



KEY MESSAGES

Nottinghamshire County Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Children & Young People

September 2010

[Version 1.0]

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Key Messages

These key messages are headlines taken from the full children and young people's chapter of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). Caution should be exercised in using the key messages without the full context. The children and young people's chapter of the JSNA is available at: <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/jointstrategicneedsassessment.htm>

Demographic profile

1. There are 179,500 children and young people aged 0-19 in the county and the average life expectancy is 77.8 years (male) and 81.8 years (female).
2. The 0-19 population is set to increase by 13% on average across the county by 2030, with the largest growth in the 5-9 population (23%).
3. There is an estimated 6.6% black and minority ethnic 0-19 population in Nottinghamshire, concentrated in the conurbation areas of Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe. 3.5% of Nottinghamshire school pupils speak English as an additional language.
4. The vast majority of children and young people in the county are registered as Christian (122,414), of no religion (38,816) or religion not stated (17,222). The largest religion after Christianity is the Muslim faith (1,343).
5. More than one in five Nottinghamshire pupils has some kind of special educational need (SEN) and 1.1% have a Statement of SEN. The main SEN is behavioural/emotional/social need, and diagnoses of Autistic Spectrum Disorder have seen a steep rise in recent years.
6. Child poverty is concentrated in the north-west of the county, with additional clusters in Retford, Newark, Arnold and Carlton, Hucknall and several scattered wards in Broxtowe.
7. 14,463 school pupils are eligible for free school meals in Nottinghamshire, 12.55% of the whole school population. The highest numbers are in Ashfield and Mansfield.
8. Responses to the 2010 ICM survey¹ of 11-18 year olds indicate that satisfaction levels of young people with their local neighbourhood is high (82% quite or very satisfied). The most popular 'best thing' about living in Nottinghamshire is the shops and the most often stated 'worst thing' is the range of things for young people to do.

¹ The full results of the ICM Government & Social Research Unit survey undertaken on behalf of the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust can be found at: http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/consultation/notts_cc_young_people_s_survey_final.pdf

Be healthy

2.1 Maternity and early years

1. The birth rate in Nottinghamshire is significantly lower than both the England and the East Midlands average. However, there is projected to be a 9% increase in the under-5 population over the next 20 years.
2. 24% of mothers giving birth in hospitals providing care in the north of the county smoke at the time of delivery. This is well above the national and regional average of around 15%. Research evidence shows that smoking in pregnancy is associated with low birth weight and higher infant mortality rates.
3. In 2007, 621 babies were born with a low birth weight, representing 7.2% of all births. Mansfield and Ashfield have a significantly higher proportion of low birth weight births (9.2% and 8.3% respectively) than, for example, Broxtowe (5.6%). The proportion of low birth weight babies increases with deprivation levels in the county. Across Nottinghamshire County in 2007, the proportion was not significantly different from East Midlands and England rates.
4. The numbers of women who initiate breast feeding is high (over 75% in NHS Nottinghamshire County, approximately 63% in NHS Bassetlaw) but a large proportion of mothers stop breast feeding within 6 – 8 weeks of the birth of their child, with less than 40% continuing at this stage.
5. There is extremely low uptake of available vouchers to buy fresh fruit and vegetables and free vitamin supplements (for mother and baby) by those who are eligible for them. It is well established that poor maternal and infant nutrition affects long term health outcomes.

2.2 Disability

1. The national picture indicates that more children and young people with profound disabilities and long-term conditions are living longer and surviving into adulthood.
2. Information on the numbers of children and young people with specific disabilities/long-term conditions can be difficult to access as it is collected and held by individual services and practitioners, is often out of date and is not routinely shared.
3. Applying prevalence data from national studies and elsewhere to local populations in Nottinghamshire, it is estimated that at any one time there will be:
 - 70 children/young people with Cystic Fibrosis
 - 70 children/young people with Sickle Cell Disease
 - 240 children/young people with Crohn's Disease
 - 360 children/young people with Diabetes Mellitus
 - 280 children/young people with a neoplasm such as leukaemia

- 10,690 with asthma characterised by persistent episodes of wheezing
4. Parental satisfaction with services for disabled children in Nottinghamshire is good overall (National Indicator (NI) 54). The lowest area of satisfaction is with accessible feedback/complaints procedures.

2.3 Health of looked after children

1. In line with national data, looked after children in Nottinghamshire experience poorer health, with higher levels of physical, emotional and mental ill-health. High rates of substance misuse are reported, but pregnancy rates are low for looked after children and young people.
2. Immunisation rates for looked after children are lower than the average for Nottinghamshire but access to primary care services is good.
3. It is difficult to assess whether a range of health outcomes are improving for looked after children since there is a lack of robust trend data.

2.4 Childhood vaccination and immunisation

1. Nottinghamshire's rates of immunisation are above the national average but some, including first year vaccination levels, are below the average for the East Midlands region.
2. There is variation in uptake within Nottinghamshire, between the six Practice Based Commissioning clusters.
3. Uptake of MMR (measles/mumps/rubella) vaccine needs to improve from the current level of 85% to 95% to provide 'herd immunity'.
4. Nationally, there is strong evidence that some groups of children are at risk of not being fully immunised. These children include: those who have missed previous vaccinations (as a result of parental choice or otherwise), looked after children, those with physical or learning disabilities, children of teenage or lone parents, those not registered with a GP, younger children from large families, children who are hospitalised or have a chronic illness, those from some ethnic groups, and vulnerable children, such as those whose families are asylum seekers or homeless.

