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Introduction

The Childcare Act (2006) requires North East Lincolnshire (NEL) Council, like all other local authorities in England, to ensure there is sufficient childcare for parents and carers who are working, studying or training. It also highlights the need for local authorities to pay particular attention to the childcare needs of specific target groups, for instance:

- Disabled children
- Children from families in receipt of the childcare element of Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit
- Children with parents who work irregular hours; children aged 2, 3 and 4 taking up early education places; school age children
- Children needing holiday care

The duties in the act (section 6) require the council to shape and support the development of childcare provision in NEL in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. This role is described as a 'market management' function, whereby the local authority supports the sector to meet the needs of parents, children and young people, along with other stakeholders.

The duty to carry out three-year assessment research of the sufficiency of childcare in each local authority was repealed by the Childcare and Families Act 2014, replacing it with a duty to carry out an audit of the availability of childcare annually and this information should be shared with local stakeholders. The audit is required to support the development of sufficient childcare, assess the availability of childcare across the local authority looking into the dynamics of demand and supply in the childcare market; and identifying gaps which to influence future developments.

This CSA evidences how North East Lincolnshire Council are securing sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children).

The Assessment also includes information on:

- the state of the labour market
- the state of the local childcare market, including the demand for specific types of providers in a particular locality and the amount and type of supply that currently exists
- the quality and capacity of childcare providers including their funding, staff, premises, experience and expertise
- how the local authority encourage schools in their area to offer out-of-hours childcare from 8am and 6pm
- how the local authority encourage existing providers to expand their provision and new providers to enter the local childcare market
- information about the supply and demand of childcare for particular age ranges of children and the affordability, accessibility and quality of provision
- details of how gaps in childcare provision will be addressed

In 2004, the Government published a '10-year Strategy for Childcare'¹, to ensure that every child has the best possible start in life; whilst also providing the option for parents, particularly mothers, to work and progress their careers. The strategy covers four primary categories, which will be referred to within this CSA:

- **Choice and flexibility:** *parents to have greater choice about balancing work and family life;*
- **Availability:** *for all families with children aged up to 14 (17 for disabled children) who need an affordable, flexible, high quality childcare place that meets their circumstances;*
- **Quality:** *high quality provision with a highly skilled childcare and Early Years workforce, among the best in the world;*
- **Affordability:** *families to be able to afford flexible, high quality childcare that is appropriate for their needs.*

¹ DfE, *Choice for parents, the best start for children: A ten-year strategy for childcare*, December 2004

Key Findings

Choice and flexibility

- NEL has 137 registered childcare settings, offering 2915 childcare places across four sectors of care
- Park ward has the highest proportion of places available (409) whilst Freshney has the least (113)
- Day nurseries offer the highest number of places (1297) across the range.
- Of the four sectors, child-minders have the lowest (409) number of places available

Availability

- In Summer 2016, there were 6,147 early education places available to two, three and four year olds, which is a 1.5% increase on the 6,055 available in Spring 2015.
- The penetration rate is above one in all but one ward in North East Lincolnshire, suggesting there are sufficient available places across the borough.
- 75% of providers had immediate vacancies as at September 2016 (taken from Tribal system).
- The highest level of vacancies was within Out of School Care, at 82%, and the smallest within Day Nurseries at 72%.
- 87% of two year olds, 92% of three year olds, and 96% of 4 year olds took up their full entitlement to Free Funding in Summer 2016.

Quality

- 76% of 2 year old with a FFE place had been rated by Ofsted, 98% of those judged were attending a setting with a judgement of good or better.
- 93% of 3 and 4 year olds with a FFE place had been rated by Ofsted, and 74% of those judged had a judgement of good or better

Affordability

- Average weekly costs for 25 hours of care within day nurseries in North East Lincolnshire are now £107.73 for under 2's and £105.40 for over 2's.
- Average weekly costs for 25 hours care with childminders in North East Lincolnshire are £101.92 for both the under and over 2's.
- The average weekly cost for 25 hours care within after school clubs in North East Lincolnshire is £48.84 for a 15 hour week.
- Locally for 25 hours care, childcare costs are lower than the national average.

Demographic Profile: North East Lincolnshire

0.1 Geography

North East Lincolnshire (NEL) is a small unitary authority covering an area of 192km². The majority of the resident population live in the towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes with the remainder living in the smaller town of Immingham, or in surrounding rural villages.

2011 Census figures classify 94.2% of the population of North East Lincolnshire as living in an urban environment¹; however North East Lincolnshire has a wide variety of parks and open spaces. On the Northern border, the Humber estuary has been designated as a *Site of Special Scientific Interest* and to the south, the Lincolnshire Wolds are recognised as an *Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty*.

The boundary of North East Lincolnshire is comprised of 106 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs); these LSOAs which contain a minimum population of 1,000 and a mean average of 1,500 are distributed amongst the fifteen electoral wards.

Table 0.1 The fifteen electoral wards within North East Lincolnshire

Croft Baker	Scartho
East Marsh	Sidney Sussex
Freshney	South
Haverstoe	Waltham
Heneage	West Marsh
Humberston and New Waltham	Wolds
Immingham	Yarborough
Park	

² Source: ONS, LA Classification (Post April 2009)

A map of NEL, by its neighbourhood areas and ward boundaries, is represented below:

Fig 0.1: North East Lincolnshire with Wards



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0.2 Population

An estimated 159,600 people live within the boundary of North East Lincolnshire, with an increase of approximately 1000 people since 2005³.

The latest projections indicate an overall rise in population of 2.4% in the 25 years from 2012 to 2037, with the number of people aged 85+ predicted to more than double. The proportion of the population who are under 16 and the proportion of those of working age, are predicted to decrease, while the proportion of those aged 65 and over is predicted to increase considerably.⁴

Table 0.2 Percentage of Population in 5 year Age bands 0-14 years (% as of total population)

	0-4	5-9	10-14
England	6.3	6.0	5.5
NELC	6.3	6.1	5.4
Croft Baker	6.7	5.5	4.8
East Marsh	8.2	6.4	5.5
Freshney	5.5	5.2	5.6
Haverstoe	3.7	4.7	4.8
Heneage	7.8	6.9	5.4
Humberston and New Waltham	3.5	4.9	5.0
Immingham	5.9	6.3	5.6
Park	5.4	5.8	5.2
Scartho	5.3	5.4	5.4
Sidney Sussex	8.0	7.4	6.2
South	8.1	8.7	6.7
Waltham	4.3	4.5	4.4
West Marsh	9.4	7.0	4.2
Wolds	4.4	6.0	6.5
Yarborough	7.3	6.1	4.8

colour denotes where % of children is above North East Lincolnshire Average
2014 Mid-Year estimates LSOA level (aggregated to ward) – Office of National Statistics

The proportions of resident children varies between wards. The proportion of 0 to 14 year olds, in East Marsh, Sidney Sussex and South wards is above the average for North East Lincolnshire while Haverstoe, Humberston and New Waltham and Waltham wards have the lowest proportions of children resident in the Ward.⁵

³ Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-year 2015 population estimates

⁴ Source: Office for National Statistics, Population projections 2012 to 2037

⁵ Source: Office for National Statistics, Mid-year 2014 population estimates LSOA geography level

The overall population of ethnic minorities within North East Lincolnshire at the time of the 2011 Census was estimated at 4.6%, which is significantly lower than regional (14.2%) and national (20.2%) comparators⁶; however the school census suggests that there is more diversity in the younger age groups. North East Lincolnshire school pupils as of January 2016 were predominantly White British (90.8%) with a small, but increasing proportion from a Black or Minority Ethnic (BME) background (7.3%).⁷

Latest internal migration figures for North East Lincolnshire estimate that currently slightly more people leave the area yearly than move to the area (net outflow). In 2015 approximately 5.1% of current North East Lincolnshire residents were estimated to have been born outside of the UK. This is lower than the overall Yorkshire and Humber estimate of 8.9%⁸

In 2016, 2745 (11.4%) of school pupils were identified as having Special Education Needs, this has reduced substantially from 31.4% in 2010 and was below the Yorkshire and Humber region (13.9%) and all England figure (14.4%). Under new legislation, all new assessments from September 2014 have been for a combined Education Health and Care plan, replacing single SEN assessment. Of the 2745 children receiving SEN support 481 had EHC or SEN plans.⁹

