

North Tyneside Childcare Sufficiency Statement 2019

1. Introduction

Formal childcare enables parents and carers across North Tyneside to access work, training, education and other commitments. It also has an important role in supporting children's development, during the critical early years of a child's life.

North Tyneside Council has a statutory duty to ensure formal childcare is available to meet the needs of working families, parents / carers who are studying or training, and disabled children. The local authority must also secure free early years provision, which enables eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds to access their funded early years entitlements. This report considers whether sufficient childcare is available in the borough to meet the needs of families who live and work in the borough.

2. Policy Context

2.1 The Childcare Act (2006)

The Childcare Act 2006 places statutory duties on local authorities to secure childcare and to publish a report on childcare sufficiency. The childcare sufficiency duty relates to the provision of registered childcare for 0-14 years olds, and up to 18 years old for disabled children and children with additional needs. Local authorities are also required to ensure there is enough childcare to allow eligible 2, 3 and 4 years to access their funded early years entitlements.

2.2 The Childcare Act (2016)

The Childcare Act 2016 introduced an entitlement to an additional 570 hours of childcare for eligible children aged 3 and 4 years.

2.3 Extended Two Year Old Eligibility Criteria

In September 2019 the Government extended the eligibility criteria for the free early education entitlement for two-year olds, to include low income parents with the following types of immigration status:

- Zambrano carer (derivative right to reside in the UK under European law as the primary carer of a British child or dependent adult)
- Leave to remain with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) granted on family or private life (Article 8) grounds
- 'Appeal rights exhausted' (ARE) asylum seeker receiving asylum support from the Home Office under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

2.4 Spending Round 2019

The Chancellor announced an additional £66 million for the childcare entitlements during the 2019 Spending Round.

2.5 DfE Early Years Social Mobility Programme

The 'Early Years Social Mobility Programme' aims to reduce by half, the proportion of children who do not achieve at least expected levels across all goals in the 'communication & language' and 'literacy' areas of learning at the end of reception year.

3. Ofsted Registered Childcare in North Tyneside

3.1 Introduction

An assessment of childcare sufficiency must consider the number and mix of providers available, alongside the number of childcare places and their geographical distribution. The national Childcare and Early Years Survey of Parents in England (2018) found that convenience, reputation and quality of care, were also important factors in shaping the childcare choices of families. Financial considerations were also identified as a factor by parents and carers. This sufficiency statement sets out the number of providers and childcare places available in the borough, but also considers their geographic distribution, quality, cost and the type of childcare available.

3.2 Number of Childcare Providers

The table below shows the total number of Ofsted registered childcare providers in North Tyneside at the start of the summer term 2019. The table also shows the number of providers who are early years registered. (This does not include school based early education provision).

	Total providers	EYR providers	Non-EYR providers
March 2019	219	193	26
December 2018	221	194	27
August 2018	232	201	31
March 2018	230	205	25

Source Ofsted: [Childcare Providers and Inspections as at 31st March 2019](#)

North Tyneside had a total of 219 Ofsted registered childcare settings in North Tyneside at the start of the 2019 summer term. The number of registered childcare providers in North Tyneside reduced between August 2018 and March 2019.

However, a certain amount of fluctuation in the number of childcare providers is expected, particularly within the childminder sector, where barriers to exit and entry are relatively low. A decline in the number of providers does not automatically result in declining sufficiency. An understanding of the type of providers and how they are changing overtime provides a fuller understanding of childcare sufficiency.

3.3 Childcare Providers by Type

Families have different childcare needs and preferences, particularly during the early years, therefore a mix of childcare provider types is desirable. The table below shows the change in provider numbers between March 2018 and March 2019, by provider type.

	March 2018	March 2019
Childcare on Non-Domestic Premises	70	74
Childminder	145	127
Home Childcarer	15	18

Source Ofsted: [Childcare Providers and Inspections as at 31st March 2018](#) [Childcare Providers and Inspections as at 31st March 2019](#)

The number of Ofsted registered childminders reduced between March 2018 and March 2019 by 12.5%, however the number of childcare providers on non-domestic premises increased during the same period. Childminders usually provide smaller numbers of places, compared to childcare providers on non-domestic premises. However, a healthy childminder sector is an important element of a robust childcare market. The Authority will monitor the total number of providers and the number of childminders in the future.

4. Early Years Provision in North Tyneside

4.1 Introduction

The childcare requirements of families can differ significantly during the early years. Some families require full day care, while others will require sessional provision. Parents and carers may prefer childcare in a domestic environment, while others choose non-domestic providers and some families will seek a combination of both. Some families only require their Government funded childcare entitlements, while others need provision that will be paid for privately. A diverse early years childcare sector is better able to meet the needs and expectations of families with young children.

4.2 Early Years Provision by Type

The table below shows North Tyneside's Ofsted registered early years childcare providers, by type. School nursery provision has been included as many families access their Government funded childcare entitlements in school nurseries, particularly the 3 and 4 year old entitlement.

	PVI Daycare	PVI Sessional	CM	School Nurseries	Schools with 30 hr offer	Schools 2YO
Number of settings	36	31	126	55	25	12

Source
Ofsted:

[Childcare Providers and Inspections as at 31st March 2019 / NTC analysis](#)

There are 67 early years childcare providers operating on non-domestic premises and 126 early years registered childminders. There are slightly more early years daycare childcare providers than sessional providers. North Tyneside continues to have a diverse early years childcare sector, which delivers a varied early years childcare offer.

4.3 Early Years Childcare / Early Education Providers by Ward

Accessibility is an important factor in the childcare decisions of families, particularly for low income households, where travel costs can act as a barrier to access. A comprehensive geographic distribution of provision will ensure families across the borough are able to access early years childcare. The table below shows early years childcare and early education provision by ward.

Table Showing Early Years Providers in each ward by early years offer, including school based provision (March 2019)

	PVI Daycare	PVI Sessional	CM	School Nurseries	Schools with 30 hr offer	Schools 2YO
Battle Hill	1	1	4	3	2	1
Benton	3	2	10	3	3	1
Camperdown	1	1	8	4	4	2
Chirton	2	1	5	3	0	0
Collingwood	3	1	8	3	2	2
Cullercoats	0	2	10	3	3	0
Howdon	2	0	4	2	0	0
Killingworth	2	2	7	3	1	0
Longbenton	2	1	9	3	2	1
Monkseaton North	0	1	8	1	0	0
Monkseaton South	0	4	5	3	1	1
Northumberland	0	2	3	3	0	0
Preston	3	1	3	2	0	0
Riverside	2	2	3	4	1	2
St Marys	2	4	8	3	0	0
Tynemouth	3	1	1	2(inc 1 MNS)	0	0
Valley	2	1	13	2	2	1
Wallsend	5	1	0	4	1	0
Weetslade	0	3	6	2	2	1
Whitley Bay	3	0	6	2	1	0
Unknown	0	0	5	0	0	0

Source Ofsted: [Childcare Providers and Inspections as at 31st March 2019](#)

Each ward has a selection of early years providers. There are several wards with high levels of deprivation where schools do not currently operate 2 year old provision (Wallsend, Howdon and Chirton), although these communities are served by PVI provision.

4.4 Childcare Places in Ofsted Registered Early Years Childcare

North Tyneside has 4,108 ([data](#)) childcare places in Ofsted registered early years settings. This may overestimate the number of childcare places available, as some settings operate at a lower level than the registered number of childcare places.

The geographic distribution of places is important for ensuring all children can access their early years entitlements. The table below shows the distribution of early years places available in private, voluntary and independent settings, by ward.

Table Showing Ofsted Registered Childcare Places by Ward (March 2019)

Ward	Total Registered Childcare Places
Battle Hill	87
Benton	437
Camperdown	146
Chirton	130
Collingwood	338
Cullercoats	118
Howdon	132
Killingworth	191
Longbenton	316
Monkseaton North	102
Monkseaton South	169
Northumberland	124
Preston	246
Riverside	191
St Marys	380
Tynemouth	191
Valley	172
Wallsend	341
Weetslade	101
Whitley Bay	166
Unknown	30
Total	4108

Source Ofsted: [Childcare Providers and Inspections as at 31st March 2019](#)

Benton, St Marys and Wallsend are the wards with the highest number of early years childcare places. Monkseaton North, Battle Hill and Weetslade wards have the fewest childcare places available. There is a good distribution of places across the borough. Battle Hill and Weetslade have relatively low numbers of PVI places, however both have local schools offering the full suite of funded early years entitlements.

The table below shows the number of early years places offered within North Tyneside schools.

	Total Early Years School Nursery Places	Additional places for extended 15 hours	2 Year Old Places
Battle Hill	182	36	24
Benton	137	64	8
Camperdown	182	56	16
Chirton	130	0	0
Collingwood	104	26	28
Cullercoats	130	42	0
Howdon	78	0	0
Killingworth	156	20	0
Longbenton	130	0	8
Monkseaton North	33	0	0
Monkseaton South	156	18	16
Northumberland	156	0	0
Preston	78	0	0
Riverside	182	8	28
St Marys	156	0	0
Tynemouth	168	68	12
Valley	78	36	16
Wallsend	208	0	0
Weetslade	104	34	8
Whitley Bay	130	26	0
Total	2,678	434	164

The borough has a strong school nursery offer, with only one of North Tyneside's first and primary schools, not operating a pre-school nursery. There is also a high number of 30 hour places offered directly by schools, with almost half of first and primary schools offering the additional hours. There are also several schools offering 2 year old places. Between schools and the private, voluntary and independent sector providers, the borough offers funded early years places across the borough's four localities.

