

Proposed changes to Sure Start Children's Centres in Essex

Make sure you have your say.

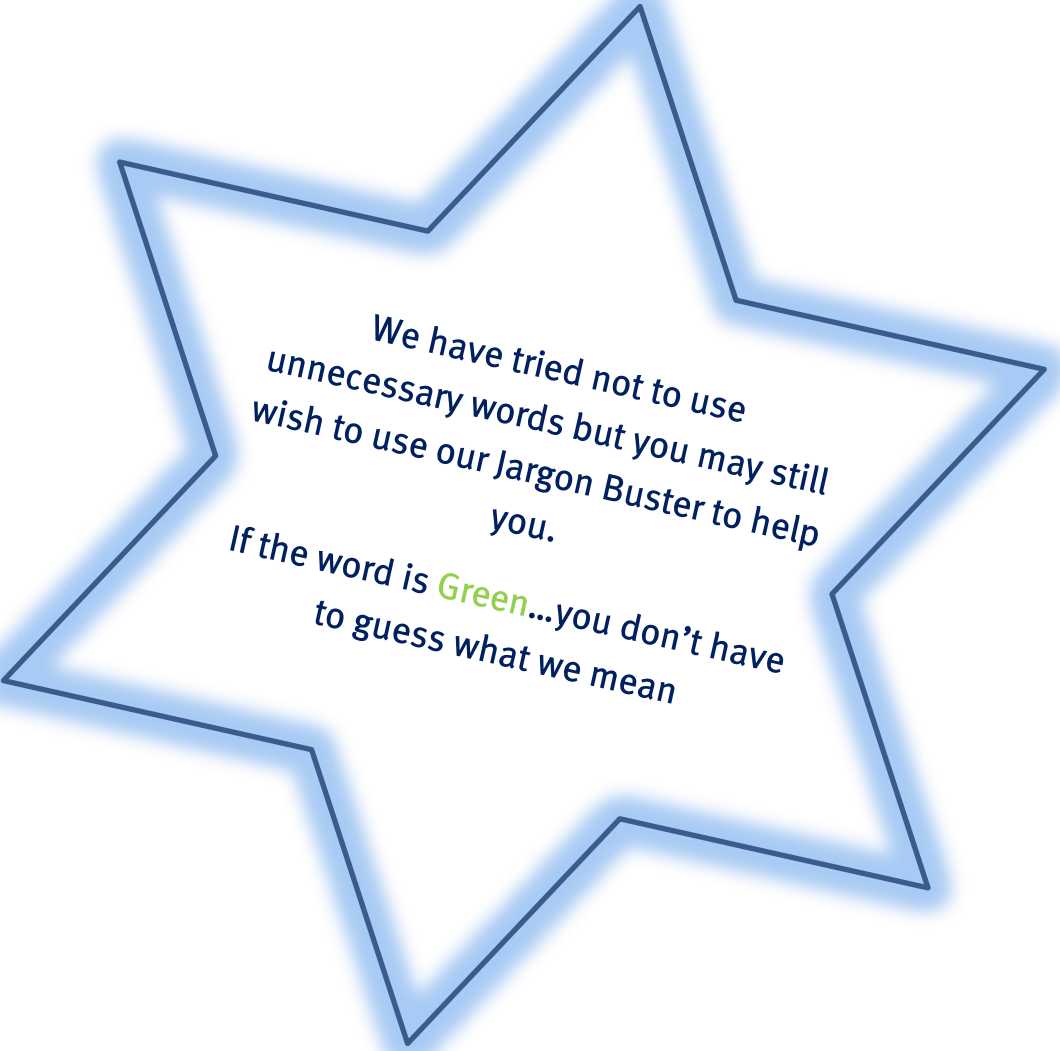
What does that mean?

Children's Centres are being included in a larger piece of work that we are doing to bring together services for all families and their children from pregnancy right up to the age of 19.

We want to know what you think about our proposals to make Children's Centres in Essex more flexible and to expand the support that is available.

Consultation dates:

15th February 2016 – 10th April 2016



We have tried not to use
unnecessary words but you may still
wish to use our Jargon Buster to help
you.

If the word is **Green**...you don't have
to guess what we mean

Introduction from the Lead Councillors



Councillor Dick Madden
Cabinet Member for Children
and Adults



Councillor Raymond Gooding
Cabinet Member for Education &
Lifelong Learning



Councillor Graham Butland
Cabinet Member for Health

Essex County Council now has an opportunity to offer a wider range of services to meet the needs of the whole family.

By extending services from places like children's centres, we can meet the needs more people, from expectant mothers to babies and toddlers, right through to young adults.

This means re-thinking the way we have been doing things, and includes working more closely with families and communities.

As a County Council we pride ourselves on the relationships we build with organisations, communities and families across Essex. We know that working together means that children, young people and families are more likely to get the support and information they need, when they need it.

We have listened to your comments over the last two years, and thought about how we can deliver flexible services most effectively in your community. This includes support from a range of local venues that you already use, like clinics, libraries and community play spaces, as well as family homes where this is right for you.

It is important that we make sure that the support being provided matches what you need. This means talking over our plans, listening to what you think about them, and being open in making local decisions.

By working with other organisations we can deliver a better service for children and families across Essex.

We have taken a lot of care to work with our existing Children's Centres in Essex and to think about how we can make sure the support that they provide is a part of these plans.

Our proposals, detailed in the following pages, have come about from a lot of thinking and hard work by many in the community. It is now time to share this across Essex, so that everyone may consider what is being proposed, and have a say.

We urge you to take part in this consultation, as it helps us understand the impacts of our decisions on families in Essex.

We look forward to hearing from you, and thank you for your interest.

Background Information

As a parent or carer, being able to access the right support when you are pregnant, or at any time in your child's life, can make a real difference and can give your child the best opportunity of reaching their full potential. Being the best they can be is what we want for all children in Essex.

At any point in your child's life you may access support from a wide range of people. Support that is available to every parent we call **universal** support and this includes; Health Visitors, Children's Centre staff, School Nurses, GPs, Youth and Community workers.

Some families might get additional support for their children from a Speech Therapist a Physiotherapist or a Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator for example. This support is referred to as **targeted** as not everybody will require it and those that do might only need it for a short period of time.

We now have an opportunity in Essex to bring together services for children from pregnancy to the age of 19. We are confident that we can do this but it means working smarter, it means bringing all of these **universal** and **targeted** services together, making sure everybody understands what you need to make the decisions that are right for your family.

