

## **Melton Local Plan Pre Submission Draft – Officer comments from Early Years Provision at Leicestershire County Council**

### Early Years Provision

The comments below are on the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Infrastructure Delivery Schedule for Melton.

The amount of childcare provision in Melton is:

36 provision on non-domestic premises which includes day nursery's and pre-schools. There are also a further 17 out of school provisions.

43 providers of childcare on domestic premises, these are childminders. We include childminders as they are able to offer the Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE).

5.2.1 Include reference to the Local Authorities' statutory duty.

Local authorities are required by legislation to:

Secure early education places offering 570 hours a year over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year for every child in their area from the relevant date, as set out in paragraph A1.1 below, until the child reaches compulsory school age (the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday).

5.2.2 To work with each District, housing developers, maintained schools and Academies to ensure; that appropriate contributions are received for new school places, proportionate to the scale of development, and used in a way which provides for the best educational solution.

Within this statement can we include reference to the development of early years places. We are at present looking at how developer contributions can be sought to help provide early years places. Although early years provision is provided by the private voluntary and independent (PVI) the LA does have a duty to ensure sufficient early learning and childcare. The government preferred option is for schools to offer the provision. With this in mind, we would like to look at where there are new school builds adding an early years provision on site. This could be run by the school or a private provider.

5.2.3.1 Childminders will need to be included within this section as they are able to offer the FEEE and childcare. The LA's duty also includes childcare for working parents so is not just limited to the FEEE. We have to ensure that there is sufficient early learning and childcare for children 0 to14 (19 SEND). From September 2017 working parents will be entitled to a further 15 hours of FEEE (30 in total) a week and this will have an impact on existing provision.

The list of early years providers is not correct. A list of all the providers on non-domestic premises can be provided. There are 36 in total.

5.2.4 We use the same yield rate as school place planning to work out the potential number of childcare places, however the numbers of places needed will be lower as there are not as many year groups. The cost multiplier is more complex as there is not a set rate due to the diversity of provision.

5.2.6.1 Remove reference to the 2 year old capital funding.

Page 130 Change the text in the table to:

**Description** This could include new provision or the expansion of existing provision on non-domestic premises

**Responsibility for delivery** This could be delivered by the PVI.

**Funding** Although the LA does not provide the childcare, if there is no alternative the LA has a duty to provide the provision.

Happy to discuss, please get in touch.