⁶ Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 census

⁷ Source: North East Lincolnshire Council 2016, School Census January 2016

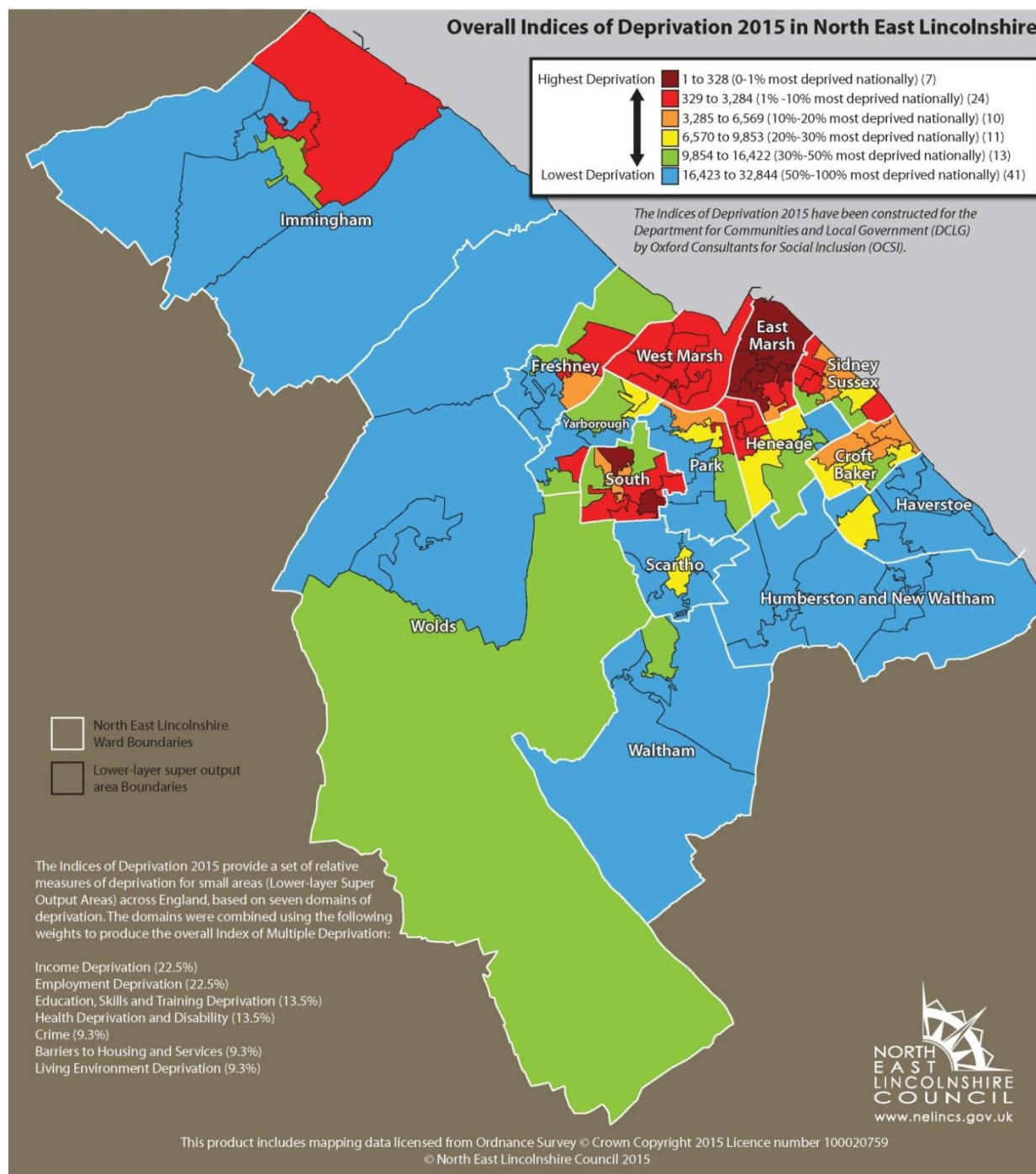
⁸ Source: Office for National Statistics, Internal migration statistics 2015

⁹ Department for Education 2016, Special Educational Needs by Local Authorities 2016

0.3 Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation, commonly known as the IMD, is the official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in England. It is the most widely used of the Indices of Deprivation. The Index of Multiple Deprivation ranks every small area in England from 1 (most deprived area) to 32,844 (least deprived area)¹⁰.

Fig 0.2 North East Lincolnshire with Deprivation



¹⁰ Department for Communities and Local Government, 2016, Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

Overall North East Lincolnshire is ranked the 31st most deprived local authority in the country¹¹ with some wards particularly deprived (such as East Marsh, West Marsh and South Wards). 7 areas in East Marsh and South wards (5 in East Marsh, 2 in South) are ranked in the top 1% of 32844 areas nationally for Overall Deprivation (measured across 7 domains), and this is represented in the diagram below: (Figure 0.3).

Fig 0.3 North East Lincolnshire areas within the top 1% nationally for deprivation

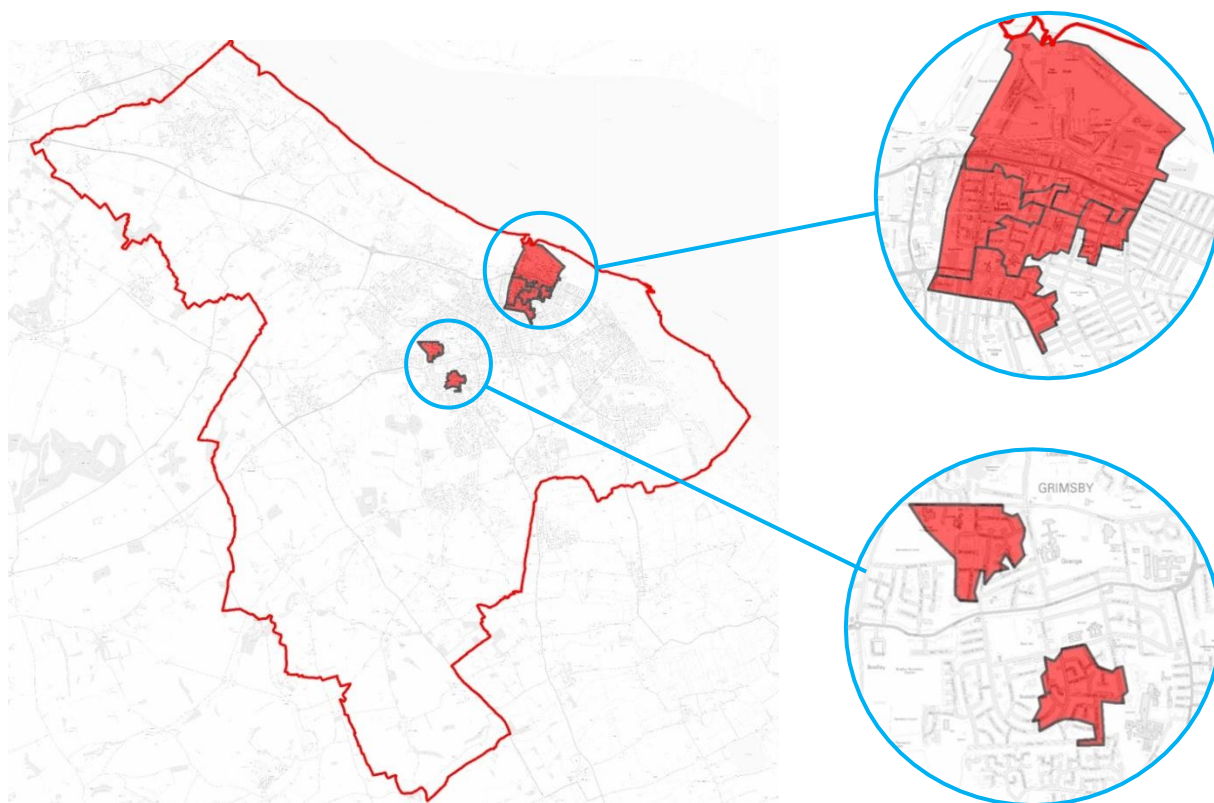


Table 0.3 Summary of the percentage of LSOAs within the most deprived 10% nationally across all 7 domains

Name	Percentage of LSOA in most deprived 10% nationally						
	Income	Employment	Education	Health	Crime	Barriers to Housing	Living
North East Lincolnshire	25.5%	24.5%	28.3%	10.4%	36.8%	0.9%	18.9%

28% of LSOAs in North East Lincolnshire are in the 10% most deprived nationally, when measured against all domains.

¹¹ Department for Communities and Local Government, 2016, *Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015*

The percentage of children in poverty in 2013,¹² which is defined as the total number of children in families in receipt of either out of work benefits, or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% median income as a percent of all children, stood at 26.1% compared with the national picture of 18%.

0.4 Labour Market

- In 12 months to Mar-16, the 7.85% unemployment rate in North East Lincolnshire was higher than the Humber rate (6.27%), higher than the Yorkshire and The Humber rate (6.20%), and higher than the England rate (5.20%).
- In Feb 16, 12.47% of the estimated population of North East Lincolnshire were claiming out-of-work benefits. This is higher than the Humber rate (11.01%), higher than the Yorkshire and The Humber rate (10.24%), and higher than the England rate (8.62%).
- The proportion of claimants in North East Lincolnshire has seen a net decrease of 0.31% between Jul 15 (3.75%) and Jul 16 (3.44%).¹³

Table 0.4 - Economic activity and Employment Rates in North East Lincolnshire – 12 months to Mar -16

	Economic Activity Rate, %	Economic Inactivity Rate, %	Employment Rate, %	Unemployment Rate, %
North East Lincolnshire	78.48	21.52	63.74	7.85
Humber Region	77.19	0.00	64.54	6.27
Yorkshire and The Humber	76.98	23.02	62.52	6.20
England	78.00	22.00	63.14	5.20

Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Population Survey 12 months to Mar-16

¹² HMRC, 2016, *Personal tax credits statistics 2013*

¹³ *Source: Office for National Statistics, Annual Population Survey 12 months to Mar-16*

Table 0.5 - Working age benefit claimants, by key statistical groups, in North East Lincolnshire, Humber, Yorkshire and The Humber, and England: Feb 16

Statistical Group	North East Lincolnshire Number	North East Lincolnshire %	Humber Region %	Yorkshire and The Humber %	England %
Job Seeker	2640	2.69%	2.50%	2.02%	1.45%
ESA and incapacity benefits	7310	7.46%	6.88%	6.74%	5.90%
Lone Parent	1860	1.90%	1.29%	1.19%	1.05%
Others on income related benefits	420	0.43%	0.35%	0.29%	0.23%
Disabled	8010	5.00%	5.00%	5.10%	4.40%
Out-of-work benefits	12220	12.47%	11.01%	10.24%	8.62%

Source: DWP benefit claimants - working age client group, accessed via NOMIS, <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

The Feb 16 data shows that 20240 people claimed one or more of the DWP benefits shown in the table above (excluding out-of-work benefits) in North East Lincolnshire, which equates to 17.48% of the working age population (aged 16 - 64), and is higher than Humber (16.02%), higher than Yorkshire and The Humber (15.34%), and higher than England (13.03%).

