



Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Time and Date

2.00 pm on Wednesday, 9 March, 2016

Place

Diamond Room 2 - Council House

Public Business**1. Apologies****2. Declarations of Interests****3. Minutes** (Pages 3 - 6)

- (a) To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 12 February, 2016
- (b) Matters Arising

4. Update on Children and Families First Team (Pages 7 - 16)

Report of the Executive Director of People

5. Outstanding Issues Report (Pages 17 - 20)

Report of the Executive Director of Resources

6. Any Other Business

To consider any other items of business which the Cabinet Member decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

Private Business

Nil

Chris West, Executive Director, Resources, Council House Coventry

Tuesday, 1 March 2016

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Suzanne Bennett, Governance Services Tele 02476 833072

Membership: Councillor: E Ruane (Cabinet Member)

By invitation: Councillors A Andrews (Shadow Cabinet Member)

Please note: a hearing loop is available in the committee rooms

If you require a British Sign Language interpreter for this meeting
OR if you would like this information in another format or
language please contact us.

Suzanne Bennett

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Coventry City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for Children and Young People held at 3.30 pm on Friday, 12 February 2016

Present:

Members: Councillor E Ruane

Councillor A Andrews (Shadow Cabinet Member)

Employees (by Directorate):

People A Cole, F Doyle, M McGinty

Resources C Bradford, G Paddan

Public Business

29. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

30. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

- a) Further to Minute 24 (3) headed 'Coventry Children's Centres – Quarterly progress Update' – report on performance Management within Family First Teams will be presented at a future meeting, as this meeting was specifically to hear petitions.
- b) Further to Minute 26 (4) headed 'Staying Put Policy' – The Cabinet Member ascertained whether the Director of Children's Services had written to the appropriate Minister regarding extending the duty to provide Staying Put support to young people; to be confirmed at next meeting.

31. Play Centres - Petitions

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People considered a report of the Executive Director of People that responded to an e-petition and four written petitions which had been presented to the Council requesting that it reconsider the proposed closure of play centres. These petitions related to the Edgewick and Eagle Street Play Centres which provide play activities for children from 5 to 12 year olds after school and in the school holidays.

On 24 November 2015 Cabinet approved a 'Connecting Communities' report which contained a recommendation to hold a period of consultation from 7 December 2015 to 1 February 2016 on a set of ten proposals for changes to some services. These ten proposals will deliver the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) target of £1 million proposed in the original City Centre First programme

(now Connecting Communities) for 2016/17 and exceed this target for a full year effect by an additional £0.2 million. Proposals to achieve a further £3.8 million savings needed for 2017/18 will be developed following engagement and further consultation. The ten proposals which will deliver the saving required for 2016/17 include a proposal for the Council to stop providing play activities at Edgewick and Eagle Street Play Centres and to explore the option for them to be used for nursery provision for two, three and four year olds instead.

The following five petitions were considered:

1. An e-petition titled 'To save the closure of Edgewick and Eagle Street Play Centres' bearing 12 signatures was received by the Council on 8 January 2016. The e-petition was organised by a Foleshill Ward resident.
2. A written petition titled '*This petition is to save the closure of Edgewick and Eagle Street Play Centres*' bearing 72 signatures was submitted to the Council on 17 December 2015 by a Foleshill Ward resident. The petition organiser attended the meeting and spoke on behalf of the petitioners.
3. A written petition was submitted by a Foleshill Ward resident bearing 153 signatures, stating '*We, the undersigned parents have benefited from the play centres. We believe that taking the centre away will have a very negative effect on our communities and ask the Council to consider how they can be saved*'. R. Ahmed attended the meeting and spoke in support of the petition.
4. A written petition was submitted by a Foleshill Ward resident bearing 145 signatures, titled '*Petition to save our centres Edgewick and Eagle Street*'.
5. A written petition was submitted to Council bearing 311 signatures, titled '*Change their stance on public service cuts for free childcare!*'

In accordance with the City Council's procedure for dealing with petitions, those relating to play centre issues were heard by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

The report noted that a total of 173 children aged 5-12 years old were registered at the two play centres as at 31 August 2015. A total of 80 children had attended five or more sessions per week.