Some families will want to be able to access information, advice and guidance to make choices and decisions that are right for them. Other families may need some help in making the right decisions and accessing the right services.

If we get this balance right we can prioritise the right level of service to meet individual family needs.

The story so far

Working with you we can get this right

Getting this right is very important to everybody involved and we can only achieve this by talking and listening to you and by really understanding your experiences of the support and services you access.

In the autumn of 2014 we started talking to families as part of an **Early Years Review**. The Review gave us an opportunity to talk to lots of parents and at the same time to talk to individuals and organisations working with families in Essex.

We have been talking to a whole range of families ever since. Using questionnaires, social media, face to face discussions in the community and an **ethnographic** research project (where we spent a day in the life of families) we are understanding more about everyday life for families in Essex and understanding more about what works, what does not work and how things might be improved.

You told us it feels complicated and we agree

We currently have five different services aiming to provide the right support but they are all set up independently with individual budgets:

- **0-5 Healthy Child Programme**

This includes Health Visitors

- **5-19 Healthy Child Programme**

This includes School Nurses

- **Children's Centres**

This includes centre based and Outreach support for families with children under five

- **Healthy Schools**

This aims to improve health and wellbeing for children in school

- **Family Nurse Partnership**

This is support for young mums with their first child



Our proposals are going to make things much simpler for everybody by bringing all of these services and the people that deliver them together, making sure that they work as one team, communicate as one team, prioritise the same things and respond to what you need as one team.

We really believe that we can improve the support that families get by allowing everybody involved to be more flexible and by putting outreach services in the right place for families including in families homes.

By making better use of buildings in the community such as libraries and community centres, we are planning to deliver services from more locations and we are confident we can provide a better service that means you don't have to go to lots of different places to get the support you need.

Our Vision

Our vision is to develop a new approach that is better for you and makes more effective use of the money we have available. Our plan is called the **Integrated Pre-Birth – 19 Health, Wellbeing and Family Support offer** we want it to start from 1st April 2017.

In addition to the services that we listed on the previous page there might be an opportunity to include other services that fit well with the Integrated **Pre-Birth – 19 Health, Wellbeing and Family**

Support offer. Whilst we are looking for the right **provider/s** and even once that **provider** is chosen we will continue to talk to them and look for opportunities to improve the support and service that you receive. We want to:-

Make sure all families have a voice and are listened to	Focus on what families can do rather than what they can't do	Support those children and young people who are still not reaching their full potential	Work alongside families to give them the confidence and skills to address their own concerns
			
Work with children, young people and families early, before problems get worse	Provide support that can be accessed at the right time	Make sure everybody works together and talks to each other	Make sure we all agree on the best way to support children and families
			

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Our vision on one slide

Through our conversations with families we have developed the picture on the next page. This picture helps us all to think differently and to share our vision for Children, Young People and Families making sure we all share the same priorities.

Our new system

Our new system must... Work with and for families across Essex

We will...



Look first at families' strengths

especially those of parents (both Mums and Dads) and take time to understand their needs fully



Focus on preventing problems

before they occur and offer flexible, responsive support when and where it's required



Build the resilience of parents

and communities to support each other



Work together across the whole system

– aligning our resources so we can best support families and 'do what needs to be done when it needs to be done' (not necessarily what is on our job description)



Base all we do on evidence

of both what is needed and of what works, and be brave enough to stop things that aren't working



Be clear and consistent about the outcomes

we expect, and judge what we do against them

We will know our system is successful if it delivers these outcomes:



Children...

- Are physically and emotionally healthy
- Are resilient and able to learn well
- Are supported by their families, their community, and - when necessary - professionals to thrive and be successful
- Live in environments that are safe and support their learning and development



Parents...

- Are supporting one another in their communities
- Know where to get help if they need it
- Have trusted relationships with practitioners, neighbours and other parents
- Are well informed about how best to help their child develop, and motivated to make great choices



Communities...

- See it as their collective responsibility to support parents and young children
- Are providing sustainable support through individuals, community groups, businesses and voluntary organisations
- Are seen, understood and valued by practitioners as being 'part of the solution'



Practitioners...

- Focus first on families and their strengths
- Work closely with families to understand what they need, and build trusting relationships
- Have a shared vision and understanding of outcomes and success
- Are skilled, knowledgeable and are co-creating and co-delivering approaches that work

What are we planning to do?

We plan to use what we have learned to make better sense of all the individual support that is on offer and to make it simpler, easier to understand and easier to access by working together.

Working together will mean that children and families are directly involved in identifying solutions to the problems they face, building on what families can do to make a difference. Working Together will also mean that families only have to tell their story once and don't feel like they are being passed between different organisations before they get the right help.

By bringing together all of the support currently on offer under the Children's Centre programme and the Healthy Child Programme we can buy in or **commission** the right people to work with you as a whole family, all the way from **conception** and birth through childhood and into the teenage years or **adolescence**.

There are a lot of buildings available in every community. Some are used a lot and others not very much. These proposals are designed to make the best use of the buildings that you use as a family and make better use of existing community spaces such as clinics, libraries and community play spaces.

Things we need to consider in order to get this right

We need to realise that we cannot do it all. You have told us that groups run **by parents for parents** are important and we want to work with the parents and carers who have told us that they want to deliver groups and activities for other parents in their community. We can do this by helping parents to find suitable buildings to run activities and by supporting them with ideas and resources.

We have been talking to you about how we can provide information, advice and support **much earlier**. If we can do this it is better for families, it is less costly, it means we can afford to do more of it and it makes sure you feel in control as parents. **It is better for everybody**.

Through our conversations with you, we know what **outcomes** will make a difference to children and families but we are not planning on telling the **provider/s** what services or activities to run. These proposals will create the opportunity for you to decide what sort of support and services best suit your community. The services and activities delivered where you live will be based on what you have said you need. The **provider/s** selected to deliver this work will listen very carefully to what you say.

In October 2015 we continued our conversations with families in Essex with a questionnaire launched on social media and supported by face to face conversations held in Children's Centres and other community venues.