Table 0.6 - Claimant Count by Ward – July 2016

	Claimant Count (Total)	Claimant Count (Total) (%)	Claimant Count (Males)	Claimant Count (Males) (%)	Claimant Count (Females)	Claimant Count (Females) (%)
Croft Baker	220	3.05	135	3.79	85	2.33
East Marsh	630	8.24	400	10.11	230	6.23
Freshney	165	2.70	110	3.69	55	1.76
Haverstoe	55	1.00	35	1.30	20	0.72
Heneage	350	4.48	225	5.60	125	3.30
Humberston and New Waltham	60	0.96	40	1.29	20	0.63
Immingham	195	2.77	135	3.89	60	1.68
Park	195	2.60	125	3.27	70	1.91
Scartho	100	1.56	60	1.89	40	1.24
Sidney Sussex	315	3.82	215	5.20	95	2.31
South	425	5.51	285	7.79	145	3.57
Waltham	45	1.12	25	1.27	15	0.73
West Marsh	360	6.92	220	8.31	140	5.48
Wolds	55	1.22	40	1.78	15	0.66
Yarborough	200	2.69	130	3.58	75	1.96
North East Lincolnshire	3370	3.42	2180	4.44	1190	2.40

Source: Department for Work and Pensions, Office for National Statistics, Jul 16

- Claimant Count by ward is subject to rounding, therefore North East Lincolnshire total differs from higher geography totals.
- The % of Claimants in East Marsh (8.24%), West Marsh (6.92%) and South (5.51%) are significantly higher than overall for North East Lincolnshire.

- 5 Wards have Claimant counts lower than the England % level. These wards are Haverstoe (1.00%), Humberston and New Waltham (0.96%), Scartho (1.56%), Waltham (1.12%) and Wolds (1.22%).
- In All wards, in July 16, the number of male claimants was higher than female.

Supply of Childcare

Parents with children use many different forms of childcare, with their choices dependent on factors that include family income, employment patterns, parental preferences, childcare availability and the age of their children. The *2014 Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents*¹⁴, covering England, suggested that 79% of families with children aged 0-14 years used childcare in a given week, with 55% of this formal.

1.1 Stocks of registered childcare

As part of the national childcare survey, parents in England were asked about childcare availability. Some 46 per cent of parents felt the number of local childcare places was 'about right', although nearly three in ten (28%) said there were not enough places. The proportion of parents who thought that the right number of places were available has risen since the last survey in 2012-13 (from 42% to 46%).

Local numbers of PVI settings and full-time places are listed below.

Table 1.1a: Numbers of childcare settings, by care scheme type: August 2016*

Ward	Childminder	Day nursery	Pre-School Playgroup	Out of School Care	Total
Croft Baker	9	1	2	0	12
East Marsh	2	3	1	1	7
Freshney	7	1	0	1	9
Haverstoe	3	1	2	1	7
Heneage	9	1	2	0	12
Humberston and New Waltham	1	2	4	2	9
Immingham	6	3	0	1	10
Park	3	4	2	3	12
Scartho	4	1	1	1	7
Sidney Sussex	10	2	1	1	14
South	6	4	0	0	10
Waltham	3	0	1	2	6
West Marsh	2	0	3	2	7
Wolds	2	1	1	2	6
Yarborough	4	2	1	2	9
Grand Total	71	26	21	19	137

¹⁴ Childcare and Early Years survey of parents 2014-15 – Department for Education - March 2016.

Table 1.1b: Numbers of registered childcare places, by care scheme type: August 2016*

Ward	Childminder	Day nursery	Pre-School Playgroup	Out of School Care	Total
Croft Baker	43	39	48	0	130
East Marsh	6	71	35	30	142
Freshney	47	42	0	24	113
Haverstoe	18	41	52	26	137
Heneage	51	95	42	0	188
Humberston and New Waltham	5	51	118	48	222
Immingham	36	184	0	32	252
Park	17	226	58	108	409
Scartho	32	77	45	26	180
Sidney Sussex	62	114	16	51	243
South	33	196	0	0	229
Waltham	11	0	82	106	199
West Marsh	9	0	60	48	117
Wolds	9	30	26	56	121
Yarborough	30	131	24	48	233
Grand Total	409	1297	606	603	2915

*Both Table 1.2a and 1.b are related to PVI childcare stock. Places provided out of nursery units, by schools and nursery schools, are not included. Where a provider supplies more than one form of care, e.g. Pre-school with out of school provision, it will be counted for each, with the appropriate places.

- Child minders are the most numerous provider type as of August 2016 (71), However Day Nurseries deliver the most childcare places (1297).
- Both provider numbers and places available in PVI settings fell between 2015/16 in North East Lincolnshire.
- There has been a net loss in child minders, and child minder places between 2015-16, a trend which is also seen nationally. (Family and Childcare Trust - Childcare Survey 2016)
- There has however, been a net increase in Day Nursery place provision, This sector saw a net increase from last year (1277 places to 1297)
- A net loss in places in Pre-school provision and Out of School provision indicates a move from separately Ofsted registered provision to in school Academy provision
- These places are not full losses in the sense that they are still available within school settings, as FFE places.

1.2 Funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds

The availability of good quality childcare has been recognised as being of increasing importance over the past 15 years, with government policies introduced to encourage families to access good quality early education for their children. Universal entitlement to a funded nursery place began with 4 year olds in 2000, and increased to 3 year olds in 2005, with funded provision for disadvantaged 2 year olds beginning in 2011.

A long-term government study¹⁵ shows good quality early years provision has a positive and long term impact on children's attainment, progress and social-behavioural development. Improvements in children's academic and social outcomes lasted throughout school, with the effect being especially important for boys, pupils with SEN and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.¹³

1.2a Two year old funding

Evidence shows that 2-year-olds in good and outstanding places - including nurseries, school nursery classes, and childminders - see benefits in terms of their early language skills, and physical, social and emotional development.¹⁶

2-year-old children can get free early education and childcare if their family receives one of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit
- tax credits and you have an annual income of under £16,190 before tax
- 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)

A child can also get free early education and childcare if any of the following apply:

- they're looked after by a local council
- they have a current statement of special education needs (SEN) or an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- they get Disability Living Allowance
- they've left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

If a 2 year old child is eligible they can access 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year. The childcare can be taken over a minimum of two days and no session can be longer than ten hours a day or shorter than two and a half hours a day. No sessions to be before 7am or after 7pm, funding can be split between a maximum of two providers and a child is eligible to start the term after their second birthday until the term after their third birthday.

¹⁵ EPPSE Project - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/eppse-3-to-14-years>

¹⁶ The early education pilot for 2-year-old children - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-early-education-pilot-for-two-year-old-children-age-five-follow-up>

DWP send indicative numbers of 2 Year olds considered to be eligible for funding at intervals approximately every other month. The list sent in January to cover Summer eligibility indicated approximately 55% of the Local Authority's 1937 2 year olds would be eligible.

The Ward percentages of expected eligibility vary similarly to the levels of local deprivation, with East Marsh, West Marsh and South ward, North East Lincolnshire's most deprived areas, indicating large percentages of eligible 2 year olds.

Table 1.2a - % of eligible cohort of two year olds taking up a place Summer 2016

2 Year Funding	Ward															
	Croft Baker	East Marsh	Freshney	Haverstoe	Heneage	Humberston and New Waltham	Immingham	Park	Scartho	Sidney Sussex	South	Waltham	West Marsh	Wolds	Yarborough	Grand Total
Number of resident 2 year olds in eligible age range - June 16	142	194	93	52	184	76	146	141	114	190	184	62	136	60	163	1937
% of resident children expected to be eligible for funding (DWP)	54%	79%	41%	13%	67%	28%	45%	44%	33%	67%	70%	18%	79%	23%	52%	55%
Number of Children taking a place - Summer Headcount	69	102	36	6	78	11	51	47	22	101	104	13	90	11	73	814
% of DWP identified cohort taking up a place - Summer Headcount	91%	66%	95%	86%	63%	52%	78%	76%	58%	79%	81%	118%	83%	79%	86%	77%
% of resident children taking a place	49%	53%	39%	12%	42%	14%	35%	33%	19%	53%	57%	21%	66%	18%	45%	42%

- Overall, 77% of the identified number of 2 year olds, took up a place in Summer 2016. In wards, this varied between 52% in Humberston and New Waltham, and 118% in Waltham.
- This indicates that slightly more children were eligible for, and took a place than were initially identified in January in Waltham ward.
- Overall 42% of North East Lincolnshire 2 year olds took up an FFE place in Summer 2016. This is a further increase from the 35.8% in 2015, and the 22.6% in 2014.

NEL's Family Information Service (FIS) regularly market potentially eligible families based on the data provided by the DFE and DWP and continually promote the offer of free places for eligible two year olds on their website, Facebook and twitter pages and with support from local providers and children's centres.

Table 1.1b below shows the basis on which a 2-year-old has been funded for an early education place January 2016:

Table 1.2b: Funding for 2 year old – Early education places by eligibility criteria

	Number of children	Economic criteria	High-level SEN or disability	Looked after or adopted from care
England	166910	97.2%	1.2%	1.9%
Yorkshire and Humber	20580	97.3%	1.0%	1.8%
North East Lincolnshire	810	96.2%	1.2%	2.7%

National Statistics - Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2016

- The percentage of children entitled to 2 year-old funded places fit in to broadly the same criteria basis as seen regionally and nationally.
- Locally, slightly more children become eligible due to being either looked after or adopted through care, than is seen regionally or nationally (2.7% vs 1.8 and 1.9%). Correspondingly, the percentage of children eligible through Economic criteria is slightly lower than seen regionally or nationally (96.2% vs 97.3 and 97.2%).

1.2b 3 and 4 year old funding

All 3 to 4-year-olds in England can get 570 hours of free early education or childcare per year. This is usually taken as 15 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year.

1.2c Estimated take-up of three and four year old early education places: Summer term 2016

Ward	*eligible 3 year olds resident	*eligible 4 year olds resident	resident total	3 Year Funded Children on Headcount	4 Year Funded children on headcount	Grand Total	% 3 year olds with an EY funded place	% 4 year olds with an EY Funded place	total 3 + 4 year olds
Croft Baker	133	89	222	122	92	214	92%	103%	96%
East Marsh	174	111	285	156	111	267	90%	100%	94%
Freshney	129	62	191	125	58	183	97%	94%	96%
Haverstoe	65	42	107	67	39	106	103%	93%	99%
Heneage	177	110	287	178	110	288	101%	100%	100%
Humberston and New Waltham	73	50	123	78	42	120	107%	84%	98%
Immingham	147	87	234	125	84	209	85%	97%	89%
Park	131	84	215	125	84	209	95%	100%	97%
Scartho	130	82	212	126	83	209	97%	101%	99%
Sidney Sussex	186	128	314	185	130	315	99%	102%	100%
South	195	135	330	188	125	313	96%	93%	95%
Waltham	57	36	93	56	33	89	98%	92%	96%
West Marsh	142	64	206	126	56	182	89%	88%	88%
Wolds	52	38	90	49	39	88	94%	103%	98%
Yarborough	172	99	271	159	101	260	92%	102%	96%
North East Lincolnshire	1963	1217	3180	1865	1187	3052	95%	98%	96%

- In total 96% of Three and Four year olds have taken up an early education place as of Summer term 2016.
- The 96% estimated take-up seen for three and four year olds is the same as seen last year.
- Ward level estimates range from 88 % in West Marsh to 100% in Heneage and Sidney Sussex
- Slightly less 3 year olds (95%) were seen to take a place than 4 year olds (98%)

1.2d 2, 3 and 4 Year olds taking up a full time place - Summer term 2016

Ward	2 Year Funded Children on Headcount	2 Year funded children taking a full time place	% 2 Year funded children taking a full time place	3 Year Funded Children on Headcount	3 Year funded children taking a full time place	% 3 Year funded children taking a full time place	4 Year Funded children on headcount	4 Year funded children taking a full time place	% 4 Year funded children taking a full time place
Croft Baker	69	57	83%	122	112	92%	92	85	92%
East Marsh	102	94	92%	156	149	96%	111	107	96%
Freshney	36	30	83%	125	122	98%	58	57	98%
Haverstoe	6	6	100%	67	57	85%	39	31	79%
Heneage	78	66	85%	178	163	92%	110	109	99%
Humberston and New Waltham	11	8	73%	78	69	88%	42	40	95%
Immingham	51	43	84%	125	119	95%	84	82	98%
Park	47	37	79%	125	104	83%	84	79	94%
Scartho	22	18	82%	126	117	93%	83	80	96%
Sidney Sussex	101	87	86%	185	176	95%	130	130	100%
South	104	91	88%	188	161	86%	125	117	94%
Waltham	13	10	77%	56	51	91%	33	32	97%
West Marsh	90	89	99%	126	123	98%	56	56	100%
Wolds	11	5	45%	49	46	94%	39	33	85%
Yarborough	73	64	88%	159	147	92%	101	100	99%
North East Lincolnshire	814	705	87%	1865	1716	92%	1187	1138	96%

- Overall, 4 year olds are most likely to have taken the full 15 hour entitlement (96%)
- 87% of 2 year olds were using the full 15 hour entitlement. This is a slight drop on last year's 92%.
- At ward level, full time take-up was generally high at 3 and 4 years, with the lowest ward Haverstoe with 79% of 4 year olds.
- Full time take up of places for 2 year olds showed more variance, with 45% of children taking a full time place in Wolds, against 100% in Haverstoe.

1.2c Availability vs Take-up of Early Education Places

Table 1.2e summarises the take-up of early education places, where a full time place is equal to 15 hours. Where a child has taken their entitlement across more than one setting, the total time taken has been used.

The total number of FFE places available is also shown, where places are taken from the number of Ofsted registered places for all FFE registered Early Years settings, and from a nursery provision list, which provides the number of early admission, reception and nursery places within FFE registered primary schools, academies, independent schools and special schools.

Ofsted registered settings now have more flexibility as to how they allocated their maximum number of places across the age ranges. This means that the overall number of places remains the same but the places available within each age range can change term on term to take account of the occupancy, ages and needs of the children attending.

Table 1.2e: Availability and take up of two, three and four year old early education places: Summer term 2016

Ward	Total Take Up*	FFE 2, 3 and 4 year old places
Croft Baker	333	341
East Marsh	431	418
Freshney	271	397
Haverstoe	145	210
Heneage	450	434
Humberston and New Waltham	168	429
Immingham	315	493
Park	317	517
Scartho	268	399
Sidney Sussex	503	581
South	490	686
Waltham	122	164
West Marsh	319	401
Wolds	120	179
Yarborough	405	498
Grand Total	4657	6147

* all children taking any early education place, inclusive of reception funding

- In Summer 2016, there were 6,147 early education places available to two, three and four year olds, which is a 1.5% increase on the 6,055 available in Spring 2015.

- Of the 6147 available places, 4,657 funded places were taken up throughout NEL. This a slight increase on the 4614 places taken in Spring 2015.
- As in 2015, the majority of these places were available through schools, as previously separately Ofsted registered providers move to providing 3 and 4 year old places through schools registrations.
- At Ward level, Take-up is highest in Sidney Sussex (503) South ward (490) and Heneage (450). The most places were available in South (686) Sidney Sussex (581) and Park ward (517).
- It is worth noting that take up is based on child residence, and places on provider postcodes. Parents and carers do not necessarily choose a place in a setting within the same ward as their residence.

Table 1.1f gives the population of three and four year olds, taken in Summer 2016 from SystmOne registrations. The penetration rate is the number of places for each resident child: A number under 1 reflects a deficit of places with the ward for the resident children. Numbers over 1 reflect more places than children.

Table 1.2f: Penetration rate of places based on population of 3 and 4 year olds, taken in Summer 2016.

Ward	Age as on 1st June 2016			Total FFE 3 and 4 year places	Penetration Rate
	Resident age 3	Resident age 4	Total Resident population 3 and 4		
Croft Baker	141	143	284	297	1.05
East Marsh	191	163	354	357	1.01
Freshney	105	125	230	371	1.61
Haverstoe	63	76	139	185	1.33
Heneage	194	176	370	421	1.14
Humberston and New Waltham	81	73	154	395	2.57
Immingham	135	145	280	436	1.56
Park	134	142	276	439	1.59
Scartho	127	141	268	374	1.40
Sidney Sussex	187	202	389	555	1.43
South	201	217	418	608	1.45
Waltham	64	62	126	124	0.98
West Marsh	132	127	259	374	1.44
Wolds	52	69	121	157	1.30
Yarborough	167	167	334	441	1.32
Grand Total	1974	2028	4002	5534	1.38

- From Summer term 2016, the penetration rate of early education places available for every three and four year old in NEL was 1.38 places per child. This is a slight increase on the 1.31 rate reported in Spring 2015.
- Penetration rates at ward level show a large number of places in Humberston and New Waltham, Other wards present numbers of places much closer to the number of resident children.
- The penetration rate of 0.98 in Waltham shows a very slight under provision in this ward.
- Since last year, under provision in Croft Baker (0.73) and East Marsh (0.94) has improved. This is due to slightly more available places, and a drop in eligible population in those wards.

1.2d Early Year Pupil Premium

The early years pupil premium (EYPP) is additional funding for early years settings to improve the education they provide for disadvantaged 3- and 4-year-olds. 3- and 4-year-olds in state-funded early education will attract EYPP funding if they meet at least 1 of the following criteria:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit
- they are currently being looked after by a local authority in England or Wales
- they have left care in England or Wales through:
 - an adoption
 - a special guardianship order
 - a child arrangement order

1.2g Number of 3- and 4-year-old children recorded as eligible for early years pupil premium by age - January 2016

	3-year-olds	4-year-olds	3- and 4-year-olds
England	76230	30555	106785
Yorkshire and Humber	9150	3680	12830
North East Lincolnshire	484	152	636

Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2016 Department of Education Jan 2016 – Experimental

Please note, that the January census collection was the first time EYPP data had been nationally collected. In Summer Term the eligible cohort of 3 year olds increased to 524, and 4 year olds 351, with 875 child eligible locally.

Children must receive free early education in order to attract EYPP funding. They do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education they are entitled to in order to get EYPP.

Children become eligible for free early education at different points in the year depending on when they turn 3.

1.3 Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

In addition to providing FFE availability, the school headcount also gives some insight into the special educational needs of children aged three and four years old on roll, as summarised in Tables 1.3a and 1.3b. Nurseries, playgroups and childminders registered with Ofsted follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework. The framework makes sure that there's support in place for children with SEND¹⁷.

Table 1.3a displays the % of children January 2016 with an FFE place, supported for SEN - by support level.

	2, 3 and 4 year-olds		
	Children with Statements or EHCP ³	Children with SEN support ²	Total children with SEN
England	0.7%	4.9%	5.6%
Yorkshire and Humber	0.5%	4.7%	5.2%
North East Lincolnshire	0.6%	3.5%	4.3%

Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2016 Department of Education Jan 2016

(2) From 2015 SEN support replaced School Action and School Action Plus.

(3) EHCP - Education, Health and Care plan

- The percentage of children supported with Statements or EHCP in FFE places is in line with the national and regional averages.
- A slightly lower percentage of children access lower level SEN support in North East Lincolnshire (3.5%) than in seen regionally (4.7%) and Nationally (4.9%). This is however similar to the pattern seen in local School age children, as mentioned within the demographic profile (section 0).

¹⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/children-with-special-educational-needs/special-educational-needs-support>

Table 1.3b Summary of children on headcount with special educational needs: Summer 2016

Ward	EHCP / Statement of SEN	K - SEN support	Not SEN
Croft Baker	0.3%	4.8%	94.9%
East Marsh	0.0%	4.2%	95.8%
Freshney	0.0%	3.3%	96.7%
Haverstoe	0.7%	0.7%	98.6%
Heneage	0.2%	5.1%	94.7%
Humberston and New Waltham	0.0%	1.8%	98.2%
Immingham	0.3%	3.2%	96.5%
Park	1.3%	3.8%	95.0%
Scartho	1.5%	1.1%	97.4%
Sidney Sussex	0.8%	3.6%	95.6%
South	0.8%	2.0%	97.1%
Waltham	2.5%	0.8%	96.7%
West Marsh	0.6%	6.0%	93.4%
Wolds	0.8%	1.7%	97.5%
Yarborough	0.0%	5.0%	95.0%
Grand Total	0.6%	3.6%	95.9%

*From Summer 2016 headcount - where documented.

- Overall, 4.1% of children in FFE places required SEN support in Summer 2016. This is very similar to the January 2016 nationally reported figure. (4.3%)
- Between wards there can be significant variance in SEN supported percentages, however the numbers of children in the underlying data is low, therefore any significant ward differences should be treated with caution.

1.4 Ethnicity

Table 1.4a provides a summary of the ethnic background of children aged two, three and four years old on roll, taken from the Summer 2016 headcount. For the benefit of this analysis, the category of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) encompasses all ethnic groups that are not White British. Please note that to provide a more accurate analysis, records where ethnicity is not known or obtained have been omitted from these results, thus providing an ethnicity split for those pupils whose ethnicity is known.

Table 1.4a: Summary of children on headcount, by ethnic group: Summer 2016

Ward	BME	White British
Croft Baker	8.7%	91.3%
East Marsh	7.5%	92.5%
Freshney	5.2%	94.8%
Haverstoe	2.8%	97.2%
Heneage	6.5%	93.5%
Humberston and New Waltham	3.6%	96.4%
Immingham	4.8%	95.2%
Park	11.8%	88.2%
Scartho	8.6%	91.4%
Sidney Sussex	6.4%	93.6%
South	10.2%	89.8%
Waltham	6.6%	93.4%
West Marsh	10.1%	89.9%
Wolds	7.6%	92.4%
Yarborough	9.2%	90.8%
Grand Total	7.7%	92.3%

*Refusals and Non-obtained are omitted from calculations

The percentage of BME children accessing FFE places in Summer 2016 is higher (7.7%) than the percentage of BME resident population identified from the 2011 census (4.6%)⁶. It is however, more closely aligned to the School Census figure of 7.3% from January 2016⁷. This is a fall from last year's 9.3%, but it returns to similar levels to those seen in 2014 (7.2%).

1.5 Provision for Children 5-14 (including Out of School and Holiday Provision)

A large proportion of the holiday provision is based around activities which is particularly difficult to collate and reliant on private provision informing the service. The Families First Information Service will push for holiday activities to promote through Social Media and through the FFIS web Directory. Feedback through Social Media has been noted as 'I've planned my whole summer holidays around what you have advertised (through social media)' and it's an area that has received dramatically improved following throughout 2016. The service will continue to follow a Digital by Default approach to promoting holiday activities as well as formal childcare.

Quality and Cost of childcare

The Quality and Cost of Childcare are important factors parents consider when choosing a childcare provider.

2.1 Quality

The quality of registered childcare in England is assessed by Ofsted, the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills, using standards set out in the Early Year inspection handbook.

Inspected Providers are given a rating based on the effectiveness of the setting to provide good quality childcare to children. The rating currently ranges from 'Outstanding' to 'Inadequate'. It is recognised that where possible, children should be attending provision of a 'Good or 'Outstanding' rating quality.

- Nationally, the majority of parents (64%) rated the overall quality of local childcare provision as very or fairly good. This proportion has increased from 58 per cent in 2012-13.¹⁸

Table 2.1a. Ofsted Rating as at January 2016 for 2-year-old children with FFE places

	Percentage children with 2 year FFE place in setting with Ofsted judgement	Percentage in setting not yet judged	Of those in setting with judgement - Ofsted inspection rating				
			Outstanding	Good	Percentage attending Good or Outstanding Providers	Satisfactory / Requires Improvement	Inadequate
England	84	16	18	65	83	12	4
Yorkshire and Humber	85	15	15	71	86	9	5
North East Lincolnshire	76	24	16	82	98	2	0

Source: National Statistics - Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2016 (Department for Education)

- 98% of those attending a judged setting, were attending a setting which had received a judgement of good or better - This is higher than regionally and nationally.
- The percentage of children in settings 'Not Yet judged' settings is larger than regionally and nationally (24%), and this is because of a higher proportion of 2 year olds in newer settings.

¹⁸ Childcare and Early Years survey of parents 2014-15 – Department for Education - March 2016.

Table 2.1b Ofsted Rating as at January 2016 for 3 and 4 year old children with FFE places:

	Percentage children with 3/4 year FFE place in setting with Ofsted judgement	Percentage in setting not yet judged	Of those in setting with judgement - Ofsted inspection rating				
			Outstanding	Good	Percentage attending Good or Outstanding Providers	Satisfactory / Requires Improvement	Inadequate
England	91	9	23	63	86	12	2
Yorkshire and Humber	92	8	18	65	83	15	2
North East Lincolnshire	93	7	8	66	74	25	1

Source: National Statistics - Education provision: children under 5 years of age, January 2016 (Department for Education)

- 74% of children attending a judged setting were attending a setting which had received a judgement of good or better - This is lower than regionally and nationally.

2.2 Costs

Nationally in the 2014 Childcare and Early Years Parents Survey¹⁹, Three in five (59%) families who used a childcare provider in the reference week reported paying for this childcare. 65% reported paying for formal providers with 6% reported paying for informal providers.

Two in five parents (39%) rated the affordability of local childcare as very or fairly good, an increase since 2012-13 when one in three parents (32%) thought affordability was very good or fairly good.

A third (33%) said affordability was very or fairly poor.

Just over half of parents (53%) said it was fairly or very easy to meet their childcare costs, with 22% of families finding it fairly or very difficult to pay

Locally, childcare costs are lower than the national average.

¹⁹ Childcare and Early Years survey of parents 2014-15 – Department for Education - March 2016

Table 2.2a: Average weekly childcare costs within North East Lincolnshire by ward, and compared against regional and national average: 2015/16*

	Nursery 25 hours (under 2)	Nursery 25 hours (2 and over)	Childminder 25 hours (under 2)	Childminder 25 hours (2 and over)	After-school club 15 hours	Pre-School** (15hr week, paid place)
	Under 2's	Over 2's	Under 2's	Over 2's		
Croft Baker	£ 94.44	£ 92.78	£ 105.63	£ 105.63		£ 57.50
East Marsh	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	£ 93.75	£ 93.75		£ 35.00
Freshney	£ 116.67	£ 111.11	£ 96.88	£ 96.88	£ 40.00	
Haverstoe	£ 98.61	£ 90.28	£ 112.50	£ 112.50	£ 65.00	£ 75.00
Heneage	£ 116.67	£ 111.11	£ 95.56	£ 95.56		£ 51.48
Humberston and New Waltham	£ 87.50	£ 87.50	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	£ 40.00	£ 52.55
Immingham	£ 111.11	£ 111.11	£ 101.67	£ 101.67	£ 72.00	
Park	£ 112.69	£ 108.33	£ 108.33	£ 108.33	£ 59.00	£ 98.00
Scartho	£ 116.67	£ 111.11	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	£ 45.00	£ 74.25
Sidney Sussex	£ 113.89	£ 113.89	£ 103.25	£ 103.25	£ 52.50	
South	£ 109.72	£ 104.86	£ 102.50	£ 102.50		
Waltham			£ 100.00	£ 100.00	£ 35.75	£ 57.50
West Marsh			£ 112.50	£ 112.50	£ 40.00	£ 42.50
Wolds		£ 121.43	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	£ 56.88	£ 45.00
Yarborough	£ 107.64	£ 99.31	£ 103.13	£ 103.13	£ 46.25	£ 42.50
North East Lincolnshire Average	£ 107.73	£ 105.40	£ 101.92	£ 101.92	£ 48.84	£ 59.38
North East Lincolnshire Lowest	£ 87.50	£ 87.50	£ 75.00	£ 75.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00
North East Lincolnshire Highest	£ 138.89	£ 138.89	£ 145.00	£ 145.00	£ 79.50	£ 135.00
Yorkshire and Humberside	£ 97.42	£ 93.60	£ 92.71	£ 91.16	£ 45.78	
England Average	£ 118.13	£ 113.06	£ 105.33	£ 104.42	£ 48.90	

* Ward prices are averaged by number of providers, and appear above where available at time of collation

**Some provisions only provide free funded places, and as such do not appear within the chart above.

Y+H and England averages source: Family and Childcare Trust 2016 Childcare Survey

Day Nursery

- Average weekly costs within day nurseries in North East Lincolnshire are now £107.73 for under 2's and £105.40 for over 2's.
- At ward level, average weekly day nursery costs for the under 2's are highest in Freshney, Heneage and Scartho for the under 2's at £116.67. The costs for over 2's are highest in Wolds £121.43
- The lowest costs for under 2's can be seen in Humberston & New Waltham at £87.50 and Croft Baker for over 2's at £94.44
- When compared against the regional and national day nursery average costs, North East Lincolnshire has higher costs than Yorkshire and Humber (£97.42) yet lower than the national average of £118.13.

Childminder

- Average weekly costs for childminders in North East Lincolnshire are £101.92 for both the under and over 2's.
- Almost all North East Lincolnshire childminders make no pricing differentiation between under 2's and over 2's but choose to have a standard hourly rate for all children.
- Equivalent childminder provision is less expensive on average in most wards except Croft Baker, Haverstoe, Humberston and New Waltham and Yarborough for over 2's.
- When compared against the regional and national childminder average costs, North East Lincolnshire has higher costs than Yorkshire and Humber (£92.71 /£91.16) yet lower than the national averages (£105.33 /£104.42).