The petition organisers present spoke on behalf of the petitioners and requested that the play centres remain open to provide activity sessions and support young people from play to youth and help build life skills in an informal and fun environment. The sessions provided various activities such as drama, trips and sports. Play centres have allowed young people to seek advice, support and guidance within a multicultural setting. Reference was made to the future use of the building and the interest shown by private providers for delivering the two, three and four year olds free entitlement to quality daycare.

Officers present reported on the timescales and potential use of the building together with conversations which have been held with the private nursery sector and local schools. The building would be used to increase the number of nursery

places in the Foleshill area for two, three and four year olds, as above and improve the chances of children to be ready for school and provide a potential rental income for the Council.

The Cabinet Member welcomed the public's participation in the consultation and thanked them for their responses and suggestions on the future of the play centres. He advised that a report was scheduled to be considered at the Cabinet meeting at which the results of the recent consultation exercise on the proposals contained in the Connecting Communities report would be detailed.

RESOLVED that after due consideration of the report, the matters raised at the meeting and the petitions that had been submitted as part of the Connecting Communities Consultation, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People recommends that the Cabinet take into account at their meeting on 23 February 2016 the issues raised through the petitions when considering the Connecting Communities report.

32. **Outstanding Issues Report**

The Cabinet Member noted a report of the Executive Director of Resources that identified those issues on which further reports had been requested and were outstanding so that progress could be monitored.

33. **Any Other Business**

There were no items of urgent public business.

(Meeting closed at 4.15pm)

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Public report
Cabinet Member

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

9 March 2016

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People: Councillor E Ruane

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Children's Services

Ward(s) affected:

All wards. Services are delivered on a city wide basis

Title: Update on Children and Families First Team

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People with an overview of what the Children and Families First Team delivers linked to the Early Help and Prevention Strategy. Performance data attached evidences that the service reaches the most disadvantaged/vulnerable children and young people living in Coventry.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People is requested to note the current position in relation to the Children and Families First Team and to consider making any recommendations in relation to that Team.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1 – Performance Management Data – Children and Families First Team

Other useful background papers:

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny? No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Update on Children and Families First Team

Our Coventry context

Coventry is a city of around 329,800 residents with 83,800 of whom are aged 0-19 years old (2012). The population is younger than the average for England, the average age of a Coventry resident being 34 compared to 40 overall in England. The city is ethnically diverse, with 33% of Coventry's inhabitants coming from ethnic minority communities compared to 20% for England as a whole. Deprivation is higher than the England average; 25.9% (16,400) children live in poverty.

The majority of Coventry children and young people are safe at home and in the community, do well at school and are healthy. However, we have high numbers of children who are known to social care and have a Child in Need Plan, Child Protection Plans or are Looked After and high numbers of troubled families (Strengthening Families programme) compared to our statistical neighbours. The 'toxic trio' of domestic violence, mental health issues and drug and alcohol abuse are significant issues for some Coventry parents, which impacts on their children. Some families have deeply entrenched multi-generational problems.

The high levels of demand for specialist services lead to significant financial costs against a backdrop of significant public sector financial pressures. This combination of high service demand and financial challenges underline the importance of delivering effective Early Help. Our aim is for a redirection of resources from high cost, high intervention services to prevention and early intervention support and services.

Coventry's Early Help Strategy describes an intervention model that maximises support to children in the early years of their lives, or early on in the emergence of a problem at any stage of their lives, across a 0 – 19's age range, and upto 25 for a young person with a special need or disability.

The Children and Families First Team

The Children and Families First (CFF) Team forms part of this delivery model – working at Common Assessment Framework level 3, they work with the whole families to enable the development of positive extended family, personal and community networks so that families access positive informal support. The CFF team is a skilled and competent workforce who are able to work with families to identify the root causes rather than presenting issues at the earliest possible opportunity, by utilising a range of evidence based interventions including multi systemic therapy.