5. Quality of Childcare in North Tyneside

5.1 Ofsted Rating

Families expect to access high quality childcare provision, which is particularly important during the critical early years of a child's life. The table below shows the Ofsted rating registered childcare providers as of 31st March 2019.

Ofsted Judgement March 2019	All childcare providers	%	Early Years Registered Providers	%
Outstanding	47	21%	47	24%
Good	118	54%	118	61%
Requires Improvement	1	0.4%	1	0.5%
Inadequate	0	0%	0	0%
Not applicable or did not receive a judgement	53	24%	27	14%

Source [Childcare Providers and Inspections as at 31st March 2019](#)

The overwhelming majority of providers who had been inspected, were judged to be 'Outstanding' or 'Good' by Ofsted. The quality of provision in the borough continues to be of a high standard, which meet the needs and aspirations of families.

6. Childcare Provider Survey 2019

6.1 Approach

On 6th June 2019 an electronic questionnaire was circulated via e-mail to all providers of formal childcare in the borough (formal childcare providers include: childminders; playgroups; nurseries; and out of school clubs). The surveys sought to understand more about the supply of childcare in North Tyneside by asking questions about: the number of places offered to children of different ages; when provision was offered; their level of vacancies; how much they charge and whether demand has changed. The census was open from 6th June to 31st July 2019. In order to increase the response rate the initial email was followed up by the Commissioning & Investment Team.

6.2 Survey findings

This section of the report outlines the findings that were obtained from the electronic survey undertaken in June 2019.

6.3 Overall provider response rate

The overall response to the audit is the same as 2018, at 105. The table below shows the response rate for each type of provision offered.

Table : Provider survey responses

Group	Number of providers offering:
All	105
a) Full day provision for early years children.	25
b) Sessional early years provision.	9
c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	7
d) After school sessions for children including early years.	9
e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	3
f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	7
g) Holiday activities or childcare for during any school holidays.	9
Childminder	72

Analysis has been undertaken at a borough and at a locality level; based on the Area Children Strategy Group localities (4 localities). Settings can offer more than one type of childcare.

6.4 Number of providers responding by area

The response rate to the survey was good, with responses from all localities and all provider types. The table below shows all localities and provider types that survey responses were received from:

- Early years full day provision;
- after school sessions for school age children;
- and holiday activity providers.

Table - Number of providers responding by type and area

Type of Provision	North East	North West	South East	South West	Address not in public domain
a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	7	6	6	0
b) Sessional early years provision.	4	0	3	2	0
c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	4	1	0	2	0
d) After school sessions for children including early years.	4	1	1	3	0
e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	1	0	1	0
f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	2	1	1	3	0
g) Holiday activities or childcare for during any school holidays.	1	3	1	4	0
Childminder	21	28	10	5	8
All	31	36	18	12	8

6.5 Number of places within childcare provision.

Providers were asked to provide the number of places they have registered with OFSTED.

Table Number of OFSTED registered places in the provision from survey responses.

Type of Provision	North East	North West	South East	South West	Address not in public domain
a) Full day provision for early years children.	259	466	432	370	0
b) Sessional early years provision.	130	0	116	150	0
c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	136	75	0	55	0
d) After school sessions for children including early years.	108	75	20	175	0
e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	16	75	0	25	0
f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	48	75	20	175	0
g) Holiday activities or childcare for during any school holidays.	40	99	16	92	0
Childminder	123	209	64	30	38
All	860	1074	668	1072	38

There are fewer daycare providers operating in the North West locality, than elsewhere. Providers offering sessional early years provision in the South West are larger on average than those in other localities, largely due to the presence of a large private daycare provider. A school operated Out of School Club raises the average provider size in the North West for most categories.

There is considerable variation in the size of After School Provision across localities, both for early years and school age children. From an average of 20 places per provider in the South East to 75 in the North West

The average size of childminder provision is 6.4 children per provider, and this does not vary much across localities. Each locality can offer a significant number of places, across a variety of provider types.

6.6 Vacancy Rate

6.6.1 Full Day Provision for Early Years children - Vacancies

The table below shows the number of vacancies available in daycare nursery provision.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	OFSTED registered places	Morning Vacancies	Average Morning Vacancies	Afternoon Vacancies	Average Afternoon Vacancies
North East	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	259	23	3.8	42	7.0
North West	a) Full day provision for early years children.	7	466	31	4.4	38	5.4
South East	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	432	115	19.2	141	23.5
South West	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	370	84	14.0	93	15.5

The majority of vacancies for full daycare nursery provision are in the south of the borough. Although vacancies exist across all four localities.

6.6.2 Sessional Provision for Early Years children – Vacancies

Table: Sessional Early Years Provision vacancies

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	OFSTED registered places	Morning Vacancies	Average Morning Vacancies	Afternoon Vacancies	Average Afternoon Vacancies
North East	b) Sessional early years provision.	4	130	12	3.0	31	10.3
South East	b) Sessional early years provision.	3	116	26	13.0	20	6.7
South West	b) Sessional early years provision.	2	150	70	35.0	73	36.5

Responses were received from providers in three localities. Vacancies existed in each of the three localities, with the greatest proportion available in the south east locality.

6.6.3 Sessional Provision for Early Years children – Vacancies

Responses were received from providers in three localities. Vacancies existed in each of the three localities, with the greatest number available in the south east locality.

Table: Before school sessions vacancies

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	OFSTED registered places	Morning Vacancies	Average Morning Vacancies
North East	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	4	136	8	2.0
North West	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	1	75	20	20.0
South West	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	2	55	10	5.0

6.6.4 After School Sessional including early years – Vacancies

Responses were received from providers across all 4 localities.

Table: After School Sessions vacancies

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	OFSTED registered places	Afternoon Vacancies	Average Afternoon Vacancies
North East	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	4	108	7	1.8
North West	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	1	75	0	0.0
South East	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	1	20	6	6.0
South West	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	3	175	10	3.3

Vacancies were available in 3 localities. The sole provider in the North West who responded, reported that they did not have any vacancies.

6.6.5 Before School Sessions for School Age – Vacancies

Each of the providers who responded, reported that they have vacancies available.

Table: School age before school sessions vacancies

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	OFSTED registered places	Morning Vacancies	Average Morning Vacancies
North East	e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	16	9	9.0
North West	e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	75	20	20.0
South West	e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	25	5	5.0

6.6.6 After School Sessions for School Age – Vacancies

After school vacancies were available in the North East, the provider who responded in the North West reported that they did not have any morning vacancies.

Table: School age after school sessions vacancies

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	OFSTED registered places	Afternoon Vacancies	Average Afternoon Vacancies
North East	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	2	48	10	5.0
North West	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	75	0	0.0
South East	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	20	6	6.0
South West	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	3	175	76	25.3

6.6.7 After School Sessions for School Age – Vacancies

Childminder vacancies were available in all four localities, with the greatest number reported in the North West and the fewest in the south east.

Table: Childminders Vacancies

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	OFSTED registered places	All Day Vacancies	Average All Day Vacancies
North East	childminder	21	123	14	0.7
North West	childminder	28	209	63	2.4
South East	childminder	10	64	14	1.6
South West	childminder	5	30	9	1.8
Unknown	childminder	8	38	9	1.5

6.7 Providers assessment of demand

Each respondent was asked to comment on levels of demand for childcare over the preceding year:

Group	Decreased	Remained the same	Increased
a) Full day provision for early years children.	8.0%	28.0%	64.0%
b) Sessional early years provision.	22.2%	33.3%	44.4%
c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%
d) Childminder	29.2%	44.4%	26.4%
e) After school sessions for children including early years.	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%
f) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%
g) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	14.3%	14.3%	57.1%
h) Holiday activities or childcare for during any school holidays.	11.1%	55.6%	33.3%

The majority of providers reported that demand had remained the same or had increased, across all provider types. A significant minority of sessional early years providers and childminders reported a drop in demand. This may reflect changing parental demand for specific childcare types.

- Demand is most likely to have decreased for sessional early years provision and childminders
- 2 out of 3 sessional early years providers in the South East reported that demand had decreased since last year.
- Demand for before school sessions, including early years, shows the most increase.

6.8 Providers plans

All providers, except childminders, were asked whether they intended to increase or otherwise change the amount of provision offered next year. Almost all settings intend to increase provision or stay the same. Only two providers, both for full day provision for early years children, one in the North East and one in South West intended to reduce provision.

6.9 Costs of Childcare

The cost of childcare is an important factor for families paying for hours, beyond the funded childcare entitlements. The cost of provision varies across provider types and localities, with price differentiation by age amongst early years providers.