After School Club

- The average weekly cost within after school clubs in North East Lincolnshire is £48.84 for a 15 hour week.
- At ward level, costs are lowest in Waltham (£35.75) and highest in Immingham Ward (£72.00).
- When compared against the regional and national average costs, North East Lincolnshire has higher average costs than Yorkshire and Humber (£45.78) but marginally lower than the national average (£48.90).

Pre-School

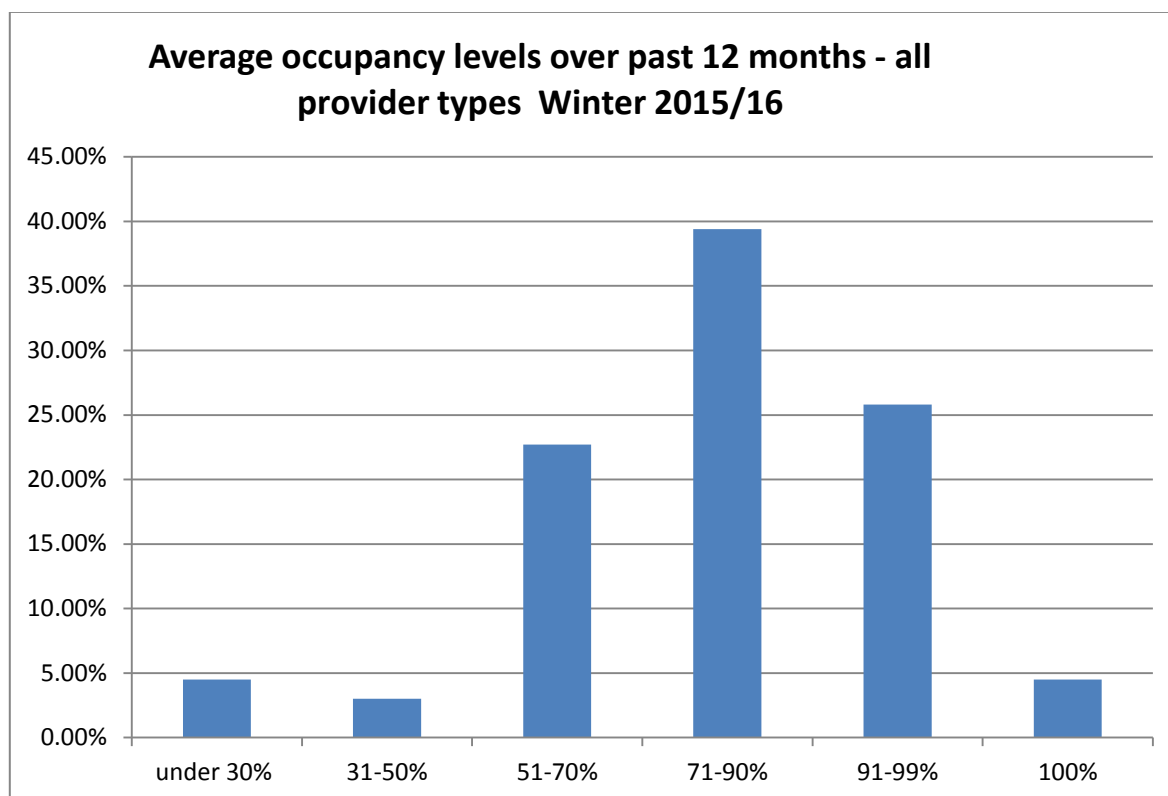
- Pre-School Prices are included for comparison, for an average 15 hour week.
- Pre-school prices were highest in Park ward £98, and lowest in East Marsh £35

Demand for childcare

3.1 Occupancy

Chart 2.2a below details occupancy levels, or how full a setting is on a daily/weekly basis over an average period of 12 months. This data was collected as part of the 2015/16 FIS update. Setting occupancy can vary both throughout the year, and on a weekly basis, therefore this data should be treated as a guide or snapshot of the total picture in the Local Authority as a whole. The percentages below only reflect those providers which gave a response to the question.

Chart 3.1a: Occupancy levels by provider type



- Almost 70% of responding providers stated they had an average occupancy level over 70% in 2015/16.
- 3 providers stated they had occupancy under 30%, these were all brand new providers.
- The providers stating 31-50% occupancy were based in Immingham and cited saturation of providers in the local area as affecting their occupancy.
- 3 providers stated they had a average 100% occupancy over the past year. Two of which were child-minders, and one pre-school playgroup.

3.2 Vacant Places

The Early Year's database, Tribal, used by FIS collects information on all childcare providers. Please note that as Tribal is not a live database, the details presented here for vacancies are a snapshot and accurate as of September 2016. FFE providers are surveyed on a regular basis to check vacancies. 33 providers had responded to the recent provider survey by the time of writing the Assessment in September 2016. Data is only given where a provider responded to the question. Due to the limited timely response, results of the Annual FIS update from Winter 15/16 are also provided as a comparison where necessary.

Table 3.2a: Proportion of childcare setting in North East Lincolnshire that have immediate vacancies as of September 2016.

	Percentage with Immediate Vacancies			
	Childminders	Day nursery	Out of School Care	Pre-School Playgroup
Croft Baker	78%	100%		100%
East Marsh	50%	67%		100%
Freshney	71%	100%	100%	
Haverstoe	67%	100%	100%	100%
Heneage	67%	100%		50%
Humberston and New Waltham	100%	0%	50%	50%
Immingham	83%	67%	100%	
Park	0%	75%	67%	50%
Scartho	75%	100%	100%	100%
Sidney Sussex	90%	0%	0%	100%
South	83%	75%		
Waltham	67%		100%	100%
West Marsh	50%		100%	100%
Wolds	100%	100%	100%	100%
Yarborough	75%	100%	100%	0%

Table 3.2b: Percentage of providers with vacancies by type of provider

Type of Provider	Providers With Vacancies
Childminder	73%
Day nursery	72%
Out of School Care	82%
Pre-School Playgroup	76%
Grand Total	75%

From tables 2.2a and 2.2b, it can be seen that 75% of providers had immediate vacancies as at September 2016 from the Tribal System.

- The highest level of vacancies was within Out of School Care, at 82%, and the smallest within Day Nurseries at 72%.
- At a ward level, all wards had at least one provider with vacant places. It is worth noting that this reports where a place available, places may not always be suitable to parents needs due to time or day of availability.

3.3 Waiting Lists

The tables below detail the volume of children currently on a waiting list to attend a childcare setting within NEL, based on information from the Annual FIS Update Winter 2015/16.

Table 3.3a: Age of Children on waiting lists by percentage and by provider type

Type of Provider	Total No. On Waiting List aged 2 and under	Total No. On Waiting List aged over 2	Total Children on a Waiting List (number)
Childminder	48%	52%	25
Day nursery	58%	42%	86
Out of School Care	0	0	0
Pre-School Playgroup	95%	5%	320
Grand Total	85%	15%	431

Table 3.3b: Percentage of responding providers from Annual FIS Update Winter 2015/16 which had children on a waiting list.

Type of Provider	With children on a waiting list
Child-minder	23%
Day nursery	33%
Out of School Care	0%
Pre-School Playgroup	94%
Grand Total	38%

Of the settings responding September 2016, 258 children were currently on a waiting list.

- 152 of these children were under 2's, and were on a list due to the child being too young to access the setting.
- Most providers responding the September survey were Pre-Schools and Nurseries, which are the most common setting types to keep waiting lists.
- The time range to start the setting, where stated, was between 2 weeks and 2 terms.

4. Gap analysis

Local Authorities use FIS enquiries and complaints from parents who are unable to find a place to meet their needs as one measure of sufficiency and to gauge unmet demand. There is currently no evidence of unmet demand using this measure in NEL. However where there is anecdotal evidence from professionals, the Local Authority undertakes more in depth investigation where this occurs. When deciding whether there is a need for additional places several indicators and measures are used in the assessment. Take up levels are a primary indicators and do not in themselves indicate the need for more places. Other factors such as the location of provision in neighbouring wards and travel patterns, future housing developments etc. need to be considered when planning for places. These factors are all considered when carrying out secondary analysis. Another primary indicator is the number of places available. It does not necessarily mean that a lack of places in a particular area is affecting families ability to access a place as children are free to access a place across the authority and many travel to access a place of their choice. It is only when take up rates were also applied that we can understand whether the supply of places might be a barrier to less mobile families accessing a place.

Many other factors need to be considered such as the level of the deficit, the size of the eligible population, and the availability of providers close to the ward, etc. These and other relevant factors are considered during secondary analysis of the market.

Potential gaps for 2 year FFE places

The national target for take up of 2 year funding is 80%. In order to meet this target there is a need for at least 80 places for every 100 potentially eligible children. Currently there are 133 places per 100 across NEL but these are not always in the areas of highest demand. Overall there is an average take up rate of 85% in NEL. Not all families choose to access their funding within the ward in which they reside.

The Local Authority has identified areas that may require additional places for 2 year old FFE if take up is to increase, however in some cases it is believed that families are reluctant to access a place as they prefer to keep their child at home.

The table below shows the wards in which take up is lower than the local average and or where there are less places than those required to meet the national target for take up

Table 4a - Gap Analysis of 2 year places Summer 2016

Ward	Potentially eligible children (DWP list)	PTE places* (places per child)	Number of eligible children Summer 2016	% Take – up Summer 2016
East Marsh	155	144 (0.93)	140	82%
Heneage	125	93 (0.74)	104	76%
Humb & NW	19	81 (4.26)	14	79%
Immingham	64	114 (1.78)	62	84%
Scartho	34	84 (2.47)	28	82%
Sidney Sussex**	128	78 (0.61)	121	84%
Total for NEL	1067	1416 (1.33)	983	85%

* all places x1.5 to account for fee paying places

** A new setting planned to open in Summer 16 adding a further 45 PTE places which takes the number of places per 100 children to 0.96 in Sidney Sussex

3 & 4 year Flexible Free Entitlement (FFE)

The national target for this cohort is 100% and if this is to be achieved a place is required for every child. Data shows that in total in the Summer term 2016, there were 5,534 FFE places available and an eligible population of 4,002 children. There are 1.38 places per child within NEL.

