vacant for any period of time, consideration would be given to maintaining site security and safety e.g., by using a security firm or site guardians and maintaining the fire and security alarms to allow them to continue to work.

There are no facilities on the school site to which the local community has regular access and there are no long-term contractual arrangements in place. Facilities have been made available on an ad hoc basis, as and when requested. Dependent upon the future use and ownership of the building, it may still be possible for the local community to benefit from the facilities.

Rural Primary Schools

9. Where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of section 15, a statement that the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be) considered section 15(4):

Not applicable.

Balance of denominational provision

10. Where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed closure on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice.

Not applicable.

Maintained nursery schools

11. Where proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out:

- a) the local authority's assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
- b) the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

Not applicable.

Sixth Form Provision

12. Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, the effect for 16 to 19-year olds in the area that closure will have in respect of:

- a) their educational or training achievements;
- b) their participation in education or training; and
- c) the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

Not applicable.

Special educational provision

13. Where existing provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be) believe the proposals are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

There is much respect for the feelings expressed by loyal staff, some of whom are responsible for the provision of good learning experiences for the children, and the boys, who told the Ofsted inspector that they did not want their school to be closed. However, the school has still not been judged to be 'good' by Ofsted. Attempts to improve the school by fulfilling the option of school academy conversion or by being taken over by an experienced provider from within the independent sector, have not been successful. The support the school has been receiving in the meantime has not brought about sufficient progress in making the required improvements to the quality of provision. LCC is committed to providing Lancashire's children with only the best education experiences and now feels that placing the children in other schools will provide them with a better quality and standard of education. Their development and outcomes will also be enhanced by being able to learn and interact with and from a larger group of children than currently.

14. Details of the length and journeys to alternative provision.

Wennington Hall admits pupils from across Lancashire, with the majority coming from northern and central districts. Consequently, most current pupils have significant journeys to school. Almost all are transported to and from school by minibus or taxi. Consideration will be given to the travelling time from pupils' homes to avoid any adverse impact on individual pupils. None of the boys who have already been moved from the school has incurred increased travel time. Whilst travel time is important, the most relevant determinant of suitability of a school, though, has to be its ability to meet the needs of the child.
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15. The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how the proposed arrangements will mitigate against increased car use.

It is not possible to predict the travel arrangements which might need to be put in place at this time. However, given that almost all pupils currently travel by minibus or taxi, any new arrangements are unlikely to result in increased car use.
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Where transport is provided by LCC, the type of transport provided is discretionary. If a child is entitled to free transport to and from school, the local authority will normally provide them with a

travel pass for a bus service, a contracted vehicle, such as a coach or minibus, or a railway service. In exceptional circumstances, a taxi may be provided.

Section 4

Equality Analysis Toolkit

**Proposed Closure of Wennington Hall
School**

For Decision Making Items

Question 1 - What is the nature of and are the key components of the proposal being presented?

Lancashire County Council intends to close Wennington Hall School, Lodge Lane, Wennington, LA2 8NS on 31 August 2022.

The proposal arises because of continuing low educational standards at the school over a prolonged period of time; the failure of the Regional Schools' Commissioner to secure a sponsor to convert the school to an academy; the inability to award a contract to take over the maintenance of the school by an independent sector provider; and the school's lack of financial viability.

Question 2 - Scope of the Proposal

Is the proposal likely to affect people across the county in a similar way or are specific areas likely to be affected – e.g. are a set number of branches/sites to be affected?

If approved, the proposal will directly affect the pupils currently on roll in year groups Year 9 and 10. Alternative school places will be needed for these pupils.

There are 8 pupils in year 11 who will have left the school by the time the proposal is implemented.

There are 7 pupils impacted in Year Groups 9 and 10 who are boys with social, emotional and mental health needs.

Draft plans for all pupils are now co-produced, completed and signed off and planning for transition is underway. Transition plans will be agreed with all schools on case by case basis with pupils potentially be on new school roll following transition at the start of the summer term.

There will be an impact on staff working at the school who will potentially face redundancy or alternative employment options. The council's HR team continue to work with the school to help ensure that the school receives appropriate HR advice and that staff understand their options.

Question 3 – Protected Characteristics Potentially Affected

Could the proposal have a particular impact on any group of individuals sharing protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, namely:

- Age
- Disability including Deaf people
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race/ethnicity/nationality
- Religion or belief
- Sex/gender
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage or Civil Partnership Status

And what information is available about these groups in the County's population or as service users/customers?

The 7 pupils impacted are boys in Year Groups 9 and 10. All have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and social, emotional and mental health needs. The impact on groups with protected characteristics include the characteristics of age, gender, disability (although not all with an EHCP may consider themselves to have a disability).

Information on any protected characteristics of members of staff is not known.

Question 4 – Engagement/Consultation

How have people/groups been involved in or engaged with in developing this proposal?

In accordance with the School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013, a stage 1 consultation period ran from 6th September to 17th October 2021.

During this consultation period, a total of 4 individual responses were received, all from members of staff.

Given the benefits of continuing to adhere to social distancing rules, it was decided not to offer physical consultation events. Instead, a virtual event for Union Representatives was held on 15th September 2021. 6 Representatives attended this event on behalf of 4 Unions. Other virtual events for any interested parties were offered during the week of 20th September but were cancelled due to no bookings being made.

The consultation received four responses and highlighted a number of concerns should the school be closed. In the main, these related to the impact of redundancy, specifically loss of income, financial security and professional reputation. There were also concerns raised about the sufficiency of alternative education places for pupils affected by the closure.

If the decision is taken to close Wennington Hall School, places for children for whom it is agreed that special school provision continues to be required will take account of parental preference, the child's views, distance from home and the confidence of the proposed school to meet the identified needs. Schools within the maintained and non-maintained/independent sector will be considered. The local authority will continue to work with the school to ensure stability in provision and to work on implementing the decision during the remainder of the Spring and Summer Term, prior to the proposed closure on 31 August 2022. Annual reviews have taken place for all pupils and transition plans are being developed.

Question 5 – Analysing Impact

Could this proposal potentially disadvantage particular groups sharing protected characteristics and if so which groups and in what way? This pays particular attention to the general aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty:

- To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation because of protected characteristics;
- To advance equality of opportunity for those who share protected characteristics;
- To encourage people who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life;
- To contribute to fostering good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not/community cohesion;

The proposal could disadvantage young people, who are pupils at the school. Given their additional needs, this group of young people may have more difficulty setting in to a new school environment.

The proposal is likely to disadvantage staff, given the potential risk of redundancy, or the need to find alternative employment. The school has supported staff wellbeing, including through support from the Lancashire Emotional Health in Schools Service. Advice has also been made available through the council's HR team, to help ensure that staff are able to make informed decisions about their future.

Question 6 –Combined/Cumulative Effect

Could the effects of this proposal combine with other factors or decisions taken at local or national level to exacerbate the impact on any groups?

There may be a cumulative impact in terms of travel and travel costs in the context of rising fuel prices.

Wennington Hall draws its pupils from a wide area of Lancashire. It is a county-wide provision and very few pupils come from the immediate locality, so the potential closure is expected to have minimal effect in

terms of e.g. increased home to school travel time, on children and their families in the local neighbourhood.

However, the exact impact cannot be known given pupil's final destinations are subject to transition plans with their new schools. Transport will be provided in accordance with the council's SEN transport policy.

Question 7 – Identifying Initial Results of Your Analysis

As a result of the analysis has the original proposal been changed/amended, if so please describe.

No, the original proposal will be continued. The proposal arises because of continuing low educational standards at the school over a prolonged period of time; the failure of the Regional Schools' Commissioner to secure a sponsor to convert the school to an academy; the inability to award a contract to take over the maintenance of the school by an independent sector provider; and the school's lack of financial viability.

Question 8 - Mitigation

Will any steps be taken to mitigate/reduce any potential adverse effects of the proposal?

Individual transition plans codesigned with pupils and families. Where possible and appropriate, pupils could be transitioned to new schools in the summer term 2022, prior to closure, to help them settle early.

With regard to staffing, the local authority has experience in staff redeployment and retraining and provision of support and advice regarding redundancy. Should the decision be taken to close the school, the local authority will continue to work with the school to help ensure that staff understand their options.

Question 9 – Balancing the Proposal/Countervailing Factors

This weighs up the reasons for the proposal – e.g. need for budget savings; damaging effects of not taking forward the proposal at this time – against the findings of the analysis.

These factors remain valid but we acknowledge the potential disruption for the young people and affected staff.

Question 10 – Final Proposal

In summary, what is the final proposal and which groups may be affected and how?

The proposal arises because of continuing low educational standards at the school over a prolonged period of time; the failure of the Regional Schools' Commissioner to secure a sponsor to convert the school to an academy; the inability to award a contract to take over the maintenance of the school by an independent sector provider; and the school's lack of financial viability.

Question 11 – Review and Monitoring Arrangements

What arrangements will be put in place to review and monitor the effects of this proposal?

The impact on pupils will be considered through EHCP annual reviews, and in the development of their transition plans. It is expected that the Headteachers of receiving schools will be tracking progress carefully.

Equality Analysis Prepared By: Dave Carr

Position/Role: Director of Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health

Decision Signed Off By

Cabinet Member or Director

For further information please contact

Jeanette Binns – Equality & Cohesion Manager

Jeanette.binns@lancashire.gov.uk

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Education Improvement**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
Clitheroe

Corporate Priorities:
Delivering better services;
Caring for the vulnerable;

The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at Edisford Primary School, Clitheroe

(Appendices 'A' to 'E' refer)

Contact for further information:

Debbie Ormerod, Tel: (01772) 531878, Access and Entitlement Lead,
debbie.ormerod@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

On 4 November 2021, Cabinet agreed to a statutory notice being published to begin a representation period on the future of the nursery provision currently delivered by Edisford Primary School in Clitheroe. A Statutory Notice was published, to begin the consultation period in relation to the school discontinuing the nursery provision, by permanently raising its age range from 3-11 years to 4-11 years, with effect from 1 April 2022. The consultation period took place from 2 December 2021 to 20 January 2022.

As part of the statutory process, a decision should now be taken about the proposal and this will be done by Lancashire County Council, which is the decision maker. If the Authority does not decide within two months from the end of the consultation period, the proposal and any representations about the proposal must be passed to the Schools Adjudicator for a decision.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Consider the information in this report.
- (ii) Approve the proposal as detailed in the statutory notice to discontinue the nursery provision at Edisford Primary School by permanently raising its age range from 3-11 years to 4-11 years, with effect from 1 April 2022.

- (iii) Approve that an appropriate statutory decision letter be sent out, as specified under legal requirements, to give the reasons for the decision to the parties that have been consulted.

Detail

Following Cabinet approval in November 2021, the statutory notice was published on 2 December 2021, and the representation period ran from 2 December 2021 to 20 January 2022. The local authority is now at stage 3 of the statutory process, as defined by The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013, and this is set out in the table below:

Stage	Description	Timescale
Stage 1	Publication of Statutory Notice and Proposal	2 December 2021
Stage 2	Representation (formal consultation)	2 December 2021 to 20 January 2022
Stage 3	Decision	3 March 2022
Stage 4	Implementation	1 April 2022

The statutory notice, accompanying proposal, factors for consideration and the Equality Impact Assessment can be found at Appendices 'A' to 'D' respectively.

Factors Relevant to all Types of Proposal

The Department for Education's statutory guidance for decision-makers deciding prescribed alteration and establishment and discontinuance proposals, was published in October 2018. The guidance sets out several factors which must be taken into consideration for all types of proposal. These factors, and supporting comments, are set out at Appendix 'C'.

Conclusions

Three responses were received during the consultation period. There were two from the community and a further response from a county councillor. The responses all supported the closure of the Edisford Primary School Nursery, and no issues or concerns were raised by the families who may have been adversely affected by this proposal.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable early years provision, to meet the needs of children and families in each district, by influencing and shaping provision through local partnerships and by identifying gaps, enabling new provision and developing the market.

As evidenced in the annual Lancashire County Council Childcare Sufficiency Assessment April 2020-21, as set out [here](#), there is more than sufficient good quality nursery providers in the Clitheroe area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate in this area, leading to a significant number of surplus nursery places.

Prior to seeking a decision to close the nursery, the governors undertook an informal consultation with parents on how the school could increase the uptake in places. Feedback from parents indicated that they felt limited by the 9.00am to 3.00pm offer, that was only available during term time. Parents also stated that they were seeking wrap around care that was available during the school holidays.

It has been reported by the school that the number of 3-year-olds attending the school is low and reducing. As can be seen from Child Care Sufficiency Assessment there are many other early years providers in the local area. As such, the local authority does not believe that there would be an adverse impact on participation, should the school permanently reduce its age range from 3-11 years old to 4-11 years old.

As reported to Cabinet in November 2021, the governors at Edisford Primary School had explored the possibility of leasing the nursery to a private provider and these plans are being progressed.

Human Resources

The staffing structure at the school would need to be revisited in the event of the Maintained nursery closure. The current nursery teacher is on a temporary contract that will not be extended, and it is intended that the 2 full time, teaching assistants will be TUPE'd across to the new provision.

Financial

An extract from an extraordinary meeting of the governing body at Edisford Primary School, held on 17 March 2021, set out at Appendix 'E', has been provided explaining the financial difficulties being experienced by the school.

The financial implications set out at Appendix 'E' are deemed to be Part II for the reason set out below:

This section of the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

The private provider has submitted a request for OfSTED registration and has been advised of the need to liaise with the county council's Asset Management Team, to negotiate and arrange the lease and legal approvals. Monies generated through the lease will be paid into the primary school budget and be used to benefit the whole school population.

Should the outcome of the statutory process be a decision to remove the maintained nursery at the school, there would not be an adverse financial impact on the local

authority. The overall financial position of the school would be improved by permanently reducing the age range from 3-11 years old to 4-11 years old. At present, the 4 -11 part of the school is providing financial subsidy to the maintained nursery class as the retention of the nursery class is having a significant impact on the school budget.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

Appendix 'E' is not for publication - Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Clitheroe Edisford Primary School

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Lancashire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Clitheroe Edisford Primary School, Edisford Road, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 2LN from 1 April 2022.

It is proposed that the school will permanently raise its age range from 3-11 years to 4-11 years with effect from 1 April 2022, through the closure of the Nursery.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be inspected at Clitheroe Edisford Primary School at the address above; at Ribble Valley Borough Council offices; at Lancashire County Council's County Hall offices; and Clitheroe library. Copies can be obtained from The County Pupil Access Team in the Education Improvement Service, PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD.

Copies can also be accessed through www.lancashire.gov.uk – Have Your Say Consultation page.

Any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by posting them to The County Pupil Access Team at the above address. Responses can also be emailed to Edisfordconsultation@lancashire.gov.uk

To be considered as part of the decision-making process to determine the proposal, responses must be received no later than 20 January 2022.

Signed: Laura Sales, Director of Corporate Services
Publication Date: 2 December 2021

Explanatory Notes

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, information about representations to the published proposal may be accessed by members of the public.

The proposal arises because of concerns about financial and educational viability of the nursery. The nursery has low and reducing pupil numbers which is impacting on the financial viability of the school.

The Authority will need to decide whether to implement the proposal before 20th March 2022, otherwise it must be referred to the Adjudicator for a final decision.

MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 18 PROPOSALS FOR ALTERATIONS TO SCHOOLS

Extract of Schedule 2 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2013 (as amended)

1. Contact details

The proposal to discontinue the nursery provision delivered by Clitheroe Edisford Primary School, Edisford Road, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 2LN, by permanently raising its age range from 3-11 years to 4-11 years with effect from 1 April 2022, is published by Lancashire County Council, the relevant local authority. Clitheroe Edisford Primary School is a community school. The local authority can be contacted at the following address: County Pupil Access Team, Education Improvement Service, PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 0LD.

2. Description of alteration and evidence

This proposal is for the closure of Clitheroe Edisford Primary School (the school) nursery by permanently raising its age range from 3 to 11 years to 4-11 years. The school will remain open and unchanged for primary school provision.

Participation in Education or Training

When the school approached the local authority to discuss the future of its nursery provision, it was proposed that overall financial position of the school would be improved by permanently raising the age range from 3 - 11 years old to 4 - 11 years old. At present, the 4 -11 part of the school is providing financial subsidy to the maintained nursery class as the retention of the nursery class is having a significant impact on the school budget.

Should the outcome of the consultation be to remove the nursery at the school, there would not be an adverse financial impact on the local authority.

The overall financial position of the school would be improved by permanently raising the age range from 3 - 11 years old to 4 - 11 years old. At present, the 4 -11 part of the school is providing financial subsidy to the maintained nursery class as the retention of the nursery class is having a significant impact on the school budget.

As evidenced in the annual LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report there is more than sufficient good quality providers in the Clitheroe area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate and there are a significant number of surplus places in this administrative area.

Prior to seeking a decision to close the nursery, the governors verbally consulted with parents on how the school could increase the uptake in places. Parents fed back that they felt limited by the 9 am to 3 pm offer, that was only available during term time. For September 2021, the anticipated intake suggested only 3 pupils would enrol.

Additionally, the governors at Edisford Primary School have explored the possibility of leasing the nursery to a private provider. This will assist the school in reducing their

sizable budget deficit. An application has been made for an OFSTED Registration and the Local Authority has been advised by the head teacher that this is being finalized.

It has been reported by the school that the number of 3-year olds attending the school is low and reducing. As can be seen from the LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Report, there are many other early years providers in the local area. As such, the local authority does not believe that there will be an adverse impact on participation should the school permanently raise its age range from 3-11 years old to 4-11 years old.

Conclusion

As the number of prospective pupils interested in attending the nursery is low and reducing and there are several alternative nursery providers in the neighbouring areas offering provision, the local authority does not believe that there will be an adverse impact on participation should the school not offer nursery provision in the future.

3. Objectives

The objective of this proposal is to permanently raise the age range of the school from 3 to 11 years to 4-11 years with effect from 1 April 2022, through the closure of the nursery.

There is limited interest from families in attending the nursery, which has 9am to 3pm provision, term time only.

The primary element of the school is unaffected by this proposal.

As the number of pupils accessing the nursery is reducing and there is a wide range of alternative providers in the district, the closure of the nursery is not expected to have an adverse impact on the community.

4. Effect on other local education institutions

As the proposal is to close the nursery provision at the school, there is not expected to be any adverse impact on other local providers.

5. Project Costs and Value for Money

The overall financial position of the school would be improved by permanently raising the age range from 3 - 11 years old to 4 - 11 years old. At present, the 4 -11 part of the school is providing financial subsidy to the maintained nursery class, which is having a significant impact on the school budget.

6. Implementation

It is proposed to close the school's nursery on 1 April 2022.

When the school approached the local authority to discuss the future of its nursery provision, it was proposed that overall financial position of the school would be improved by permanently raising the age range from 3 - 11 years old to 4 - 11 years old. At present, the 4 -11 part of the school is providing financial subsidy to the maintained

nursery class which is having a significant impact on the school budget.

Should the outcome of the consultation be to remove the nursery at the school, there would not be an adverse financial impact on the local authority.

The overall financial position of the school would be improved by permanently raising the age range from 3 - 11 years old to 4 - 11 years old.

7. Procedure for responding to the consultation

Following publication of this proposal on 2 December 2021, any person may respond, support, object to or make comments on the proposal by posting them to County Pupil Access Team, Education Improvement Service, PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 0LD.

Responses can also be emailed to Edisfordconsultation@lancashire.gov.uk or

Have your say! Consultation page - www.lancashire.gov.uk

To be considered as part of the decision making process to determine the proposal, responses must be received no later than 20 January 2022.

Edisford Primary School, Maintained Nursery

Factors to be considered by decision-makers when deciding prescribed alteration, establishment and discontinuance proposals

The Department for Education's (DfE) statutory guidance for decision-makers deciding prescribed alteration and establishment and discontinuance proposals, published in October 2018, sets out several factors which must be taken into consideration for all types of proposal. These factors are set out below, along with an explanatory comment:

Related proposals

DfE guidance: Any proposal that is 'related' to another proposal must be considered together. A proposal should be regarded as 'related' if its implementation (or non-implementation) would prevent or undermine the effective implementation of another proposal.

Comment: This is a stand-alone proposal and is not reliant on the outcome or implementation of another proposal.

Conditional approval

DfE guidance: Decision-makers may give conditional approval for a proposal subject to certain prescribed events.

Comment: It is not anticipated that the decision-maker will set any conditions in relation to the approval of this proposal.

Publishing decisions

DfE guidance: All decisions (rejected and approved – with or without modification) must give reasons for such a decision being made. **Within one week** of making a decision, the decision-maker should arrange (via the proposer where necessary) for the decision and the reasons behind it to be published on the website where the original proposal was published. The decision-maker must also arrange for the organisations listed to be notified of the decision and reasons: the governing body/proposers (as appropriate); the trustees of the school (if any); the local Church of England diocese; the local Roman Catholic diocese; any other organisation that they think is appropriate; and the Secretary of State (in school opening and closure cases only).

Comment: Arrangements are in place to ensure that the decision will be communicated to interested parties within one week of the decision being made. This will be done via the school organisation website, where the original proposal was published, and also by sending a letter to specific individuals or organisations, such as those stated in the guidance, local councillors and OfSTED.

Consideration of consultation and representation period

DfE guidance: The decision-maker will need to be satisfied that the appropriate fair and open local consultation and/or representation period has been carried out and that the proposer has given full consideration to all the responses received. If the proposer has failed to meet the statutory requirements, a proposal may be deemed invalid and therefore should be rejected. The decision-maker must consider **ALL** the views submitted, including all support for, objections to and comments on the proposal.

Comment: The consultation document proposed to discontinue the maintained nursery at Edisford Primary School by permanently raising its age range from 3 to 11 years to 4 to 11 years, with effect from 1 April 2022 and asked for views on the proposal. Full details of the consultation process are set out in Appendix 'A'.

The consultation ran for longer than the minimum 4 week period to account for the Christmas holiday period, ensuring that anyone wishing to respond had adequate time to do so. By the close of the consultation period on 20 January 2022, three email responses had been received. Of these responses, all three agreed or supported the proposal as follows:

Support	Neither agree nor disagree	Object
3	0	0

The responses came from the following categories of people with an interest in the school as indicated on/determined from their response:

- 2 (66%) from members of the Community; and
- 1 (34%) from a County Councillor.

Education standards and diversity of provision

DfE guidance: Decision-makers should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the relevant area and whether the proposal will meet or affect the needs of parents; raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps.

Comment: As evidenced in the annual LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report there is more than sufficient good quality providers in the Clitheroe area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate and there are a significant number of surplus places in this administrative area.

A school-led system with every school an academy

DfE guidance: The 2016 White Paper, Education Excellence Everywhere, sets out the department's aim that by the end of 2020, all schools will be academies or in the process of becoming academies. The decision-maker should, therefore, take into account the extent to which the proposal is consistent with this policy.

Comment: Whilst alignment with the Education Excellence Everywhere has been considered, the creation of/conversion to an academy is not appropriate as this proposal is not related to the establishment of a new school or nursery.

Demand v need

DfE guidance: The decision-maker should take into account the quality and popularity of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents' aspirations for a new school or for places in a school proposed for expansion. The existence of surplus capacity in neighbouring less popular schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places.

Comment: As evidenced in the annual LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report there is more than sufficient good quality providers in the Clitheroe area.

Proposed admission arrangements

DfE guidance: In assessing demand, the decision-maker should consider all expected admission applications, not only from the area of the LA in which the school is situated.

Before approving a proposal that is likely to affect admissions to the school the decision-maker should confirm that the admission arrangements of the school are compliant with the School Admissions Code.

Comment: Should this proposal be approved, the school will no longer admit nursery pupils and the admission policy will be amended to reflect this. The Family Information Service within Lancashire County Council will be made aware of this outcome to ensure that the correct information is available on the Authority website.

National curriculum

DfE guidance: All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum unless they have secured an exemption for groups of pupils or the school community.

Comment: As this proposal relates to the nursery element of the school, there is no link to the national curriculum. The Early Years Foundation Stage [EYFS] informs a nursery setting.

Equal opportunity issues

DfE guidance: The decision-maker must have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) of LAs/governing bodies, which requires them to have 'due regard' to the need to: eliminate discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations.

The decision-maker should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise from the changes being proposed, for example that where there is a proposed change to single sex provision in the area, there is equal

access to single sex provision for the other sex to meet parental demand. Similarly, there should be a commitment to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the area, while ensuring that such opportunities are open to all.

Comment: Please refer to the Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 'D'.

No equal opportunities issues have been raised during the representation period and this proposal does not discriminate against any specific groups of the community.

Community cohesion

DfE guidance: Schools have a part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn with, from and about each other; by encouraging, through their teaching, an understanding of, and respect for, other cultures, faiths and communities. When considering a proposal, the decision-maker must consider its impact on community cohesion. This will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking account of the community served by the school and the views of different sections within the community.

Comment: Please refer to the Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 'D'.

No responses received during the consultation period made any reference to an adverse impact on the community or on community cohesion.

Travel and accessibility

DfE guidance: Decision-makers should satisfy themselves that accessibility planning has been properly considered and the proposed changes should not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups.

The decision-maker should bear in mind that a proposal should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes.

Comment: Please refer to the Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 'D'.

Funding

DfE guidance: The decision-maker should be satisfied that any land, premises or necessary funding required to implement the proposal will be available and that all relevant local parties (e.g. trustees or religious authority) have given their agreement. A proposal **cannot** be approved conditionally upon funding being made available.

Comment: No land, premises or funding are required to implement this proposal.

School premises and playing fields

DfE guidance: Under the School Premises Regulations all schools are required to provide suitable outdoor space to enable physical education to be provided to pupils in accordance with the school curriculum; and for pupils to play outside safely.

Comment: If approved, this proposal will mean that the school no longer needs to accommodate nursery pupils, thereby creating additional capacity for the 4 to 11 year old provision. Should this be the case, LCC officers will discuss with the school how this additional capacity could be utilised in future years.

There will be no adverse impact on the school's playing fields as a result of this proposal.

Conclusion

As can be seen from the information outlined above, the consultation received a low number of responses and the process has not highlighted any issues or concerns for specific groups of children and their families who may be adversely affected by this proposal. As evidenced in the annual LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report there is more than sufficient good quality providers in the Clitheroe area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate and there are a significant number of surplus places in this administrative area.

Equality Analysis Toolkit

**The Future of Maintained Nursery
Provision at Edisford Primary School,
Clitheroe**

For Decision Making Items

3 March 2022

Question 1 - What is the nature of and are the key components of the proposal being presented?

The increasing of the school age at Edisford Primary School from 3 to 11 years, to 4 to 11 years with effect from 1 April 2022. .

Question 2 - Scope of the Proposal

Is the proposal likely to affect people across the county in a similar way or are specific areas likely to be affected – e.g. are a set number of branches/sites to be affected?

This relates to the Ribble Valley District, Clitheroe area only.

Question 3 – Protected Characteristics Potentially Affected

Could the proposal have a particular impact on any group of individuals sharing protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, namely:

- Age
- Disability including Deaf people
- Gender reassignment
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race/ethnicity/nationality
- Religion or belief
- Sex/gender
- Sexual orientation
- Marriage or Civil Partnership Status

And what information is available about these groups in the County's population or as service users/customers?

No. The proposal is focused on provision for 3 to 4 year olds.

Prior to seeking a formal decision to close the nursery, the Governors verbally consulted with parents as to how the school could increase the uptake in places. Parents fed back that they felt limited by the 9 am to 3 pm offer, that was only available during term time. For September 2021, the anticipated intake suggested only 3 pupils would enrol.

The existing pupils in the nursery would transfer to an alternative provider.

As the families were already aware of the prospective closure, they have had time to make alternative arrangements.

The nursery was under-subscribed due to the limited hours on offer.

The impact has been mitigated.

Additionally, as evidenced in the annual LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report there is more than sufficient good quality providers in the Clitheroe area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate and there are a significant number of surplus places in this administrative area.

There is a lower than average percentage of BME residents in the Edisford area.

Should the decision be taken to close the nursery, the school will need to make staffing reductions.

Question 4 – Engagement/Consultation

How have people/groups been involved in or engaged with in developing this proposal?

On 4 November 2021, Cabinet gave approval for the local authority to publish a statutory notice to consult on the proposal to permanently raise the school's age range from 3 to 11 years to 4 to 11 years, with effect from 1 April 2022.

The statutory representation period took place from 2 December 2021 to 20 January 2022, which is longer than the minimum four week period suggested within DfE guidance 'School Organisation: Maintained Schools: Guidance for Proposers and Decision Makers', to account for the Christmas holiday period. This consisted of a statutory public notice being issued in the local newspaper and copies of the public notice being displayed at the school and also in local libraries and in the Ribble Valley Borough Council's office.

The public notice and the statutory proposal were sent to a wide range of stakeholders, including County Councillors, parish councils and union representatives. LCC also published the information on the website. In addition to this, the school wrote to all parents and carers to inform them of this process and included all the relevant information on their website.

There were three responses, one from a serving Councillor, the other two from the community.

The three responses supported the closure of the nursery.

No areas of concern were raised.

Question 5 – Analysing Impact

Could this proposal potentially disadvantage particular groups sharing protected characteristics and if so which groups and in what way? This pays particular attention to the general aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty:

- To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation because of protected characteristics;
- To advance equality of opportunity for those who share protected characteristics;
- To encourage people who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life;
- To contribute to fostering good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not/community cohesion;
-

If this proposal is approved, the nursery provision at the school will be discontinued, through the permanent raising of the age range from 3 to 11 years old to 4 to 11 years old. This will mean that families wishing to participate in nursery education will need to access an alternative provider.

If the decision is taken to permanently raise the age range of the school from 3 to 11 years to 4 to 11 years, the school will work with all families to provide them with high quality, impartial advice and guidance on the different options available to them via the Family Information Service.

Question 6 –Combined/Cumulative Effect

Could the effects of this proposal combine with other factors or decisions taken at local or national level to exacerbate the impact on any groups?

None anticipated.

Question 7 – Identifying Initial Results of Your Analysis

As a result of the analysis has the original proposal been changed/amended, if so please describe.

No, the original proposal has not been changed or amended.

Question 8 - Mitigation

Will any steps be taken to mitigate/reduce any potential adverse effects of the proposal?

Mitigations against the potential adverse effects of the decision to permanently raise the age range at the school are as follows:

- As evidenced in the annual LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report there is more than sufficient good quality providers in the Clitheroe area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate and there are a significant number of surplus places in this administrative area.
- Prior to seeking a decision to close the nursery, the governors verbally consulted with parents on how the school could increase the uptake in places.
- The school will signpost families to the Family Information System, where necessary.
- Effects upon existing staff within the nursery – The Local Authority has been advised that the nursery teacher is on a temporary contract which will end if the nursery is closed. The 2 Teaching Assistants will be TUPE'd across to the private nursery.

Question 9 – Balancing the Proposal/Countervailing Factors

This weighs up the reasons for the proposal – e.g. need for budget savings; damaging effects of not taking forward the proposal at this time – against the findings of the analysis.

Under sections 15ZA and 18A of the Education Act 1996, local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable early years provision to meet the needs of children and families in each district by influencing and shaping provision through local partnerships and by identifying gaps, enabling new provision and developing the market.

As evidenced in the annual LCC Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report there is more than sufficient good quality providers in the Clitheroe area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate and there are a significant number of surplus places in this administrative area.

Prior to seeking a decision to close the nursery, the governors verbally consulted with parents on how the school could increase the uptake in places.

Question 10 – Final Proposal

In summary, what is the final proposal and which groups may be affected and how?

The proposal is to permanently raise the school's age range from 3 to 11 years to 4 to 11 years, with effect from 1 April 2022. The particular group affected by this are families who may have wished to access nursery provision at the school in the future.

Question 11 – Review and Monitoring Arrangements

What arrangements will be put in place to review and monitor the effects of this proposal?

Once a decision has been taken to permanently raise the school's age range from 3 to 11 years to 4 to 11 years, with effect from 1 April 2022, the Authority is legally obliged to implement the proposal.

Equality Analysis Prepared By Debbie Ormerod

Position/Role Lead Officer for Access and Entitlement.

Equality Analysis Endorsed by Line Manager and/or Service Head Delyth Mathieson

Decision Signed Off By

Cabinet Member or Director

For further information please contact

Jeanette Binns – Equality & Cohesion Manager

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Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Service, Education Improvement**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
Burnley Central East

Corporate Priorities:
Caring for the vulnerable;

The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at Brunshaw Primary School, Burnley

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

Contact for further information:

Debbie Ormerod, Tel: (01772) 531878, Access and Entitlement Lead,
debbie.ormerod@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

The Head teachers and Governors at Brunshaw Primary School have approached the local authority in relation to the future of the nursery provision at the school. The school has asked the local authority to start the formal statutory process, to consult on the proposal to cease the maintained nursery provision by permanently reducing the age range from 3-11-year-olds (Nursery 2 to Year 6) to 4-11 year olds (Reception to Year 6) with effect from 31 August 2022.

Under The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 and the Department for Education's statutory guidance, Making 'Prescribed Alterations' to Maintained Schools published in November 2019, the local authority must be the proposer for this type of significant change and carry out a statutory process, which includes publication, representation, decision, rights of appeal and implementation. In line with this, the authority is now required to decide whether to publish a Statutory Notice on the proposal to consult on the future of the maintained nursery provision at Brunshaw Primary School, Burnley.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve that the authority publishes a Statutory Notice, to begin the consultation period on the future of the maintained nursery provision currently delivered by Brunshaw Primary School, Burnley.

Detail

Following discussions with the local authority, the Head teacher of Brunshaw Primary School informed the county council of the school's intention to consult on the future of its early years provision, due to concerns over financial and educational viability.

Consultation and Statutory Requirements

The county council has followed the Department for Education's statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers in relation to Opening and Closing Maintained Schools, November 2019.

For a local authority-maintained community school, the local authority is the proposer and the decision maker. The statutory process follows four stages, and these are set out in the table below, along with the suggested timeline for this proposal:

Stage	Description	Timescale
Stage 1	Publication of Statutory Notice and Proposal	3 March 2022
Stage 2	Representation (formal consultation)	14 March 2022 to 23 May 2022
Stage 3	Decision	July 2022
Stage 4	Implementation	31 August 2022

To ensure that the process remains within the statutory requirements, the local authority must ensure that the timescales outlined above are adhered to.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare places to enable parents to work. These childcare places need to be, accessible, affordable, and delivered flexibly in high quality settings. Local authorities must ensure that the needs of children and families in each district are met by influencing and shaping provision through local partnerships and by identifying gaps and developing the market.

As evidenced in the annual Lancashire County Council Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, as set out at Appendix 'A', there is more than sufficient good quality nursery providers in the Burnley area. There has been a drop in the live birth rate and there are a significant number of surplus places in the Burnley area and in the Burnley Central East ward.

Prior to seeking a decision to close the nursery, the governors verbally consulted with parents on how the school could increase the uptake in places. There is a lot of competition between early years providers in the area and feedback from parents

indicated they were seeking provision that was available before and after school and during the school holidays.

The nursery at Brunshaw Primary School is offering morning only sessions and there are 26 places available. There are currently only 10 pupils attending and these children will start the reception year in the Autumn Term 2022. The closing date for nursery applications was 21 January 2022 and only 4 applications for September 2022 have been received for the nursery at Brunshaw.

As can be seen from the information at Appendix 'A', the number of 3-year-olds attending the school is low and reducing, and there are many other early years providers in the local area. As such, the local authority does not believe that there would be an adverse impact on participation, should the school permanently reduce its age range from 3-11 years old to 4-11 years old.

Human Resources

The Governing Body at Brunshaw Primary School has made staffing adjustments from September 2021 and no permanent roles are vulnerable.

Financial Implications

An extract from the minutes of the Governing Body meeting held on 14 January 2021, set out at Appendix 'B', has been provided, to evidence that the impact on the school budget will be minimal. Consideration has also been given to how the vacated space at the school would be used to benefit the pupils.