2.5 Child oral health

1. In Nottinghamshire the levels of dental caries in five year olds are lower than the national average in all areas except Broxtowe and Gedling.
2. There is strong evidence of the positive impact of water fluoridation on the decay levels in young children in Nottinghamshire. The levels of dental decay in the three areas with water fluoridation – Ashfield, Bassetlaw and Mansfield - are significantly lower than the national average, despite high levels of deprivation in those areas.

2.6 Obesity in children

1. Participation in the National Child Measurement Programme in Nottinghamshire has grown over the past three years and remains above the 85% Department of Health target.
2. In Reception year, over one in five children in Nottinghamshire are either overweight or obese. By Year 6, the rate is almost one in three, similar to the national figure.
3. In local Year 6 aged children, the prevalence of obesity is significantly higher in boys than girls (19.6% and 15.5% respectively). Nationally, 20% of boys and 16.5% of girls are obese at this age.
4. 21% of Nottinghamshire young people aged 11-18 years say they never play sport or do any physical activity. In Ashfield, this figure is 33%, the highest in the county (Tellus 4 Survey).
5. 22% of local children and young people eat five or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day, above statistical neighbours (18%) and the national average (19%) (Tellus 4 Survey).

2.7 Health and education partnership

1. All schools in Nottinghamshire are participating in the National Healthy Schools Programme and over 78% have achieved Healthy School Status.

2.8 Emotional health and well-being

1. "...If you do just one thing, get those who know what they are doing to work better together." Parent - National Child & Adolescent Mental Health Review, 2009.
2. There is evidence that the emotional health & well-being of children and young people has deteriorated significantly over the past 25 years^{2,3}.
3. Research shows that risk factors affecting emotional health include physical illness or disability, family circumstances, socio-economic issues (such as poverty) and traumatic life events.
4. Issues related to socio-economic deprivation across the county result in clearly differentiated levels of need and prevalence of emotional and mental health problems, with more deprived areas generally having higher risk factors such as unemployment and substance misuse.

² Collishaw, Maughan, Goodman and Pickles. 2004. Time trends in adolescent mental health. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry* 45:350–62.

³ World Health Organisation (WHO) (2004) - WHO Mental Health Survey Consortium; Prevalence, severity and unmet need for treatment of mental disorders in the WHO Mental Health Surveys. *Journal of the American Medical Association*.291(21) 2581-90

2.9 Tobacco control

1. Reliable local smoking prevalence data for children and young people is not available.
2. Nationally, about two million children currently live in a household where they are exposed to cigarette smoke, and many more are exposed outside the home.
3. Research evidence suggests that long-term smokers start before the age of 18 and that children and young people are more likely to smoke if their parents do.
4. Nottinghamshire based projects show smoking prevalence increases as children and young people get older, most markedly at around the age of 14 years. Among young people, more girls smoke than boys.
5. In under-18 year olds accessing smoking cessation services, quit rates are lower than for adults.

2.10 Substance misuse

1. In Nottinghamshire, there were a total of 500 young people in specialist substance misuse treatment across the year (2008/09) – an increase of 15% from the previous year.
2. The primary substances that young people are receiving specialist treatment for continue to be alcohol and cannabis. Whilst alcohol referrals have significantly increased between 2007/08 and 2008/09 (42% to 53% of clients), there has been a slight decrease in cannabis referrals (45% to 41%).
3. It is estimated that up to 4,266 children and young people are affected by parents' illicit drug use and between 13,271 and 21,565 are affected by parental problematic alcohol use.
4. Alcohol related admissions in under-18 year olds have decreased by over 20% between 2005/06 and 2008/09. More females under the age of 18 are admitted for an alcohol related condition than males.
5. Substance misuse has increased from 9.4% in 2007/08 to 10.3% in 2008/09, according to responses to the Tellus 4 survey⁴. Nationally, substance misuse has also increased over the past year. Nottinghamshire performed slightly worse than the national average of 9.8%.

⁴ Caution should be exercised when using Tellus 4 data. Although the Department for Children, School and Families regard the data as statistically valid, it should be noted that only 21 schools in Nottinghamshire responded (488 primary pupils and 972 secondary pupils) to the survey. Nottinghamshire's full Tellus 4 results can be accessed at <http://www.Tellussurvey.org.uk/Reports/Reports.aspx>

2.11 Young people's sexual health

1. Nottinghamshire has achieved an overall reduction in teenage conceptions of 13.6% from the 1998 baseline. However, this masks variances in reduction across wards and districts in Nottinghamshire.
2. Ashfield (30.4%) and Gedling (26.3%) have had the greatest reductions in under-18 conceptions since the 1998 baseline. Ashfield is the only district that has had a significant reduction in under-16 conceptions.
3. Mansfield district has the highest under-18 conception rate (48.8 per 1000 15-17 year old females) and the most hotspot wards (six).
4. Terminations of pregnancy rates are similar in Nottinghamshire to other comparative areas. Of the 588 under-18 conceptions in 2008, 48% led to a termination.
5. NHS Nottinghamshire County and NHS Bassetlaw met the national Chlamydia screening target (25%) for 2009/10. Both Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) achieved a 25.1% take up of Chlamydia Screening amongst 15-24 year olds.
6. Nottinghamshire has a higher percentage of positive Chlamydia test results than the national average.

