

# **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment**

## **2017**

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## I Introduction

The Childcare Act 2006 and 2016 and the associated statutory guidance for local authorities on Early Education and Childcare – March 2017, requires Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (the Local Authority) to secure sufficient childcare, as 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 duty is detailed in the following sections of the Acts:

### Childcare Act 2006

Section 6	secures sufficient childcare for parents;
Section 7	secures free early years provision free of charge;
Section 7A	discharges its duty;
Section 9	gives LA's the power to attach requirements to the arrangements they make with providers (other than the governing body of a maintained school) to deliver childcare including free early years provision;
Section 9a	allows regulations to be made which prescribe the requirements local authorities may or may not impose when they make arrangements;
Section 12	provides information, advice and assistance to parents about childcare in the area;
Section 13	to secure the provision of information, advice and training to childcare providers and childcare workers

### Childcare Act 2016

Section 1	places a duty on the secretary of state to secure the equivalent of 30 hours free childcare over 38 weeks of the year for qualifying children;
Section 2	allows the Secretary of state to discharge her duty under section 1 of the Act by placing a duty on English local authorities to secure free childcare for qualifying children;

To secure sufficient childcare places, local authorities should take into account:

- what is 'reasonably practicable' when assessing what sufficient childcare means for their area;
- 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 state of the labour market including the sufficiency of the local childcare workforce;
- the quality and capacity of childcare providers and childminders registered with a childminder agency, including their funding, staff, premises, experience and expertise;
- should encourage schools in their area to offer out-of-hours childcare from 8.00am until 6.00pm and in school holidays;
- should encourage existing providers to expand their provision and new providers to enter the local childcare market; and
- should encourage providers to take sustainable business approach to planning and signpost providers to resources to support them.

The Local Authority is responsible for determining the appropriate level of detail in the report, geographical division and date of publication. However, the report should include:

- a specific reference to how we are ensuring there is sufficient childcare available to meet the needs of: children with special educational needs and disabilities 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 two, three and four taking up free places; school age children; and children needing holiday care.
- Information about the current and projected supply and demand of childcare for particular age ranges of children, and the affordability, accessibility and quality of provision; and
- Details of how any gaps in childcare provision will be addressed.

In addition, the Local Authority is required by legislation to maintain a service that provides information, to parents and prospective parents on the provision of childcare in their area, as listed in Schedule 1 of the Childcare Act 2006 and from 1<sup>st</sup> September publish this information electronically on the local authority website and update it at a minimum termly on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1<sup>st</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> September, ensuring parents are aware of:

- Early education places for two, three and four year olds;
- The option to continue to take up their child's 15 hour early education place until their child reaches compulsory school age;
- How to identify high quality provision in their area.

### **1.1 The Stockton-on-Tees childcare market**

Stockton-on-Tees has a robust childcare market with a combination of privately owned and voluntary sector facilities in addition to 189 childminders (See section 3.1). Three Independent Schools also provide early years places for 3 & 4 year olds. Primary schools continue to play a key role in ensuring childcare places for school aged children are available, generally delivered in partnership with a Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) provider on a commissioned basis.

The Local Authority has an excellent relationship with childcare providers and good partnership working has ensured that the quality of settings has continued to improve, closing the gap and exceeding the national average.

The childcare sector works closely with Local Authority Officers to explore sufficiency issues and identify workable solutions.

### **1.2 Early education places for the two, three and four year olds**

All children who meet the prescribed criteria are able to take up high quality early education, regardless of their parents' ability to pay – benefiting their social, physical and mental development and helping to prepare them for school. Evidence shows that regular good quality early education has lasting benefits for all children.

### Two year olds:

In September 2013 the Government imposed a legal duty on local authorities to secure early education places for 2 year olds by offering 570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks for every eligible child in the borough.

A child can access a place if they are looked after by the Local Authority or eligible for Free School Meals. The entitlement commences from the term after the child's second birthday.

In September 2014 and in addition to the above eligibility criteria, additional places were offered to two year olds where parents/carers were in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- The Guaranteed Element of state pension credit
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Working Tax Credits and/or Child Tax Credits and have an annual household income that does not exceed £16,190
- 4 week 'run on' of Working Tax Credit due to employment ending

Or:

- Have a current statement of Special Educational Need (SEN) or an education, health and care plan
- Have Disability Living Allowance;
- Be looked after by their Local Authority
- Have left care under a special guardianship, child arrangements or an adoption order.

### Three and four year olds:

The Local Authority are required by legislation to secure early education places by offering 570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks for **every** child in the borough from the relevant date; until the child reaches compulsory school age (the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday).

In September 2017, the Government is set to introduce an extended free childcare entitlement for working parents of three- and four-year-olds which will provide eligible parents with a total of 30 hours of free childcare per week, over 38 weeks or the equivalent number of hours across more weeks per year.

### **1.3 The Report**

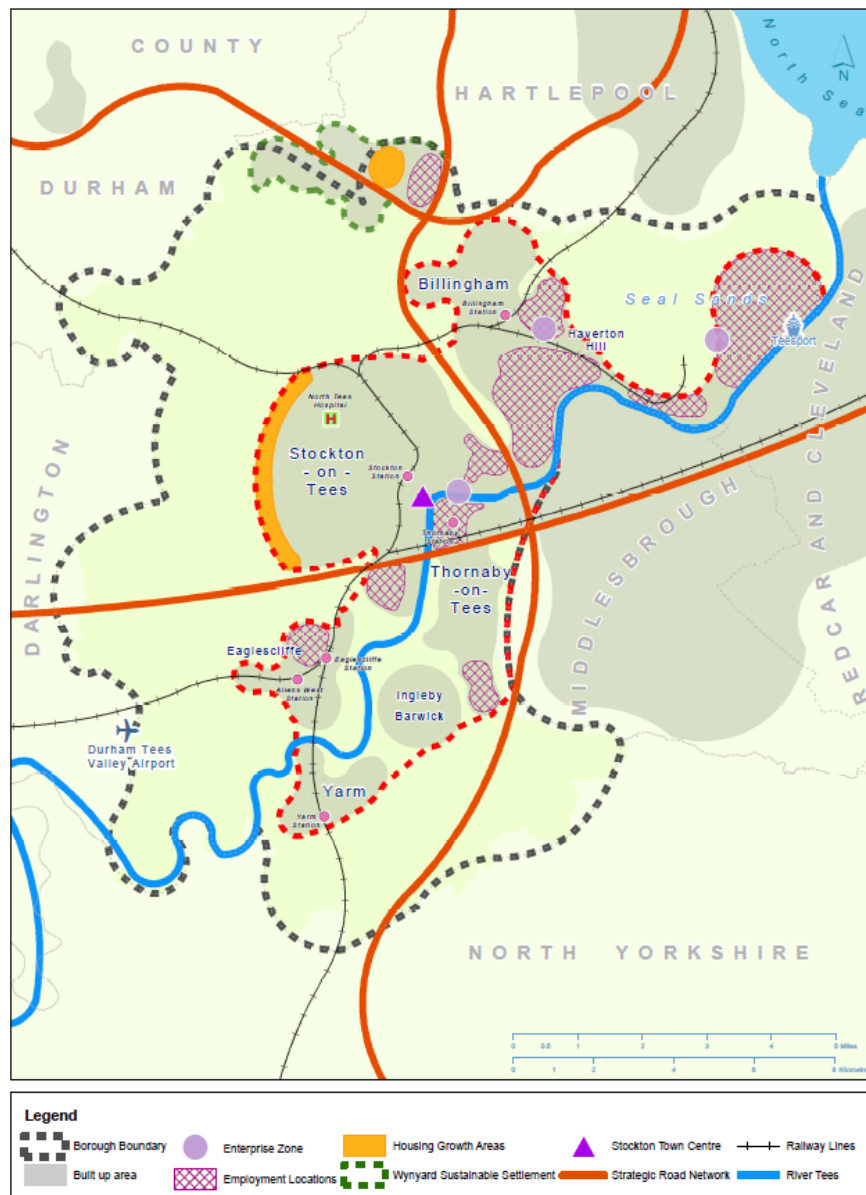
This report takes into account what the Local Authority means as 'sufficient childcare' in the borough and includes the following:

- Background and contextual information regarding population, Labour Market Information (LMI), early years and childcare numbers across the borough.
- Information about the supply of childcare for particular age ranges of children, and the affordability, accessibility and quality of provision.
- The state of the local childcare market, including the demand for specific types of providers, in particular ward areas and the amount and type of supply that currently exists.
- The quality and capacity of childcare providers.
  - Details of how gaps in childcare provision will be addressed.

This Assessment Report will be updated and reported to the Council's Cabinet for endorsement annually. The Assessment Report will also be made available and accessible to parents.

## 2 Stockton-on-Tees in context

### 2.1 Economic geography



#### Location and Economic Profiles

Stockton-on-Tees covers 20,393 hectares. The principal settlements are Stockton, Billingham, Thornaby, Ingleby Barwick, Norton, and Yarm with the western part of the Borough characterised by more rural and village settlements.

As an economic asset, the River Tees courses through the Borough and sustains a variety of uses; from a working river upstream; a leisure destination; and forming part of the tranquil green corridors. The Borough is bounded by County Durham to the north; Darlington to the west; Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool to the east; and Hambleton to the south.

Stockton-on-Tees benefits from good access to the strategic road network – A19, A66 and A67 – and a network of bus routes that provide frequent services to connect residents to work and leisure destinations predominantly across Tees Valley, and for the movement of goods and services.

There are six train stations in total providing frequent access to destinations in Tees Valley and across the North, and a direct link to London via the East Coast Mainline.

The Borough is home to Durham Tees Valley Airport located in the South East. It provides freight services, and international connections via three flights per day to Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam, as well as regular flights to Aberdeen.

The Borough forms part of the Tees Valley Combined Authority wider functioning economic area, which is home to some 667,469<sup>1</sup> people.

## 2.2 Demographic profile

In 2015 the population was estimated at 194,803 living in approx. 84,451<sup>2</sup> households. In the last ten years, it is estimated that the population has risen by 4.5%, compared to an increase in the North East of 3.0%<sup>3</sup>. The population in the Borough is projected to grow to 204,411 by 2025 which is an increase of 4.8% over the ten year period 2015-2025<sup>4</sup>.

19.5% of the population within Stockton-on-Tees are children and young people aged (0-15), which is slightly higher than across the North East (17.7%) and nationally (18.9%).

### Estimated resident population (% of total population)

Age range	2014	2018	2022	2026
0-4 years	12,449 6.41%	12,017 6.07%	12,298 6.10%	12,351 6.02%
5-9 years	12,162 6.26%	12,903 6.52%	12,435 6.16%	12,610 6.14%
10-14 years	10,865 5.60%	12,038 6.08%	12,986 6.44%	12,666 6.17%
Total population	194,119 100%	197,895 100%	201,738 100%	204,411 100%

Source: ONS 2014- based Population projections

The percentage of the Borough's population from a BME background has increased from 2.8% in 2001 to 5.8% in 2011<sup>5</sup>. The largest minority ethnic group is Asian or Asian British; this ethnic group accounts for 3.4% of the population, which is double the figure recorded 10 years ago.

The Borough has a unique social and economic mix, with areas of disadvantage situated alongside areas of affluence. The English Indices of Deprivation 2015 shows that seven of Stockton's 26 wards are within the 10% most deprived wards nationally and five are within the 10-20% most deprived<sup>5</sup>. By contrast, one ward is within the 10% least deprived wards nationally.

<sup>1</sup> ONS 2015 Mid-year Population Estimates

<sup>2</sup> Valuation office agency – council tax statistics for April 2015

<sup>3</sup> Comparisons with ONS mid-2005 and mid-2015 populations estimates

<sup>4</sup> ONS mid-2014 based population projections

<sup>5</sup> Census



Of particular note is the fact that Stockton Town Centre<sup>6</sup> ranks as the 13<sup>th</sup> most deprived ward in the country, whilst Ingleby Barwick West is amongst the least deprived wards. Compared with the other Tees Valley Local Authorities Stockton has lower deprivation in relation to Crime and Disorder. In the Borough, the percentage of the population in good health is 79.8% in 2011<sup>3</sup>, which is just above the Tees Valley average and below the national average.

### Estimated child population as a percentage of total by Ward area

Ward Areas	Estimated population 0-15 years*	% of population 0-15 years
Billingham Central	1,590	21.3%
Billingham East	1,640	22.4%
Billingham North	1,510	16.8%
Billingham South	1,450	21.3%
Billingham West	670	12.2%
Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree	1,010	15.7%
Eaglescliffe	1,930	18.3%
Fairfield	840	14.7%
Grangefield	1,190	17.9%
Hardwick	1,880	25.1%
Hartburn	980	15.2%
Ingleby Barwick East	2,350	22.5%
Ingleby Barwick West	3,070	26.6%
Mandale & Victoria	2,410	20.3%
Newtown	1,780	24.2%
Northern Parishes	650	18.7%
Norton North	1,320	19.5%
Norton South	1,280	16.8%
Norton West	930	14.9%
Parkfield & Oxbridge	1,640	20.6%
Roseworth	1,620	22.3%

<sup>6</sup> TVU IMD 2015 Executive Summary [https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/4.-imd\\_borough\\_report\\_2015.pdf](https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/4.-imd_borough_report_2015.pdf)

Stainsby Hill	1,230	19.1%
Stockton Town Centre	1,320	18.0%
Village	1,390	19.3%
Western parishes	540	16.2%
Yarm	1560	15.8%
<b>Stockton-on-Tees</b>	<b>37,790</b>	<b>19.5%</b>

<b>Darlington</b>	20,090	19.1%
<b>Hartlepool</b>	17,650	19.1%
<b>Middlesbrough</b>	28,300	20.3%
<b>Redcar and Cleveland</b>	24,100	17.8%
<b>Tees Valley</b>	127,930	19.2%
<b>North East</b>	463,860	17.7%
<b>National</b>	10,858,400	18.9%

Source: TVCA Population Estimates (exact fit using ONS OA 2014 population estimates)

### 2.3 Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), those looked after and those registered with a disability

SEN – The Department for Education (DfE) ‘Children with SEN’ Statistical First Release (SFR) published 21/07/2016 (SFR29/2016) based on where the pupil attends schools using the January 2016 school census indicated that there were a total of 804 pupils with Education, Health and care Plan/Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) – a decrease of 39 pupils on 2015.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) with statements/EHC plans, based on where the pupil attends schools – Table 12

2014			2015			2016		
Total pupils	Pupils with statements	%	Total pupils	Pupils with statements	%	Total pupils	Pupils with statements/EHC Plans	%
31,651	836	2.6	32,029	843	2.6	32,428	804	2.5

Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) with SEN support, based on where the pupil attends all schools – Table 13

2014			2015			2016		
Total pupils	Pupils without statements	%	Total pupils	Pupils without statements	%	Total pupils	Pupils without statements/EHC Plans	%
31,651	4,373	13.8	32,029	4,100	12.8	32,428	3,982	12.3

Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) within state funded primary schools only – Table 14

Total pupils	Pupils with Statements / EHC plans		Pupils with SEN Support		Total pupils with SEN	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
19,618	124	0.6	2,608	13.3	2,732	13.9

Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) within state funded secondary schools only – Table 14

Total pupils	Pupils with Statements / EHC plans		Pupils with SEN Support		Total pupils with SEN	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
10,357	109	1.1	1,148	11.1	1,257	12.1

Total number of Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) within all schools – Table 15

Total pupils	Pupils with Statements / EHC plans		Pupils with SEN Support		Total pupils with SEN	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
32,428	804	2.5	3,982	12.3	4,786	14.8

LAC – The DfE’s ‘Children looked after in England, including adoption’ SFR updated 28<sup>th</sup> February 2016 (SFR 41/2016) indicated that at 31 March 2016 there were a total of 375 Looked After Children in Stockton-on-Tees this equates to 88 children per 10,000 aged under 18 years. This is equivalent to the same period in 2015. There were 265 (70%) of looked after children placed with a foster carer who were placed within the borough, which is slightly lower than 2015.

Planning for childcare sufficiency takes into account changes arising from SEN reform and also the information recorded through the Disability Register.

The Local Authority launched its 'Children's & Young People's Disability Register Stockton (C&YPDR)' in the summer of 2013 as a confidential record of information about children and young people with disabilities living in the Stockton-on-Tees area. It assists with service planning to meet the needs of children with disabilities and additional needs, now and in the future. Children's names are added to the register, and in return parents can receive information about services and special events available in their area. At 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017 there have been a total of 410 children registered by parents and carers since its launch, which is a slight increase on 2016.

## 2.4 Labour Market Information (LMI)

In 2015 there were around 87,000 jobs in Stockton-on-Tees, which is growth of 8,200 compared to 2010. The largest employment sector was 'Health' sector made up 13.1% of the employment<sup>7</sup> equating to 11,400 jobs; of which around 600 could be classified as 'Child Day Care Activities' (growth of 65% since 2010).

The 'Professional, Scientific and Technical' sector made up 11.3% and 'Manufacturing' 11.0% of jobs. Again, these two sectors have grown over the last 5 years; with employment in the 'Professional, Scientific and Technical' sector in particular showing evidence of strong growth with a 52.3% increase.

Employment in 'Manufacturing' has increased since 2010 although it is worth noting that the figure reported in 2010 was the lowest ever recorded for manufacturing jobs in Stockton-on-Tees. Employment levels in 'Manufacturing' are still considerably lower than before the 2008 recession.

The sub-sector of 'Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products' makes up almost 1 in 4 (24.3%) of all manufacturing jobs in Stockton-on-Tees and has seen growth of nearly 500 jobs since 2010. This represents a specialism locally; as more than 1 in 4 of the North East jobs in the sector are located in Stockton-on-Tees despite the fact that the Borough's residents make up only 7.4% of the North East population.

Other notable changes in employment include growth in 'Education', 'Business Administration and Support Services', 'Accommodation and Food Services' and the 'Wholesale' sector, whilst the sector with the largest negative change in job numbers was 'Public Administration and Defence'.

83.2% of jobs in Stockton-on-Tees are in the private sector, which is slightly higher than the national proportion (82.5%) which itself is higher than the Tees Valley (77.5%) and North East figures (77.6%).

As well as additional jobs due to expansion (new job creation) there is a significant demand for jobs created by retirements in the existing workforce. Between the years 2014-2024 it is forecast<sup>8</sup> that in the Tees Valley around 293,000 jobs in 2014 will grow by 17,000 to 310,000 by 2024 due to expansion demand, but during this time there will be replacement demand for 116,000 jobs. The replacement demand created by retirements is equivalent to 40.0% of the 2014 workforce.

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<sup>7</sup> Employment figures are from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) (ONS – 2016). Employment includes employees plus the number of working owners. BRES therefore includes self-employed workers as long as they are registered for VAT or Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) schemes. Self-employed people not registered for these, along with HM Forces and Government Supported trainees are excluded.

<sup>8</sup> UKCES- UK labour market projections: 2014 to 2024 (Working Futures)

## Employee Jobs by Industry (2015)

Industry	Stockton (Number of employee jobs)	% of total employee jobs		
		Stockton (%)	North East (%)	England (%)
Mining and Utilities	975	1.1	1.2	1.1
Manufacturing	10,000	11.6	11.0	8.2
Construction	6000	7.0	4.8	4.5
Services	68,000	79.1	83.1	86.1
Of which:				
Wholesale & Retail	13,000	15.1	14.0	15.9
Transport & Storage	4000	4.7	4.0	4.8
Accommodation & Food Services	5,000	5.8	7.3	7.1
Information & Communication	1,750	2.0	3.1	4.5
Financial and Insurance Activities	2,250	2.6	2.2	3.6
Real Estate Activities	1,000	1.2	1.5	1.7
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	10,000	11.6	6.6	8.7
Administrative and Support Activities	6,000	7.0	7.3	9.1
Public Admin and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	3,500	4.1	6.3	4.1
Education	8,000	9.3	11.0	9.3
Human Health and Social Work	11,000	12.8	15.7	12.8
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	1,500	1.7	2.2	2.4
Other Services	1,000	1.2	1.9	2.1

Source: ONS business register and employment survey 2015

## 2.4.1 Economic activity

Economic activity refers to the number or percentage of people of working age who are in employment plus those that are unemployed. Economic activity rates in Stockton-on-Tees (74.4%) are higher than the Tees Valley (73.7%) but lower than the North East (75.5%) and United Kingdom.

For those without a job it is only those who are actively seeking work that count towards unemployment figures and those who aren't seeking work are classed as economically inactive. Unemployment estimates in Stockton-on-Tees are relatively low at 4.8% compared to 6.5% in the Tees Valley, but lower than the UK at 4.4%. (This estimate of unemployment, like employment figures, is based on a sample survey and subject to sampling error.) A model based estimate of unemployment strengthened by figures from DWP benefit claimants is available which predicts that for the year ending December 2016 around 6,100 people were unemployed in Stockton-on-Tees. This is the lowest figure since before the 2008 recession, and as a proportion of the economically active population (6.4%) is higher than the national equivalent (4.8%) but lower than the North East figure (6.6%).

### Estimated Economic activity rates (Jan 2016 – December 2016)

	Stockton	Tees Valley	North East	United Kingdom
All people (aged 16-64):	122,100	413,100	1,652,400	41,019,500
Economically active	90,800 74.4%	304,600 73.7%	1,248,100 75.5%	3,188,7600 77.7%
In employment	86,500 70.8%	284,800 68.9%	1,163,800 70.4%	30,299,400 73.9%
Employees	76,900 63.0%	250,900 60.7%	1,035,800 62.7%	25,818,100 62.9%
Self employed	8,800 7.2%	31,200 7.6%	119,500 7.2%	4,326,600 10.5%
Unemployed	4,400 4.8%	19,800 6.5%	84,300 6.8%	1,588,200 5.0%

Source: ONS annual population survey - year ending December 2016

## 2.4.2 Economic Inactivity

Economic inactivity refers to people who are of working age (16-64, but are not actively seeking work. Reasons for this may include sickness, study, retirement or choosing to look after family/home. An estimated 25.6% of residents in Stockton-on-Tees are economically inactive<sup>9</sup> which is higher than nationally (22.3%) and regionally (24.5%).

<sup>9</sup> Office for National Statistics - Annual Population Survey – Year Ending December 2016

### 2.4.3 Patterns of work

A slightly higher percentage of employee jobs are full-time in Stockton-on-Tees compared to the Tees Valley, North East and England.

#### Employee Jobs (2015)

Total employee jobs	Stockton	Tees Valley	North East	England
Full time	69.7%	66.7%	67.8%	69.5%
Part-time	30.3%	33.3%	32.2%	30.5%

Source: ONS business register and employment survey 2015

### 2.4.4 Working age benefits

The claimant count includes those seeking Jobseekers Allowance (JSA), which is an employment benefit payable to people under pensionable age who are available for and actively seeking work. The count also includes those who are on Universal Credit and do not have a job. Universal Credit is currently being rolled out across the Borough and will replace JSA. As of March 2017 a total of 4,205 people made up the 'claimant count', which is 3.4% of the working age population. The highest concentration of claimants at 5.5% is for those aged 18-24 population.

#### Claimant Count by Gender (March 2017)

	Stockton	North East	Great Britain
<b>All claimants</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
Males	4.7%	4.3%	2.5%
Females	2.2%	2.2%	1.4%

Source: ONS claimant count (NOMIS)

#### Claimant Count by Age (March 2017)

	Stockton	North East	Great Britain
<b>All claimants</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
Aged 16 -17	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Aged 18 to 24	5.8%	4.8%	2.9%
Aged 25 to 49	3.5%	3.4%	2.0%
Aged 50+	2.6%	2.5%	1.7%

Source: ONS claimant count (NOMIS)

## 2.4.5 Income

Based on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey 2016 the average gross weekly pay in Stockton-on-Tees is £522.70; more than the average for the North East region (£492.20), but lower than England as a whole (£541.00).

### Average gross weekly pay 2015

Gross weekly pay	Stockton	North East	Great Britain
Full time workers	£522.70	£492.20	£541.00
Male FT workers	£551.00	£524.90	£581.20
Female FT workers	£494.80	£438.00	£481.10

Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings – resident analysis (NOMIS)

## 2.5 Potential impact from approved and strategic housing developments

The Local Authority considers any potential future children yield numbers in terms of planning sufficient childcare places from approved housing developments across the borough. All housing developments must include a percentage of affordable housing within its development that is considered when planning any future childcare arrangements. The Local Authority also considers the impact on the ‘childcare offer’ of the other strategic sites (1,000 or more homes) and their likely pupil yield numbers.

## 3. The supply of childcare

### 3.1 Registered childcare

Data has been supplied by either the Local Authority’s Families Information Service (FIS) as part of the Planning & Partnership team or from the DfE Statistical First Release (SFR 23/2016) ‘Provision for Children under 5 years of age in England: January 2016’ published 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 to inform this report.

Since September 2008 childcare for children aged less than 8 years old has had to be registered on one of two Ofsted childcare registers.

- The Early Years Register (EYR) – all childcare providers caring for children aged up to five are required to join the Early Years Register (unless exempt).
- The Ofsted Childcare Register (OCR) – this has two parts:
  - The compulsory part – providers of childcare to children aged 5 to 7 years must register on the compulsory part of the OCR (unless exempt);
  - The voluntary part – providers of childcare to children aged 8 and over, and care for children of any age that is activity based or provided in the child’s own home, can



choose to be registered on the voluntary part of the OCR if they meet the requirements.

The following section provides an overview of registered provision.

## **Free entitlement provision in Stockton-on-Tees**

### **Two year old entitlement**

In September 2013 the Government introduced a new entitlement for up to 40% of all two year olds to access funded early education. The legal entitlement was introduced in two phases, the first phase from September 2013 offered the opportunity of funded early education to 20% of qualifying children across Stockton-on-Tees and in September 2014, the second phase extended the offer of places to 40% of qualifying children.

The free places available are targeted towards those children that will benefit the most, with the primary focus being on economic disadvantage. An eligible child is entitled to receive a maximum of 570 hours of funded provision across the year.

This free entitlement has stimulated an increased demand for high quality early years places for 2 year olds in communities where there previously has been a limited requirement for provision.

At the end of March 2017, there were 877 eligible 2 year olds placed. There has been a further increase of 3% in the take up of places compared to those reported last year.

### **Number of 2 year olds taking up funded early education places by type of provider**

Type of provider	Actual no. of children benefitting from funded early education (570 hrs) 2013	Actual no. of children benefitting from funded early education (570 hrs) 2014	Actual no. of children benefitting from funded early education (570 hrs) Jan 2016	Actual no. of children benefitting from funded early education (570 hrs) Jan 2017	% increase in take up since end of 2016
PVI	348	554	722	785	
Independent schools	0	0	0	0	
Maintained nursery and state funded primary schools	8	24	95*	48*	
Special schools	0	0	0	0	
Childminders	-	17	35	44	
<b>Total</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>3%</b>

Source: Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council FIS end of Mar 2017

\* includes rising 3 year olds

### **Percentage of 2 year old children benefitting from funded early education places.**

	2015	2016	2017
2 year olds	58%	78%	93%

Source DfE Statistical First Return (SFR 23/2016) 'Provision for Children under 5 years of age in England: January 2016' published 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 (Table 5LA) & Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council FIS end of Mar 2017

### 3 and 4 year old entitlement

All primary schools in Stockton-on-Tees have nursery classes; 87% of places taken up in January 2016 were accessed through maintained provision which is significantly higher than the England figure of 57%. Statistical First Release on the Provision for Children under five years in England (January 2016) indicates that 4,402 three and four year old children benefitted from funded early education in the maintained nursery and state funded primary schools sector, 517 children benefitted in the PVI sector and 127 in Independent schools

#### Number of 3 and 4 year olds taking up or benefiting from funded early education places by type of provider.

Type of provider	Actual no. of children benefitting from funded early education (570hrs)
PVI	517
Independent schools	127
Maintained nursery and state funded primary schools	4396
Special schools	6
Total	5050

Source: DfE Statistical First Return (SFR 23/2016) 'Provision for Children under 5 years of age in England: January 2016' published 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 (Table 2LA)

#### Percentage of 3 and 4 year old children benefitting from funded early education places.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
3 year olds	96%	101%	96%	98%	95%	97%
4 year olds	102%	98%	101%	100%	102%	99%
Total	99%	100%	98%	99%	99%	98%

Source: DfE Statistical First Return (SFR 23/2016) 'Provision for Children under 5 years of age in England: January 2016' published 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 (Table 5LA)

Given that registration on the Ofsted childcare register for places for children aged over 8 is voluntary, the following table will underestimate the actual supply of places for older children as some provision (including extended services in schools) will not be registered on the childcare register.

#### Provision of registered childcare places – local authority level

Type of provision	Number of registered childcare places					Total places	% all places	Number of providers
	0-1 years	2 years	3-4 years	5-7 years	8+ years			
Childminding	195	196	190	587	185	1353	29%	189
Crèche	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Day Nursery	579	795	660	55	12	2101	45%	43

Out of School Care	0	0	137	487	297	<b>921</b>	20%	31
Pre-school / Playgroup	0	153	129	0	0	<b>282</b>	6%	10
Totals by age range	774	1144	1116	1129	494	<b>4657</b>		
% of all registered places	16.6%	24.6%	24%	24.2%	10.6%			
<b>Total registered places 0-5 years = 3034 (65.15% of total places)</b>								

Source: Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council FIS March 2017

### 3.2 Geographical distribution of childcare places

The following table highlights the distribution of childcare places across the Local Authority's Ward Areas.

Ward	Number of registered childcare places (% of total for each type of provision)				
	Childminding	Day Nursery	Out of School Care	Pre-School Playgroup	Overall Places
Billingham Central	21.24	50.44	0	28.32	2.43
Billingham East	17.57	51.88	30.54	0	5.13
Billingham North	100	0	0	0	1.70
Billingham South	12.79	55.81	22.09	9.3	3.69
Billingham West	67.12	0	0	32.88	1.57
Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree	100	0	0	0	2.00
Eaglescliffe	32.82	35.11	27.48	4.58	8.44
Fairfield	33.33	33.33	33.33	0	1.55
Grangefield	100	0	0	0	1.78
Hardwick	25	75	0	0	1.72
Hartburn	21.64	24.38	39.05	14.93	8.63
Ingleby East	57.68	17.01	25.31	0	5.18
Ingleby West	39.70	21.11	2.71	12.06	8.55
Mandale & Victoria	8.11	83.78	8.11	0	3.18
Newtown	7.07	66.08	26.86	0	6.08
Northern Parishes	0	69.23	30.77	0	3.35
Norton North	64.71	35.29	0	0	1.46
Norton South	21.54	56.92	21.54	0	2.79
Norton West	100	0	0	0	1.70
Parkfield & Oxbridge	6.63	88.76	4.61	0	7.45
Roseworth	21.88	78.13	9	0	2.06
Stainsby Hill	9.70	68.35	5.91	16.03	5.09
Stockton Town Centre	0	72.97	27.03	0	2.38
Village	22.36	77.64	0	0	3.46
Western Parishes	50.75	25.37	23.88	0	1.44
Yarm	25.00	27.98	33.33	13.69	7.21

Source: Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council FIS March 2017 (percentage's rounded)

### 3.3 Vacancies

Vacancies are calculated against registered places. A large number of settings are likely to operate fewer places than they are registered for. For example, a childminder may be registered for 6 children but could choose to care for no more than 4. Vacancies analysed against registered capacity is likely to over-estimate supply.

The FIS had records of 1,408 vacancies in registered provision as at 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017. This represents 30% of total places.

#### Vacancy levels compared to registered places.

Ward	Number of vacancies recorded	% of registered places
Billingham Central	18	1.28%
Billingham East	83	5.89%
Billingham North	6	0.43%
Billingham South	127	9.02%
Billingham West	10	0.71%
Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree	17	1.21%
Eaglescliffe	113	8.03%
Fairfield	19	1.35%
Grangefield	3	0.21%
Hardwick	56	3.98%
Hartburn	152	10.80%
Ingleby East	42	2.98%
Ingleby West	102	7.24%
Mandale & Victoria	93	6.61%
Newtown	111	7.88%
Northern Parishes	24	1.70%
Norton North	9	0.64%
Norton South	30	2.13%
Norton West	12	0.85%
Parkfield & Oxbridge	96	6.82%
Roseworth	20	1.42%
Stainsby Hill	44	3.13%
Stockton Town Centre	54	3.84%
Village	68	4.83%
Western Parishes	4	0.28%
Yarm	95	6.75%

Source: Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council FIS March 2017 (percentage's rounded)

The majority of recorded vacancies were in child minding and day nursery provision (accounting for 52% and 22% respectively of all vacancies). The highest number of vacancies was for children aged 2 years old (374 vacancies, 26% of total).

## Vacancies by age range and type of provision

Age range (years)	Number of vacancies by type of provision					
	Childminding	Day Nursery	Out of school care	Pre-school	Crèche	Total
0 - 1	63	181	0	0	0	244
2	37	286	0	51	0	374
3 - 4	24	230	32	35	0	321
5 - 7	105	25	177	0	0	307
8 - 10	51	12	83	0	0	146
11 - 14	1	0	14	0	0	15
15 - 17	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1408</b>

Source: Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council FIS 2016 (percentage's rounded)

### 3.4 Charges

Comparing charges across different providers is made more difficult by different charging patterns; some childminders, for example, charge by the hour, some by the day and some weekly. Childminders (and other settings) may charge differential costs according to the time of day (pre 8am, post 6pm, age of child or service (pick-ups, drop offs, breakfast or before and after school)). The FIS hold detailed information on charges levied by individual settings, across a number of different charging patterns. Here the focus is on developing a better understanding of charges as they might impact on affordability.

Charging period	Type of provision / charges levied			
	Child minding	Day Nursery	Out of school care	Pre-school playgroup
Per hour	£4.04	£5.42	£4.92	£4.33
Per session / half day	£20.38	£25.80		£7.66
Per day	£31.70	£38.15		£26.00
Per week	£149.97	£172.05		
After school	£11.03	£12.45	£9.76	8.50
Before school / breakfast club	£5.10	£9.25	£5.75	£3.25
Holiday care per day	£32.50		£24.48	£22.00

Source: Stockton-on-Tees BC FIS March 2017

The different charging patterns and ranges of charges levied make it very difficult to compare costs across different providers. Whilst data is presented as average costs by type of provision this is misleading. If, for example, there is only one provider in an area charging per session, those charges have been presented as averages. The table does not contain all charges information provided as there are so many different ways in which these charges are recorded (e.g. before and after school per day and/or per week; per 2, 3 or 5 hour session; wrap around; differential charges by age of child; lunch and tea; drop off and pick up etc.).

### 3.5 Opening times

As with charges there was considerable variation in opening times, both within and between different types of provision. Collectively, child minders offer childcare for early in the morning (from 6.00am) until late in the evening (up to around 10pm), occasional overnight care and at weekends, including Sundays. The most commonly offered opening times are between 07:00 – 07:30 am and 18:00 – 18:30 pm (51 child minders 27%, operate these opening times) and 07:00 – 07:30 and 17:00 – 17:30pm (offered by 38 child minders 20%).

#### Childminders – opening times (top 5)

Start time	Finish time	Number (% of all child minders)
07:00 – 07:30	17:00 – 17:30	38 (20%)
07:00 – 07:30	18:00 – 18:30	51 (27%)
07:00 – 07:30	19:00 – 19:30	5 (3%)
08:00 – 08:30	17:00 – 17:30	35 (19%)
08:00 – 08:30	18:00 – 18:30	27 (14%)

Source: FIS 2017 base of 189, percentages rounded

7 child minders (4%) open on Saturdays and 3 (2%) open on Sundays, information regarding opening times is not available for all providers

#### Out of school care

All settings registered for out of school care offer after school provision - 31 settings (100%). The majority of out of school care settings offer before and after school provision - 29 settings (94%).

#### Day nursery settings

The majority of day nurseries, 33 settings (77%), are open from between 7.30am to 6.00pm.

### 3.6 Quality of provision

The majority of childcare provision in Stockton-on-Tees is good and this trend is improving year on year. Support and challenge is given to settings and childminders that are less than good in order to improve provision and Ofsted ratings.

The following table shows the latest inspection ratings against each type of provider:

## Ofsted Inspection Outcomes – (31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2016)

Ofsted grading	Number of Early Years settings inspected Stockton	% of Early Years settings inspected Stockton	% of Early Years settings inspected Regional	% of Early Years settings inspected National	Number of Child minders inspected Stockton	% of Child minders inspected Stockton	% of child minders Regional	% of child minders National
Number	45				146			
Of which, rated								
Outstanding	6	13%	13%	17%	18	12%	11%	13%
Good	39	87%	80%	77%	116	79%	80%	76%
Requiring Improvement	0	0%	7%	4%	12	8%	8%	10%
Inadequate	0	0%	1%	1%	0	0%	1%	1%

Source: Ofsted Data View – August 2016 (Regional & National) & local information - Ofsted (Please note percentages may not equal 100% due to decimal point).

The above indicates that at the end of August 2016 Stockton-on-Tees had 100% of Early Years settings were rated 'good' or 'outstanding' with the regional position standing at 93% and national at 94%. 91% of childminders are either rated 'good' or 'outstanding' which is the same as the regional position and slightly higher than the National position of 89%.

The support and challenge provided by the Council continues to have a positive impact on the quality of provision with a continued improvement. The Borough has seen an increase of 4% in the number of settings, who are now rated either 'good or outstanding' by Ofsted. The number of childminders rated 'good or outstanding' by Ofsted has dropped slightly by 1% from 2016.

At the heart of the Council's commitment to ensuring this steady rise in the quality of childcare is 'A Journey to Outstanding'. Alongside training and development opportunities this document offers support and guidance to improve the quality of care and education provided.

By using the document, childcare settings are able to demonstrate their commitment to excellence by going above and beyond the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) which sets standards for the learning, development and care of young children.

### Actual number and percentage of 3 and 4 year old children benefitting from funded early education in PVI and in maintained nursery, primary and special schools by Ofsted inspection rating

Ofsted rating	Number	Percentage
Outstanding	1110	23
Good	3385	70
Satisfactory / Requires Improvement	348	7
Inadequate	26	1
Did not match to Ofsted	177	

<b>Total</b>	<b>5050</b>	<b>100</b>
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Source: DfE Statistical First Return (SFR 23/2016) 'Provision for Children under 5 years of age in England: January 2016' published 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 (Table 15LA)

### Actual number and percentage of 2 year old children benefitting from funded early education in PVI and in maintained nursery, primary and special schools by Ofsted inspection rating

Ofsted rating	Number	Percentage
Outstanding	75	12
Good	466	77
Satisfactory / Requires Improvement	12	2
Inadequate	55	9
Did not match to Ofsted	200	
<b>Total</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: DfE Statistical First Return (SFR 23/2016) 'Provision for Children under 5 years of age in England: January 2016' published 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 (Table 14LA)

## 4 Summary and key priorities

Stockton-on-Tees has a good range of quality childcare across the borough; however specific gaps in provision have been identified. The following section gives an update on activity during 2016 and details of the key priorities for 2017:

- **Ensuring sufficient childcare available to meet the needs of disabled children**

All childcare providers are required to meet the needs of disabled children.

#### Update on activity during 2016:

Information on childcare for disabled children and children with special educational needs (SEN) is included in the Local Offer for Stockton-on-Tees, which was introduced in September 2014.

The 'Early Years High Needs' funding ensures that sufficient resources are targeted to support children in accessing childcare provision and their families in having the confidence that the individual needs of their child will be met within a setting. Early years and childcare settings are provided with information in relation to the criteria for Early Years High Needs funding and the application process to ensure maximum accessibility for disabled children and children with special educational needs (SEN). In addition to the above, from April 2017 two new measures will be introduced:

1. The Disability Access Fund which aids access to early years places by, for example, supporting providers in making reasonable adjustments to their settings and/or helping with building capacity (be that for the child in question or for the benefit of children as a whole attending the setting);
2. The SEN inclusion fund requires local authorities to set up a fund to help provider's better address the needs of individual children.



The **Disability Access Fund (DAF)** - 3 and 4 year olds will be eligible for the DAF if they are in receipt of child disability living allowance and they receive free early education. The Fund **does not** apply to 4 year olds in primary school reception classes. Settings will receive a one-off payment of £615 per year per eligible child.

**SEN Inclusion Fund** - the purpose of the fund is to support local authorities to work with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEN. The fund will target children with lower level or emerging SEN.

**High Needs** - Children with more complex needs and those in receipt of an Education, Health and Care Plan will continue to be eligible to receive funding via the High Needs block.

Although the introduction of the Local Offer has enabled parents of children with disabled children or children with SEN, to have access to up to date information on the availability of appropriate childcare, this remains a priority for 2017 with the introduction of the two new measures.

**Key priority for 2017:**

- Ensure that parents have an understanding of the availability of childcare for disabled children and children with special educational needs (SEN) via the Local Offer and the provision of specific information, advice and assistance through the Families Information Service and the Stockton Information Directory (for Families) including advice on funded childcare.
- Undertake a consultation with parent's in relation to free 30 hour childcare to ensure sufficient places are available across the borough for this group of children.

- **Ensuring sufficiency for children from families in receipt of the childcare element of Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit**

**Update on activity during 2016:**

The cost of childcare is an issue in certain areas across the borough; however there are high levels of childcare use. In order to support families in taking up work and employment the Families Information Service provide up to date information, advice and assistance to support them in making choices.

**Key priority for 2017:**

The Families Information Service will continue to ensure that information remains current and available to parents in order to assist them in making choices, particularly in relation to the childcare element of WTC and/or Universal Credit and the new Tax Free Childcare. This information will be available over the telephone by contacting the Families Information Service and on-line through the Stockton Information Directory (for Families).

- **Children aged two taking up early education places**

**Update on activity during 2016:**

A range of promotional activities have taken place over the year which has secured a continued increase in the take up of places along with the outreach work undertaken by the Early Years Engagement Worker

Over the last year take up of places for 2 year olds has improved again with a slight increase of 3% as at March 2017. 877 children are now benefiting from free childcare as opposed to 852 children in 2016.

**Key priorities for 2017:**

Continue to:

- increase the number of eligible 2 year olds accessing a place
- market and promote activities to maximise take up
- raise awareness with parents' on the advantages of taking up a place

- **Children aged three and four taking up early education places**

Stockton-on-Tees has a 98% take up of 570 hours of early education places for 3 & 4 year olds which is above the national average of approximately 95%. However, choice of provision will continue to be promoted to ensure take up is maximised.

In September 2017, the Government is set to introduce an extended free childcare entitlement for working parents of three and four year olds which will provide eligible parents with a total of 30 hours of free childcare per week, over 38 weeks or the equivalent number of hours across more weeks per year.

The additional free childcare will help families by reducing the cost of childcare and will support parents into work or to work more hours, should they wish to do so. All three and four year olds will continue to be eligible for the existing, universal offer of 15 hours of free early education.

A comprehensive analysis of potential demand for 30 hour places versus available places was undertaken in summer 2016 to identify any gaps in provision by ward area. This analysis identified 5 wards where there would be insufficient places available for parents. Those wards are Billingham West, Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree, Fairfield, Norton west and Stainsby Hill. Capital funding has been secured from the Department of Education and the Local Authority to develop additional places in these wards. A parental consultation also took place during summer 2016 to determine the demand for 30 free childcare places, the results of this consultation can be found at appendix A. A further analysis of 30 hour places will be undertaken during summer 2017 and will continue after roll out of these places in September 2017.

**Key priorities for 2017:**

- Ensure there are enough free places to meet potential demand.
- Support the establishment of expanded or new provision.
- Establish a comprehensive marketing campaign to inform families of the entitlement.
- Ensure effective communication by working closely with all providers to establish a local partnership model to meet the needs of families within the area.
- Ensure robust management and financial systems and procedures are in place in readiness for the roll out.
- Continue to provide support to local settings in accessing Early Years Pupil Premium.

• **Ensuring sufficiency for school age children**

A range of breakfast and after school provision is in place across the borough, through childminders, day care settings and school based childcare. In addition, parents/carers use a range of school based activities to supplement their childcare requirements.

**Key priorities for 2017:**

Ensure that with the introduction of 30 hours free childcare places for three and four year olds in September 2017, that sufficient before and after school places are still available for older children.

• **Ensuring sufficiency for children needing holiday care**

Parents are looking to family and friends to share the care of their children during these times. Childminders also continue to offer flexible holiday provision and parents of older children are using 'activity' based programmes rather than formal provision. Childcare providers assess demand for services on the run up to holidays and will offer sessions where sufficient interest has been identified.

**Key priorities for 2017:**

Ensure that with the introduction of 30 hours free childcare places for three and four year olds in September 2017, that sufficient holiday places are available.

**To note:** The Local Authority will consider the impact of approved and strategic housing developments across the borough on the sufficiency of childcare places.

## **5 Gap Analysis and Action Plan**

The following plan sets out the actions that Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council will take to deliver priorities set out in the above section. The detail of each action will be found in individual implementation plans held by the responsible officer/team. The action plan covers 2017 – 2018 and the implementation plans for the delivery of the specific actions identified can be found within individual team delivery plans.

## Gap analysis and action plan 2017/18

Gap analysis			Action plan		
			What	How	When
1	Ensuring sufficient childcare is available to meet the needs of disabled children	Continue to ensure that parents have an understanding of the availability of childcare for disabled children and children with special educational needs (SEN) via the Local Offer and the provision of specific information, advice and guidance through the Families Information Service and the Stockton Information Directory (for Families).	<p>1a. The Families Information Service (FIS) to ensure up to date information is available to parents/carers to ensure they are well informed and supported in the childcare choices they make for their children.</p> <p>1b. FIS will continue to ensure that information is included in the Stockton Information Directory (for Families) and the Local Offer.</p> <p>1c. Promote the availability of Early Years High Needs funding, Inclusion Fund and Disability access Fund to providers.</p>	<p>1a (i) FIS to keep published information relevant and current.</p> <p>1a (ii) FIS to increase take up of text messaging service and sign up to the Disability Register.</p> <p>1b (i) FIS to link with relevant LA Officers to ensure information is available.</p> <p>1c. (i) FIS ensure settings are aware of the ability to apply for funding.</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>March 2018</p> <p>April 17 – March 18</p> <p>April 17 - March 18</p>
2	Ensuring sufficiency for children from families in receipt of the childcare element of Working Tax Credit or Universal Credit	The Families Information Service will continue to ensure that information remains current and available to parents in order to assist them in making choices, particularly in relation to the childcare element of WTC and/or Universal Credit.	2a. Continue to promote childcare related benefits to parents/carers, working closely with Children's Centres and childcare providers to maximise take up of benefits.	<p>2a (i) FIS to provide a programme of targeted outreach sessions, referral systems and promotional activities.</p> <p>2a (ii) FIS to provide information, advice and guidance on childcare and employment, access to funding, grants and benefits re childcare.</p>	<p>April 17 - March 18</p> <p>April 17- March 18</p>
3	Children aged two taking up early education places.	Maintain the number of eligible 2 year olds accessing a free place by delivering a range of outreach and promotional activities.	<p>3a. LA to analyse and monitor take-up of the entitlement by Children's Centre and Ward areas.</p> <p>3b. Continue to review existing</p>	<p>3a (i) FIS to record take-up through Provider Portal and Golden Ticket distribution.</p> <p>3b (i) Children's Centres to continue to promote the</p>	<p>Termly</p> <p>April 17 - March 18</p>

Gap analysis			Action plan		
			What	How	When
			<p>marketing strategies and materials to ensure information is made available in a variety of ways to ensure that families understand their entitlement at the earliest opportunity; make a timely application and then agree a place.</p> <p>3c. Work closely with other professionals to identify eligible families and promote the offer.</p> <p>3d. Support parents, once approved, in accessing a place that meets their needs.</p>	<p>entitlement to families face to face and through Facebook.</p> <p>3b (ii) Assess marketing materials and promotional activities to ensure they are reaching the target audience.</p> <p>3c (i) Early Years Engagement Worker to maintain and update the network of professionals working with families who may be eligible, to promote the entitlement.</p> <p>3d (i) Early Years Engagement Worker to work closely with eligible families to encourage take-up and promote benefits, in particular in the ward area where take-up is low.</p> <p>3d (ii) Early Years Engagement Worker to act as a broker between families and childcare providers to ensure a smooth transition into formal childcare.</p>	<p>Summer Term 2017</p> <p>Apr 17 – Mar 18</p> <p>Apr 17 – Mar 18</p> <p>Apr 17 – Mar 18</p>
4	Children aged 3 & 4 taking up early education places	Investigate the sufficiency of high quality places to meet likely demand and where needed support the establishment of expanded or new provision in light of the new 30 hour free childcare.	4a. Establish impact on local early years and childcare market on the roll out of 30 hour free childcare	<p>4a (i) Meet with local childcare providers and schools to gather information on their intention as to whether they will be delivering 30 hour free childcare.</p> <p>4a (ii) Record models of deliver for those schools and providers</p>	<p>Apr 17 – Aug 18</p> <p>Apr 17 – Aug 18</p>

Gap analysis			Action plan		
			What	How	When
			4b. Mapping of supply of places to potential demand on a wad basis.	who are planning on delivering 30 hour free childcare. 4b (i) Update mapping of supply with provider/school expected place information. 4b (ii) Identify any key areas where there is a gap in provision.	Apr 17 – Aug 18 Apr 17 – Mar 18
			4c. Creation of places in areas where gaps have already been identified.	4c (i) Complete capital projects already funded within DfE timescales.	Apr 17 – Feb 18
			4d. FIS to undertake work with local providers to establish systems, policies and procedures.	4d (i) Working with DWP, DfE and local information ensure Provider Portal and other systems are in place to produce reports, financial returns and make payments to settings. 4d (ii) Produce an updated 'Provider Agreement' to be signed by all parties taking account of current statutory guidance. 4d (iii) Deliver Information sessions to providers regarding funding and implementation.	Apr 17 – Aug 17 Apr 17 – Aug 17 Summer Term 17
			4e. Implement the marketing strategy to ensure information is	4d (iv) Internal policies and procedures developed and in place. 4e (i) Update the Stockton Information directory (SID) for	Apr 17 – Aug 18 Apr 17 – Aug 18

Gap analysis			Action plan		
			What	How	When
			<p>made available in a variety of ways to ensure that families understand their entitlement at the earliest opportunity and make a timely application.</p> <p>4f. Where gaps are identified, particularly in relation to school based nursery provision, promote a partnership model.</p> <p>4g. Ensure providers are fully informed on the new Disability Access Fund policy and procedures</p> <p>4h. Ensure the childcare needs of an area are considered as part of any review of early years services including appropriate use of buildings.</p>	<p>Families with latest information regarding 30 hours free childcare.</p> <p>4e (ii) Circulate marketing materials to providers schools and children's centres.</p> <p>4e (iii) Inform other stakeholders i.e. local business, about 30 hour free school.</p> <p>4f (i) Meetings taking place lead by the Early Years Manager.</p> <p>4g (i) The Families Information Service to ensure providers remain informed.</p> <p>4h (i) As part of sufficiency mapping consider all early years buildings within each key area and their suitability to offer childcare provision.</p>	<p>Apr 17</p> <p>Apr 17 – Jul 18</p> <p>Termly</p> <p>Summer Term</p> <p>Apr 17 – Mar 18</p>
5	Ensuring sufficiency for school age children	No evidence that there is a gap in provision in this area but this will be monitored as the roll out of 30 hour childcare in September 17 may impact on available places	5a. Monitor available places across the borough.	5a. (i) FIS to monitor childcare provider/school vacancy data and parental demand.	Termly from Sept 17
6	Ensuring sufficiency for children needing holiday care	No evidence that there is a gap in provision in this area but this will be monitored as the roll out of 30 hour childcare in September 17 may impact on available places.	6a. Monitor demand for provision across the borough.	6a. (i) FIS to record any unmet demand for holiday care.	Termly from Sept 17