The financial implications set out at Appendix 'B' are deemed to be Part II for the reason set out below:

This section of the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

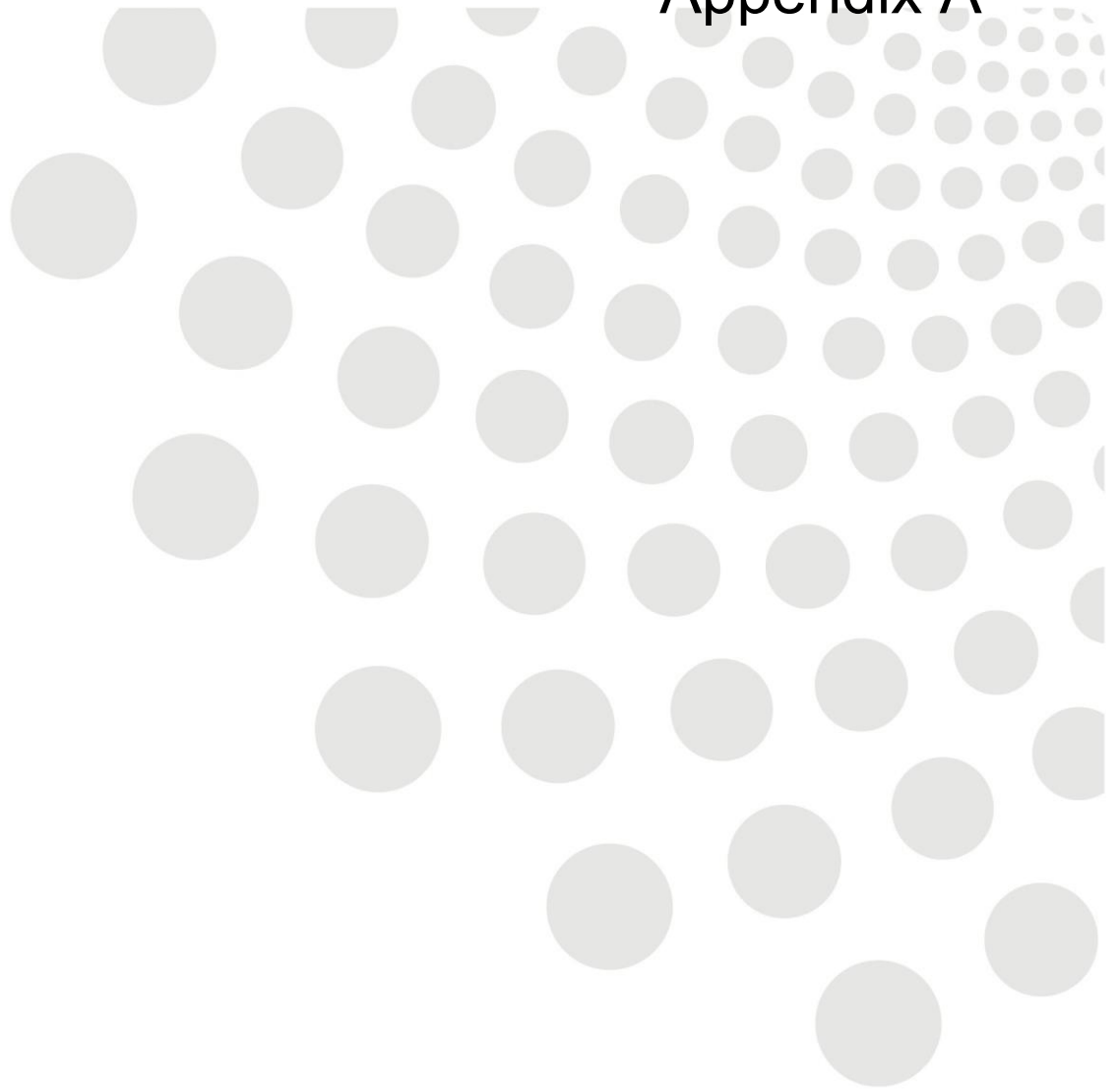
Should the outcome of the consultation be to remove the nursery at the school, there would not be an adverse financial impact on the local authority.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

Appendix 'B' is not for publication - Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.



**Lancashire County Council
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
April 2020– April 2021**

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Introduction

Local Authorities are required by legislation to secure sufficient childcare places to enable parents to work. These childcare places need to be, accessible, affordable and delivered flexibly in high quality settings. This report is Lancashire's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment for April 2020 – April 2021 and includes the take up of Early Education Funded (EEF) provision for 2, 3 and 4-year olds and the availability and quality of places to meet the needs of working parents.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, national restrictions were imposed by the Government on 23rd March 2020. The information contained in this report is the most accurate based on the information currently available and was correct up until the 30th April 2021. It should be seen as a guide to provision rather than conclusive and figures provided represent a snapshot in time.

Methodology

At the start of the national lockdown the Department for Education (DfE) requested that all local authorities submit a weekly data return to identify any childcare sufficiency issues during the pandemic. In April 2020 an online survey was developed, and providers have been completing this weekly. This has provided a variety of data both at district level and at a more localised geographical level to understand the childcare market during the last year. Data from the termly census and headcount claims is used to map the take up of funded childcare places and Ofsted data is used to identify the quality of childcare in Lancashire.

Types of Childcare

Childcare includes Childminders, Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Units of Independent Schools, AM/PM Clubs (refers to out of school provision) and Holiday Schemes, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools and Governor Led Provision (S27).

Registered Childcare

Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children Services and Skills. It regulates childcare for children from birth to 18 years of age. Ofsted operates two registers:

The Early Years Register

All childcare providers must register with Ofsted on the Early Years Register and meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) if they are providing care from birth to 5 years for more than 2 hours per day on more than 14 days per year.

The Childcare Register

A childcare provider must register on the compulsory part of the register if they provide care for children aged 5-8 years old for more than 2 hours per day on more than 14 days per year. A childcare provider will be on both the Early Years Register and the Childcare Register if they care for children under and over the age of 5. Some childcare providers who care for children over the age of 8, who are activity based, for example provide sports coaching, homework clubs or for very short periods of time can join the voluntary part of the childcare register.

Schools

Maintained Nursery Classes and Governor Led Provision (S27) are included within an overall school inspection and are not required to have a separate Early Years Ofsted registration, however they must still follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework.

Executive Summary 2020

To understand the childcare market in 2020-21 a different approach has been required than in our previous childcare sufficiency assessments. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed challenges upon our day to day lives and the impact on families and the economy is on a scale never experienced before. Families have adapted to changes in work routines, some have been key workers, others have been furloughed or facing job losses and longer-term uncertainty. The full extent of the COVID-19 pandemic to businesses across Lancashire and implications of employment is yet to be fully seen.

Over the past year children have experienced a number of changes to their childcare, some who would normally attend childcare have remained at home, other children have had to adapt to childcare in COVID-19 secure premises and bubbles. The majority of school age children have undertaken some home schooling rather than attending in person and vulnerable children and children of key workers have also attended school in their 'bubbles'.

The pandemic has been a difficult experience for staff, parents and children. Settings have had to operate COVID-19 secure premises and the many adaptations needed in childcare provision have sometimes been overwhelming. Childcare staff, childminders and parents have been anxious about their own health and financial stability, along with the health and well-being of their children and others.

The Early Years Team has provided a great deal of support, advice and guidance to the childcare providers of Lancashire. Below summarises the key areas provided by the team.

Website and Weekly Bulletin

Our website provided guidance and updates to the sector and a weekly bulletin has been sent to childcare providers during the last year. This has included, but was not limited to, communications from our Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, Public Health, Ofsted, the Department for Education (DfE) and a variety of information and updates from our Early Years Team.

Monitoring of Childcare Places

In April 2020 during the first national lockdown an online weekly survey was developed to capture information for the DfE about the availability of childcare for children of keyworkers and vulnerable children. After the government announced childcare could re-open in June 2020, questions were added to understand any sustainability concerns and to establish if the demand for childcare had changed. The survey was then further developed to gather data for our general childcare sufficiency assessment.

Additionally, an on-line brokerage request form was developed for parents who required support in finding early years places. The number of requests coming through each week was very low, and comparable with those prior to COVID-19 pandemic levels.

Business Support & Sustainability

Tools and guidance were developed around business support, sustainability, social media, marketing and where to find sources of external funding, these are available on our webpage. To support settings for re-opening in June, guidance was developed which included how to review and promote some current business practices, reassure staff and

parents, establish demand and look at ways to remain sustainable. Over the year childcare providers with specific sustainability concerns were contacted by the Childcare Sufficiency Team to offer individual support.

A number of measures were put in place to support settings who offered Early Education Funding with cashflow and sustainability over the course of the pandemic. This included:

- Settings received 90% of the Summer term funding up front at the end of March 2020.
- Settings received 50% of the Autumn term funding up front at the end of August 2020.
- Final balance payments for Summer 2020, Autumn 2020 and Spring term 2021 were processed almost a month ahead of when they were due.
- Funding for the Autumn term 2020 was based on the previous year's Autumn term occupancy levels, in line with Government guidance, totalling just over £4.2m.
- A transfer of £2m from schools Designated Schools Grant (DSG) to the Early Years DSG in 2020-21 enabled an increase to the EEF 3&4 year funding rate by £0.08 per hour, with a further £2m being transferred in 2021-22 to allow for the £0.08p raise to continue for another year.

In January 2021 a one off COVID-19 lump sum payment to childcare providers was agreed by school's forum. These were made up of £250 for EEF registered childminders and £1000 for all other EEF registered providers totalling £607.5k. COVID-19 one-off lump sum payments were also agreed of £250 for all non-EEF registered providers to support their business viability totalling £105k.

Promotion of Childcare/Funded Places

Specific social media campaigns have run throughout the year encouraging families to access their early education and childcare places. It was important to promote reassurance to parents through the campaign to help overcome any anxieties they may have had. Letters were sent to approximately 20,000 families in Lancashire at the beginning of July 2020 to encourage them to take up their early education funding entitlements.

Early Years Quality Team

Childcare providers were given a named contact from Early Years Quality Team to offer emotional and practical support, which strengthened relationships, peer to peer support and improved access to training and networks. Training and events have been adapted to allow virtual participation and a focus for training has been well-being and personal resilience for staff. This support has helped staff to keep themselves, their peers and the children happy and safe.

All Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings, Childminders and Out of School Clubs have been provided with additional templates, guidance and support, including COVID-19 safe risk assessments and a wealth of additional supporting tools such as an early years planning toolkit.

Closer liaison with Early Years and SEND colleagues, shared training days and senior leader input has also been established across teams.

Early Years Safeguarding

Regular emails, messages, key updates including information from Lancashire Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership (LCSAP) were distributed.

All of the safeguarding training was adapted in light of the pandemic, particularly the first period of lockdown, to strengthen the role of the DLP (Designated Lead Practitioner). In addition to the training, a series of briefing sessions have also been running to build a DLP network.

Lancashire Demographics

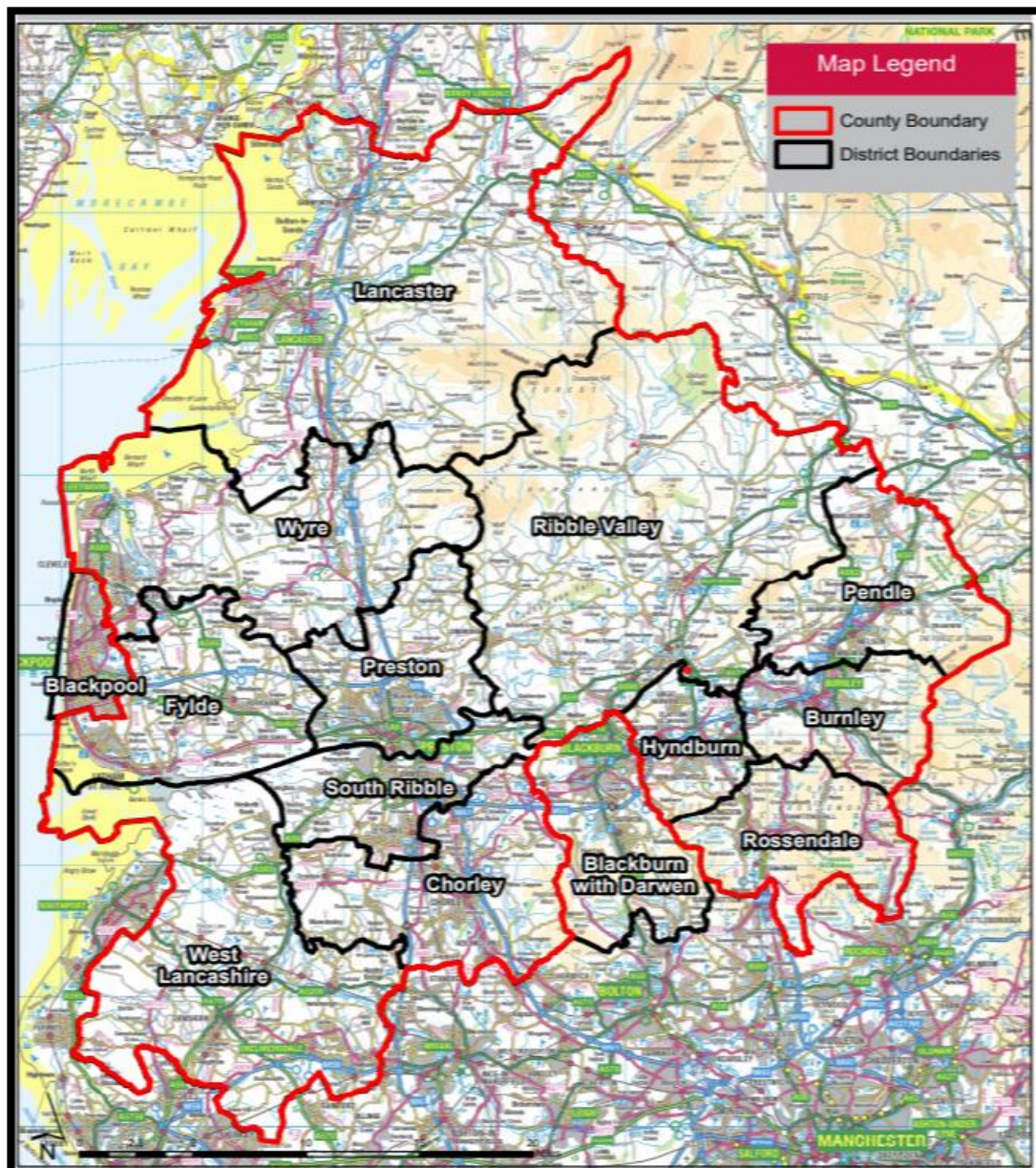
Lancashire County Council is a large, diverse local authority covering an area of 2,903 square kilometres. It is the fourth largest local authority in the country with a population of 1.18 million people within its boundaries. There are an estimated 277,000 children and young people aged up to 19 years living in the county (2011 Census data).

Lancashire's defining characteristics are its size and diversity. Each district has its own unique demography and geography. It is an area of vast contrasts with busy urban centres, coastal regions and large agricultural areas. Lancashire has 12 districts within its borders and for the purposes of this report these districts are broken down further into geographical areas. The maps on the following pages show how the geographical areas fit into our 12 districts and highlights the levels of deprivation.

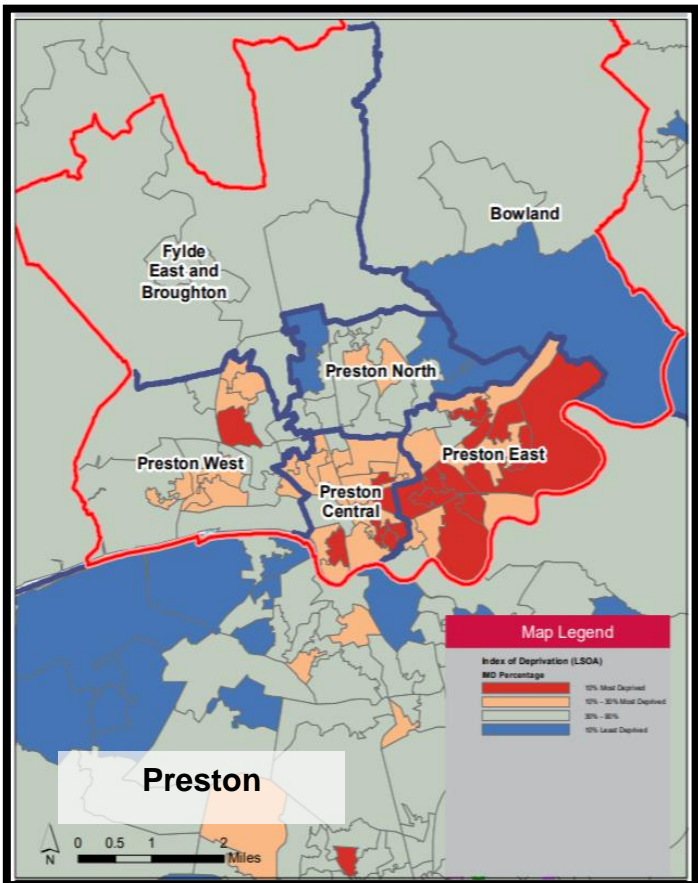
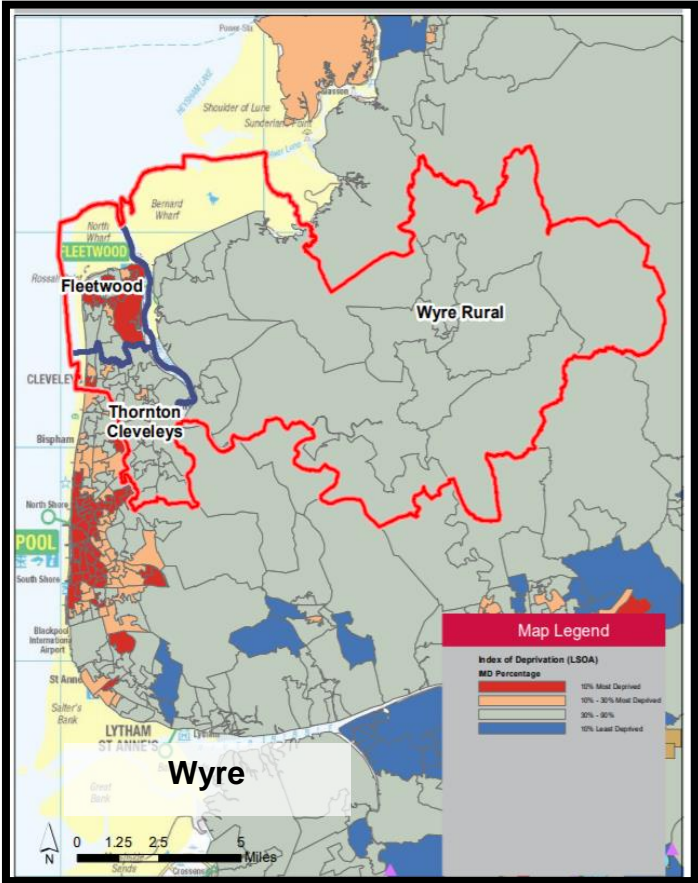
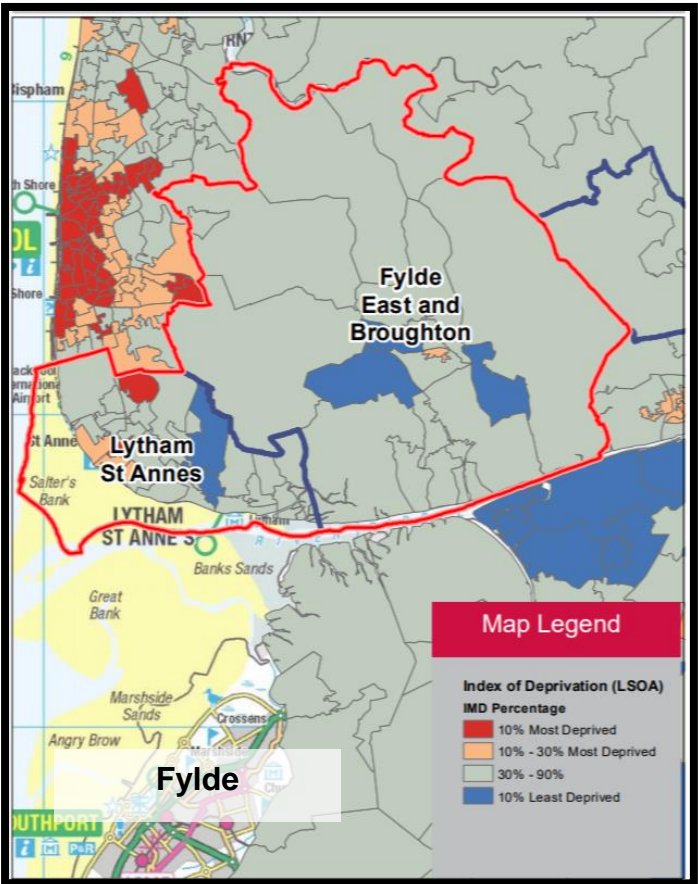
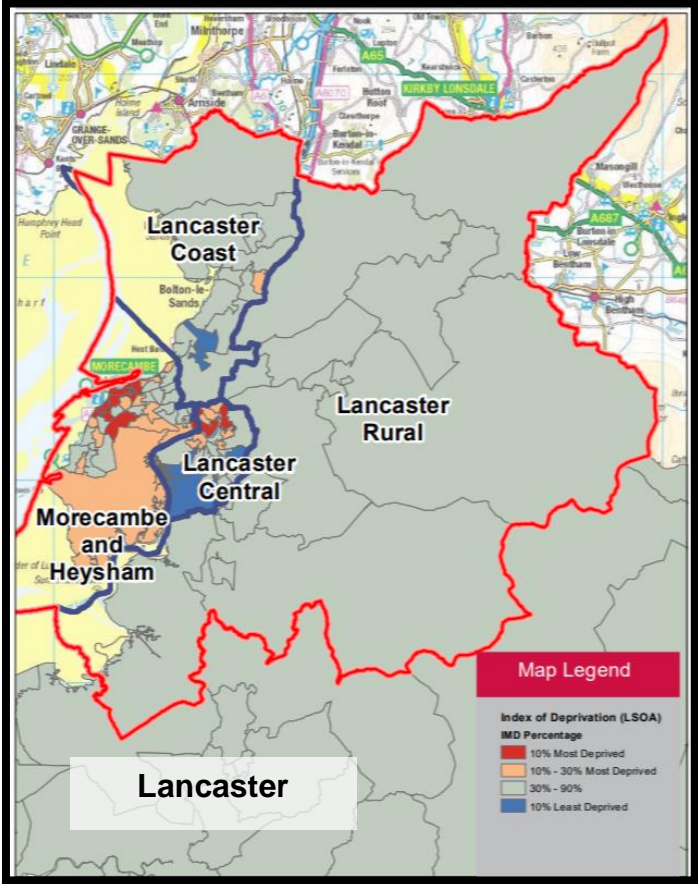
Deprivation

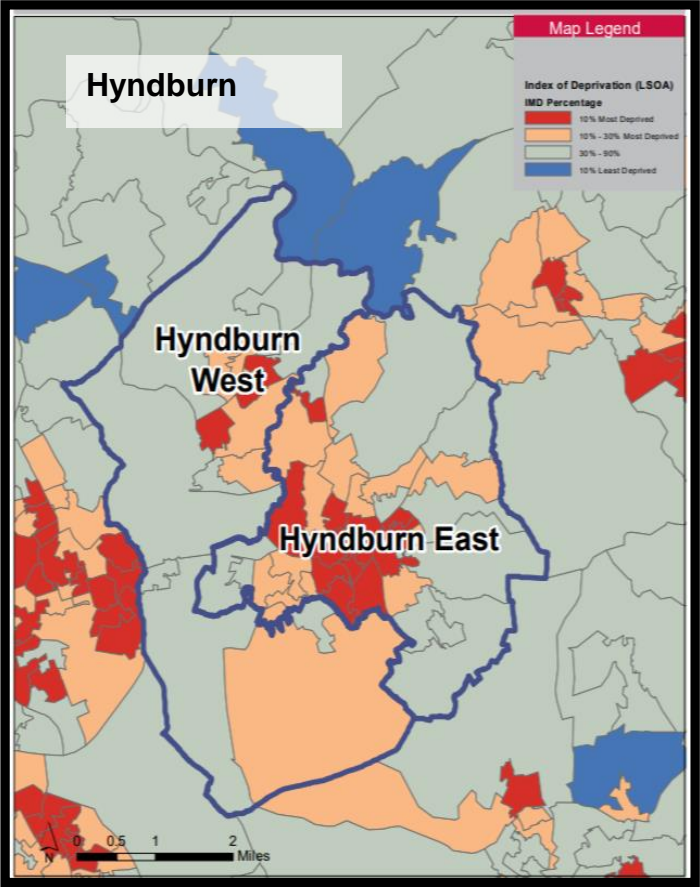
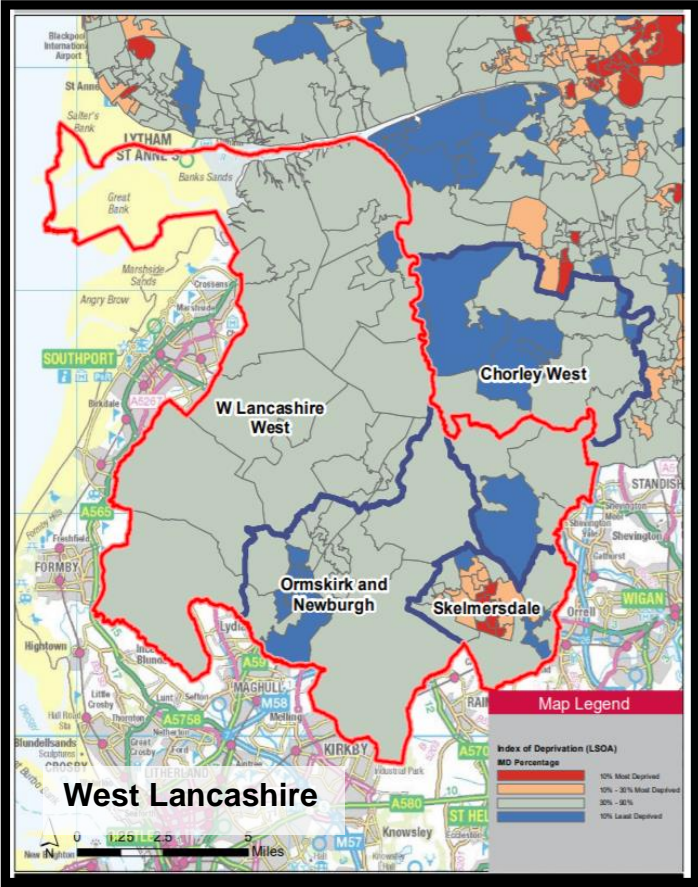
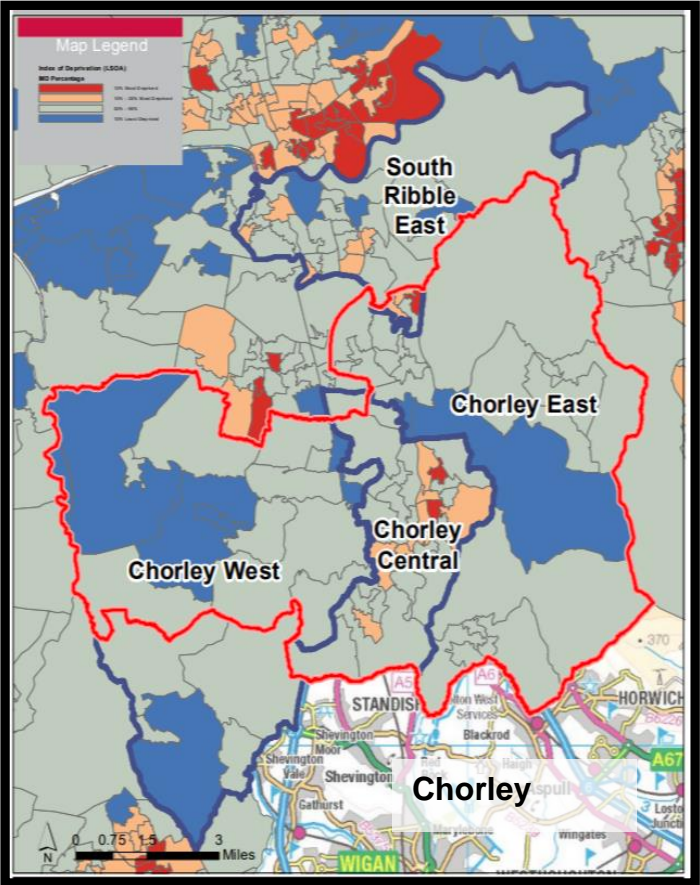
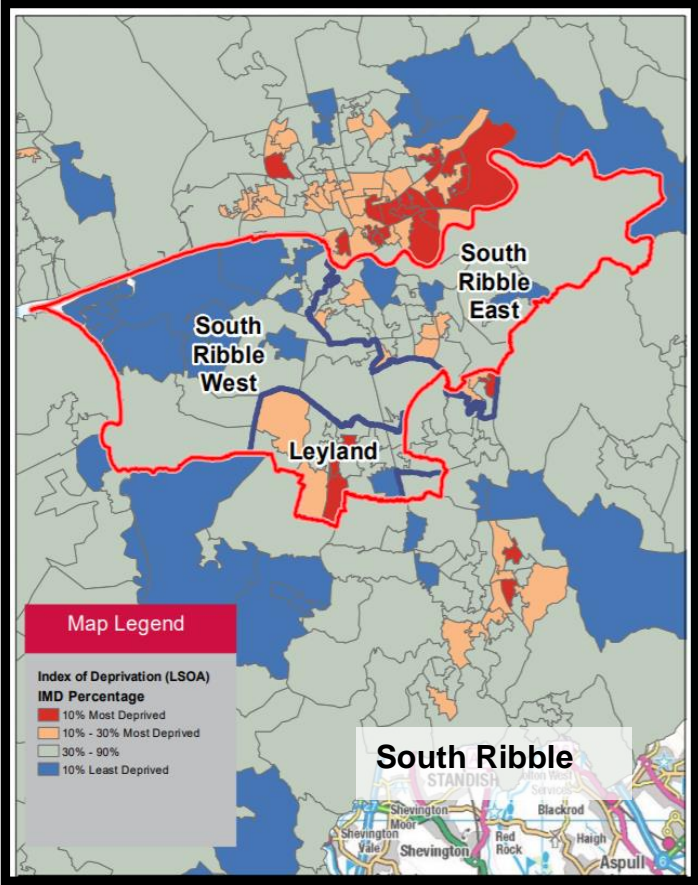
As well as some of England's most prosperous communities, Lancashire also has pockets of very severe deprivation. The 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation indicates that Burnley falls into the 10% most deprived areas of England. The districts of Pendle and Hyndburn are within the top 20% of most deprived authority areas in the country. In contrast, Ribble Valley is in the top 20% least deprived authorities in the country.

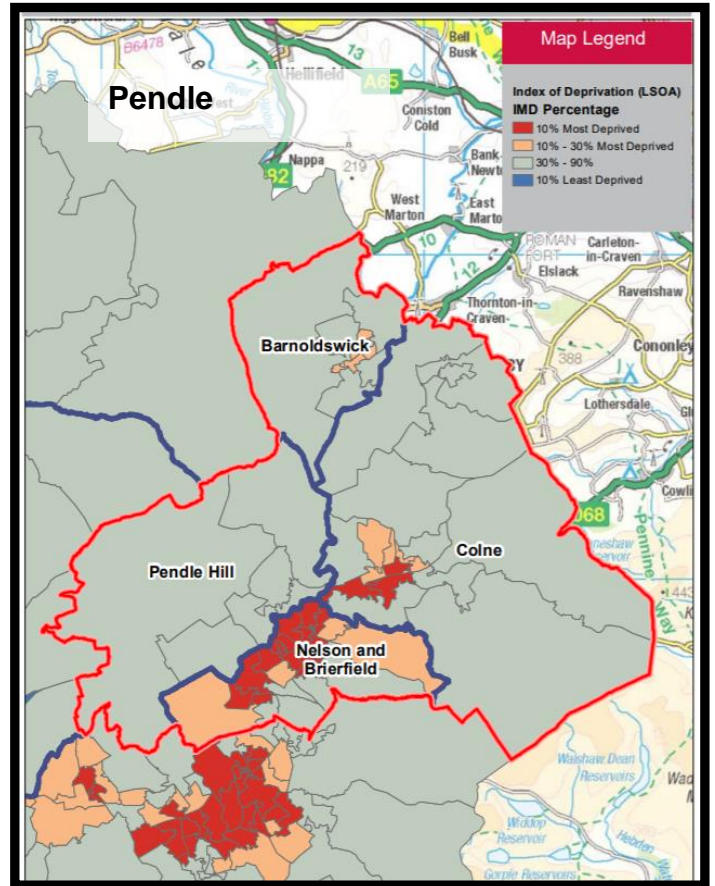
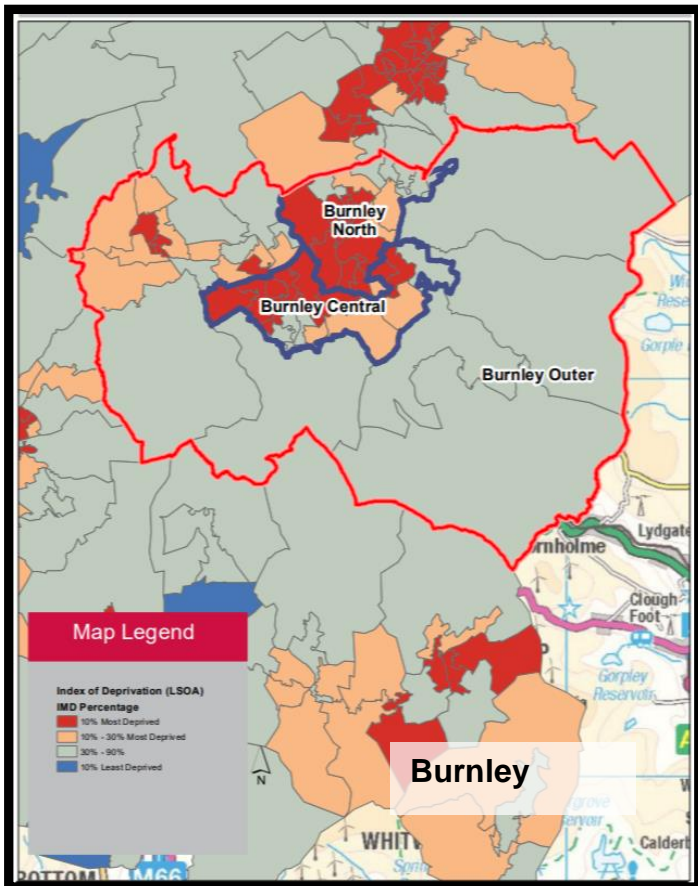
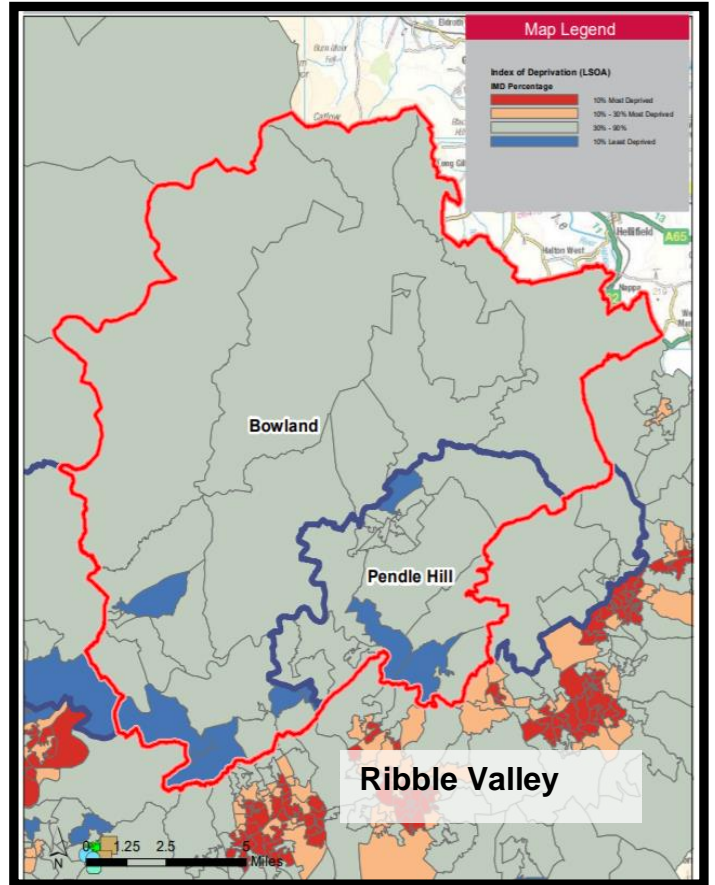
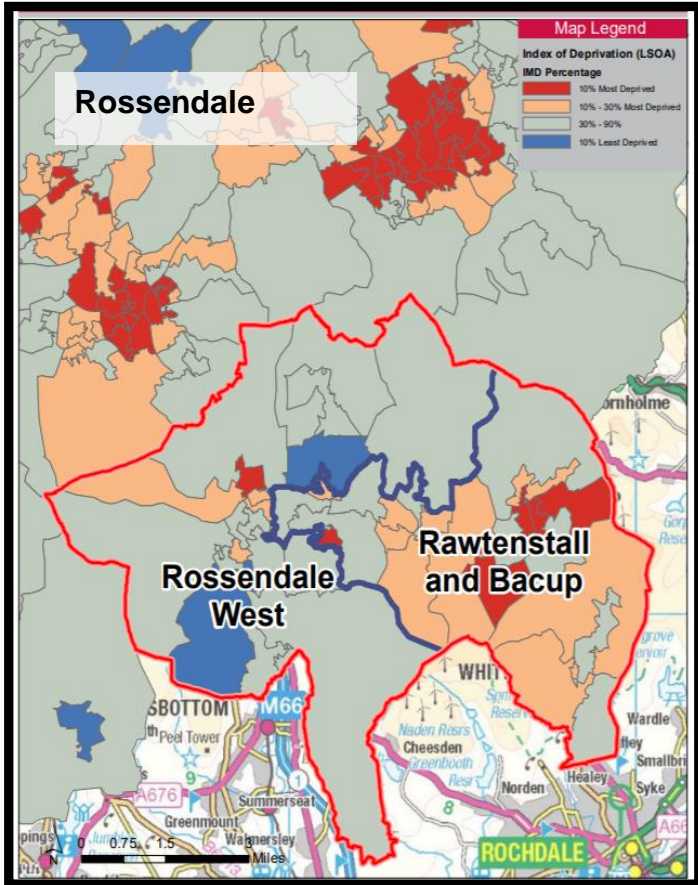
Map of Lancashire with district boundaries



Index of Multiple Deprivation Maps by District and Geographical Area







Housing Projections

Household numbers in Lancashire are projected to grow from an estimated 507,980 in 2016, to 551,312 by 2041, an increase of 8.5%. This is significantly lower than the England growth rate of 17.3%.