2.12 Hospital admissions

1. The emergency admission rate is significantly lower than the national average for NHS Nottinghamshire County and is significantly higher for NHS Bassetlaw. Compared to PCT peers, Nottinghamshire County PCT has one of the lowest emergency admission rates.
2. Within Nottinghamshire, emergency admission rates are significantly higher than the national average for Bassetlaw and Mansfield. Gedling has the lowest rate.
3. There is a clear relationship between deprivation and emergency admissions, with more deprived areas showing higher rates of admission. This reflects differences in health need, the quality of existing services, knowledge of services and access to primary care.
4. For elective admissions, there are high rates of admission for young people aged 15-19. There is no clear relationship between elective admissions and deprivation.

Stay safe

3.1 Safeguarding children

1. Referrals to Children's Social Care in 2009/10 increased substantially (by 43%) from 2008/09.
2. The number of initial assessments went up by 27% between 2008/09 and 2009/10 and the number of core assessments rose by 24%. The increased volume of referrals to Children's Social Care has affected the proportion of assessments completed within appropriate timescales.
3. The volume of Section 47 enquiries increased by 32% during 2009/10 compared with the previous year.
4. The number of children with child protection plans (CPPs) has increased from 391 in October 2008 to 743 in July 2010. The percentage of children with a CPP that came to an end during the period that had lasted two years or more dropped from 10.7% in 2008/09 to 6.8% in 2009/10, but the proportion with a CPP for a second or subsequent time increased to 16%.
5. The most common reason children became subjects of CPPs in 2009/10 was 'neglect' (32%), followed by 'emotional and physical abuse' (20%).
6. More than 10% of children with CPPs in 2009/10 were from a black and minority ethnic background, and over a third of all children with CPPs were in the 1-4 age range.

3.2 Sexual exploitation⁵

1. Referrals to Nottinghamshire Police for indecent images have more than doubled since 2003 (38 a year in 2003 to 89 a year in 2009), in line with increasing use of the internet, and comprised nearly half of all sexual exploitation referrals in 2009.
2. Negative effects of the internet can also be seen in the rise of referrals for grooming from zero in 2003 to 157 in total by 2009.
3. Referrals relating to children vulnerable to sexual exploitation have averaged 32 a year since 2001.
4. Since 2004, referrals relating to trafficking have averaged nine a year.

⁵ These figures relate to Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County and are numbers of referrals, not numbers of children. However, all referrals are child related.

3.3 Missing children

1. 1012 children and young people were reported missing in 2009 in Nottinghamshire. Of these, 25% went missing more than once.
2. The highest numbers went missing in Mansfield (199), Ashfield (176), Bassetlaw (163) and Newark & Sherwood (162).
3. There were 616 referrals to the County Council between September 2008 and May 2009 relating to missing children.
4. In the self-evaluation score used by local authorities to assess the effectiveness of local arrangements for missing children, Nottinghamshire is rated 8 out of 15 (as of April 2010). Performance over 15 months against statistical neighbours shows that the county does not score as well as most other similar authorities.

3.4 Looked after children

1. There were 636 looked after children (LAC) in Nottinghamshire at the end of July 2010, an increase from 546 the previous July. Indications are that this trend will continue to rise.
2. The majority of LAC in Nottinghamshire are placed into foster care (78% as of July 2010). The county's rate of LAC placed for adoption in 2009 (7.8% or 38 children) was nearly double the national rate.
3. 'Abuse or neglect' was the highest category of need during 2009 (46.7%), broadly in line with national statistics.
4. There were 43 unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) looked after during 2009, 72% of whom were aged 16 or over. This is a steep rise from 2005 when there were only six UASC.
5. There were 320 young people in Nottinghamshire receiving a care leaving service (as of March 2010) and the average number of care leavers aged 16 or over has been 40 to 41 per year over the last three years.

3.5 Recorded crimes committed against children

1. Crimes were committed against 22 per 1000 children in the county between April and December 2009.
2. Mansfield and Ashfield had the highest levels of crime committed against children during that time.
3. Peak crime types were actual bodily harm (35%); theft (8%); criminal damage and robbery (6%); sexual offences and common assault (5%).
4. 20-30% of crimes against children were committed by people known to the victim.

3.6 Hate crime⁶

1. The highest levels of reported hate crime (between April 2008 and February 2010) occurred in Ashfield and Mansfield, which also experienced the highest levels of repeat victimisation.
2. The lowest number of reported incidents occurred in Newark & Sherwood.
3. Racist hate crime represented 72% of all hate crime reported in the county.
4. The age group most vulnerable to hate crime is 12 to 15 year olds.

3.7 Sexual assault

1. There were 292 recorded sexual offences committed against children (aged 16 and below) in Nottinghamshire in 2008/09.
2. The highest numbers were recorded in Mansfield (71).
3. Ashfield and Mansfield show an upward trend (2006/09); all other boroughs/districts have a downward trend.
4. The peak time for sexual offences is between midnight and 1am.

3.8 Domestic violence

1. 250 children a month on average were referred for safeguarding with concerns about domestic violence in 2009.
2. 122 children were on Child Protection Plans because of domestic violence between October and December 2009.
3. 918 children were in households discussed at Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences between December 2008 and December 2009 (this means that the domestic violence taking place in their home is assessed to be High Risk and therefore potentially life threatening).
4. National evidence suggests that growing issues include violence by teenagers towards their own partners in relationships ('teen abuse'). Little intelligence is available locally, although Nottinghamshire Women's Aid identifies this as an issue through their work.
5. There is also local evidence of increasing levels of violent and abusive behaviour by teenagers towards their parents/carers and siblings within the family.