6.9.1 Childminders

The table below sets out respondent's average cost of 10 hours of additional paid for childcare.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Average Cost for 10 hours of provision			
			Under Two	Two-year olds	3- or 4-year olds	School aged
North East	Childminder	21	£44.08	£43.88	£43.70	£41.63
North West	Childminder	28	£39.83	£39.83	£40.02	£40.13
South East	Childminder	10	£38.61	£38.72	£38.75	£36.75
South West	Childminder	5	£38.00	£38.85	£38.85	£38.00
Unknown	Childminder	8	£45.50	£42.92	£42.92	£34.17

Based on the responses received from the survey:

- Amongst responding childminders, the most expensive provision is in the North East, for all age groups. The North East contains some of the highest income neighbourhoods in the borough.
- There is little difference in average costs of provision between the South West and South East.

6.9.2 Daycare Provision - Early Years

The table below shows the average cost of 10 hours of daycare provision by age group and locality.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Average Cost for 10 hours of provision		
			Under Two	Two-year olds	3- or 4-year olds
North East	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	£52.20	£47.99	£44.78
North West	a) Full day provision for early years children.	7	£52.44	£46.93	£47.34
South East	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	£50.11	£46.61	£46.71
South West	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	£50.15	£45.92	£43.60

The cost of provision for children aged under 2 years and 2 years old is higher in the north west and north east localities. The cost of provision for 3 and 4 year olds is highest in the north west and south east. The average cost of daycare across the localities is broadly similar.

6.9.3 Sessional Early Years Provision

The table below shows the average cost of sessional early years provision by age group and locality.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Average Cost for 10 hours of provision		
			Under Two	Two-year olds	3- or 4-year olds
North East	b) Sessional early years provision.	4	£50.00	£42.33	£39.38
South East	b) Sessional early years provision.	3	£30.00	£37.00	£38.67
South West	b) Sessional early years provision.	2	£47.80	£44.80	£41.80

The survey shows that there is considerable variation in the average cost of sessional early years provision between the localities for under 2s, with costs considerably lower than the north east and south west of the borough. There is less variation at the 2 and 3 and 4 year old age groups, but the south east remains the lowest average cost. The small sample means that greater variation is possible.

6.9.4 Before school sessions for children including early years

The table below shows the average cost of before school sessional provision (including early years) by age group and locality.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Average Cost for 10 hours of provision		
			Under Two	Two-year olds	3- or 4-year olds
North East	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	4	£50.75	£44.50	£31.25
North West	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	1			
South West	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	2	£60.00	£55.00	£28.38

The responses received show that the cost of provision for under 2s and 2 year olds is considerably higher in the south west, compared to the north east. The cost of provision for 3 and 4 year olds is lower in the south west. The small sample size means greater variations in cost are possible.

6.9.5 After School Sessions (including early years)

The table below shows the average cost of after school sessional provision (including early years) by age group and locality.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Two-year olds	3- or 4-year olds	School age
North East	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	4	£50.75	£40.67	£40.92
North West	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	1			
South East	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	1			£45.00
South West	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	3	£60.00	£45.00	£41.67

From the survey responses received, after school childcare (including early years) is highest in the south west for 2 year olds and 3 and 4 year olds. The sole respondent in the south east had a higher charge for school age children than providers in the north east and south west. The small sample size means greater variations in cost are possible.

6.9.6 Before School Sessions (school age only)

The table below shows the average cost of after school sessional provision (including early years) by age group and locality. Only one provider responded to the question around charges.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Average Max Charge
North East	e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	
North West	e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	
South West	e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	£45.00

6.9.7 After School Sessions (school age only)

The table below shows the average cost of after school sessional provision (school age only) by age group and locality.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Average Max Charge
North East	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	2	£44.75
North West	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	
South East	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	1	£45.00
South West	f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	3	£28.75

The survey response received showed that the average cost in the south west is lower than the north east and south east. However, this is based on a very limited response rate.

6.9.8 Holiday activities or childcare during school holidays

The table below shows the average cost of after school sessional provision (school age only) by age group and locality.

Locality	Group	Number of providers:	Average Max Charge per day
North East	g) Holiday activities or childcare during any school holidays.	1	£22.00
North West	g) Holiday activities or childcare during any school holidays.	3	£23.00
South East	g) Holiday activities or childcare during any school holidays.	1	£32.00
South West	g) Holiday activities or childcare during any school holidays.	4	£27.60

Based on the survey responses received, the average maximum charge per day for holiday activities / childcare in in the south east. The lowest cost was the north east, however the sample size is low.

6.10 Additional charges

6.10.1 Daycare Providers

The table below shows the percentage of daycare providers who levy additional charges, beyond the early years entitlement funding the setting receives.

Region	Group	Count	%age of providers "Yes"
All	a) Full day provision for early years children.	25	48.0%
North East	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	66.7%
North West	a) Full day provision for early years children.	7	42.9%
South East	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	33.3%
South West	a) Full day provision for early years children.	6	50.0%

Overall 38% of daycare providers reported that they levied additional charges. Providers offering full day provision for early years children were most likely to have surcharges (48%) while providers offering before school sessions for children including early years were least likely (29%).

6.10.2 Sessional Early Years Provision

The table below shows the percentage of sessional early years providers who have additional charges, beyond the standard charges.

Region	Group	Count	%age of providers "Yes"
All	b) Sessional early years provision.	9	44.4%
North East	b) Sessional early years provision.	4	25.0%
South East	b) Sessional early years provision.	3	33.3%
South West	b) Sessional early years provision.	2	100.0%

Overall 44.4% of sessional providers had additional charges over and above standard provision costs.

6.10.3 Sessional Early Years Provision

The table below shows the percentage of sessional early years providers who have additional charges, beyond the standard charges.

Region	Group	Count	%age of providers "Yes"
All	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	7	28.6%
North East	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	4	25.0%
North West	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	1	0.0%
South West	c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	2	50.0%

A minority of 'before school' sessional early years providers had a policy of additional charges. Overall 28.6% of providers had additional charges over and above standard provision costs.

6.10.4 Sessional Early Years Provision

The table below shows the percentage of sessional early years providers who have additional charges, beyond the standard charges.

Region	Group	Count	%age of providers "Yes"
All	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	9	33.3%
North East	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	4	25.0%
North West	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	1	0.0%
South East	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	1	0.0%
South West	d) After school sessions for children including early years.	3	66.7%

Overall 33.3% of 'after school sessional' providers had additional charges over and above standard provision costs.

6.10.5 Childminders

The table below shows the percentage of childminders who have additional charges, beyond the early years funding they receive.

Region	Group	Count	%age of providers "Yes"
All	Childminder	72	31.9%
North East	Childminder	21	38.1%
North West	Childminder	28	28.6%
South East	Childminder	10	30.0%
South West	Childminder	5	0.0%
Unknown	Childminder	8	50.0%

Overall 31.9% of providers had additional charges over and above standard provision costs. The majority of providers do not have an additional charge.

6.11 Increases in cost of childcare

22% of providers indicated that they have increased costs of childcare in the last 12 months.

Group	No	Yes	% age (of Valid) Yes
a) Full day provision for early years children.	12	13	52.0%
b) Sessional early years provision.	6	3	33.3%
c) Before school sessions for children including early years.	6	1	14.3%
Childminder	62	10	13.9%
d) After school sessions for children including early years.	9	0	0.0%
e) Before school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	2	1	33.3%
f) After school sessions for children who are school age ONLY.	6	1	14.3%

- Full day provision for early years children is most likely to have seen a price rise in the last 12 months. 5 out of 6 providers in the South East (83%) reported a price increase.

6.12 Limits on funded places

9.5% of responding providers (10 of 105) limit their provision for government funded 2-year olds. Nine of these are childminders (14.3%) and 1 is a daycare provider.

11% of responding providers (12 of 109) limit their provision for government funded 3 or 4 -year olds. 11 of these are childminders (16.7%) and 1 offers sessional early years provision.

6.13 Business sustainability, and staff recruitment

Across the local authority 95 providers answered the question about changes to business sustainability over the last year. 12.6% of providers (12) answered that their business sustainability had worsened. 30% of providers in the south west reported that sustainability worsened, this may indicate over provision in this locality. The Majority reported that their business sustainability had improved or stayed the same.

Region	total valid responses	Worsened	Stayed the same	Improved	stayed the same or improved
All	95	12.6%	58.9%	28.4%	87.4%
North East	29	6.9%	51.7%	41.4%	93.1%
North West	36	13.9%	58.3%	27.8%	86.1%
South East	16	12.5%	75.0%	12.5%	87.5%
South West	10	30.0%	50.0%	20.0%	70.0%
Unknown	4	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%

6.14 SEND provision

The provider survey asked providers how effective they thought the SEND inclusion support was.

Region	Don't know	Not effective	Quite effective	Very effective
All	44.7%	8.7%	35.0%	11.7%
North East	58.6%	3.4%	31.0%	6.9%
North West	36.1%	5.6%	41.7%	16.7%
South East	38.9%	16.7%	22.2%	22.2%
South West	33.3%	16.7%	50.0%	0.0%
Unknown	62.5%	12.5%	25.0%	0.0%

The majority of providers who felt able to comment, thought the support was either 'very effective' or 'quite effective'. Overall, 8.7% of respondents thought the support was not effective. In the south east and south west, 16.7% of respondents considered the support to be 'not effective'.

