



Briefing Note for Children's Scrutiny Meeting

Family Hubs

This briefing note provides summary information on the latest position in relation to The Family hubs across North East Lincolnshire. This will focus upon the impact and reach of the hubs, including the footfall and new registrations (memberships) within the last Quarter.

Overall the use of the Hubs continues to increase, this is aligned to community engagement, specific events, continued strengthened links with the voluntary sector, partnerships being based within the hubs, making them the heart of the community. The updates below provide the current position, with the understanding that the new Best Start guidance has been issued and will increase the offer further within the Hubs and community, with the Hubs being rebranded to Best Start Family Hubs and in consideration of the government reforms as we continue to further enhance the preventative and integration agenda.

Overall populations and summary:

In Q3 into Q4 (Q4 full data not yet available) there have been a total of 775 new registrations across the 7 Family Hubs, 1428 sessions ran from the Hubs with 8326 attendees to these sessions. The Primary demographics for those accessing the Hubs are adults aged between 30-34 years, closely following by those aged 25-29 years, of these adults they are predominantly white British, and female, however the number of males accessing the Hubs is continuing to increase compared to previous Quarters. The primary child age is under 1 years, followed by children aged 2 years, however the age range includes those up to 9 years of age. We are continuing to review how to enhance our 0-19 offer.

In addition to the offer within the Hubs, the outreach support continues, to ensure families can be supported where they feel unable to attend a Hub or require support to build their confidence to attend.

The summer activities events were a success across the Hubs, ensuring further visibility of the offer and reaching new families, who had not previously accessed the Hubs. Summer 2025 activities engaged double the amount of families of the previous year and led to increased registrations at all hubs

Learning Through Play, Stay and Play Rhyme Time, Baby Rhyme Time and Baby Massage are the highest accessed sessions closely followed by Drop in support for weighing and the Infant feeding peer support sessions.

Overall impact:

The overall impact of the Hubs continues to ensure support and community engagement at the earliest and lowest level, this in turn also ensures families in the community know where to access if they are in need of support. Additionally the workforce know their communities and families and therefore can identify increasing need and respond appropriately.

In line with the Social Care reforms, the integrated offer of family help will be further strengthened and Family Hubs will be central to this. The Government have confirmed the funding for Best Start Family Hubs will continue from 2026–29 and have introduced Best Start in Life: Healthy Babies to strengthen the health offer in the first 1,001 days. Locally, we have transformed our seven hubs into accessible “one-stop” holistic support venues for families (0–19, or up to 25 with SEND), we have refreshed our Early Help Strategy, and continue to review our targeted Family Help offer aligned to national guidance, ensuring the right support at the right time and at the lowest level. Future updates on developments, delivery and performance of the family hubs will be brought through the wider transformation agenda within the Social Care Reforms briefings, giving Members clear visibility of progress, outcomes and next steps.

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