The team is made of workers whose identified roles are varied to ensure the range of issues that families face can be dealt with effectively. CFF schools workers – support families and schools to ensure children's attendance in school is above 85%. Early Help Co ordinators, in the main work with partners to ensure the quality of assessment undertaken ensures outcomes are met. CFF Key workers undertake direct 1.1, and group work with the most chaotic families whose issues are entrenched and multi-generational, and who fall into the cohort for the Strengthening Families Programme.

As part of the Early Help and Prevention service – the Children and Families First service is a 60 strong team who work with families with complex needs and who have a strong relationship with Social Care to enable the family to get support, when their needs no longer meet the threshold for social care intervention. They hold a case load of between 12 and 15 cases each, the variation allows for flexibility and responsiveness when dealing with complexity eg some worker will hold 12 complex cases this will increase in number if the level of complexity reduces within the family. The team of workers follow a set of practice standards, which has formalised process's that are embedded and systematic which ensure the families receive interventions that have the greatest impact, whilst being able to routinely monitor the team's performance. Workers receive reflective supervision, and case management oversight from Team Managers who are skilled and

knowledgeable and are able to effectively support their staff. The team benefits from bi monthly Practice Improvement sessions that are led by Team Managers, who analyse themes emerging from Case File Audits to improve practice. This team of staff are based in some the most deprived areas of the city in Neighbourhood buildings that support integrated working with social care colleagues.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal: N/A

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 N/A

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 N/A

5. Comments from Executive Director of Resources

5.1 Financial implications – budget attached

Cabinet member report

Update on CFF team - 9th March 2016

2015/16 forecast - Qtr 3	Budget		
	Spend	Income	Net
	£	£	£
Children and Family First Team	1897332	0	1897332
Children and Family First Team - DSG	626383	-548142	78241
Troubled Families	1118019	-1004297	113722
Education Welfare Officers	791141	-695286	95855
Total	4432875	-2247725	2185150

5.2 Legal implications – no legal implications

6. Other implications

Non

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

The Children and Families First Team as part of the Early Help and Prevention service identifies with the following strategic objectives

- To identify the needs of children, young people and their families across the continuum of need.
- To understand and respond quickly to the needs of children and young people and families across the continuum of need.
- To support the refocusing of resources from crisis intervention to prevention.

- To support families to achieve their full potential and thereby mitigate the impact of issues such as child poverty and health inequalities.
- To support an action learning approach that ensures that learning and evidence informs future service design and delivery. This includes listening to what children and families have to say about what best helps them to prevent problems from occurring or escalating.
- To provide the context for multi-agency partnerships to work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families for generations to come.

The offer is personalised, multi-agency, evidenced based and embedded within a Whole Family approach. Children and young people in those families will live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives and develop into responsible adult citizens, thereby breaking the intergenerational cycles of risk and vulnerability. Families will become more resilient and develop capabilities to prevent and resolve problems. The aim is to reduce demand for higher cost specialist services and achieve greater use of community based universal preventive services. Social capital and resilience within local communities will be identified and enhanced.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The multi-agency Children's Early Help Board will oversee the progress of the strategy, which includes a range of services delivered, including the Children and Families First Team, with accountability to the Children's Partnership Board and Children's Services Improvement Board. An Early Help action plan is developed with the Early Help Board to ensure oversight, support and challenge and measure key performance and success.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

N/A

6.4 Equalities / EIA

N/A

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

N/A

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

N/A

Report author(s):