6.15 Childcare Survey 2019 Summary

The 2019 childcare survey suggests that North Tyneside continues to have a vibrant and diverse childcare market. A third of responding providers believe that demand has increased in the past year, and about half thought that demand had remained steady. There are childcare vacancies across localities and provider types, suggesting that the childcare market can continue to meet the needs of a variety of families. Although some settings have limited additional capacity in the summer term of 2019. 28% of providers stated that their business sustainability had improved in the past year, while 58% thought it had remained the same, suggesting a stable childcare market. However almost a third of respondents in the south west reported that financial sustainability had worsened, indicating potential excess provision in this locality. The cost of childcare in North Tyneside is affordable, with a range of prices across localities and provider types. The cost of childcare is generally higher in the east of the borough, this reflects the higher income neighbourhoods in the coastal areas. The majority of families taking up their funded early years childcare entitlement in a North Tyneside daycare nursery are subject to additional charges. A significant proportion of childcare providers across the other provision types also make additional charges. However, the borough has provision across all types and localities who do not implement additional charges for families. Just over half of responding daycare providers have increased their charges in the past year, a minority of respondents in the other sectors reported raising prices in the same period. A minority of responding providers reported limiting places to children accessing the Government funded early years entitlements, most of these providers were childminders. Overall the survey shows that North Tyneside has a diverse and broadly sustainable childcare sector, that can cater for the needs of a wide variety of family requirements around childcare.

7. Demand

7.1 Introduction

This section considers the factors that are shaping the demand for childcare in North Tyneside, now and in the future.

7.2 Demography

7.2.1 Birth Rate

Local data indicates that the birth rate in North Tyneside rose to a peak in 2007/08 (2455) and again in 2010/11 (2447), and since then has been declining. Despite the decline the birth population has not returned to the size it was prior to 2004/05.

This local data is backed up by population estimates and projections from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) which can be seen in table below. This data suggests that the 0-4 year old population is expected to continue to decline over the next 10 years. The 5-14 year old population is expected to increase until 2020 and then see a decline.

Table: Population estimates by age (2016-27)

Year	estimates		Projections									
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Age 0 - 4	11,456	11,439	11,204	11,014	10,945	10,824	10,821	10,778	10,740	10,709	10,675	10,639
Aged 5-14	22,744	23,150	23,351	23,635	23,682	23,582	23,561	23,387	23,234	23,034	22,833	22,686

Source: ONS via NOMIS – population mid-year estimates and projections (24-05-2018)

The ONS mid-2019 population estimates by ward and 0-19 locality can be seen in table 2. Across North Tyneside, 33% of the 0-14 population are aged 0-4. The South West locality has the highest proportion of 0-14 year olds who are aged 0-4 (34%), and 38% of the 0-14 population in Wallsend are aged 0-4. On the other hand, the Coast locality has 29% aged 0-4; in St Mary's ward this percentage is 26%.

Table Population estimates by age group / ward

Ward	Age 0 - 4	Aged 5 to 14
North East	1,850	4,520
Monkseaton North	510	1,170
Monkseaton South	460	1,200
St Mary's	350	1,000
Whitley Bay	530	1,150
North West	3,200	6,290
Benton	470	1,000
Camperdown	560	1,250
Longbenton	740	1,260
Valley	910	1,760
Weetslade	520	1,020
South East	3,653	7,483
Chirton	820	1,750
Collingwood	660	1,300
Cullercoats	460	950
Northumberland	420	850
Preston	350	710
Riverside (c. 2/3 SE)	473	933
Tynemouth	470	990
South West	2,787	5,307
Battle Hill	600	1,130
Howdon	670	1,400
Killingworth	630	1,240
Riverside (c. 1/3 SW)	237	467
Wallsend	650	1,070

Source: ONS mid-2019 population estimates

7.2.2 Households with Dependent Children

The latest data for households with dependent children comes from the 2011 census. Across North Tyneside, 58% did not have dependent children, 16% had at least one dependent child, the youngest of whom was 0-4 years old. St Mary's, Weetslade, Preston and Tynemouth wards had the highest percentage of families with no dependent children. Riverside, Chirton and Valley wards had the highest proportions of families with at least one dependent child, the youngest of whom was 0-4 years old.

7.2.3 Black and Minority Ethnic Population

ONS data (ethnicity by age) shows that between 2011 and 2015 the percentage of those aged 0-4 from BME groups has reduced, whilst the percentage aged 5-14 from BME groups has increased.

7.3.3 Housing

North Tyneside's [Local Plan](#) identifies strategic housing sites at Killingworth Moor and Murton. It is expected that from 2022/23 these sites are likely to see some impact from the Local Plan building programme. It is not clear if this will result in an increase in aggregate demand for childcare, or a geographical redistribution of existing demand.

7.3 Economy

7.3.1 Economic Activity

A family's economic circumstances will often shape their childcare requirements. The 2018 national childcare and early years survey found that children in dual-working couple families (60%), and in working lone-parent families (49%), were most likely to receive formal childcare. Although the Government funded childcare entitlements for 2 year olds has higher take up in lower income areas, while the universal nature of the 3 and 4 year old 15 hour entitlement, means provision is required in all localities.

North Tyneside has relatively high levels of economic activity at a borough-wide level. ONS figures show that the borough has a higher proportion of 'all people' and 'women' in employment than the national and local averages. The proportion of 'males' who are economically active is however, lower than the national average.

North Tyneside			
	North Tyneside (%)	North East (%)	Great Britain (%)
All people			
Economically active†	79.3	75.8	78.9
In employment†	76.5	71.4	75.6
Employees†	68.3	62.5	64.6
Self-employed†	7.8	8.7	10.7
Unemployed (model-based)§	4.3	5.7	4.1
Male			
Economically active†	80.8	79.6	83.5
In employment†	77.4	74.4	79.9
Employees†	66.8	62.5	65.4
Self-employed†	9.7	11.6	14.2
Females			
Economically active†	77.9	72.1	74.3
In employment†	75.7	68.4	71.3
Employees†	69.8	62.4	63.9
Self-employed†	5.9	5.8	7.2

Source: ONS annual population survey

Sample size too small for reliable estimate (see definitions)

† - numbers are for those aged 16 and over, % are for those aged 16-64

§ - numbers and % are for those aged 16 and over. % is a proportion of economically active

The ONS annual population survey indicates that between July 16 and June 18 there has been a rise in the percentage of economically active people in North Tyneside who are in employment; from 74.5% (Jul 15-Jun16) to 76.5% (Jul18-Jun19). These figures are higher than the comparative regional figures (68.8% and 71.4%). The picture nationally is also one of an increasing percentage in employment from 73.0% to 75.6%. The economic activity statistics suggest strong demand for childcare at present.

7.3.2 Benefit Claimants

The benefits claimant count in North Tyneside, regionally and nationally can be seen in the table below.

	North Tyneside (level)	North Tyneside (%)	North East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Aged 16+	4660	3.7	4.4	2.9
Aged 16 to 17	20	0.5	0.5	0.3
Aged 18 to 24	980	7.2	6.3	4
Aged 18 to 21	605	8.1	6.8	4.3
Aged 25 to 49	2410	3.6	4.8	3.1
Aged 50+	1245	2.9	3.3	2.4

There are a higher proportion of claimants of the main unemployment benefits in each age band, compared to England. The gap is largest for the 18-21 age group (3.8 percentage points). The claimant numbers are likely to be increasing due to the roll out of Universal Credit, which is also leading to variations in claimant numbers between areas. North Tyneside has a lower proportion of residents aged 16+ who are benefit claimants than the North East average but higher than the national average.

7.3.3 Workless Households

The 2018 national childcare and early years survey found that children in dual parent families with neither parent in work and in non-working lone-parent families were least likely to receive formal childcare.

Workless Households (Jan-Dec 2018)	North Tyneside	North East	Great Britain
Percentage of Households that are Workless	17.1	20.0	14.3

Source: ONS annual population survey - households by combined economic activity status

North Tyneside has a higher proportion of workless households than the national average, but lower than the regional average. Workless households with children are less likely to require paid childcare, although they will be eligible for the Government funded childcare entitlements, which indicates higher demand for funded 2 year old places.

7.3.4 Household Income

Household income is a factor in determining demand for formal childcare amongst families. The 2018 national childcare and early years parent survey found that 63% of children in families earning £45,000 or more received formal childcare, compared to 47% of those earning under £10,000.

Earnings by place of residence (2019)			
Gross weekly pay	North Tyneside (£)	North East (£)	Great Britain (£)
Full-time workers	576.2	531.1	587.0
Male full-time workers	610.9	572.5	632.0
Female full-time workers	516.8	475.4	528.9
Hourly pay - excluding overtime	North Tyneside (£)	North East (£)	Great Britain (£)
Full-time workers	14.79	13.40	14.88
Male full-time workers	15.33	13.80	15.44
Female full-time workers	13.80	12.61	13.99

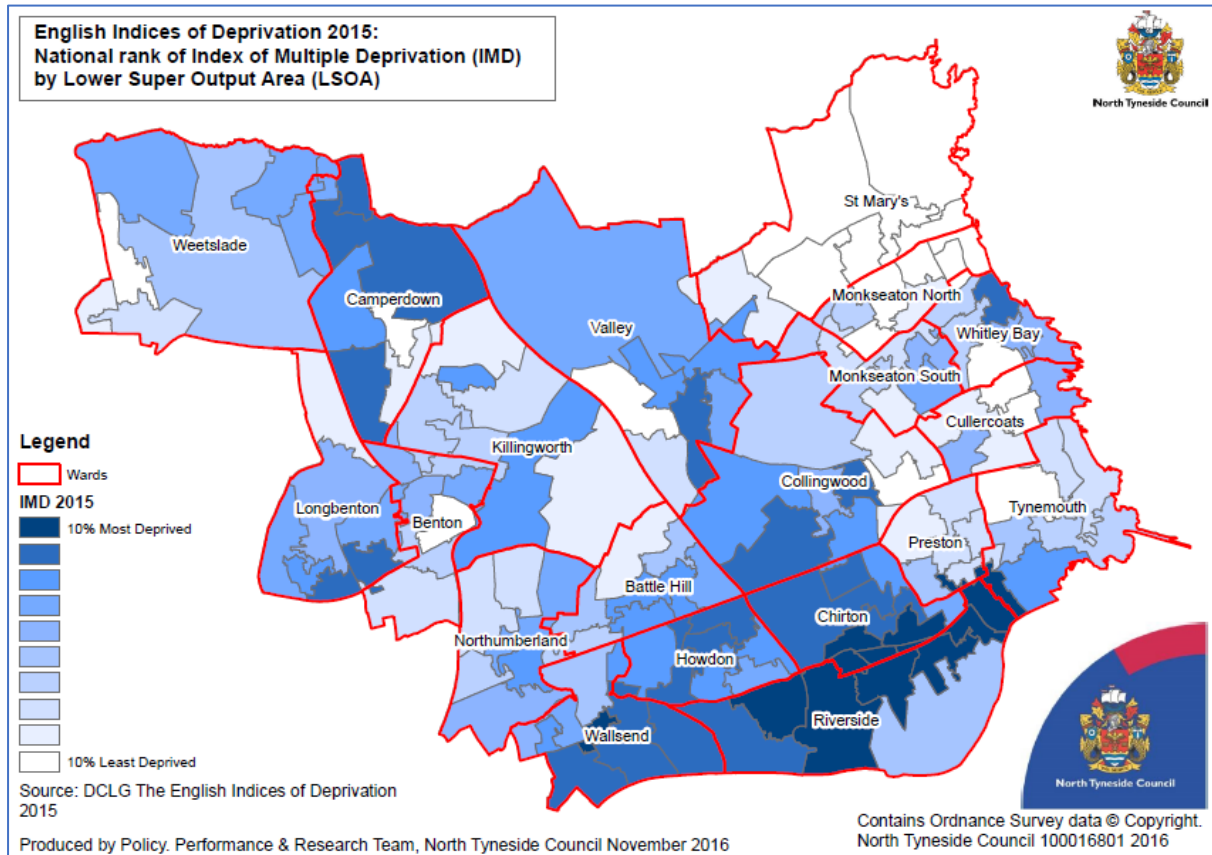
Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis
 Notes: Median earnings in pounds for employees living in the area.

The gross weekly pay in North Tyneside exceeds then regional average but is lower than the national average.

North Tyneside's economic profile indicates strong demand for childcare at all ages at a borough wide level. North Tyneside is a borough of considerable contrasts with some of the least deprived communities living near to some of the most deprived. This means that demand for childcare will be very different at a local level.

7.3.5 Deprivation

High levels of deprivation are associated with lower demand for childcare. The 2018 national childcare and early years survey found that 62% of children living in the least deprived areas received formal childcare, compared to 44% of children living in the most deprived communities. The map below shows the geographical distribution of deprivation in North Tyneside.



North Tyneside's least deprived communities are in the coastal areas, which we would expect to display strong local demand for formal childcare, particularly the 30 hours childcare entitlement and paid for wraparound care. High deprivation levels in the North West of the borough and the communities running along the Tyne, will reduce demand for formal paid childcare in these localities. Eligibility for the funded 2 year old entitlements will be higher in the areas with higher deprivation, which will raise demand for funded 2 year old places. Areas with high deprivation will also have demand for universal 3 and 4 year old funded placements. It is important that funded early years places are available in deprived communities, as high quality early years provision can significantly enhance the life chances of children experiencing deprivation.

7.3.6 Child Poverty by Ward

The proportion of children living in poverty (after housing costs / before housing costs) indicates which localities are likely to have higher demand for the government funded 2 year old offer. Families where children are living in poverty are less likely to have the resources to travel outside their immediate locality to access their funded childcare entitlements. Those wards with higher levels of child poverty will require funded childcare places to be delivered in the locality.

	% of children living in poverty (after housing costs)	% of children living in poverty (before housing costs)
Battle Hill	34.6%	21.1%
Benton	26.4%	17.6%
Camperdown	37.4%	23.6%
Chirton	43.5%	35.2%
Collingwood	34.7%	24.3%
Cullercoats	16.9%	11.0%
Howdon	41.1%	27.9%
Killingworth	26.2%	17.1%
Longbenton	36.1%	23.9%
Monkseaton North	16.1%	10.1%
Monkseaton South	23.6%	15.5%
Northumberland	27.2%	15.1%
Preston	25.4%	16.1%
Riverside	41.5%	36.9%
St Marys	17.2%	11%
Tynemouth	22.5%	14.5%
Valley	31.8%	21.1%
Wallsend	39.3%	28.9%
Weetslade	25.5%	15.1%
Whitley Bay	20.6%	14.9%

The high levels of child poverty in the Chirton, Howdon, Riverside and Wallsend wards highlight the importance of funded early years places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds, in these localities.

7.4 Early Years Travel to Provision

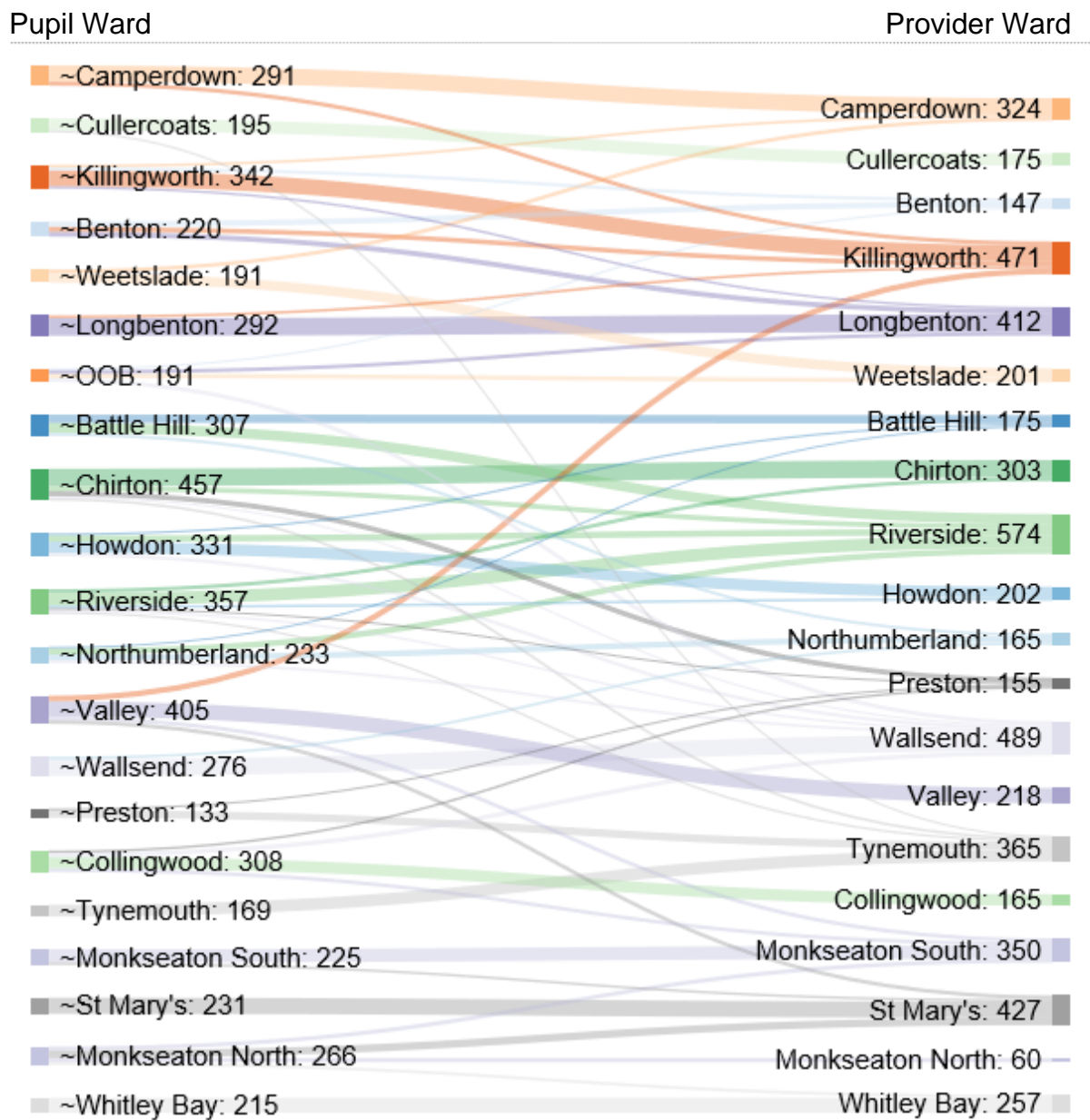
Using the Early Years census, we can track those children that attend provisions within North Tyneside. We cannot track those children living in North Tyneside that choose to attend provision out of the borough.