However, one ward, Waltham, has been identified as having less than 1 place (0.98) per child in the summer term.

0-4 year old Paid for Childcare

The returns from FIS enquiries report, feedback and the parental survey do not show any significant unmet demand for 0-4 year old paid for childcare in any ward within the authority. There are occasionally enquiries when no appropriate childcare is found to meet the needs of the family. In these cases the requirements are usually very specific i.e. need pick-ups from more than one setting etc. but due to the very low number of these cases they do not warrant active intervention in the market. The Local Authority will continue to provide support and advice to families in finding suitable childcare by publishing up to date information on a regular basis. This is made available to families through the Families First Directory and via the social media pages.

5-14 year old Paid for Childcare

The Local Authority is not aware of any unmet demand for paid for breakfast club, after school club or holiday club provision.

The Local Authority will continue to provide support and advice to families in finding suitable childcare by publishing up to date information on a regular basis. This is made available to families through the Families First Directory and via the social media pages.

Appendix - 30 Hour Childcare Offer

Parental Survey on the introduction of 30 hour FFE

From September 2017, the proposed extension from 15 hours to 30 hours of FFE for children of working families is due to be implemented.

The new entitlement to 30 hours free childcare is intended to support working parents with the cost of childcare and enable them, where they wish, to return to work or to work additional hours. The additional 15 hours will be available to families where both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family), and each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage (NMW) or national living wage (NLW), and less than £100,000 per year. Working will include employed and self-employed persons. Parents do not necessarily need to actually work 16 hours a week, but rather their earnings must reflect at least 16 hours of work at NMW or NLW, which is £107 a week at the current NMW rate. This includes those parents on zero contract hours who meet the criteria.²⁰

A survey including both open and closed questions was carried out with parents via an internet based survey in summer 2016 in order to help assess the current views on childcare in North East Lincolnshire, in preparation for the 30 hours free childcare per week from 2017. The aim of this was to help assess the availability of childcare in the places and at times that parents need it, and the anticipated uptake of the additional 15 hours of childcare.

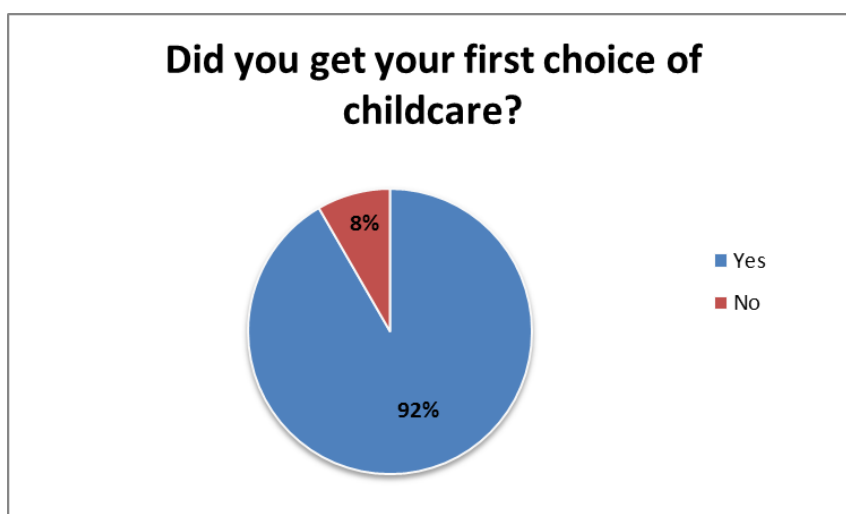
Questions asked related to cost, accessibility and availability of childcare, other provision, and quality of childcare. Results and responses from the survey can be found below.

There were in total 162 responses from parents living in the Local Authority area to the survey and within that number, participation with each question varied, and in each case is stated within the explanations below.

It is important to consider that as the survey had a relatively low response rate it may not be fully representative of all parents needs and views in the local area.

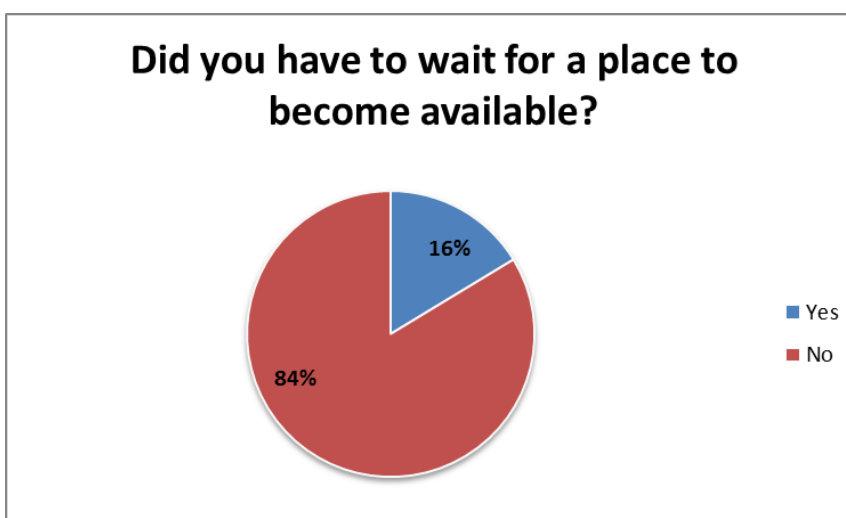
²⁰ DfE – [Childcare Bill: Policy Statement – December 2015](#)

Current Accessibility and Availability of Childcare



of 162 responses, 144 gave a response (yes/no) to the question.

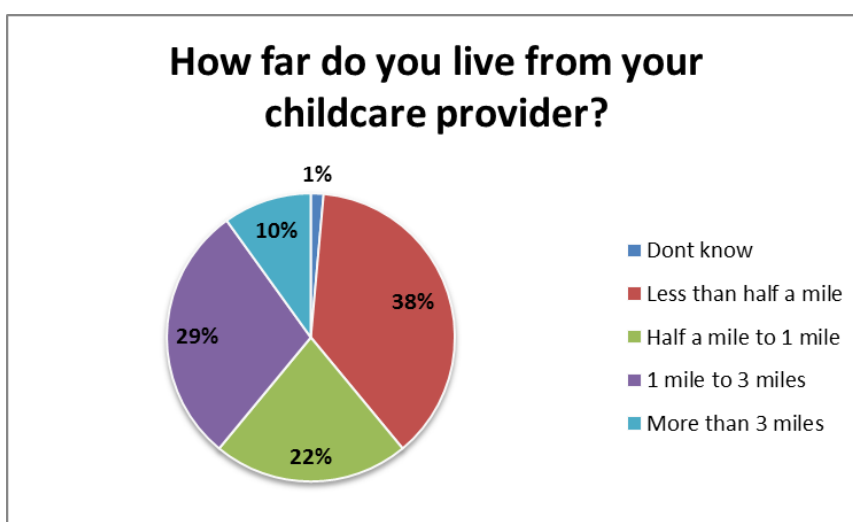
92% (118) of those responding this question, stated they got their first choice of childcare provider, 8% (12) responded they did not. This indicates that, of this sample, the vast majority got their first choice of childcare provider.



Of 162 responses, 141 parents gave either a response (yes/no) to this question.

of the 141 responding to the question, 84% (118) stated they did not have to wait for a place at their provider. 16% (23) responded that they did have to wait for a place.

This indicates, for the parents responding, most did not have to wait for a place to become available for their chosen provider of childcare.



Of the 162 responders, 141 provided an answer to the question.

38% (53) of parents using a childcare provider, live less than half a mile from the provision, 62% (84) live less than a mile from their childcare provider and in total, 89% (125) stated they live less than 3 miles from their childcare provider. This indicates most of the parents in this sample chose a childcare provider relatively close to the family home.

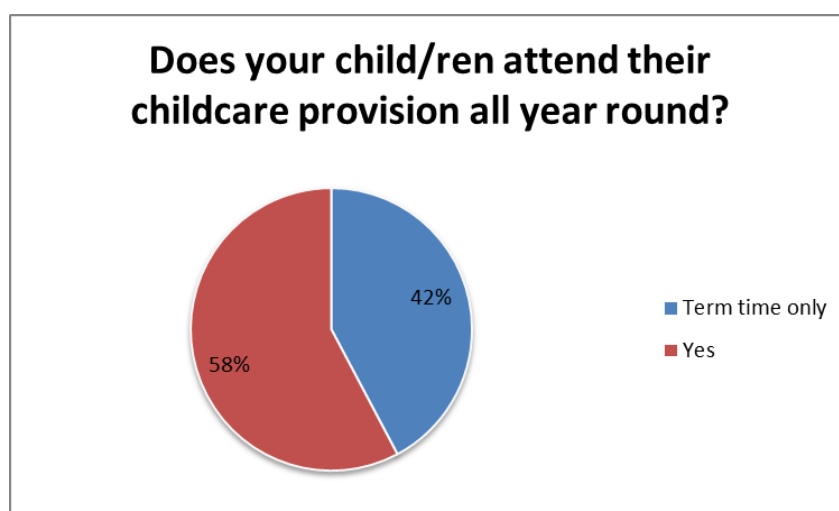
What made you choose your current childcare provider/s?

Of the 162 responses, 146 gave reasons for their choice of childcare provider. (16 selected 'Not Applicable', and are thus not included below.)

As this question was multiple choice, all answers are separately given as a percentage of the total 146 responders which provided at least one reason.

- The most commonly cited reason was distance from the home, 56% (82)
- The next four most cited reasons were: convenience: 41% (60), quality: 40% (58), Ofsted rating: 36% (53) and recommendations: 32% (47)
- Cost was cited by 18% (26) of the 146 individual responses.
- 2% (3) cited that their provider was the only one with spaces available to them, and 1% (2) cited their original provider had closed.

