



A summary of responses to Cheshire East Council's

# Re-purposing of children's centres consultation

## Contents of report

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# Executive summary and conclusions

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## Introduction

During July/September 2024 Cheshire East Council conducted a consultation to seek views on its proposal to re-purpose up to seven of the remaining children's centres for educational purposes and further develop the family hub outreach offer.

In total, 513 responses were received.

## Respondents' use of children's centres / family hubs

64% of respondents indicated that they had visited a children centre / family hub within the last year whereas 36% had not.

## Views on the proposals

The majority of respondents agreed that the stated educational provisions need increasing within local communities and schools, with special educational needs provision receiving the highest agreement (83% agreed with this).

The majority of respondents (74%) supported the development of family hub outreach services across a wider area. Support for the onsite primary schools to take on the management of the seven remaining children's centres was however more split with 50% in support of this proposal and 31% in opposition.

- Those who had visited any one of the seven affected children centres within the last year were less likely to support the proposal for schools to take on the management of the buildings, 39% were in support and 45% were in opposition.
- There was slight variation in support between each children's centre. There seems to be more support generally for the re-purposing of Hurdsfield children's centre (57% of respondents who had indicated that they had visited this centre within the last 12 months agreed with this proposal) however less support for the re-purposing of Sandbach, Middlewich & Alsager children's centre (26% were in support and 59% were in opposition).

## Conclusions and recommendations

Whilst the majority of respondents agreed that the stated education provisions need increasing and where in support of the development of family hub outreach services across a wider area there was a mixed response to the re-purposing of children's centre buildings. Within the comments provided, it is clear that, many respondents value the children's centres and the support that they provide to children and families within Cheshire East. Concern was raised, that the loss of these centres would lead to isolation for mothers and children, with them potentially slipping through the system. Respondents questioned whether schools would have enough resources and funding to take on the management of the children's centre buildings and also whether alternative venues such as church buildings / libraries would be a suitable location for the children's centre groups.

The research and consultation team recommend the details of this report are reviewed and considered alongside any other relevant evidence before providing a final recommendation.

# Introduction

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## Purpose of the consultation

During July/ September 2024 Cheshire East Council conducted a consultation to seek views on its proposal to re-purpose up to seven of the remaining children's centres that have not been remodelled into family hubs and utilise the buildings for education delivery purposes. As part of this proposal, the council would also look to further develop the family hub outreach offer across a wider geography. The children's centres affected by the proposal were as follows:

- Knutsford Children's Centre (Manor Park Primary School and Nursery)
- Nantwich Children's Centre (Nantwich Primary Academy School)
- Hurdsfield Children's Centre, Macclesfield (Hurdsfield Primary School and Nursery)
- Broken Cross Children's Centre, Macclesfield (Broken Cross Primary Academy and Nursery)
- Sandbach, Middlewich & Alsager Children's Centre (Sandbach Primary Academy)
- The Brooks Children's Centre, Crewe (Pebble Brook Primary School)
- Poynton Children's Centre, Poynton (Vernon Primary School)

Since the council's bid for family hubs transformation funding in 2022 we have repurposed five of our former children's centres into family hubs expanding services at these sites from an offer for children and families under 5 to a 0-19 offer and up to 25 for our young people with SEND. The sixth and final Family Hub is being open in Crewe Lifestyle by September 2024.

The proposals form part of the Councils medium-term financial strategy (MTFS) for 2024 to 2028 which was approved at a meeting of Full Council in February 2024. The Early Years Team (Start for Life) are required to contribute towards the reduction of the financial pressures (a savings target of £250K) whilst having minimal impact on services.

## Consultation methodology and number of responses

The consultation was mainly hosted online however paper versions were made available at children's centres, family hubs and at libraries throughout Cheshire East. They were also available on request. It was promoted to:

- Residents of Cheshire East and the general public
- The Cheshire East Digital Influence Panel
- Schools in Cheshire East
- Town and Parish Councils

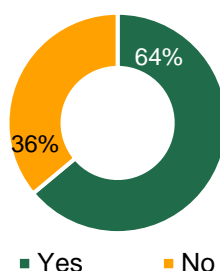
In total, 513 responses were received to the survey. A breakdown of survey demographics can be viewed in Appendix 1 and a map of respondent postcodes can be seen in Appendix 2.

# Section 1: Respondents' use of children's centres / family hubs

Respondents were asked if they had visited any children's centres or family hubs in Cheshire East within the last year, 64% of respondents indicated that they had visited within the last year whereas 36% had not, see Figure 1.

Those who indicated that they visited a children's centre / family hub within the last year (328 respondents) were asked which ones they had visited. Table 1 shows the full breakdown of results. Respondents could select as many that applied.

**Figure 1. Have you visited any children's centres or family hubs in Cheshire East within the last year?**



Base for % = 513

**Table 1. Which children's centres / family hubs have you visited? (Select all that apply)**

Childrens Centre / Family Hub	Count	%
Ash Grove Family Hub – Macclesfield	43	13%
Broken Cross Children's Centre - Macclesfield	42	13%
The Brooks Children's Centre - Crewe	83	25%
Congleton Family Hub – Congleton	51	16%
Hurdsfield Children's Centre - Macclesfield	44	13%
Knutsford Children's Centre - Knutsford	28	9%
Monks Coppenhall Family Hub, Centre of Excellence for Special Educational needs and Disabilities - Crewe	118	36%
Nantwich Children's Centre - Nantwich	63	19%
Oak Tree Family Hub – Crewe	86	26%
Oakenclough Family Hub – Wilmslow	96	29%
Poynton Children's centre - Poynton	17	5%
Sandbach, Middlewich & Alsager Children's centre - Sandbach	82	25%
<b>Total Base for %</b>		<b>328</b>

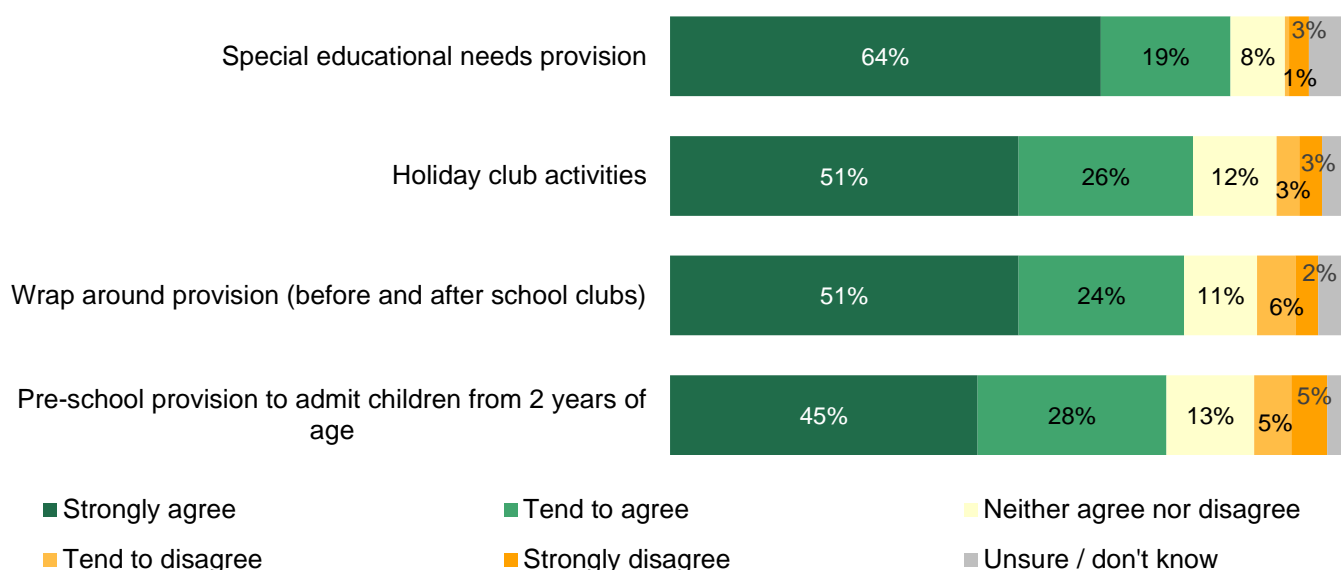
## Section 2: Views on the proposals

In summary the proposals were as follows:

- The onsite primary schools (of up to seven existing children’s centres) would take on management of the buildings and utilise them for educational purposes. Some of the sites would be considered for proposed SEN provision. The sites could also be used by the school for e.g., to create additional pre-school provision to admit children from 2 years of age, to provide additional accommodation for pupils, to provide wrap around care provision (before and after school clubs) and for holiday clubs activities.
- The majority of current health services would continue to be delivered on site. However, the start for life offer, 0-4, currently provided at the children's centres would be subject to change. Alternative groups would be provided at other Council owned locations i.e., libraries and/or family hub centres or within the wider community e.g., church buildings.
- The council would look to develop a flexible outreach program to cover a wider geography. A wider variety of outreach activities will bring services closer to our most disadvantaged communities, taking services to the people that need them the most. Outreach services will be delivered from our main family hub locations, by using other council assets, in families’ homes and through joint delivery with partner agencies.
- There would be no reductions to the number of services available; instead, there will be fewer buildings in which they are based and more flexibility in where they are delivered.

Respondents were first asked a set of questions to ascertain how strongly they agree or disagree with the need to increase certain educational provision within local communities and schools. The majority of respondents agreed that the stated educational provisions needed increasing, with special educational needs provision receiving the highest agreement. 83% agreed with this (selecting either strongly or tend to agree). See Figure 2 for the full breakdown of response.

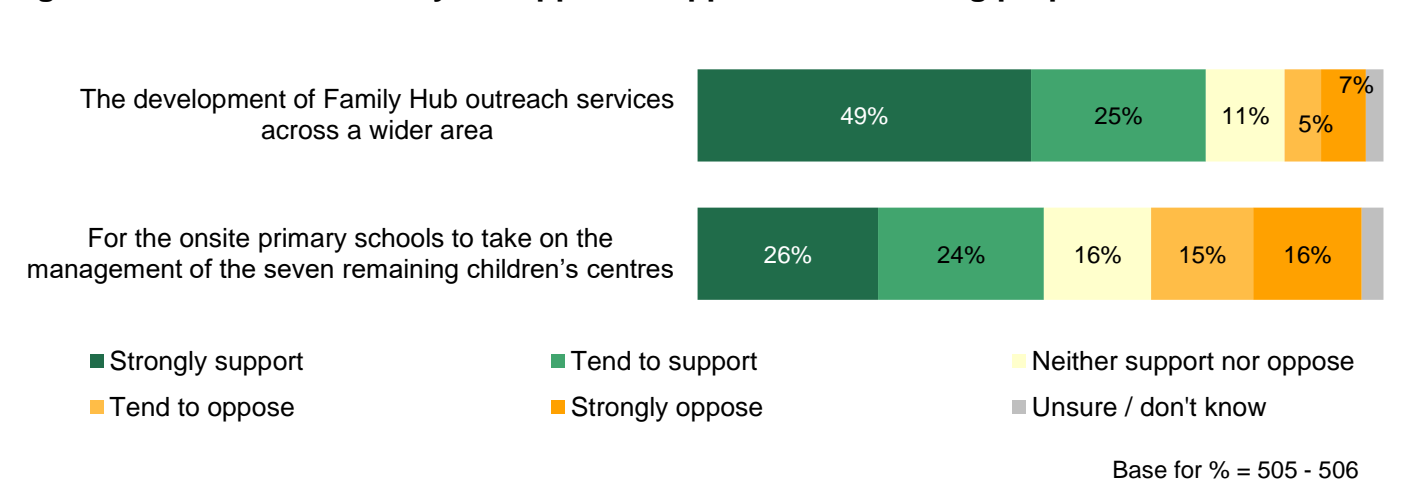
**Figure 2: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the need to increase the following provisions in local communities and schools?**



Base for % = 507 - 511

Respondents were then asked to indicate their level of support for the proposals. The majority of respondents (74%) supported the development of family hub outreach services across a wider area. Support for the onsite primary schools to take on the management of the seven remaining children’s centres was however more split with 50% in support of this proposal and 31% in opposition as shown in Figure 3.

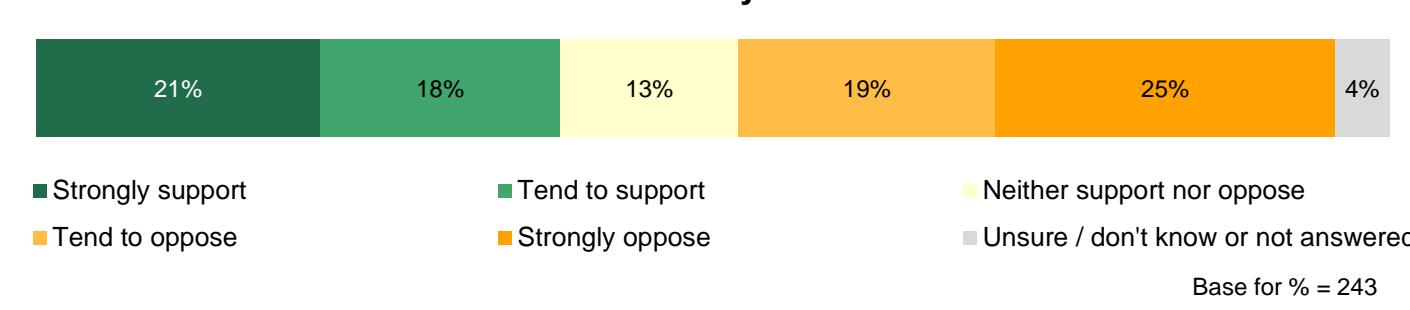
**Figure 3: To what extent do you support or oppose the following proposals?**



Those who had visited any one of the seven affected children’s centres within the last year were less likely to support the proposal for schools to take on the management of the buildings, 39% were in support and 45% were in opposition as shown in Figure 4.

Table 2 shows the breakdown of responses by those who had attended each affected children’s centre within the last year. There is more support generally for the re-purposing of Hurdsfield children’s centre (57% of respondents who had indicated that they had visited this centre within the last 12 months agreed with the proposal whilst 34% were in opposition) however less support for the re-purposing of Sandbach, Middlewich & Alsager children’s centres (26% were in support whilst 59% were in opposition). Please note that whilst figures by children’s centre provide a good overall indication of level of support/opposition some of the bases are low and therefore caution must be taken when interpreting the results.

**Figure 4: Level of support / opposition for the onsite primary schools taking on the management of the seven remaining children’s centres: respondents who had visited any of the affected children’s centres within the last year.**



**Table 2: Level of support / opposition for the onsite primary schools taking on the management of the seven remaining children’s centres: respondents who had visited each affected children’s centres within the last year.**

	<b>Strongly or tend to support</b>	<b>Neither support nor oppose</b>	<b>Strongly or tend to oppose</b>	<b>Unsure / don’t know or not</b>	<b>Total base</b>
Broken Cross Children’s Centre - Macclesfield	40%	14%	43%	2%	42
The Brooks Children’s Centre - Crewe	30%	13%	51%	6%	83
Hurdsfield Children’s Centre - Macclesfield	57%	7%	34%	2%	44
Knutsford Children’s Centre	50%	11%	39%	-	28
Nantwich Children’s Centre	35%	16%	46%	3%	63
Poynton Children’s Centre	47%	18%	35%	-	17
Sandbach, Middlewich & Alsager Children’s Centre	26%	11%	59%	5%	82
<b>Grand Total</b>					<b>243</b>

All respondents had the opportunity to let us know if they believed any of the proposals will have a negative impact on children and families in Cheshire East and why. 151 respondents chose to leave a comment. The comments provided were coded into the following overall themes and sub themes:

**Impact of the proposals:**

- Impact on children and families generally, 50 mentions.
- Impact on children and families in Sandbach, 11 mentions.
- Impact on children and families in Nantwich, 10 mentions.
- Impact on children and families in Knutsford, 7 mentions.
- Impact on children and families in Poynton, 7 mentions.
- Impact on children and families in Crewe, 4 mentions.
- Impact on children and families in Macclesfield, 2 mentions.
- Impact on private childcare, 2 mentions.

**Concerns about the proposals:**

- Schools may struggle to take on the management / offer sufficient SEN provision, 15 mentions.
- Libraries / church venues not suitable, 10 mentions.
- Concerns about outreach services, 9 mentions.

**Agree with the proposals:**

- Agree generally, 11 mentions.
- Agree as long as, 7 mentions.

**Other comments regarding the proposals:**

- Require more information, 12 mentions.
- Other suggestions for improvement, 3 mentions.
- Other SEN considerations, 2 mentions.
- General negative comment, 2 mentions.

Some respondents will have referred to more than one theme therefore total mentions won't add up to the total number of respondents who left a comment. The full summary of the comments received by theme and sub theme is presented in Table 3, on the next page.



**Table 3: Please let us know if you believe any of the proposals will have a negative impact on children and families in Cheshire East and why:**

Theme	Summary of comments received	Number of mentions
<b>Impact of the proposals</b>		<b>91</b>
Impact on children and families generally	Many families rely on children's centres for support and do not have transport to travel to the remaining family hubs so disadvantaged families will be hit even more. The majority of users are either from lower income families or perhaps English isn't their first language. Attending the children's centres has been a lifeline when needed to get out of the house and chat to other mums, would feel more isolated if could no longer go. Great for mental health and for socialising. They were a lifesaver during the pandemic. The centres provide an inclusive, accessible, free and safe space. With a young SEN child rely on the children's centre groups as part of our routine as they offer a safe and secure place. Fear only the children who attend that primary school would benefit if schools took over management, concerned other services would be squeezed out and that more children will slip through the system.	50
Impact on children and families in Sandbach	Sandbach children's centre offers support to a large geographical area and parents would struggle to access groups at other centres. They do not have enough provision in this area. This is a community with increasing deprivation and could lead to more isolation. How are people from lower income families who don't have transport meant to access services if they move from Sandbach? Sandbach children's centre has been essential to me during maternity leave / helped with postnatal depression. Young mothers will be left isolated.	11
Impact on children and families in Nantwich	Nantwich is a crucial location for those with young babies and children of preschool age with good links to the town, adequate town centre parking and public transport. It is the only place that I can get to, these facilities will not be replicated if it has to move elsewhere. Nantwich children's centre stay and play and baby groups are well attended and it wouldn't be fair to families to have to travel elsewhere to access these groups. Would reduce confidence and impact on mental health. Most of the current sessions offered take place during school hours, which should enable wraparound and school holiday clubs to take place alongside the current provision. Do not understand why you have several in Crewe and are closing the only one in Nantwich. Need local community support without having to take two buses and travel for over an hour to Crewe's centres.	10
Impact on children and families in Knutsford	Knutsford is lacking in services for children, need to use the children's centre for these services. Don't want to travel half an hour to get to nearest children's centre, there is limited public transport in Knutsford. Run a food project once a week from Knutsford children's centre. This serves up to 70 households per week. My concern would be that we would lose the room and be forced to operate elsewhere. The children's centre was chosen specifically for its location-next to school and away from more traditional "poverty project" locations such as church or community centre. Community hubs need a dedicated space and not be squeezed in wherever you find a spot. The family support services should be relocated to the community hospital site which is central and has better access for staff and visitors. The Stanley centre should be repurposed as a community hub.	7
Impact on children and families in Poynton	Taking away Poynton children's centre will have an impact of the preschool children both developmentally and emotionally for family. If the Poynton site is closed the nearest provision for Disley is Congleton. The introduction of a children's centre in Poynton will impact recruitment and retention on current families accessing childcare in other settings. Mini V preschool / nursery use the space at Poynton changing this would affect the parents and children who attend.	7

**Table 3: Please let us know if you believe any of the proposals will have a negative impact on children and families in Cheshire East and why:**

Theme	Summary of comments received	Number of mentions
Impact on children and families in Crewe	Closing the Brooks children's centre will cut off the support to parents who use it from areas such as, Wistaston, Willaston, Hough and Crewe. It's such a good location for those who don't drive and close for those who live in more rural areas and don't have access to children's centres. The Brooks is fantastic and the support it offers is a huge asset to the community.	4
Impact on children and families in Macclesfield	Concerned that parents of children who do not have SEND will lose the very few services that operate from Broken Cross children's centre. Broken Cross children's centre is the only accessible centre close to Macclesfield, the available space for groups at the other Macclesfield Centres is too small and boxed in and none have the large indoor and outdoor space like Broken Cross. Would exclude the many families that walk there and families of children with SEN who needs the space to be able to participate.	2
Impact on private childcare	Changing them into nurseries will have a hugely negative impact on other nursery and pre-school services in the local area including childminders. Businesses providing high quality early years care and education will not survive by limiting age groups, the business model only works over 0-5 years. The central ideology needs to be carefully thought through and risk assessed.	2
<b>Concerns about the proposals</b>		<b>35</b>
Schools may struggle to take on the management / offer sufficient SEN provision	Schools have lots of pressure of their own, they would struggle to take on the responsibility of it all. Need a strong early year's team with different experiences working alongside the school. Poor education management is setting the system up to fail, specialist expertise is needed to run them. The funding in schools is poor / school budgets are already tight If schools have more to do without funding and staffing, then the education of the existing children will suffer. Concerned about the offer to pupils with SEND -are the schools who will have Family Hubs on site already evidencing successful practice for pupils with SEND. An increase in SEN schools would be much more beneficial as schools are struggling to deal with them in house.	15
Libraries / church venues not suitable	Removing local support that can be accessed on foot and replacing in local libraries which require transport will mean children can't get their due to lack of transport / lack of time. Struggle to see how the same sort of provision and resource would be available at libraries and church halls, they don't compare and are not purpose made as much as hubs. Church groups seem to be reducing their offerings and there is a separate consultation to reduce library services. Disagree with sensory activities and breastfeeding support being siphoned off into libraries and other such buildings. Bigger spaces like local libraries and churches are not equipped for children with SEN as you cannot look after them safely. Many parents do not feel comfortable attending groups in churches in case of a religious element. Church halls can often be cold when some parents are attending for a warm environment for their children. Libraries in some areas have limited hours of use. The staff at the library won't spot a struggling parent or know where to refer them on to. There is no personal service or tracking of families for those that might be struggling or fall between the cracks. While the activities at Nantwich library are lovely to entertain the children, they are not conducive to building relationships with other parents or community support. Moving Cherubs to the library would be a very big mistake, the library does not provide an intimate, relaxing and comfortable environment to troubleshoot breastfeeding issues. The library session in Knutsford is nearly over always full, it's a great service but libraries are not childcare settings or suitable settings for parent support, they are quiet spaces.	10

**Table 3: Please let us know if you believe any of the proposals will have a negative impact on children and families in Cheshire East and why:**

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Summary of comments received</b>	<b>Number of mentions</b>
Concerns about outreach services	Not convinced that the outreach service can offer the same depth of support to certain families. Outreach services do not always work and are so subject to change cannot keep track of where things are. Services over a wider area would limit the Childrens' access. Should have equitable access to services no matter where you live, need more rural support. No real detail on how you propose to develop family hub outreach services, a cost analysis needs to be completed before this is ran. My concern would be about the availability of bookable local venues.	10
<b>Agree with the proposals</b>		<b>18</b>
Agree generally	Agree it will have a positive effect providing much need support to families. Can't see anything negative about the proposals. Strong need for SEN support, need to repurpose the buildings for SEN provisions. Need for more pre-schools. The sites are rarely used anyway. Community based groups are more beneficial, children's centres are not always that local to the community. Having worked in education I'm fully aware of the need for these proposals.	11
Agree as long as	The use of schools is a good way to go, many families would benefit as long as there is funding and enough staff to facilitate. SEN provision will have a positive impact as long as it is supported by funding. This change should have no financial or other impact on primary schools, it is not fair for schools to have this with no support. Children's centres for children only. As long as the health visitor appointments can still be done locally in Poynton then it wouldn't matter.	7
<b>Other comments regarding the proposals</b>		<b>19</b>
Require more information	Would like to have details of the impact on schools and their funding. How much extra funding would schools receive, how will this be managed? Is their funding for the outreach services? Has the proposal considered the travel distance for families who struggle with transport and access. Will transport links be improved? Where will the different groups run? How will families who will no longer have a children's centre on their doorstep know about the outreach offer? How will you combat digital poverty? Where will health services deliver their clinics, development reviews and midwifery appointments and what about the health staff who use these buildings? How will support for the community be supplied in the same building? How will the loss of a community centre be measured?	12
Other suggestions for improvement	Okenclough is such a wonderful facility it would be great to have something similar at the Poynton site. Oakenclough could be extended on a big plot and reused as a nursery also. More support for 14- to 18-year-olds would be good, some sort of drop in or meeting place for them.	3
Other SEN considerations	Please utilise these centres for SEN up until 18 and not just under 5. There is nothing for SEN children at these centres for indoor and outdoor play. The council should be focussing on the needs of SEN families and outreach support rather than early years provision.	2
General negative comment	Children should not be left in the care of strangers for extended periods of time, particularly in formative years. Waste of good money	2

## Section 3: Further comments

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At the end of the survey respondents had the opportunity to let us know if they had any further comments to make on the proposal. 135 respondents chose to leave a comment. The comments provided were coded into the following overall themes and sub themes:

### **Disagree with the proposals:**

- Disagree with re-purposing of children's centres, 36 mentions.
- Libraries / church venues not suitable, 6 mentions.
- Disagree with outreach services, 1 mention.

### **Agree with the proposals:**

- Agree with re-purposing as long as, 16 mentions.
- Agree with re-purposing of children's centres, 15 mentions.
- Agree with outreach services / agree as long as, 11 mentions.

### **Suggestions / request for more information:**

- SEN provision should be a priority, 18 mentions.
- Alternative Suggestions, 16 mentions.
- Require more information, 10 mentions.

### **Other comments:**

- Comment on Family Hubs, 6 mentions.
- General negative comment, 5 mentions.

Some respondents will have referred to more than one theme therefore total mentions won't add up to the total number of respondents who left a comment. The full summary of the comments received by theme and sub theme is presented in Table 4, on the next page.

**Table 4: Further comments on the proposal**

Theme	Summary of comments received	Number of mentions
<b>Disagree with the proposals</b>		<b>43</b>
Disagree with re-purposing of children's centres	<p>Invest in our children. Stop cutting vital services. The current services should not be sacrificed. Keep them as children's centres for the community. Repurposing these services will be detrimental to new mums, their social wellbeing and mental health. Have been to multiple children's centres and find each one to be full of a variety of people, would be lost without them. Putting buildings under the control of schools will reduce the availability of local services, schools will prioritise their own needs rather than the community. Won't save the money that it appears to save at first glance.</p> <p>Only have the one centre in Nantwich. Knutsford children's centre very accessible, it is a shame the hub in Knutsford isn't being invested in and expanded. Please keep Sandbach as there are no other opportunities, Sandbach is the closest one to Alsager.</p>	36
Libraries / church venues not suitable	Other council buildings such as libraries are having their hours cut, don't see how these places will be able to accommodate everything currently provided at the children's centre. Church halls etc are not designed for children in the same way as children's centres are. Already avoid these types of groups as the setting isn't suitable for SEND children. The library is a fantastic space and wouldn't want this to decrease opening times in any way.	6
Disagree with outreach services	Don't think it works having groups out in the community, parking issues, transport issues, all resources are surely better provided under one roof.	1
<b>Agree with the proposals</b>		<b>42</b>
Agree with re-purposing as long as	Needs to be properly funded and resourced before any significant change. Worry about the ability of schools to take on the management and on schools already overstretched budgets. With engagement from all services can envisage a model that would work. Keen that Physio, speech, language and other health appointments are continued within the children's centres. Keep the staff and timetable running – make sure groups that are well attended are kept open and provided at various locations. Look at each area individually to understand the differing needs.	16
Agree with re-purposing of children's centres	The repurposing of the children's centres into the school is an excellent idea and will provide much needed additional services into the primary school. Wrap around and general childcare is very hard to come by. Pre-schools are needed in schools for an easy transition for school reception starters. This would help working parents. Definitely needs repurposing, the Brooks children's centre is only open 3 days a week and it is a waste on the facilities the days it is not open. Repurposing the Hurdfield children's centre will bring great benefit to the community. Would be such a positive for Broken Cross and other areas to have such a desperately needed facility.	15
Agree with outreach services / agree as long as	Will be very helpful for mum and babies if there is an outreach service offer. More outreach required. Outreach services are very needed on the Weston Estate, Macclesfield. Adding Family Hubs to Knutsford library is good for all residents as it will be central to town and increases the need for the library to remain open. An outreach option needs to be very robust and frequent / needs to be well co-ordinated and consistent if families are to trust it will be available. Has to be accessible and for	11

**Table 4: Further comments on the proposal**

Theme	Summary of comments received	Number of mentions
	meaningful engagement, workers need to be experienced, knowledgeable and authentic. Would a mobile double decker bus be useful?	
<b>Suggestions and requests for more information</b>		<b>44</b>
SEN provision should be a priority	Need more SEND schools. SEN should take priority when considering re-purposing. More provisions are needed for those families who have children with SEN. The current SEND provision is severely lacking. Should cater for local Sen kids 0-25. Extremely concerned about the lack of SEND provision in Disley, needs to be a regular outreach offer in Disley for all families including SEND.	18
Alternative Suggestions	Consider provision of services outside normal hours and at weekends. Use the space to provide health services / health support also voluntary groups could run at the weekends and evenings. Work together with charities and support hubs. Use the facilities for more Cheshire East services / fund raisers. Re-purpose some of these provisions and services to offer family relationship support, could be helpful for young people who are experiencing conflict at home. Would like to see Knutsford used for more community-based services, concerned that if the school take on the management this would be lost. The Knutsford Centre should be handed back to the school for school purposes only and a Family hub should be created in the Stanley Centre building on the community hospital site. Nantwich rural – the building could be well suited to exercise and wellbeing services for families and children. Would be good if other providers could secure provision working in partnership with the schools.	16
Require more information	Please detail in full the outreach offer including mapping and the reach in all communities. Who is going to provide the outreach service, what qualifications and training will they have? What do analyses of monitoring and evaluation indicate about future developments? How secure is funding for Family Hubs? Can the remaining centres become multi-agency/multi professional bases? What is on offer needs to be relayed better to all local primary schools so we can better signpost families. Do you support families struggling with issues around benefits, debt, housing, and employment? Will schools get extra funding to look after the buildings, how will they be staffed? What will happen to the premises at Dig Lane Nantwich?	10
<b>Other comments</b>		<b>11</b>
Comment on Family Hubs	Family hubs have been invaluable as a new parent, Oakenclough is fantastic, although the café is expensive. Parking is an issue at Monks Coppenhall and Oak Tree Family Hubs. We need a Family Hub in Holmes Chapel.	6
General negative comment	Save the money, concentrate on the basics. Will this actually save money? Wait to see what changes there are with the change in government first. More pre-school provision needed not taken away.	5

## Appendix 1: Demographic breakdowns

A number of demographic questions were asked at the end of the survey to ensure there was a wide range of views from across different characteristics. All of the questions were optional and therefore won't add up to the total number of responses received.