Within Lancashire, Chorley (+23.2%), Fylde (+15.5%) and Wyre (+11.4%) are estimated to see the largest housing increases in the area, although Ribble Valley (+12.3%) and Rossendale (+11.5%) are also projected to see percentage increases above 10.0%. Locally, only Chorley's percentage rise is estimated to be greater than the England average of 17.3%. Hyndburn (+2.0%) and Preston (+2.3%) are projected to see the lowest percentage growth in the Lancashire.

Population

In Lancashire, the percentage increase in general population over the 25 year period of 2016 - 2041 is projected to be 3.5%, with the number expected to reach 1.23 million. The estimated increases are lower than the average for the North West, and well below the expected increase for England of 12.1%.

Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle and Preston, are predicted to see small general population decreases between 2016 and 2041. Chorley is the only Lancashire district with a projected increase higher than the North West or England average.

Births and Deaths

Births and deaths have an impact on the national and local populations. The latest births and deaths figures from the Office for National Statistics (released July 2020), show that on a basic count level Lancashire continues to register more deaths than live births in 2019. Burnley, Pendle, Hyndburn, Preston and Rossendale have recorded more live births than deaths. The table below shows live births by district.

Live births, 2020			Difference between 2019 and 2020 live births	
District	Count of live births	As a % of Lancashire	No.	%
Burnley	1,080	9.2%	-85	-7.3%
Chorley	1,072	9.2%	-20	-1.8%
Fylde	533	4.6%	-84	-13.6%
Hyndburn	922	7.9%	-108	-10.5%
Lancaster	1,281	11.0%	-52	-3.9%
Pendle	1,095	9.4%	-91	-7.7%
Preston	1,745	14.9%	1	0.1%
Ribble Valley	462	4.0%	-19	-4.0%
Rossendale	695	6.0%	-29	-4.0%
South Ribble	971	8.3%	-49	-4.8%
West Lancashire	941	8.1%	-60	-6.0%
Wyre	881	7.5%	-32	-3.5%
Lancashire	11,678	8.3%	-628	-5.1%

The tables below show population of children aged 0–11yrs, the information is broken down into geographical areas for closer analysis.

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	17026	108	111	125	169	1368
	Lancaster Rural	23905	144	158	157	221	1641
	Lancaster Central	47597	491	439	448	689	3720
	Morecambe & Heysham	57510	664	676	668	1072	5554
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	51343	393	387	428	663	3715
	Fleetwood	27768	257	283	306	401	2518
	Wyre Rural	32980	219	271	249	394	2346
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	45469	310	293	319	487	3269
	Fylde East Broughton	35311	319	320	341	459	3059
Preston	Preston North	23345	212	230	243	337	2226
	Preston East	38420	619	615	609	987	4905
	Preston Central	37841	430	403	404	671	2836
	Preston West	29799	392	369	427	551	2897
	Bowland	6419	68	76	75	113	621
	Fylde East Broughton	7311	97	90	79	122	742
TOTAL	North Lancashire	482044	4723	4721	4878	7336	41417

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
South Ribble	Leyland	33040	325	347	371	617	3276
	South Ribble East	44486	423	445	477	715	4015
	South Ribble West	33262	287	299	300	433	2742
Chorley	Chorley East	34801	329	302	369	546	3000
	Chorley West	24101	156	155	209	238	1874
	Chorley Central	53721	621	612	661	958	5446
	South Ribble East	5593	41	61	70	78	589
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	42556	512	516	512	791	4470
	West Lancashire West	32855	280	262	296	422	2599
	Chorley West	6711	41	44	51	114	525
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	32184	224	197	244	369	2168
TOTAL	South Lancashire	343310	3239	3240	3560	5281	30704

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	57563	786	771	809	1127	6263
	Hyndburn West	23480	241	239	254	376	1981
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	40409	464	468	474	678	4076
	Rossendale West	31073	289	325	312	494	2969
Ribble Valley	Bowland	27585	185	218	221	332	2099
	Pendle Hill	33303	251	288	308	400	2984
Burnley	Burnley Outer	32900	319	357	390	508	2973
	Burnley Central	24974	329	325	345	450	2574
	Burnley North	31046	458	451	493	679	3659
Pendle	Barnoldswick	10894	110	127	122	191	976
	Colne	29134	321	325	329	578	2635
	Nelson & Brierfield	42413	627	636	689	1020	5226
	Pendle Hill	9671	112	82	93	150	709
TOTAL	East Lancashire	394445	4492	4612	4839	6983	39124

Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
North Lancashire	482044	4723	4721	4878	7336	41417
South Lancashire	343310	3239	3240	3560	5281	30704
East Lancashire	394445	4492	4612	4839	6983	39124
Lancashire	1219799	12454	12573	13277	19600	111245

Childcare Provision in Lancashire

Over the last year childcare providers have completed a weekly survey so we could establish settings that were open and closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The information provided in the tables below was captured in the Spring term 2021.

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	25	18	72%	18	72%	0	0%	7	28%
	Lancaster Rural	37	23	62%	22	59%	1	3%	14	38%
	Lancaster Central	46	32	70%	31	67%	1	2%	14	30%
	Morecambe & Heysham	78	56	72%	54	69%	2	3%	22	28%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	56	40	71%	39	70%	1	2%	16	29%
	Fleetwood	21	15	71%	15	71%	0	0%	6	28%
	Wyre Rural	47	32	68%	31	66%	1	2%	15	32%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	40	27	68%	25	63%	2	5%	13	33%
	Fylde East Broughton	63	39	62%	36	57%	3	5%	24	38%
Preston	Preston North	36	23	64%	22	61%	1	3%	13	36%
	Preston East	49	30	61%	26	53%	4	8%	19	39%
	Preston Central	34	25	74%	24	71%	1	3%	9	26%
	Preston West	53	32	60%	30	57%	2	4%	21	40%
	Bowland	15	13	87%	13	87%	0	0%	2	13%
	Fylde East Broughton	21	15	71%	15	71%	0	0%	6	29%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	621	420	69%	401	66%	19	3%	201	31%

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
South Ribble	Leyland	54	26	48%	25	46%	1	2%	28	52%
	South Ribble East	67	44	66%	41	61%	3	4%	23	34%
	South Ribble West	51	33	65%	32	63%	1	2%	18	35%
Chorley	Chorley East	47	30	64%	28	60%	2	4%	17	36%
	Chorley West	39	24	62%	23	59%	1	3%	15	38%
	Chorley Central	66	34	52%	34	52%	0	0%	32	48%
	South Ribble East	3	2	67%	2	67%	0	0%	1	33%
	Skelmersdale	67	41	61%	40	60%	1	1%	26	39%
West Lancashire	West Lancashire West	36	24	67%	24	67%	0	0%	12	33%
	Chorley West	13	10	77%	9	69%	1	8%	3	23%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37	27	73%	25	68%	2	5%	10	27%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	480	295	64%	283	61%	12	3%	185	36%

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	110	65	59%	64	58%	1	1%	45	41%
	Hyndburn West	37	25	68%	25	68%	0	0%	12	32%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	75	47	63%	44	59%	3	4%	28	37%
	Rossendale West	35	23	66%	23	66%	0	0%	12	34%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	42	30	71%	30	71%	0	0%	12	29%
	Pendle Hill	41	25	61%	25	61%	0	0%	16	39%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	57	35	61%	31	54%	4	7%	22	39%
	Burnley Central	25	15	60%	15	60%	0	0%	10	40%
	Burnley North	27	18	67%	18	67%	0	0%	9	33%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	6	4	67%	4	67%	0	0%	2	33%
	Colne	30	20	67%	20	67%	0	0%	10	33%
	Nelson & Brierfield	33	21	64%	21	64%	0	0%	12	36%
	Pendle Hill	11	7	64%	7	64%	0	0%	4	36%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	529	335	65%	327	63%	8	1%	194	36%

Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
North Lancashire	621	420	69%	401	66%	19	3%	201	31%
South Lancashire	480	295	64%	283	61%	12	3%	185	36%
East Lancashire	529	335	65%	327	63%	8	1%	194	36%
Lancashire	1631	1050	66%	1012	64%	39	2%	580	34%

Temporary Closure

Some providers temporarily closed during the year, the main reasons for these closures were:

- No demand from parents due to change in working hours or circumstances.
- The childcare provider was shielding or had vulnerable staff or family members.
- The provision operated out of a shared community building which may have closed.
- Providers with multiple sites chose to amalgamate, closing one site and operating for all their children at their other site.

The other factors for deciding on a temporary closure related to the viability of the business and included:

- The numbers of children in attendance
- The number of keyworker children, vulnerable children and fee-paying families.
- The running costs and overheads for the business.
- Staffing costs.

Provider Type Breakdown

Provider Type	Total	Responses	Total Response Rate
AM/PM School Club	298	139	47%
Childminder	650	401	62%
Day Nursery	364	259	71%
Holiday Scheme	26	3	12%
Nursery Units of Independent Schools	16	13	81%
Pre School Playgroup	90	70	78%
Maintained Nursery School	24	18	75%
Maintained Nursery Class	134	120	90%
Governor Led Provision (S27)	28	27	96%
TOTAL	1631	1050	66%

Movement in the Childcare Market

The tables below show the numbers of new Ofsted childcare registrations across Lancashire alongside the number of providers who have permanently closed.

Whilst there have been some permanent closures during the past 12 months, overall, we have seen 172 providers join the childcare market and 144 leave. North Lancashire saw the biggest net change.

Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
North Lancashire	621	66	40	26	4%
South Lancashire	480	42	42	0	0%
East Lancashire	529	66	62	4	1%
Lancashire	1630	174	144	30	2%

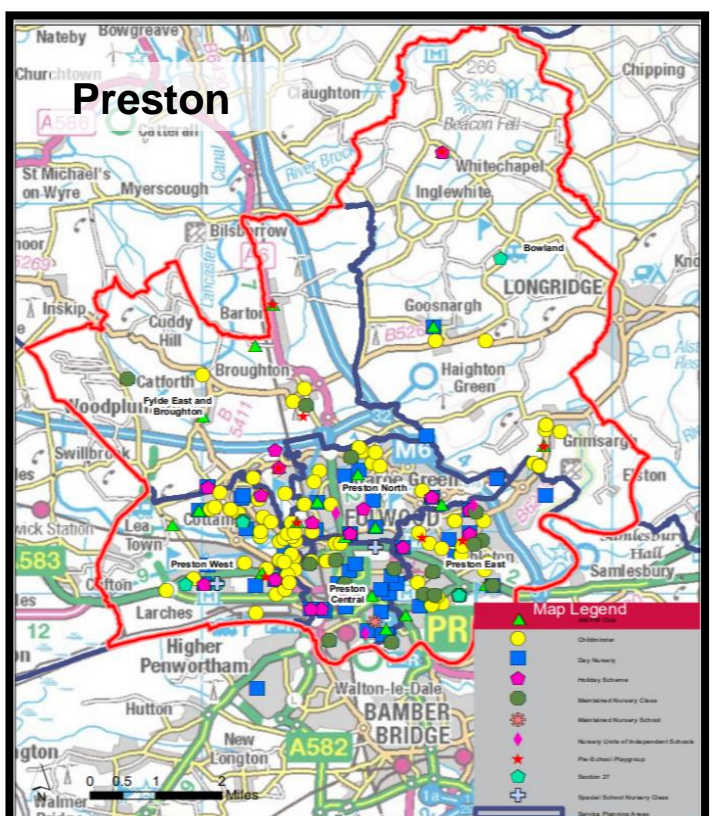
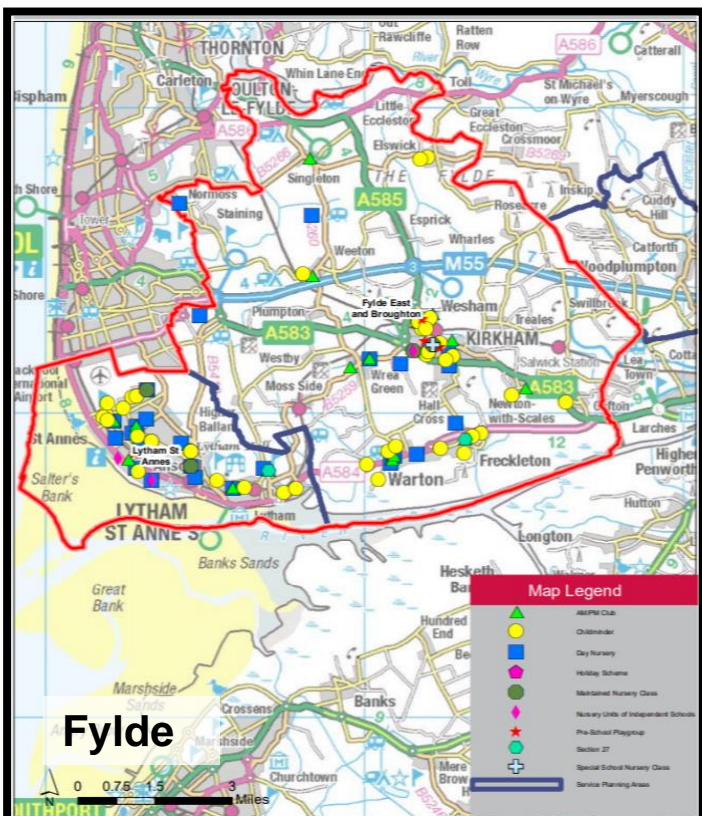
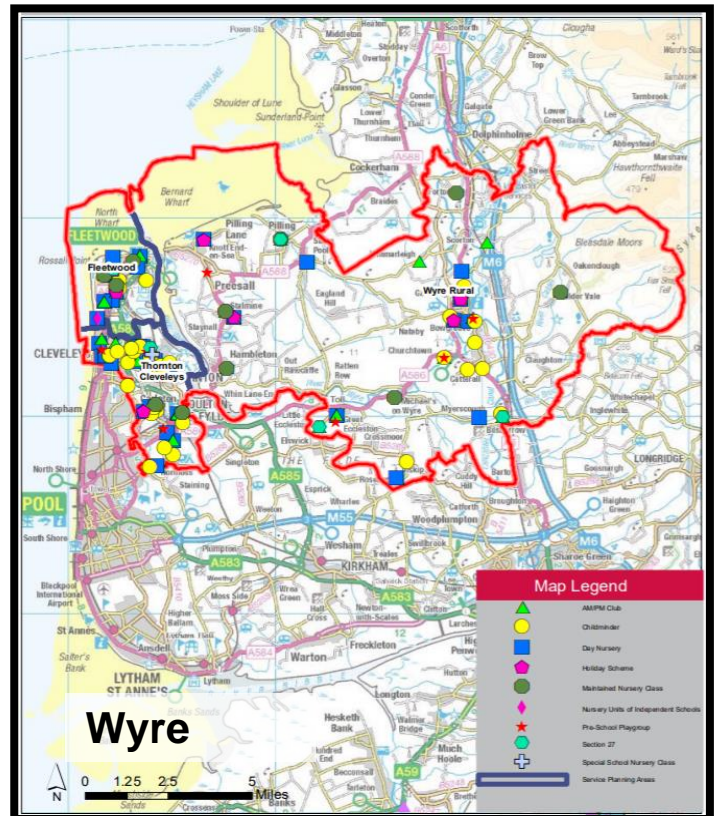
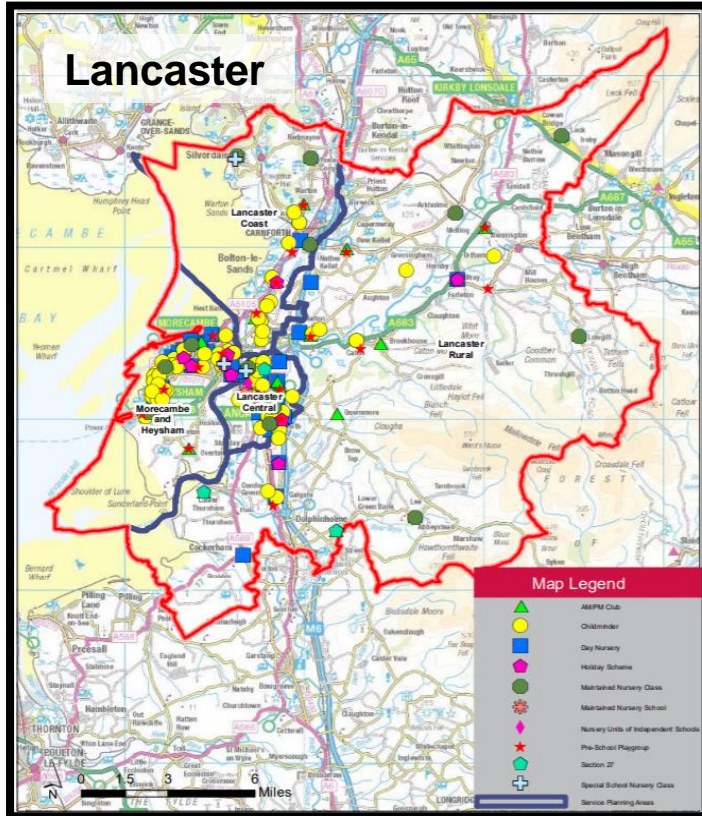
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	25	4	2	2	8%
	Lancaster Rural	37	6	2	4	11%
	Lancaster Central	46	4	2	2	4%
	Morecambe & Heysham	78	2	2	0	0%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	56	7	6	1	2%
	Fleetwood	21	2	2	0	0%
	Wyre Rural	47	11	4	7	15%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	40	3	3	0	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	63	8	4	4	6%
Preston	Preston North	36	3	3	0	0%
	Preston East	49	5	2	3	6%
	Preston Central	34	5	3	2	6%
	Preston West	53	3	4	-1	-2%
	Bowland	15	1	1	0	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	21	2	0	2	10%
North Lancashire		621	66	40	26	4%

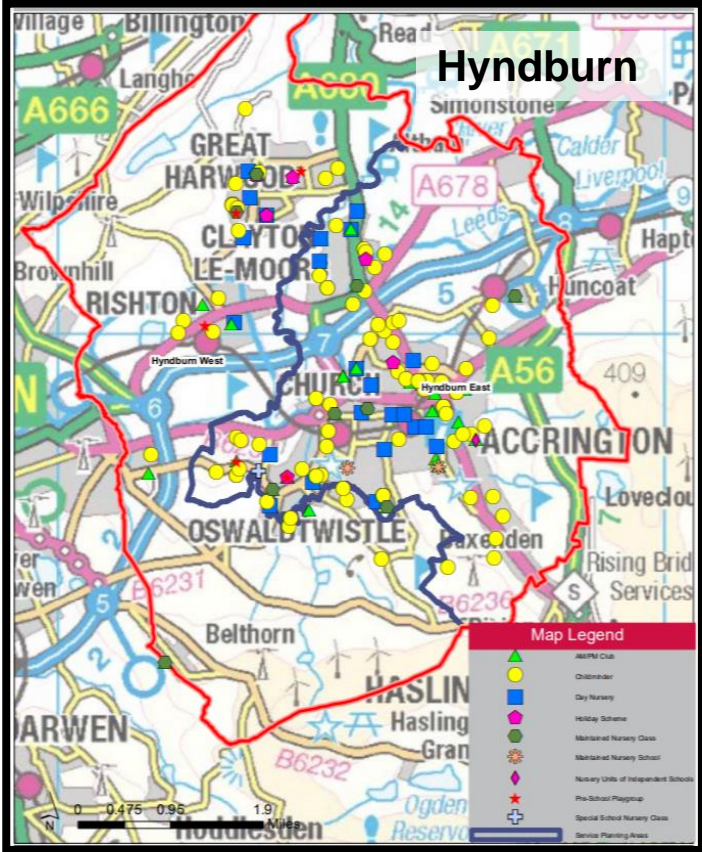
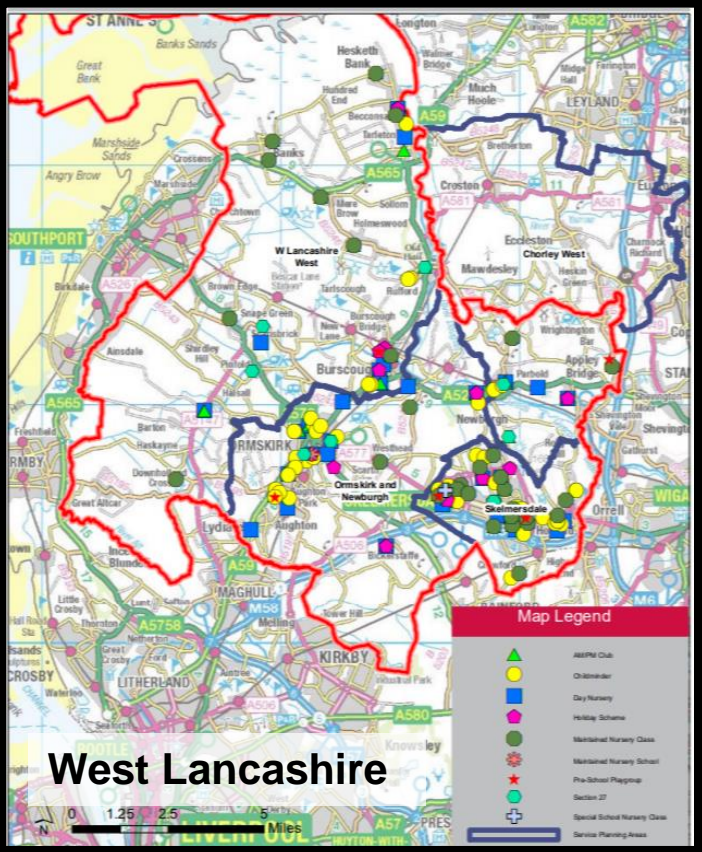
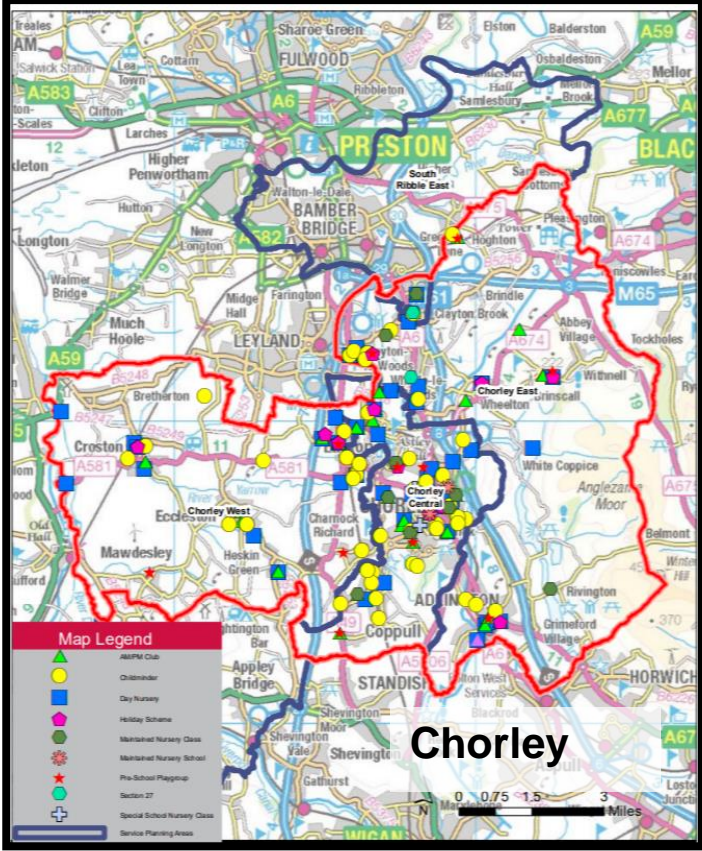
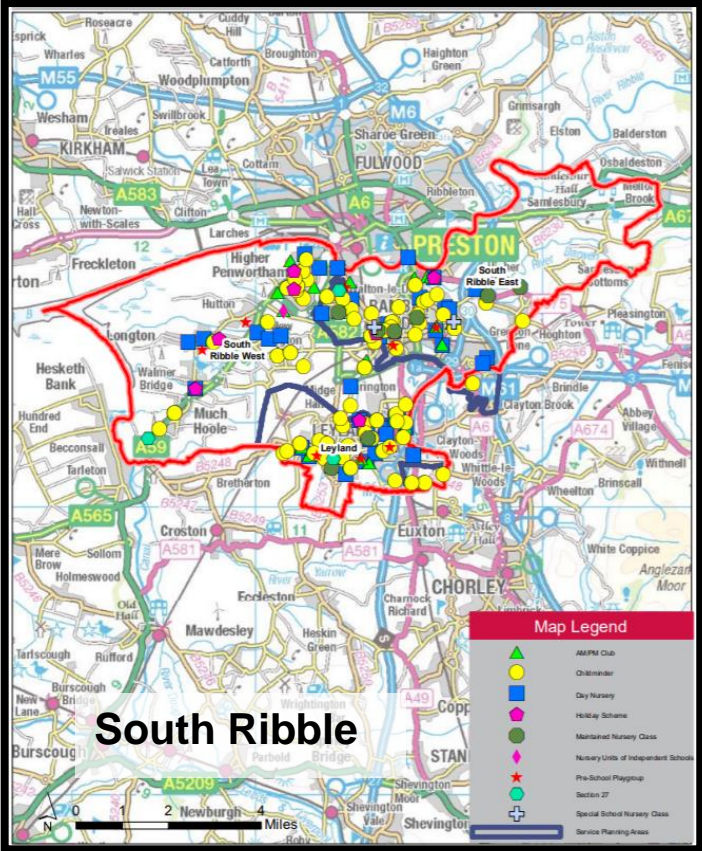
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
South Ribble	Leyland	54	6	5	1	2%
	South Ribble East	67	6	8	-2	-3%
	South Ribble West	51	7	4	3	6%
Chorley	Chorley East	47	5	4	1	2%
	Chorley West	39	7	2	5	13%
	Chorley Central	66	4	3	1	2%
	South Ribble East	3	0	0	0	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	67	1	8	-7	-10%
	West Lancashire West	36	4	7	-3	-8%
	Chorley West	13	0	0	0	0%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37	2	1	1	3%
South Lancashire		480	42	42	0	0%

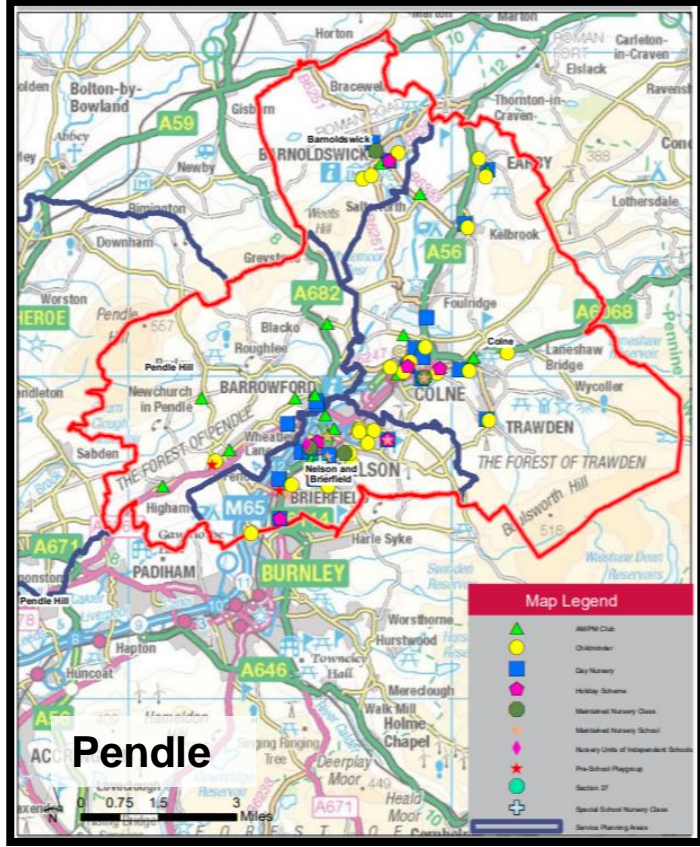
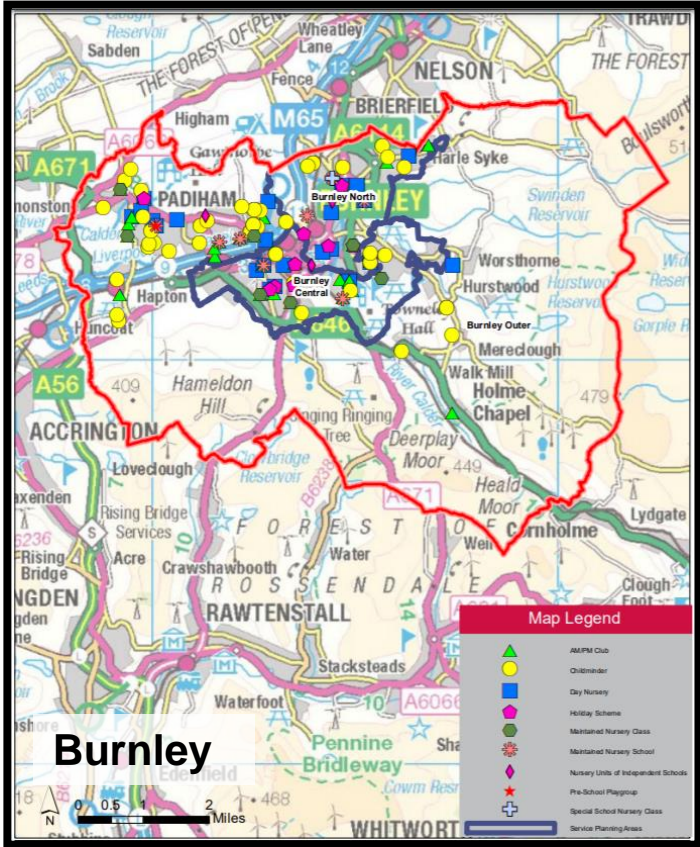
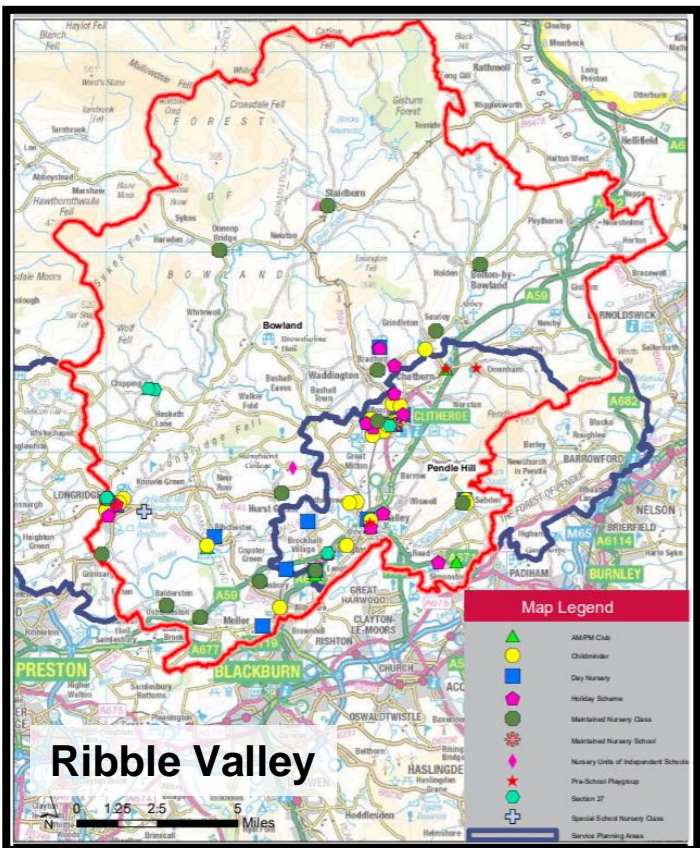
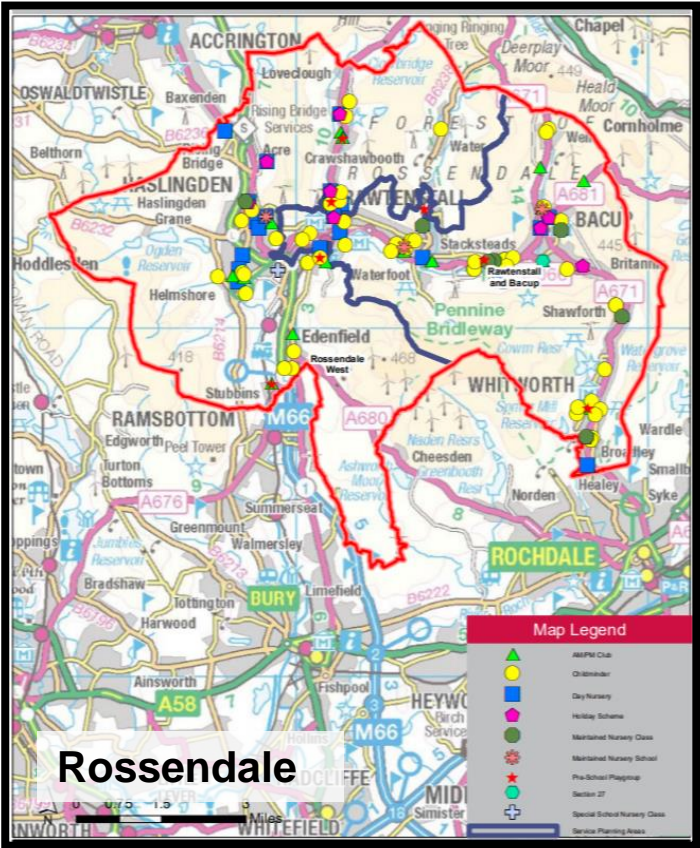
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	110	13	7	6	5%
	Hyndburn West	37	2	2	0	0%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	75	9	8	1	1%
	Rossendale West	35	3	5	-2	-6%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	42	3	5	-2	-5%
	Pendle Hill	41	8	10	-2	-5%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	57	5	9	-4	-7%
	Burnley Central	25	1	1	0	0%
	Burnley North	27	1	2	-1	-4%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	6	3	0	3	50%
	Colne	30	5	7	-2	-7%
	Nelson & Brierfield	33	6	6	0	0%
	Pendle Hill	11	7	0	7	64%
East Lancashire		529	66	62	4	1%

Childcare Providers by District

The maps below show the location and types of childcare provision available across the districts and geographical areas.







Childcare Places 0-4 Year Olds

The weekly survey has provided a wealth of information that has enabled us to analyse the sufficiency of childcare places at a district and more localised geographical level. With full national lockdowns, local lockdowns and tiers the impact to the childcare market has been vast. To understand the demand for childcare places during the past year and moving forward is a challenge as families are facing very different scenarios with their childcare needs.

The 12 tables below look at three options to allow us to support each area dependent upon potential demand and the supply of places. **Option 1** is prior to COVID-19 and this shows we had sufficient places across all districts in Lancashire. **Option 2** and **Option 3** are hypothetical scenarios assuming 75% and 50% potential demand and includes the number of places providers are working to during COVID-19.

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	287	542	47%	215	422	49%	143	422	66%
	Lancaster Rural	359	1039	65%	269	763	65%	180	763	76%
	Morecambe & Heysham	1882	2810	33%	1412	2488	43%	941	2488	62%
	Lancaster Central	1220	1871	35%	915	1408	35%	610	1408	57%
District Total		3748	6262	40%	2811	5081	45%	1874	5081	63%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	1083	2448	56%	812	1892	57%	541	1892	71%
	Fleetwood	804	1274	37%	603	1014	41%	402	1014	60%
	Wyre Rural	646	1188	46%	484	1070	55%	323	1070	70%
District Total		2533	4910	48%	1900	3976	52%	1266	3976	68%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	825	1570	47%	619	1616	62%	413	1616	74%
	Fylde East & Broughton	817	1733	53%	613	1232	50%	408	1232	67%
		1642	3303	50%	1232	2848	57%	821	2848	71%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Preston	Preston North	559	1698	67%	420	1574	73%	280	1574	82%
	Preston East	1795	2114	15%	1347	1774	24%	898	1774	49%
	Preston Central	1192	1774	33%	894	1264	29%	596	1264	53%
	Preston West	1004	1643	39%	753	1240	39%	502	1240	60%
	Bowland	178	300	41%	134	238	44%	89	238	63%
	Fylde & East Broughton	203	834	76%	152	926	84%	102	926	89%
District Total		4932	8363	41%	3699	7016	47%	2466	7016	65%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
South Ribble	Leyland	1020	1642	38%	765	1538	50%	510	1538	67%
	South Ribble East	1194	2644	55%	895	2690	67%	597	2690	78%
	South Ribble West	728	1755	59%	546	1622	66%	364	1622	78%
District Total		2941	6041	51%	2206	5850	62%	1471	5850	75%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Chorley	Chorley East	871	1926	55%	653	1460	55%	435	1460	70%
	Chorley West	412	1532	73%	309	1042	70%	206	1042	80%
	Chorley Central	1674	2744	39%	1255	2518	50%	837	2518	67%
	South Ribble East	147	210	30%	110	154	28%	74	154	52%
District Total		3104	6412	52%	2328	5174	55%	1552	5174	70%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	1433	2106	32%	1074	1894	43%	716	1894	62%
	West Lancashire West	722	1486	51%	541	892	39%	361	892	60%
	Chorley West	154	370	59%	115	358	68%	77	358	79%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	596	1420	58%	447	1164	62%	298	1164	74%
District Total		2904	5382	46%	2178	4308	49%	1452	4308	66%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	2131	3260	35%	1598	3300	52%	1066	3300	68%
	Hyndburn West	674	965	30%	505	817	38%	337	817	59%
District Total		2805	4225	34%	2104	4117	49%	1402	4117	66%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	1252	2086	40%	939	2064	55%	626	2064	70%
	Rossendale West	828	1448	43%	621	1304	52%	414	1304	68%
District Total		2080	3534	41%	1560	3368	54%	1040	3368	69%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Ribble Valley	Bowland	536	949	44%	402	854	53%	268	854	69%
	Pendle Hill	674	2098	68%	505	1836	72%	337	1836	82%
District Total		1210	3047	60%	907	2690	66%	605	2690	78%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Burnley	Burnley Outer	943	1956	52%	707	1432	51%	471	1432	67%
	Burnley Central	905	1527	41%	679	1392	51%	452	1392	68%
	Burnley North	1294	1426	9%	971	1054	8%	647	1054	39%
District Total		3142	4909	36%	2356	3878	39%	1571	3878	59%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Pendle	Barnoldswick	324	384	16%	243	362	33%	162	362	55%
	Colne	950	1330	29%	712	1060	33%	475	1060	55%
	Nelson & Brierfield	1869	2136	13%	1402	2110	34%	934	2110	56%
	Pendle Hill	243	476	49%	182	436	58%	122	436	72%
District Total		3385	4326	22%	2539	3968	36%	1693	3968	57%

Summary of Childcare Places 0-4 Year Olds

From the data available we have sufficient childcare available in all geographical areas. This information is a snapshot in time and should be seen as a guide to current places available. We closely monitor the childcare market as any localised closures will have an impact on parental choice and provider type availability. We will continue to monitor the demand for childcare places across the county. If demand is identified as remaining low in geographical areas, we could see providers with potential sustainability issues.

Childcare Places 4 -11 Year Olds

Childcare for children of school age is more complex to report on due to the different requirements for Ofsted registration. Some schools in Lancashire operate childcare, this type of provision is exempt from Ofsted registration as they are inspected as part of the school inspection.

Across the county we have 298 Out of School Clubs and have sufficient childcare places for school age children across all geographical areas of Lancashire. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic demand for places has been low. Although childcare settings were allowed to open in order to provide care for vulnerable children and the children of key workers, in practice this was not possible for many of our wraparound childcare settings. This meant a large number of our clubs closed or offered a reduced or a limited service.

In preparation for schools and childcare re opening in June 2020, there was a period of uncertainty for the out of school childcare sector. This was due to a lack of clarity about how bubbles could be managed safely alongside schools. Providers were able to access support and guidance from the Early Years Quality Team to ensure robust risk assessments were put in place.

Based on the responses to our weekly survey over a quarter of Out of School Clubs were open. When schools opened again to all children in the Autumn term, 39% of clubs were showing as open, by Spring term 2021 over half of clubs are now open. We anticipate more clubs are open but have not responded to the survey.

Lockdowns and restrictions throughout the year have resulted in parental demand for before, after school and holiday childcare to decrease. Sustainability has been a concern for many providers, who have been concerned about cash flow. Some providers have had to alter staff hours, some staff have remained furloughed, and in some cases, providers have made staff redundant.

To summarise, whilst we have sufficient places for 4-11 year olds, we will continue to monitor the market closely. It is unclear at this stage how demand for 4-11 year old places will level out and if they will return to levels seen prior to COVID-19. Some parents working patterns have changed and others are now working more flexibly or still working from home which may mean they no longer require the childcare places.

Changes in Demand for Childcare

In November we asked childcare providers about the impact of COVID-19 on demand for childcare places. 50% said demand was lower than the same point in Autumn term 2019. 6% said it had increased and 44% said it was the same as Autumn term 2019. Childcare providers were asked again in Spring term when the country was in full lockdown, and again when lockdown started to ease at the start of the Summer term to see if this had an impact on the demand for childcare places.

The tables below show occupancy levels reported by childcare providers across Lancashire.

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	55%	45%	0%	54%	46%	5%	10%	80%	10%
	Lancaster Rural	43%	50%	7%	50%	36%	14%	42%	33%	25%
	Lancaster Central	54%	27%	19%	65%	26%	9%	26%	58%	16%
	Morecambe & Heysham	62%	33%	5%	73%	27%	0%	54%	35%	11%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	57%	36%	7%	82%	0%	18%	59%	26%	15%
	Fleetwood	50%	50%	0%	56%	38%	6%	44%	23%	33%
	Wyre Rural	44%	56%	0%	58%	38%	4%	23%	54%	23%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	63%	33%	4%	64%	27%	9%	43%	52%	5%
	Fylde East Broughton	37%	63%	0%	57%	43%	0%	38%	52%	5%
	Preston North	40%	60%	0%	69%	31%	0%	33%	54%	13%
Preston	Preston East	35%	53%	12%	53%	40%	7%	40%	60%	0%
	Preston Central	73%	27%	0%	73%	20%	7%	50%	42%	8%
	Preston West	46%	54%	0%	43%	53%	4%	36%	46%	18%
	Bowland	23%	69%	8%	77%	15%	8%	9%	82%	9%
	Fylde East Broughton	44%	34%	22%	36%	64%	0%	20%	70%	10%
	TOTAL	48%	46%	6%	60%	34%	6%	35%	52%	13%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
South Ribble	Leyland	55%	32%	13%	56%	40%	4%	48%	35%	17%
	South Ribble East	48%	49%	3%	58%	35%	7%	40%	48%	12%
	South Ribble West	62%	34%	4%	70%	30%	0%	46%	42%	12%
Chorley	Chorley East	54%	38%	8%	67%	33%	0%	69%	25%	6%
	Chorley West	45%	45%	10%	48%	43%	9%	33%	47%	20%
	Chorley Central	64%	32%	4%	60%	40%	0%	35%	60%	5%
	South Ribble East	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	63%	37%	0%	69%	25%	6%	67%	20%	13%
	West Lancashire West	57%	43%	0%	37%	63%	0%	22%	78%	0%
	Chorley West	0%	75%	25%	100%	0%	0%	0%	75%	25%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	87%	13%	0%	70%	25%	5%	25%	63%	12%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	49%	45%	6%	58%	39%	3%	35%	54%	11%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	57%	38%	5%	74%	23%	3%	45%	47%	8%
	Hyndburn West	33%	67%	0%	50%	50%	0%	50%	50%	0%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	55%	42%	3%	57%	40%	3%	45%	49%	6%
	Rossendale West	58%	42%	0%	72%	24%	4%	33%	51%	16%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	50%	38%	12%	58%	42%	0%	29%	43%	28%
	Pendle Hill	57%	29%	14%	76%	19%	5%	36%	57%	7%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	58%	34%	8%	62%	38%	0%	44%	56%	0%
	Burnley Central	56%	33%	11%	67%	33%	0%	20%	80%	0%
	Burnley North	43%	57%	0%	73%	27%	0%	20%	60%	20%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%	0%
	Colne	53%	41%	6%	59%	29%	12%	40%	33%	27%
	Nelson & Brierfield	84%	8%	8%	77%	23%	0%	56%	36%	9%
	Pendle Hill	33%	67%	0%	33%	34%	33%	25%	50%	25%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	53%	42%	5%	62%	33%	5%	34%	55%	11%

Summary of the changes in demand for childcare

While demand was low in Autumn and Spring term (lockdown) as restrictions started to lift providers have indicated that the demand is starting to show signs of returning to pre COVID-19 levels.

Early Education Funding

3 and 4 year olds Early Education Funding – Universal Entitlement (EEF3&4)

Every 3 and 4 year old is eligible for 15 hours funded childcare the term after their third birthday until they start school. Parents can choose to access this provision flexibly and use more than one provider to meet their childcare needs. The funding is available for 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year. Some parents may choose more flexibility and use less hours per week, over more than 38 weeks of the year, a total of 570 hours is available.

30 hours Extended Entitlement

September 2017 saw the introduction of the extended entitlement 30 hours childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. This funding is targeted at working families who can access a total of 1,140 hours per year either 30 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year, or it can also be used more flexibly over the year and with one or more childcare providers.

2 year old Early Education Funding (EEF2)

Some 2 year old children are eligible to access up to 15 hours of Early Education Funding (EEF2). A child is eligible to access a place the term after their 2nd birthday, 570 hours are available, either 15 hours for 38 weeks per year or parents may choose more flexibility and use the funding throughout the year.

Eligibility to access a 2 year old funded place requires one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based job seekers allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit
- Tax Credit and an annual income under (£16,190)
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- The working tax credit 4 week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Other ways a family may be eligible are

Children looked after by the council; Children who have left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangement order or adoption order, children who get disability living allowance, children who have a current education health care plan (EHC), children in need, children with a child protection plan, children of Gypsy Roma Heritage living in Lancashire, children of serving armed forces personnel residing in Lancashire and children who meet the criteria for Portage.

For more information about the criteria for 30 hours and 2 year olds funding please visit:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/early-years-childcare-and-family-support/paying-for-childcare/funded-childcare-for-2-year-olds>

Early Education Funding (EEF) Take Up for 2 Year Olds

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	19	12	63%	24	17	71%	24	18	75%
	Lancaster Rural	17	14	82%	15	11	73%	13	12	92%
	Lancaster Central	123	107	87%	120	116	97%	155	132	85%
	Morecambe & Heysham	269	213	79%	299	207	69%	266	198	74%
District Total		428	345	81%	458	351	77%	458	360	79%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	128	92	72%	108	79	73%	92	62	67%
	Fleetwood	164	117	71%	179	140	78%	170	135	79%
	Wyre Rural	62	44	71%	57	39	68%	52	34	65%
District Total		354	253	71%	344	258	75%	313	230	73%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	88	51	58%	83	49	59%	88	46	52%
	Fylde East Broughton	100	75	75%	72	58	81%	89	64	72%
District Total		188	126	67%	155	107	69%	176	109	62%
Preston	Preston North	40	31	78%	46	32	70%	37	21	57%
	Preston East	305	184	60%	296	189	64%	305	182	60%
	Preston Central	201	114	57%	216	123	57%	183	114	62%
	Preston West	122	93	76%	143	100	70%	123	93	76%
	Bowland	6	6	100%	4	2	50%	5	5	100%
	Fylde East Broughton	13	8	62%	10	8	80%	9	3	33%
District Total		687	436	63%	715	454	63%	661	417	63%
TOTAL		1657	1160	71%	1672	1170	71%	1608	1116	70%

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
South Ribble	Leyland	104	75	72%	121	89	74%	121	86	71%
	South Ribble East	115	77	67%	133	92	69%	112	86	77%
	South Ribble West	38	27	71%	42	36	86%	54	33	61%
District Total		257	179	70%	296	217	73%	287	204	71%
Chorley	Chorley East	41	35	85%	47	37	79%	53	41	77%
	Chorley West	27	17	63%	36	17	47%	29	21	72%
	Chorley Central	185	126	68%	174	136	78%	200	134	67%
	South Ribble East	25	21	84%	18	17	94%	22	18	82%
District Total		278	199	72%	275	207	75%	304	214	70%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	251	187	75%	231	161	70%	220	152	69%
	West Lancashire West	58	27	47%	69	30	43%	69	33	48%
	Chorley West	1	3	300%	3	2	67%	4	2	50%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	41	21	51%	42	28	67%	47	30	64%
District Total		351	238	68%	345	221	64%	340	213	63%
TOTAL		886	616	70%	916	645	71%	931	631	68%

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	388	243	63%	357	228	64%	350	205	59%
	Hyndburn West	109	67	61%	88	58	66%	97	68	70%
District Total		497	309	62%	445	286	64%	447	273	61%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	179	114	64%	199	131	66%	186	114	61%
	Rossendale West	71	49	69%	87	67	77%	84	56	67%
District Total		250	163	65%	286	198	69%	271	170	63%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	35	21	60%	36	21	58%	34	20	59%
	Pendle Hill	56	50	89%	56	47	84%	42	31	74%
District Total		91	71	78%	92	68	74%	76	50	66%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	151	112	74%	147	120	82%	140	120	86%
	Burnley Central	165	122	74%	154	124	81%	180	124	69%
	Burnley North	268	166	62%	243	145	60%	227	134	59%
District Total		584	398	68%	544	389	72%	547	378	69%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	38	22	58%	32	21	66%	35	24	69%
	Colne	117	73	62%	109	83	76%	106	81	76%
	Nelson & Brierfield	344	184	53%	330	192	58%	312	158	51%
	Pendle Hill	7	7	100%	17	10	59%	14	13	93%
District Total		506	286	57%	488	306	63%	467	276	59%
TOTAL		1928	1227	75%	1855	1247	68%	1808	1147	64%

Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
North Lancashire	1657	1160	71%	1672	1170	71%	1608	1116	70%
South Lancashire	886	616	70%	916	645	71%	931	631	68%
East Lancashire	1928	1227	75%	1855	1247	68%	1808	1147	64%
Lancashire	4471	3003	72%	4443	3062	70%	4347	2894	67%

Early Education Funding (EEF) Take Up for 3&4 Year Olds

*The data in the EEF 3&4 year old tables excludes those children aged 4 who are in reception.

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	113	108	96%	169	162	96%
	Lancaster Rural	172	144	84%	221	189	86%
	Lancaster Central	531	427	80%	689	557	81%
	Morecambe & Heysham	849	619	73%	1072	820	76%
District Total		1665	1298	78%	2151	1728	80%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	516	418	81%	663	528	80%
	Fleetwood	300	310	103%	401	384	96%
	Wyre Rural	278	235	85%	394	350	89%
District Total		1094	963	88%	1458	1231	84%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	386	307	80%	487	399	82%
	Fylde East Broughton	353	323	92%	459	444	97%
District Total		739	630	85%	946	843	89%
Preston	Preston North	231	257	111%	337	340	101%
	Preston East	751	584	78%	987	749	76%
	Preston Central	517	367	71%	671	433	65%
	Preston West	417	375	90%	551	486	88%
	Bowland	88	93	106%	113	115	102%
	Fylde East Broughton	82	98	120%	122	136	111%
District Total		2086	1774	85%	2781	2259	81%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	5584	4665	84%	7336	6061	83%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
South Ribble	Leyland	467	370	79%	617	468	76%
	South Ribble East	568	471	83%	715	609	85%
	South Ribble West	305	309	101%	433	422	97%
District Total		1340	1150	86%	1765	1499	85%
Chorley	Chorley East	394	331	84%	546	448	82%
	Chorley West	166	227	137%	238	297	125%
	Chorley Central	726	614	85%	958	803	84%
	South Ribble East	59	70	119%	78	99	127%
District Total		1345	1242	92%	1820	1647	90%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	620	491	79%	791	662	84%
	West Lancashire West	322	274	85%	422	350	83%
	Chorley West	88	40	45%	114	53	46%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	281	231	82%	369	290	79%
District Total		1311	1036	79%	1696	1355	80%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	3996	3428	86%	5281	4501	85%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	834	730	88%	1127	941	83%
	Hyndburn West	283	219	77%	376	280	74%
District Total		1117	949	85%	1503	1221	81%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	502	438	87%	678	585	86%
	Rossendale West	393	291	74%	494	377	76%
District Total		895	729	81%	1172	962	82%
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	263	215	82%	332	290	87%
	Pendle Hill	303	297	98%	400	402	101%
District Total		566	512	90%	732	692	95%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	366	387	106%	508	496	98%
	Burnley Central	324	309	95%	450	396	88%
	Burnley North	468	445	95%	679	590	87%
District Total		1158	1141	99%	1637	1482	91%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	141	125	89%	191	167	87%
	Colne	408	295	72%	578	380	66%
	Nelson & Brierfield	680	684	101%	1020	859	84%
	Pendle Hill	101	90	89%	150	112	75%
District Total		1330	1194	90%	1939	1518	78%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	5066	4525	89%	6983	5875	84%

Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
North Lancashire	5584	4665	84%	7336	6061	83%
South Lancashire	3996	3428	86%	5281	4501	85%
East Lancashire	5066	4525	89%	6983	5875	84%
Lancashire	14646	12618	86%	19600	16437	84%

Summary of Early Education Funding (EEF) take up for 2, 3&4 Year Olds

The take up for Early Education Funding for 2 year olds is lower than we would like at 67% (Spring term 2021). Take up for Early Education Funding for 3&4 year olds is 84% (Spring term 2021).

An action plan is in place to promote the take up of Early Education Funding entitlements. We are working closely with partners and family facing services to promote awareness and increase take up of this funding, particularly within the localities where take up is lower than the Lancashire average. We will continue to promote the take up of Early Education Funding through our social media marketing campaign.

Changes in the number of funded hours claimed

The tables below show the percentage change in the number of hours claimed prior to COVID-19 compared with the COVID-19 year.

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	7%	-13%	-11%	-16%
	Lancaster Rural	-39%	-56%	-7%	-1%
	Lancaster Central	20%	7%	-10%	-11%
	Morecambe & Heysham	-20%	-22%	-9%	-8%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	-38%	-27%	-3%	5%
	Fleetwood	16%	-10%	-5%	3%
	Wyre Rural	-43%	-20%	-12%	-17%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	-26%	-25%	-8%	-4%
	Fylde East Broughton	-21%	-41%	-4%	-10%
Preston	Preston North	-29%	12%	-11%	-15%
	Preston East	-21%	-25%	-6%	-3%
	Preston Central	-20%	-26%	-21%	-13%
	Preston West	-13%	-4%	-8%	-8%
	Bowland	-41%	-76%	19%	49%
	Fylde East Broughton	-61%	32%	-2%	-2%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	-22%	-20%	-6%	-3%

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
South Ribble	Leyland	3%	-13%	-9%	-5%
	South Ribble East	-17%	-20%	-2%	3%
	South Ribble West	12%	-10%	-6%	-9%
Chorley	Chorley East	-11%	-23%	-7%	-7%
	Chorley West	-23%	-37%	20%	33%
	Chorley Central	1%	-20%	-11%	-12%
	South Ribble East	-19%	-30%	6%	-4%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	-30%	-24%	6%	1%
	West Lancashire West	-3%	-22%	-2%	20%
	Chorley West	0%	-50%	6%	8%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	23%	-11%	-8%	-15%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	-6%	-24%	0%	1%

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	-28%	-27%	-2%	0%
	Hyndburn West	0%	-16%	-9%	-9%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	-11%	-4%	5%	6%
	Rossendale West	1%	10%	-3%	-1%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	-16%	-25%	8%	6%
	Pendle Hill	-43%	8%	-2%	-10%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	-5%	-16%	-4%	-1%
	Burnley Central	-9%	-23%	-15%	-17%
	Burnley North	-31%	-37%	-14%	-19%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	-9%	-36%	1%	2%
	Colne	-12%	-28%	-4%	-6%
	Nelson & Brierfield	-33%	-30%	-12%	-10%
	Pendle Hill	-22%	-44%	-17%	-4%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	-17%	-21%	-5%	-5%

Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
North Lancashire	-22%	-20%	-6%	-3%
South Lancashire	-6%	-24%	0%	1%
East Lancashire	-17%	-21%	-5%	-5%
Lancashire	-15%	-21%	-4%	-2%

Sustainability

Sustainability has been one of the main challenges for childcare providers over the past year. Throughout the pandemic many parents have been working from home, have had to manage changes in hours or work patterns or some may have been made redundant. Parents have also been concerned about their children's health and safety. The fall in demand for childcare, has placed financial pressure on the sector with increased costs and loss of income.

To support providers who offer Early Education Funding and to provide stability with cashflow and viability, a one off COVID-19 payment has been made, along with increases to the funding rate and assistance with advertisement and marketing. However, the true impact will depend on if demand for childcare increases and how quickly this happens.

The government provided a variety of financial support packages to support businesses throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these included:

- Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS)
- Business rates relief
- Support for the Self-employed
- Bounce back loans
- Support for businesses affected by coronavirus restrictions

We will continue to monitor changes to the childcare market across Lancashire. As wider lockdown restriction ease we will see how families access childcare provision and the wider impact this has on the sector.

Childcare providers were asked about the impact on their business viability and what changes, if any, they are needing to make. The tables below summarise their responses.

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand, management of childcare bubbles, in Lancaster Central the majority furloughed staff, in Lancaster Rural and Morecambe & Heysham cash flow and business viability was a concern.
	Lancaster Rural	86%	14%	
	Lancaster Central	95%	5%	
	Morecambe & Heysham	91%	9%	
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	78%	22%	All areas identified low demand, management of childcare bubbles, in Wyre Rural a number of providers reduced opening hours and in Fleetwood providers were concerned about cash flow and business viability.
	Fleetwood	73%	27%	
	Wyre Rural	77%	23%	
Fylde	Lytham St Anne's	82%	18%	All areas identified low demand. Some providers reduced their opening hours and others found ensuring the premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. In Lytham St Anne's a high number of providers furloughed staff and management of childcare bubbles was a challenge.
	Fylde East Broughton	72%	28%	
Preston	Preston North	88%	12%	All areas identified low demand, the majority of areas raised cash flow concerns. Bowland, Preston Central & Preston East had concerns with the management of childcare bubbles. Preston North had furloughed a greater number of staff than some of the other areas.
	Preston East	87%	13%	
	Preston Central	87%	13%	
	Preston West	92%	8%	
	Bowland	82%	18%	
	Fylde East Broughton	91%	9%	
Total	North Lancashire	85%	15%	

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
South Ribble	Leyland	90%	10%	All areas identified low demand, Leyland & South Ribble West had a large number of providers who had reduced opening hours, South Ribble East and West identified bubble management as an impact.
	South Ribble East	93%	7%	
	South Ribble West	88%	12%	
Chorley	Chorley East	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand and business viability. Chorley Central & Chorley East identified the impact of bubble management. Chorley East & Chorley West raised the impact of ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure.
	Chorley West	79%	21%	
	Chorley Central	92%	8%	
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand. Skelmersdale and Chorley West identified reduced opening hours and staff furloughed. While Ormskirk and Newburgh and West Lancashire West identified management of childcare bubbles.
	West Lancashire West	86%	14%	
	Chorley West	75%	25%	
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	95%	5%	
Total	South Lancashire	90%	10%	

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	95%	5%	Both areas identified low demand, while Hyndburn East have seen a staff reduction and Hyndburn West have found bubble management has impacted on them.
	Hyndburn West	89%	11%	
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	85%	15%	Both areas identified low demand and ensuring the premises were COVID-19 secure. Rossendale West identified management of childcare bubbles. Rawtenstall and Bacup identified business viability and cash flow had an impact on them.
	Rossendale West	95%	5%	
Ribble Valley	Bowland	100%	0%	Both areas said they have been impacted by low demand. Pendle Hill had concerns around ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure, business viability and cash flow.
	Pendle Hill	89%	11%	
Burnley	Burnley Outer	88%	12%	All areas identified managing childcare bubbles and low demand as a concern. While Burnley North and Burnley Outer had experienced ensuring their premises were COVID-19 secure and business viability as areas that have impacted on their provision.
	Burnley Central	82%	18%	
	Burnley North	88%	12%	
Pendle	Barnoldswick	67%	33%	The majority of areas identified low demand as a concern. Barnoldswick, Colne and Pendle Hill indicated the management of childcare bubbles, business viability and cash flow have been impacted over the last twelve months.
	Colne	89%	11%	
	Nelson & Brierfield	82%	18%	
	Pendle Hill	100%	0%	
TOTAL	East Lancashire	88%	12%	

The following three tables show potential changes providers are looking to make.

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	9%	91%	In nearly all areas providers were looking to make changes to opening hours and increase fees. In Lancaster Central a number of providers were looking at staff hours. In Morecambe & Heysham some providers were looking at altering business models.
	Lancaster Rural	36%	64%	
	Lancaster Central	55%	45%	
	Morecambe & Heysham	36%	64%	
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	52%	48%	In all areas a number of providers are looking at staff hours and some providers were looking to make changes to their business models. In Fleetwood some providers are looking to increase fees.
	Fleetwood	55%	45%	
	Rural Wyre	8%	92%	
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	17%	83%	In both areas providers are looking at staff hours, in Fylde East & Broughton some providers are looking at increasing fees and altering their business models.
	Fylde East Broughton	14%	86%	
Preston	Preston North	38%	62%	In all areas of Preston a number of providers are looking to increase their fees. In the majority of areas some providers are looking at changes to staff hours. Bowland and Preston East some providers are looking at altering business models.
	Preston East	47%	53%	
	Preston Central	60%	40%	
	Preston West	42%	58%	
	Bowland	36%	64%	
	Fylde East Broughton	36%	64%	
TOTAL	North Lancashire	36%	64%	

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
South Ribble	Leyland	50%	50%	In all areas of South Ribble some providers are looking at increasing fees. In Leyland and South Ribble West some providers are looking to reorganise staff hours and in South Ribble East some providers are looking to change opening hours.
	South Ribble East	46%	54%	
	South Ribble West	46%	54%	
Chorley	Chorley East	58%	42%	In all areas of Chorley providers are looking at increasing fees. In nearly all areas some providers are looking to reorganise staff hours, in Chorley West some providers are looking to change opening hours and in Chorley Central some are looking at business models.
	Chorley West	30%	70%	
	Chorley Central	44%	56%	
	South Ribble East	50%	50%	
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	67%	33%	In all areas some providers are looking to alter their business model and change opening times. Ormskirk and Newburgh and Skelmersdale are looking to recruit additional staff and increase fees.
	West Lancashire West	86%	14%	
	Chorley West	75%	25%	
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37%	63%	
TOTAL	South Lancashire	54%	46%	

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	43%	57%	The majority of providers who responded in both areas are proposing to increase fees and make changes to their business models. Hyndburn East providers are looking to re organise staff hours.
	Hyndburn West	58%	42%	
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	44%	56%	In both areas providers are looking to make changes to their business models, changes to opening times and increased fees. Some Rossendale West providers have said they are looking to recruit additional staff.
	Rossendale West	38%	62%	
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	63%	37%	In both areas providers have altered their business model and made changes to opening times. Pendle Hill providers are looking to increase fees and reorganise staff.
	Pendle Hill	33%	66%	
Burnley	Burnley Outer	40%	60%	All areas are proposing to increase fees. The majority of providers who responded in Burnley North and Burnley Central are looking at reorganising staff. Providers are looking to alter their business models and opening hours in Burnley Central and Burnley Outer.
	Burnley Central	56%	44%	
	Burnley North	20%	80%	
Pendle	Barnoldswick	100%	0%	The majority of providers in Pendle are looking to reorganise their staff hours and increase their fees. Some are also altering their business models and opening times.
	Colne	38%	62%	
	Nelson & Brierfield	47%	53%	
	Pendle Hill	40%	60%	
TOTAL	East Lancashire	48%	52%	

Providers were asked about the longer-term viability of their business, the tables that follow summarise their responses.

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	9%	9%	18%	0%	64%
	Lancaster Rural	0%	14%	29%	0%	57%
	Lancaster Central	0%	0%	10%	10%	80%
	Morecambe & Heysham	4%	11%	12%	9%	64%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	3%	7%	30%	4%	56%
	Fleetwood	0%	27%	0%	9%	64%
	Wyre Rural	0%	0%	15%	0%	85%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	5%	4%	14%	0%	77%
	Fylde East Broughton	0%	3%	4%	3%	90%
Preston	Preston North	6%	6%	13%	0%	75%
	Preston East	0%	13%	0%	7%	80%
	Preston Central	7%	13%	20%	0%	60%
	Preston West	8%	21%	9%	4%	58%
	Bowland	9%	10%	8%	0%	73%
	Fylde East Broughton	9%	0%	27%	0%	64%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	4%	9%	14%	3%	70%

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
South Ribble	Leyland	5%	25%	10%	5%	55%
	South Ribble East	4%	21%	7%	11%	57%
	South Ribble West	8%	20%	16%	12%	44%
Chorley	Chorley East	16%	10%	21%	0%	53%
	Chorley West	0%	0%	21%	5%	74%
	Chorley Central	4%	12%	16%	8%	60%
	South Ribble East	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	6%	22%	28%	0%	44%
	West Lancashire West	0%	0%	15%	14%	71%
	Chorley West	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	0%	16%	10%	0%	74%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	4%	11%	13%	5%	67%

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	0%	9%	22%	10%	59%
	Hyndburn West	11%	26%	25%	0%	38%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	3%	5%	12%	15%	65%
	Rossendale West	5%	19%	18%	10%	48%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	0%	0%	37%	0%	63%
	Pendle Hill	11%	6%	5%	0%	78%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	0%	16%	12%	8%	64%
	Burnley Central	0%	11%	22%	0	67%
	Burnley North	0%	7%	0%	6%	87%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
	Colne	0%	6%	25%	19%	50%
	Nelson & Brierfield	7%	6%	13%	14%	60%
	Pendle Hill	0%	40%	20%	0%	40%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	3%	12%	16%	6%	63%

Overall, 67% of providers have no concerns about their longer-term viability. We will monitor those providers who have raised concerns and provide support if required.

Childcare Fees

Cost remains a deciding factor when parents are looking for childcare. We asked our providers whether their fees had changed over the last year. Their responses are summarised below, with 72% of providers fees remaining the same over the year.

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	82%	9%	9%	0%
	Lancaster Rural	64%	29%	7%	0%
	Lancaster Central	65%	20%	5%	10%
	Morecambe & Heysham	87%	9%	0%	4%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	77%	15%	0%	8%
	Fleetwood	91%	0%	0%	9%
	Wyre Rural	69%	23%	0%	8%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	70%	14%	3%	13%
	Fylde East Broughton	77%	18%	0%	5%
Preston	Preston North	75%	19%	0%	6%
	Preston East	87%	7%	0%	6%
	Preston Central	80%	20%	0%	0%
	Preston West	67%	17%	8%	8%
	Bowland	73%	0%	27%	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	64%	36%	0%	0%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	75%	16%	4%	5%

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
South Ribble	Leyland	85%	5%	0%	10%
	South Ribble East	75%	11%	3%	11%
	South Ribble West	75%	11%	3%	11%
Chorley	Chorley East	90%	5%	0%	5%
	Chorley West	95%	0%	0%	5%
	Chorley Central	72%	12%	0%	16%
	South Ribble East	0%	0%	0%	100%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	78%	22%	0%	0%
	West Lancashire West	57%	29%	0%	14%
	Chorley West	50%	0%	0%	50%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	74%	0	5%	21%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	68%	9%	1%	22%

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	66%	14%	10%	10%
	Hyndburn West	58%	5%	5%	32%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	85%	3%	3%	9%
	Rossendale West	81%	5%	0%	14%
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	63%	25%	0%	12%
	Pendle Hill	84%	6%	5%	5%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	76%	0%	8%	16%
	Burnley Central	45%	22%	0%	33%
	Burnley North	67%	20%	0%	13%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	0%	0%	50%
	Colne	63%	37%	0%	0%
	Nelson & Brierfield	86%	7%	7%	0%
	Pendle Hill	60%	40%	0%	0%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	72%	14%	3%	11%

Quality of Childcare Provision

Quality of care and education is one of the most important aspects when a parent is choosing childcare for their children. Access to high quality childcare has long term benefits to children, particularly those from disadvantaged families. The tables below show an overview of Ofsted inspection outcomes for Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate providers. The tables also include providers who have yet to be inspected and those providers on the childcare register who received a met or not met outcome. The majority of children in Lancashire will have access to good high quality childcare.

On March 17th 2020, all routine inspections of schools and childcare providers were suspended. Shortly afterwards lockdown measures were introduced, and childcare settings closed (apart from those of key workers and vulnerable children). Urgent inspections where specific concerns had been raised still went ahead. The last published Ofsted inspection in Lancashire was dated 16th March 2020, therefore the figures in this table are based on the latest information for our childcare providers. Routine graded inspections are due to resume in the Summer term of 2021. At this point 97.86% of all Ofsted registered providers in Lancashire are rated Good or Outstanding.

Ofsted Inspection Results – Childminders

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspection
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	1	8	1	0	0	0	2
	Lancaster Rural	1	6	0	0	0	0	3
	Lancaster Central	4	8	0	0	1	0	3
	Morecambe & Heysham	7	22	1	0	2	1	6
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	3	16	0	0	1	0	0
	Fleetwood	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Wyre Rural	0	8	0	0	1	0	3
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	2	5	0	0	3	0	7
	Fylde East Broughton	4	22	0	0	2	0	6
Preston	Preston North	2	9	0	0	1	0	1
	Preston East	0	9	0	0	3	1	3
	Preston Central	0	4	0	0	1	0	2
	Preston West	3	22	0	0	1	0	7
	Bowland	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
	Fylde East Broughton	1	2	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	North Lancashire	28	146	4	0	16	2	52
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		16%	82%	2%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspection
South Ribble	Leyland	2	17	0	0	1	1	7
	South Ribble East	3	17	0	0	4	0	2
	South Ribble West	0	18	0	0	0	0	9
Chorley	Chorley East	1	8	0	0	0	0	3
	Chorley West	1	10	0	0	0	1	3
	Chorley Central	5	10	1	0	2	0	6
	South Ribble East	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	3	9	1	0	2	0	5
	West Lancashire West	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
	Chorley West	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	1	13	0	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	South Lancashire	16	109	2	0	10	2	38
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		12%	86%	2%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	7	41	0	1	4	0	7
	Hyndburn West	1	16	0	0	2	0	2
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	7	17	0	0	2	2	7
	Rossendale West	1	10	0	0	2	0	4
Ribble Valley	Bowland	0	5	0	0	0	1	1
	Pendle Hill	1	10	0	1	2	0	2
Burnley	Burnley Outer	7	17	0	0	3	1	2
	Burnley Central	0	6	0	0	0	0	2
	Burnley North	0	5	0	0	1	0	2
Pendle	Barnoldswick	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Colne	5	5	0	0	1	0	1
	Nelson & Brierfield	0	9	0	0	1	0	0
	Pendle Hill	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	East Lancashire	29	143	0	2	18	4	30
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		17%	82%	0%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Ofsted Inspection Results – Childcare on Non-Domestic Premises

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	2	7	0	0	0	0	2
	Lancaster Rural	6	10	0	0	0	0	7
	Lancaster Central	5	16	2	0	3	0	4
	Morecambe & Heysham	6	22	0	0	1	0	5
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	9	17	1	0	1	0	7
	Fleetwood	6	7	1	0	0	0	2
	Wyre Rural	6	12	0	0	0	0	11
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	6	10	0	0	1	0	5
	Fylde East Broughton	7	15	0	0	1	0	5
Preston	Preston North	5	7	0	1	0	0	10
	Preston East	4	15	4	0	0	0	5
	Preston Central	3	14	2	0	0	0	5
	Preston West	0	14	1	0	0	0	4
	Bowland	1	3	0	0	1	0	0
	Fylde East Broughton	3	5	0	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	North Lancashire	69	174	11	1	8	0	75
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		27%	68%	4%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
South Ribble	Leyland	4	14	1	0	0	0	5
	South Ribble East	5	25	0	0	1	0	6
	South Ribble West	3	13	0	0	0	0	8
Chorley	Chorley East	4	20	0	0	1	0	7
	Chorley West	1	16	0	0	1	0	7
	Chorley Central	7	17	0	0	1	0	13
	South Ribble East	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	10	19	0	0	1	0	3
	West Lancashire West	1	16	1	0	1	0	6
	Chorley West	1	6	0	0	0	0	2
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	7	6	0	0	0	0	7
TOTAL	South Lancashire	43	154	2	0	6	0	64
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		22%	77%	1%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	9	18	1	0	2	0	15
	Hyndburn West	2	11	0	0	1	0	3
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	5	14	1	1	1	0	12
	Rossendale West	5	9	0	0	0	1	6
Ribble Valley	Bowland	2	20	0	0	1	0	5
	Pendle Hill	5	16	0	0	3	0	9
Burnley	Burnley Outer	4	15	0	0	2	0	5
	Burnley Central	5	4	2	0	1	0	4
	Burnley North	5	8	1	0	2	0	3
Pendle	Barnoldswick	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
	Colne	2	10	0	0	0	0	5
	Nelson & Brierfield	5	10	1	0	0	1	5
	Pendle Hill	1	4	0	0	0	0	5
TOTAL	East Lancashire	51	140	6	1	13	2	79
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		26%	71%	2%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Lancashire Totals	Percentage of graded inspection outcomes						
	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Childcare on domestic premises - childminders	15%	83%	1%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Childcare on non-domestic premises	25%	72%	3%	0.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

It is vital for children with SEND to be supported within high quality provision with practitioners who have an excellent understanding and are able to carry out effective observation, assessment and planning. Inclusion should be embedded as part of everyday practice where staff are flexible and make adjustments to ensure individual needs are met. All staff should have a shared understanding of inclusive practice and have a consistent approach to implementing advice and strategies.

During the pandemic children with SEND were offered suitable childcare provision although many parents chose to keep their children at home. This was largely due to health and safety concerns for their children.

Childcare providers supplied their weekly numbers of children accessing a place with an Education, Health and Care Plan. This was to provide us and the Department for Education with information about whether vulnerable children were able to access childcare provision during the COVID-19 pandemic. The tables below show providers offering places for children with SEND and if demand for places had changed.

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	78%	22%	6
	Lancaster Rural	83%	17%	7
	Lancaster Central	72%	28%	50
	Morecambe & Heysham	91%	9%	64
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	73%	27%	21
	Fleetwood	100%	0%	12
	Wyre Rural	87%	13%	17
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	95%	5%	16
	Fylde East Broughton	84%	16%	11
Preston	Preston North	77%	23%	19
	Preston East	73%	27%	42
	Preston Central	100%	0%	7
	Preston West	70%	30%	30
	Bowland	100%	0%	1
	Fylde East Broughton	92%	8%	19
TOTAL	North Lancashire	85%	15%	322

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
South Ribble	Leyland	84%	16%	25
	South Ribble East	84%	16%	31
	South Ribble West	82%	18%	10
Chorley	Chorley East	95%	5%	12
	Chorley West	91%	9%	5
	Chorley Central	80%	20%	33
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	1
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	83%	17%	26
	West Lancashire West	88%	12%	7
	Chorley West	80%	20%	2
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	83%	17%	8
TOTAL	South Lancashire	86%	14%	159

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	82%	18%	21
	Hyndburn West	68%	32%	12
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	73%	27%	33
	Rossendale West	76%	24%	31
Ribble Valley	Bowland	86%	14%	9
	Pendle Hill	60%	40%	22
Burnley	Burnley Outer	86%	14%	7
	Burnley Central	67%	33%	23
	Burnley North	71%	29%	17
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	8
	Colne	88%	12%	43
	Nelson & Brierfield	86%	14%	25
	Pendle Hill	100%	0%	9
TOTAL	East Lancashire	76%	24%	260

We also asked childcare providers if parents of children with SEND had altered how they accessed their childcare over the year.

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	78%	11%	12%
	Lancaster Rural	67%	16%	17%
	Lancaster Central	56%	5%	39%
	Morecambe & Heysham	58%	29%	13%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	44%	34%	22%
	Fleetwood	59%	31%	10%
	Wyre Rural	67%	13%	20%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	68%	27%	5%
	Fylde East Broughton	65%	19%	16%
Preston	Preston North	62%	15%	23%
	Preston East	40%	40%	20%
	Preston Central	64%	29%	7%
	Preston West	67%	22%	11%
	Bowland	89%	0%	11%
	Fylde East Broughton	59%	33%	8%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	63%	22%	16%

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
South Ribble	Leyland	79%	21%	0%
	South Ribble East	66%	25%	9%
	South Ribble West	50%	45%	5%
Chorley	Chorley East	75%	15%	10%
	Chorley West	77%	18%	5%
	Chorley Central	60%	24%	16%
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	61%	28%	11%
	West Lancashire West	50%	38%	12%
	Chorley West	80%	20%	0%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	78%	22%	0%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	71%	23%	6%

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	63%	32%	5%
	Hyndburn West	65%	31%	4%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	79%	6%	15%
	Rossendale West	59%	23%	18%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	29%	28%	43%
	Pendle Hill	73%	20%	7%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	81%	19%	0%
	Burnley Central	67%	11%	22%
	Burnley North	72%	21%	7%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	0%
	Colne	41%	30%	29%
	Nelson & Brierfield	43%	50%	7%
	Pendle Hill	50%	50%	0%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	59%	29%	12%

Summary of SEND provision

The numbers of children accessing a SEND place were highest in Morecambe and Heysham, Lancaster Central, Colne and Preston East,

64% of providers in Lancashire said that demand for SEND places remained the same. Access to SEND places during the COVID-19 pandemic decreased by 25%. Access to SEND places has decreased the most in East Lancashire.

We will continue to monitor the take up of childcare places for children with SEND over the coming year.

Key Findings and Actions

In the tables below we have summarised the common key findings by district so we can identify any specific areas of concern.

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for North Lancashire
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	Demand has been low across all areas of Lancaster, although it is starting to recover now lockdown has started to ease. Some providers are concerned about cash flow and business viability. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 a number of providers are proposing increases in childcare fees and changes to opening hours. In Lancaster 97% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 79% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 79% which is below the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor take up of places across all age groups to understand the impact of demand on sustainability and business viability.
	Lancaster Rural		
	Lancaster Central		
	Morecambe & Heysham		
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	Low demand has been identified in all areas of Wyre. Business viability and cash flow are some of the concerns in the area. Providers are looking to make changes to business models and staff hours to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Wyre 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up 73% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 85% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%	2. Develop a business and financial forecasting support offer.
	Fleetwood		
	Wyre Rural		
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	In Fylde low demand has been identified in all areas this is now starting to improve with lockdown measures lifting. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 providers are considering reducing hours, increasing fees and altering business models. In Fylde 100% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 66% which is just below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 87% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	3. Monitor net closures in the area.
	Fylde East Broughton		
Preston	Preston North	Low demand has been identified in all areas of Preston. Providers have raised concerns about cash flow and business viability. Some providers are also looking at making changes to business models and staff hours. In Preston 93% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 63% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 83% which is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	Preston East		
	Preston Central		
	Preston West		
	Bowland		
	Fylde East Broughton		
North Lancashire			

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for South Lancashire
South Ribble	Leyland	Low demand over the year has been a concern in South Ribble. Some providers are considering a reduction in opening hours, increasing fees and re-organising staff hours to account for the impact of COVID-19. In South Ribble 99% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 71% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 86% is also above the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor the take up of places across all provider types and age groups to understand the impact of lower demand will have on longer term sustainability of childcare.
	South Ribble East		
	South Ribble West		
Chorley	Chorley East	In Chorley low demand has been a concern although with wider re-opening this is starting to improve. Providers found bubble management and ensuing premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. Some providers are increasing fees, re-organising staff hours and making changes to business models moving forwards. In Chorley 99% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 72% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 91% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	2. Develop business and financial forecasting support offer.
	Chorley West		
	Chorley Central		3. Monitor net closures in the area.
	South Ribble East		
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	In West Lancashire low demand was a concern in all areas. Providers found bubble management and ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. Some providers are looking to reduce opening hours, make changes to business models, recruit additional staff and increase fees to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In West Lancashire 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 65% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 80% which is below the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	West Lancashire West		
	Chorley West		
	Ormskirk & Newburgh		
South Lancashire			

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for East Lancashire
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	In Hyndburn low demand has been identified across all areas. Providers are looking at some staff reductions, making changes to business models, changes to staffing hours and increasing fees are the key areas of change to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Hyndburn 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 63% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 83% is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor the take up of places across all provider types and age groups to understand the impact of lower demand will have on longer term sustainability of childcare.
	Hyndburn West		
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	In Rossendale low demand has been identified across all areas. Some providers have raised concerns about business viability. The main area providers are considering to adapt to the impact of COVID-19 is to alter opening hours. In Rossendale 97% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 66% which is just below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 82% which is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	2. Develop business and financial tools for the sector
	Rossendale West		
Ribble Valley	Bowland	In Ribble Valley low demand has been identified across all areas with wider re-opening this is starting to improve. Some providers were concerned about business viability. Changes to opening times, altering business models and re-organising staff hours are factors providers are considering to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Ribble Valley 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 73% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 93% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	3. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds
	Pendle Hill		
Burnley	Burnley Outer	In Burnley low demand has been identified across the area. Managing childcare bubbles has been a challenge for providers. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 some providers are considering changing business models, re-organising staff hours and increasing fees. In Burnley 96% of childcare providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 70% is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 95% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Monitor net closure in the area.
	Burnley Central		
	Burnley North		
Pendle	Barnoldswick	In Pendle low demand has been identified in all areas with lockdown starting to lift this is starting to improve. Some providers have raised concerns about business viability. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 some providers are looking to re-organise staff hours, increase fees, adapt business models and alter opening hours. In Pendle 98% of providers are Good and Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 60% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 84% which is in line with the Lancashire average of 84%.	
	Colne		
	Nelson & Brierfield		
	Pendle Hill		
East Lancashire			

Conclusion

To summarise, Lancashire has sufficient childcare places to meet the needs of working parents. Our latest assessment shows we have childcare places available across all age ranges and all provider types.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has placed considerable strain on the childcare sector when sustainability was already being raised as a concern by some of the sector before the start of the pandemic. Low demand for places, ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure and maintaining childcare bubbles are challenges providers have faced over the last year. Opening hours, changes to business models and increased fees are key areas childcare providers are looking to potentially change in the coming months.

Monitoring of childcare places across all areas of Lancashire is going to continue as lockdown measures are starting to ease. We will continue to monitor and respond to areas where either demand remains low or providers may close.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements should go to the childcare providers of Lancashire for completing our weekly survey and dedication especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks to the Data Team, Early Education Funding Team, Early Years Quality Team, Business Support Team and the Childcare Sufficiency Team for their contributions to this report.

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Service, Education Improvement**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
Preston Central West

Corporate Priorities:
Caring for the vulnerable;

The Future of Maintained Nursery Provision at The Roebuck Primary School, Preston

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

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Brief Summary

The Head teachers and Governors at The Roebuck Primary School, Preston have approached the local authority in relation to the future of the nursery provision at the school. The school has asked the local authority to start the formal statutory process, to consult on the proposal to cease the maintained nursery provision by permanently reducing the age range at the school from 3-11 year-olds (Nursery 2 to Year 6) to 4-11 year olds (Reception to Year 6) with effect from 31 August 2022.

Under The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 and the Department for Education's statutory guidance, Making 'Prescribed Alterations' to Maintained Schools published in November 2019, the local authority must be the proposer for this type of significant change and carry out a statutory process, which includes publication, representation, decision, rights of appeal and implementation. In line with this, the authority is now required to decide whether to publish a Statutory Notice on the proposal to consult on the future of maintained nursery provision at The Roebuck Primary School, Preston.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to approve that the authority publishes a Statutory Notice, to begin the consultation period on the future of the maintained nursery provision currently delivered by The Roebuck Primary School, Preston.

Detail

Following discussions with the local authority, the Head teacher of The Roebuck Primary School informed the county council of the school's intention to consult on the future of its early years provision, due to concerns over financial and educational viability.

Consultation and Statutory Requirements

The county council has followed the Department for Education's statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers in relation to Opening and Closing Maintained Schools, November 2019.

For a local authority-maintained community school, the local authority is the proposer and the decision maker. The statutory process follows four stages, and these are set out in the table below, along with the suggested timeline for this proposal:

Stage	Description	Timescale
Stage 1	Publication of Statutory Notice and Proposal	3 March 2022
Stage 2	Representation (formal consultation)	14 March 2022 to 23 May 2022
Stage 3	Decision	July 2022
Stage 4	Implementation	31 August 2022

To ensure that the process remains within the statutory requirements, the local authority must ensure that the timescales outlined above are adhered to.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare places to enable parents to work. These childcare places need to be, accessible, affordable, and delivered flexibly in high quality settings. Local authorities must ensure that the needs of children and families in each district are met by influencing and shaping provision through local partnerships and by identifying gaps and developing the market.

As evidenced in the annual Lancashire County Council Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, as set out at Appendix 'A', there is more than sufficient good quality nursery providers in the Preston area. There has not been an increase in the live birth rate in this area, leading to a significant number of surplus nursery places in the Preston area and in the Preston Central West ward.

Prior to seeking a decision to close the nursery, the governors undertook an informal consultation with parents on how the school could increase the uptake in places. Feedback from parents indicated that they felt limited by the morning session offer

that was only available during term time. Parents asked for 30 hours per week provision and wrap around care, both of which the nursery cannot provide due to financial limitations. The possibility of closing the nursery has been considered by the Governors and further details are provided at Appendix 'B'.

With the relocation of the nursery provision into the main school building, the number of places available has reduced from 25 to 15. There are currently 10 pupils attending and these children will start the reception year in the Autumn Term 2022. The closing date for nursery applications was 21 January 2022 and only 5 applications for September 2022 have been received for the nursery at The Roebuck.

As can be seen from the information at Appendix 'A', the number of 3-year-olds attending the school is low and reducing, and there are many other early years providers in the local area. As such, the local authority does not believe that there would be an adverse impact on participation, should the school permanently reduce its age range from 3-11 years old to 4-11 years old.

Human Resources

The Governing Body at The Roebuck Primary School has confirmed that the existing nursery staff would remain employed by the school and that no redundancies or redeployment are expected.

Financial Implications

The move to close the nursery is due to the financial situation in the school. The Roebuck Primary School has been on the Local Authority's list of schools in serious financial difficulty.

An extract from the minutes of the Governing Body meeting held on 21 June 2021, set out at Appendix 'B', has been provided explaining the financial difficulties being experienced by the school.

The financial implications set out at Appendix 'B' are deemed to be Part II for the reason set out below:

This section of the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

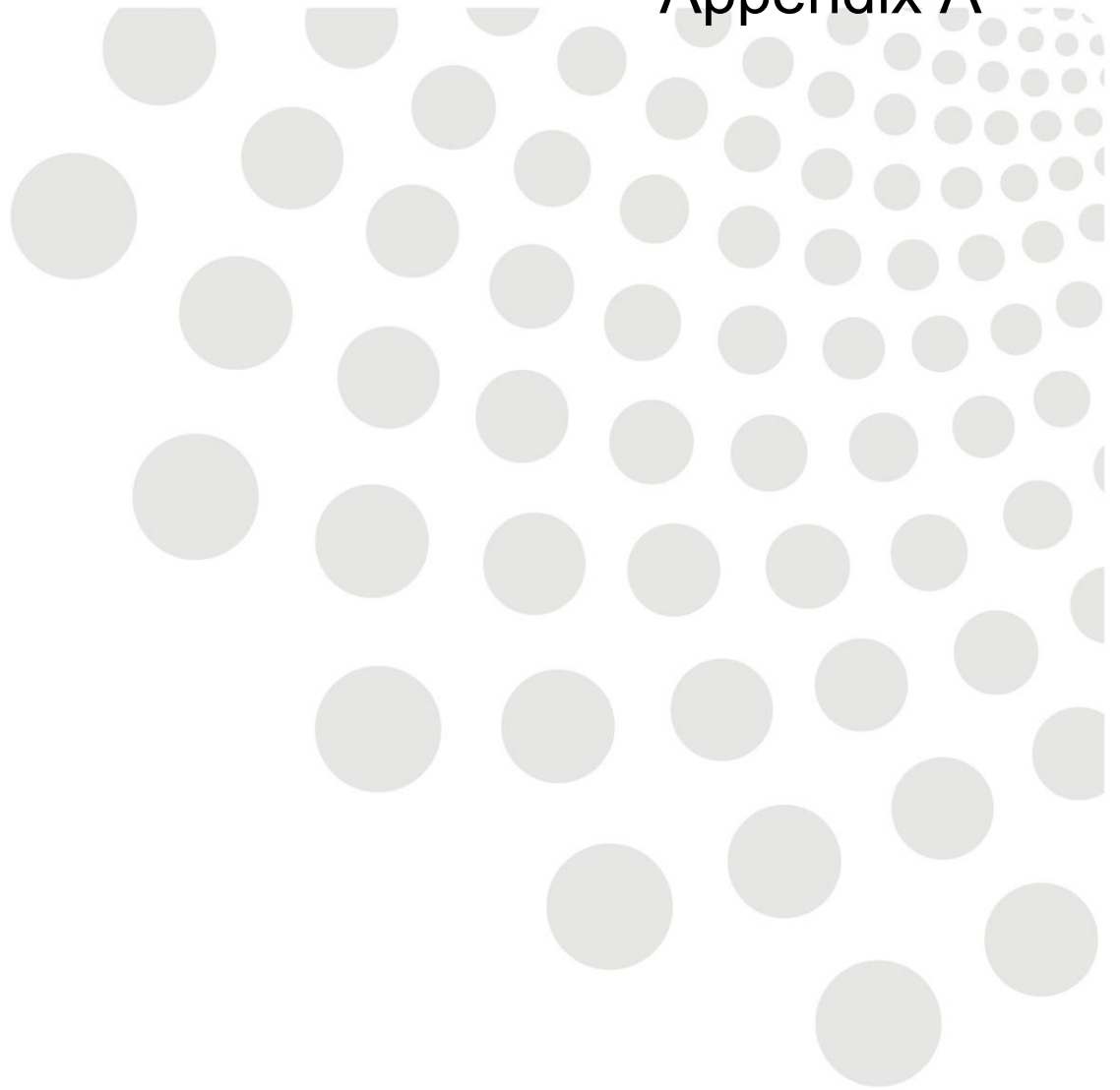
Should the outcome of the consultation be to remove the nursery at the school, there would not be an adverse financial impact on the local authority.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

Appendix 'B' is not for publication - Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. The appendix contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.



**Lancashire County Council
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
April 2020– April 2021**

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Introduction

Local Authorities are required by legislation to secure sufficient childcare places to enable parents to work. These childcare places need to be, accessible, affordable and delivered flexibly in high quality settings. This report is Lancashire's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment for April 2020 – April 2021 and includes the take up of Early Education Funded (EEF) provision for 2, 3 and 4-year olds and the availability and quality of places to meet the needs of working parents.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, national restrictions were imposed by the Government on 23rd March 2020. The information contained in this report is the most accurate based on the information currently available and was correct up until the 30th April 2021. It should be seen as a guide to provision rather than conclusive and figures provided represent a snapshot in time.

Methodology

At the start of the national lockdown the Department for Education (DfE) requested that all local authorities submit a weekly data return to identify any childcare sufficiency issues during the pandemic. In April 2020 an online survey was developed, and providers have been completing this weekly. This has provided a variety of data both at district level and at a more localised geographical level to understand the childcare market during the last year. Data from the termly census and headcount claims is used to map the take up of funded childcare places and Ofsted data is used to identify the quality of childcare in Lancashire.

Types of Childcare

Childcare includes Childminders, Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Units of Independent Schools, AM/PM Clubs (refers to out of school provision) and Holiday Schemes, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools and Governor Led Provision (S27).

Registered Childcare

Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children Services and Skills. It regulates childcare for children from birth to 18 years of age. Ofsted operates two registers:

The Early Years Register

All childcare providers must register with Ofsted on the Early Years Register and meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) if they are providing care from birth to 5 years for more than 2 hours per day on more than 14 days per year.

The Childcare Register

A childcare provider must register on the compulsory part of the register if they provide care for children aged 5-8 years old for more than 2 hours per day on more than 14 days per year. A childcare provider will be on both the Early Years Register and the Childcare Register if they care for children under and over the age of 5. Some childcare providers who care for children over the age of 8, who are activity based, for example provide sports coaching, homework clubs or for very short periods of time can join the voluntary part of the childcare register.

Schools

Maintained Nursery Classes and Governor Led Provision (S27) are included within an overall school inspection and are not required to have a separate Early Years Ofsted registration, however they must still follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework.

Executive Summary 2020

To understand the childcare market in 2020-21 a different approach has been required than in our previous childcare sufficiency assessments. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed challenges upon our day to day lives and the impact on families and the economy is on a scale never experienced before. Families have adapted to changes in work routines, some have been key workers, others have been furloughed or facing job losses and longer-term uncertainty. The full extent of the COVID-19 pandemic to businesses across Lancashire and implications of employment is yet to be fully seen.

Over the past year children have experienced a number of changes to their childcare, some who would normally attend childcare have remained at home, other children have had to adapt to childcare in COVID-19 secure premises and bubbles. The majority of school age children have undertaken some home schooling rather than attending in person and vulnerable children and children of key workers have also attended school in their 'bubbles'.

The pandemic has been a difficult experience for staff, parents and children. Settings have had to operate COVID-19 secure premises and the many adaptations needed in childcare provision have sometimes been overwhelming. Childcare staff, childminders and parents have been anxious about their own health and financial stability, along with the health and well-being of their children and others.

The Early Years Team has provided a great deal of support, advice and guidance to the childcare providers of Lancashire. Below summarises the key areas provided by the team.

Website and Weekly Bulletin

Our website provided guidance and updates to the sector and a weekly bulletin has been sent to childcare providers during the last year. This has included, but was not limited to, communications from our Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, Public Health, Ofsted, the Department for Education (DfE) and a variety of information and updates from our Early Years Team.

Monitoring of Childcare Places

In April 2020 during the first national lockdown an online weekly survey was developed to capture information for the DfE about the availability of childcare for children of keyworkers and vulnerable children. After the government announced childcare could re-open in June 2020, questions were added to understand any sustainability concerns and to establish if the demand for childcare had changed. The survey was then further developed to gather data for our general childcare sufficiency assessment.

Additionally, an on-line brokerage request form was developed for parents who required support in finding early years places. The number of requests coming through each week was very low, and comparable with those prior to COVID-19 pandemic levels.

Business Support & Sustainability

Tools and guidance were developed around business support, sustainability, social media, marketing and where to find sources of external funding, these are available on our webpage. To support settings for re-opening in June, guidance was developed which included how to review and promote some current business practices, reassure staff and

parents, establish demand and look at ways to remain sustainable. Over the year childcare providers with specific sustainability concerns were contacted by the Childcare Sufficiency Team to offer individual support.

A number of measures were put in place to support settings who offered Early Education Funding with cashflow and sustainability over the course of the pandemic. This included:

- Settings received 90% of the Summer term funding up front at the end of March 2020.
- Settings received 50% of the Autumn term funding up front at the end of August 2020.
- Final balance payments for Summer 2020, Autumn 2020 and Spring term 2021 were processed almost a month ahead of when they were due.
- Funding for the Autumn term 2020 was based on the previous year's Autumn term occupancy levels, in line with Government guidance, totalling just over £4.2m.
- A transfer of £2m from schools Designated Schools Grant (DSG) to the Early Years DSG in 2020-21 enabled an increase to the EEF 3&4 year funding rate by £0.08 per hour, with a further £2m being transferred in 2021-22 to allow for the £0.08p raise to continue for another year.

In January 2021 a one off COVID-19 lump sum payment to childcare providers was agreed by school's forum. These were made up of £250 for EEF registered childminders and £1000 for all other EEF registered providers totalling £607.5k. COVID-19 one-off lump sum payments were also agreed of £250 for all non-EEF registered providers to support their business viability totalling £105k.

Promotion of Childcare/Funded Places

Specific social media campaigns have run throughout the year encouraging families to access their early education and childcare places. It was important to promote reassurance to parents through the campaign to help overcome any anxieties they may have had. Letters were sent to approximately 20,000 families in Lancashire at the beginning of July 2020 to encourage them to take up their early education funding entitlements.

Early Years Quality Team

Childcare providers were given a named contact from Early Years Quality Team to offer emotional and practical support, which strengthened relationships, peer to peer support and improved access to training and networks. Training and events have been adapted to allow virtual participation and a focus for training has been well-being and personal resilience for staff. This support has helped staff to keep themselves, their peers and the children happy and safe.

All Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings, Childminders and Out of School Clubs have been provided with additional templates, guidance and support, including COVID-19 safe risk assessments and a wealth of additional supporting tools such as an early years planning toolkit.

Closer liaison with Early Years and SEND colleagues, shared training days and senior leader input has also been established across teams.

Early Years Safeguarding

Regular emails, messages, key updates including information from Lancashire Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership (LCSAP) were distributed.

All of the safeguarding training was adapted in light of the pandemic, particularly the first period of lockdown, to strengthen the role of the DLP (Designated Lead Practitioner). In addition to the training, a series of briefing sessions have also been running to build a DLP network.

Lancashire Demographics

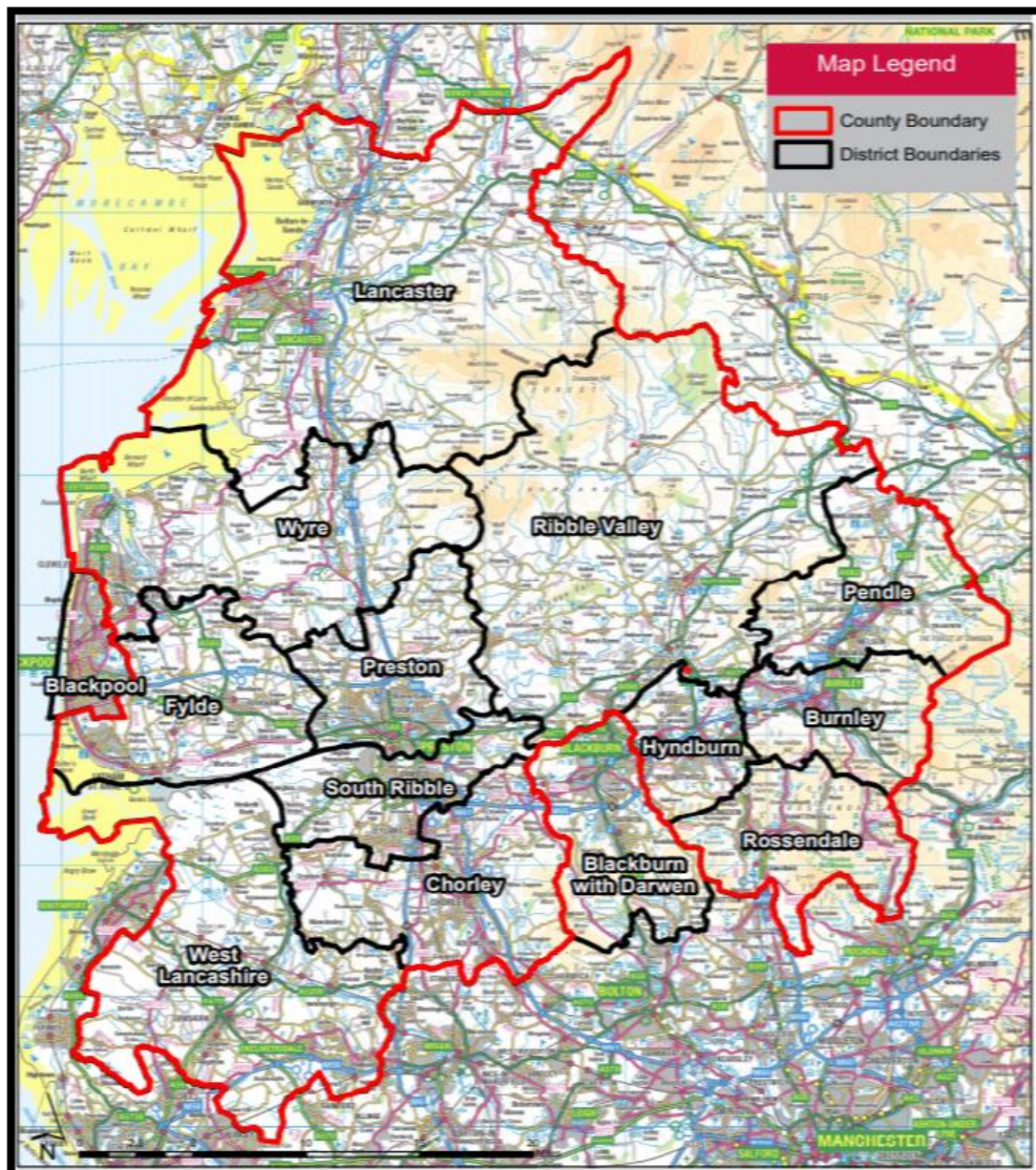
Lancashire County Council is a large, diverse local authority covering an area of 2,903 square kilometres. It is the fourth largest local authority in the country with a population of 1.18 million people within its boundaries. There are an estimated 277,000 children and young people aged up to 19 years living in the county (2011 Census data).

Lancashire's defining characteristics are its size and diversity. Each district has its own unique demography and geography. It is an area of vast contrasts with busy urban centres, coastal regions and large agricultural areas. Lancashire has 12 districts within its borders and for the purposes of this report these districts are broken down further into geographical areas. The maps on the following pages show how the geographical areas fit into our 12 districts and highlights the levels of deprivation.