In particular we were interested in following up some of the things that you had already told us so we concentrated on:-

- Families telling that they sometimes feel lonely or isolated
- How easy you find it to get the support you need, when you need it
- Whether the right support is available where you live
- Whether you and your family feel like your voice is heard
- How you get the information you need to make important decisions for you and your family

This is what you told us:-

- | | |
|--|---|
| • You value much of the work that Children's Centres deliver | • Support is there but not at a time when you can access it |
| • It is often hard to know where to go for help or who to contact | • You would like Children's Centres to be open for longer and on different days |
| • It can be a struggle to contact your Health Visitor or School Nurse | • Support needs to come from one central place |
| • It is particularly hard to find support for children with Special Educational Needs or a Disability | • You want a place where you can get all the help you need in one visit |



What other information have we used to inform these proposals?

We have listened to all of the conversations that we have had with parents, carers, families and the staff working with families to make sure we really understand what works and what needs to change.

This includes:-

- The size of Children's Centres building and the services delivered from it
- How parents and carers would want existing buildings to be used if they were not going to be a Children's Centres anymore.
- Where parents would be interested in using buildings in the community to run their own groups for children and families.

What changes are we proposing to the current Sure Start Children's Centres from April 2017?

We are proposing to extend the current Children's Centre service by increasing the age range from 0-5 to support families with children from pregnancy to the age of 19 and by bringing these five services together; 0-5 Healthy Child Programme, 5-19 Healthy Child Programme, Children's Centres, Healthy Schools and Family Nurse Partnership.

Through these proposals we need to



Because we want to

Families who have a child or children with additional needs or a disability will be able to access support through to the age of 25 through these proposals as the plans form an important part of the community based service for Children with **Special Educational Needs or a Disability (SEND)** included within the **Local Offer**.

We are proposing to stop calling our buildings Children's Centres and call them **Family Hubs**. This is because they will be important places for young people and families as well as children and the name reflects the wider range of services that will be on offer.

It is proposed that one existing Children's Centre in every District will become a **Family Hub** and the focal point for co-ordinating services and support for families in the area.

This will mean a reduction in the number of **Registered Children's Centres** from **37** to **12 Family Hubs** across Essex.

Whilst we are proposing to reduce the number of **Registered Children's Centres**, support and services will still be available locally through a combination of **Family Hub Delivery Sites** and a number of **Family Hub Outreach Sites** where families can get help and advice in a much more accessible and flexible way, offered through a range of local buildings.

The number of locations and a description of each one are set out below.

12 Family Hubs

There will be one **Family Hub** in each District which will open for **50 hours a week** to deliver a range of support services and activities. The **Family Hub** will co-ordinate all of the support and services for families with children from pregnancy up to the age of 19. A **Family Hub** will provide lots of support but there will also be many other places where you can get the same support. The people working in the **Family Hubs** will help you to find out where you can most easily access the support you need in your local area.

17 Family Hub Delivery Sites

These will be local places and buildings that you have told us you use and they will offer services for **20–30 hours a week**, including weekends. These will be places where different people from different organisations who support children and families already work. By making these locations part of our plans you can get more information in one visit from a team that's works as one and gives you better support.

Family Hub Outreach Sites

Family Hub Outreach Sites will provide opportunities for face to face Information, Advice and Guidance and might include your local library or similar community buildings. We are not going to decide on these locations until we have had a proper conversation with you about what buildings and locations would make the best Outreach Sites in your area.

We have made space available in 19 local Libraries across Essex that can be used for Outreach but if these locations are not right we will work with you to identify more suitable options. The number of Outreach locations could increase or decrease based on what families say. The services delivered from the **Family Hub Outreach Sites** might also change in response to what is needed locally.

We have listened to the concerns that families have shared about a shortage of childcare. We are proposing to use some of the buildings that are currently Children's Centres to offer more childcare. The existing Children's Centre buildings that we are not proposing to use as a **Family Hub, Family Hub Delivery Site or Family Hub Outreach Site** could be used to provide more childcare places

These proposals will be developed separately in the coming months after a decision has been taken on the Children's Centres buildings.

What the proposals look like for Essex

This is Essex split into four areas		The numbers at the moment		How things may look from April 2017		The proposed difference between now and 2017 in numbers of buildings	
Quadrant	Current Children's Centres	No.		Proposals from April 2017	No.		
All Quadrants	Main Sites	37	➡	Family Hub	12	-25	
	Delivery Sites	38	➡	Family Hub Delivery Sites	17	-21	
		0	➡	Family Hub Outreach Sites	19	+19	
		0	➡	Additional Childcare locations	11	+11	
		0	➡	New Childcare locations	8	+8	

What areas of Essex make up each of the four Quadrants?

North Essex Quadrant	- Colchester and Tendring
South Essex Quadrant	- Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point and Rochford
West Essex Quadrant	- Harlow, Epping Forest and Uttlesford
Mid Essex Quadrant	- Chelmsford, Braintree, Maldon

North Essex Children's Centres

Colchester and Tendring

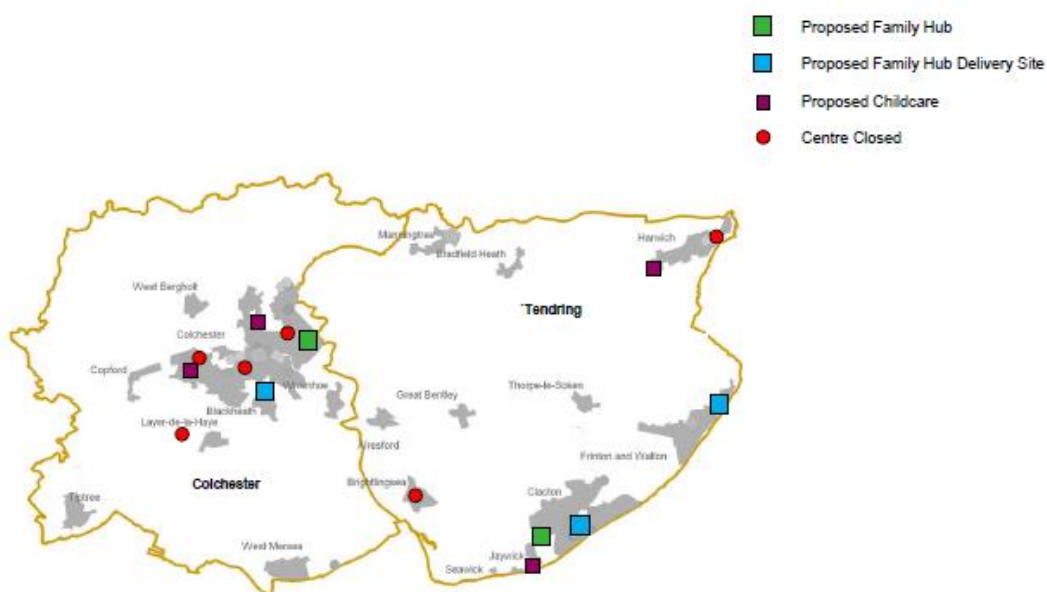
What is being proposed?



