



Future Arrangements for Childrens Services





Background

- In common with all councils across England, OCC needs to make significant savings.
- OCC needs to make £290m savings by 2018. The Early Intervention Service is responsible for delivering £6m of these savings.
- At the same time that we are seeing a rise in the statutory cases in social care.
- A Cabinet Advisory Group (CAG) was established in May 2014 to begin to investigate potential changes to the way services are delivered.
- It was identified that the service redesign was necessary in order to ensure that Oxfordshire's most vulnerable children and families were effectively supported whilst meeting the savings targets and addressing the increased demands on services.

Integrated Children's Service

← Value of preventative interventions increases

Complexity and level of need increases →

New Integrated Children's Service

Universal Services

- Education
- Healthcare

Locality & Community Support

- Supports schools, health services & community & voluntary groups
- Identifies emerging needs and safeguarding concerns
- Works directly with professionals who support children, young people and families
- Support to develop universal services within outreach centres

Family Support

- Some open access services
- Casework for children and their families requiring statutory social care support
- Casework for families with multiple needs
- Targeted preventative programmes to support children, young people and families

Education, Employment and Training Service

- Tracking and monitoring NEET
- Info on job/training opportunities
- Direct support to most vulnerable young people
- National Citizens Service

Intensive & Specialist Support

- Looked after children
- Care Leavers
- Youth Offending Service
- Disabled children

Specialist statutory services will continue

8 Children & Family Centres plus 2 Shared Bases

Outreach Work

- County wide locations
- Based on need
- Delivered locally in communities

8 Outreach Centres

- Targeted preventative programmes
- Venue for universal services
- Child care setting

Mobile provision (bus)

Providing additional rural coverage

Open Access

Limited stay & play and youth sessions in 8 Centres & 2 shared bases



Children and Family Centres

- Combine services currently provided by the Children's Centres, Early Intervention Hubs and children's social care.
- Centres based in areas of highest need across Oxfordshire
- OCC staff and other professionals use centres as base to work with families in need of support
- Venue for delivery of evidence based interventions for 0-19 year olds, targeted to those in greatest need, either by OCC staff or commissioned
- Interventions will include parenting programmes, domestic abuse support, early attachment, school readiness, education and training, and some limited open access / universal provision
- Outreach working in local communities for groups, families and individuals, using community spaces as well as family homes when appropriate

North Oxfordshire	Central Oxfordshire	South Oxfordshire
Banbury	Blackbird Leys	Abingdon
Bicester	Rosehill/Littlemore	Didcot
Witney	Barton/Sandhills	



Public Consultation October 2015

2,715 Responses

Overwhelming response. Concern that preventative / universal services will be withdrawn. Concern around:

- Stigmatisation
- Will lead to a lack of support for people in difficult scenarios, such as post natal depression and domestic violence
- Those who do not qualify for CSC slipping through the net
- Issues will escalate and not be dealt with at appropriate time
- Reduction in breast feeding support, which has long term benefits
- People in rural areas will be disadvantaged due to social isolation, transport infrastructure and lack of local alternatives
- Lack of provision affects social cohesion and integration
- Increase in anti-social behaviour due to lack of support for vulnerable teenagers.

What families have said they want

Case Example

- Somewhere to go where you can get advice and support if needed
- Someone at the centre who if you need help will be confidential
- Somewhere nice to go where you can have coffee and meet a friend
- Health provision so that you don't need to go to Doctor's surgery
- Somewhere for the older children
7+ to do craft activities after school
(not an after school club)
- Somewhere for the teenagers to go
- Annual Trip





The Future

OCC will provide:

- Support to schools, health services and community and voluntary groups to identify emerging needs and safeguarding concerns and ensure families receive the right support at the right time
- Case work for families with multiple needs both early help and statutory supported through Targeted evidence based preventative programmes

OCC can't provide

- OCC will not be able to provide going forward is the range of open access universal provision that it has provided before e.g. stay & play activities and youth provision.



Oxfordshire Together

What is Oxfordshire Together?

- New way of delivering local services by working with communities
- Empower communities to take ownership of local priorities and deliver community led solutions
- **Highways** element launched in September 2015
- Community initiatives for the provision of **children's services** launched May 2016
- Advice and guidance in partnership with OCVA to support communities to set up and run local initiatives





Supporting communities

We want to create an environment where it is easier for communities to do things for themselves about issues that matter locally.

We will achieve this vision by supporting communities to:

- Encourage and motivate people to build new relationships in local communities
- develop and use local leadership
- build capacity and confidence to make a positive difference
- encourage and support volunteering



Benefits

- Shared commitment to place and increased sense of belonging
- Enthused active communities
- Increased community participation
- Local priority setting
- Pride in the local area
- Responsive to local needs
- Resilient communities
- Opportunities for local employment & volunteering
- Ownership of the local environment



Oxfordshire Together Children's Services

Our vision

Communities delivering open access children's services relevant to their local needs with community involvement and participation.



Key principles

- Each community to decide what the new arrangements might look like;
- Solutions rooted in their communities and grown out of a specific local need;
- Buy-in from the local community;
- Partnership working with other local groups, business and public sector.





Our approach

- Over the past six months we have been working with local communities, faith groups, schools and town and parish councils to develop community-led solutions
 - **Flexible:** each community is different, so we are engaging with groups on an individual basis;
 - **Inclusive:** we are encouraging all local partners to come together to develop proposals ;
 - **Open:** we are working closely with all interested groups and are providing them with all the relevant information they might need (subject to availability);
 - **Supportive:** Advice and guidance with independent advice from OCVA; focus on capacity-building.



The journey so far

- Engaged with interested parties for each of the centres;
- We have seen many different solutions emerging; this reflects the diverse local circumstances and need. No two communities are the same!
- Many groups have established steering groups, some are gathering evidence of needs of their community and a few are in the process of drafting business plans.





Where we are now

- We are inviting community groups to submit their expressions of interest for previously designated children's centres buildings owned by the council;
- Launch of the £1m Transition Fund Grant Scheme;
- Continuing to provide guidance and support to any groups coming forward.





Transition Fund

- £1m transition fund to provide pump-priming grants for establishing universal provision of children's services in communities across Oxfordshire.
- There are two applications round, with deadline dates of:
 - 21 October 2016 and
 - 09 January 2017
- If your bid is not successful in the first round, we will be happy to work with you to help develop a strong business case and re-apply for funding.
- Further rounds of applications will be considered, if appropriate, post-January 2017.



So how can you become involved?

Build on what you already do

- Take a leadership role in your local communities
- Identify service gaps /vulnerable groups in your local community and seek ways to support these groups
- Become involved in local steering groups that have been established.
- ???????????