

Technical Appendix 15: Integrated Children's Services – Youth Service/Early Years Service

1. Service Overview

- 1.1. KCC has a statutory duty to provide Youth Services under [section 507B of the Education Act 1996](#). This requires KCC, so far as reasonably practicable, to secure sufficient educational leisure-time activities and facilities to improve the well-being of young people aged 13 to 19 and for those aged 20 to 25 who have additional needs.
- 1.2. Under the statutory guidance '[Working Together to Safeguard Children](#)', KCC is also required to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, assess their needs and provide help through inter-agency working from pre-birth to 19 years (or up to 25 years for young people with additional needs).
- 1.3. Access to good quality Youth Services is essential to ensure equal opportunities and support for all young people across the county, preventing them from engaging in harmful behaviour and leading them towards a positive future. The service sits within the Open Access provision that includes children's centres, youth work and Kent's Duke of Edinburgh award. The Youth Service in Kent works predominantly with young people between the ages of 8 to 19 (up to 25 with additional needs), but also interacts with parents and carers. Youth Services give young people access to a range of help and advice including:
 - Drug and alcohol support
 - Family support
 - Education welfare
 - Sexual health advice
 - Career guidance
 - Mental health support
 - Volunteering and community involvement
- 1.4. In addition, Youth Services provide young people with a place to go and socialise safely, access training and skills development support, and find opportunities to engage with their community.
- 1.5. Youth Services are delivered across Kent's districts via direct delivery and commissioned services, with central youth hubs and community buildings, outreach/mobile units, and outdoor spaces, providing a variety of ways for young people to access the support they need. The current and future focus of the Kent Youth Service is set out below, enabling it to reach as many young people as possible:
 - Expanding and enhancing Youth Hubs to offer more specialist resources, help and advice and to provide access to more young people

- this may involve internal reconfiguration of existing space, additional space provision, new equipment and learning resources.
 - Expanding the Mobile and Outreach Service provision to increase remote access to youth services and targeted help for more complex issues. Outreach youth work takes place on young peoples' own territory, supporting and complementing new and existing centre/project-based youth work. By taking youth work out into the community, barriers to participation are reduced.
- 1.6. For parents and young children, Children's Centres provide a range of community play and health services to support the early health and educational development of babies and children, offering parenting advice and guidance through a range of activities including parenting programmes. Services are offered in partnership with public health services including health visiting services. Parents in new and developing communities can experience social isolation that can impact their emotional wellbeing. Therefore, ensuring outreach services for support is a critical part of the offer. The Children's Centre services include outreach provision to communities who cannot easily access existing services and where there is a defined community need for parents to be, and children up to the age of 11 years. The service will advise and guide on a range of topics including:
- Parenting support
 - Child Development
 - Financial and debt advice
 - Work, employment, and training advice
 - Mental health and other health services
 - Local services for parents and children
- 1.7. For the Early Years Service, the focus is on intensifying the use of existing physical infrastructure through reconfiguration and enhancement of space and resources, plus expanding the Outreach service.

2. Assessing The Need and Calculating Demand

- 2.1. Threshold for Seeking Contributions and Qualifying Developments
- 2.1.1. Any development of 10 or more dwellings or a site size of 0.5Ha and above will be assessed and may generate a request for Youth Service/Early Years contributions.
- 2.1.2. KCC will not seek contributions from the following:
- Homes restricted in perpetuity to persons over 55 years of age
 - Non-applicable Dwellings - dwellings with one or more bedrooms, and less than 56 sqm GIA
 - Student accommodation

- C2 Dwellings
- Sites specifically set aside for transient Gypsy and/or Traveller Communities

2.2. Service Capacity

- 2.2.1. Historically, services for children and young people have been delivered from a static facility, typically youth/children's centres. The level of growth planned for each district will see the majority of development taking place away from the main hubs. To increase capacity and provide for the additional need created by new developments, much of the Youth/Early Years Services will be provided via Mobile/Outreach work. This will enable services to be delivered in the vicinity of new developments, increasing the likelihood of children, young people and parent/carers engaging with them. Therefore, all development will be expected to make contributions towards equipment and resources to enable Mobile/Outreach work to take place.
- 2.2.2. For expansions and enhancements of youth hubs and children's centres, including provision of specialist equipment and resources to increase capacity, this will be determined on a case-by-case basis, to mitigate the impact of growth. District provision will be assessed, and contributions requested where there is a project.