Quadrant	Current Children's Centres	No.		Proposals from April 2017	No.	Difference
North Essex	Main Sites	9	➡	Family Hub	2	-7
	Delivery	7	➡	Family Hub Delivery Sites	3	-4
		0	➡	Family Hub Outreach Sites	2	+2
		0	➡	Additional Childcare locations	2	+2
		0	➡	New Childcare locations	2	+ 2

North East Essex Children's Centres Property Strategy

February 2016



Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Beehive Children's Centre Queen Boudicca Primary School Cowper Crescent Colchester CO4 5XT	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	A new childcare opportunity	
Berechurch Children's Centre The Ormiston Centre School Road, Monkwick Colchester CO2 8NN	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	This will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Birch and Rural Children's Centre Birch C of E Primary School School Hill, Birch Colchester CO2 0LZ	Delivery Site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
Colne Children's Centre YMCA Hall 55 High Street Brightlingsea CO7 0AQ	Delivery site Open for 20 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
Discovery Children's Centre King George V Pavilion Clairmont Road Colchester CO3 9BE	Delivery site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
Greenstead Children's Centre Greenstead Community Centre Hawthorn Avenue Colchester CO4 3QE	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Will be a Family Hub		
Harwich Town Children's Centre <i>Noah's Nursery (administrative site)</i> Barrack Lane Harwich CO12 3NS <i>St Nicholas Hall (delivery site)</i> Stour Road Harwich CO12 3HS	Administrative site Delivery site Open for 20 hours per week	Close administrative site Close Delivery Site		Family Hub Outreach Site Harwich Library
Hemmington House 51-53 Broadway Jaywick CO15 2EX	Delivery site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	New childcare opportunity	

Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Little Hands Children's Centre Stanway Fiveways Primary School Winstree Road Colchester CO3 0QG	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	Additional childcare opportunity	
New Town Children's Centre St Stephens Church Centre Canterbury Road Colchester CO2 7RY	Delivery site Open for 20 hours per week	Close Delivery site	None proposed	
Rainbow Children's Centre 13 Old Pier Road Walton-on-Sea CO14 8AW	Main site Open 50 hours	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Shrub End Children's Centre Shrub End Community Way Boadicea Way Colchester CO2 9BG	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	None proposed	Family Hub Outreach Site within Prettygate Library
St Anne's and Castle Children's Centre Harwich Road Colchester CO4 3DH	Delivery site Open for 25 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
St James Children's Centre Unit 4 30 Oxford Road Clacton-on-Sea CO15 3TB	Main site Open 50 hours	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Sydney House Children's Centre Sydney House 61a Langham Drive Clacton-on-Sea CO16 7AG	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Will be a Family Hub		
Windmill Children's Centre Two Village Primary School Mayes Lane Ramsey Harwich CO12 5EL	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	An additional childcare opportunity	

South Essex Children's Centres

Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Rochford

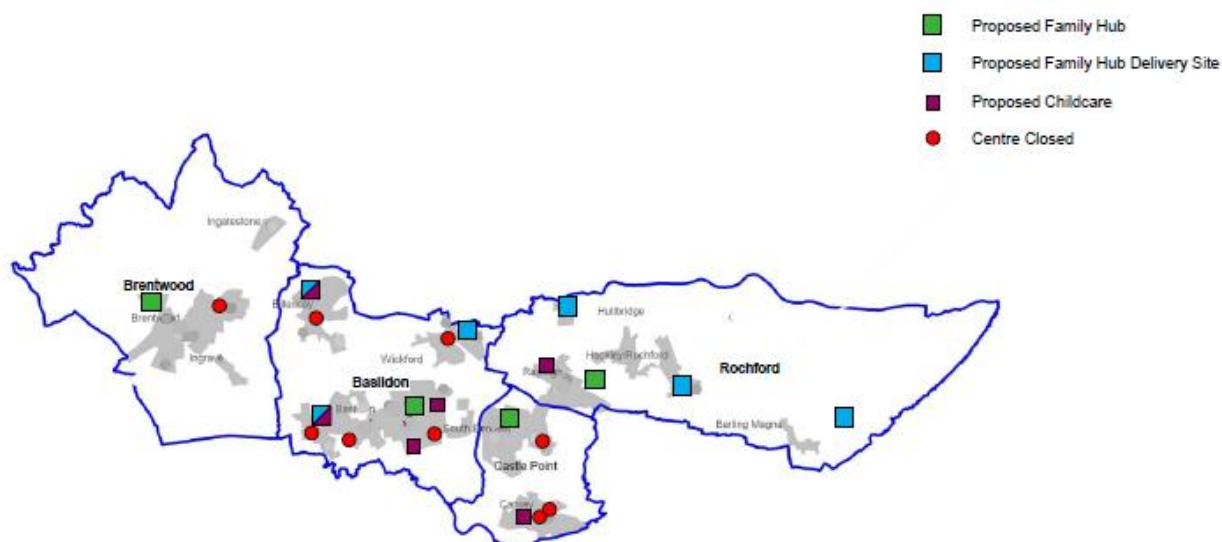
What will is being proposed?