⁶ Higher levels of reported hate crime do not necessarily represent a higher incidence, but could signify an increased public confidence in reporting

3.9 Fear of becoming a victim of crime and provision for victims of crime

1. 16% of Nottinghamshire young people (asked in the 2009/10 Tellus 4 survey⁷) reported they are worried about being a victim of crime.
2. 15% also said they feel 'a bit' or 'very' unsafe in the area where they live. This is echoed by a similar question in the ICM survey⁸ conducted for this needs assessment (10%). The main reasons were people using drugs and teenagers hanging round on the streets.
3. The ICM survey also identified that 84% of young people feel safe on public transport and 92% feel safe at school/college.
4. 354 children were supported by Nottinghamshire Victim Support's Young Witness Service in 2008/09.
5. Nearly all of those asked in a Victim Support survey (90 children approximately) said they would report a crime again and three quarters said they would act as witnesses again.

3.10 Bullying and e-safety

1. 31% of Nottinghamshire children say (in the 2009/10 Tellus 4 survey) they have experienced bullying in or out of school in the last 12 months.
2. There are indications that cyber-bullying is on the increase locally. The ICM survey conducted for this needs assessment identified that 21% of young people in Nottinghamshire had been cyber-bullied, girls twice as likely to be victims as boys. Only one in 50 used an online facility to report abuse, even though two thirds know how to do so. Most turn to their parents or teachers.
3. There are anxieties within Nottinghamshire Police and the County Council about the number of indecent pictures sent between young people, 'sexting' (a new trend involving the uploading of revealing images of self or partner onto the internet) and the vulnerability to grooming through social networking sites.
4. There is also concern about the frequency with which local young people view pornography, the effect of it and the type of sex education they take from it.
5. 54% of parents in a recent local survey did not know the recommended minimum age for using social networking sites and 66% were not sure how to report abuse or cyber-bullying online.

⁷ Caution should be exercised when using Tellus 4 data. Although the Department for Children, School and Families regard the data as statistically valid, it should be noted that only 21 schools in Nottinghamshire responded (488 primary pupils and 972 secondary pupils) to the survey. Nottinghamshire's full Tellus 4 results can be accessed at <http://www.Tellussurvey.org.uk/Reports/Reports.aspx>

⁸ The full results of the ICM Government & Social Research Unit survey undertaken on behalf of the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust can be found at:

http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/consultation/notts_cc_young_people_s_survey_final.pdf

6. 92% of Nottinghamshire young people have a mobile phone, 84% a computer and 61% a games console, according to the ICM survey. 45% have a computer in their own bedroom and 41% never have adult supervision when using the internet. Only a fifth (22%) of 11 year olds always have adult supervision when online and one in ten (12%) never do.

3.11 Ambulance call-outs

1. Call outs for assault and sexual assault show a slight upward trend (2007-2009) in all boroughs/districts.
2. Call outs for falls have increased during the same period in all boroughs/districts.
3. Call outs for overdoses and poisoning through ingestions have increased in Ashfield, Bassetlaw and Gedling.
4. Call outs for psychiatric problems and suicide attempts also show an upward trend in all boroughs/districts, except Gedling and Mansfield.

3.12 Road safety

1. Child road casualties in Nottinghamshire have shown a consistent reduction over the last five years, ahead of national targets.
2. Whilst the casualties by age group and district vary year on year, there appears to be a consistent slightly higher casualty rate in Ashfield and Mansfield, the more urban areas of the county.
3. Proportionally, the highest number of killed and serious injury (KSI) casualties were to 16-17 year old motor cycle riders/passengers (41% of all 16-17 year old KSI casualties). The second highest group of concern is 11-15 year old pedestrians, who were involved in over half of all pedestrian KSIs to under-18 year olds.
4. Of approximately 100,000 school age children, only around 15 are involved in accidents of any severity outside schools per year.

Enjoy and achieve

4.1 Early years

1. 49.2% of Nottinghamshire pupils achieved at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage (NI 72) in 2009, compared to 52% nationally.
2. The rate of improvement in Nottinghamshire between 2007 and 2009 was 3% compared to the national rate of 6%. The county ranked 89 out of 151 local authorities, compared to 58 in 2008.

3. The gap in Nottinghamshire between the lowest achieving 20% of pupils and the rest (NI 92) was 34.6%, slightly poorer than the national figure (33.9%) and statistical neighbours (32.5%).
4. There are over 14,000 families registered with children's centres in Nottinghamshire, the majority in the north of the county. As of March 2010, the county has 100% coverage of children's centres to reach all under-fives (NI 109).
5. There has been a positive increase in the number of poorer families benefiting from the childcare element of the Working Tax Credit.

4.2 School attendance

1. Overall absence rates in Nottinghamshire for 2008/09 stand at 5% (authorised absence) and 1.22% (unauthorised absence), broadly in line with the previous year.
2. Persistent absence rates have dropped from 7.8% in 2006/07 to 5.5% in 2008/09, but are still above statistical neighbours (4.6%) and England (4.9%).
3. The most common reason for absence in 2008/09 (53%) was 'illness (not medical or dental appointment)' and the second most common was family holidays (14%).
4. Absence from secondary school in 2008/09 was slightly higher among girls; primary school absences are virtually equal between the genders.
5. Higher than average absences in 2008/09 were seen among pupils eligible for free school meals, those with special educational needs and those of *Gypsy, Roma and Traveller, Black Caribbean and Any Other Black Background* ethnicity.