Name and job title: Fran Doyle – Head of Early Help and Prevention

Directorate: People

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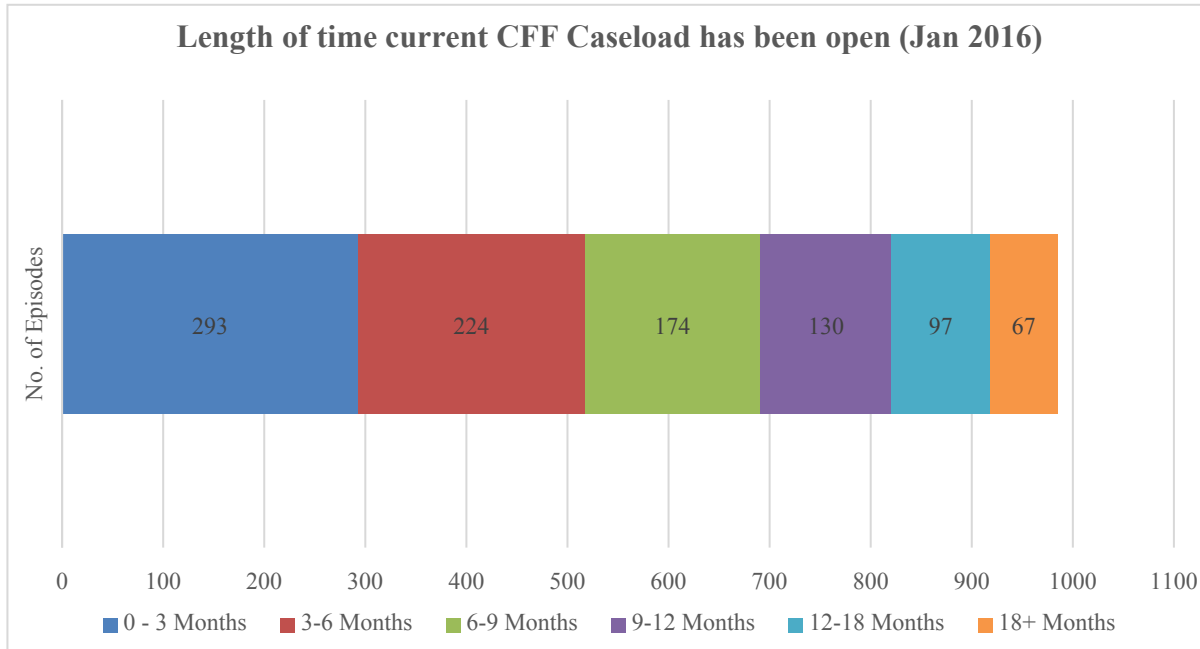
Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Julie Newman	Legal			22.02.16
Rachael Sugars	Finance			24.02.16
Other members				
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Director: John Gregg	Director Children's Services	People	10.02.16	11.02.16
Members: Cllr Ed Ruane		Lead – Children and Young People	10.02.16	