Quadrant	Current Children's Centres	No.		Proposals from April 2017	No.	Difference
South Essex	Main Sites	10	➡	Family Hub	4	-6
	Delivery	13	➡	Family Hub Delivery Sites	6	-7
		0	➡	Family Hub Outreach Sites	6	+6
		0	➡	Additional Childcare locations	4	+4
		0	➡	New Childcare locations	2	+ 2

South Essex
Children's Centres Property Strategy

February 2016



Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
All About Children's Centre James Hornsby High School Leinster Road Laindon SS15 5NX	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site Increased childcare opportunity	
Billericay Children's Centre Billericay Library 143 High Street Billericay CM12 9AB	Delivery site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site		Family Hub Outreach within Billericay Library
Canvey Community Children's Centre Canvey Resource Centre Little Gypps Canvey Island SS8 9HG	Delivery site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	Family Hub Outreach within Canvey Library and Thorney Bay Caravan Park
Cherrydown Children's Centre Relate South Essex Building 4 Cherrydown West Basildon SS16 5AT	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
Fryerns Farm Children's Centre Greenshoots Adult Community College Ely Way Basildon SS14 2EQ	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Will become a Family Hub	None Proposed	
Highcliffe Children's Centres Rettendon View Wickford SS11 8JX	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Kaleidoscope Children's Centre 27 Riverview Court Basildon SS16 4NF	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	Increased childcare opportunity	Family Hub Outreach Site within Vange Library
Ladybird Children's Centre The Grange Community Centre Little Wheatley Chase Rayleigh SS6 9EH	Delivery site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	New childcare opportunity	

Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Larchwood Children's Centre Larchwood Primary School Larchwood Gardens Pilgrims Hatch CM15 9NG	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Will be a Family Hub		
Little Acorns Children's Centre Westwood Academy Beresford Close Hadleigh Benfleet SS7 2SU	Delivery site Open for 10 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	Family Hub Outreach Site within Hadleigh Library
Little Handprints Children's Centre Thundersley Primary School Dark Lane Thundersley SS7 3PT	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Will be a Family Hub		
Little Lions Children's Centre Northwick Park Primary School Third Avenue Canvey Island SS8 9SU	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	New childcare opportunity	
Little Tewkes Children's Centres Dovervelt Road Canvey Island SS8 8EJ	Delivery site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
Northlands Park Children's Centre Davenants Basildon SS13 1QX	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	Additional childcare opportunity	
Sea Shells Children's Centres Great Wakering Primary School High Street Great Wakering Southend-on-Sea SS3 0EJ	Delivery site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Startbright Children's Centre Pitsea Library Northlands Pavement Pitsea SS13 3DU	Delivery site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site		Family Hub Outreach Site within Pitsea Library

Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Sunnyside Children's Centre Rosebay Avenue Billericay CM12 0GH	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site Increased childcare opportunity	
Sunshine Children's Centre Shenfield Library 63 Hutton Road Brentwood CM15 8NJ	Delivery site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site		Family Hub Outreach Site within Shenfield Library
The Limes Children's Centre 93 New Century Road Laindon SS16 6AQ	Delivery site Open for 25 hours per week	Close Delivery site	None proposed	
The Oak Tree Children's Centre Grove Wood Primary School Grove Road Rayleigh SS6 8UA	Main Site Open for 50 hours per week	Will become a Family Hub		
The Triangle Children's Centre Downtowner Irton Hill Road Wickford SS12 0AQ	Delivery Site Open for 10 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
Willows Children's Centre Riverside Primary School Ferry Lane Hullbridge SS5 6ND	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Wishing Well Children's Centre Waterman Primary School The Boulevard Rochford SS4 1QF	Main site Open for 50 hours per week	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	

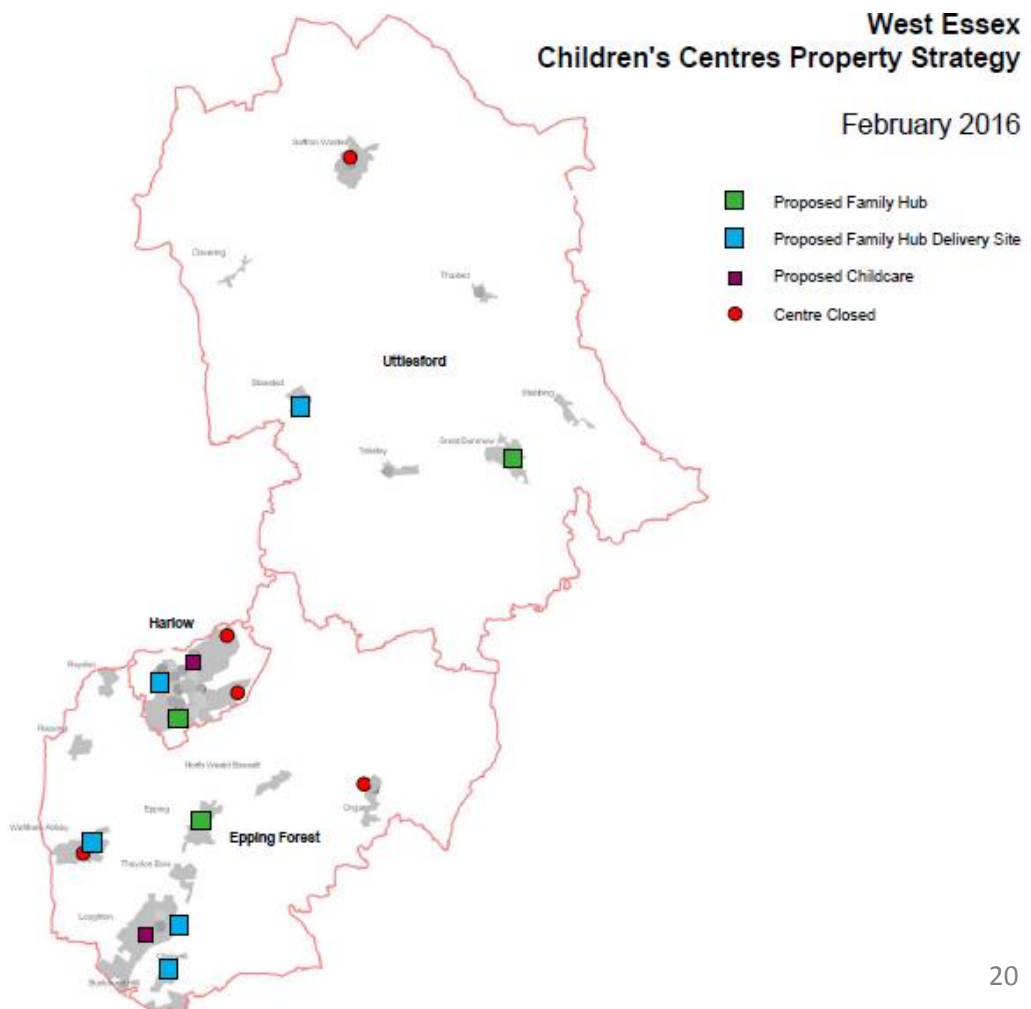
West Essex Children's Centres

Uttlesford, Epping Forrest, Harlow

What is being proposed?



