



Data Workbook

By 2035, England will be a country that works for all Children

Project Resource

(version 1 2019212)

Introduction

This workbook has been created as a key resource for the Staff College scenario planning 2035Project. It is a working document used as the key source in the creation of different scenarios describing life in England in 2035, in particular relation to Children's Services.

The contents of this workbook have been informed by (i) published research provided from ADCS and data from other sources (ii) a thematic key word search on the internet (iii) a set of telephone interviews with a range of key stakeholders across England (iv) three driver workshops.

Methods of telephone interviews

The aim of these interviews was to encourage interviewees to think critically and creatively about the future of Children's Services and the relationship children and families might have with services and the wider community. Moreover, the interviews explored what people thought some of the characteristics of living in England might be at that time, identifying some of the opportunities and barriers which may be faced in the short and medium term and, to discuss what interviewees saw as the main drivers-of-change going forward.

The interviews were based on Shell's generic seven questions for the future. These questions allow the interviewee to effectively tell a story. They allow the interviewee to consider their aspirations for Children's Services and, in more detail, identify the sort of changes that are required in the short term. Supplementary questions were also asked at relevant points to draw out more detailed responses.

Interview Questions

The questions used were: -

- If you could ask the Oracle about Children's Services in England in 2035, what would you ask?
- What would be a favourable outcome be for Children's Services in 2035?
- What would be an unfavourable outcome and what wider societal **impacts** might there be?
- What lessons can we learn from the past?
- How will your organisation need to change? [prompt - including your organisational culture]
- What skills and competences will be required to lead change?
- If you had a "Magic Wand", what would you do now to make Children's Services effective in 2035?

Data presentation

The data has been filtered through themed chapters. Obviously, there is cross over in the themes and material and the filter is not exact. The workbook is in no way meant to be exhaustive **and has been solely designed to help build the scenarios. The scenarios are NOT predictions but a stimulus for debate.**

Terms

The responses and the results of the thematic review set out below have been lightly edited with, for example, some personal pronouns remaining in the text for particular emphasis. Individual responses have been anonymised.

May 2019

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Chapter One: Drivers-of-change towards 2035

This chapter captures the things most likely to drive change in the coming years. Here we discuss the potential impacts and outcomes of these key drivers in relation to Children's Services. This data is based on the learning to come from ADCS research, Scenario planning workshops previously run by the College, thematic search, interviews and driver workshops

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			authorities will face a £2 billion funding gap to support children by 2020. There is also some uncertainty over the future of local authority funding structures. The Government has signalled it will give local areas greater control over locally generated funds, but it is not currently clear what form this will take. <i>“Right funding is a huge challenge. And I mean I think families are caught in a double whammy because central government has cut funding to local government, they have also cut benefits, so families are looking for more support from local government and the money just isn’t there... One of the outcomes of that is that local authorities are focussing on statutory [services].” - Local authority staff member</i> A recent survey found that four in five local authorities were confident that early help can reduce demand on services for Children in Need. However, financial pressures can make it hard for local authorities to prioritise early help over their core statutory obligations, such as child protection and support for Children in Need. Action for Children staff highlighted the effects of limited resourcing in public services and greater need in the community. They felt this could manifest as delays or difficulties in accessing social care support for children they were concerned about. Staff tended to discuss the impact of ‘rising thresholds’, caused by strict rationing of resources for early help and social care. Our staff suspect children need to have higher levels of need, or have more serious problems, before they qualify for help. <i>“We try to escalate in and sometimes they say it doesn’t meet the threshold and you’ve got to just keep plodding on, trying and trying. All the time we’re talking about a child that is not in a safe environment aren’t we? And that is very, very frustrating.” - Action for Children staff member</i>
5	‘A future at risk: cuts in youth services’, pg.6 UNISON, 2016.	Austerity, youth services	What have the cuts meant for young people, their communities and the public? We asked respondents to our survey how cuts had affected the provision of youth services in their areas – what changes had been made? Bearing out our FoI findings, the vast majority (82%) reported that their services now employed fewer staff, while more than three-quarters (76%) said that some services had been stopped altogether. More than eight in ten (84%) reported that youth clubs had closed – this was significantly up on two years previously, when just over half (52%) had reported that cuts had led to youth club closures. More than half reported a reduction in outreach services.

			These findings seem to suggest that, increasingly, local authorities are less able to absorb cuts in central government funding. Two years ago, almost half of all authorities were able to avoid closing youth clubs and cutting outreach work. Now barely any councils are able to spare their youth clubs from the axe. Those youth work staff who remain in post face a series of reorganisations (58% reported changes to job roles) and higher workloads (64%). As a result 69% say they now find it more difficult to provide services for young people. But what does all of this mean for young people? Our figures have borne out the results of reports from elsewhere, that deprivation among young people is on the increase. We asked survey respondents how they felt cuts in youth services and other relevant services were having an impact on young people: — 80% said they thought young people feel less empowered — 71% said it was now harder for young people to stay in formal education — 65% said young people were finding it harder to get jobs — 77% reported increased mental health issues among young people, and 70% a rise in increased alcohol and substance abuse — 83% reported increased crime and anti-social behaviour.
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Chapter Two : Social and Demographic

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
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1	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Population (0-17) Regional variation	There are 11.87 million children and young people in England (ONS, 2018a), 21.3% of the population as a whole (ONS, 2018a). This was an increase of 714,173 children (6.4%) from ten years ago according to the 2007 mid-year estimates. Growth in population over the past ten years, but more critically the past five years, accounts for some, but by no means all, of the increase in demand for services. Between 2013 and 2017, the 0-17 population by region has increased year-on-year in all regions and by 3.1% nationally. The greatest increase has been in London (6.1%), and the smallest in the North East (0.5%). There is slight regional variation in the proportions of the total population who are aged 0-17 ranging from 19.7% in the South West to 22.7% in London. Respondents reported a distinct shift in families moving themselves, or being rehoused by other authorities out of high cost housing areas such as London and the South East to areas of cheaper housing. This 'churn' in population adds to social isolation, puts pressure on in-year school admissions, and the feeling of 'starting again' for some of these families and services they will need to access.
2	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Population (18-24)	There are 4,828,279 young people aged 18-24 in England (ONS, 2018a) and although population predictions show an overall 7% decrease between 2016 and 2025, it is likely that the proportion of young people who are supported by children's services in this age group will increase. This will be driven by the increase in numbers of children looked after (including Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children) who go on to become care leavers, and the number of children with an Education Health and Care (EHC) plan, the education component of which continues until the age of 25.
3	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Migration, regional variation	Changes in population due to people moving into and out of a local authority area, either through internal or international migration is a factor affecting demand for children's services. International migration receives the most attention in public debate, but the data are difficult to gather and interpret, particularly at sub-national levels (ONS, 2018b), and are always at least two years out of date.

			The ONS summary data on migration within the UK for children and young people aged under 14 and also 15 to 19 age groups illustrate that local authorities are facing very different patterns of population change... Regional changes include: • The East Midlands has seen the highest net inflow from other parts of the country in 2016 (31.9 moves per 1,000 people) • All regions apart from London and Yorkshire & the Humber saw a net inflow of people in 2016, but there is considerable in-region variation in net outflows and inflows (ONS, 2017a) • London saw the highest net outflow to other parts of the country in 2016 and this has been a steady pattern for a number of years (38.3 moves per 1,000 people). • Seven London Boroughs had the largest overall migration of families in 2017, with mass migration (over 1,000 people) moving for example from Enfield to Hertfordshire; Newham and Barking to Thurrock. A very large proportion of all individuals moving out of London remain in the South and South East of England. Birmingham is the only authority outside of the South of England that appears in the top 10 destinations.
4	(Bywaters <i>et al</i> , 2016)	Deprivation	The link between deprivation, the need for family support, and statutory children's social care interventions is well established.
5	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Deprivation	The Indices of Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI, 2015) has not been updated in the last two years and is therefore likely to be out of date for many areas which have experienced change in demographic, social and economic factors. This lag in identification of current and projected deprivation in a local area is troublesome if it is to be used as part of a funding formula or needs analysis for the future of local government funding.

6	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Deprivation, regional variation	The percentage of children living in relative poverty is rising, and there is an upward trend in the proportion living in poverty in working households. 30% of children are living in households where earnings are less than 60% of median income, after housing costs (AHC) in 2016/17 compared to 28% five years previously. There are regional variations in child poverty, with the greatest increase in the last period in the North East. London has one of the lowest relative poverty rates <i>before</i> housing costs, and one of the highest <i>after</i> housing costs.
7	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Poverty, working poor	66% of all children living in relative poverty are living in a household where at least one person works (ONS,2018c). The Nuffield Foundation (Hick and Lanau, 2017) estimate that: • Single-earner households are more at risk of relative poverty than households where more than one earner is on a low income • Tenants in social housing, and increasingly, private rented accommodation are at most risk • Those experiencing in-work poverty were more at risk of worklessness, and those moving from worklessness into work are more likely to experience in-work poverty.
8	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Families affected by the benefit cap	Those families that rely on benefits of various kinds for their income have come under significant pressure due to the capping of benefit payments. Whilst the number of families affected is relatively small (50,000 households across England), these families are likely to be facing increasing debt, rent arrears and other financial pressures. The number of such families has tripled since the cap was introduced in January 2017, with 9,000 families losing more than £100 per week, including 8,000 families with three or more children (Fitzpatrick <i>et al</i>, 2018). Kelly <i>et al</i> (2018) conclude that benefit reforms implemented since 2015 (including the forthcoming roll-out of universal credit) will, if fully implemented, further reduce the incomes of low-income families with children by between 10% and 15% relative to a situation where no reforms are made.

9	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	No recourse to public funds	For a small number of families, financial hardship is exacerbated because they have no recourse to public funds (NRPF). These are families who have no legal entitlement to financial support or assistance from the state, largely due to their immigration status. There may not be safeguarding or other social care concerns, but children's services are providing assistance to many of these families under section 17 of the Children Act 1989 to prevent their destitution. Only 50 out of 152 top tier local authorities currently report spend on these families through NRPF Connect, a centralised system, which means the total cost of NRPF is not known. In authorities using the system, there were 2,552 households with over 4,000 children receiving on average £17,193 a year per household (NRPF Network, 2018) under section 17.
10	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Housing	Housing costs represent a significant proportion of any family's outgoings, and so affect the resources available to families. The home environment and the quality and security of housing also affects children's wellbeing. Throughout this research, the impacts of poor housing and high housing costs have been evidenced by respondents. Over the last 15 years, the cost of social rents has risen in relation to income for the lowest 10% of earners, but there was a 0.7% decrease between 2015 and 2016. There are wide regional differences in the proportion of income spent on housing. In London, the average weekly private rent is nearly half average weekly income. (ONS, 2017).
11	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Housing, temporary accommodation, homelessness	For some families, the cost of housing relative to their income is insufficient to avoid rent arrears and ultimately, eviction. Families who are made homeless can apply to the local authority for support with accommodation. The vast majority of families (72%) who are homeless or are living in temporary accommodation are from London although the number of families in temporary accommodation outside London has nearly doubled since 2012. After a steady decline, there has been an increase in the rate of households with children being accepted as unintentionally homeless and in priority need of housing outside of London in 2016/17. Respondents reported a distinct shift in families moving themselves, or being rehoused by other authorities out of high cost housing areas such as London and the South East to areas of cheaper housing. This 'churn' in population

			adds to social isolation, puts pressure on in-year school admissions, and the feeling of ‘starting again’ for some of these families and services they will need to access.
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Chapter Three: Trigger Trio and wider determinants

1	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Domestic violence, mental health, substance misuse, trigger trio the unmet needs of parents are adversely impacting upon the safeguarding and wellbeing of children	A recent report from the Office of the Children’s Commissioner (Chowdry, 2018) provides estimates of the numbers of children living in households with adults experiencing domestic violence, mental health difficulties or substance misuse, and the numbers of children living with adults experiencing more than one of these challenges, as follows: • More than 25% 0-15 year olds live with an adult who has ever experienced domestic violence, of whom 4% has been in the last year • 30% of children live with an adult with moderate or high mental ill-health symptoms • 10% of children live with an adult reporting substance misuse • 15% live with two or more of these issues while 4% live with all three • Roughly 190,000 children were living with an adult dependent on alcohol in 2014/15, with significant regional differences. Adults experiencing domestic violence, mental health difficulties or substance misuse, formerly known as the ‘toxic trio’ and now ‘trigger trio’, remain prevalent risk factors in children’s lives and one of the most common reasons why children come to the attention of early help and/or children’s social care services. Of all parental factors, domestic abuse was cited as the most prevalent, and is a prominent factor in re-referral of children to children’s social care services, making it difficult to achieve sustainable change for some children. Children subject to repeat referrals and child protection plans are often children living in households with these factors. Where authorities had quantified the change in domestic abuse:
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			• 22% increase in the last year • 20% increase in incidences of domestic abuse as a primary factor in assessments • Present in 50% of referrals • 69% of the children becoming looked after had experienced domestic abuse whilst living at home • The numbers of calls recorded as a crime by the police has doubled in the last two years. The reductions in the Public Health Grant and reduced CCG funding for programmes that previously assisted with identification of these issues, has seriously impacted on local authorities' ability to address the cycle of disadvantage affecting parents.
2	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Early Help, trigger trio	More than double the proportion of early help assessments were for 'trigger trio' reasons in 2017/18 than two years ago. There has been a reduction in 'parenting' as a reason and 'neglect' is lower than expected. This would support earlier evidence that the root cause, (such as the trigger trio) of presenting factors (such as neglect) are being identified. There is high and increasing prevalence of: • Mental ill-health as a presenting issue which has doubled in the past two years (12% to 24% of all assessments). In some case this relates to parental mental ill-health, where a high proportion of parents were reported to have poor mental health due to the cumulative impacts of poverty. There is also an increase in the number of young people who were not accepted for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and passed for lower level mental health support via Early Help • The proportion where behaviour was a presenting factor increased from 16% to 20%. This appears to encompass various types of behaviour from risk-taking,

			anti-social and challenging behaviours and young people at risk of family breakdown.
3	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Adolescents, puberty	The physiological and psychological changes that occur in puberty can increase adolescents' appetite for risk-taking behaviour and can expose young people to different types of risk as they explore an emerging sense of identity and test the boundaries of safe behaviour. While this activity is normal, and part of healthy development, it can mean that adolescents are sometimes at heightened risk from perpetrators of abuse and exploitation. Young people therefore often present with multiple needs, can be referred from multiple sources and often re-present to services several times. This can put significant pressure on services which are designed largely to respond to individual needs, rather than designed to take a holistic, population-level approach to providing support.
4	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Younger adolescents	115 respondents described the changing needs and demand on service provision in their local authority for 15-17 year olds. The impact of the loss of youth services over the last ten years as a result of funding cuts to local government, was cited as a principle reason why local authorities are seeing increased demand for services for this age group. Respondents stated that younger children, as young as 11-15 appear to be at risk of, or are experiencing abuse generally associated with an older age group. Local authorities are finding for example, that 'traditional' residential provision does not meet the needs of younger teens and so more bespoke residential provisions is required.
5	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Better identification, risk	Better identification and understanding of risk factors have contributed to the continued, and in some cases escalating, concerns around adolescents. Young people are presenting with multiple and increasingly complex needs including challenging behaviour; emotional distress ; mental ill-health, alcohol and substance misuse. These appear to stem from two types of factor which are not mutually exclusive:

			• Family based: parental conflict, attachment difficulties, homelessness, domestic abuse • External factors: primarily related to interpersonal relationships, criminal and sexual exploitation, serious youth violence, gang activity (often referred to as 'contextual safeguarding').
6	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		A significant, growing, and very worrying issue for respondents is the increase in prevalence of, and lack of appropriate services to address, emotional distress and mental ill-health of young people . This includes self-harming and risky behaviours.
7	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	homelessness	Increase in homelessness , which respondents cited was as a consequence of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2018. Overcrowding and use of houses of multiple occupancy and more young people seeking housing support or advice.

Chapter Four: Living in England – aspirations for 2035

In this chapter, the focus is on capturing what the key characteristics of society in England might be like in 2030 and the relationship between state and citizen

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	A Country that works for all children (ADCS, 2017)	Aspirations, outcomes	A country that works for all children - The conditions for all children and young people to thrive. In a country that works for all children their rights are respected and their voices are heard. Children contribute positively to their local community and that contribution is both valued and recognised. Families have the economic means to succeed and public services are well funded and they help children to thrive. Children and young people who cannot live with their birth parents are loved and supported by well-trained carers and helped by a well-regarded and well-trained workforce. All children should be able to say: 1. I have an affordable, warm and safe house and environment 2. I am helped by my local community, my family and my friends. They love me and keep me resilient 3. I am not living in poverty 4. I am supported to grow and develop by education settings – building my confidence and preparing me not just for educational progress and work but also for adulthood 5. I am supported early if I have any emotional, health and/ or physical needs 6. I am not criminalised and professionals understand my circumstances 7. I am able to contribute to any services and support – working in co-production with

			professionals 8. I am listened to, my voice is heard by professionals who are making decisions about my life, in my community and wider society. My contribution is both valued and recognised
2	Future structured interviews	focus telephone	Inequality, poverty I would like to know if we have managed to figure out some of the root causes of inequalities, poverty - in terms of absolute and relative - and imbalances of power. Everything else stems from that really. The status quo is protected by those who have power and opportunities. There is a lack of diversity in terms of public policy and what it could look like. Often we see changes at the margins instead of thinking about how to make real change for the better.
3	Future structured interviews	focus telephone	Mental health, stress, young children, pressures, emotional wellbeing I would be curious to know about children's mental health. I'm very concerned at the moment at the way in which children generally are experiencing life. And particularly very young children. What's ahead of them in terms of pressures of life and the emotional currents that surround them in England. So I would be interested to know how it feels to be a child and how they're coping with the pressures of school and relationships with each other and with adults. I think children are suffering more than they did in the past. I think the pressures on them are more complex. And we've become a bit harder as a society in what we expect from children and how we think about children. There's a real ambivalence in how we view childhood and children. So it must be very scary and confusing to be a child, particularly if you are poor and do not have access to material resources and your family is struggling with a lot of stress. We still have this cutesy attitude to children in some ways that they're innocent and cute and and somehow embody goodness in our society but also we have an attitude, particularly in England where the age of criminal responsibility is quite young, that can be very harsh on children whose

			problems are manifested in difficult behaviour and do not fit into our expectations of the way we school them and the way we look after them. And usually that's because of emotional distress, abuse and neglect. We can be very punitive as a society in how we view children's poor behaviour. Children are suffering because of a range of issues. We know there are a lot of issues around bullying, exam stress, family relationship problems, as well as all the classic things that children have always been worried about in terms of parental behaviour, but more and more it's about how they will just cope with day to day life in general. I would want to ask some specific questions about children's mental health and if much has changed. Emotional wellbeing has become more pressing in recent years. Do things look better in 2035? What does education look like now, particularly around testing? Much of the pressures on young people are in testing? What kind of family support and intervention was available for children and families who are struggling?
4	Future structured interviews focus semi telephone	Hopes, environment	I'd be interested in hearing their stories about what it is like to be a child or young person; what would their hopes be? What was proven to be more or less difficult? And I would ask them if it was a country that works for children. I would want to know about family life and childhood. What families are like in terms of their composition and expectations of them. Would parents be working or not working and what the balance was; particularly around early years and the balance being struck by parents.

			I will want to know about childhood and the space to play and the quality of the air, built environment, the living spaces; what the infrastructure is around children and childhood to enable them.
5	Future structured interviews	focus semi telephone Finances, size of the state, local government, brexit, services, taxation, spending	One of the possible scenarios is that we end up as a financially bust nation. I'm already getting calls in the sector from people saying that we are doing more than we could or should; particularly that we are bringing too many children into the looked after system and that we should not be trying to solve the ills of the nation. If we have a poor financial settlement in a post brexit britain then we are going to have to have a conversation about what reasonable set of expectations the nation should have in terms of children's services, and by extension, of that what its hopes and aspirations are for those children. If we look back at our careers we previously did a limited amount of work that was focused on protecting children from family members, predominantly in their own home who were doing them wrong. We now provide services where the identified risks to children are nothing to do with family and exist outside of the family. There has been no additional money in terms of responding to a range of adult exploitative behaviours - be that child sexual exploitation or drugs. All these things tend to fall back on local authority children's services because there is no one else willing to step into that place, or daft enough to put up their hand and say that's for us. So it is right that we do all these things because children's outcomes are enhanced if we do, but you have to fund it. It is either that or there is a scenario that drives us back to retrenchment around a thin statutory offer; a road which we have been reluctant to go down and embrace.

			You can also have a scenario with a really vibrant early years sector lifting families out of poverty, or one in which it is said if your child is not at risk of significant harm then over to you. We need to have that conversation with the taxpayer. It is generally accepted that as a nation we look to scandinavia for our service offer and to america for taxation. And surprise, surprise it doesn't work. When in actual fact in scandinavia you have high taxation and in the states you have a small core offer within the insurance based system. There has got to be something about saying what is it we want for our children. What is it the average family can do and provide? What universally does the state need to provide? You can have a protective set of services or you can have an enhanced set of services. They speak to a different audience and they cost different amounts. The problem is, other than instances where a child cannot be put in a school of the parents choice, other than a very articulate parent with a specific disability who wants a particular service, children's services never appear particularly high on any list of voter requirements. Issues around potholes will always be higher up the agenda than, for example, the closure of a children's home. We have to generate that kind of debate going forward. In 2019, we have a spending review and will try to come up with the local government settlement for 2020 onwards. At one level, is hard to see how that review cannot get into that wider debate about services. Last year, children's services were overspent by £800 million and it is likely to be the same again this year. By the same token, we will be in completely uncharted territory with the scenarios being generated from brexit. The 2020 settlement will be for the next 3 years and will give us the medium-term sense of direction for local government finance.
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6	Future structured interviews	focus telephone	Health service, NHS	In terms of health and care moving forward there is not a lot of room for optimism that the health service free at the point of delivery holds much by way of hopeful solutions for children services. The health service doesn't really get or understand children partly because the numbers are never of a scale that dominates proceedings. The NHS 10-year plan talks about the health service, if not taking back public health, then exerting far greater influence on spending patterns and that will not do children's services any favours. I'm not overly optimistic about that and I don't see health colleagues rushing into that territory. There seems no political will from health politicians to engage in the debate about children's social care, that currently sits within DFE. Ministers are always mindful of the risk that sits within children services so you could say there would be a reluctance to embrace that risk when it currently sits somewhere else.

Chapter Five: Impacts and favourable outcomes in 2035

This chapter focuses on the conditions children, young people and their families and sets of favourable outcomes when living in England in 2035

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	Seven questions of the future interviews , conducted by Robert Rae (2018)	Education, relationships	Education that is not simply about learning things and subjects but is more about the whole person and has arts as a fundamental part of that. People would really be thinking about that and accepting that children are born into all kinds of circumstances and not assuming all people are well equipped to deal with life, as parents, in all circumstances and we should build in a wider community aspect to supporting children that is not so dependent upon the particular circumstances of parents. ‘It takes a village’. An environment where all the people who work with children are genuinely softer with children and have left the competitive, academic culture, and that we are valuing softer skills around relationships and friendships. That we pay attention to that within the school curriculum. There's more time for play, there's more time for nature. And we positively reinforce these messages through modelling as adults. We need to be softer and gentler and less competitive with each other as a society. That would feel more caring and that would benefit children. Educationally they would be up there with the best in the world, having a curriculum offer and education setting that allowed them to flourish as individuals. We would not have a

			group of young people who were completely turned off and disaffected from school and their role in society, particularly around meaningful employment.
2	Seven questions of the future interviews , conducted by Robert Rae (2018)	Services, funding, spending, criminal justice	Spending less on services as a response to crisis and spending more time thinking about building society in ways which children can be resilient, happy and nurtured. As a starting point we need to build in universal access to early years provision. In terms of criminal justice, we often think about core services being the only thing that deserve funding, when in actual fact, things like youth clubs, arts, after school sports clubs are the things that are essential. For criminal justice organisations, in many respects, once a child has reached a point when they are 15 it is very often the case that they have had previous experiences of institutional care. A high proportion come from looked after backgrounds and have often been in and out of residential units and secure units. As an organisation we need to evolve to a position where we can advocate for those groups on their behalf because almost by the time they come to us it's an uphill struggle to turn things around. What we want to do is try and create conditions to ensure those young people are not with us in the first place. Often we don't see that as a role, but it ought to be. There's something about how we can get younger people together with older people through relationships.
3	Seven questions of the future interviews , conducted by Robert Rae (2018)	Outcomes, mental health, well-being, engagement	If things are right what you see is 'every child matters', the five key outcomes, we would see healthy kids. We would have issues around obesity being dealt with, issues around emotional well-being and mental health would have been dealt with. The range of issues that exclude children from fully participating both in their childhood and in their

			preparation for adulthood, you will see being addressed with a range of safeguarding issues that actually meant that young people were not being targeted and exploited. It would mean a level of resilience that young people had been brought up with either through school or their families. It would mean they were able to deal with some of the stresses and strains that are wrapped up in childhood. One of the five outcomes from ‘every child matters’ was about the positive contribution of young people and communities, being a volunteering nation, we will see the age of voting down to 16. You will see young people engaged in the political processes. You might see increasingly large numbers of young people engaged on an issues basis which has not transferred necessarily into a party political sense which is where the power lies. For those children with disabilities and disadvantages you would have a level, non stigmatising support that helps them get to the same place that their peers are. [The phrase ‘infrastructure around children’] . There will be a range of outcomes for children. Children will enter adulthood with a sense of security about home and about their prospects in the world. That would mean that they felt they were embarking towards adulthood on solid ground; regardless of qualification status or their health and well-being needs. So to approach adulthood free from toxic relationships and not subject to exploitation. Children should approach adulthood with a positive sense of self worth.
4	‘Stepping up, Stepping Down: How families make sense of working with	Services, collaboration, family group conferences, intervention	What strengthens working together? 1. Working with all the family Services that tried to avoid professional silos and worked collectively with the family were valued. Those families that had experience of FGCs saw their whole family approach as a

	welfare services' (Morris et al, 2018:25).		critical difference. The inclusion of all family members and the demonstrated faith of the co-ordinator in the family's capabilities made a real impact on the families' willingness to work collaboratively. Such approaches also levitated the need for families to manage multiple interventions and to spend time focused on the needs and problems rather than processes. There was evidence of other services also seeking to work more holistically: <i>I found them incredibly supportive. I think they go above and beyond everything that is required of them really; they go out of their way to help you and support you, and they also help family members. So when I went to them when XXX left home, they helped me kit her new house out. They took the children away when we weren't able to. They don't look at you as an individual, they look at you, they look at the package that comes with you, they look at the circumstances and they go above and beyond what they need to do to help you. They are probably the best service that I have ever worked with.</i> However, such accounts were rare, the common experience was of services that struggled to find structures and practices that worked beyond the individual.
5	'Stepping up, Stepping Down: How families make sense of working with welfare services' (Morris et al, 2018:25).	Workforce, relationships, services, time	2. Timeliness Time, as discussed earlier, plays a critical role in all the family narratives. Issues of waiting lists and delays have already been considered. There are other, more prosaic concerns about time. Families repeatedly describe the poor time keeping of professionals, and the impact of this on families' perceptions of the ability of the service to provide help cannot be underestimated. Staff that turn up on time are noteworthy, and often this is described a mark of their professionalism and commitment. Time to spend with families is of equal importance:

			<i>She seems as though she has got a lot of time for me and she spends time, as long as she needs to be here. If the appointment was an hour and it was more than an hour, she wasn't bothered, she stayed. She wasn't like, "Sorry, I've got to go". She stayed as long as she needed to. That was the same with my support worker. She was like that as well. It is time as well; time makes a big difference. It does to me, anyway. From personal experience.</i> Time as a resource is a theme that runs through the data. Family accounts repeatedly present a picture of rushing professionals completing rushed tasks. Time is a luxury: time to talk, being on time for appointments, unlimited time with the family was a rare but welcome experience. The impact of unconditional offers of time cannot be underplayed in the positive effect on working relationships.
6	'Stepping up, Stepping Down: How families make sense of working with welfare services' (Morris et al, 2018:25).	Workforce, services, skills	3. Excellent interpersonal skills The family narratives did not identify particular knowledge or services that stand out as uniformly helpful or accessible. Local volunteer and community services were appreciated, as were family support staff but for all the families it was inter personal skills that were most valued and these were not the preserve of any one professional grouping. Whilst good inter- personal skills could not have solved the many complex problems, families felt able to work productively with professionals who were courteous and respectful. Honesty, clarity, empathy, politeness were all valued. An appearance of confidence and competence also mattered, families needed to have a sense that professionals would be able to help and would be confident in their work with them. <i>It is mainly XXX who has been my support worker from education – he has just been brilliant. As a person, he is nice and obviously doing his work and supporting us all, he has been there. I know he has got to go by some procedure or guidelines, things like that, but he doesn't make it feel like that. He comes around, comes to the house, does whatever with</i>

			<i>me and the children and doesn't do it in a way that it feels so formal. He is the only one who has been there more times than all...</i>
	'Stepping up, Stepping Down: How families make sense of working with welfare services' (Morris et al, 2018:25).	Services, skills, knowledge	4. Growing knowledge and skills within the family Often borne out of complete frustration a number of families had equipped themselves with knowledge and skills that might make them more able to secure the help that they needed. This had taken a number of forms: • Identifying an advocate that could work alongside the family to secure necessary services (lawyers, paid or unpaid advocates, family friends with relevant knowledge); • Developing their own knowledge of particular issues (aspects of the law, medical diagnoses, treatment options, rights to services); • Learning the skills necessary to negotiate with services or mediate where there were conflicts • Establishing a working knowledge of their rights to complain, challenge or object to service decisions; • Developing peer support networks to share knowledge, experiences and coping strategies and reaching out to academics and others they perceived as knowledgeable in the area they were concerned with. These developments were argued by families to be, on occasion, critical in securing the help they or their family members needed. Some family members reflected on the limits to this, in particular acknowledging that not all families would be able to marshal the resources needed to become skilful in intervening with services: <i>'It's alright for me, I'm not being rude but I am intelligent and can read all this stuff, make sense of it, I'm feisty and can take them on. You've got no chance if you can't do these things'</i>

	'Culture Shock: Creating a Changemaking Culture in Local Government', Lent and Studdert (2018:30-1)	Local government, outcomes, services, workforce	A DIRECT, BIG BANG APPROACH TO CULTURE CHANGE 1: THE WIGAN DEAL Wigan Council is undergoing a major transformation that affects every aspect of its service delivery, workforce and relationship with its population of 323,000 residents. At the heart of the change is The Wigan Deal – an informal but widely publicised, co-produced and fully resourced recalibration of the relationship between the council and community. The Deal commits the council to eight goals including keeping council tax low, cutting red tape and being “open, honest and friendly”. In return, residents are asked to commit to their own eight goals including recycling more, staying healthy and active, and supporting local businesses. There are seven other Deals which apply these pledges in specific areas such as business, social care and children. Central to The Deal is a shift in organisational behaviours and culture. This is being achieved through a “Staff Deal” which asks council employees to embrace three co-produced values: - be positive and take pride in all that you do - be accountable and be responsible for making things better - be courageous and be open to doing things differently. This culture change has been implemented through a series of programmes including training in asset-based approaches for staff working in social care and children’s services, training for managers to allow staff autonomy and innovation, a network of 250 champions to embed new ways of working and the behaviours across the workforce, and the establishment of regular feedback and reflection sessions for staff to consider and develop new ways of working. A walk through experience - 'Deal for Your Street' - has been developed to train over 650 environmental staff in asset based approaches including an "Eyes and Ears" initiative. This has resulted in serious safeguarding cases being highlighted
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			and one recent case has been "lifesaving". The LGA Peer Review report in December 2017 said "the experience is totally innovative and ground breaking, it takes staff engagement to another level, and we are totally blown away." Staff engagement and satisfaction with The Deal and The Staff Deal has been exceptionally high. The Council credits The Deal with playing a significant role in reducing costs (£115m saved so far compared to 2010 budget) while also seeing performance outcomes rise. Wigan is now considered the seventh highest performing council in the country on a range of measures for adult social care and resident satisfaction has risen from 41% to 65% since 2008. AN INDIRECT, INCREMENTAL APPROACH TO CULTURE CHANGE 2: RUTLAND ADULT SOCIAL CARE A 2014 review of Rutland Council's adult social care service found problems which will be familiar to many who have worked in the sector. The service was reactive rather than preventative, staff morale was low and the culture was conservative. As a result, delayed transfers of care (DTOCs) were high and rising, care package reviews were backed up and integration between the care service and the NHS was poor. The senior team at Rutland decided that culture change was the key to transforming performance but decided against a large-scale transformational programme that explicitly focused on culture. Instead, staff were asked to identify three key problem areas that needed to be resolved for the service to see a step change in performance. These were: supporting needs earlier, reducing the number placed in care homes, reducing DTOCs. Multidisciplinary teams were then charged with finding and implementing solutions without the need for sign-off from more senior members of staff or from elected members.
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			Managers were tasked with helping those teams overcome barriers and ensuring quick decisions were made while councillors were tasked with resourcing solutions and preventing political obstacles. Even though the change programme did not emphasise culture change, it has resulted in a much more autonomous, collaborative and creative workforce. Morale is exceptionally high. The change has also resulted in a radical shift in performance with the number entering permanent care reduced by 77 per cent, DTOCs resulting from social care delays reduced by 85 per cent, and the proportion of adults with learning difficulties living in their own home or with their family rose from 55 per cent to 71 per cent.
2	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Services, rights and responsibilities, relationships	I would reinstate family centres and reinvest in those. I would put babies and infancy at the centre of our debate as we think about what we want as a society. That would enable us to have a different kind of conversation with the wider community about rights and responsibilities of citizens. It would be a good vehicle to have a conversation with communities about rights and responsibilities. We can involve children in the drawing up of that new social contract! I would universalise training about relationship based practice and restorative practice across all the disciplines that consider themselves children services so that we approach families in the same way and support each other in our partnership objectives with a shared language and a shared approach. Where that has been possible it has made our provision more effective. It is difficult to make a business case for working in that way. You're trying to mobilise training into lots of other partners.

3	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Welfare reform, social security, social change	I would create a basic income for all families. I would quite drastically change our assumptions around work and benefits to provide a level of income for all families that would remove the stigma and stress of our current welfare system and provide genuine incentives to build on that income through work. And that would change people's relationship with the political discourse. I would ban all exams till the age of 12.
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Chapter six: Role of the public sector: councils and other statutory services

This chapter captures ideas, views and assumptions on the future role of council in relation to the project proposition: ‘By 2035, England will be a country that works for all children’

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	Devolution and its implications for leaders of child and family services: Leaders' Briefing (Research in Practice, 2017)	Devolution, public services	Devolution is not an answer to all the challenges facing local authorities and the wider public sector. At this stage, there is little evaluation evidence showing one way or another if devolution can contribute to the quality of public services; arguably, in part this is because the devolution on offer to date has been limited in scope. However, this is not to say that a centralised approach has been successful either, given the ongoing inequalities in outcomes across the country. Those authorities that have begun the transition to devolved powers have an opportunity to demonstrate how devolution can play a part in driving further collaboration and integration, investment and improving the quality of public services. This includes identifying priorities for supporting children and young people to be prepared to take advantage of opportunities presented by economic development in the future.. New governance arrangements and sustaining relationships between authorities may introduce new difficulties to be overcome – difficulties that elected representatives and other local strategic leaders are ideally placed to address. Involving stakeholders, including citizens, in the devising and implementation of new structures, and the impact it will have on them, may help to galvanise public interest in what devolution means for them. Involving children and young people in this process will be crucial to ensuring that devolution reflects their priorities and interests.

	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Schools, SEND	There is evidence of a clear ripple effect felt by local authority children's services stemming from changes to universal provision, such as schools and other partner agencies, who are also experiencing significant pressures. Legislative and policy changes, such as schools academisation (the Academies Act 2010), together with changes to curricula and real-term reduction in school funding and subsequent cuts in service provision have resulted in increased demand for local authority children's services to the extent that it was one of the biggest changes that respondents had experienced in the past two years.
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2	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Schools, SEND, children not in school	Children not in school A decade of curricular and inspection reforms were reported by respondents to have keenly focused on academic attainment. This can lead to off-rolling and exclusions resulting in a greater number of children who do not attend school, or who attend alternative provision on a part time basis. Research, including more recently by the Institute for Public Policy (Hick et al, 2017), evidences links between school attendance and poor outcomes including into adulthood. Children in care, children in need, children with special educational needs and disability (SEND) and children in poverty are all more likely to be excluded than their peers. In 2016/17, 7,720 pupils (0.10%) were permanently excluded from schools, 381,865 (4.76%) received a fixed term exclusion and 10.8% of pupils were persistently absent from school in England, the majority of which were in secondary schools (DfE, 2018a). A survey by ADCS (ADCS, 2017b) inferred from the responses of 118 local authorities that 45,500 children and young people were being home schooled in England in October 2017 with year-on-year increases reported by 92% of respondents. The 2018 survey, due for publication this month, reports approximately 57,000 children home schooled a year later on 4 October 2018. Whilst the majority of home schooling families engage with their local authority, there were reported to be a small number of families who refuse to take up the offer of visits to share
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			evidence of the suitability of the education provided at home. Where the local authority is denied the opportunity to see and speak to a home educated child, this is when the greatest concerns arise. All 21 interviewees reported an increase in children who were electively home educated or 'off roll', and concurred that whilst home education can be a positive life choice for parents, there are a growing number of examples where the child is 'off-rolled' by the school due to their 'behaviour', or disability, sometimes when families are at their most vulnerable. Children who are 'off-rolled' in this way often having complex needs and those who are most at risk of contextual safeguarding which may have future implications for children's services. Ofsted (Ofsted, 2018a) reported that between 1st January 2016 and 31st July 2018, it had identified 420 possible settings that may be unregistered – i.e. illegal schools. Respondents reported their deep concerns about children in these settings, and described some of the approaches used to minimise safeguarding risks in these settings.
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3	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Early Help	Unlike adult social care where The Care Act 2014 puts preventative work with adults on a statutory footing, there is no <i>legislative</i> requirement for local authorities to provide preventative services. Whilst this allows flexible local solutions to be developed in response to increase demand, it is reliant on discretionary funding which in turn depends on local leaders prioritising early help locally, at a time when other significant pressures are vying for dwindling resources. In 2016, The Early Intervention Foundation estimated that almost £17 billion per year is spent by the state in England and Wales on 'late intervention' (EIF, 2016).
4	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Early Help	90% of the 21 interviewees attested that early help has a significant part to play in supporting children and families. 103 authorities reported 119,658 cases open to early help at 31st March 2018, equivalent to a rate of 139 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population which equates to 164,400 extrapolated to all England. In qualitative responses, 78% of respondents stated that they had experienced an increase in early help activity and 13% a decrease, set against the context of an apparent reduction in the rate per 10,000 of EHAs completed. It is important to remember that undertaking an EHA does not constitute in and of itself, early help. The biggest changes in early help activity in the past two years were largely similar to those in children's social care in terms of the presenting issues and increased complexity, in addition to, in some cases significant ways in which services are structured and delivered
5	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Early Help	The Early Intervention Foundation (EIF, 2016) states that "Not all expenditure on late intervention can be prevented. For some children and young people, periods in residential care or receiving specialist treatment for acute mental health problems will be the best solution available. But many of these children and young people might have had a different journey if they and their families had received effective help at an earlier time". More recently, the Care Crisis Review (2018) states that "there is evidence that, over time, early intervention services, properly targeted and of sufficient intensity, can reduce the risk of escalation to more serious problems".

			Despite the evidence of continued increases in social care activity, 90% of interviewees and 79% of the respondents providing impact information, stated that early help is having a positive impact on the lives of families. However, early help is not a quick fix, there is a general consensus that it takes 18-36 months to see any positive signs of sustainable change. Thus, short term, cashable savings from early help are not realistic.
6	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Thresholds, social care	Thresholds for statutory interventions are set in legislation and described in statutory guidance. However, the application and interpretation of thresholds and the management of risk and support at the point of transfer to other services such as 'step up/step down' to early help services, varies between authorities. 52% of the respondents stated that there have not been changes to the thresholds between early help and children's social care in the past two years in their authority. Those who had reviewed thresholds in the last two years had generally done so as part of implementation of MASH or other redesign or integration of 'the front door' arrangements. There were pressures for local authorities in enforcing thresholds due largely to the behaviour of some partners. Local authorities reported working with partners to ensure a more consistent and robust application of thresholds with partners prior to referral to children's social care.
7	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	workforce	In <i>Children's social care reform - a vision for change</i> (DfE, 2016a), the government sets out its vision that <i>"...everybody working within children's social care has the knowledge and skills to do their jobs well, and the organisational leadership and culture to support and challenge them to keep improving"</i>. The children's social work workforce has been the subject of a number of reforms designed to support them to do their jobs better, including: introduction of Knowledge and Skills Statements; and the assessment and accreditation of three new social work statuses (National Assessment and Accreditation Scheme, known as NAAS). 20 local authorities are currently piloting the introduction of NAAS. Some respondents report that the drive towards NAAS is proving resource-intensive. The potential benefits remain unclear.

8	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Workforce	DfE reports that there were 28,500 children and family social workers¹ (excluding agency workers) at 30 September 2017, an increase of around 3% on the previous year. Of these, 51% were case-holders at the time of the data collection. 5,340 agency workers were also working as children and family social workers at 30 September 2017, which is similar to the number at 30 September 2016 (5,330) (DfE, 2018c). Changes over the past three years and differences between authorities are apparent. Social worker vacancies had increased from 15% in September 2014 to 17% in September 2017, ranging from 1% to 53% between authorities. Agency staff rates have remained fairly stable at 16%, but individual authorities report rates ranging from 1% to 49%. It is important to note that this national DfE data collection and data presented here is a snapshot only, on 30th September, and does not reflect a local authority position at other times of the year. 115 authorities provided information on any significant changes to social work staffing over the past two years or early help and social care teams are being organised differently. Whilst recruitment and retention of qualified social workers was one of the top five challenges for respondents, there was a great deal of positive activity to recruit, retain and provide professional development for a skilled workforce despite these significant challenges. Foremost amongst the challenges for almost all authorities, is the recruitment of experienced permanent (non-agency) social work staff, especially for child protection, referral and assessment teams, which require resilient social workers. Influencing factors can be as simple as the impact of property prices in an area, or proximity to London without the incentive of London Weighting on salaries. Reports of neighbouring / other authorities offering greater financial incentives to social workers, the lure of lower caseloads and the impact of negative Ofsted inspections on a local authority and its neighbours, all play a part. Authorities reporting a shortage of experienced social workers are more reliant on inexperienced staff such as ASYEs and NQSWs, and on agency social workers. Of the 54 authorities who gave information about the direction of travel of their agency staff rate, 41% had increased their number of agency workers, 52% reduced and 7% remained at the same levels. The availability and the quality of agency social workers was reported to be variable.
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¹ Full Time Equivalent

9	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Commissioning	116 authorities provided information about changes to commissioning although the pressures and solutions described appear to be similar to those in phase 5. Sufficiency and affordability of appropriate placements for children looked after present serious challenges for all responding local authorities (as noted earlier), but also: • Increasing use of spot purchase for residential placements as a result of sufficiency challenges and a number of providers withdrawing from the residential framework • Challenges in identifying/delivering successful step-down fostering placements for children and young people placed in residential care • An inability to find placements for children in an emergency and for the most complex children and young people.
10	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Funding	There is a growing body of national research which clearly illustrates the pressures local authorities are experiencing some of which is summarised below. Cutting fast and deep on the back of a significant increase in spending largely attributable to the introduction of Sure Start funding in the last decade, were key findings from NSPCC (2011) following the 2010 Comprehensive Spending Review, which set out how the government intended to cut total public spending by 19% (£81bn) in real terms between 2010/11 and 2014/15. They state that in the aftermath of the tragic death of Peter Connelly, cash spending on commissioning, social work, safety and child protection rose sharply, reversing a previous trend of convergence in the levels of spending on prevention and protection services
21	APPG for Children: <i>Storing Up Trouble</i> (2018)	Funding	Children receive different levels of intervention and support depending on where they live, particularly in relation to access to early help and wider preventative services. The inquiry heard evidence that funding pressures are having disproportionate impact on the most deprived areas. Increasing levels of demand and a reduction in resources have

			resulted in a depleted early help offer, meaning that families are dealing with increasingly complex challenges without the desired support and as a result, require more intensive support further down the line.
22	Newton Europe (2018)	Cost differences	Analysis on behalf of the LGA disproves the notion that variation between local authority spend is simply a result of inefficiency or poor practice. It confirms variation is inevitable, with deprivation being the biggest variable between LAs: <i>“The scope to reduce spending variation through practice changes alone is small, and even those changes that could be made will often require investment to achieve”</i> .
23	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	funding	The financial impact of underfunded new burdens such as staying put, SEND reforms, extension of personal adviser support to all care leavers to 25, Virtual School Head, together with spiralling costs associated with long-standing statutory duties such as home to school transport are being met by council reserves.
24	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Funding, grants, income	Some local authorities have been successful in attracting additional investment through successfully bidding for ring-fenced, short term pots of grant funding, principally via the DfE Innovation Programme but also from other grants (see figure below). 54 authorities have received no additional funding at all from the DfE over the period that grants have been in place. Whilst these grants are valued, and early indications are that DfE Innovation Programme projects are delivering good outcomes, there are also concerns about the growing inequality of funding between authorities. This short-termist approach to children’s services funding is unsustainable, and the time required to submit bids was cited by authorities, especially those who were unsuccessful, as resource pressure they cannot ill-afford. Those respondents who had not received DfE funding through the Innovation Programme or Partners in Practice (PiP) programme felt that ad hoc funding opportunities to deliver focussed improvement in some local authorities detracts from the imperative for an overarching strategic approach to funding designed to deliver systemwide improvements in outcomes for all children, young people and families

25	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Health funding	Funding for services below the threshold of children's social care, including those that prevent demand, such as public health funding, continues to be subject of funding cuts to 2019/20 (Department of Health and Social Care (2018). In 2017/18, there was a total £3.3bn public health funding allocated compared to an indicative allocation of £3.1bn in 2019/20, and against a population increase of 825,912 over the same period. Whilst there appears to be a uniform 5% reduction on 2017/18 public health funding across local authorities, the variation in population change means that some will be subject of greater reductions than others. For example, some of the most deprived local authority areas will experience greater cuts in public health than the average. One local authority's funding reduces by £1.85m over the two years against a population growth of 14,638. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (2018) published a review which tracked government progress to improve children's health over the past 12 months. It concluded that child health is suffering at the hands of a disjointed approach from central government, including no plans for an overarching child health strategy and no increased investment in child health research. The greatest areas for concern were the deepening public health cuts which have worsened in the last year.
26	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Unexpected events	The cost of unexpected high profile events, cases and investigations were also cited by respondents as occasions where there is often a sudden call on resources, such as police operations, serious case reviews, high profile medical events in the local area. For example, one authority stated one investigation had cost the authority £2.5m, and another £12m.

Social Care analysis of prevalence, need and services

Item		Tags	Summary
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		Extrapolating the number in responding local authorities to the whole of England would indicate that 2.4 million initial contacts were received in 2017/18, a 78% increase in the last ten years. In the last two years, not all local authorities have experienced an increase in initial contacts. Of those which had reported high increases, for some it was due to creation of a single front door to early help and social care. For others, changes were due to the increased demand; better recording; or, change of ICT systems. Over the five years that outcome data has been collected, there has been a reduction in the proportion of total contacts which go on to referral to social care (from 30.4% in 2012/13 to 26.9% in 2017/18), but this reduction is smaller than the total increase in contacts, resulting in <i>more</i> contacts that become referrals to social care in that period. The proportion of contacts that become referrals varies between authorities, from 6.4% to 71%.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	contacts	Proportions of contacts which result in 'advice and information/ signposting' or 'no further action' remain static at 30%, and 22% respectively. 13% of initial contacts had an outcome of 'pass to early help' compared to 10% in phase 5, although comments from some local authorities indicate that they do not use 'pass to early help' as an outcome, and these are recorded as 'advice and information/signposting' or 'NFA' instead. This means that the proportion which are passed to early help is likely to be higher in practice
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	referrals	There has not been the same continuous upward trend in the number of referrals to children's social care as there has been for other safeguarding activity. However, there has been an increase in referrals in the last two years and overall a 22% increase over the last ten years. The rate of 556 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population in 2017/18 continues, as previous years, to mask significant disparity between local authorities where the lowest referral rate was 223 and the highest referral rate was 1530 per 10,000. • An increase over the ten years in both initial contacts and referrals from Education (9% to 14% and 12% to 20% respectively). Referrals from Education have almost doubled, from a rate of 55 to 105 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population • Fewer contacts and referrals are from 'Other' sources as a proportion of all sources

			Most notably, 8.7% of contacts were from parent/family in 2017/18, which is fewer than ten years ago and only 6% of referrals are from Parent /carer or family compared to 14% 10 years ago. A more detailed breakdown of source of referrals in 2017/18 illustrates that Police (28.6%) and schools (18.2%) remain the biggest source of referrers, accounting for just under half of all referrals
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Reasons for referral	In 2017/18, 347,704 referrals (55%) were primarily for 'abuse or neglect (N1); 152,113 due to family in acute stress or family dysfunction; 59,400 for cases other than child in need (N9). The proportion of referrals for Abuse or Neglect (N1) has almost doubled in the past ten years. However, the reduction in referrals where the primary need code is 'not stated' has reduced dramatically and could account for some of this increase, but not all.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Outcome of referral	more than 95% of their referrals lead to an assessment. There has been an increase in the number of referrals where the outcome is 'assessment required' from 69.4% in 2015/16 to 76.1% in 2017/18. Fewer referrals have an outcome of 'no further action' (reduction from 14.7% in 2012/13 to 7% in 2017/18) and there is also a reduction in 'advice and information or signposting to other services'. An outcome of 'NFA' does not mean that the child/family go unsupported, but that their needs may be met in other ways, for example through services provided other than by social care. Of the 67 local authorities who were able to provide a breakdown of 'signpost to other services', 'pass to early help services' was the outcome for 8,252 (3.2%) of referrals further indicating that authorities record transfers to early help differently and may be under-reported. The findings illustrate differences between authorities in what is recorded as the outcome of a referral. Variations in 'front door' models where combined early help and social care referral points are in place, may mean that

			referrals going to early help or are NFA will have done so at initial contact stage and referrals therefore progresses to child in need or child protection mechanisms.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		Nationally published data evidences that approximately twice as many children will be receiving services at any time during the year than the commonly used snapshot figure at 31st March. As with all 'snapshot' figures about service users, the number at 31st March does not represent the volume of work undertaken during the 12-month period. According to the latest DfE data, published on 25th October 2018 (DfE, 2018b), there were 753,840 episodes of children in need at any point during the year, a rate of 635.2 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population, and 705,060 children with an episode of need at any point.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Section 47	138 local authorities provided valid data on the number of children who were subjects of Section 47 (S47) enquiries and initial child protection conferences (ICPCs). 183,187 S47s and 69,795 ICPCs were completed during 2017/18 in responding authorities. Of those responding in both phases 5 and 6, this represents a 26% increase in S47s and in the two years since phase 5, an 11% increase in ICPCs.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Child Protection	The number of children becoming subjects of child protection plans continues to increase year-on-year, at a greater rate than the population increase. 64,154 children became subjects of child protection plans during 2017/18 in 138 authorities which provided valid data. This is equivalent to 57.8 children per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (68,570 across all authorities) and an increase of 102% from 2007/8.

	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Child protection	The number of children subjects of child protection plans at 31 st March has increased across responding local authorities following a period of stability. There were 49,921 children subjects of child protection plans in the 136 responding authorities at 31 st March 2018, equivalent to 46 children per 10,000 of the 0-17 population. There continues to be wide variation between authorities; 69 had experienced an increase in the two years since phase 5, and 21 had experienced a decrease. This is a snapshot at 31 st March, it is important to note the extent to which the number of children subjects of a child protection plan changes or fluctuates during the year in individual authorities.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Child protection, neglect	47% of initial child protection plans in 2017/18 were categorised as Neglect. This continues to be the most and increasingly prevalent category of abuse and has increased from 45% in phase 5. Whilst in the national data the use of the 'Multiple' category appears to be reducing, some individual local authorities make extensive use of this category.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Child Protection	Two years ago, in phase 5, we reported that proportionally, more children aged 5-9 were becoming subjects of child protection plans in 2015/16 than any other age group (27.6%) which had been the case for the preceding three years. However, the age profile of children becoming subject of a child protection plan has shifted towards older children, with a significant increase in those aged 16 and 17 who are becoming subject of a plan from 0.5% of all children in 2007/8 to 4.0% in 2017/18. The age profile of children who are subjects of a child protection plan at 31 st March is similar to those starting.

	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	permanency	The Children & Families Act 2014 included reforms which aimed to achieve quicker permanency decisions for children; set an ambitious time limit of 26 weeks for care proceedings; and limit the use of independent expert evidence in care proceedings. In parallel, case law such as <i>re B</i>, <i>re B-S</i> continues to provide challenges and tensions with Courts in some instances. The timeline in section 5 and on the ADCS website² provides further information about these. Masson <i>et al</i> (2018) in analysis of reforms conclude that <i>“it was not possible to disentangle the PLO reforms from the impact of case law decisions.”</i> Legislative changes, new case law and insufficiency of placements for children looked after, coupled with increasing numbers of children in care, were cited as one of the top five demand drivers for responding local authorities. The findings from Safeguarding Pressures research and evidence provided by respondents is mirrored by Masson <i>et al</i> (2018) and Dickens <i>et al</i> (2018) in their studies on the reforms (orders, placements and outcomes) which conclude that: • Proceedings were completed more quickly after the reforms • More orders to support placements with relatives or parents such as Special Guardianship and Supervision Orders and fewer Placement Orders <i>“was not planned as part of the reforms, not predicated, nor...based on evidence about ‘what works’ for children. It related to case law decisions and the uncertainty they caused for local authorities and courts.”</i> • Placements with parents were the most likely to break down; whilst nearly all placements of children with kinship carers were stable • Most children with Placement Orders were adopted, with shorter care proceedings and children placed more quickly at a younger age • Achieving placement stability was challenging when children were over 10 years old when a Care Order was made, some placement moves are beneficial, or unavoidable, for example if a carer is not able to meet the ongoing needs of the child
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² <http://adcs.org.uk/safeguarding/article/safeguarding-pressures-phase-6>

			High levels of demand, financial restrictions and staff shortages in children's services were making it increasingly hard for agencies to offer support to the children, their families and carers. This included partner agencies, such as Health where it was challenging to secure timely input from CAMHS.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Cafcass	Cafcass (2018) reports that the national rates per 10,000 of the 0-17 population of care applications has increased from 8.0 in 2009/10 to 12.5 in 2016/17 and a subsequent reduction to 12.2 in 2017/18. However, there is variability between individual local authorities, with some seeing sharp increases and decreases between years.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	136 responding local authorities reported a total of 30,508 children starting to be looked after in 2017/18, equating to 27.7 children per 10,000 of the 0-17 population (32,890 across all local authorities). Whilst the number of children starting to be looked after has increased slightly year-on-year, the rate per 10,000 of the 0-17 population has been relatively consistent for three years. The disparity between those who are experiencing increases, and those experiencing decreases in numbers of children looked after continues. 61 of the 108 authorities who responded to both phases 5 and 6 (56.5%) saw decreases in their number of children starting to be looked after, seven of them by more than 25% in the two years, whilst 52 (48.1%) had more children starting to be looked after, 20 of whom had an increase of more than 20%. The number of children looked after more than doubled in 23 local authorities in the 10 years between 2007/8 and 2017/18.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	12.7% of children who started to be looked after in 2017/18 had been looked after previously (based on 100 LAs who supplied valid data on entry <i>and</i> re-entry). This is a small increase from 12% in phase 5. A similar number of authorities had experienced a decrease in repeat entries to care as those who experienced increases. 25.1% of children coming back into care in 2017/18 were aged 16 or 17, compared to 24.5% in Phase 5. The largest age group is the 10-15s who account for 38.1% of returning children in 2017/18. However, other research puts the proportion of children returning to care as much higher. Narey and Owers (2018) reference two sources that found

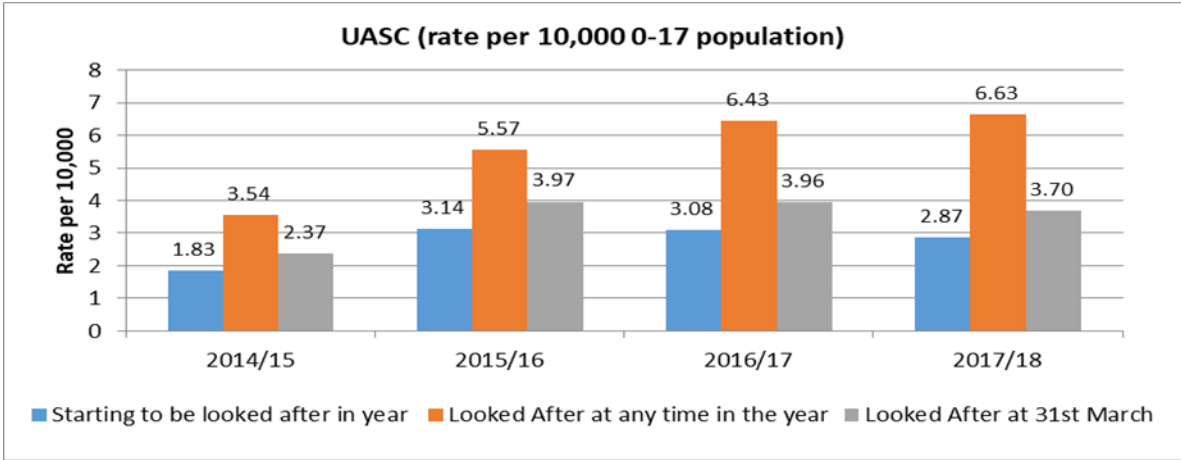
			two thirds (Farmer and Wijedasa (2013) and a third (DfE 2013b) of children re-enter care within five years of returning home after ceasing to be looked after.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	139 authorities provided valid data reporting 71,348 children looked after at 31st March 2018. This represents a rate of 64 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population, and equates to 75,480 across all local authorities. The rate per 10,000 has increased in the past two years following a period of stability. Of the 119 authorities providing data in both phase 5 and phase 6, the number of children looked after at 31st March increased in 88 authorities (73.9%) and reduced in 31 authorities (26%). 60.4% of all children starting to be looked after were primarily due to reasons of Abuse or Neglect (N1), an 18.1% increase since 2007/08 and the highest proportion in the past 10 years. Neglect remains the largest category and equates to 16.8 children per 10,000 of the 0-17 population. 21.3% started to be looked after due to either Family Dysfunction (N5) or Family in Acute Stress (N4) combined.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	The rate of children aged 16-17 who have started to be looked after has doubled in the past ten years from 2.0 to 5.1 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population, and now representing 18.5% of all children starting to be looked after in 2017/18. The number of these who are UASC and who go on to be care leavers may account for some of the changes in number ceasing to be looked after. The largest age group remains those children aged 10 to 15 (27.3%) although the proportion has been reducing. Unsurprisingly, London has the highest proportion of children starting to be looked after aged 16-17 which we can presume is UASC, and the North East and North West have more babies starting to be looked after. Nuffield Foundation (Broadhurst <i>et al</i> , 2018) evidence the significant increase in the likelihood of babies becoming subjects of care proceedings, and noted regional differences.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	57.4% of all children looked after at 31st March 2018 in responding authorities have a Full Care Order, and the proportion has increased year-on-year. Fewer children are the subject of Interim Care Orders, or Accommodated under Section 20 (i.e. without a care order).

			The rate, and proportion of children looked after who are subjects of Placement Orders (or Freeing Orders) peaked at 13.6% in 2012/3, following the government's sustained campaign to promote adoption as the preferred form of permanence for children. The rate has been falling since, and is now at 4.6%, the lowest level since ADCS Safeguarding Pressures research began.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	Between phases 5 and 6 of ADCS Safeguarding Pressures research, there have been small changes in the rate of children looked after who are in kinship care (placement with relative or friend who is an approved foster carer) as well as those placed with parents. However, this masks some considerable variation within the broad categories: • Foster care as a whole accounts for almost three quarters of all placements (73.2%) • The largest proportion of children are placed with foster carers other than relative or friend (60.4%). 8.4% of children looked after are placed in children's homes • An increase in children who are placed in children's homes or 'other' residential - which includes residential care home, NHS/health trust or other establishment providing medical or nursing care, residential schools, family centre or mother and baby unit • Numbers in Secure Children's Homes (K1) and YOI or Secure Training Centres are small (totalling less than 500 children at 31st March 2018) but rates per 10,000 0-17 have increased by 9% and 12% respectively between 2014/15 and 2017/18 • Decreasing proportions in independent living arrangements despite higher numbers of children looked after aged 16 and 17, and the continued impact of the Southwark Judgement. Placement stability continues to vary between authorities but with little change overall. In responding local authorities, the long term stability average of children looked after for 2.5 years who had been in the same placement for two years or more, was 66.4% and there was no change in short term placement stability (10%)

			Children looked after by placement type (excluded temporary and other placements) <table><thead><tr><th>Placement Type</th><th>2015/16 (%)</th><th>2017/18 (%)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Secure unit, YOI or prison (K1, R5)</td><td>0.6%</td><td>0.7%</td></tr><tr><td>Other residential accommodation (H5, R1-3, S1)</td><td>3.3%</td><td>4.1%</td></tr><tr><td>Children's homes (K2)</td><td>8.4%</td><td>8.4%</td></tr><tr><td>Independent living/Residential employment (P2,P3)</td><td>4.5%</td><td>4.0%</td></tr><tr><td>Placed for adoption (A3-6)</td><td>4.2%</td><td>3.0%</td></tr><tr><td>Placed with own parents or other person with parental responsibility (P1)</td><td>5.5%</td><td>6.3%</td></tr><tr><td>Placement with other foster carer (Q2)</td><td>62.0%</td><td>60.6%</td></tr><tr><td>Foster placement with relative or friend (Q1)</td><td>11.5%</td><td>13.0%</td></tr></tbody></table> 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% % of total children looked after ■ 2015/16 ■ 2017/18 Figure 57: Percentage of children looked after at 31st March 2016 and 2018 by placement type.	Placement Type	2015/16 (%)	2017/18 (%)	Secure unit, YOI or prison (K1, R5)	0.6%	0.7%	Other residential accommodation (H5, R1-3, S1)	3.3%	4.1%	Children's homes (K2)	8.4%	8.4%	Independent living/Residential employment (P2,P3)	4.5%	4.0%	Placed for adoption (A3-6)	4.2%	3.0%	Placed with own parents or other person with parental responsibility (P1)	5.5%	6.3%	Placement with other foster carer (Q2)	62.0%	60.6%	Foster placement with relative or friend (Q1)	11.5%	13.0%
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	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	Costs of placements for children looked after, including independent fostering agencies and external residential placements are one of the biggest changes and financial pressures cited by respondents. Of the £1.7bn spent by local authorities on foster placements in 2016/17, 42% goes to independent providers (£727m) but costs vary greatly (Ofsted, 2018c). Narey and Owers (2018) as part of the Fostering Stocktake, reviewed the costs of fostering placements specifically in independent fostering agencies, and their conclusions very much mirror the experiences																											

			of Safeguarding Pressures respondents <i>“the shortage of carers in particular places and for particular types of children has helped create a marketplace which IFAs have dominated and where they have, sometimes, been able to dictate pricing.”</i> Narey and Owers conclude that whilst local authorities are trying to use framework agreements to manage the market, there are greater opportunities for commissioning and using their full aggregated purchasing power.
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Welfare Secure	We reported in detail in phase 5 about the demand for welfare secure and tier 4 mental health placements and how that demand is being met. 62% of respondents in phase 6 stated that they had experienced significant difficulties in obtaining most notably welfare secure placements but also tier 4 mental health placements due to severely limited availability. These are often high cost placements for very vulnerable young people who are at risk of significant harm. One respondent to phase 6 reported having three children in secure placements at a cost of £6,500 a week each. We did not repeat the data capture in phase 6, but we know that 170 children and young people were in secure accommodation at 31st March 2017 (DfE, 2017), and most likely looked after under Section 25 of The Children Act 1989, often referred to as being ‘on welfare grounds’
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	115 authorities provided information about the length of time children had been looked after from the date they started to be looked after to the date they ceased. 22.3% were looked after for less than three months, and 11.8% had been looked after for more than five years. Comparing responses from these 115 authorities with nationally published data (DfE 2017), illustrates that of those children ceasing to be looked after, the majority (53%) had been looked after for a short period of time (less than 12 months).
	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	LAC	138 authorities provided valid data on reasons for children leaving care. More children leave care to return home to live with parents than for any other reason (26%). However, the proportion of children who do so has reduced by a third since 2010/11. From 2014/15, DfE differentiate between ‘returned home planned returns (E4A)’ and ‘unplanned returns (E4B)’. In 2017/18 there were four times as many planned returns as unplanned returns. The ratio between planned and unplanned returns varies hugely between authorities, but shows no discernible regional pattern.

			Children ceasing to be looked after by reason (%) <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>2010 /11</th><th>2011 /12</th><th>2012 /13</th><th>2013 /14</th><th>2014 /15</th><th>2015 /16</th><th>2016 /17</th><th>2017 /18</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Care taken over by other LA (E3)</td><td>0.7%</td><td>0.6%</td><td>0.6%</td><td>0.5%</td><td>0.5%</td><td>0.9%</td><td>1.8%</td><td>1.9%</td></tr><tr><td>Returned home(E4A & B)</td><td>39.3%</td><td>37.1%</td><td>34.8%</td><td>34.5%</td><td>31.3%</td><td>29.9%</td><td>27.6%</td><td>26.0%</td></tr><tr><td>Independent living (E5,6)</td><td>13.0%</td><td>14.0%</td><td>12.4%</td><td>11.6%</td><td>11.9%</td><td>13.2%</td><td>14.2%</td><td>14.7%</td></tr><tr><td>Transfer to adult social services (E7)</td><td>2.4%</td><td>2.3%</td><td>2.0%</td><td>1.7%</td><td>2.0%</td><td>2.0%</td><td>1.8%</td><td>2.1%</td></tr><tr><td>Ceased for any other reason (E8)</td><td>22.0%</td><td>20.5%</td><td>19.2%</td><td>16.7%</td><td>17.2%</td><td>17.1%</td><td>17.2%</td><td>18.9%</td></tr><tr><td>Sentenced to custody (E9)</td><td>1.5%</td><td>1.6%</td><td>1.3%</td><td>2.1%</td><td>1.8%</td><td>1.6%</td><td>1.4%</td><td>1.5%</td></tr><tr><td>Adoption (E11,12)</td><td>10.4%</td><td>11.7%</td><td>14.2%</td><td>16.8%</td><td>16.9%</td><td>14.4%</td><td>13.8%</td><td>12.8%</td></tr><tr><td>Left care to live with no PR (E13)</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0.0%</td><td>0.0%</td><td>1.5%</td><td>1.6%</td><td>1.3%</td><td>2.1%</td><td>1.8%</td></tr><tr><td>CAO/RO (E41)</td><td>4.3%</td><td>4.4%</td><td>5.6%</td><td>5.4%</td><td>3.0%</td><td>3.3%</td><td>3.7%</td><td>3.8%</td></tr><tr><td>SGO (E43,44)</td><td>6.0%</td><td>7.6%</td><td>9.8%</td><td>10.6%</td><td>11.4%</td><td>11.9%</td><td>11.8%</td><td>11.3%</td></tr></tbody></table> Figure 61: Children leaving care by reason ceased . Note: categories 'Died' Accommodation on remand ended (E14) and Child Moved Abroad (E15) excluded due to small numbers (<1% of total for each).		2010 /11	2011 /12	2012 /13	2013 /14	2014 /15	2015 /16	2016 /17	2017 /18	Care taken over by other LA (E3)	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.9%	1.8%	1.9%	Returned home(E4A & B)	39.3%	37.1%	34.8%	34.5%	31.3%	29.9%	27.6%	26.0%	Independent living (E5,6)	13.0%	14.0%	12.4%	11.6%	11.9%	13.2%	14.2%	14.7%	Transfer to adult social services (E7)	2.4%	2.3%	2.0%	1.7%	2.0%	2.0%	1.8%	2.1%	Ceased for any other reason (E8)	22.0%	20.5%	19.2%	16.7%	17.2%	17.1%	17.2%	18.9%	Sentenced to custody (E9)	1.5%	1.6%	1.3%	2.1%	1.8%	1.6%	1.4%	1.5%	Adoption (E11,12)	10.4%	11.7%	14.2%	16.8%	16.9%	14.4%	13.8%	12.8%	Left care to live with no PR (E13)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	1.6%	1.3%	2.1%	1.8%	CAO/RO (E41)	4.3%	4.4%	5.6%	5.4%	3.0%	3.3%	3.7%	3.8%	SGO (E43,44)	6.0%	7.6%	9.8%	10.6%	11.4%	11.9%	11.8%	11.3%
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6	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	UASC	There were 3,987 UASC who were looked after at 31st March 2018 in 133 responding local authorities. This is a rate of 3.7 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population and extrapolates to 4,390 across England (0.04% of total population as measured by National Transfer Scheme). 17 authorities are supporting in excess of the NTS 0.07% of UASC at 31st																																																																																																			

			March.  <table border="1"> <caption>UASC (rate per 10,000 0-17 population)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Starting to be looked after in year</th> <th>Looked After at any time in the year</th> <th>Looked After at 31st March</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>1.83</td> <td>3.54</td> <td>2.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015/16</td> <td>3.14</td> <td>5.57</td> <td>3.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016/17</td> <td>3.08</td> <td>6.43</td> <td>3.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017/18</td> <td>2.87</td> <td>6.63</td> <td>3.70</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Starting to be looked after in year	Looked After at any time in the year	Looked After at 31st March	2014/15	1.83	3.54	2.37	2015/16	3.14	5.57	3.97	2016/17	3.08	6.43	3.96	2017/18	2.87	6.63	3.70
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7	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Care Leavers	The Children & Families Act 2014 introduced 'Staying Put' duties on local authorities to provide care leavers with the opportunity to remain with their former foster carer after they reach the age of 19, and new legislation came into effect on 1st April 2018 placing new duties on local authorities to offer the support of a Personal Advisor to all care leavers to the age of 25.																				
8	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		There were 34,387 care leavers aged 18 to 21 in 137 responding authorities as at 31st March 2018. This equates to a rate of 30.9 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population ³ and extrapolates to 36,672 in England.																				

³ The rate of care leavers has been calculated as per 10,000 0-17 year olds for consistency with other rate calculations. However, it should be noted that the care leaver cohort covers ages 18-21/25.

			In terms of the extended care leaver duties, a further 1,499 care leavers aged 22 to 25 were reported by 74 authorities (a rate of 2.74 and 3,247 extrapolated to all England). However, the actual number of care leavers aged 22 to 25 eligible for under the new duties is likely to be significantly higher, as these data relate to those that the authorities were supporting at 31st March 2018, prior to the new legislative provisions coming into effect. The number of 19 year old care leavers increased by 63% between 2007/8 (5,800) and 2016/17 (9,460) according to DfE data⁴. There is a slight reduction of 660 care leavers (-2.4%) since 2013/14 based on extrapolated data for this year.
	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Service design, innovation, change, workforce	We have to be mindful of creativity and innovation and being prepared to look at things with fresh eyes. Every program I have had to design and setup I have brought a common sense approach to it and fresh eyes to it. Quite often people are quite stuck in a particular medicalised way of doing things to which anybody else coming in would ask the question: why don't we do it a slightly different way that's more responsive to those children and their families? Trying to create opportunities for people to have a voice and to be able to hear one another. Quite often when people are stuck in one way of working and is it really doing what we need it to be doing for young people we have to find ways for people to hear messages in new ways. We may need to take people to processes which enable them to hear those messages. We need a broader range of interventions and we need to have more age appropriate interventions. It is about cultural shift, somebody said that in order to make change you need to persuade 51% of the people with power. You don't need to win everybody over. There are key senior clinicians whose perspectives need to change. The social workers and the youth workers tend to have a slightly broader

⁴ Between 2007/8 and 2012/13, DfE only reported the number of care leavers aged 19, and started to report those aged 19 to 21 in 2013/14. DfE do not provide data on younger care leavers.

			understanding of the needs of those children. So there is a particular challenge about transforming the attitudes and understanding of clinicians in the system. It's about having really good evidence. There was a lot of money around in the Blair years for 'every child matters' and we did not necessarily spend that money in ways we could or should have done - probably because we thought that money would last forever. So there is something about having a really good evidence base that drives the outcomes that we are trying to achieve. The voice of the young person as the service user is absolutely at the heart of problem solving and should be at the heart of service design, and how you can make communities more resilient, so that they are able to respond and solve their own problems in terms of community engagement and community based services. There is something about setting high aspirations and constantly challenging each other around those. We sometimes help each other to progress a couple of steps when we should be thinking about how to get 10 steps up. And designing it backwards. We learnt that having a highly motivated, highly skilled workforce is really important and there is something about the skills and the training and the resilience of that workforce. We need to think of ways to generate a pipeline of people coming into work in those services.
	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Social change, leadership, institutions	There are some frameworks around relational based practice and for social care organisations people are starting to become interested in place based collaborative approaches. There is something about political leadership here to support social change and a tipping point. We need to think quite radically different about how we manage ourselves across the organisation.

			However we are up against a massive might in terms of how the uk institutions value a class based society and what we've inherited about people's feelings about Britain; for example, the stiff upper lip mentality which breeds a competitive culture. Leadership is really important. An inspiring leader can mobilise latent revolutionary views in people, in people who feel that things could be much better but are waiting for movement. So it could happen at any time but does require leadership and that leadership is likely to emerge from unlikely places. There is signs of it within the young people's support for Corbyn. They obviously see something in him and young people are inspired by something there. It happened in the Scottish independence referendum which generated a surplus of political energy within young people. It could happen around mental health and about the way generally we want to live and there is something about brexit at the moment and how that might lead to a different discussion about who we want to be as a nation. It could go either way but people will need to take a stand and things can change quite quickly from there; when energy coalesces around a vision. We have been very silent about issues around property and inequality as a third sector organisation and have avoided getting involved in ideological debates and there might be a change in that quite soon across lots of different organisations. There may be a convergence of third sector voices who are prepared to shout about some issues which previously were thought of as being too political. That joining up from communities might be quite a powerful thing.
	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Relationships, attachment, local services	For me, as adults, it's about looking at ourselves and all relationships we have with each other. I'm really thinking about the messages which we are sending children both within our own families and across the organisations we are working with, in terms of how you treat people. We have to make time for children both as an individual parent and as a professional. Listening more to each other, valuing listening rather than constantly having opinions. These are the kind of things and the kind of behaviours we need to

			change and is one of the biggest challenges for all of us but we'll make some of the biggest differences to how children see the world and what they experience. We learned a lot about wrap-around services and that you cannot expect kids to turn up to school and be engaged if they are living in poor home situations, for example witnessing domestic violence before coming to school. We are learning by dismantling some of the things that do work. We underestimate what estranged families find in neighbourhood relationships so when we remove housing or income people have to move away from their community to be in work. We prioritise work at the expense of having local connecting networks and that makes people more mobile by necessity and removes them from people in their lives who help remove difficulty. That makes people more dependent on the state and the state is particularly hostile to people being dependent at the moment. It is quite rejecting. You have to be very, very compliant with processes to be able to get good support from the state. We have learned that there are more hazards for people engaging with the state and that is designed into our processes. So while that helps prevent people from being dependent, we know that children need a secure base. Secure attachment through early years from which to explore, develop and grow is a profound peace of understanding about humanity not just about childhood. Therefore we know that people have to be able to depend on something to become independent in their own good time. Our unwillingness to allow dependency, particularly at times of crisis, means people never settle.
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			The way the state intervenes within communities and community development creates unfavorable conditions for people to be dependent on each other and local community infrastructure.
	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Criminal justice, trauma	Some of the 'Kilbrandon' report principles in Scotland around looking at the child rather than the deeds are important. That ethos runs through some aspects of children's services in England and Wales but the way that the criminal justice system is set up is quite different. Research, and my own experience, tells me that people are often both victims and perpetrators of crime and it is not always as straightforward as dividing people up within institutions and dealing with them in groups. That's the biggest thing really - trying to get under the presenting behaviours and figure out what has led a child to a situation where they are in crisis or engaging in violence or other behaviours, as opposed to dealing with the end result of that. [Recognising the narrative around trauma and adverse childhood experiences] people start to talk about things being trauma-informed but the extent to which our practice is actually trauma-informed is a whole other question. There is always a risk that we keep on doing what we've always done but just use different words to describe it. There is a genuine want to change but there is a risk of us being in a bit of an echo chamber with people who want to work in this way speaking to each other but actually that narrative needs to get into wider not universal services and not just be focused around justice responses.
	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Trauma, criminal justice, prisons, advocacy	We need to start off with an understanding of how trauma impacts people who are coming into prison. We have to give people in the workforce access to training and understanding and time to reflect on what that means for their practice. That change has to be made at a senior level and it has to manifest itself in terms of how we go about our work, not just what we do. That includes reflecting on how we work with each other and how we value what you might call some of the softer skills within senior levels in the organisation. And for us to be not constantly focused on results but also responding to things we

			see in our day to day work. For example, is there a role for prisons in advocating on behalf of their populations? We see the impacts on people that might be masked at a local level. The number of young people who go into care and then into prison might be relatively small but on a national scale it's significant but that can be masked. People within the public sector may not see that as the role of the prison service to advocate for prisoners as you may be seen to be tiptoeing into a political area. There need to be some small political discussions about the role of public sector work and how they advocate for people within their care. There should be a role for the workforce and senior leaders within criminal justice to advocate and amplify the voice of the prison population who are within their care. Whilst nobody actually discourages this when you work with people it is difficult to know where the lines are, what you're allowed to comment on and what's appropriate. However, as long as we are not commenting on things that are party political, it's appropriate to draw attention to, for example, the disproportionality of people's ethnicity within the prison population and the number of people who are in prison who have a care background. There should not be anything controversial about that. Because we work in these environments there is a good level of understanding about these issues from the workforce. We see the impact on people's lives. However we are not an industry that talks about such things openly; for example, we are not active on social media. Even if we are compared to other uniformed organisations such as the police, they are open nowadays to having some of these discussions engaging in social media. We have never considered it as an additional tool to support us in how we go about our work. And it's a tricky subject to engage the public on.
	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Local government, intervention, funding, housing	When you look at the training offered to prison staff it is very much focused on procedures and safety other that is absolutely critical. But we need to be moving into the position to recognise the job that prison officers do is extremely complex. And we don't really equip people with an understanding of, for example, desistance or trauma. But it is a big ask to get people to reflect on, for example, how trauma

			manifests itself when you're dealing with increasing numbers of people in the system, budget pressures whichever one is facing but it is important. It is difficult within local government but we need to start by talking about these things and accepting some of this. This is something that needs to be tackled. Income security is a central government issue and one which the dwp and the treasury currently do not understand. What local government can do in theory is change its housing policies. It can prioritise maintaining people within their homes within a community. Within large inner city areas where house prices for rent is high people are moved out of the area, sometimes hundreds of miles away. We have to be more interventionist in the private rented sector. You would have to have national policy changes and change the balance of power between landlords and tenants. There would have to be joined up conversations within local and national government about how tackling issues within one area have a knock on consequence to other areas including diverting costs. For example things that children services no longer do but the costs are picked up by the education system. There are things that health no longer do but have to be picked up in terms of cost by children services. It would be useful to have a single budget for children and young people possibly even young adulthood. We need to think about the reach of our services right through to the age of 25 even though there is not a statutory requirement to do so. We need to return to the days of fair rent, to ensure rental costs do not rise. We have created incentives for rent seeking landlords. It makes it possible for taxpayers money to go straight into the pocket of landlords without those who are living in the accommodation truly benefiting.
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	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Skills, change, workforce, collaboration, fragmentation	It's political and if you want to win over certain people in key areas you have to figure out a way of working with and around people. One of the ways I've been able to bring about changes is through connecting with people. When people come at an issue with such a different professional perspective one of the ways of having a meeting of minds is by having a personal connection. Amplifying the voices of those who don't normally get heard is important. We need skills in being able to accept that we're not always right, to be able to see other people's' points of view and to be able to detach ourselves from the need to be right all the time. Even in progressive circles there seems to be that competitive element, putting down other people's views even when you have similar goals. So there's something about joining up and that is a powerful thing rather than being divisive. We need to find a way to remember what it's like to be a baby and a very young child. When we talk about the voices of young people and children we are really talking about from school age onwards. However, there are a lot of babies and infants who are silently suffering horrendous emotional violence in our country at the moment. We need to find a way for society to think about childhood. We need to better incorporate that into a narrative around childhood and what it means to be absolutely vulnerable. We have to try and remember what that might have felt like in some way. Even within child protection it's quite hard to put yourself in the position of the young infant. It is possible to use the voice of a young child or an avatar to provoke better understanding of what that feels like. There is something here about the value base of your workforce. Including value based recruitment. Things like stickability, willing to go the extra mile, the desire and drive to do right by kids should be in your DNA already. From there, we can teach you the skills bit. In social work we are in danger of seeing retention issues similar to those we have seen in teaching. A lot of authorities have worked hard on the assisted year in practice, post qualifying. However, on an ongoing
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			basis it's hard to provide social workers with that level of professional support. We have to ask the question in an environment where money is tight 'what does good social work look like?' Social work is a fantastic profession but it is recognised that there are easier ways to make money. Having a clear 10 year plan with money and outcomes food against it would be very welcome. However, we cannot plan for the future when we do not have a clear vision of what we want that future to be. If you asked children what their vision for the future would be I doubt very much whether they would give you a structural answer. What people need to understand is that they are part of a workforce for children and families. So housing officers don't necessarily see themselves being part of children's services but if they did they would have to change their practice. In England the role of corporate parenting boards is focused on children who are in care. However, the workforce need to think about themselves as corporate parents in the widest sense for all children and all families. The objectives should always be that children should be able to stay at home with their families. In this borough care leavers will be council tax exempt however if a young person moves to a neighbouring borough their council tax will not be paid. We have no mechanism to do that. There is no council tax protection to stop families going into arrears. One of the reasons families get evicted from their property is for not paying rent or council tax. If we don't provide that protection we will end up with more children within local authority care because that housing insecurity drives family breakdown and child neglect and child abuse. In achieving the kind of systemic change we need it is not really about training frontline workers. We can achieve much with helping those workers develop different relationships with individual families but
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			systemic change will come from the example of directors thinking systemically and outlining the changes that would need to be made. Some directors of children's services will see their job is to lead a social work workforce to deliver the best interventions we can with families at various levels of distress. And that is a core function to deal with the case work as it presents itself to the best of our ability. We would approach workforce development differently if we take this within our leadership responsibility. Will the third sector and community will be stronger in the future? The third sector is very fragmented and as a consequence it is not effective at mobilising everything together. Some of the new funding arrangements put them in competition with each other. Commissioners of the 3rd sector need to try and engage and encourage more collaboration. As local authority funding falls the community sector may become stronger by default. There is a risk that support for families will become very fragmented if third sector umbrella groups are not strong enough and local authority commissioners do not have the political will to change how it coordinates strategically.
	‘Stepping up, Stepping Down: How families make sense of working with welfare services’ (Morris et al, 2018:5).	Workforce, service design, fragmentation	1. Services: Multiple but scarce, fragmented and siloed Understanding how services were organised, who they catered for, and their entry and exit points, was often frustrating and a source of stress in itself for families. However, the outcome of this extensive experience of service use was also a unique level of proficiency held by families in negotiating boundaries and assorted access criteria. Multiple services, with often shifting service eligibility criteria, were staffed by what appeared to be an ever-changing cast of workers. Repeated changes in workers caused high levels of frustration among families. A dance of responsibility occurred with families caught between agencies seeking to determine who should provide the service. Services that tried to avoid professional silos and worked collectively with the family were appreciated. Those families that had experience of

			Family Group Conferences (FGCs) valued the whole family approach. For families working with services where vulnerable adults or children were living out of the home (as a result of safety or treatment issues connected with mental health, child protection, and domestic violence) maintaining connections was problematic and the cause of flash points with services. Working together as a family with services was very difficult when considerable amounts of time and family resources were being spent on simply trying to see each other and keep in touch. Often services created an additional layer of complexity, causing the family further stress. Working actively beyond the household was rare. Key family members, such as fathers, fell off the radar when circumstances changed or needs changed. Services and systems fragmented families by working with individuals or exclusively with only one section. Key messages: Fragmented services divide families and can create a dance of responsibility that is demeaning for them and costly to the public purse. Services should be designed to reduce avoidable silos and aim to work with multiple needs simultaneously from a limited number of delivery points.
	‘Culture Shock: Creating a Changemaking Culture in Local Government’, Lent and Studdert (2018:24-5).	Workforce, service design, local government	Thus, ahead of further research, it is our hypothesis that the culture of local government tends towards the ‘stability and control’ half of Cameron and Quinn’s quadrant, having moved within that half to some degree away from the classic internal focus of a hierarchy culture and more towards the external focus of the market culture over the last twenty years. Yet councils have been less successful in moving towards the ‘flexibility and discretion’ half of the quadrant which would require a stronger adoption of clan and/or adhocratic features. There is, however, now a strong imperative for councils to make more concerted moves towards adopting clan and adhocracy cultures. The dominant hierarchy culture is well-suited to a stable external context, and as we have outlined in previous sections, local government is now operating in an extremely unstable and unpredictable external environment. Councils are increasingly required to carry out activity that requires flexibility and discretion for impact – the very opposite extreme from stability and control. The practices of discretion and flexibility exhibited by clan and adhocracy cultures are probably more

			important now than they have ever been given the more complex, fast-moving 'VUCA' context within which local government operates. There is a strong requirement to be more collaborative, associated with the clan quadrant. This is increasingly identified as an ideal operating principle for local government as it builds more integrated working practices with other local public services and increasingly explores new avenues of co-production with service users themselves. There is also a strong requirement to be more creative, associated with the adhocracy quadrant. The combination of resource constraints and rising demand pressures on councils, in the context of an increasingly complex and fast-moving world requires highly adaptable and responsive organisations. This means that councils increasingly need to work with ambiguity, be capable of innovating and finding creative solutions to problems – behaviours which the adhocracy culture most highly values and facilitates.
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Chapter Seven: Impacts and unfavourable outcomes in 2035

This chapter details the consequences of not getting it right!

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
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	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)	Outcomes	Capturing what difference services are making for children, young people and their families is challenging. Performance measures have historically measured timeliness or process outputs rather than to understand on an aggregated basis how well services are keeping children safe and improving their wellbeing. A current NatCen project, due for completion in Spring 2019, aims to develop a better outcomes framework of children's social care.
12	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		An increase in child criminal exploitation (CCE), such as County Lines is a rapidly emerging problem which local authorities and Police services across the UK are currently finding challenging to deal with, particularly the effective sharing of intelligence.
13	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		Child sexual exploitation and sexually harmful behaviour 113 authorities supplied data for phase 6 about how many children and young people were at risk of CSE in 2017/18. There were a total of 17,257 children equating to a rate of 18.3 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population which equates to an estimated 21,685 in England. 28 authorities reported a rate of more than 25 per 10,000 of the 0-17 population. For some local authorities the reported increase is likely to reflect improvements in record keeping and, through expansion of teams of dedicated CSE workers, the identification of previously unknown adolescents at risk.
14	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		Missing children and young people Better understanding of whether children are 'missing' or 'absent' and agreeing definitions across the Home Office, Police, DfE and local authorities has been the subject of work since 2012. This includes changes to DfE data collections, which may have caused a degradation in data quality. The National Police Chiefs Council and the College of Policing 'Authorised Professional Practice' now recommends that for children looked after all episodes whether missing or absent be treated as missing. DfE and Police guidance are therefore out of step with each other. This has created a fragmented picture with some local authorities following one set of

			guidance and some following another. This will have significantly impacted on the reported numbers of missing children and episodes reported in phase 6, see below. 108 authorities reported 39,372 children missing <i>from home</i> at any point during the year 2017/18, across 95,212 episodes, an average of 2.4 episodes per child during the year. 137 authorities reported 11,996 children who were missing <i>from care</i> at any time during the year with an average of 6 episodes per child in the year. This is an increase since phase 5. Ofsted (2018c) notes that in 2016/17: • A total of 3,230 children (6% of all fostered children) went missing from foster care placements a total of 12,210 times (an average of four missing episodes per child). This is in line with the previous year • Just under half of children who went missing from foster care did not have a return home interview • Contact (including avoiding contact with family or friends) was the reason for half of all children go missing • The majority of children (84%) were missing from care for less than one week, in line with the previous year • Children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation were far more likely to go missing than those deemed not at risk, and almost half of children and young people in foster care at risk of CSE went missing.
	Future structured interviews	focus telephone semi	Mental health, environment, prospects, insecurity In Germany they take a lot of time to think about what is required for young refugees coming from syria; what is required to get them into further education and employment for example. In the UK schools are very well managed, young people do not have the password set out in the same way in further and higher education. A lot of it is left up to the young people. You will have even larger prison populations than they currently do. You will have an even bigger disproportionate representation from BME populations, people from certain postcodes in prison. That will

			increase pressure on other services because prison is expensive and not an overly responsive solution. We will see increasing pressure on mental health services. There is not enough to go around, especially child and adolescent mental health services and prisons. Young people are trying to make sense of what they're inheriting in terms of the welfare of the planet, in terms of violence and society, in terms of the political environment we are living in. Children do become overwhelmed particularly around the financial burdens that are placed on them. There is a sense of hopelessness and despair and there will be an increase in drug dependency and use of alcohol in the population at large and people will become more isolated, rather than more connected and hopeful. And of course children can be very cruel to each other when they are struggling. What you see most nights on the tv screens is a real divergence that will take us back to the family you're born into and associated employment prospects being important. That is moving into a future which is much more defined by the position of your parents than it is about young people's own hopes, aspirations and dreams. You will see that fragmentation. Whilst we have come a long way from that, there are still parts of towns and cities and states where people feel left behind, that they have been forgotten about. By 2035 we'll have seen an extension of that. And we will start to drift back into the sort of world of previous generations but without the job opportunities. Rather than broadening children's horizons we might find those horizons being very limited with any notion of social mobility starting to be snuffed out. We would have even more disengaged children than we do at the moment. The level of disengagement within inner cities at an early stage is really quite profound and with that comes the growth of drugs, crime, knife crime and so forth. However there are others who are doing very well because their parents did very well before them and some of them managed to get through, round, over that fence and progress.
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			Because this world is one which has been formed through lack of money and political choice inevitably this is the scenario of which we would see the state retract and get much closer to that intervention at the point of harm rather than trying to prevent harm approach. By 2035 the negative impacts may not just affect children within the care system. Young people's fragility may mean that whilst they are not in the care system they are still vulnerable. That may mean not having a roof over your head, or being in insecure accommodation. If young people are finding it difficult there may not be any support network. Access to secure housing becomes hugely important. Once you've got those foundations you could take your time to get back on your feet. If you don't have that stability, it affects your mental well-being, it increases stress and may lead to exploitative situations, it may lead to criminality and poor physical health. Moving into adulthood without those foundation points means it becomes very difficult for young people.
	'A future at risk: cuts in youth services', pg.8. UNISON, 2016.	Youth services, austerity	The future It is clear that the future of youth services is bleak, unless the cuts in central government funding for councils can be arrested and reversed. The £26m of further cuts that we already know about will just be the start, and indeed several individual local authorities reported plans to cut more than £1m from 2016/17 onwards – Enfield (£1.64m), Leeds (£1.47m) and Birmingham (£1.01m), for example. Lots of local authorities are planning a review of their youth services, which as we have seen, often leads to a re-structure or outsourcing. On the prospect of a re-structure, one survey respondent predicted: "Targeted early prevention work will be swallowed up by children's social care – youth work professionals will become social work support service and lose their professional identity."

			On the possibility of their service being tendered out to the private or voluntary sectors, one respondent said: “The government appears hell bent on using voluntary agencies to deliver services. Cheaper doesn’t always mean better!” But it is clear that local authorities have resorted to both these options because the funding is simply not there any more. One respondent to our survey summed up the situation: “Staff have trained and gained qualifications over the years for a reason. It isn’t just a job that anyone can pick up. Young people are the next generation and need the correct support, advice and direction. This cannot just be delivered by anyone.” So as councils remove preventative services like youth services, all of the impacts of youth service cuts previously described will be exacerbated. In the words of one survey respondent: “I understand that the council has to save a lot of money, but getting rid of preventative and universal youth services will just create issues further down the line.”
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Chapter Eight: Economics

This chapter captures interviewees’ thoughts, along with key desk research, on the wider economic impacts which will need to be considered when in relation to the project proposition

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
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1	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		The total net planned spend in 2017/18 by local authorities on schools, education and children and young people's services was £52.13 billion and the non-education budget covering children's services and youth justice for 2017/18 was £7.61 billion
2	ACDS Factsheet, 2019 (https://twitter.com/adcs_tweets/status/1080375260577480705?s=11)	Funding, services	Between 2010 and 2016, there was a 40% funding reduction for services for children in need of help and protection. During the same time period, there was: - a 5% increase in children assessed as being in need - a 10% increase in children in care - a 29% increase in children subject to a child protection plan For every £1 spent on preventative help, £4 is spent on reactive child protection work.
3	'Children's services funding - facts and figures' - Local Government Association	Funding, services, austerity, local government, child protection	Demand has gone up... Over the past years demand for children's services has risen dramatically. The number of child protection enquiries has increased 158 per cent in 10 years - from 73,800 in 2006/07 to 198,090 in 2017/18. Over the same period, the number of children on child protection plans increased by more than 25,000. The total number of looked after children reached a new high of 75,420 in 2017/18, representing the biggest annual rise of children in care in eight years. An average of 88 children are now coming into care every day. ...and funding has been cut By 2020, local government in England will have lost 75 pence out of every £1 of the Government revenue support grant that it had to spend in 2015. Overall, councils are facing a £3.1 billion funding gap for children's services by 2025. In 2017/18, councils across England were forced to spend £816 million more on children's social care than they had budgeted for. Government funding for the Early Intervention Grant has been cut by almost £600 million since 2013. It is projected to drop by almost a £100 million more by 2020.
4	'Stepping up, Stepping Down: How families make sense of working with	Austerity, services, relationships, workforce	2. Repeated resource problems and changing workers The issues generated for families by restricted resources are discussed throughout this report, but it is worth emphasizing that families struggled to work positively with services when they were constantly being reminded in actions or words of the limits of any resources. Services were cut, reorganized, criteria changed and workers

	welfare services' (Morris et al, 2018:23)		moved. Service and personnel changes fragmented and interrupted family relationships with professionals, alongside relationships within the family. Changing workers was a particularly acute problem for families, making trust and confidence difficult to build. Staff would move at critical times for families, and the absence of careful planned handovers resulted in families mistrusting services. <i>'She came out with adoption set in her mind to do the assessment, did one visit after the baby was born and we never saw her again. She left social care, went off to do something else and so we got a new worker, but our team didn't have enough workers so they got one from another team over the other side of the city. They just saw our background, took a negative view from the start, didn't even ask us half the questions they could have''</i> The turnover of staff is symbolic of a wider malaise for families, and when a practitioner stays alongside the family for an extended period, families describe the building of a working relationship that is greatly valued, some certainty when so much else is changing within and outside the family: <i>He is just amazing. He is like... He is my paediatrician. He is supportive, he is a friend, and he goes above and beyond his job. He is just brilliant. That is all you can say about him. He is a fantastic man.</i> One family had a psychologist who stayed with them for five years and, indeed, they still feel she 'keeps them in mind' in a range of ways. The continuity was vital for a family where trauma and chaos were everyday realities.
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Chapter Nine: Child characteristics, including disability

This chapter captures interviewees' thoughts, along with key desk research, on the wider economic impacts which will need to be considered when in relation to the project proposition

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 (ADCS, 2018)		Local authorities' responsibilities for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) has changed in recent years. Since the Children & Families Act 2014, local authorities have been required to make provision to support these children and young people up to the age of 25 (previously 18). Statements of special educational needs have been replaced by Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans which cover a wider range of services than previous statements. Since the Children & Families Act 2014 was implemented, the number of children with either a statement or an Education Health and Care Plan has been increasing (33%, - 79,636 more plans in 2018 than there were in 2015). Much of the increase appears to have come from the new age eligibility criteria, and the consequent rise of the number of young people aged 20 -25 and aged 16-19 supported by an EHC plan. There have been smaller percentage increases in the number of plans in other age groups, with a notable rise in the 5-10 age group in the last year. Just under half of all children with an EHC plan or statement have a communication disorders (28.2% autistic spectrum disorder and 14.8% Speech, Language and Communications Needs). 67% of interviewees cited the impact of the SEND reforms as a significant pressure over the last two years for a number of reasons, including the growth in number of plans within a more complex system, requiring more input from education, social care and health professionals.
	Future focus semi structured telephone interviews	Mental health, autism, services	In the media people talk about the pandemic around children's mental ill-health. It is a serious problem that children and adolescents are growing up in a state of constant anxiety, growing up afraid and not having a real sense of themselves. Young people talk very compellingly about their struggles with education and their struggles with life. It might be easy to talk about crime and poverty and cycles of poverty but when there was money and through brave an innovative community programmes being delivered with people, where people are empowered there really was an end to the poverty cycles in some parts which had lasted for hundreds of years. We are now in real danger of slipping back and creating areas of alienation, unhealthy families and communities.

			Quite a lot of children with ASD (autism spectrum disorder) do experience mental health difficulties. And because we don't have quite the right mental health services it is often the case that people are hospitalized potentially for the rest of their lives and we will have got it wrong for them. The cost to the public purse is astronomical but the cost of those children and those young adults is incalculable. We know that by putting in place a package of support in the family home which might include the mental health nurse or a learning disability nurse and by having a program of positive behaviour support works well. And while there may be periods of time where hospital is required for when the family breaks down, you are avoiding young people becoming institutionalised. And because we don't have those packages in place by a large that's what's happening. There is some evidence that suggest that people who experience more severe mental health and emotional difficulties tend to have had experienced what public health would describe as protective factors, for example alcoholism in the family etc.
	‘SEND: We need to learn to synthesise information better!’ (blog by Anita Devi, 2019).	Disability, special needs, education	Four broad areas of need for children with special educational needs and disability (SEND): Communication & Interaction; Physical & Sensory; Social, emotional, mental health; Learning & Cognition. So, what next? I think national changes in assessment and curriculum do give schools more autonomy and flexibility to be inclusive. However, settings and practitioners need to give more thought to synthesising information and seeing the ‘whole’ child, as they progress into being ‘whole’ adults too. I have always encouraged settings to align their vision / mission statement to the principles of the SENDCoP (p19, Section 19 CfA). However, we now have a mandate to align these principles (which are universal and apply to all children/families) to the ‘intent’ and ‘implementation’ of any curriculum we deliver.

			The second item on my wish list: I'd like to see those who write Assessment Advices and those who use them to write EHCPs become more intentional in how they synthesise information. Demonstrating joint-up thinking in practice and provision. Considering the child, as a whole. This takes skill and I do feel more training is required in this area. Finally, I would like to see a more robust approach, at local authority level regarding how quality assurance can be brought into the system. Not as an after-thought, but as part of the process. This may involve changes in the law and extending the timeline. To conclude the SEND CoP (6.27) is clear: (underline added) <i><u>"These four broad areas give an overview of the range of needs that should be planned for. <u>The purpose of identification is to work out what action the school needs to take, not to fit a pupil into a category.</u> In practice, individual children or young people often have needs that cut across all these areas and their needs may change over time. For instance, speech, language and communication needs can also be a feature of a number of other areas of SEN, and children and young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) may have needs across all areas, including particular sensory requirements. A detailed assessment of need should ensure that the full range of an individual's needs is identified, not simply the primary need. The support provided to an individual should always be based on a full understanding of their particular strengths and needs and seek to address them all using well-evidenced interventions targeted at their areas of difficulty and where necessary specialist equipment or software."</u></i> We, therefore, have the responsibility to make this a reality.
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Chapter Ten: Political

This chapter explores various aspects of politics in the coming years, in relation to the project proposition

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	ADCS (2019), 'Building a Workforce that Works for all Children'	Workforce, austerity, funding	Future aspirations 3.1. To build a workforce that works for a country for all children, better integration at the national level is urgently required. ADCS is keen to work with the government to enable more efficient joined-up working between the many services that support children and families. This will require the government to first acknowledge that the current structure of children's services at the national level hinders effective joined-up working, but also to work towards a system of greater collaboration between the myriad government departments that hold responsibility for the various parts of the children's workforce. It is essential that the government values the whole workforce and does all it can to facilitate greater integrated working for the benefit of children. 3.2. All those who work with and support children and families hold the same ambition of providing them with the best opportunity to thrive in life and it is only through a well-resourced wider workforce that this can be achieved. A decade of austerity has forced local authorities and many other organisations to significantly reduce their offer, which may in time harm our longterm ambitions for children and families. ADCS members urge the government to provide adequate funding to reverse this trend and allow for a strong and functioning workforce to deliver a country that works for all children

2	‘Brokenshire: hundreds of thousands of families helped to change their lives for the better’. Press release from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, 19/3/2019.	Troubled Families Programme, evaluation, outcomes, services, integration, funding	A programme supporting families with complex problems has reduced the proportion of children going into care, adults claiming Jobseeker’s Allowance and juvenile convictions, Communities Secretary Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP has today (19 March 2019) confirmed. Evidence from the National Evaluation of the Troubled Families Programme shows that the scheme has improved outcomes for families and helped reform local services. Communities Secretary Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP commended the positive effect the programme is having in communities across the country by working with whole families to provide additional stability, practical support and help them overcome complicated issues including ‘worklessness’, uncontrolled debt and truancy. When compared to a similar control group, the programme of targeted intervention was found to have: - reduced the proportion of children on the programme going into care by a third - reduced the proportion of adults on the programme going to prison by a quarter and juvenile convictions by 15% - supported more people on the programme back in work with 10% fewer people claiming Jobseekers Allowance The Troubled Families Programme supports families with complex, interconnected problems such as anti-social behaviour, mental health problems or domestic violence. Rather than responding to each problem, or single family member separately, assigned Troubled Families keyworkers engage with the whole family. Through this approach they coordinate support from a range of services to identify and address family issues as early as possible rather than merely reacting to crises. Dame Louise Casey said: “Since 2012, the first and current Troubled Families Programmes have – very deliberately - shaken up the way families with complex problems are supported, ensuring they are identified earlier to get the help they need, which is completely focused on helping families live better lives.
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			Helping families to help themselves so their kids are not taken into care or family members ending up in prison and getting more people from the programme into work is testament to what frontline staff can do with the right resources and backing. This evaluation shows it was absolutely right to have invested so much in this approach since 2012.” Last month, a £9.5 million fund was also made available within the existing Troubled Families Programme, which will focus on supporting children and families vulnerable to knife crime and gang culture – with a further £300,000 available to train frontline staff on how to tackle childhood trauma. The money has gone to community-backed projects in 21 areas across England. Since the current programme began in 2015, local authorities and their partners have worked with over 400,000 eligible families. This compares with only 2,000 families who had received whole family support in England between January 2006 and March 2010. In addition to supporting families struggling with a variety of issues in their lives, the report outlines how the programme is helping develop long-term change across local services including police, schools, social care and Jobcentres. Services and professionals are now better connected and working in partnership. Rather than circling around families with multiple and separate assessments and appointments, local authorities are using the programme to work across organisational and cultural boundaries to achieve better lives for the families in need. The Secretary of State is committed to improving the programme further, including asking whether Troubled Families is the best name and whether it should be changed to better reflect its positive and supportive ethos and to deepen the engagement for the work.
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Chapter Eleven: Environmental

This chapter sets out both the potential environmental conditions in 2035 and the environmental considerations that need to be considered in the short and medium term

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 Synthesis Report (p.34), Committee on Climate Change.	Climate change, schools, impacts, heat, health	MORE ACTION NEEDED: Risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high temperatures High temperatures are associated with mortality and wellbeing impacts across all regions of the UK. The average number of hot days per year is increasing as is the chance of a severe heatwave – both are projected to rise further with climate change. At present, there are no comprehensive policies in place to adapt existing homes and other buildings to high temperatures, manage urban heat islands, nor safeguard new homes. The level of risk from overheating across the UK is unknown for hospitals, care homes, schools, prisons, and places of work. Average and extreme temperatures across the UK are expected to increase further in the coming decades. Heatwave events such as in 2003 are projected to become the norm in the UK by the 2040s. For a 2°C rise in global mean temperature, the increase in temperatures under heatwave conditions in Europe is projected to increase by between 1.4 - 7.5°C. Priorities for further action and research include: • Overheating within new and existing homes. In the absence of adaptation, annual UK heat-related mortality is projected to increase by two-thirds by the 2020s, by around 250% by the 2050s, and by more than 500% by the 2080s from a current baseline of 2,000 heat-related deaths per year. This is due to the effects of climate change and the growing, ageing population, with warmer temperatures having the larger impact (assuming a medium emissions scenario). There is evidence that people lack a basic understanding of the risks to health from indoor high temperatures, and are therefore less likely to take measures to safeguard their and their

			dependents' wellbeing. Insulating homes to improve thermal efficiency needs to be undertaken carefully to avoid increasing the risk of overheating. • The urban heat island effect. UK planning strategies do not currently make specific recommendations for reducing the heat island effect such as through planning and urban design, beyond promoting urban green space. • Overheating within public buildings. The current impacts and future risks of overheating in hospitals, care homes, schools and prisons across the UK are not known. Further research will be important to assess the level of risk in all types of building to determine the action necessary • Productivity impacts on employees. Past events suggest extreme outdoor temperatures can have significant effects on production. The 2003 European heatwave is estimated to have resulted in a reduction in manufacturing output in the UK of £400 to £500 million. More research is needed to understand the potential health impacts for outdoor as well as indoor workers.
2	UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 Synthesis Report (p.32), Committee on Climate Change.	Climate change, flooding, infrastructure	MORE ACTION NEEDED: Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure Risks from flooding and coastal change have been identified for all nations and all sectors considered in the Evidence Report. Damages from flooding and coastal change are already high, averaging an estimated £1 billion per year in the UK. A number of separate but related risks will arise due to increases in heavy rainfall, river flows, sea level rise and a corresponding increase in the height of tidal surges, and an increased rate of coastal erosion along vulnerable coastlines. