

Consultation results

This form is for consultation team members to input results of a consultation which will then be published on the NCC website.

All fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory.

What is the consultation title?*

What were the results?*

Children's Centre Services Consultation

In total, 495 consultees completed the online questionnaire associated with this consultation. One consultee also submitted a response by email.

Formal organisational responses were received from Healthwatch, Northamptonshire Breastfeeding Alliance and Action for Children.

Overall, There was broad support for the proposals outlined in the 5 'headline' questions:

52% of respondents 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that in order to access the Children's Centre targeted service, all families (with children aged under 5 years) will be referred through a simple referral process which includes completion of an Early Help Assessment or as a result of a 'step down' from Social Care;

75% of respondents 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the three areas of activity identified as the focus of services delivered in the future were appropriate;

32% of respondents indicated other activities to consider as part of any future Children's Centre targeted services;

There was significant support for broader use of buildings currently designated to deliver Children's Centre services, developing these locations further as community hubs to offer additional services locally;

68% of respondents 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' that the ideas and proposals indicated in the previous four questions (above) were appropriate for the future delivery of targeted Children's Centre services within the proposed budget.

The following issues, raised by consultees in their online submissions, have also all been noted:

There was strong support for universal services which provide support for all families and build parents confidence in the professionals, thus enabling identification of vulnerable families;

There was also strong support for the idea of a 'community hub' with co-located services, but with the proviso that it could include universal services in order to avoid stigmatisation;

The impact that proposed changes could have on vulnerable families was noted. It was felt that the changes could result in an increased need for higher levels of support and intervention, i.e. the impact on Children's Social Care Services.

Links to the relevant Cabinet papers can be accessed by following the links below.

Finally, a more detailed consultation overview summary can also be accessed by following the link to the Consultation Overview Summary.