Quadrant	Current Children's Centres	No.		Proposals from April 2017	No.	Difference
West Essex	Main Sites	9	➡	Family Hub	3	-6
	Delivery Sites	5	➡	Family Hub Delivery Sites	5	0
		0	➡	Family Hub Outreach Sites	4	+4
		0	➡	Additional Childcare locations	1	+1
		0	➡	New Childcare locations	1	+1



Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Abbeywood Children's Centre Waltham Abbey Library 37 Sun Street Waltham Abbey EN9 1EL	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site		Family Hub Outreach Site within Waltham Abbey Library
Brambles Children's Centre Epping Library St John's Road Epping CM16 5DN	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Will become a Family Hub		
ABC Children's Centre Aneurin Bevin Centre Garden Terrace Road Old Harlow CM17 0AT	Outreach Site	Close Outreach Site	None proposed	
Burnt Mill Children's Centre Burnt Mill Secondary School First Avenue Harlow CM20 2NR	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	New childcare opportunity	Family Hub Outreach Site within Harlow Central Library
Fairycroft Children's Centre 37a Fairycroft Road Saffron Walden CB10 1ND	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week / 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	None proposed	Family Hub Outreach Site within Saffron Walden Library
Hazelwood Children's Centre Hill House Primary School Ninefields Waltham Abbey, EN9 3EL	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Little Goslings Children's Centre Little Goslings North Street Great Dunmow CM6 1AZ	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Will become a Family Hub		
Little Oaks Children's Centre Loughton Resource Centre Torrington Drive Loughton IG10 3TD	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	

Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Little Star Children's Centre Shelley Primary School Milton Crescent Shelley Chipping Ongar CM5 0FF	Delivery Site Open for 15 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	Family Hub Outreach Site within Ongar Library
Potter Street Children's Centre Carters Mead Harlow CM17 9EU	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	None proposed	
Spangles Children's Centre Lower Street Off Chapel Hill Mountfitchet Stansted CM24 8LR	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Sunrise Children's Centre Alderton Schools Alderton Hall Lane Loughton IG10 3HE	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Increased childcare opportunity	
Meadows Children's Centre Harberts Road Harlow CM19 4DL	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Treehouse Children's Centre Parnall Road Harlow CM18 7NG	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Will be a Family Hub		
True Stars Children's Centre The Limes Centre, Limes Farm, Chigwell IG7 5LP	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	

Mid Essex Children's Centres

Maldon, Chelmsford, Braintree

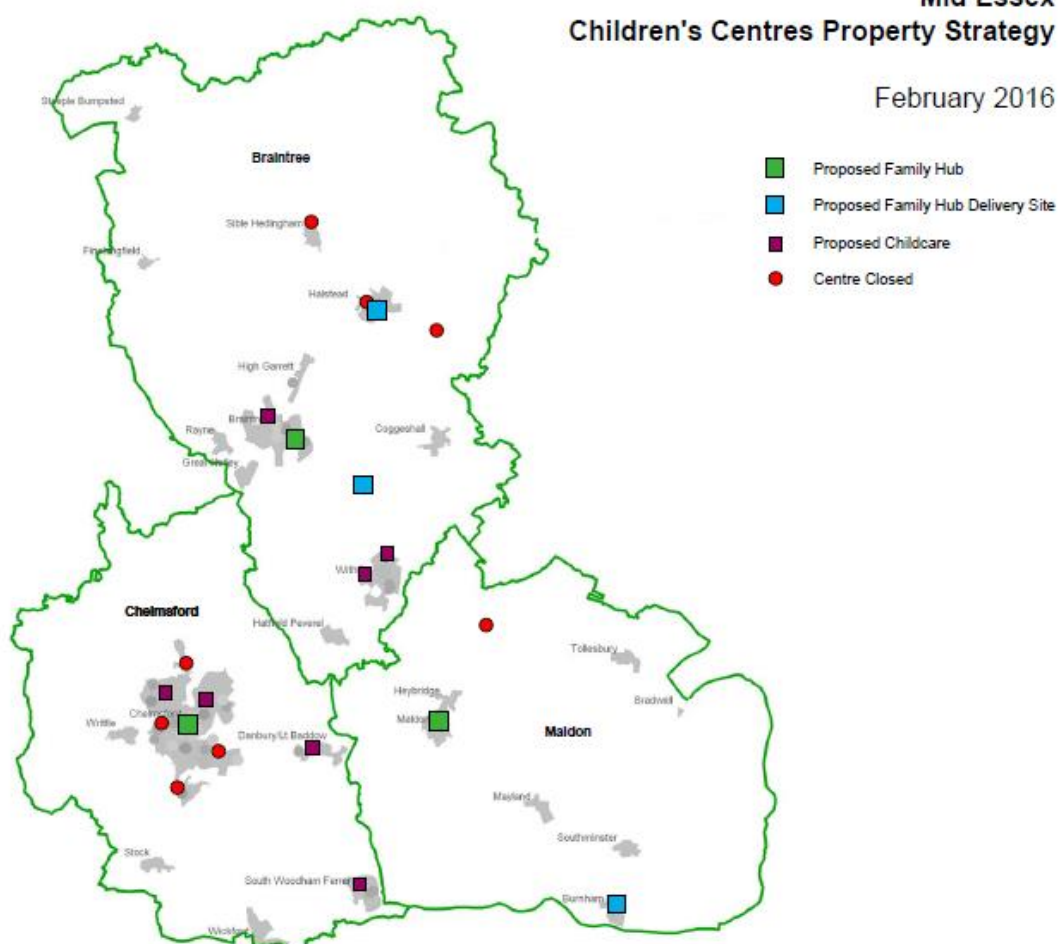
What is being proposed?



Quadrant	Current Children's Centres	No.		Proposals from April 2017	No.	Difference
Mid Essex	Main Sites	9	➡	Family Hub	3	-6
	Delivery	11	➡	Family Hub Delivery Sites	3	-8
		0	➡	Family Hub Outreach Sites	7	+7
		0	➡	Additional Childcare locations	4	+4
		0	➡	New Childcare locations	3	+3

Mid Essex Children's Centres Property Strategy

February 2016



Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Acorn Children's Centre The Old School Hall Beridge Road Halstead CO9 1JH	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	None proposed	Halstead Community Resource Centre will become a Family Hub Delivery Site
Beeches Children's Centre Adult Community College Beeches Close Chelmsford CM1 2SB	Delivery Site Open for 10 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	
Bumblebee Children's Centre The Old School House Main Road Danbury CM3 4NQ	Delivery Site Open for 10 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	New childcare opportunity	Family Hub Outreach Site within Danbury Library
Carousel Children's Centre Chapel Hill Braintree CM7 3QZ	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Will become a Family Hub		
Chelmsford Central Children's Centre Chelmsford Library Market Road Chelmsford CM1 1LH	Delivery Site Open for 5 hours per week	Will become a Family Hub		
Chelmsford West Children's Centre Dixon Avenue Chelmsford CM1 2AQ	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	New childcare opportunity	
Chetwood Children's Centre Shirebourne Vale Off Gandalf's Rise South Woodham Ferrers Chelmsford CM3 5ZX	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	New childcare opportunity	
Galleywood Children's Centre Galleywood Library Watchhouse Road Galleywood Chelmsford CM2	Delivery Site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site		Family Hub Outreach Site within Galleywood Library

Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
8PU				
Harlequin Children's Centre Spa Road Witham CM8 1NA	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Additional Childcare opportunity	
Larkrise Children's Centre Larkrise Primary School Dorset Avenue Great Baddow CM2 9UB	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	None proposed	Family Hub Outreach Site within Great Baddow Library
Maldon Children's Centre Maldon Library Carmelite House White Horse Lane Maldon CM9 5FW	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 12 hours telephone service	Will be a Family Hub		
Perryfields Children's Centre Perryfields Community Centre Lawn Lane Chelmsford CM1 7PP	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Additional childcare opportunity	Family Hub Outreach Site within Springfield Library
Rainbow Children's Centre Hedingham High School Yeldham Road Sible Hedingham Halstead CO9 3QH	Delivery Site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None Proposed	
Roundabout Children's Centre Templars Infant School Cressing Road Witham CM8 2NJ	Delivery Site Open for 10 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	Additional childcare opportunity	Family Hub Outreach Site within Witham Library
Seesaw Children's Centre Lancaster Way Braintree CM7 5UL	Main Site Open for 40 hours per week 10 hours telephone service	Close Children's Centre	Additional childcare opportunity	
Silver End Children's Centre Silver End Village Hall Broadway Witham CM8 3RQ	Delivery Site Open for 20 hours per week	Close Delivery site	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	

Current Centre Name	Current Centre Type and Opening Hours	Proposals for Current Centre	Proposed alternative use of site	Proposed alternative delivery
Sunflower Children's Centre Broomfield Library 180 Main Road Broomfield Chelmsford CM1 7AH	Delivery Site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site		Family Hub Outreach Site within Broomfield Library
The Dengie Children's Centre Ormiston Rivers Academy Southminster Road Burnham-on-Crouch CM0 8QB	Delivery Site Open for 10 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	Will become a Family Hub Delivery Site	
Valley Children's Centre Earls Colne Primary School Park Lane Earls Colne Colchester CO6 2RH	Delivery Site Open for 10 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	Family Hub Outreach Site within Earls Colne Library
Yellow Brick Road Children's Centre Great Totham Primary School Walden House Road Great Totham CM9 8PN	Delivery Site Open for 5 hours per week	Close Delivery Site	None proposed	

Who are we consulting with?

This consultation will be running for 8 weeks from **15th February 2016 – 10th April 2016** and during that time we want to hear from anybody who uses a Children's Centre and anybody with a child under the age of 19 who is interested in what we are saying.

We would like very much to know what you think of these proposals and what you say will be fully considered when we decide on the future delivery of Children's Centres.

How can I let you know what I think?

- You can let us know what you think by completing a paper copy of this consultation. These are available at **Children's Centres** and **Libraries**.
- You can respond to the consultation on line at <http://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/childrenscentresconsultation2016>
- If you would like this document summarised in another language or format please let us know by emailing us at ey.comms@essex.gov.uk

How can I find out more?

We are unable to respond to individual questions about the proposals but you can find out more or have your say at one of our public drop in sessions.

Just turn up between the times shown below and there will be somebody on hand to talk to you about what is planned in your area.

Please note that additional sessions were announced in early March 2016. These additional sessions are highlighted in **red** below.

North Essex (Colchester and Tendring)	
11th March 2016 9.30am to 11.30am	Berechurch Children's Centre, The Ormiston Centre, School Road, Monkwick, Colchester CO2 8NN
21st March 2016 10am to 12 noon	Harwich Library, Kingsway, Harwich CO12 3JT
22nd March 2016 6.30pm to 8.30pm	Clacton Library, Station Road, Clacton CO15 1SF

South Essex (Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point and Rochford)	
3rd March 2016 11.30am to 2.30pm	Runnymede Hall, Kiln Road, Thundersley SS7 1TF
11th March 2016 2pm to 4pm	Northlands Park Children's Centre, Davenants, Basildon SS13 1QX
29th March 2016 6.30pm to 8.30pm	Sunnyside Children's Centre, Rosebay Avenue, Billericay CM12 0GH
6th April 2016 2pm to 4pm	Canvey Library, 2 High Street, Canvey Island, SS8 7RB

West Essex (Harlow, Epping and Uttlesford)	
2nd March 2016 4.30pm to 6.30pm	Spangles Children's Centre, Lower Street, Off Chapel Hill, Mountfitchet, Stansted, M24 8LR
9th March 2016 2.00pm to 4.00pm	The Meadows Children's Centre, Harbets Road, Harlow CM19 4DL
21st March 2016 4pm to 6pm	Brambles Children's Centre, Epping Library, St John's Road, Epping CM16 5DN

Mid Essex (Chelmsford, Maldon and Braintree)	
9th March 2016 6.30pm to 8.30pm	Carousel Children's Centre, Chapel Hill, Braintree CM7 3QZ
18th March 2016 2.00pm – 4.00pm	Chetwood Children's Centre, Shirebourne Vale, Off Gandalf's Rise, South Woodham Ferrers CM3 5ZX
23rd March 2016 3.30pm to 5.30pm	Maldon Children centre - Maldon Library, White Horse Lane, Maldon CM9 5FW
1 April 2016 2pm to 4pm	Chelmsford Central Children's Centre, Chelmsford library, Market Road, Chelmsford CM1 1LH

What happens after the consultation?

Once the consultation finishes we promise to share the results at www.essexinsight.org.uk we anticipate this will be in the summer of 2016.

It is proposed that a final decision will be taken by Essex County Council in June 2016 following full consideration of the consultation findings.

What we learn from this consultation will be used to help us choose the right organisations to deliver the changes that we have talked about.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can you say you are making support more accessible when you intend to reduce the number of Children's Centres?

Talking to parents has helped us to realise that buildings aren't always in the right place or might not always be where children and families go regularly.

Children's Centre staff have told us that they sometimes feel unable to work with families in their homes or in places that they would normally go, the town, doctors, health clinic, school, nursery because they have to keep the Children's Centre buildings open in case somebody comes in.

By bringing together the support for families with children from pregnancy to the age of 19 we can more effectively respond to what families need at the right time and in a way that fits with how much support is needed. Whether families need a bit of information or advice or whether they need a bit more support, by creating a more flexible **workforce** we can put services closer to families much more successfully.

What made you decide to close my Children's Centre?

We have not closed any children's centres – we are proposing to improve the way we provide services, and we would like you to tell us what you think.

We are proposing the change the number of children's centre so that we can provide services where they are needed.

We have had many conversations with parents, carers and families who were regularly telling us the same things;

- It's too complicated as a parent to know who to talk to
- None of the professionals say the same things
- I have to tell the same story to people every time I see them
- I'd rather get support in my home or somewhere I already go with my child.

Why can other councils keep more Children's Centres open than Essex County Council?

We are proposing to improve the way we provide services, and we would like you to tell us what you think.

We are proposing the change the number of children's centre so that we can provide services where they are needed.

Our plan is to make services more flexible to support you in your community and in your home. That will be our focus.

Will I have to pay for services?

At the moment there are no plans to charge for activities that are part of this **programme**

Will Children's Centres still look the same?

We propose to continue to deliver the programmes that you are used to seeing. Some Children's Centre buildings might be used to support families by providing more childcare in your area.

We propose to provide a more flexible programme regardless of whether it is the library, health centre, children's centre or church hall. We want the support you get to be of the same high quality, and be built around you and your family.

**You are proposing to close my nearest centre.
How will I access services?**

If you notice a proposed change to your local service, we are confident that you will have even more opportunities to talk to the right people, at the right time to get the advice and support you need. We want services to be more flexible and work around you.

Will older children be able to access services through Children's Centres?

As part of that long title ...'Integrated **Pre-Birth** – 19 Health, **Wellbeing** and Family Support Programme'...Children's Centres will extend their provision to families with children aged up to 19 (25 in the case of those with **Special Educational Needs**). This is part of the plan to make things easier for families who have children of all different ages and will hopefully make it simpler for families to get the right support they need for their whole family.

If I am a parent who is interested in running a group, who should I talk to?

We want to encourage local parents and community groups to run activities for local families. Many of the Children's Centre buildings will be able to provide a local venue for these groups.

If you are interested in the idea of running a group now, call into your local Children's Centre and let them know. They will be glad to help you set something up.

Jargon Buster

- **Adolescence**

The period following the onset of puberty during which a young person develops from a child into an adult.

- **Budget**

The total amount of money that is available to buy in or provide a service.

- **Commissioning**

This is the process of buying a service, having decided what the service should look like, what it should do and how much money there is to spend.

- **Competitive**

A process where one or more organisations or groups of organisations submit their plans to deliver a service where only one can be successful.

- **Conception**

This is the process of becoming pregnant

- **Contract**

The contract is the agreement that is held between the commissioning organisation (the one with the money) and the provider (the one paid to deliver the service).

- **Early Years Review**

A commitment made by Children's Commissioners at Essex County Council to work with a range of County and local organisations to look at how they currently provide support for families and how this could be improved by listening to what families have to say.

- **Ethnographic**

This is a way of exploring the issues facing children and families by spending long periods (sometimes days) with the family and seeing what influences and impacts on their lives.

- **Family Hub**

This will be an existing Children's Centre building that takes on the role of delivering support and activities in each District but also has a role in co-ordinating all of the support and services for families with children from pregnancy up to the age of 19.

There will be one in each District and each will one will be linked to a range of other accessible Family Hub Delivery Sites and Family Hub Outreach Sites in the community.

- **Family Hub Delivery Sites**

These will be local places and buildings that you have told us you use and they will offer services for **20 – 30 hours a week**, including weekends. These sites will allow all of the people working with children and families to work in one place, as one team and to join up conversations.

- **Family Hub Outreach Sites**

Services delivered from these sites maybe flexible and the sites from which services are offered may change according to local need. These might include your local library or similar community buildings and will offer face to face Information, Advice and Guidance, as well as some service delivery.

- **Integrated Delivery**

This is when individuals or organisations that work with children and families come together in one place to offer a greater range of support, information and advice. It means that support is more co-ordinated, communication is better and the buildings used for Integrated Delivery can offer more to children and families in one visit.

More Jargon Busting

- **Local Offer**

A Local Offer gives children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities and their families' information about what support services the local authority think will be available in their local area.

- **Outcomes**

This is what will tell us that all children, young people and families in Essex are reaching their full potential

We will use these to check that we are successfully meeting our vision for children, young people and families through the Integrated Pre-Birth -19 Health, Wellbeing and Family Support offer.

- **Outreach**

This is a term often used to describe the work that takes place with families outside of a physical centre or building. Sometimes this can be a community location but it is often used to describe support provided in the family home.

- **Pre-Birth**

The period from the point of conception to the birth of a child.

- **Programme**

This is a word that we use to describe all of the work that is being undertaken to make a new idea happen.

- **Provider/s**

This is the name often used to describe an individual organisation or a group of organisations that have been paid to deliver a service.

- **Quadrant**

This is a word we use to describe the County of Essex split into four areas. The four areas are North Essex, West Essex, Mid Essex and South Essex

- **Registered Children's Centres**

Like Schools and Nurseries, there is a record of every Children's Centre that is kept by the Government to show that they meet all of the standards expected of a public service and to make sure that they are regularly inspected by Ofsted.

- **Special Educational Needs**

These words are often used to describe children who have learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn than other children of the same age.

- **System**

A system in relation to children and families in Essex refers to all of the buildings, people and services that exist to provide support and describes how they all relate.

- **Targeted**

Services that are set up to provide greater support for those children and families who require it, for as long as they require it.

- **Universal**

Services or support that is routinely available to all children and families.

- **Wellbeing**

Often seen alongside Health, wellbeing is a sense of emotional and physical stability, comfort and happiness.

- **Workforce**

We often use this word to describe all of the different people that work with Children and Families in Essex.