**Table 5: Number of survey respondents by representation. Respondents could select all that apply.**

Category	Count	Percent
As a resident of Cheshire East	258	50%
As a parent/carer of a child of pre-school age	199	39%
As a parent/carer of a child of school age	135	26%
As a professional e.g. health visitor / midwife	73	14%
As a school	18	4%
As an elected Cheshire East Ward Councillor, or Town/Parish Councillor	6	1%
Other inc. childminder, school nurse, nursery, teacher, charity.	29	6%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 6: Number of survey respondents by gender**

Category	Count	Percent
Female	392	84%
Male	61	13%
Prefer not to say	16	3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 7: Number of survey respondents by age group**

Category	Count	Percent
16-24	4	1%
25-34	111	24%
35-44	155	33%
45-54	73	16%
55-64	43	9%
65-74	42	9%
75-84	24	5%
85 and over	1	0%
Prefer not to say	17	4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 8: Number of survey respondents by ethnic origin**

Category	Count	Percent
White British / English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / Irish	414	90%
Any other White background	11	3%
Asian/Asian British	<5	<1%
Black African/Caribbean/Black British	<5	1%
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	8	2%
Prefer not to say	19	4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 9: Number of survey respondents by religious belief**

Category	Count	Percent
Christian	207	44%
No Religion	204	44%
Muslim	<5	<1%
Buddhist	<5	<1%
Jewish	<5	<1%
Other religious belief	5	1%
Prefer not to say	44	9%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>100%</b>

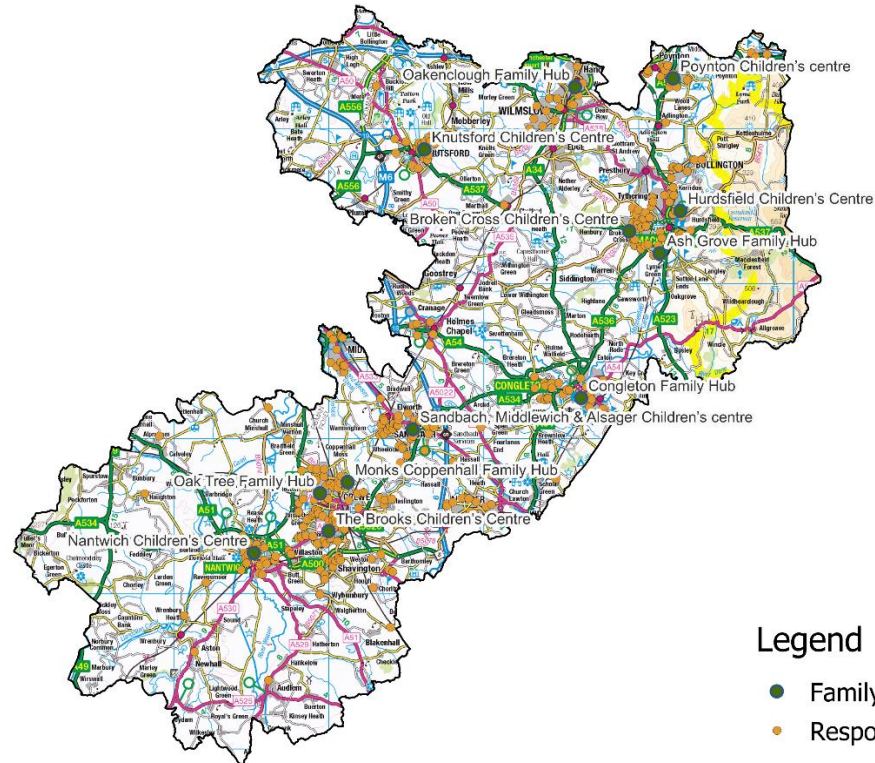
**Table 10: Number of survey respondents by limited activity due to health problem / disability**

Category	Count	Percent
Yes, a lot	71	15%
Yes, a little	19	4%
Not at all	341	73%
Prefer not to say	35	8%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Appendix 2: Map of respondent postcodes

This map plots respondent postcodes that were provided as part of the consultation as well as current family hubs / children's centres.



### Legend

- Family Hubs / Children's Centres
- Respondent Postcodes



### Map of respondent postcodes Re-purposing children's centres consultation 2024

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