For each district, the static location of Youth Services, and Children's Centres can be found at:

[Children's Centres](#)

[Youth Hubs](#)

An assessment of need will be made at the point of planning application, taking account of capacities within Integrated Children's facilities serving the development.

2.3. New Users and Contributions Per Dwelling

- 2.3.1. Kent's Youth and Early Years Service works with children and young people, aged 0-24. Within this age group, for the purposes of developer contributions, KCC targets 25% of 0-18-year-olds.

Table 1: New Youth Service Clients Per Dwelling.

	New Youth/Early Years Service Clients Per Dwelling
Proportion of 0–18-year-olds per dwelling x 25% reach target = 0.55×0.25	0.14
Average occupation per dwelling = 2.4 person	
Average 0–18-year-old occupation per dwelling = 0.55	

3. Contributions Per Dwelling

- 3.1. The contributions per dwelling are set out in Table 2. Where there is a need for both Youth Hub expansion/enhancement and outreach capacity increases, a combined contribution of **£74.05** per dwelling will be requested.

Table 2: Contribution Per Dwelling for Youth Service/Early Years Service.

Capital Cost of Youth Hub and Children’s Centre Expansion/Enhancement - including equipment and resources to increase capacity and enable the existing facility to be used more intensively.	Contribution Per Dwelling
<i>Clients per dwelling x Cost per additional client = 0.14×187.50</i>	£25.78
Capital Cost of Mobile/Outreach Work (equipment and resources necessary to deliver the service)	Contribution Per Dwelling
<i>Clients per dwelling x Cost per additional client = $0.14 \times £351.08$</i>	£48.27
<i>Includes essential staff resourcing costs (£14.79 per dwelling) required to deliver</i>	

<i>the capital programme of Outreach Work</i>	
Contribution per Dwelling – Combined Youth Hub/Children’s Centre Expansion/Enhancement and Mobile/Outreach Work	£74.05

- 3.2. Strategic Development/Garden Communities
- 3.3. Whilst Kent County Council currently has no plans to provide additional Youth hubs/Children’s Centres in the county, the promotion of large strategic developments may require a new building to be considered. The drive for efficiencies and co-location of facilities is likely to influence overall space requirements and any opportunities for co-location will be actively explored. The requirement for a new youth/children’s centre facility or extension of an existing Youth Hub/Children’s Centre (plus fixtures and fittings) will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and financial/land contributions sought accordingly. Example costings are set out in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Example Contribution Sought for New Build/Extension.

Build Cost Per Square Metre (including Fixtures and Fittings)	£3,668.00
150sqm Facility	£550,200.00
Per Dwelling (£550,200 / 5000 dwellings)	£110.04 Per Dwelling (Ref.1)

(Ref.1) Based on provision of 150sqm for 5,000 new dwellings

4. Provision of Infrastructure – Project Types

- 4.1. Kent’s Youth and Children’s Centre Services operate on a Hub and Spoke model, with outreach into targeted communities across the districts. Outreach work enables the Youth/Early Years Service to create bespoke programmes to meet the needs of specific areas, reaching young people, children and parents/carers who may not be able to access the central hubs, for various reasons such as the cost of, or access to public transport etc.
- 4.2. To mitigate the needs of new development, KCC may seek contributions towards:

- Expansions and enhancement of existing Hubs/Centres to create more capacity, including the provision of resources and specialist equipment to build additional capacity.
- Equipment and resources to enable outreach work within the vicinity of the new development.

5. Indexation

- 5.1. To ensure that financial contributions continue to cover the actual cost of delivering infrastructure, these will be subject to indexation. The BCIS All-In Tender Price Index will be applied, with the base date for indexation set at Q1 2022.

6. Time Limit on Spend

- 6.1. Any contributions will be repaid to the original payee on request if not committed or spent towards its purpose within 10 years of receipt of the contributions in full (if paid in instalments) or alternative longer period as may be agreed.