4.3 School exclusions

1. In Nottinghamshire in 2008/09, there were 154 permanent exclusions from schools, which represent 13 pupils in every 10,000, a decrease of 11.5% on the previous year.
2. 15,362 education days were lost through fixed period exclusions, 2,723 days less than in 2007/08. There were 5,764 fixed period exclusions in 2008/09, a decrease of 13.5% on the previous year.
3. The permanent exclusion rate for boys in the county is 4.4 times higher than for girls and the fixed period exclusion rate is 3.1 times higher.
4. Pupils eligible for free school meals in Nottinghamshire are 5.1 times more likely to be permanently excluded and 3.6 times more likely to receive a fixed period exclusion.

5. The highest rates of exclusion are in the 13-15 age range and the most common reason is verbal assault on an adult.

4.4 Quality of education provision

1. In 15 Nottinghamshire schools, fewer than 65% of pupils achieved Level 4 or above in both English and maths in 2008/09. Nottinghamshire shows a positive trend, moving from 32 schools in 2006/07 to 15 in 2008/09. To meet the national average, fewer than 9.12 Nottinghamshire schools would need to be in this category.
2. In five schools, fewer than 30% of pupils achieved five or more A*-C grades at GCSE in 2008/09. This is a positive trend, dropping from 11 schools in 2006/07 to five in 2008/09. To meet the national average, fewer than 2.95 Nottinghamshire schools would need to be in this category.
3. 70% of Nottinghamshire schools inspected in 2008/09 achieved good or outstanding judgements for Overall Effectiveness. This was an increase on 2007/08, when 47% of inspected schools achieved good or outstanding judgements. In 2008/09, Nottinghamshire ranked second out of eleven statistical neighbours for good or outstanding judgements and came above the England average of 68%.
4. Of those Nottinghamshire schools inspected in 2008/09, 8% were found to be inadequate, an increase from 3% of schools in 2007/08. The national average for inadequate inspections in 2008/09 was 4%.
5. As of 31 December 2009, 1.75% of the county's schools were in 'special measures', more than the majority of statistical neighbours.
6. 65% of further education provision inspected in 2008/09 was found to be 'good or outstanding' and none was 'inadequate'.
7. The 2010 ICM survey⁹ of Nottinghamshire young people identified that although over three quarters (77%) are happy at their secondary school, one in ten (9%) are not. This equates to around 8,000 young people.
8. The same survey shows that 13% do not feel able to achieve their potential, 9% disagree the subjects are relevant to them and 12% disagree the style of teaching helps them to learn. One in twenty young people do not feel physically or emotionally safe at school in Nottinghamshire (6% and 5% respectively).

⁹ The full results of the ICM Government & Social Research Unit survey undertaken on behalf of the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust can be found at:
http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/consultation/notts_cc_young_people_s_survey_final.pdf

4.5 Educational attainment

1. At Key Stage 1 in 2008/09, Nottinghamshire pupils scored above the national average and ranked well against statistical neighbours at both Level 2 and Level 3.
2. At Key Stage 2 in 2008/09, pupils were above the national average and ranked first out of 11 statistical neighbours at both Level 4 and Level 5.
3. At Key Stage 4 in 2008/09, 47.2% of pupils achieved 5+ A*-C GCSE grades including English and maths, below the national average of 49.8% and 10th out of 11 statistical neighbours. However, attainment has been on the increase at a higher rate than the national average for the last three years.
4. At Key Stage 5, attainment in Nottinghamshire at GCE A and AS Level is below statistical neighbours and the England average and has been for several years.
5. On the whole, girls out-perform boys at all levels.
6. There is a substantial gap between educational outcomes for looked after children and the rest of the young population.
7. The achievement gap between SEN and non-SEN pupils has remained relatively stable and is better than the national average by 4.6%.
8. The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers, although stable, is 4.1% worse than the national average.

4.6 Educated otherwise than at school

1. Around 300 children and young people on the local authority roll were educated otherwise than at school as of January 2010.
2. Of these, 78% were male and 22% female, and the highest numbers of pupils were in Ashfield (26%). The lowest numbers were in Rushcliffe (8%).
3. Health related issues accounted for 16% of the total and 13 out of the 65 girls were educated otherwise than at school because of pregnancy or motherhood. Fewer than five pupils were looked after children and 12% of the overall male total had complex and challenging needs, requiring one to one tuition.
4. 295 families elected to educate their children at home (391 children in total) during 2008/09. Elective Home Education appears to be meeting the needs of the child in 80% of the cases in which the local authority has been involved.
5. As of January 2010, 27% of the total population of children electively home-educated in Nottinghamshire were identified as having special educational needs and 10% of the total population were traveller children.

4.7 Interventions with families

1. There are 42 operational Joint Access Teams (JATs) in the county (as of April 2010). The majority of requests for JATs in the autumn term 2009 were for boys (75%) and the highest age range was 7-11 year olds (30.5%).
2. 896 Common Assessment Frameworks (CAFs) have been logged in the county between October 2007 and June 2010, the highest numbers in Mansfield.
3. 196 families received support from the Specialist Family Support Service (children aged below 7) between June 2008 and June 2009.
4. 110 referrals were made to the Family Resource Service (children aged 8-18) between July and December 2009.
5. 40 families were offered intensive support by the Family Intervention Project in Mansfield and Ashfield between October 2008 and October 2009. The main anti-social behaviour issues identified were nuisance/rowdy behaviour, noise, litter and substance misuse/dealing.

4.8 Young carers

1. 2% of the 0-15 population in Nottinghamshire (approximately 2,600 young people) have caring responsibilities for another person, according to the 2001 census.
2. A small survey of 19 of the county's young carers found that the average number of hours worked per day was 3.9 (weekdays), and 11.1 hours per weekend.
3. Unfortunately, the exact number and geographical spread of all young carers in the county is unclear.