Appendix 1: Early Help and Prevention Management report data - January 2016

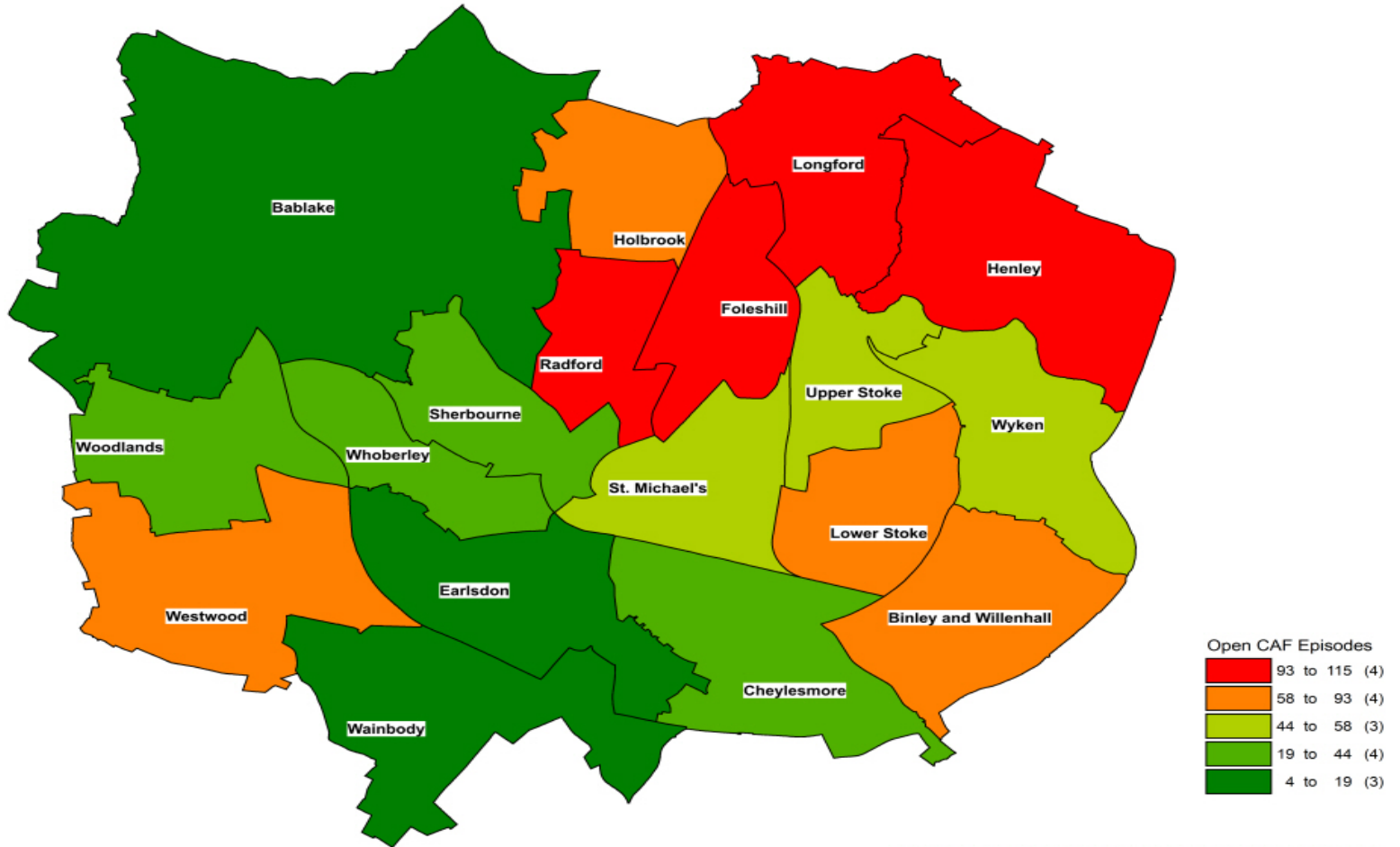
**Children and Families First Team
Current Cases (985 episodes open)**

The following data is of currently open cases (11 Jan 2016)



Time CAF Episode Open	No. of Episodes	% Case load
0 - 3 Months	293	30%
3-6 Months	224	23%
6-9 Months	174	18%
9-12 Months	130	13%
12-18 Months	97	10%
18+ Months	67	7%

Thematic Map Showing Open CAF Episodes within Children and Families First by Ward (January 2016)



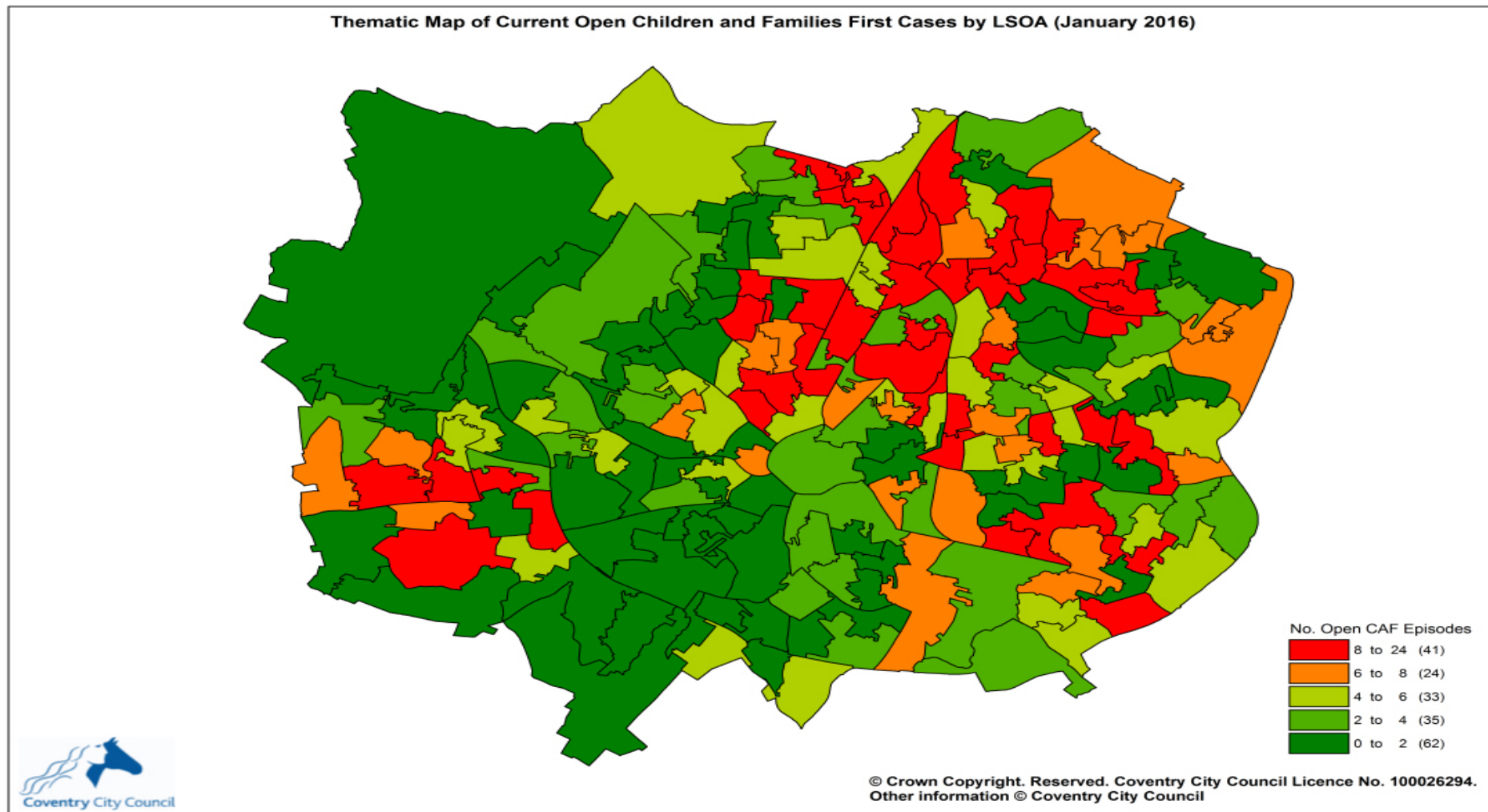
Open CAF Episodes

- 93 to 115 (4)
- 58 to 93 (4)
- 44 to 58 (3)
- 19 to 44 (4)
- 4 to 19 (3)



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This thematic map shows the distribution of open CAF episodes by Lower Super Output area. These are the same areas that the Indices of deprivation are mapped against (p8) [http://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/17733/english_indices_of_deprivation_2015 - coventry summary](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/17733/english_indices_of_deprivation_2015_-_coventry_summary)





Public report

9 March, 2016

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Councillor Ruane

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director of Resources

Ward(s) affected:

None

Title:

Outstanding Issues Report

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

The City Council has adopted an Outstanding Minutes System, linked to the Forward Plan, to ensure that follow up reports can be monitored and reported to Members. The attached appendix sets out a table detailing the issues on which further reports have been requested by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People so he is aware of them and can monitor progress.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People is requested to consider the list of outstanding issues and to ask the Member of the Strategic Management Board or appropriate officer to explain the current position on those which should have been discharged at this meeting or an earlier meeting.

List of Appendices included:

Table of Outstanding Issues.

Other useful background papers:

None

Has it or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it, or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report author(s):

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Name and job title:

Governance Services Officer

Directorate:

Resources

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Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
Contributors:				
Other members	Not applicable			
Names of approvers: (officers and members)				
Finance: Name	Not applicable			
Legal: Name	Not applicable			

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	Subject	Date for Further Consideration	Responsible Officer	Proposed Amendment to Date for Consideration	Reason for Request to Delay Submission of Report
*1	<p>Performance Management Within Family First Teams</p> <p>Report requested as part of the consideration of the report on Coventry Children's Centres Quarterly Report</p> <p>(Minute 24/15 - Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – 8 December, 2015)</p>	9 March, 2016	Executive Director of People		

- This report is on the agenda for the meeting.

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