In the government's own consultation to parents and providers around the extension to 30 hours, The main factors that influenced parents' choice of childcare included: convenience (either location or opening hours); the quality of staff and provider (high staff qualifications, Ofsted rating or reputation); and the opportunity for their child to socialise.²⁰



Of the 162 responses, 142 answered the question. Of these, 82 or 58% stated that their children attended the provision all year round.

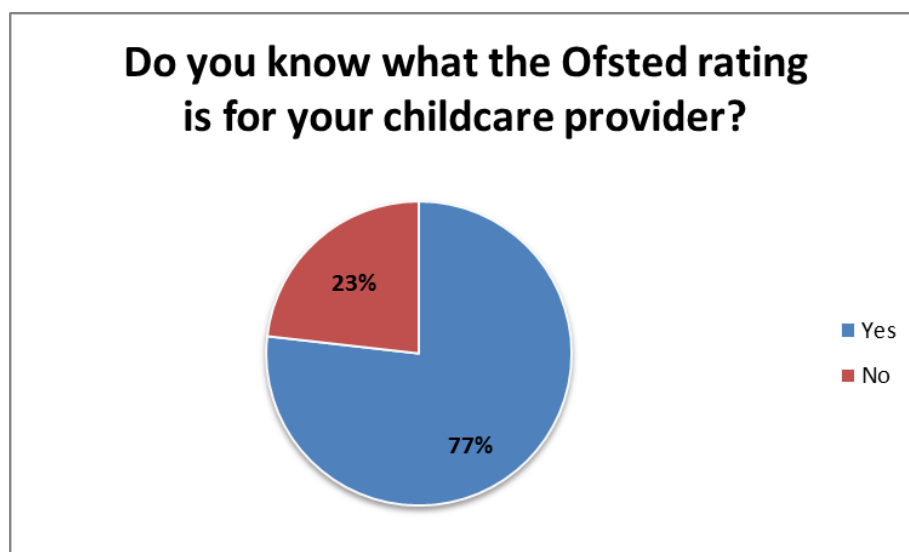
60, or 42% stated their child's attendance to be just term time.

Do you use other Childcare?

When parents were asked if they used other childcare, of the 162 responses to the Childcare Survey, 91, (56%) stated they used another form of childcare other than that mentioned in the survey. As this was a freely typed response, similar answers have been aggregated, and where more than one method of care was mentioned by a parent, all have been counted. 84 (92%) of those who relied on other childcare mentioned Family, or a certain family member as providing care, 12 (13%) mentioned Friends as providing care for children and 6 (7%) mentioned other childcare providers, such as out of school clubs, or private nannies. This response would suggest that there is benefit in additional hours being provided for free to parents.

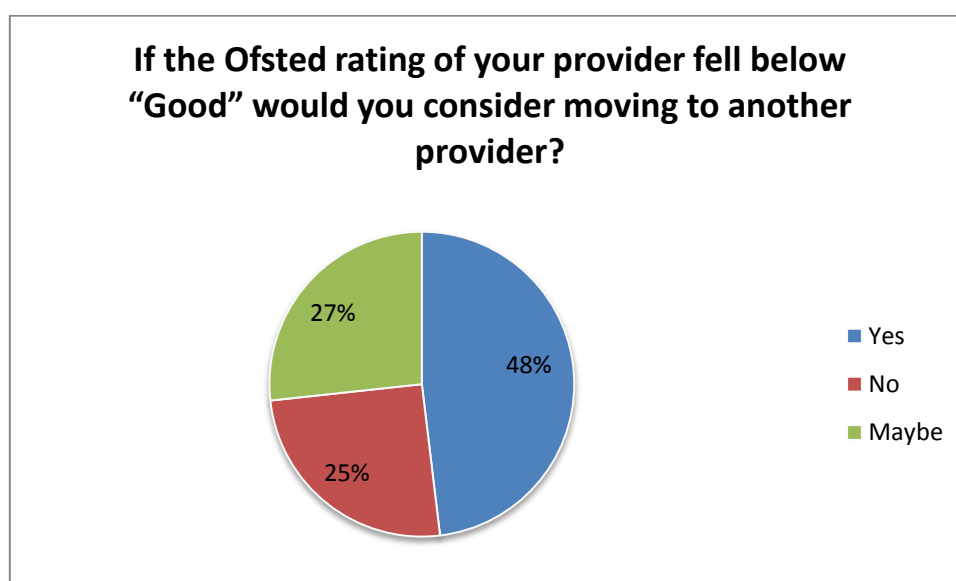
When parents were asked if they currently need or access childcare outside of normal working hours, of the 162 responses to the survey, 103 (64%) stated they needed childcare outside of normal childcare provider working hours. Of these, 80 (78%) stated they needed care before 9am. 65 (63%) stated they needed care during school holidays and 50 (49%) stated they need care after 5pm. 12 (12%) also stated they needed childcare over weekends. This not only indicates demand for additional hours of childcare, but also extended hours throughout all days of the week including weekends. (In both questions, all answers are given a percentage separately as part of the total responding the question).

Quality



Of 162 responses, 138 gave a response to this question.

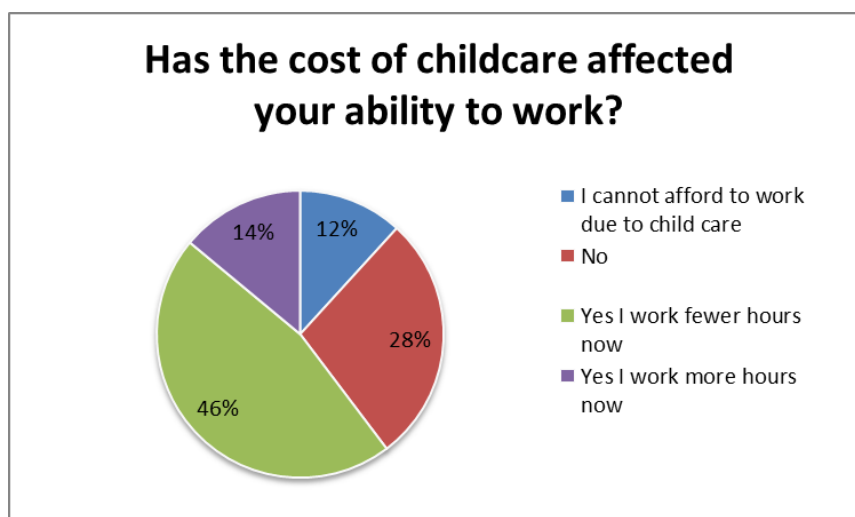
Of these, 106 (77%) stated they were aware of the Ofsted rating for their provision, 32 (33%) stated they were not aware of the rating. This suggests that for those completing the survey, Most parents make themselves aware of the Ofsted rating for their provider.



of 162 overall responses, 131 gave a response to this question.

Of the 131, 48% (63) responded Yes, they would move their child if the Ofsted report was less than 'good', 25% (33) responded that they would not move their child. a further 27% (35) would consider whether or not to move their child. This suggests that for those completing the survey, the Ofsted rating is an important quality measure, and has a strong influence on provider choice.

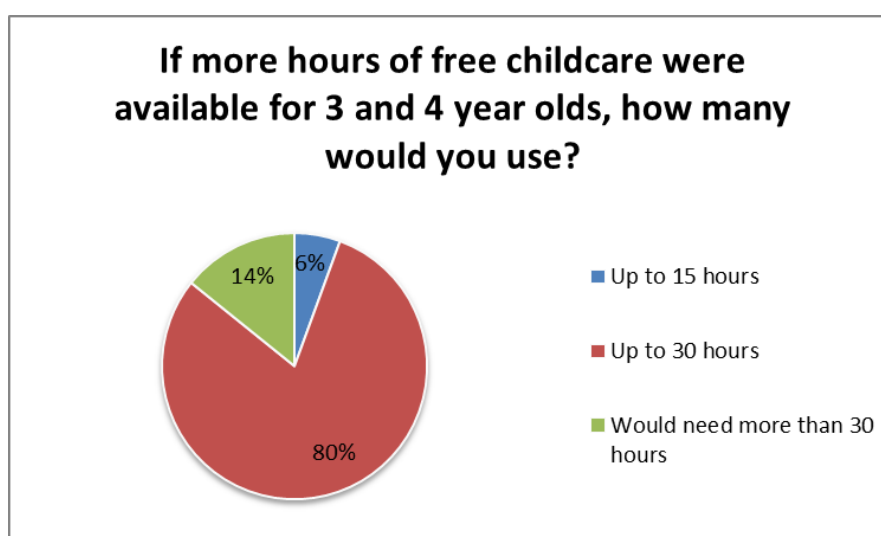
Cost



Of the 162 parents who responded to the survey, 136 answered the question.

Of those which answered the question, 16 (12%) suggested they could not work at all due to childcare costs. A further 63 (46%) had reduced their hours to lower childcare costs. 38 (28%) responded that they had an unaffected work pattern since using childcare, and 19 (14%) responded that they now worked more hours.

30 hour proposal



Of the 162 responses, 130 (80%) suggested they would use the 30 free hours available when implemented by the Government. An additional 23 (14%) indicated that 30 hours was not enough provision. 9 (6%) stated that 15 hours was sufficient for their needs.

Nationally in a government survey, 89% of respondents stated they would take up the additional hours if they were available now²⁰ Both these results suggest a demand for more free childcare hours.

Sources of information

Integrated Family Services
Riverside Children's Centre,
Central Parade,
Grimsby,
DN34 4HE

North East Lincolnshire Council
www.nelincs.gov.uk

Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted)
www.ofsted.gov.uk

North East Lincolnshire Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2016

Prepared by:

Information Management, IT Enablers, Northern Lincolnshire Business Connect

Title: Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2016

Author: Information Management Team

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