

Appendix 1 - Link to Statutory Guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/273768/childrens_centre_stat_guidance_april_2013.pdf

Appendix 2 - Current Children's Centre Universal Offer

Since June 2014 universal children's centre services have been delivered by Northamptonshire Libraries and Information Service (NLIS), NLIS work as a key partner with the commissioned providers of targeted services to ensure there is a good sharing of information and co-ordinated service delivery and participate fully in all service development activity such as the Annual Conversation with the local authority and the Self Evaluation processes.

In accordance with the Cabinet decision of October 2013 the universal service delivery consists of the following elements –

- Information and advice service, supplying information about a range of services, including childcare and employment support. Families are supported to access appropriate services within the library and the wider community and when necessary a 'warm handover' process ensures that vulnerable families receive support from the commissioned providers. As part of this offer the libraries have developed their children's areas to be more welcoming and safe places for families to drop in and spend time. Resources within these areas enable the promotion of parent-infant interaction, secure attachment and early language development.
- Registration service. NLIS is the primary registration point for children's centre services, aiming to ensure that the majority of families are recorded on our data system. This initially proved challenging but the birth registration service is increasingly being located in libraries and a data sharing agreement now enables all families booking an appointment to register their baby's birth to be invited to also complete their children's centre registration. Registrations are now increasing slowly but steadily with 60.7% of the county's under 5s currently registered.
- Volunteer service. NLIS recruit and co-ordinate a network of volunteers to support children's centre services both within the libraries and with the commissioned providers services. At the June 2016 monitoring meeting it was reported that there were 76 active volunteers across the county providing 80,100 hours of support across the year and saving over £10,000 per year (based on the hourly rate of a Customer Advisor).
- Universal activities such as Rhymetime Groups. NLIS significantly exceed the minimum requirement of 72 activities per week across the county. Targeted recruitment and a comprehensive training programme has ensured that the quality of these activities is now high. There is generally good attendance but staff continuously monitor and develop activities to ensure that they are focused on the needs of the local area.

NLIS also deliver an annual survey of service users designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the model. The second survey was delivered in September 2016 and the results are currently being analysed.

Services are delivered across all 36 libraries in the county, with opening hours that include evenings and weekends and thus open up services to working families. Nineteen of these libraries are listed as the designated Children's Centre for the reach area, with the remainder being listed as 'linked sites' to a separate designated building operated by the commissioned provider.

The nominal value of the contract is £444,129 which comes from the Public Health budget as their contribution to the overall children's centre service.

Universal activities run within Libraries that are specifically targeted for families and / or children in 0-5 age range including extensive delivery of:

- Bounce and Rhyme,
- Play and Learn Under 1's,
- Play and Learn Under 5's,
- Rhyme time and
- Story Stomp

In addition libraries also deliver a further ten further activities across their network. E.g. messy play, baby massage etc.

Activities delivered by the Library service where some of the attendees will also include parents / carers / family members and / or children under 5 where said activity cross reference with the national "core purpose" of children's centre services. E.g. job clubs, Adult learning, Digital Eagles.

Northamptonshire Healthcare Foundation Trust 0-5 activity as part of their broader 0-19 Healthy Child Offer including, but not limited to:

- Health Visiting
- Oral hygiene advice

Public Health activity is identified nationally as part of the Children's Centre Services Offer.

Early years and Childcare provision for 3 and 4 year olds delivered by Private, Voluntary, maintained and independent providers as well as accredited Child minders

Families Information Service and the associated self-serve "Service Directory."

Appendix 3 – link to IIA

<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/Council/equalities/Pages/CYP-EIA.aspx>