30% of children attend a provider in a different ward to their registered address (EY Census Jan 2019). However, within this underlying volatility some patterns are evident.

Ward	Retains	exports	Imports	net change	Characterisation
Battle Hill	119	226	100	-126	exporter
Benton	80	153	116	-37	mobile
Camperdown	234	83	119	36	static
Chirton	249	250	102	-148	exporter
Collingwood	165	218	83	-135	exporter
Cullercoats	175	65	78	13	static
Howdon	163	201	72	-129	exporter
Killingworth	228	145	268	123	importer
Longbenton	254	65	210	145	importer
Monkseaton North	60	224	38	-186	exporter
Monkseaton South	190	81	226	145	importer
Northumberland	83	180	118	-62	mobile
Preston	24	159	171	12	mobile
Riverside	179	208	425	217	mobile
St Mary's	231	32	235	203	importer
Tynemouth	169	63	244	181	importer
Valley	218	263	58	-205	exporter
Wallsend	237	87	321	234	importer
Weetslade	138	72	70	-2	mobile
Whitley Bay	215	83	81	-2	static

- “Mobile” wards are characterised by more children moving in and out of the ward than remain in the ward
- “Static” wards have most pupils remaining in the ward to access provision

The following chart has had pupil movements less than 20 suppressed for clarity so numbers do not sum to the table above.



- It is evident that much of the movement between wards is between neighbouring wards. This suggests that most families can access childcare without having to travel significant distances.

8. Government Funded Two Year Old Entitlement

8.1 Introduction

The two year old entitlement provides eligible children with 15 hours of free childcare a week, for 38 weeks a year (a maximum entitlement of 570 hours). It is important that eligible children can access their entitlement, as it supports the development of disadvantaged children during the critical early years. This section considers whether North Tyneside's has enough childcare to meet demand for the 2 year old entitlement.

8.2 Providers Delivering the 2 Year Old Early Years Entitlement

The table below shows the number of settings, by type, that were providing funded 2 year old places as of January census 2019.

Table Showing the Type of Provider Delivering the 2 Year Old Entitlement (Jan Census 2019)

Private and voluntary providers	Childminders	Maintained nursery schools	Primary schools with nursery classes
55	21	1	9

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 Statistics: [Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

In January 2019 the number of North Tyneside providers delivering the 2 year old offer was 86. This is an increase of 10 providers from the preceding year. Children are taking their 2 year old entitlement across a range of providers, however private and voluntary providers are the main providers of 2 year old places.

8.3 Number of Children Accessing Their 2 Year Old Early Years Entitlement

The table below shows the total number of children accessing the 2 year old offer at January census, over the past five years.

Table: Number of Children Taking A Funded 2 Year Old Place in North Tyneside

Census Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of funded 2 year olds in North Tyneside	550	660	670	620	632

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 Statistics: [Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

The figures show number of children accessing a 2 year old place in North Tyneside increased from 620 in 2018 to 632 in 2019. Despite the increase in children accessing their 2 year old entitlement in 2019, the number of children accessing a funded place remains lower than 2017. This partly reflects demographic change, as the borough's birth rate has declined in recent years and a relatively buoyant economy. The Authority has also seen an overall reduction in the number of children identified by the DWP as potentially eligible for the 2 year old funding. These factors are reducing demand for funded 2 year old places in the borough at present.

8.4 Percentage of Children Accessing Their 2 Year Old Entitlement

The 2 year old entitlement can enhance outcomes for eligible children, therefore it is important that families wanting to access their entitlement are able to access funded places. The table below compares the percentage take up of the 2 year old entitlement to the national and regional averages for the past 5 years.

Table: % of eligible 2 year olds taking up their free entitlement in North Tyneside

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
North Tyneside	66%	82%	83%	85%	84%
North East	65%	78%	81%	84%	82%
National	58%	68%	71%	72%	68%

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 Statistics: [Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

North Tyneside has sustained a high percentage of 2 year old take up since 2016. The proportion of eligible 2 year olds in North Tyneside accessing their 2 year old reduced slightly since 2018, falling from 85% to 84%. However, this remains above the regional average (82%) and is significantly higher than the national average (68%). In January 2019 North Tyneside had the 12th highest percentage uptake of the 2 year old offer nationally. This demonstrates that North Tyneside has enough childcare to ensure eligible 2 year olds can access their entitlement.

8.5 Number of Funded Hours Accessed by Eligible 2 Year Olds

North Tyneside needs enough childcare to ensure that all eligible families can access their full 15 hour entitlement, where required. The table below shows the funded hours taken as of January 2019.

Table: Percentage of 2 Year Olds in Funded Early Education by funded hours taken

	0.01 - 5 hours	5.01 - 10 hours	10.01 - 12.5 hours	12.51 - 15 hours
North Tyneside	0.5%	3.5%	3.2%	92.9%
North East	0.2%	1.5%	2.8%	95.4%
England	0.6%	5.2%	6.9%	87.3%

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 Statistics: [Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

The overwhelming majority of children accessing their 2 year old entitlement in North Tyneside take up 12.5+ hours of funded early education per week. This is higher than the national average but below the regional average. This suggests that North Tyneside has sufficient childcare to ensure eligible children can access their full entitlement, where required.

8.6 Quality of Provision – 2 Year Old Entitlement

The Authority aim to ensure all funded 2 year old places are delivered in settings rated either 'outstanding' or 'good' by Ofsted.

Table: % of 2 Year Olds Benefitting from Funded Early Education by Ofsted Inspection Grade (2019 Census)

	Outstanding	Good
North Tyneside	31%	69%
North East	29%	68%
England	24%	71%

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 Statistics: [Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

In January 2019 all children accessing their 2 year old entitlement in North Tyneside were attending settings rated 'outstanding' or 'good' by Ofsted (where an Ofsted inspection has been carried out). 24% of children were attending a setting that had not yet received an Ofsted inspection judgement, which reflects a high number of PVI entrants into the childcare market in recent years, several of which were in areas with high levels of 2 year old entitlement eligibility. The proportion of eligible 2 year olds receiving their funded 2 year old entitlement in North Tyneside, within a setting

judged 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted in North Tyneside, exceeded the North East and England averages. This demonstrates that sufficient high quality provision is available to meet the needs of funded 2 year old children in North Tyneside.

8.7 Summary - 2 Year Old Entitlement

North Tyneside continues to achieve high levels of 2 year old uptake, which indicates sufficiency of 2 year old provision. North Tyneside has a wide variety of provider types offering places, offering parents a choice of provision. All eligible 2 year olds are accessing their entitlement in a high quality setting. A proportion of children do not access their entitlement, the Authority must continue to work with eligible families to ensure that those families, who want a place, are able to access their free entitlement.

9. Universal Hours for 3 & 4 Year Olds

9.1 Introduction

All 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for 15 hours of free childcare a week, for 38 weeks a year (a maximum entitlement of 570 hours). The table below shows the percentage of 3 and 4 year olds taking up the universal 15 hour entitlement in North Tyneside.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
North Tyneside	99%	98%	99%	98%	100%	100%	97%	101%	101%
North East	98%	98%	98%	97%	97%	98%	98%	99%	99%
England	94%	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%	94%	94%	94%

Source DfE [Statistics: Provision for children under 5 years of age 2019](#)

North Tyneside has continued to achieve high levels of take up in 2019 which exceeded both the national and regional averages. This demonstrates that North Tyneside has sufficient childcare provision to meet the needs of families wishing to access their universal 15 hour entitlement, as the borough is a net importer of children accessing their 3 and 4 year old entitlement.

9.2 Ofsted inspection rating

It is important that children receive their universal 15 hour entitlement in high quality provision. The table below, which is based on DfE statistics drawn from the 2019 early years / school censuses, show the percentage of children in North Tyneside accessing their entitlement in provision rated 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted.

	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory / Requires Improvement
North Tyneside	41%	57%	3%
North East	29%	64%	6%
England	26%	66%	7%

Source DfE [Statistics: Provision for children under 5 years of age 2019](#)

Almost all children accessing their universal 15 hour entitlement in North Tyneside attend provision rated 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted. North Tyneside exceeds both the national and regional average for the proportion of universal 3 & 4 year old children attending a setting rated 'good' or 'outstanding'. North Tyneside can ensure that 3 and 4 year olds in the borough access their entitlement in high quality provision.

9.3 Provider Type

The table below shows the number of providers in North Tyneside delivering the universal 15 hour entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds in January 2019, by provider type.

Private and voluntary providers	Childminders	Maintained nursery schools	Primary schools with nursery classes
59	27	1	55

Source DfE [Statistics: Provision for children under 5 years of age 2019](#)

Parents and carers are using a wide range of providers to access their universal 15 hour entitlement for their 3 and 4 year olds. The range of providers offering the universal hours in North Tyneside enables families to access childcare that reflects their requirements.

9.4 Summary - Universal Hours for 3 & 4 Year Olds

North Tyneside has a wide range of providers offering the 3 and 4 year old entitlement, including a strong school sector and the quality of provision is high. This helps ensure that North Tyneside has sufficient places to meet demand for funded universal places for 3 and 4 year olds.

10. Extended Hours for 3 & 4 Year Olds

10.1 Introduction

The 30 hours free childcare entitlement is available to eligible working families of 3 and 4 year olds in England. It provides an additional 15 hours, which when combined with the universal entitlement, equates to 30 hours of funded early years provision. This section assesses North Tyneside's ability to meet parental demand for the 30 hour entitlement by considering the number of 30 hours providers, and places, their quality and location.

10.2 Providers Delivering Extended Hours Places

The below shows the number of children accessing their extended entitlement in a North Tyneside setting in January 2018 and January 2019.

Table Showing the Number of Providers in North Tyneside offering the extended entitlement

	Number of providers delivering extended hours
2019	145
2018	133

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 Statistics: [Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

The number of providers offering extended hours has increased between 2018 and 2019. The high number of providers offering the extended hours indicates a vibrant childcare market for families, which offers eligible families a choice of provision. The continued growth in the number of providers offering the entitlement, demonstrates the Authority success in supporting the sector to deliver the 30 hours entitlement.

10.3 Take Up of the Extended Entitlement

North Tyneside has experienced a high level of demand for the extended entitlement, since its launch. The table below shows the number of children accessing their 30 hour entitlement in a North Tyneside based provider.

Table: The number of children in North Tyneside Accessing Their Extended Entitlement

	2018	2019
Number of 3 and 4 year olds in North Tyneside receiving the extended funding	1,390	1500

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 Statistics: [Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

The number of children receiving the extended funding within a North Tyneside early years provider increased from 1,390 in January 2018, to 1,500 in January 2019. This is despite a fall in the number of 3 and 4 year olds accessing the universal entitlement. North Tyneside has enough 30 hours childcare places to meet the needs of eligible families.

10.4 Thirty Hour Codes Issued and Validated

The table below shows the number of 30 hour codes issued to families, which have been validated in North Tyneside since 2017, alongside the national and regional averages.

Table: The number and percentage of 30 hour codes that have been issued and validated

Term	North Tyneside 30hr codes issued	North Tyneside 30hr codes validated	Percentage of codes Validated - North Tyneside %	% codes validated - National	% codes validated - Regional
Summer 2019	1,889	1,845	98%	96%	94%
Spring 2019	1,623	1,574	97%	96%	95%
Autumn 2019	1,182	1,166	99%	97%	95%
Summer 2018	1,671	1,630	98%	96%	94%
Spring 2018	1,445	1,397	97%	95%	93%
Autumn 2017	993	958	96%	95%	94%

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 [Statistics: Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

The number of 30 hour codes issued to families in North Tyneside has grown since the launch of the offer in autumn 2017. The number of codes issued to eligible families has increased from 993 in autumn 2017 to 1889 in summer term 2019. The number of codes issued and validated in North Tyneside has consistently exceeded the national and regional averages, indicating sufficient 30 hours provision is available. The rate of growth in 30 hour eligibility is likely to slow down as the entitlement becomes established and as a result of demographic factors. Eligibility is also linked to the wider economy therefore any economic changes are likely to be reflected in eligibility.

10.5 Provider Type

The table below shows the type of provider delivering extended entitlement places, in January 2019.

Table: Showing the Type of Provider Delivering the Extended Entitlement

Private and voluntary providers	Childminders	Maintained nursery schools	Primary schools with nursery classes
58	68	1	18

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 [Statistics: Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

Children are accessing their extended hours in a variety of provider types, with high numbers of childminders and private / voluntary settings providing extended entitlement places. The borough also has a high proportion of school's delivering extended entitlement places. This shows that North Tyneside maintains a diverse childcare sector, able to offer parents a range of 30 hour places.

10.6 Quality of Extended Hours Provision

The table below shows the quality of provision in which extended hours places were being taken in January 2019, based on the setting's Ofsted inspection grade.

Table: Percentage of Eligible Children Accessing Their Extended Entitlement by Ofsted Inspection Grade (2019 Census)

	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Satisfactory	Inadequate
North Tyneside	41%	57%	2%		0%
North East	37%	60%	3%		0%
England	29%	66%	3%		1%

Source DfE: Provision for children under 5 years of age in England: January 2019 [Statistics: Provision for children under 5 years of age](#)

Almost all children accessed their extended hours in a North Tyneside setting rated 'outstanding' or 'good' by Ofsted. A higher proportion of children are accessing their extended entitlement in an 'outstanding' provider in North Tyneside, than nationally or regionally. North Tyneside is able to offer families high quality extended entitlement placements.

10.7 Number of Extended Hours Accessed by Eligible 3 & 4 Year Olds

Eligible families do not have to take up the full 30 hour entitlement and some families will choose to access fewer hours. The table below shows the number of extended hours per week that eligible children (aged 3 and 4 years) attending a North Tyneside setting were accessing in January 2019.

Table: Percentage of 3 Year Olds Accessing the Extended Entitlement by funded hours taken

	0.01 - 5 hours	5.01 - 10 hours	10.01 - 12.5 hours	12.51 - 15 hours
North Tyneside	3.8%	7.5%	4.0%	84.8%
North East	4.4%	8.9%	2.5%	84.1%
England	8.3%	11.5%	5.6%	74.6%

The percentage of 3 year old children accessing 12.5+ hours in North Tyneside exceeds the regional and national average.

Table: Percentage of 4 Year Olds Accessing the Extended Entitlement by funded hours taken

	0.01 - 5 hours	5.01 - 10 hours	10.01 - 12.5 hours	12.51 - 15 hours
North Tyneside	2.4%	7.5%	3.7%	86.3%
North East	3.9%	9.4%	2.7%	84.1%
England	7.5%	11.7%	5.8%	74.9%

The percentage of children aged 4 years accessing 12.5+ hours in North Tyneside exceeds the regional and national average.

The overwhelming majority of eligible children take up 12.5 hours or more, of their extended entitlement. The proportion of North Tyneside's 3 and 4 year olds taking 12.5+ hours is higher than the national average and in line with the regional average. This shows that demand for the entitlement is high and suggests sufficient provision exists.

10.8 Summary – Extended Hours for 3 & 4 Year Olds

In the absence of information about the number of families who could apply for a 30 hour code it is difficult to accurately assess demand. The growing number of children accessing the 30 hour entitlement and the high percentage of codes being successfully validated, suggests that families can access the entitlement. North Tyneside has a range of providers offering the extended hours including a strong childminder and schools offer. The overwhelming majority of children are accessing their entitlement in provision rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. The evidence suggests that North Tyneside has sufficient childcare to meet the needs of families.

11. Children with SEND

11.1 Introduction

The SEND Code of Practice requires Local Authorities to remove barriers that prevent children with SEND, from securing funded early education places for two, three and four year olds.

North Tyneside Council has established inclusion funding arrangements to support children aged 3 and 4 years with low level and emerging needs to access their funded childcare entitlements, in accordance with statutory requirements. The inclusion funding also supports funded 2-year olds with higher level needs (but who do not have an EHC plan) to access their funded childcare in registered early years providers, which exceeds statutory requirements.

North Tyneside's Disability Access Fund (DAF) was introduced in April 2017, in accordance with statutory guidance, to support disabled children's access to the entitlements for three- and four-year olds. Providers receive £615 per eligible child per year.

11.2 SEN Inclusion Funding for Funded 3 & 4 Year Olds

11.2.1 SEN Inclusion Funding Payments

North Tyneside has established a SEN inclusion fund for all three and four year olds with special educational needs who are taking up the free entitlements. The fund enables the local authority to work in partnership with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEN.

North Tyneside's Early Years Inclusion Fund offered a maximum of 7.5 hours of funding to support children aged 3 and 4 years, with low level and emerging special educational needs, during the 2018/19 academic year. The table below shows the number of inclusion support allocations made during 2018/19 academic year.

Table Showing the number of Inclusion Fund Payments by provider type for 2018/19 academic year (3 & 4 Year Old funded Children only)		
Total Number of Inclusion Fund payments	Payments to PVI Providers	Payments to Schools
144	31	113

In the academic year 2018/19 a total of 144 support payments were agreed. 31 of these payments were made to private, voluntary or independent sector providers, the majority of payments were made to schools. This represents 21.5% of the inclusion funding payments made but 34% of children received their universal 15 hours entitlement in a PVI setting. It is not clear whether the greater proportion of children receiving inclusion support in schools is the result of more parents / carers of children with SEN choosing school based early years provision.

11.2.2 Identified Needs of Recipients

The table below shows the most common identified Needs of Children Receiving Inclusion Funding for 3 & 4 Year Olds

SEND	Inclusion Support
Speech and Language (inc with another condition)	77
Autistic Spectrum Disorder (inc with another condition and query ASD)	29
Other	38

Early inclusion funding for 3 and 4 year olds is most frequently allocated to children who have speech and language needs. Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder account for 29 of the support provided.

11.3 SEN Inclusion Support for 2-Year-Old Offer Children

North Tyneside's inclusion support is available to children receiving the 2-year-old offer, who have complex SEN needs but who do not yet have an EHC Plan. This represents a smaller eligible cohort than the inclusion funding for 3 and 4 year olds. The table below shows the number of funded 2 year olds who received SEN inclusion support during the 2018/19 academic year.

	Number of Children Allocated 2 YO LEAPs
2017/18	13
2018/19	21

11.4 Parental Satisfaction with Inclusion Support

The Early Years Inclusion support services issued an online survey to 50 parents of children who had received early years inclusion support. Fourteen families responded giving a return rate of 28%.

- 100% of the parents felt that the funding supported children to make successful transitions between settings and 93% felt that the support enabled their child to make good progress in nursery.

11.5 Disability Access Fund

North Tyneside's Disability Access Fund (DAF) supports disabled children to access their three and four-year-old early years entitlement, providers can receive an annual £615 payment for eligible children. The tables below show the number of successful applications for DAF for the financial years 2018/19 and 2017/18. The number of children successful applications is broken down into schools and private, voluntary and independent sector providers.

DAF 18-19			
Term	No. of children	PVI	School
Summer 18	8	5	3
Autumn 18	9	3	6
Spring 19	10	6	4
Grand Total	27	14	13

The number of successful Disability Access Fund applications has increased as awareness of the funding grows amongst providers. There has been an accompanying increase in Disability Access Fund payments to providers. This is helping to ensure that children in receipt of Disability Living Allowance are receiving additional support to access their funded early years entitlements.

11.6 Early Years Entitlements for 2, 3 & 4 Year Olds with SEN

The 2019 census information shows the proportion of children in North Tyneside taking up their Government funded childcare entitlements, who were also in receipt of SEND support.

11.6.1 The 2 Year Old Entitlement

The table below shows the percentage eligible 2 year old children with SEN who are accessing their funded entitlement. North Tyneside has high uptake of the Government funded 2 year old offer amongst children with SEN. The percentage of 2 year olds in North Tyneside benefiting from funded early education places was 84% in January 2019, which exceeded the national (68%) and regional averages (82%).

Table showing the percentage of 2-year-old children benefiting from funded early education by Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision compared to North East / England average (Jan 2019)			
	2 YO children with Education, Health and Care plans (Percentage)	2 YO Children with SEN support (Percentage)	Total 2 YO children with SEN (Percentage)
North Tyneside Council	0.8%	1.7%	2.5%
North East	0.2%	2%	2.2%
England	0.6%	2.6%	3.2%

The proportion of funded 2 year old children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan is above the regional and national average. The proportion of 2-year olds receiving SEN support is below the regional and national average. The total proportion of the 2-year-old population receiving SEN support is slightly higher than the regional average. This suggests that overall, the proportion of North Tyneside's 2-year olds receiving support is broadly in line with the regional average. A smaller proportion of 2-year olds receive support in North Tyneside than the national average.

11.6.2 Universal Entitlement for 3 & 4 Year Olds

The table below sets out the proportion of children accessing their universal 3 and 4 year old entitlement who had special educational needs.

Table Showing the percentage of universal 3- and 4-year-old children benefiting from funded early education by Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision (2019 census)			
	3 & 4 YO children with Education, Health and Care plans (Percentage)	3&4 YO children with SEN support (Percentage)	Total 3&4 YO children with SEN (Percentage)
North Tyneside Council	0.5%	6.7%	7.2%
North East	0.7%	6.7%	7.4%
England	0.8%	5.5%	6.3%

The percentage of universal funded 3 and 4 year olds with an EHC plan is slightly lower in North Tyneside, than the national and regional average. The percentage of children receiving SEN support is in line with the regional average and slightly above the national average. The total percentage of North Tyneside children accessing their universal 3 and 4 year old entitlement is slightly less than the regional average but exceeds the national average.

11.6.3 Extended Entitlement for 3 & 4 Year Olds

The table below shows the percentage of 3 and 4 year olds, accessing their extended hours, who were in receipt of SEN support.

Table showing the percentage of 3- and 4-year-old children benefiting from extended funded early education by Special Educational Needs (SEN) compared to North East and National average (2019 census)			
	Children with Education, Health and Care plans	Children with SEN support	Total children with SEN
North Tyneside Council	0.2%	2.7%	2.9%
North East	0.3%	2.9%	3.3%
England	0.3%	2.5%	2.8%

2.9% of 3 & 4 year olds accessing their extended childcare entitlement in North Tyneside receive SEN support, which is in line with the national average of (2.8%). The percentage of children with and Education Health Care Plan and receiving SEN support are slightly higher than the national average but lower than the regional average. The percentages of children receiving the extended hours in North

Tyneside with EHC plans, SEN support and the total proportion with SEN remained unchanged between 2018 and 2019.

11.7 Summary - Children With SEND

North Tyneside has sufficient Ofsted registered early years childcare places providers to meet the needs of children with SEND who want to access their early years entitlements for 2, 3 & 4 year olds. This includes children with low level and emerging needs, as well as children who can access their entitlement in a mainstream setting with additional support. The 2019 census figures show that North Tyneside has a similar proportion of children with SEND accessing their Government funded childcare entitlements, to the regional and national averages. Further information regarding the number of children with SEND who are resident in the borough is required to make a full assessment of sufficiency.

The availability of early years places does not necessarily mean that sufficiency has been achieved. Early years providers must be compliant with their statutory SEND responsibilities to ensure places are accessible to children with SEND. North Tyneside has a high proportion of providers rated as 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted, indicating that settings are meeting their statutory responsibilities. This only acts as a proxy for the appropriateness of early years SEN support delivered by providers.

A minority of children require additional support to access their early years entitlement in a registered early years provider. North Tyneside has established inclusion support funding that is helping children with SEND to access their entitlements at 2, 3 and 4 years of age. There is some evidence from providers and parents that suggests the support is appropriate and take up amongst children receiving SEND support is broadly in line with national and regional averages.

12. Childcare Sufficiency in North Tyneside - Conclusion

The economic drivers of childcare demand in North Tyneside remained strong in 2019. High employment, high wages and low unemployment helped to sustain demand for childcare. This is reflected in the borough's high levels of 30 hour codes being issued and validated. The highest demand for formal childcare is expected to be concentrated in the coastal areas, although demand exists across every ward. In the longer term, potential uncertainty around the economy, means that demand may change. It is important that the local authority monitors economic indicators closely and understands their impact upon the childcare sector.

Demographic drivers of childcare demand are weakening, as the borough's 0-4 and 0-18 populations decline during the next decade. The impact of substantial new house developments in the borough may change the geographic distribution of demand at a local level but will not necessarily result in significant additional demand. Declining demand may improve sufficiency in the short-term, however a

prolonged decline may result in reduced provision in the longer term, if the market experiences sustained levels of demand that are than present. The Local Authority will continue to monitor business sustainability and provider numbers. The survey of childcare providers found that most reported demand for childcare had increased or remained the same in the past 12 months. Although a significant minority of childminders and sessional providers reported a decline in demand. There is potentially an oversupply of childcare in the south east of the borough.

The number of childcare places and providers in North Tyneside indicates a robust childcare market, at a borough-wide level. North Tyneside has a diverse childcare sector including a strong school based early years and out of school offer. The provider survey shows that early years places were available during summer term 2019, the term in which demand for childcare is at its highest. The distribution of providers and places ensures that each ward and locality contains a mix of childcare options, which ensures families have convenient access to childcare provision. The quality of provision is very high and therefore likely to meet the needs and expectations of families. There is a wide variation in the cost of childcare across providers and settings, which suggests that the needs of a range of families can be accommodated. Take up of the Government funded childcare entitlements at 2, 3 and 4 years are high, helping to ensure children get the best start in life. Almost half of daycare providers had additional charges for children accessing the Government funded childcare offers. More than 50% of daycare providers increased their charges in the past year compared to 13% of childminders. The indicators on affordability are generally good, however families in which costs are a potential barrier, will have a reduced choice of childcare options. The local authority will continue to monitor the affordability of childcare.

Demand for the Government funded early years entitlements remains high amongst eligible families. The number of funded 2 year olds has increased since 2018 but remains below the 2016 high point. The proportion of eligible children taking up their 2 year old entitlement is high. The proportion of eligible children taking up their universal 3 and 4 year old entitlement is high, but the number of children declined from 2018. The number of children taking up the extended 15 hour entitlement increased between 2018 and 2019. Almost every child takes up their entitlement in provision rated good or outstanding by Ofsted and the overwhelming majority access 12.5+ hours of provision. This suggests that North Tyneside has sufficient provision to allow eligible families to take up their funded childcare entitlements.

Actions

Monitor number of childminders operating in North Tyneside.

Review out of school provision to ensure enough provision is available.

Continue to promote uptake of the 2 year old offer.

Assess the impact of any economic changes on the childcare market and share information with sector.

Review inclusion support arrangements for SEND children accessing their Government funded childcare entitlement and promote the offer to providers.