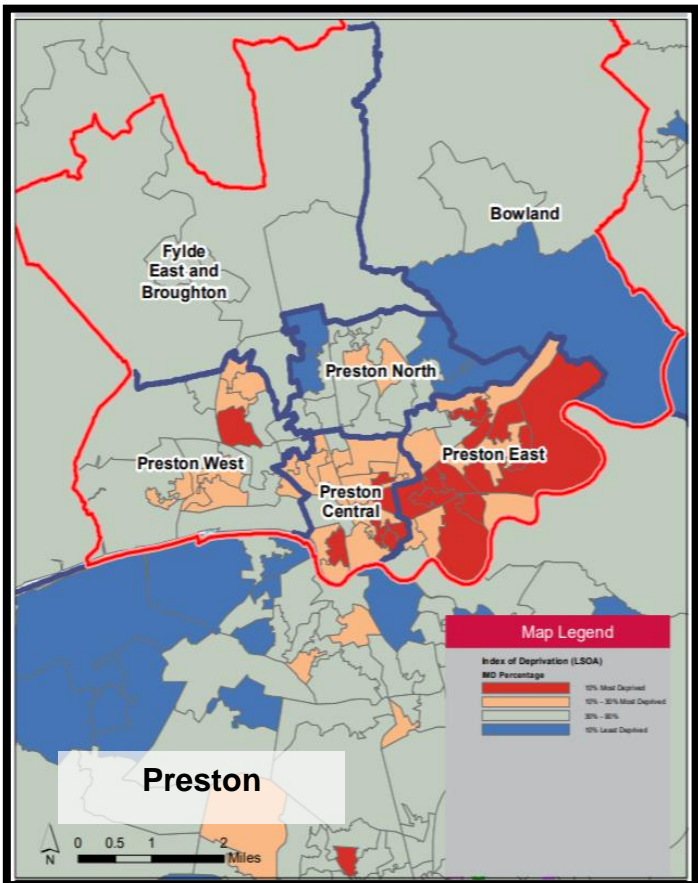
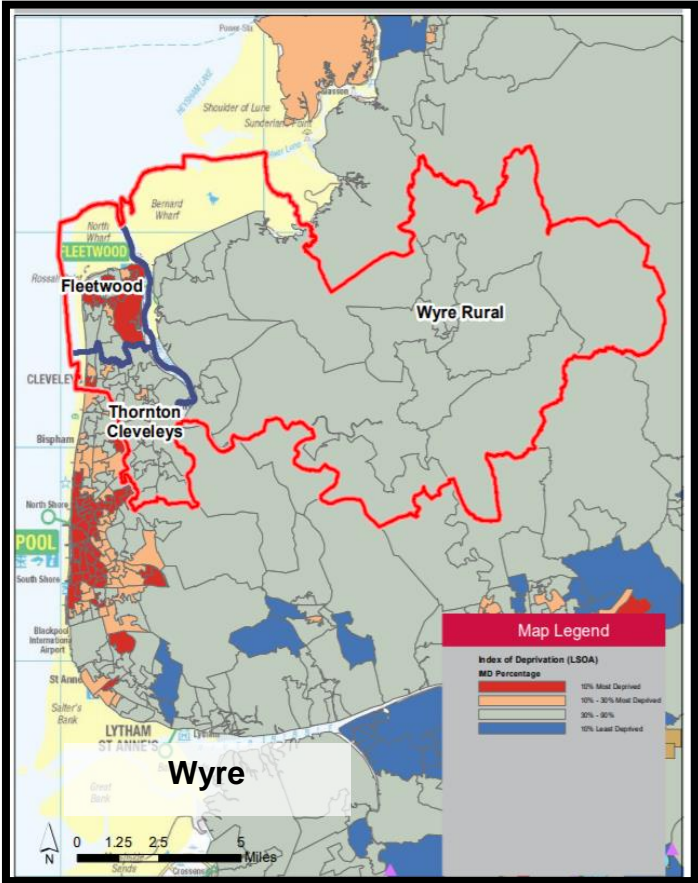
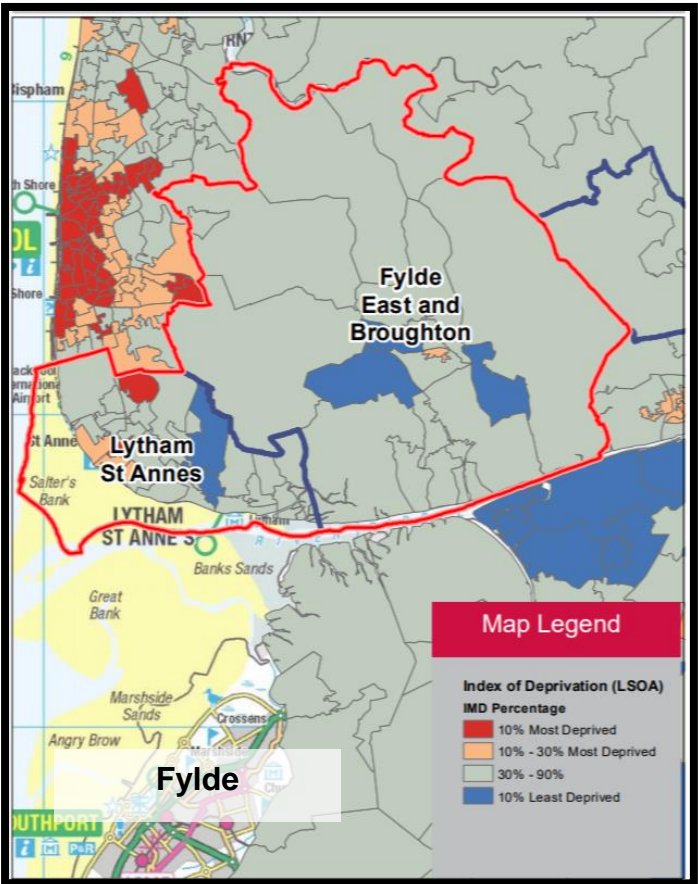
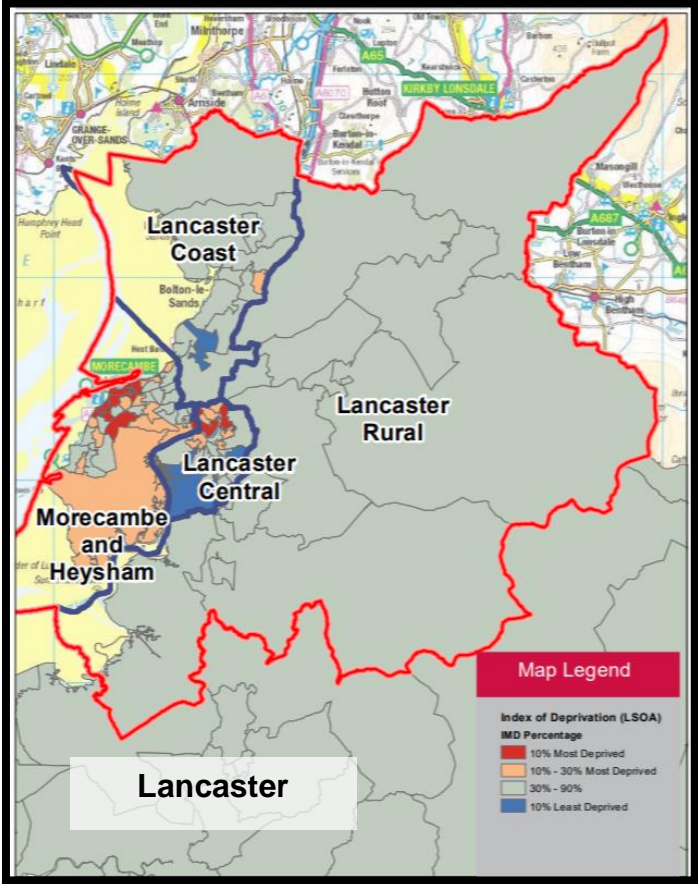
Deprivation

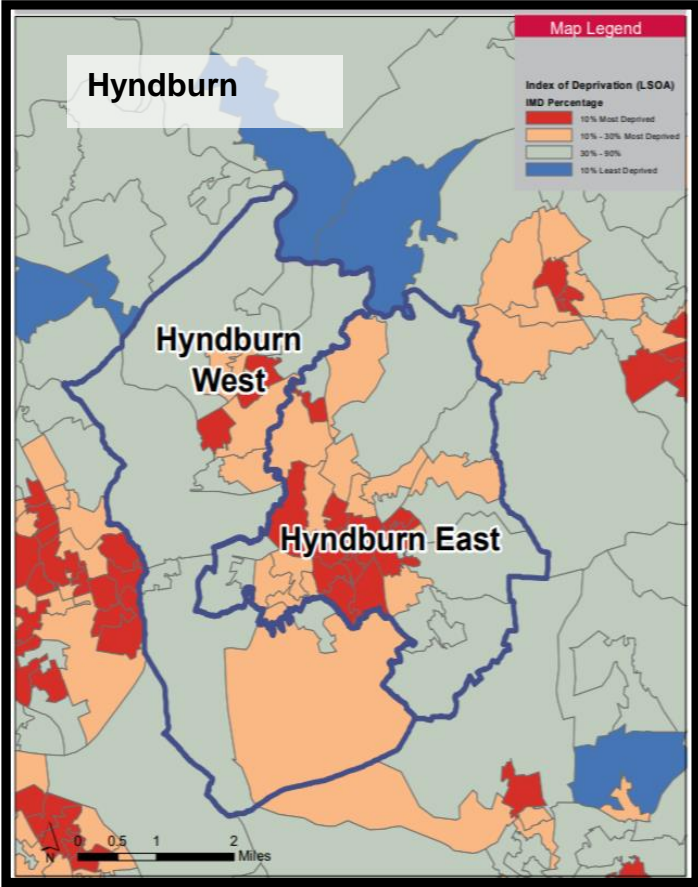
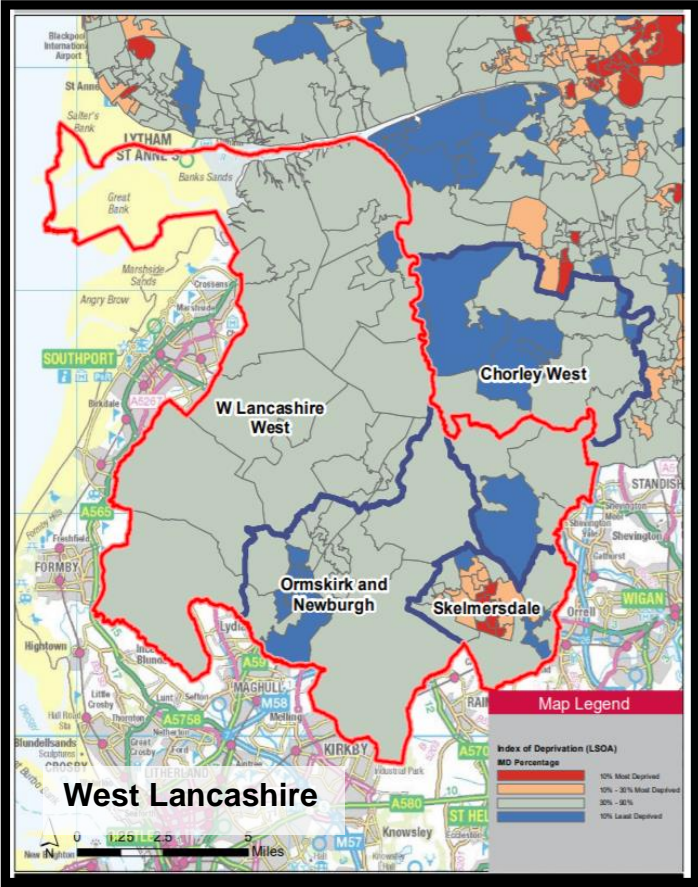
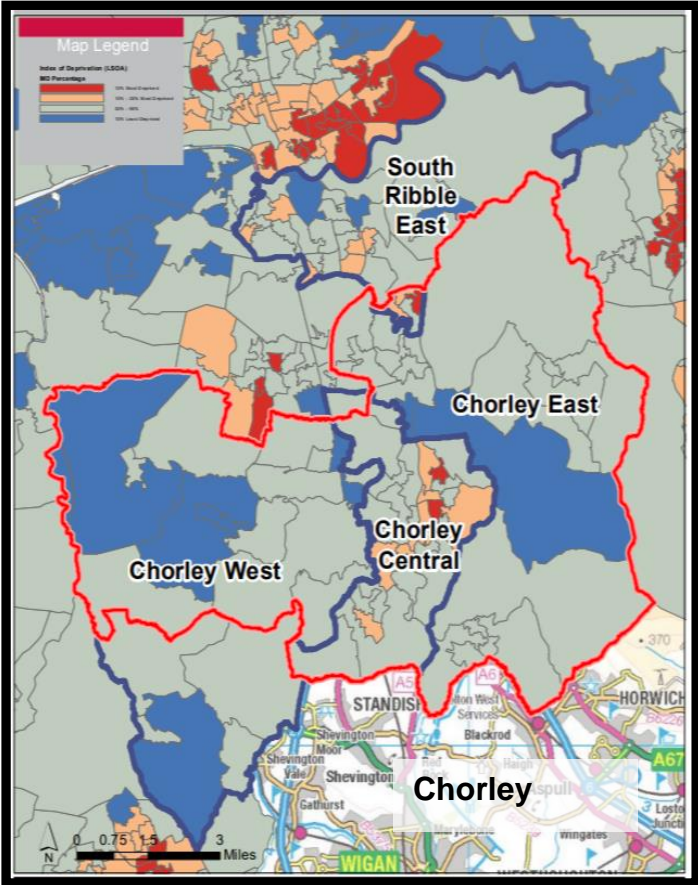
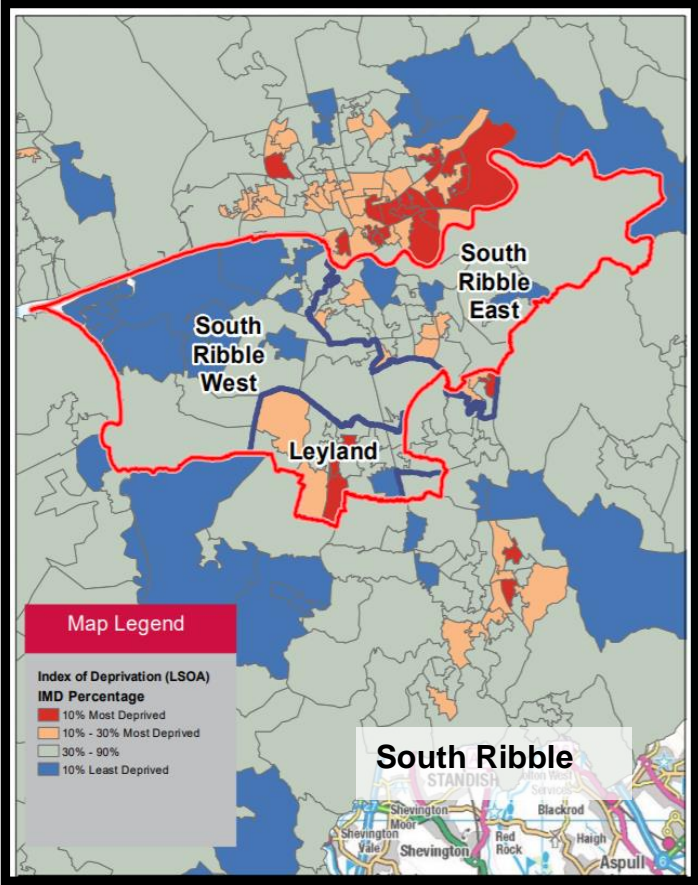
As well as some of England's most prosperous communities, Lancashire also has pockets of very severe deprivation. The 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation indicates that Burnley falls into the 10% most deprived areas of England. The districts of Pendle and Hyndburn are within the top 20% of most deprived authority areas in the country. In contrast, Ribble Valley is in the top 20% least deprived authorities in the country.

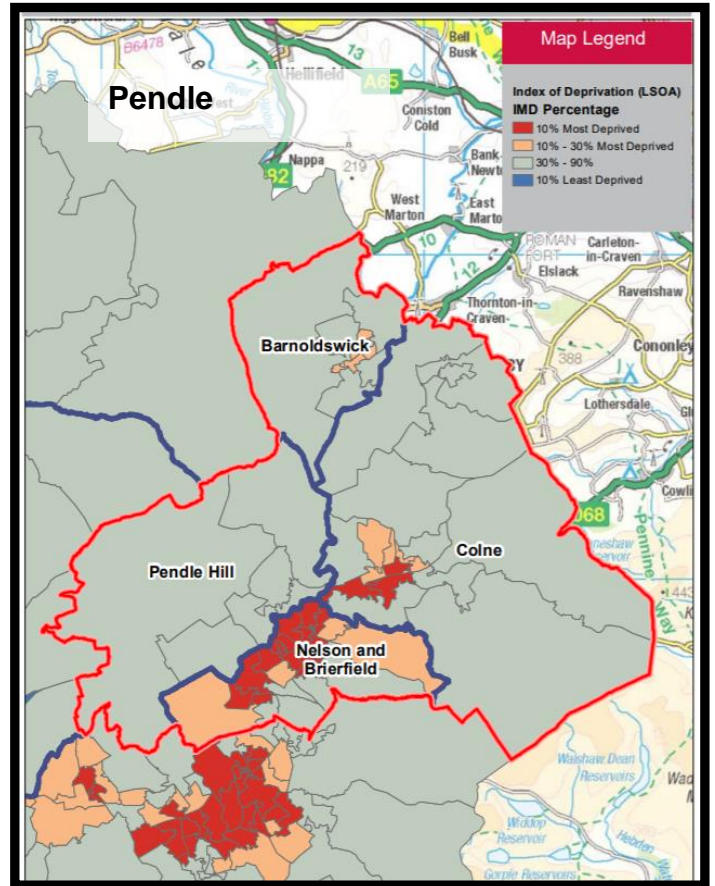
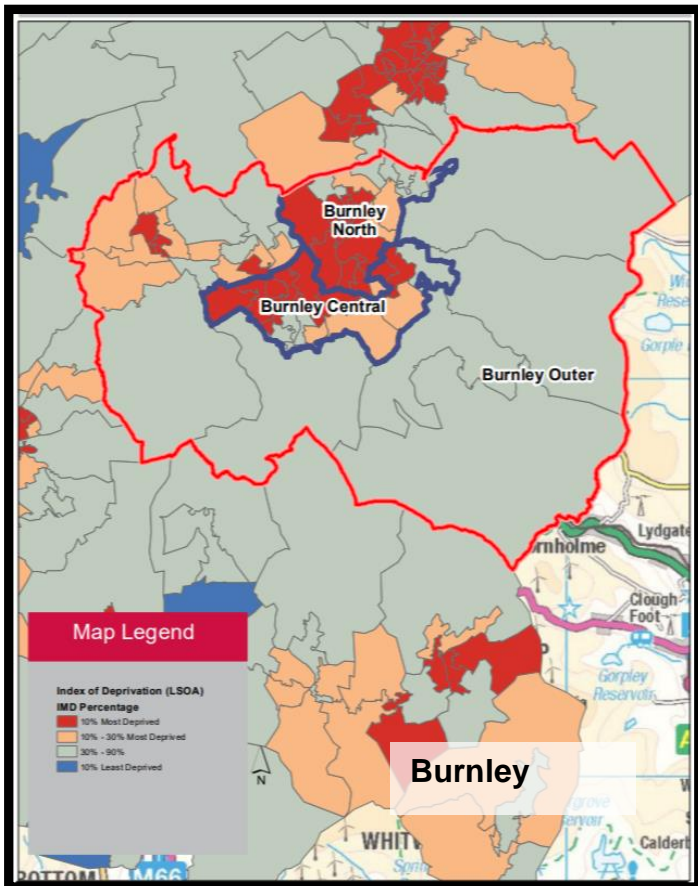
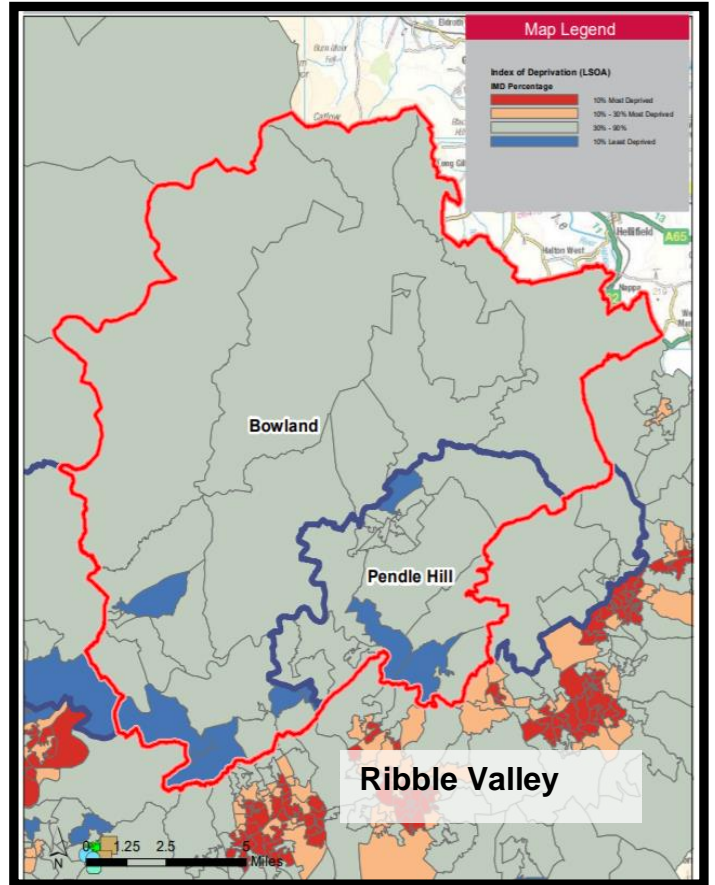
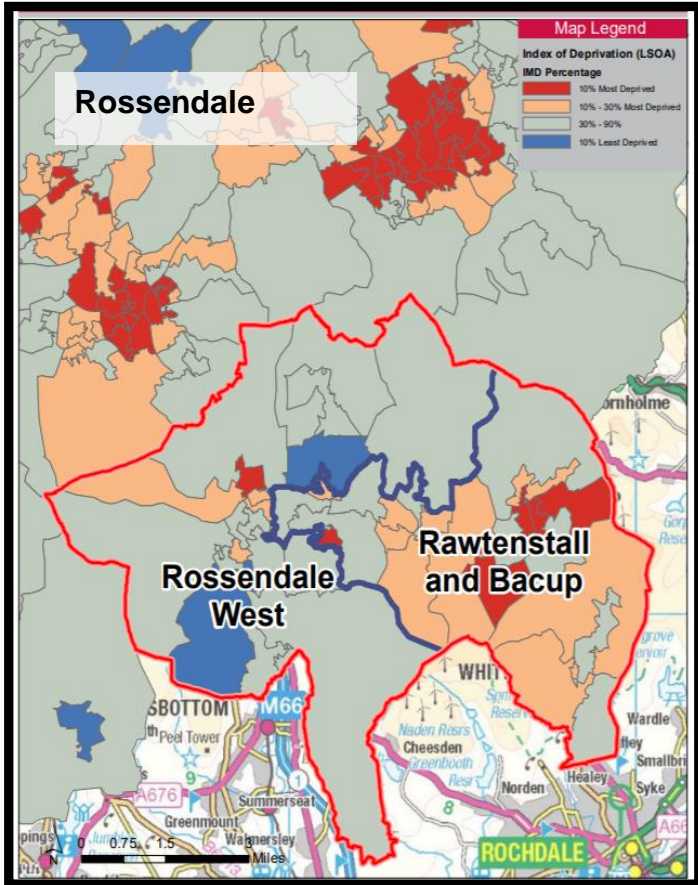
Map of Lancashire with district boundaries



Index of Multiple Deprivation Maps by District and Geographical Area







Housing Projections

Household numbers in Lancashire are projected to grow from an estimated 507,980 in 2016, to 551,312 by 2041, an increase of 8.5%. This is significantly lower than the England growth rate of 17.3%.

Within Lancashire, Chorley (+23.2%), Fylde (+15.5%) and Wyre (+11.4%) are estimated to see the largest housing increases in the area, although Ribble Valley (+12.3%) and Rossendale (+11.5%) are also projected to see percentage increases above 10.0%. Locally, only Chorley's percentage rise is estimated to be greater than the England average of 17.3%. Hyndburn (+2.0%) and Preston (+2.3%) are projected to see the lowest percentage growth in the Lancashire.

Population

In Lancashire, the percentage increase in general population over the 25 year period of 2016 - 2041 is projected to be 3.5%, with the number expected to reach 1.23 million. The estimated increases are lower than the average for the North West, and well below the expected increase for England of 12.1%.

Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle and Preston, are predicted to see small general population decreases between 2016 and 2041. Chorley is the only Lancashire district with a projected increase higher than the North West or England average.

Births and Deaths

Births and deaths have an impact on the national and local populations. The latest births and deaths figures from the Office for National Statistics (released July 2020), show that on a basic count level Lancashire continues to register more deaths than live births in 2019. Burnley, Pendle, Hyndburn, Preston and Rossendale have recorded more live births than deaths. The table below shows live births by district.

Live births, 2020			Difference between 2019 and 2020 live births	
District	Count of live births	As a % of Lancashire	No.	%
Burnley	1,080	9.2%	-85	-7.3%
Chorley	1,072	9.2%	-20	-1.8%
Fylde	533	4.6%	-84	-13.6%
Hyndburn	922	7.9%	-108	-10.5%
Lancaster	1,281	11.0%	-52	-3.9%
Pendle	1,095	9.4%	-91	-7.7%
Preston	1,745	14.9%	1	0.1%
Ribble Valley	462	4.0%	-19	-4.0%
Rossendale	695	6.0%	-29	-4.0%
South Ribble	971	8.3%	-49	-4.8%
West Lancashire	941	8.1%	-60	-6.0%
Wyre	881	7.5%	-32	-3.5%
Lancashire	11,678	8.3%	-628	-5.1%

The tables below show population of children aged 0–11yrs, the information is broken down into geographical areas for closer analysis.

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	17026	108	111	125	169	1368
	Lancaster Rural	23905	144	158	157	221	1641
	Lancaster Central	47597	491	439	448	689	3720
	Morecambe & Heysham	57510	664	676	668	1072	5554
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	51343	393	387	428	663	3715
	Fleetwood	27768	257	283	306	401	2518
	Wyre Rural	32980	219	271	249	394	2346
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	45469	310	293	319	487	3269
	Fylde East Broughton	35311	319	320	341	459	3059
Preston	Preston North	23345	212	230	243	337	2226
	Preston East	38420	619	615	609	987	4905
	Preston Central	37841	430	403	404	671	2836
	Preston West	29799	392	369	427	551	2897
	Bowland	6419	68	76	75	113	621
	Fylde East Broughton	7311	97	90	79	122	742
TOTAL	North Lancashire	482044	4723	4721	4878	7336	41417

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
South Ribble	Leyland	33040	325	347	371	617	3276
	South Ribble East	44486	423	445	477	715	4015
	South Ribble West	33262	287	299	300	433	2742
Chorley	Chorley East	34801	329	302	369	546	3000
	Chorley West	24101	156	155	209	238	1874
	Chorley Central	53721	621	612	661	958	5446
	South Ribble East	5593	41	61	70	78	589
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	42556	512	516	512	791	4470
	West Lancashire West	32855	280	262	296	422	2599
	Chorley West	6711	41	44	51	114	525
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	32184	224	197	244	369	2168
TOTAL	South Lancashire	343310	3239	3240	3560	5281	30704

District	Geographical Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	57563	786	771	809	1127	6263
	Hyndburn West	23480	241	239	254	376	1981
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	40409	464	468	474	678	4076
	Rossendale West	31073	289	325	312	494	2969
Ribble Valley	Bowland	27585	185	218	221	332	2099
	Pendle Hill	33303	251	288	308	400	2984
Burnley	Burnley Outer	32900	319	357	390	508	2973
	Burnley Central	24974	329	325	345	450	2574
	Burnley North	31046	458	451	493	679	3659
Pendle	Barnoldswick	10894	110	127	122	191	976
	Colne	29134	321	325	329	578	2635
	Nelson & Brierfield	42413	627	636	689	1020	5226
	Pendle Hill	9671	112	82	93	150	709
TOTAL	East Lancashire	394445	4492	4612	4839	6983	39124

Area	Total Population	0-1 year olds	1 year olds	2 year olds	3&4 year olds	4-11 year olds
North Lancashire	482044	4723	4721	4878	7336	41417
South Lancashire	343310	3239	3240	3560	5281	30704
East Lancashire	394445	4492	4612	4839	6983	39124
Lancashire	1219799	12454	12573	13277	19600	111245

Childcare Provision in Lancashire

Over the last year childcare providers have completed a weekly survey so we could establish settings that were open and closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The information provided in the tables below was captured in the Spring term 2021.

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	25	18	72%	18	72%	0	0%	7	28%
	Lancaster Rural	37	23	62%	22	59%	1	3%	14	38%
	Lancaster Central	46	32	70%	31	67%	1	2%	14	30%
	Morecambe & Heysham	78	56	72%	54	69%	2	3%	22	28%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	56	40	71%	39	70%	1	2%	16	29%
	Fleetwood	21	15	71%	15	71%	0	0%	6	28%
	Wyre Rural	47	32	68%	31	66%	1	2%	15	32%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	40	27	68%	25	63%	2	5%	13	33%
	Fylde East Broughton	63	39	62%	36	57%	3	5%	24	38%
Preston	Preston North	36	23	64%	22	61%	1	3%	13	36%
	Preston East	49	30	61%	26	53%	4	8%	19	39%
	Preston Central	34	25	74%	24	71%	1	3%	9	26%
	Preston West	53	32	60%	30	57%	2	4%	21	40%
	Bowland	15	13	87%	13	87%	0	0%	2	13%
	Fylde East Broughton	21	15	71%	15	71%	0	0%	6	29%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	621	420	69%	401	66%	19	3%	201	31%

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
South Ribble	Leyland	54	26	48%	25	46%	1	2%	28	52%
	South Ribble East	67	44	66%	41	61%	3	4%	23	34%
	South Ribble West	51	33	65%	32	63%	1	2%	18	35%
Chorley	Chorley East	47	30	64%	28	60%	2	4%	17	36%
	Chorley West	39	24	62%	23	59%	1	3%	15	38%
	Chorley Central	66	34	52%	34	52%	0	0%	32	48%
	South Ribble East	3	2	67%	2	67%	0	0%	1	33%
	Skelmersdale	67	41	61%	40	60%	1	1%	26	39%
West Lancashire	West Lancashire West	36	24	67%	24	67%	0	0%	12	33%
	Chorley West	13	10	77%	9	69%	1	8%	3	23%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37	27	73%	25	68%	2	5%	10	27%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	480	295	64%	283	61%	12	3%	185	36%

District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	110	65	59%	64	58%	1	1%	45	41%
	Hyndburn West	37	25	68%	25	68%	0	0%	12	32%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	75	47	63%	44	59%	3	4%	28	37%
	Rossendale West	35	23	66%	23	66%	0	0%	12	34%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	42	30	71%	30	71%	0	0%	12	29%
	Pendle Hill	41	25	61%	25	61%	0	0%	16	39%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	57	35	61%	31	54%	4	7%	22	39%
	Burnley Central	25	15	60%	15	60%	0	0%	10	40%
	Burnley North	27	18	67%	18	67%	0	0%	9	33%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	6	4	67%	4	67%	0	0%	2	33%
	Colne	30	20	67%	20	67%	0	0%	10	33%
	Nelson & Brierfield	33	21	64%	21	64%	0	0%	12	36%
	Pendle Hill	11	7	64%	7	64%	0	0%	4	36%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	529	335	65%	327	63%	8	1%	194	36%

Area	Total number of providers	Total of responses	% Total responses	Total open	% Open	Total closed	% Closed	Non responders	% Non responders
North Lancashire	621	420	69%	401	66%	19	3%	201	31%
South Lancashire	480	295	64%	283	61%	12	3%	185	36%
East Lancashire	529	335	65%	327	63%	8	1%	194	36%
Lancashire	1631	1050	66%	1012	64%	39	2%	580	34%

Temporary Closure

Some providers temporarily closed during the year, the main reasons for these closures were:

- No demand from parents due to change in working hours or circumstances.
- The childcare provider was shielding or had vulnerable staff or family members.
- The provision operated out of a shared community building which may have closed.
- Providers with multiple sites chose to amalgamate, closing one site and operating for all their children at their other site.

The other factors for deciding on a temporary closure related to the viability of the business and included:

- The numbers of children in attendance
- The number of keyworker children, vulnerable children and fee-paying families.
- The running costs and overheads for the business.
- Staffing costs.

Provider Type Breakdown

Provider Type	Total	Responses	Total Response Rate
AM/PM School Club	298	139	47%
Childminder	650	401	62%
Day Nursery	364	259	71%
Holiday Scheme	26	3	12%
Nursery Units of Independent Schools	16	13	81%
Pre School Playgroup	90	70	78%
Maintained Nursery School	24	18	75%
Maintained Nursery Class	134	120	90%
Governor Led Provision (S27)	28	27	96%
TOTAL	1631	1050	66%

Movement in the Childcare Market

The tables below show the numbers of new Ofsted childcare registrations across Lancashire alongside the number of providers who have permanently closed.

Whilst there have been some permanent closures during the past 12 months, overall, we have seen 172 providers join the childcare market and 144 leave. North Lancashire saw the biggest net change.

Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
North Lancashire	621	66	40	26	4%
South Lancashire	480	42	42	0	0%
East Lancashire	529	66	62	4	1%
Lancashire	1630	174	144	30	2%

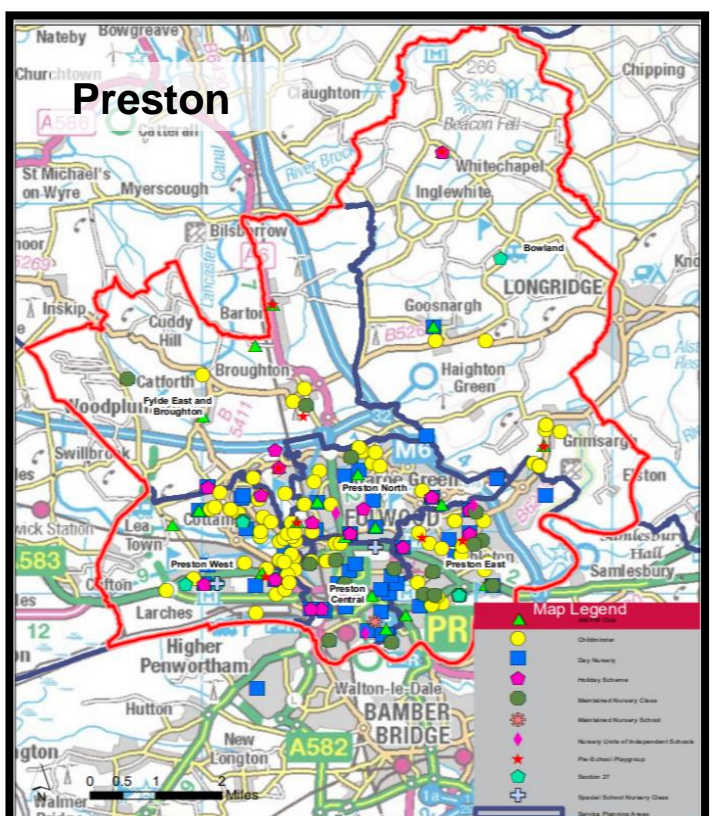
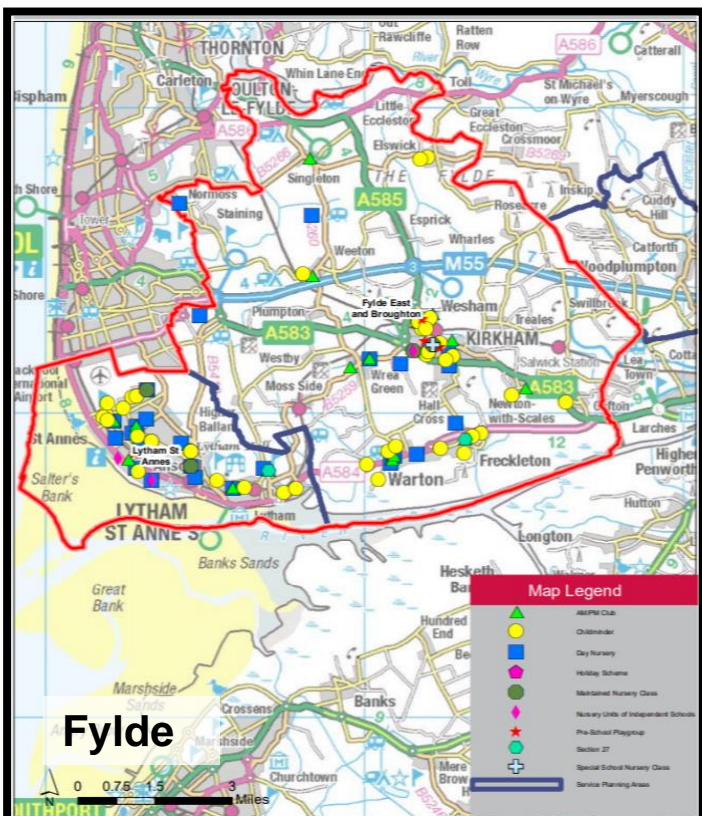
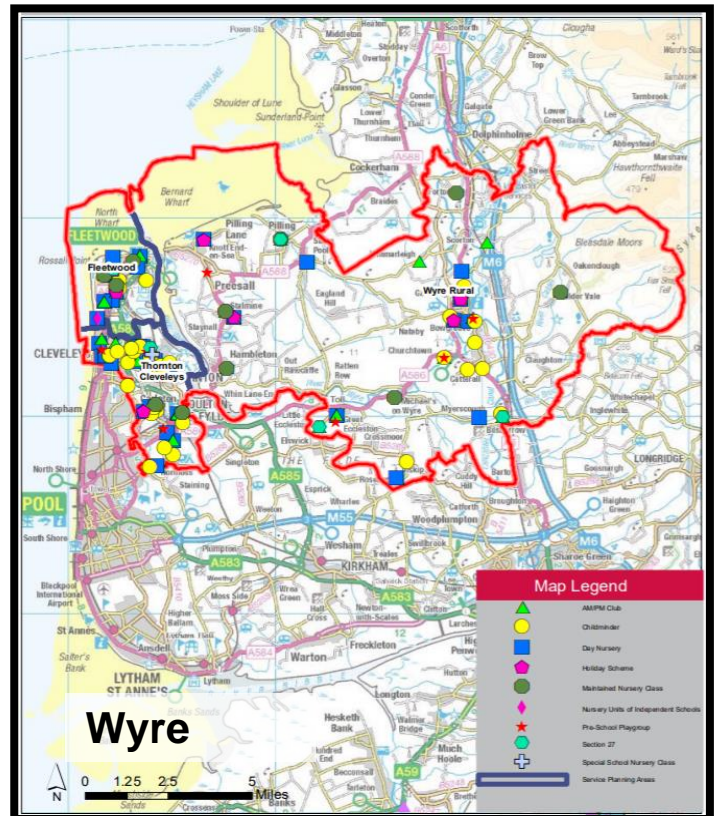
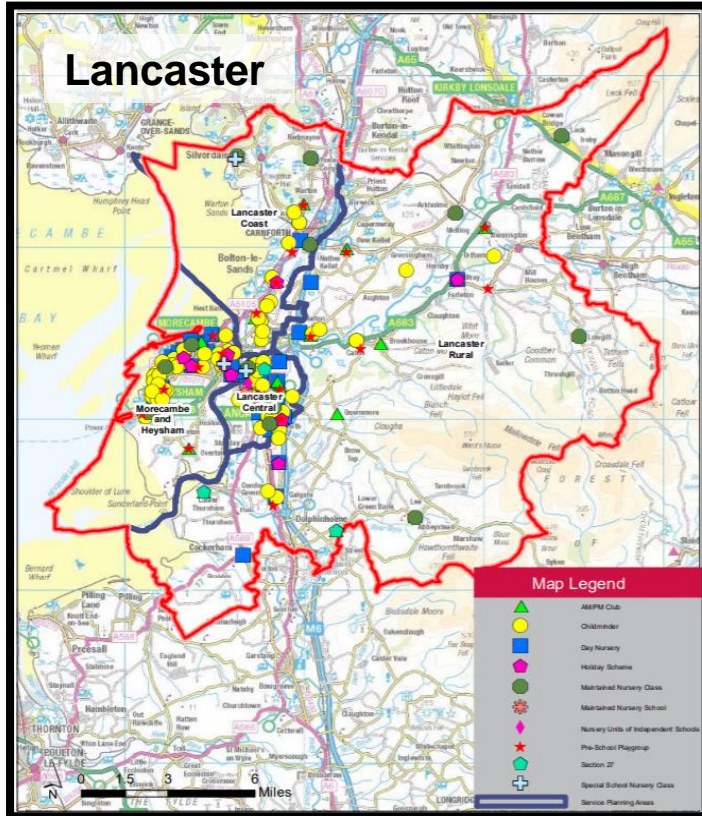
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	25	4	2	2	8%
	Lancaster Rural	37	6	2	4	11%
	Lancaster Central	46	4	2	2	4%
	Morecambe & Heysham	78	2	2	0	0%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	56	7	6	1	2%
	Fleetwood	21	2	2	0	0%
	Wyre Rural	47	11	4	7	15%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	40	3	3	0	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	63	8	4	4	6%
Preston	Preston North	36	3	3	0	0%
	Preston East	49	5	2	3	6%
	Preston Central	34	5	3	2	6%
	Preston West	53	3	4	-1	-2%
	Bowland	15	1	1	0	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	21	2	0	2	10%
North Lancashire		621	66	40	26	4%

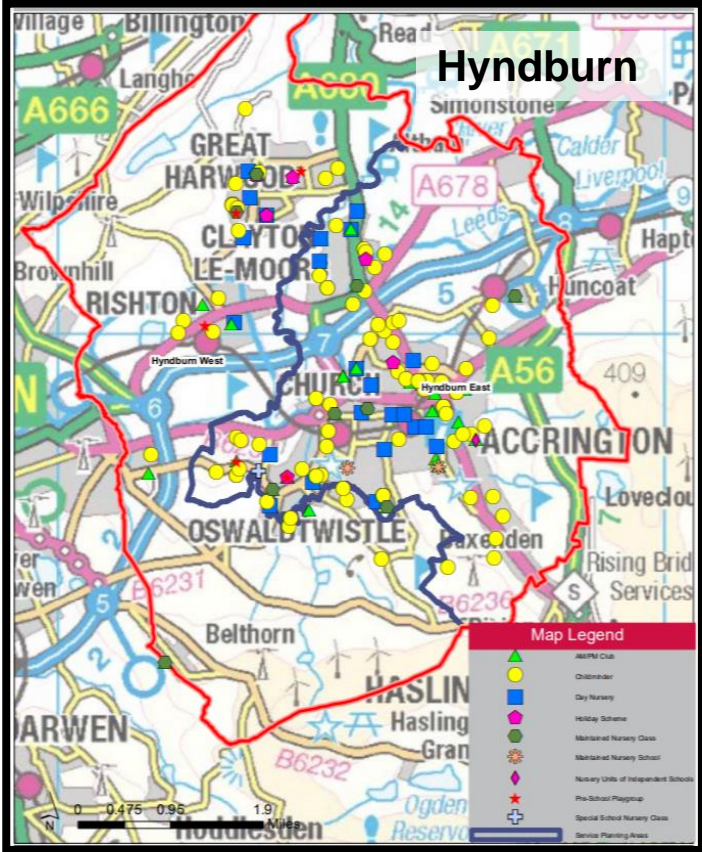
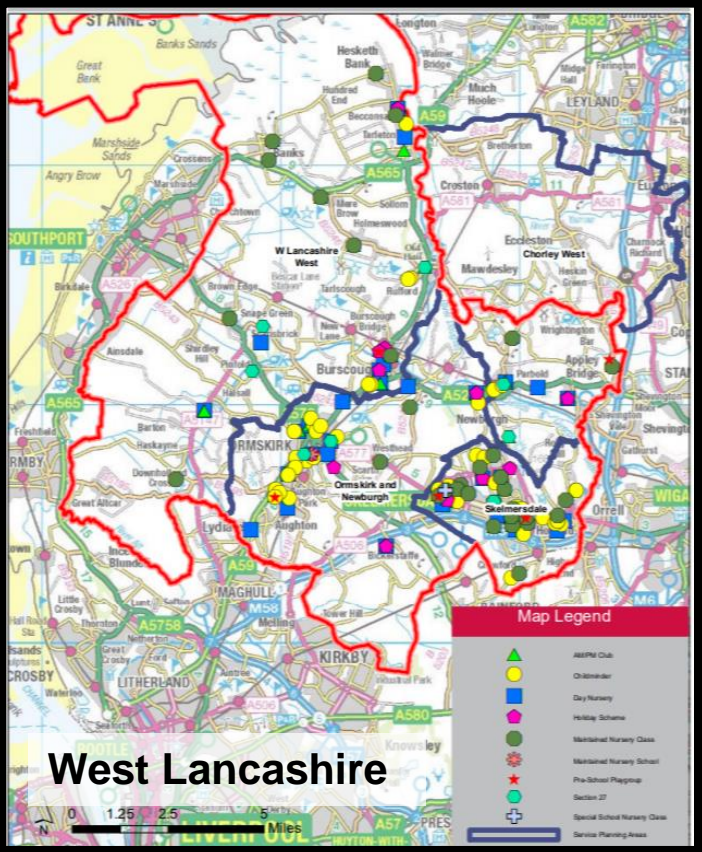
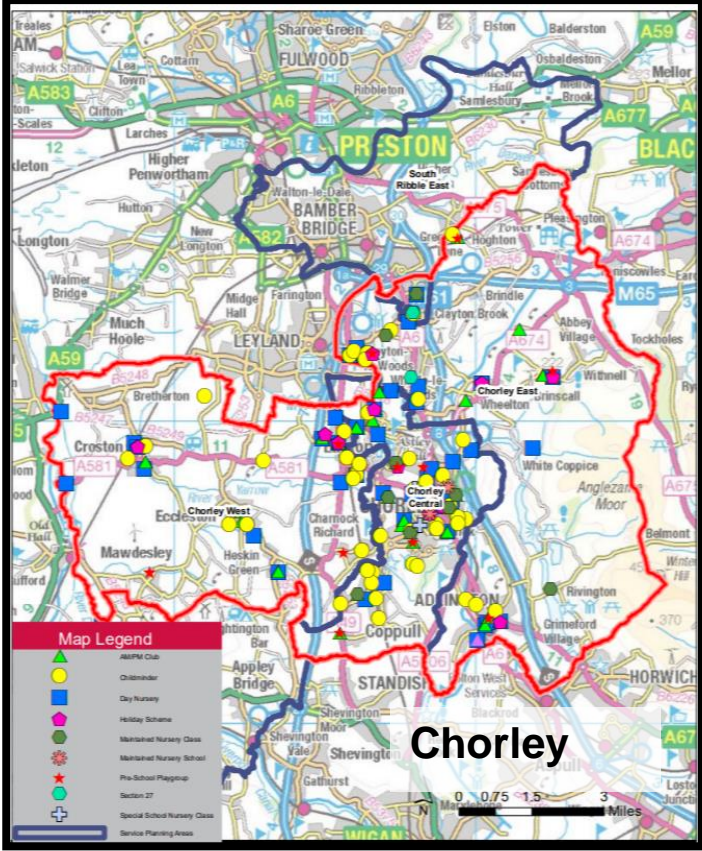
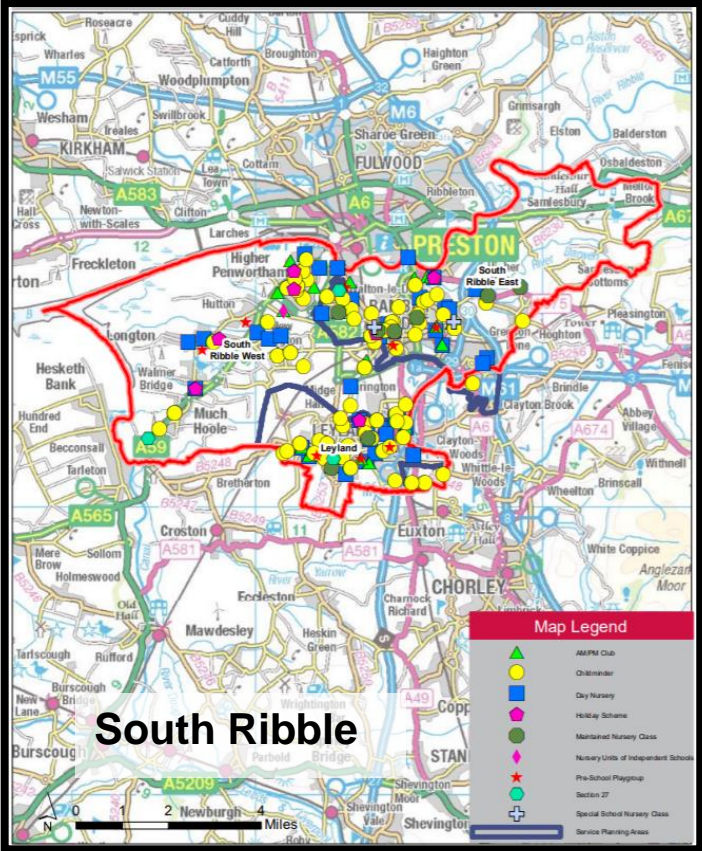
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
South Ribble	Leyland	54	6	5	1	2%
	South Ribble East	67	6	8	-2	-3%
	South Ribble West	51	7	4	3	6%
Chorley	Chorley East	47	5	4	1	2%
	Chorley West	39	7	2	5	13%
	Chorley Central	66	4	3	1	2%
	South Ribble East	3	0	0	0	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	67	1	8	-7	-10%
	West Lancashire West	36	4	7	-3	-8%
	Chorley West	13	0	0	0	0%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37	2	1	1	3%
South Lancashire		480	42	42	0	0%

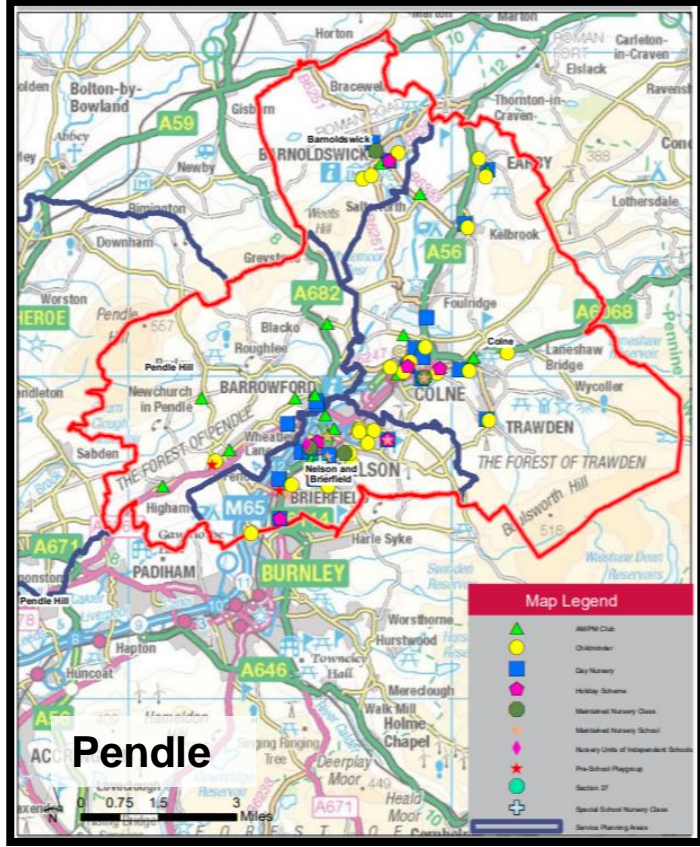
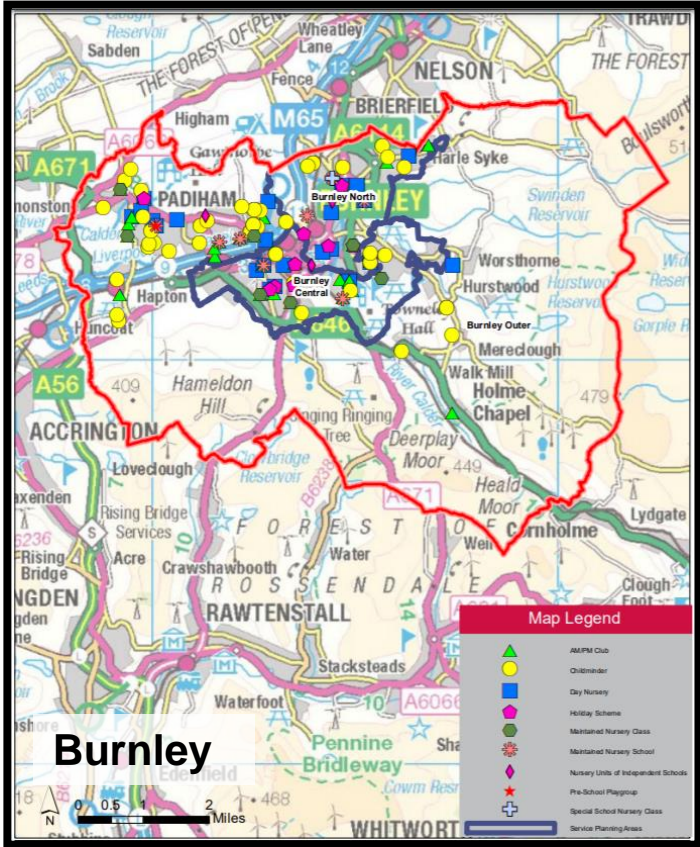
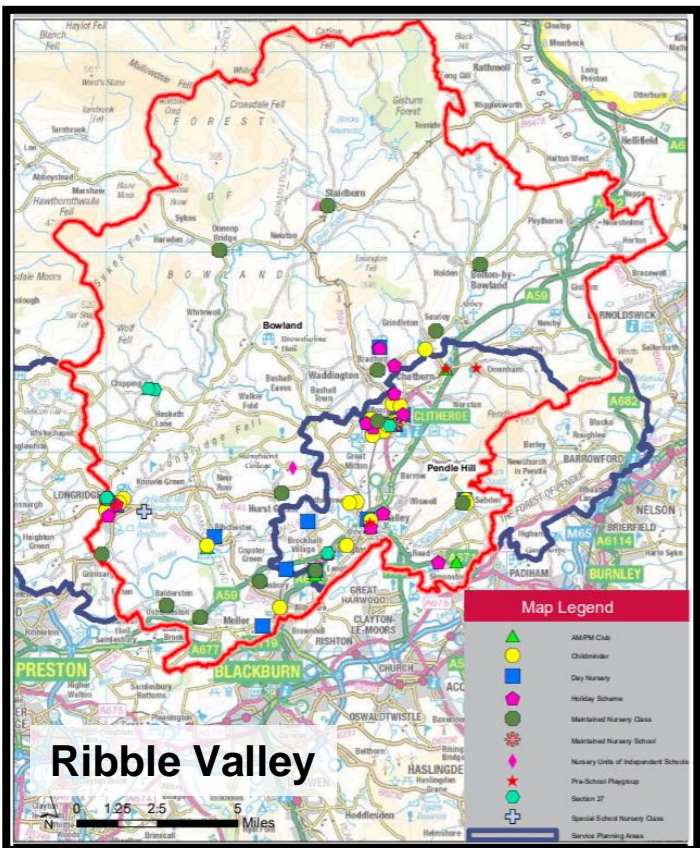
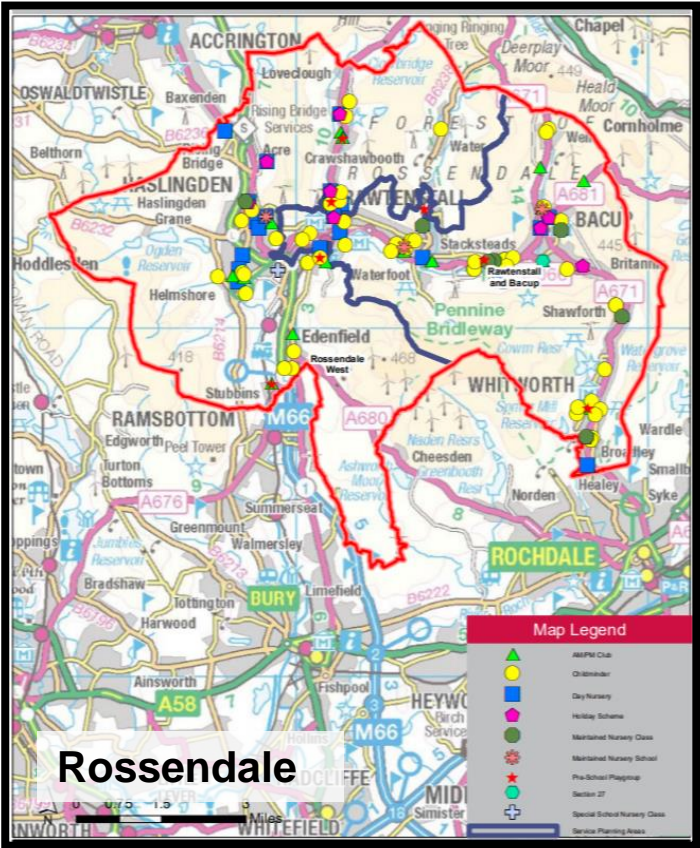
District	Geographical Area	Total number of providers	New provider registrations	Closed providers	Net change	% Change
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	110	13	7	6	5%
	Hyndburn West	37	2	2	0	0%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	75	9	8	1	1%
	Rossendale West	35	3	5	-2	-6%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	42	3	5	-2	-5%
	Pendle Hill	41	8	10	-2	-5%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	57	5	9	-4	-7%
	Burnley Central	25	1	1	0	0%
	Burnley North	27	1	2	-1	-4%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	6	3	0	3	50%
	Colne	30	5	7	-2	-7%
	Nelson & Brierfield	33	6	6	0	0%
	Pendle Hill	11	7	0	7	64%
East Lancashire		529	66	62	4	1%

Childcare Providers by District

The maps below show the location and types of childcare provision available across the districts and geographical areas.







Childcare Places 0-4 Year Olds

The weekly survey has provided a wealth of information that has enabled us to analyse the sufficiency of childcare places at a district and more localised geographical level. With full national lockdowns, local lockdowns and tiers the impact to the childcare market has been vast. To understand the demand for childcare places during the past year and moving forward is a challenge as families are facing very different scenarios with their childcare needs.

The 12 tables below look at three options to allow us to support each area dependent upon potential demand and the supply of places. **Option 1** is prior to COVID-19 and this shows we had sufficient places across all districts in Lancashire. **Option 2** and **Option 3** are hypothetical scenarios assuming 75% and 50% potential demand and includes the number of places providers are working to during COVID-19.

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	287	542	47%	215	422	49%	143	422	66%
	Lancaster Rural	359	1039	65%	269	763	65%	180	763	76%
	Morecambe & Heysham	1882	2810	33%	1412	2488	43%	941	2488	62%
	Lancaster Central	1220	1871	35%	915	1408	35%	610	1408	57%
District Total		3748	6262	40%	2811	5081	45%	1874	5081	63%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	1083	2448	56%	812	1892	57%	541	1892	71%
	Fleetwood	804	1274	37%	603	1014	41%	402	1014	60%
	Wyre Rural	646	1188	46%	484	1070	55%	323	1070	70%
District Total		2533	4910	48%	1900	3976	52%	1266	3976	68%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	825	1570	47%	619	1616	62%	413	1616	74%
	Fylde East & Broughton	817	1733	53%	613	1232	50%	408	1232	67%
	District Total	1642	3303	50%	1232	2848	57%	821	2848	71%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Preston	Preston North	559	1698	67%	420	1574	73%	280	1574	82%
	Preston East	1795	2114	15%	1347	1774	24%	898	1774	49%
	Preston Central	1192	1774	33%	894	1264	29%	596	1264	53%
	Preston West	1004	1643	39%	753	1240	39%	502	1240	60%
	Bowland	178	300	41%	134	238	44%	89	238	63%
	Fylde & East Broughton	203	834	76%	152	926	84%	102	926	89%
District Total		4932	8363	41%	3699	7016	47%	2466	7016	65%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
South Ribble	Leyland	1020	1642	38%	765	1538	50%	510	1538	67%
	South Ribble East	1194	2644	55%	895	2690	67%	597	2690	78%
	South Ribble West	728	1755	59%	546	1622	66%	364	1622	78%
District Total		2941	6041	51%	2206	5850	62%	1471	5850	75%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Chorley	Chorley East	871	1926	55%	653	1460	55%	435	1460	70%
	Chorley West	412	1532	73%	309	1042	70%	206	1042	80%
	Chorley Central	1674	2744	39%	1255	2518	50%	837	2518	67%
	South Ribble East	147	210	30%	110	154	28%	74	154	52%
District Total		3104	6412	52%	2328	5174	55%	1552	5174	70%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	1433	2106	32%	1074	1894	43%	716	1894	62%
	West Lancashire West	722	1486	51%	541	892	39%	361	892	60%
	Chorley West	154	370	59%	115	358	68%	77	358	79%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	596	1420	58%	447	1164	62%	298	1164	74%
District Total		2904	5382	46%	2178	4308	49%	1452	4308	66%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	2131	3260	35%	1598	3300	52%	1066	3300	68%
	Hyndburn West	674	965	30%	505	817	38%	337	817	59%
District Total		2805	4225	34%	2104	4117	49%	1402	4117	66%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	1252	2086	40%	939	2064	55%	626	2064	70%
	Rossendale West	828	1448	43%	621	1304	52%	414	1304	68%
District Total		2080	3534	41%	1560	3368	54%	1040	3368	69%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Ribble Valley	Bowland	536	949	44%	402	854	53%	268	854	69%
	Pendle Hill	674	2098	68%	505	1836	72%	337	1836	82%
District Total		1210	3047	60%	907	2690	66%	605	2690	78%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Burnley	Burnley Outer	943	1956	52%	707	1432	51%	471	1432	67%
	Burnley Central	905	1527	41%	679	1392	51%	452	1392	68%
	Burnley North	1294	1426	9%	971	1054	8%	647	1054	39%
District Total		3142	4909	36%	2356	3878	39%	1571	3878	59%

Area		Option 1			Option 2			Option 3		
District	Geographical Area	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds normal demand	Working to places prior to COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 75% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places	Population requiring childcare 0-4 year olds 50% demand	Working to places COVID-19 year	% of Surplus/ deficit places
Pendle	Barnoldswick	324	384	16%	243	362	33%	162	362	55%
	Colne	950	1330	29%	712	1060	33%	475	1060	55%
	Nelson & Brierfield	1869	2136	13%	1402	2110	34%	934	2110	56%
	Pendle Hill	243	476	49%	182	436	58%	122	436	72%
District Total		3385	4326	22%	2539	3968	36%	1693	3968	57%

Summary of Childcare Places 0-4 Year Olds

From the data available we have sufficient childcare available in all geographical areas. This information is a snapshot in time and should be seen as a guide to current places available. We closely monitor the childcare market as any localised closures will have an impact on parental choice and provider type availability. We will continue to monitor the demand for childcare places across the county. If demand is identified as remaining low in geographical areas, we could see providers with potential sustainability issues.

Childcare Places 4 -11 Year Olds

Childcare for children of school age is more complex to report on due to the different requirements for Ofsted registration. Some schools in Lancashire operate childcare, this type of provision is exempt from Ofsted registration as they are inspected as part of the school inspection.

Across the county we have 298 Out of School Clubs and have sufficient childcare places for school age children across all geographical areas of Lancashire. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic demand for places has been low. Although childcare settings were allowed to open in order to provide care for vulnerable children and the children of key workers, in practice this was not possible for many of our wraparound childcare settings. This meant a large number of our clubs closed or offered a reduced or a limited service.

In preparation for schools and childcare re opening in June 2020, there was a period of uncertainty for the out of school childcare sector. This was due to a lack of clarity about how bubbles could be managed safely alongside schools. Providers were able to access support and guidance from the Early Years Quality Team to ensure robust risk assessments were put in place.

Based on the responses to our weekly survey over a quarter of Out of School Clubs were open. When schools opened again to all children in the Autumn term, 39% of clubs were showing as open, by Spring term 2021 over half of clubs are now open. We anticipate more clubs are open but have not responded to the survey.

Lockdowns and restrictions throughout the year have resulted in parental demand for before, after school and holiday childcare to decrease. Sustainability has been a concern for many providers, who have been concerned about cash flow. Some providers have had to alter staff hours, some staff have remained furloughed, and in some cases, providers have made staff redundant.

To summarise, whilst we have sufficient places for 4-11 year olds, we will continue to monitor the market closely. It is unclear at this stage how demand for 4-11 year old places will level out and if they will return to levels seen prior to COVID-19. Some parents working patterns have changed and others are now working more flexibly or still working from home which may mean they no longer require the childcare places.

Changes in Demand for Childcare

In November we asked childcare providers about the impact of COVID-19 on demand for childcare places. 50% said demand was lower than the same point in Autumn term 2019. 6% said it had increased and 44% said it was the same as Autumn term 2019. Childcare providers were asked again in Spring term when the country was in full lockdown, and again when lockdown started to ease at the start of the Summer term to see if this had an impact on the demand for childcare places.

The tables below show occupancy levels reported by childcare providers across Lancashire.

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	55%	45%	0%	54%	46%	5%	10%	80%	10%
	Lancaster Rural	43%	50%	7%	50%	36%	14%	42%	33%	25%
	Lancaster Central	54%	27%	19%	65%	26%	9%	26%	58%	16%
	Morecambe & Heysham	62%	33%	5%	73%	27%	0%	54%	35%	11%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	57%	36%	7%	82%	0%	18%	59%	26%	15%
	Fleetwood	50%	50%	0%	56%	38%	6%	44%	23%	33%
	Wyre Rural	44%	56%	0%	58%	38%	4%	23%	54%	23%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	63%	33%	4%	64%	27%	9%	43%	52%	5%
	Fylde East Broughton	37%	63%	0%	57%	43%	0%	38%	52%	5%
	Preston North	40%	60%	0%	69%	31%	0%	33%	54%	13%
Preston	Preston East	35%	53%	12%	53%	40%	7%	40%	60%	0%
	Preston Central	73%	27%	0%	73%	20%	7%	50%	42%	8%
	Preston West	46%	54%	0%	43%	53%	4%	36%	46%	18%
	Bowland	23%	69%	8%	77%	15%	8%	9%	82%	9%
	Fylde East Broughton	44%	34%	22%	36%	64%	0%	20%	70%	10%
	TOTAL	48%	46%	6%	60%	34%	6%	35%	52%	13%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
South Ribble	Leyland	55%	32%	13%	56%	40%	4%	48%	35%	17%
	South Ribble East	48%	49%	3%	58%	35%	7%	40%	48%	12%
	South Ribble West	62%	34%	4%	70%	30%	0%	46%	42%	12%
Chorley	Chorley East	54%	38%	8%	67%	33%	0%	69%	25%	6%
	Chorley West	45%	45%	10%	48%	43%	9%	33%	47%	20%
	Chorley Central	64%	32%	4%	60%	40%	0%	35%	60%	5%
	South Ribble East	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	63%	37%	0%	69%	25%	6%	67%	20%	13%
	West Lancashire West	57%	43%	0%	37%	63%	0%	22%	78%	0%
	Chorley West	0%	75%	25%	100%	0%	0%	0%	75%	25%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	87%	13%	0%	70%	25%	5%	25%	63%	12%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	49%	45%	6%	58%	39%	3%	35%	54%	11%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021 (lock down)			Summer Term 2021 (as restriction start to lift)		
		Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year	Lower occupancy	Normal occupancy	Higher than last year
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	57%	38%	5%	74%	23%	3%	45%	47%	8%
	Hyndburn West	33%	67%	0%	50%	50%	0%	50%	50%	0%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	55%	42%	3%	57%	40%	3%	45%	49%	6%
	Rossendale West	58%	42%	0%	72%	24%	4%	33%	51%	16%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	50%	38%	12%	58%	42%	0%	29%	43%	28%
	Pendle Hill	57%	29%	14%	76%	19%	5%	36%	57%	7%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	58%	34%	8%	62%	38%	0%	44%	56%	0%
	Burnley Central	56%	33%	11%	67%	33%	0%	20%	80%	0%
	Burnley North	43%	57%	0%	73%	27%	0%	20%	60%	20%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%	0%
	Colne	53%	41%	6%	59%	29%	12%	40%	33%	27%
	Nelson & Brierfield	84%	8%	8%	77%	23%	0%	56%	36%	9%
	Pendle Hill	33%	67%	0%	33%	34%	33%	25%	50%	25%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	53%	42%	5%	62%	33%	5%	34%	55%	11%

Summary of the changes in demand for childcare

While demand was low in Autumn and Spring term (lockdown) as restrictions started to lift providers have indicated that the demand is starting to show signs of returning to pre COVID-19 levels.

Early Education Funding

3 and 4 year olds Early Education Funding – Universal Entitlement (EEF3&4)

Every 3 and 4 year old is eligible for 15 hours funded childcare the term after their third birthday until they start school. Parents can choose to access this provision flexibly and use more than one provider to meet their childcare needs. The funding is available for 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year. Some parents may choose more flexibility and use less hours per week, over more than 38 weeks of the year, a total of 570 hours is available.

30 hours Extended Entitlement

September 2017 saw the introduction of the extended entitlement 30 hours childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. This funding is targeted at working families who can access a total of 1,140 hours per year either 30 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year, or it can also be used more flexibly over the year and with one or more childcare providers.

2 year old Early Education Funding (EEF2)

Some 2 year old children are eligible to access up to 15 hours of Early Education Funding (EEF2). A child is eligible to access a place the term after their 2nd birthday, 570 hours are available, either 15 hours for 38 weeks per year or parents may choose more flexibility and use the funding throughout the year.

Eligibility to access a 2 year old funded place requires one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based job seekers allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit
- Tax Credit and an annual income under (£16,190)
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- The working tax credit 4 week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Other ways a family may be eligible are

Children looked after by the council; Children who have left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangement order or adoption order, children who get disability living allowance, children who have a current education health care plan (EHC), children in need, children with a child protection plan, children of Gypsy Roma Heritage living in Lancashire, children of serving armed forces personnel residing in Lancashire and children who meet the criteria for Portage.

For more information about the criteria for 30 hours and 2 year olds funding please visit:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/early-years-childcare-and-family-support/paying-for-childcare/funded-childcare-for-2-year-olds>

Early Education Funding (EEF) Take Up for 2 Year Olds

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	19	12	63%	24	17	71%	24	18	75%
	Lancaster Rural	17	14	82%	15	11	73%	13	12	92%
	Lancaster Central	123	107	87%	120	116	97%	155	132	85%
	Morecambe & Heysham	269	213	79%	299	207	69%	266	198	74%
District Total		428	345	81%	458	351	77%	458	360	79%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	128	92	72%	108	79	73%	92	62	67%
	Fleetwood	164	117	71%	179	140	78%	170	135	79%
	Wyre Rural	62	44	71%	57	39	68%	52	34	65%
District Total		354	253	71%	344	258	75%	313	230	73%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	88	51	58%	83	49	59%	88	46	52%
	Fylde East Broughton	100	75	75%	72	58	81%	89	64	72%
District Total		188	126	67%	155	107	69%	176	109	62%
Preston	Preston North	40	31	78%	46	32	70%	37	21	57%
	Preston East	305	184	60%	296	189	64%	305	182	60%
	Preston Central	201	114	57%	216	123	57%	183	114	62%
	Preston West	122	93	76%	143	100	70%	123	93	76%
	Bowland	6	6	100%	4	2	50%	5	5	100%
	Fylde East Broughton	13	8	62%	10	8	80%	9	3	33%
District Total		687	436	63%	715	454	63%	661	417	63%
TOTAL		1657	1160	71%	1672	1170	71%	1608	1116	70%

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
South Ribble	Leyland	104	75	72%	121	89	74%	121	86	71%
	South Ribble East	115	77	67%	133	92	69%	112	86	77%
	South Ribble West	38	27	71%	42	36	86%	54	33	61%
District Total		257	179	70%	296	217	73%	287	204	71%
Chorley	Chorley East	41	35	85%	47	37	79%	53	41	77%
	Chorley West	27	17	63%	36	17	47%	29	21	72%
	Chorley Central	185	126	68%	174	136	78%	200	134	67%
	South Ribble East	25	21	84%	18	17	94%	22	18	82%
District Total		278	199	72%	275	207	75%	304	214	70%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	251	187	75%	231	161	70%	220	152	69%
	West Lancashire West	58	27	47%	69	30	43%	69	33	48%
	Chorley West	1	3	300%	3	2	67%	4	2	50%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	41	21	51%	42	28	67%	47	30	64%
District Total		351	238	68%	345	221	64%	340	213	63%
TOTAL		886	616	70%	916	645	71%	931	631	68%

District	Geographical Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	388	243	63%	357	228	64%	350	205	59%
	Hyndburn West	109	67	61%	88	58	66%	97	68	70%
District Total		497	309	62%	445	286	64%	447	273	61%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	179	114	64%	199	131	66%	186	114	61%
	Rossendale West	71	49	69%	87	67	77%	84	56	67%
District Total		250	163	65%	286	198	69%	271	170	63%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	35	21	60%	36	21	58%	34	20	59%
	Pendle Hill	56	50	89%	56	47	84%	42	31	74%
District Total		91	71	78%	92	68	74%	76	50	66%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	151	112	74%	147	120	82%	140	120	86%
	Burnley Central	165	122	74%	154	124	81%	180	124	69%
	Burnley North	268	166	62%	243	145	60%	227	134	59%
District Total		584	398	68%	544	389	72%	547	378	69%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	38	22	58%	32	21	66%	35	24	69%
	Colne	117	73	62%	109	83	76%	106	81	76%
	Nelson & Brierfield	344	184	53%	330	192	58%	312	158	51%
	Pendle Hill	7	7	100%	17	10	59%	14	13	93%
District Total		506	286	57%	488	306	63%	467	276	59%
TOTAL		1928	1227	75%	1855	1247	68%	1808	1147	64%

Area	Summer term 2020			Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
North Lancashire	1657	1160	71%	1672	1170	71%	1608	1116	70%
South Lancashire	886	616	70%	916	645	71%	931	631	68%
East Lancashire	1928	1227	75%	1855	1247	68%	1808	1147	64%
Lancashire	4471	3003	72%	4443	3062	70%	4347	2894	67%

Early Education Funding (EEF) Take Up for 3&4 Year Olds

*The data in the EEF 3&4 year old tables excludes those children aged 4 who are in reception.

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	113	108	96%	169	162	96%
	Lancaster Rural	172	144	84%	221	189	86%
	Lancaster Central	531	427	80%	689	557	81%
	Morecambe & Heysham	849	619	73%	1072	820	76%
District Total		1665	1298	78%	2151	1728	80%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	516	418	81%	663	528	80%
	Fleetwood	300	310	103%	401	384	96%
	Wyre Rural	278	235	85%	394	350	89%
District Total		1094	963	88%	1458	1231	84%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	386	307	80%	487	399	82%
	Fylde East Broughton	353	323	92%	459	444	97%
District Total		739	630	85%	946	843	89%
Preston	Preston North	231	257	111%	337	340	101%
	Preston East	751	584	78%	987	749	76%
	Preston Central	517	367	71%	671	433	65%
	Preston West	417	375	90%	551	486	88%
	Bowland	88	93	106%	113	115	102%
	Fylde East Broughton	82	98	120%	122	136	111%
District Total		2086	1774	85%	2781	2259	81%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	5584	4665	84%	7336	6061	83%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
South Ribble	Leyland	467	370	79%	617	468	76%
	South Ribble East	568	471	83%	715	609	85%
	South Ribble West	305	309	101%	433	422	97%
District Total		1340	1150	86%	1765	1499	85%
Chorley	Chorley East	394	331	84%	546	448	82%
	Chorley West	166	227	137%	238	297	125%
	Chorley Central	726	614	85%	958	803	84%
	South Ribble East	59	70	119%	78	99	127%
District Total		1345	1242	92%	1820	1647	90%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	620	491	79%	791	662	84%
	West Lancashire West	322	274	85%	422	350	83%
	Chorley West	88	40	45%	114	53	46%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	281	231	82%	369	290	79%
District Total		1311	1036	79%	1696	1355	80%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	3996	3428	86%	5281	4501	85%

District	Geographical Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
		Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	834	730	88%	1127	941	83%
	Hyndburn West	283	219	77%	376	280	74%
District Total		1117	949	85%	1503	1221	81%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	502	438	87%	678	585	86%
	Rossendale West	393	291	74%	494	377	76%
District Total		895	729	81%	1172	962	82%
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	263	215	82%	332	290	87%
	Pendle Hill	303	297	98%	400	402	101%
District Total		566	512	90%	732	692	95%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	366	387	106%	508	496	98%
	Burnley Central	324	309	95%	450	396	88%
	Burnley North	468	445	95%	679	590	87%
District Total		1158	1141	99%	1637	1482	91%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	141	125	89%	191	167	87%
	Colne	408	295	72%	578	380	66%
	Nelson & Brierfield	680	684	101%	1020	859	84%
	Pendle Hill	101	90	89%	150	112	75%
District Total		1330	1194	90%	1939	1518	78%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	5066	4525	89%	6983	5875	84%

Area	Autumn Term 2020			Spring Term 2021		
	Eligible Population	No of children	% take up	Eligible population	No of children	% take up
North Lancashire	5584	4665	84%	7336	6061	83%
South Lancashire	3996	3428	86%	5281	4501	85%
East Lancashire	5066	4525	89%	6983	5875	84%
Lancashire	14646	12618	86%	19600	16437	84%

Summary of Early Education Funding (EEF) take up for 2, 3&4 Year Olds

The take up for Early Education Funding for 2 year olds is lower than we would like at 67% (Spring term 2021). Take up for Early Education Funding for 3&4 year olds is 84% (Spring term 2021).

An action plan is in place to promote the take up of Early Education Funding entitlements. We are working closely with partners and family facing services to promote awareness and increase take up of this funding, particularly within the localities where take up is lower than the Lancashire average. We will continue to promote the take up of Early Education Funding through our social media marketing campaign.

Changes in the number of funded hours claimed

The tables below show the percentage change in the number of hours claimed prior to COVID-19 compared with the COVID-19 year.

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	7%	-13%	-11%	-16%
	Lancaster Rural	-39%	-56%	-7%	-1%
	Lancaster Central	20%	7%	-10%	-11%
	Morecambe & Heysham	-20%	-22%	-9%	-8%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	-38%	-27%	-3%	5%
	Fleetwood	16%	-10%	-5%	3%
	Wyre Rural	-43%	-20%	-12%	-17%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	-26%	-25%	-8%	-4%
	Fylde East Broughton	-21%	-41%	-4%	-10%
Preston	Preston North	-29%	12%	-11%	-15%
	Preston East	-21%	-25%	-6%	-3%
	Preston Central	-20%	-26%	-21%	-13%
	Preston West	-13%	-4%	-8%	-8%
	Bowland	-41%	-76%	19%	49%
	Fylde East Broughton	-61%	32%	-2%	-2%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	-22%	-20%	-6%	-3%

District	Geographical Area	% change EEF 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEF 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEF 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
South Ribble	Leyland	3%	-13%	-9%	-5%
	South Ribble East	-17%	-20%	-2%	3%
	South Ribble West	12%	-10%	-6%	-9%
Chorley	Chorley East	-11%	-23%	-7%	-7%
	Chorley West	-23%	-37%	20%	33%
	Chorley Central	1%	-20%	-11%	-12%
	South Ribble East	-19%	-30%	6%	-4%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	-30%	-24%	6%	1%
	West Lancashire West	-3%	-22%	-2%	20%
	Chorley West	0%	-50%	6%	8%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	23%	-11%	-8%	-15%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	-6%	-24%	0%	1%

District	Geographical Area	% change EEf 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEf 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEf 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEf 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	-28%	-27%	-2%	0%
	Hyndburn West	0%	-16%	-9%	-9%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	-11%	-4%	5%	6%
	Rossendale West	1%	10%	-3%	-1%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	-16%	-25%	8%	6%
	Pendle Hill	-43%	8%	-2%	-10%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	-5%	-16%	-4%	-1%
	Burnley Central	-9%	-23%	-15%	-17%
	Burnley North	-31%	-37%	-14%	-19%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	-9%	-36%	1%	2%
	Colne	-12%	-28%	-4%	-6%
	Nelson & Brierfield	-33%	-30%	-12%	-10%
	Pendle Hill	-22%	-44%	-17%	-4%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	-17%	-21%	-5%	-5%

Area	% change EEf 2 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEf 2 Autumn 2020-2019	% change EEf 3&4 Spring 2021-2020	% change EEf 3&4 Autumn 2020- 2019
North Lancashire	-22%	-20%	-6%	-3%
South Lancashire	-6%	-24%	0%	1%
East Lancashire	-17%	-21%	-5%	-5%
Lancashire	-15%	-21%	-4%	-2%

Sustainability

Sustainability has been one of the main challenges for childcare providers over the past year. Throughout the pandemic many parents have been working from home, have had to manage changes in hours or work patterns or some may have been made redundant. Parents have also been concerned about their children's health and safety. The fall in demand for childcare, has placed financial pressure on the sector with increased costs and loss of income.

To support providers who offer Early Education Funding and to provide stability with cashflow and viability, a one off COVID-19 payment has been made, along with increases to the funding rate and assistance with advertisement and marketing. However, the true impact will depend on if demand for childcare increases and how quickly this happens.

The government provided a variety of financial support packages to support businesses throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these included:

- Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS)
- Business rates relief
- Support for the Self-employed
- Bounce back loans
- Support for businesses affected by coronavirus restrictions

We will continue to monitor changes to the childcare market across Lancashire. As wider lockdown restriction ease we will see how families access childcare provision and the wider impact this has on the sector.

Childcare providers were asked about the impact on their business viability and what changes, if any, they are needing to make. The tables below summarise their responses.

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand, management of childcare bubbles, in Lancaster Central the majority furloughed staff, in Lancaster Rural and Morecambe & Heysham cash flow and business viability was a concern.
	Lancaster Rural	86%	14%	
	Lancaster Central	95%	5%	
	Morecambe & Heysham	91%	9%	
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	78%	22%	All areas identified low demand, management of childcare bubbles, in Wyre Rural a number of providers reduced opening hours and in Fleetwood providers were concerned about cash flow and business viability.
	Fleetwood	73%	27%	
	Wyre Rural	77%	23%	
Fylde	Lytham St Anne's	82%	18%	All areas identified low demand. Some providers reduced their opening hours and others found ensuring the premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. In Lytham St Anne's a high number of providers furloughed staff and management of childcare bubbles was a challenge.
	Fylde East Broughton	72%	28%	
Preston	Preston North	88%	12%	All areas identified low demand, the majority of areas raised cash flow concerns. Bowland, Preston Central & Preston East had concerns with the management of childcare bubbles. Preston North had furloughed a greater number of staff than some of the other areas.
	Preston East	87%	13%	
	Preston Central	87%	13%	
	Preston West	92%	8%	
	Bowland	82%	18%	
	Fylde East Broughton	91%	9%	
Total	North Lancashire	85%	15%	

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
South Ribble	Leyland	90%	10%	All areas identified low demand, Leyland & South Ribble West had a large number of providers who had reduced opening hours, South Ribble East and West identified bubble management as an impact.
	South Ribble East	93%	7%	
	South Ribble West	88%	12%	
Chorley	Chorley East	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand and business viability. Chorley Central & Chorley East identified the impact of bubble management. Chorley East & Chorley West raised the impact of ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure.
	Chorley West	79%	21%	
	Chorley Central	92%	8%	
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	95%	5%	All areas identified low demand. Skelmersdale and Chorley West identified reduced opening hours and staff furloughed. While Ormskirk and Newburgh and West Lancashire West identified management of childcare bubbles.
	West Lancashire West	86%	14%	
	Chorley West	75%	25%	
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	95%	5%	
Total	South Lancashire	90%	10%	

Area		Has the last 12 months had an impact on the sustainability of your business		Impact of the last 12 months
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Summary
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	95%	5%	Both areas identified low demand, while Hyndburn East have seen a staff reduction and Hyndburn West have found bubble management has impacted on them.
	Hyndburn West	89%	11%	
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	85%	15%	Both areas identified low demand and ensuring the premises were COVID-19 secure. Rossendale West identified management of childcare bubbles. Rawtenstall and Bacup identified business viability and cash flow had an impact on them.
	Rossendale West	95%	5%	
Ribble Valley	Bowland	100%	0%	Both areas said they have been impacted by low demand. Pendle Hill had concerns around ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure, business viability and cash flow.
	Pendle Hill	89%	11%	
Burnley	Burnley Outer	88%	12%	All areas identified managing childcare bubbles and low demand as a concern. While Burnley North and Burnley Outer had experienced ensuring their premises were COVID-19 secure and business viability as areas that have impacted on their provision.
	Burnley Central	82%	18%	
	Burnley North	88%	12%	
Pendle	Barnoldswick	67%	33%	The majority of areas identified low demand as a concern. Barnoldswick, Colne and Pendle Hill indicated the management of childcare bubbles, business viability and cash flow have been impacted over the last twelve months.
	Colne	89%	11%	
	Nelson & Brierfield	82%	18%	
	Pendle Hill	100%	0%	
TOTAL	East Lancashire	88%	12%	

The following three tables show potential changes providers are looking to make.

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	9%	91%	In nearly all areas providers were looking to make changes to opening hours and increase fees. In Lancaster Central a number of providers were looking at staff hours. In Morecambe & Heysham some providers were looking at altering business models.
	Lancaster Rural	36%	64%	
	Lancaster Central	55%	45%	
	Morecambe & Heysham	36%	64%	
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	52%	48%	In all areas a number of providers are looking at staff hours and some providers were looking to make changes to their business models. In Fleetwood some providers are looking to increase fees.
	Fleetwood	55%	45%	
	Rural Wyre	8%	92%	
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	17%	83%	In both areas providers are looking at staff hours, in Fylde East & Broughton some providers are looking at increasing fees and altering their business models.
	Fylde East Broughton	14%	86%	
Preston	Preston North	38%	62%	In all areas of Preston a number of providers are looking to increase their fees. In the majority of areas some providers are looking at changes to staff hours. Bowland and Preston East some providers are looking at altering business models.
	Preston East	47%	53%	
	Preston Central	60%	40%	
	Preston West	42%	58%	
	Bowland	36%	64%	
	Fylde East Broughton	36%	64%	
TOTAL	North Lancashire	36%	64%	

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
South Ribble	Leyland	50%	50%	In all areas of South Ribble some providers are looking at increasing fees. In Leyland and South Ribble West some providers are looking to reorganise staff hours and in South Ribble East some providers are looking to change opening hours.
	South Ribble East	46%	54%	
	South Ribble West	46%	54%	
Chorley	Chorley East	58%	42%	In all areas of Chorley providers are looking at increasing fees. In nearly all areas some providers are looking to reorganise staff hours, in Chorley West some providers are looking to change opening hours and in Chorley Central some are looking at business models.
	Chorley West	30%	70%	
	Chorley Central	44%	56%	
	South Ribble East	50%	50%	
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	67%	33%	In all areas some providers are looking to alter their business model and change opening times. Ormskirk and Newburgh and Skelmersdale are looking to recruit additional staff and increase fees.
	West Lancashire West	86%	14%	
	Chorley West	75%	25%	
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	37%	63%	
TOTAL	South Lancashire	54%	46%	

Area		Settings have to make changes to existing childcare business		Summary of changes to childcare businesses
District	Geographical Area	YES %	No%	Summary
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	43%	57%	The majority of providers who responded in both areas are proposing to increase fees and make changes to their business models. Hyndburn East providers are looking to re organise staff hours.
	Hyndburn West	58%	42%	
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	44%	56%	In both areas providers are looking to make changes to their business models, changes to opening times and increased fees. Some Rossendale West providers have said they are looking to recruit additional staff.
	Rossendale West	38%	62%	
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	63%	37%	In both areas providers have altered their business model and made changes to opening times. Pendle Hill providers are looking to increase fees and reorganise staff.
	Pendle Hill	33%	66%	
Burnley	Burnley Outer	40%	60%	All areas are proposing to increase fees. The majority of providers who responded in Burnley North and Burnley Central are looking at reorganising staff. Providers are looking to alter their business models and opening hours in Burnley Central and Burnley Outer.
	Burnley Central	56%	44%	
	Burnley North	20%	80%	
Pendle	Barnoldswick	100%	0%	The majority of providers in Pendle are looking to reorganise their staff hours and increase their fees. Some are also altering their business models and opening times.
	Colne	38%	62%	
	Nelson & Brierfield	47%	53%	
	Pendle Hill	40%	60%	
TOTAL	East Lancashire	48%	52%	

Providers were asked about the longer-term viability of their business, the tables that follow summarise their responses.

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	9%	9%	18%	0%	64%
	Lancaster Rural	0%	14%	29%	0%	57%
	Lancaster Central	0%	0%	10%	10%	80%
	Morecambe & Heysham	4%	11%	12%	9%	64%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	3%	7%	30%	4%	56%
	Fleetwood	0%	27%	0%	9%	64%
	Wyre Rural	0%	0%	15%	0%	85%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	5%	4%	14%	0%	77%
	Fylde East Broughton	0%	3%	4%	3%	90%
Preston	Preston North	6%	6%	13%	0%	75%
	Preston East	0%	13%	0%	7%	80%
	Preston Central	7%	13%	20%	0%	60%
	Preston West	8%	21%	9%	4%	58%
	Bowland	9%	10%	8%	0%	73%
	Fylde East Broughton	9%	0%	27%	0%	64%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	4%	9%	14%	3%	70%

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
South Ribble	Leyland	5%	25%	10%	5%	55%
	South Ribble East	4%	21%	7%	11%	57%
	South Ribble West	8%	20%	16%	12%	44%
Chorley	Chorley East	16%	10%	21%	0%	53%
	Chorley West	0%	0%	21%	5%	74%
	Chorley Central	4%	12%	16%	8%	60%
	South Ribble East	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	6%	22%	28%	0%	44%
	West Lancashire West	0%	0%	15%	14%	71%
	Chorley West	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	0%	16%	10%	0%	74%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	4%	11%	13%	5%	67%

Area		Timescale of providers being concerned about longer term viability				
District	Geographical Area	3 months	6 months	12 months	24 months	No concerns
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	0%	9%	22%	10%	59%
	Hyndburn West	11%	26%	25%	0%	38%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	3%	5%	12%	15%	65%
	Rossendale West	5%	19%	18%	10%	48%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	0%	0%	37%	0%	63%
	Pendle Hill	11%	6%	5%	0%	78%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	0%	16%	12%	8%	64%
	Burnley Central	0%	11%	22%	0	67%
	Burnley North	0%	7%	0%	6%	87%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%
	Colne	0%	6%	25%	19%	50%
	Nelson & Brierfield	7%	6%	13%	14%	60%
	Pendle Hill	0%	40%	20%	0%	40%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	3%	12%	16%	6%	63%

Overall, 67% of providers have no concerns about their longer-term viability. We will monitor those providers who have raised concerns and provide support if required.

Childcare Fees

Cost remains a deciding factor when parents are looking for childcare. We asked our providers whether their fees had changed over the last year. Their responses are summarised below, with 72% of providers fees remaining the same over the year.

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	82%	9%	9%	0%
	Lancaster Rural	64%	29%	7%	0%
	Lancaster Central	65%	20%	5%	10%
	Morecambe & Heysham	87%	9%	0%	4%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	77%	15%	0%	8%
	Fleetwood	91%	0%	0%	9%
	Wyre Rural	69%	23%	0%	8%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	70%	14%	3%	13%
	Fylde East Broughton	77%	18%	0%	5%
Preston	Preston North	75%	19%	0%	6%
	Preston East	87%	7%	0%	6%
	Preston Central	80%	20%	0%	0%
	Preston West	67%	17%	8%	8%
	Bowland	73%	0%	27%	0%
	Fylde East Broughton	64%	36%	0%	0%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	75%	16%	4%	5%

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
South Ribble	Leyland	85%	5%	0%	10%
	South Ribble East	75%	11%	3%	11%
	South Ribble West	75%	11%	3%	11%
Chorley	Chorley East	90%	5%	0%	5%
	Chorley West	95%	0%	0%	5%
	Chorley Central	72%	12%	0%	16%
	South Ribble East	0%	0%	0%	100%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	78%	22%	0%	0%
	West Lancashire West	57%	29%	0%	14%
	Chorley West	50%	0%	0%	50%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	74%	0	5%	21%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	68%	9%	1%	22%

Area		The change in childcare costs over the year			
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same %	Increased %	Reduced %	Partly changed %
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	66%	14%	10%	10%
	Hyndburn West	58%	5%	5%	32%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	85%	3%	3%	9%
	Rossendale West	81%	5%	0%	14%
Ribbles Valley	Bowland	63%	25%	0%	12%
	Pendle Hill	84%	6%	5%	5%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	76%	0%	8%	16%
	Burnley Central	45%	22%	0%	33%
	Burnley North	67%	20%	0%	13%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	0%	0%	50%
	Colne	63%	37%	0%	0%
	Nelson & Brierfield	86%	7%	7%	0%
	Pendle Hill	60%	40%	0%	0%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	72%	14%	3%	11%

Quality of Childcare Provision

Quality of care and education is one of the most important aspects when a parent is choosing childcare for their children. Access to high quality childcare has long term benefits to children, particularly those from disadvantaged families. The tables below show an overview of Ofsted inspection outcomes for Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate providers. The tables also include providers who have yet to be inspected and those providers on the childcare register who received a met or not met outcome. The majority of children in Lancashire will have access to good high quality childcare.

On March 17th 2020, all routine inspections of schools and childcare providers were suspended. Shortly afterwards lockdown measures were introduced, and childcare settings closed (apart from those of key workers and vulnerable children). Urgent inspections where specific concerns had been raised still went ahead. The last published Ofsted inspection in Lancashire was dated 16th March 2020, therefore the figures in this table are based on the latest information for our childcare providers. Routine graded inspections are due to resume in the Summer term of 2021. At this point 97.86% of all Ofsted registered providers in Lancashire are rated Good or Outstanding.

Ofsted Inspection Results – Childminders

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspection
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	1	8	1	0	0	0	2
	Lancaster Rural	1	6	0	0	0	0	3
	Lancaster Central	4	8	0	0	1	0	3
	Morecambe & Heysham	7	22	1	0	2	1	6
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	3	16	0	0	1	0	0
	Fleetwood	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Wyre Rural	0	8	0	0	1	0	3
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	2	5	0	0	3	0	7
	Fylde East Broughton	4	22	0	0	2	0	6
Preston	Preston North	2	9	0	0	1	0	1
	Preston East	0	9	0	0	3	1	3
	Preston Central	0	4	0	0	1	0	2
	Preston West	3	22	0	0	1	0	7
	Bowland	0	3	2	0	0	0	5
	Fylde East Broughton	1	2	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	North Lancashire	28	146	4	0	16	2	52
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		16%	82%	2%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspection
South Ribble	Leyland	2	17	0	0	1	1	7
	South Ribble East	3	17	0	0	4	0	2
	South Ribble West	0	18	0	0	0	0	9
Chorley	Chorley East	1	8	0	0	0	0	3
	Chorley West	1	10	0	0	0	1	3
	Chorley Central	5	10	1	0	2	0	6
	South Ribble East	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	3	9	1	0	2	0	5
	West Lancashire West	0	4	0	0	1	0	0
	Chorley West	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	1	13	0	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	South Lancashire	16	109	2	0	10	2	38
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		12%	86%	2%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on domestic premises - childminders						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspection
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	7	41	0	1	4	0	7
	Hyndburn West	1	16	0	0	2	0	2
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	7	17	0	0	2	2	7
	Rossendale West	1	10	0	0	2	0	4
Ribble Valley	Bowland	0	5	0	0	0	1	1
	Pendle Hill	1	10	0	1	2	0	2
Burnley	Burnley Outer	7	17	0	0	3	1	2
	Burnley Central	0	6	0	0	0	0	2
	Burnley North	0	5	0	0	1	0	2
Pendle	Barnoldswick	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Colne	5	5	0	0	1	0	1
	Nelson & Brierfield	0	9	0	0	1	0	0
	Pendle Hill	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	East Lancashire	29	143	0	2	18	4	30
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		17%	82%	0%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Ofsted Inspection Results – Childcare on Non-Domestic Premises

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	2	7	0	0	0	0	2
	Lancaster Rural	6	10	0	0	0	0	7
	Lancaster Central	5	16	2	0	3	0	4
	Morecambe & Heysham	6	22	0	0	1	0	5
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	9	17	1	0	1	0	7
	Fleetwood	6	7	1	0	0	0	2
	Wyre Rural	6	12	0	0	0	0	11
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	6	10	0	0	1	0	5
	Fylde East Broughton	7	15	0	0	1	0	5
Preston	Preston North	5	7	0	1	0	0	10
	Preston East	4	15	4	0	0	0	5
	Preston Central	3	14	2	0	0	0	5
	Preston West	0	14	1	0	0	0	4
	Bowland	1	3	0	0	1	0	0
	Fylde East Broughton	3	5	0	0	0	0	3
TOTAL	North Lancashire	69	174	11	1	8	0	75
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		27%	68%	4%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
South Ribble	Leyland	4	14	1	0	0	0	5
	South Ribble East	5	25	0	0	1	0	6
	South Ribble West	3	13	0	0	0	0	8
Chorley	Chorley East	4	20	0	0	1	0	7
	Chorley West	1	16	0	0	1	0	7
	Chorley Central	7	17	0	0	1	0	13
	South Ribble East	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	10	19	0	0	1	0	3
	West Lancashire West	1	16	1	0	1	0	6
	Chorley West	1	6	0	0	0	0	2
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	7	6	0	0	0	0	7
TOTAL	South Lancashire	43	154	2	0	6	0	64
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		22%	77%	1%	0%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Area		Childcare on non-domestic premises – including Day Nurseries, Pre-School Playgroups, Nursery Unit of Independent Schools, Maintained Nursery Classes, Maintained Nursery Schools, Governor Led Provision (S27), Out of School Clubs and Holiday Clubs						
District	Geographical Area	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	9	18	1	0	2	0	15
	Hyndburn West	2	11	0	0	1	0	3
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	5	14	1	1	1	0	12
	Rossendale West	5	9	0	0	0	1	6
Ribble Valley	Bowland	2	20	0	0	1	0	5
	Pendle Hill	5	16	0	0	3	0	9
Burnley	Burnley Outer	4	15	0	0	2	0	5
	Burnley Central	5	4	2	0	1	0	4
	Burnley North	5	8	1	0	2	0	3
Pendle	Barnoldswick	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
	Colne	2	10	0	0	0	0	5
	Nelson & Brierfield	5	10	1	0	0	1	5
	Pendle Hill	1	4	0	0	0	0	5
TOTAL	East Lancashire	51	140	6	1	13	2	79
Percentage of graded inspection outcomes		26%	71%	2%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A

	Percentage of graded inspection outcomes						
	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate	Met	Not Met	Not Yet Inspected
Lancashire Totals							
Childcare on domestic premises - childminders	15%	83%	1%	1%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Childcare on non-domestic premises	25%	72%	3%	0.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

It is vital for children with SEND to be supported within high quality provision with practitioners who have an excellent understanding and are able to carry out effective observation, assessment and planning. Inclusion should be embedded as part of everyday practice where staff are flexible and make adjustments to ensure individual needs are met. All staff should have a shared understanding of inclusive practice and have a consistent approach to implementing advice and strategies.

During the pandemic children with SEND were offered suitable childcare provision although many parents chose to keep their children at home. This was largely due to health and safety concerns for their children.

Childcare providers supplied their weekly numbers of children accessing a place with an Education, Health and Care Plan. This was to provide us and the Department for Education with information about whether vulnerable children were able to access childcare provision during the COVID-19 pandemic. The tables below show providers offering places for children with SEND and if demand for places had changed.

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	78%	22%	6
	Lancaster Rural	83%	17%	7
	Lancaster Central	72%	28%	50
	Morecambe & Heysham	91%	9%	64
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	73%	27%	21
	Fleetwood	100%	0%	12
	Wyre Rural	87%	13%	17
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	95%	5%	16
	Fylde East Broughton	84%	16%	11
Preston	Preston North	77%	23%	19
	Preston East	73%	27%	42
	Preston Central	100%	0%	7
	Preston West	70%	30%	30
	Bowland	100%	0%	1
	Fylde East Broughton	92%	8%	19
TOTAL	North Lancashire	85%	15%	322

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
South Ribble	Leyland	84%	16%	25
	South Ribble East	84%	16%	31
	South Ribble West	82%	18%	10
Chorley	Chorley East	95%	5%	12
	Chorley West	91%	9%	5
	Chorley Central	80%	20%	33
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	1
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	83%	17%	26
	West Lancashire West	88%	12%	7
	Chorley West	80%	20%	2
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	83%	17%	8
TOTAL	South Lancashire	86%	14%	159

Area		Providers offering places for children with SEND		
District	Geographical Area	YES (%)	No (%)	Number of children accessing with SEND
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	82%	18%	21
	Hyndburn West	68%	32%	12
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	73%	27%	33
	Rossendale West	76%	24%	31
Ribble Valley	Bowland	86%	14%	9
	Pendle Hill	60%	40%	22
Burnley	Burnley Outer	86%	14%	7
	Burnley Central	67%	33%	23
	Burnley North	71%	29%	17
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	8
	Colne	88%	12%	43
	Nelson & Brierfield	86%	14%	25
	Pendle Hill	100%	0%	9
TOTAL	East Lancashire	76%	24%	260

We also asked childcare providers if parents of children with SEND had altered how they accessed their childcare over the year.

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	78%	11%	12%
	Lancaster Rural	67%	16%	17%
	Lancaster Central	56%	5%	39%
	Morecambe & Heysham	58%	29%	13%
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	44%	34%	22%
	Fleetwood	59%	31%	10%
	Wyre Rural	67%	13%	20%
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	68%	27%	5%
	Fylde East Broughton	65%	19%	16%
Preston	Preston North	62%	15%	23%
	Preston East	40%	40%	20%
	Preston Central	64%	29%	7%
	Preston West	67%	22%	11%
	Bowland	89%	0%	11%
	Fylde East Broughton	59%	33%	8%
TOTAL	North Lancashire	63%	22%	16%

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
South Ribble	Leyland	79%	21%	0%
	South Ribble East	66%	25%	9%
	South Ribble West	50%	45%	5%
Chorley	Chorley East	75%	15%	10%
	Chorley West	77%	18%	5%
	Chorley Central	60%	24%	16%
	South Ribble East	100%	0%	0%
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	61%	28%	11%
	West Lancashire West	50%	38%	12%
	Chorley West	80%	20%	0%
	Ormskirk & Newburgh	78%	22%	0%
TOTAL	South Lancashire	71%	23%	6%

Area		Access to SEND places during COVID-19		
District	Geographical Area	Remained the same	Decreased	Increased
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	63%	32%	5%
	Hyndburn West	65%	31%	4%
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	79%	6%	15%
	Rossendale West	59%	23%	18%
Ribble Valley	Bowland	29%	28%	43%
	Pendle Hill	73%	20%	7%
Burnley	Burnley Outer	81%	19%	0%
	Burnley Central	67%	11%	22%
	Burnley North	72%	21%	7%
Pendle	Barnoldswick	50%	50%	0%
	Colne	41%	30%	29%
	Nelson & Brierfield	43%	50%	7%
	Pendle Hill	50%	50%	0%
TOTAL	East Lancashire	59%	29%	12%

Summary of SEND provision

The numbers of children accessing a SEND place were highest in Morecambe and Heysham, Lancaster Central, Colne and Preston East,

64% of providers in Lancashire said that demand for SEND places remained the same. Access to SEND places during the COVID-19 pandemic decreased by 25%. Access to SEND places has decreased the most in East Lancashire.

We will continue to monitor the take up of childcare places for children with SEND over the coming year.

Key Findings and Actions

In the tables below we have summarised the common key findings by district so we can identify any specific areas of concern.

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for North Lancashire
Lancaster	Lancaster Coast	Demand has been low across all areas of Lancaster, although it is starting to recover now lockdown has started to ease. Some providers are concerned about cash flow and business viability. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 a number of providers are proposing increases in childcare fees and changes to opening hours. In Lancaster 97% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 79% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 79% which is below the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor take up of places across all age groups to understand the impact of demand on sustainability and business viability.
	Lancaster Rural		
	Lancaster Central		
	Morecambe & Heysham		
Wyre	Thornton Cleveleys	Low demand has been identified in all areas of Wyre. Business viability and cash flow are some of the concerns in the area. Providers are looking to make changes to business models and staff hours to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Wyre 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up 73% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 85% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%	2. Develop a business and financial forecasting support offer.
	Fleetwood		
	Wyre Rural		
Fylde	Lytham St Annes	In Fylde low demand has been identified in all areas this is now starting to improve with lockdown measures lifting. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 providers are considering reducing hours, increasing fees and altering business models. In Fylde 100% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 66% which is just below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 87% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	3. Monitor net closures in the area.
	Fylde East Broughton		
Preston	Preston North	Low demand has been identified in all areas of Preston. Providers have raised concerns about cash flow and business viability. Some providers are also looking at making changes to business models and staff hours. In Preston 93% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 63% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 83% which is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	Preston East		
	Preston Central		
	Preston West		
	Bowland		
	Fylde East Broughton		
North Lancashire			

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for South Lancashire
South Ribble	Leyland	Low demand over the year has been a concern in South Ribble. Some providers are considering a reduction in opening hours, increasing fees and re-organising staff hours to account for the impact of COVID-19. In South Ribble 99% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 71% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 86% is also above the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor the take up of places across all provider types and age groups to understand the impact of lower demand will have on longer term sustainability of childcare.
	South Ribble East		
	South Ribble West		
Chorley	Chorley East	In Chorley low demand has been a concern although with wider re-opening this is starting to improve. Providers found bubble management and ensuing premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. Some providers are increasing fees, re-organising staff hours and making changes to business models moving forwards. In Chorley 99% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 72% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 91% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	2. Develop business and financial forecasting support offer.
	Chorley West		
	Chorley Central		3. Monitor net closures in the area.
	South Ribble East		
West Lancashire	Skelmersdale	In West Lancashire low demand was a concern in all areas. Providers found bubble management and ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure a challenge. Some providers are looking to reduce opening hours, make changes to business models, recruit additional staff and increase fees to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In West Lancashire 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 65% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 80% which is below the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
	West Lancashire West		
	Chorley West		
	Ormskirk & Newburgh		
South Lancashire			

District	Geographical Area	Summary of Key Findings	Actions for East Lancashire
Hyndburn	Hyndburn East	In Hyndburn low demand has been identified across all areas. Providers are looking at some staff reductions, making changes to business models, changes to staffing hours and increasing fees are the key areas of change to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Hyndburn 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF 2 year old take up is 63% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF3&4 year old take up is 83% is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	1. Monitor the take up of places across all provider types and age groups to understand the impact of lower demand will have on longer term sustainability of childcare.
	Hyndburn West		
Rossendale	Rawtenstall & Bacup	In Rossendale low demand has been identified across all areas. Some providers have raised concerns about business viability. The main area providers are considering to adapt to the impact of COVID-19 is to alter opening hours. In Rossendale 97% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 66% which is just below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 82% which is also below the Lancashire average of 84%.	2. Develop business and financial tools for the sector
	Rossendale West		
Ribble Valley	Bowland	In Ribble Valley low demand has been identified across all areas with wider re-opening this is starting to improve. Some providers were concerned about business viability. Changes to opening times, altering business models and re-organising staff hours are factors providers are considering to adapt to the impact of COVID-19. In Ribble Valley 98% of providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 73% which is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 93% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	3. Promote the take up of Early Education Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds
	Pendle Hill		
Burnley	Burnley Outer	In Burnley low demand has been identified across the area. Managing childcare bubbles has been a challenge for providers. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 some providers are considering changing business models, re-organising staff hours and increasing fees. In Burnley 96% of childcare providers are Good or Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 70% is above the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 95% which is above the Lancashire average of 84%.	4. Monitor net closure in the area.
	Burnley Central		
	Burnley North		
Pendle	Barnoldswick	In Pendle low demand has been identified in all areas with lockdown starting to lift this is starting to improve. Some providers have raised concerns about business viability. To adapt to the impact of COVID-19 some providers are looking to re-organise staff hours, increase fees, adapt business models and alter opening hours. In Pendle 98% of providers are Good and Outstanding. EEF2 year old take up is 60% which is below the Lancashire average of 67%. EEF 3&4 year old take up is 84% which is in line with the Lancashire average of 84%.	
	Colne		
	Nelson & Brierfield		
	Pendle Hill		
East Lancashire			

Conclusion

To summarise, Lancashire has sufficient childcare places to meet the needs of working parents. Our latest assessment shows we have childcare places available across all age ranges and all provider types.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has placed considerable strain on the childcare sector when sustainability was already being raised as a concern by some of the sector before the start of the pandemic. Low demand for places, ensuring premises were COVID-19 secure and maintaining childcare bubbles are challenges providers have faced over the last year. Opening hours, changes to business models and increased fees are key areas childcare providers are looking to potentially change in the coming months.

Monitoring of childcare places across all areas of Lancashire is going to continue as lockdown measures are starting to ease. We will continue to monitor and respond to areas where either demand remains low or providers may close.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements should go to the childcare providers of Lancashire for completing our weekly survey and dedication especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks to the Data Team, Early Education Funding Team, Early Years Quality Team, Business Support Team and the Childcare Sufficiency Team for their contributions to this report.

Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 3 March 2022

Report of the Head of Strategic Development**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:
Moss Side & Farington;

Corporate Priorities:
Supporting economic growth;

An Update on the Lancashire Central/Cuerden Site

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Chris Dyson, Tel: (01772) 536641, Strategic Development Programme Manager

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Brief Summary

This report provides a progress update including agreeing support to submit the proposed planning application for the Lancashire Central, Cuerden strategic employment site alongside the communications strategy for the project.

This is deemed to be a Key Decision and the provisions of Standing Order C19 have been complied with.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Authorise the Executive Director for Growth, Environment Transport and Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Finance, Director of Corporate Services, and the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Growth, to submit a planning application, for the updated Lancashire Central scheme when completed in early April 2022.
- (ii) Approve the additional steps and actions set out in Appendix 'A'.

Detail

Overview

The Lancashire Central site, at Cuerden, South Ribble, is the county council's prime, mixed-use strategic employment site. Its development is closely aligned to the county council's corporate strategy and key priorities and plays an essential role in Lancashire's emerging long term strategic plan "Lancashire 2050" and in accelerating the "levelling up agenda". The multi-million-pound project has the potential to generate over 2,000 jobs from investment creating prime development employment space, employment space. The scheme has been subject to extensive re-visioning and re-programming since the withdrawal of IKEA in 2018. Despite multiple barriers including the global COVID-19 pandemic, significant effort has progressed and facilitated delivery to the current key milestones.

Planning Strategy

Cabinet is informed that the revised planning strategy for the site is for a more "employment focused" mix of uses given the change in the retail market and the stratospheric rise of good quality employment in those employment sectors supporting contemporary business park, warehousing, logistics and 'final mile' retail distribution, for which this site is well suited to accommodate given proximity to the M65, M6, M61 motorway networks. Employment in these sectors reflects a more advanced range of higher skill levels promoting an improved mix of jobs and competitive salaries compared to more historical 'low skill / low pay' work. This reinforces the ambition to boost employment growth and job opportunities for the project that can make a real difference in the lives and wellbeing for people in Lancashire. In turn, creating a quality place to work, live and visit, cascades to wider improvements in the health and wellbeing of the workforce and promotes other policy agendas such as reduced carbon, including through green space and suitably well-designed development in accordance with planning requirements.

Cabinet is informed that the application will be on the county council's own land and the county council will be undertaking the development via their development partner Maple Grove Developments. The application falls under Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992 (as amended). This means that the county council is mandated to determine the planning application.

The Planning Project Team is now fully assembled and is being supported by both the county council and Maple Grove Development's appointed specialist consultants. Significant works are currently underway to develop a planning application that reflects the planning strategy to deliver the site in a comprehensive manner.

The application will also be positioned as the crucial first phase to open up the wider site(s) for development and the planning strategy will be taken forward on the basis that it could link to development of the wider site(s) as and when they can be brought forward.

Initial pre-application meetings have taken place with the Planning Authority. Survey works are in process and draft concept designs have been completed alongside

transport modelling exercises which will assist in determining the design of both the on-site and off-site critical infrastructure.

In this regard, officers are engaged with the Highway Authority alongside National Highways Authority as the transport modelling is a critical path item for the project and as such is being closely scrutinised through existing county council programme governance.

Communications

A draft communications strategy for the overall project and a communications action plan for the planning submission have been drafted. These documents are in the process of being agreed by communications teams from the county council and Maple Grove Developments and will be shared wider in line with usual processes.

Consultations

Consultations for planning permission will follow the required planning processes.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

Financial and legal risk management implications are set out in Appendix 'A' and are deemed to be exempt as set out below.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None		
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Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

Exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. Appendix 'A' contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). It is considered that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
It is considered that all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Document is Restricted

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