4.9 Children of prisoners

1. There is no robust national or local data on this group of children, though it is estimated that 9,000 of the county's children and young people will see a parent imprisoned during their school years.
2. We do not always know who is a child of a prisoner, where they live or which services they are accessing, although some services record this information. However, research evidence shows that these children are at risk of poorer outcomes. More systematic collection of data on all children of prisoners would ensure that they are identified at the earliest opportunity.

4.10 Participation in play, recreation, arts and culture

1. Participation in recreation and the arts in Nottinghamshire seems to be higher than statistical neighbours and national averages. However, a third of young people (32%) aged 11-18 interviewed in the 2010 ICM survey¹⁰ said the range of things for young people to do was the worst thing about living in Nottinghamshire and over half (57%) think it is a top priority for improvement.
2. Seven out of ten young people in Nottinghamshire do not take part in cultural activities, but most do go to cultural events, such as seeing a band or watching a film or a play.
3. Participation in sports, arts or media activities on a Friday or Saturday night, or going to a youth club, is in line with statistical neighbours and national figures.
4. Nottinghamshire's younger children want more outdoor play opportunities, longer play sessions (especially during school holidays), more opportunities to show parents what they are doing and access to more fixed play equipment in well-lit, safe outdoor locations.
5. Children and young people's satisfaction with parks and play areas has risen in Nottinghamshire from 43.4% in 2008/09 to 57% in 2009/10¹¹.
6. An estimated 1,385 disabled children and young people accessed 4,500 short break services in the first three quarters of 2009/10.
7. There are gaps in short break provision across the county (which are being addressed) and the number of children accessing short break services increases with age.

4.11 Library usage

1. 65,747 children and young people actively use their local library, 40% of the total library using population in the county. The vast majority (57,299) are aged 0-13 and 8,448 are aged 14-19.
2. 85% of under-16s who use a library rated their library as 'good', 14% as 'OK' and less than 1% as 'bad'.
3. Over half of library users under 16 said using their library helped them to read better and learn new things and more than a third said it helped them to do better at school.

¹⁰ The full results of the ICM Government & Social Research Unit survey undertaken on behalf of the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust can be found at:

http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/consultation/notts_cc_young_people_s_survey_final.pdf

¹¹ **Caution should be exercised when using Tellus 4 data. Although the Department for Children, School and Families regard the data as statistically valid, it should be noted that only 21 schools in Nottinghamshire responded (488 primary pupils and 972 secondary pupils) to the survey.** Nottinghamshire's full Tellus 4 results can be accessed at <http://www.Tellussurvey.org.uk/Reports/Reports.aspx>

4. In a 2009 County Council research project involving 70 11-20 year olds, young people said they would like to have dedicated areas for teenagers, where Connexions information or 'Job Finder' could be displayed.

4.12 Travel to school

1. 58.3% of primary school pupils walk to school in Nottinghamshire.
2. The total average distance travelled to primary schools in the county is just under one mile.
3. 53% of secondary school pupils walk to school in Nottinghamshire.
4. Nearly 30% of secondary school pupils use public transport to get to school.
5. The total average distance travelled to secondary schools in the county is just over two miles.
6. 51% of primary pupils attend their designated school and 69% of secondary pupils attend their designated school.

Make a positive contribution

5.1 Participation in decision-making, supporting the community, volunteering and positive activities

1. Results from the 2010 ICM survey¹² of young people aged 11-18 in Nottinghamshire show that less than half (44%) feel they have some sway within their school/college/workplace and a fifth (22%) believe they can influence decisions in their local area or neighbourhood.
2. Only 30% of young people in Years 8 & 10 (in the 2009/10 Tellus 4 survey¹³) said they had been asked to give their ideas in a consultation, compared to 36% of statistical neighbours and 38% nationally.
3. The range of opportunities for children and young people to participate is primarily focused at older young people, so opportunities for younger children is an area of need.
4. 70% of Year 10 pupils in the Tellus 4 survey said they participate in positive activities (NI 110), above regional and national averages, and 16% said they had taken part in volunteering activities in the last four weeks (in line with regional/national figures).

¹² The full results of the ICM Government & Social Research Unit survey undertaken on behalf of the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust can be found at:

http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/consultation/notts_cc_young_people_s_survey_final.pdf

¹³ Caution should be exercised when using Tellus 4 data. Although the Department for Children, School and Families regard the data as statistically valid, it should be noted that only 21 schools in Nottinghamshire responded (488 primary pupils and 972 secondary pupils) to the survey. Nottinghamshire's full Tellus 4 results can be accessed at <http://www.Tellussurvey.org.uk/Reports/Reports.aspx>

5. Results from the ICM survey indicate that one in twenty (6%) do some form of voluntary work at least once a week, which translates into several thousand young people.
6. 39% of respondents also said they had attended a youth club in the last four weeks (just below statistical neighbours and the national average). The ICM survey indicates that 22% of young people go to youth clubs once or twice a month or more.
7. Nottinghamshire operates one of the largest Duke of Edinburgh Award Schemes in the country – over 2,500 young people took part in 2008/09, gaining 874 awards.

5.2 Youth justice

1. Between January and December 2009, there were 2,062 young people in the youth justice system, nearly three quarters of whom were male.
2. The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system (955 in 2009/10) is on target to exceed the 8.3% reduction against the baseline of 2007/08.
3. The re-offending rate in the county for offenders aged 10-17 decreased from 33.6% in 2007/08 to 29.5% in 2009/10 (provisional)
4. The top three offence types for boys in 2009 were violence against the person, theft and criminal damage, and the two main offence categories for girls were theft and violence against the person.
5. 56 young people were sentenced to custody between April 2009 and March 2010, which means that 6.3% of those receiving court disposals were sentenced to custodial sentences – down from 6.8% the previous year.
6. Although it relates to relatively small figures, young people aged 10-17 from 'Black or Black British' backgrounds make up 0.7% of the local population but (as of quarter four 2009/10) represent 2.2% of young people in the criminal justice system.

5.3 Adult tolerance levels and perception of young people

1. The 2010 ICM survey¹⁴ of young people in Nottinghamshire indicates that two thirds (64%) of 16-18 year olds in Nottinghamshire believe the media unfairly represents young people.
2. Teenagers hanging around the streets was the biggest anti-social behaviour problem cited by respondents to the 2008 Place Survey (a

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survey of adults) in Nottinghamshire (46% saw it as a 'very/fairly big problem').

3. Half of all respondents saw activities for teenagers as being 'most in need of improvement' in the county, ahead of crime and traffic congestion.
4. Only 28% agreed that Nottinghamshire parents take enough responsibility for the behaviour of their children, which is consistent with a previous similar survey. 52% disagreed and 20% did not express an opinion.

5.4 Involvement of fathers

1. Research indicates that having an involved father is associated with children having better peer relationships and fewer behavioural difficulties¹⁵.
2. There is very little local data on the uptake of services by fathers or fathers' support needs, as few services collect data on fathers in any systematic way.
3. There are 15 fathers' groups run through children's centres across the county (out of 58 children's centres).

Achieve economic well-being

6.1 Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)

1. NEET figures have increased nationally and locally, which appears to be due to the recession. Nottinghamshire's three month average for November 2009 to January 2010 was 4.7%, against a target of 4.3%. This was, however, comfortably below East Midlands' and national averages and lower than all statistical neighbours.
2. Mansfield, Ashfield and Bassetlaw have NEET levels above the county average, as well as some wards in other boroughs/districts.
3. An increasing number of young people are entering learning or work after Year 11 (94.7% in 2009, up from 91.5% in 2006). However, there is an issue in Nottinghamshire with declining participation rates between the ages of 16 and 18.
4. Black and minority ethnic 16-18 year olds are more likely to be in learning or work than the whole cohort, although some groups do less well, most notably dual heritage.
5. At the end of 2009, 29% of teenage mothers aged 16-19 were in learning or work, above most statistical neighbours and the England average.

¹⁵ 21st Century Dad, Equal Opportunities Commission, June 2006

However, participation rates decline considerably between 16 and 19 for this group.

6. Young people with learning difficulties and disabilities are also over-represented in NEET, as are looked after children/care leavers and young offenders.

6.2 Homelessness and supported accommodation

1. 253 young people between the ages of 16 and 25 were accepted by local authorities in Nottinghamshire as being homeless¹⁶ in 2008/09. 29 of these were aged 16 or 17.
2. The impact of two recent House of Lords rulings has seen a doubling in referrals of 16 and 17 year olds between 2008 and 2009 to the County Council's Children's Services, almost all due to accommodation issues.
3. 206 young people (16/17 years old) and 484 (18-25) received an accommodation service from Supporting People in 2008/09.
4. 96.6% of young offenders were in suitable accommodation (as of March 2010), the same figure as the previous year, and so were 94.4% of care leavers (provisional data).
5. There were just under 100 families with dependent children accommodated in temporary accommodation in Nottinghamshire (on 31 March 2009), down from 142 the previous year.
6. In the 2010 Homeless Watch survey of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City, a third of single people with dependent children explained their homelessness was due to a violent relationship breakdown with a partner and 12% due to a non-violent one.

6.3 Transitions – Year 9 into adulthood

1. All Year 9 pupils with statements of special educational need are offered a transition review but only 61% of young people were present at their review in 2009.
2. The number of initial transition assessments in Nottinghamshire has almost doubled in three years (from 35 in 2006/07 to 67 in 2008/09). The largest increases have been in disability (+94% in three years) and learning disability (+93% in three years).
3. The take up of direct payments has been improving in the county, with 172 young people (30% of open cases) receiving a payment as of July 2009.

¹⁶ There is no full or accurate data relating to homeless young people in the county, as young people may stay with family or friends in very unsuitable conditions ('sofa-surfing'). Council figures quoted above can be considered the 'tip of the iceberg' – they are the numbers of **acceptances**, rather than the number of presentations.

4. Parents/carers report they sometimes do not know what support or information is available to them or how to access it, especially if they do not have access to a social worker.

6.4 Skills levels

1. The most popular Year 10 work experience destinations in 2008/09 were in the public (19.2%), retail business (16.5%) and society, health & development (15.2%) sectors.
2. Participation of 17 year olds in education or training (NI 91) fell from 73.2% in 2006/07 to 72.3% in 2007/08 – below regional (74%), statistical neighbour (75.5%) and England averages (78%).
3. The 2009 Comprehensive Area Assessment for Nottinghamshire identified low levels of good qualifications at 19 and the stark variances from district to district.
4. Attainment at Level 2 at 19 in Nottinghamshire (NI 79) has risen from 67.8% in 2006/07 to 71.2% in 2008/09, but is below the national average of 78.7%. Attainment of Level 3 at 19 (NI 80) has increased from 40.3% in 2006/07 to 42.9% in 2008/09, but is also below the national average of 51.4%.
5. The inequality gap between the achievement of poorer students compared to more affluent ones at Level 3 by the age of 19 is worse than the national average.
6. Currently, one in seven young people in Nottinghamshire are in an apprenticeship. However, the recession has had an impact on the number of apprenticeship opportunities on offer by employers.
7. In Nottinghamshire, the number of under-20 year olds who were accepted into Higher Education (HE) has increased between 2001/02 and 2009/10 by 17%, and the participation gap between young people from least and most deprived areas has narrowed.
8. Males in the county are under-represented in HE and made up 45.8% of accepted UCAS applicants in 2008/09, compared with 47.3% in 2001/02.

6.5 Aspiration levels

1. Approximately 28,000 children in Nottinghamshire live in households where nobody works.
2. Responses from children and young people in the Tellus 4 survey relating to educational aspirations were broadly in line with statistical neighbours and the national average.

3. Results from the 2010 ICM survey¹⁷ indicate that seven in ten young people currently in education expect to work full-time when they complete their education.
4. From the same survey, over half of those young people not in education expect to be working full-time in 12 months, 8% think they will be unemployed and looking for work and 4% say they will be unemployed and not looking for work.
5. 46% of 14-18 year olds are confident about the job opportunities available in Nottinghamshire and 41% are not. Only 23% of young people currently not in education, training or employment are confident the job opportunities they want are available in the county.

6.6 Access to advisors for children and families

1. Over half of children's centres across the county offer regular access to a Jobcentre Plus advisor.
2. Over 90% of Nottinghamshire students in Year 11 had an individual interview with a Connexions personal advisor in 2008/09.
3. Three quarters (76%) of Nottinghamshire 14 to 18 year olds said in the 2010 ICM survey that they had received enough information and advice to make the right choices about their future.
4. 41% of Nottinghamshire respondents to the Tellus 4 survey¹⁸ felt they had enough information and support to plan for the future and 23% said they did not. 17% did not know what was available.
5. 33% also said they had never been given advice on managing money, 26% on handling feelings and 11% on staying safe, all worse than statistical neighbours and the national average.

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Appendix A – Future data and intelligence challenges

System-based

- More locality information desirable - district level and below, practice based commissioning cluster, GP consortia, family of schools etc.
- Sexual exploitation categorisation (recorded as generic 'sexual abuse')
- Missing children – data sharing, tracking missing children, demographics, return interviews, vulnerable groups, forced marriage
- Smoking prevalence (D-Vibe may provide this in due course), including consistency of data collection in hospitals
- Obesity prevalence amongst children with disabilities
- Countywide youth homelessness
- Recording of the five hour offer of physical activity and sport every week
- Fixed term exclusions of looked after children individually monitored and followed up, but systems do not allow for regular reporting
- Limited educational data on Nottinghamshire looked after children attending schools outside the county
- Joint Access Teams (JATs) and Common Assessment Framework (CAF) – identifying outcomes and what has changed as a result of the JAT/CAF (e-CAF system may provide some of this information)
- Children of prisoners
- Young carers
- Library use by vulnerable group
- Travel to school - concerns that schools may fail to update information when a pupil's travel mode changes
- Uptake of services by fathers, fathers' support needs and evaluation of all family services in relation to engagement with fathers
- Looked after children not in education, employment or training (NEET) - work required to synthesise data more effectively between Connexions and Social Care so that both agencies use the same young people to make their calculations
- Analysis of the ages of entry into the care system and subsequent outcomes
- Cross-referencing outcomes with length of stay in the care system would give a clearer indication of operational success/failure
- Looked after children health assessments
- Children & young people with disabilities and long term conditions
- Immunisation uptake in relation to 'at risk' groups
- Further information on the emotional health needs of young offenders and children with additional needs
- More timely local teenage conception data and levels of teenage mothers who smoke in pregnancy and breast feed
- Hospital admission diagnoses often coded as 'unclassified' and some codes non-specific and imprecise
- Breast-feeding at discharge from hospital and at 10-14 days to understand when women stop breast-feeding
- Inconsistent information on attendance at hospital out-patients and use of a wide range of community services

Research-based

- Rural poverty and access to services
- Farming communities – health & well-being needs
- Parenting support with vulnerable infants
- Safeguarding aspects of children educated at home
- Safe recruitment issues
- Outcomes for abused and/or neglected children
- Sexualisation of children & young people
- A detailed follow-up of care leavers aged 25 – 30 to assess longer-term outcomes
- Teen abuse
- Teenage violence and abuse against parents/siblings
- E-safety and the effects of new technology and media on children & young people
- Pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) who have good conversational English but whose attainment is affected by language - may fall into gap between those with EAL who need obvious help and those to whom language is no barrier
- Young people's access to public transport
- Adult perceptions of children & young people and their parenting
- Reasons why black and minority ethnic groups appear to do less well in NEET, especially those of dual heritage
- Children and young people living in sub-standard or over-crowded housing
- Effects of parent/carer fuel poverty
- Children with social care involvement at risk of eviction from social housing (significant because if a family is evicted due to their child's anti-social behaviour, the family is classed as 'homeless' and the child is taken into care)
- Families who are made homeless but do not have recourse to public funds (e.g. European Union parents with dependent children who come to the UK to work but who do not work for the relevant qualifying period to be eligible for benefits and are then made unemployed - the welfare of the child becomes the responsibility of the County Council)
- Support around transitions for children and young people with special educational needs
- Variation in disease levels and attendance for dental care at a smaller output area level
- Little information on the need for special care dentistry locally
- Evaluation of impact of healthy eating and physical activity campaigns (such as Change 4 Life)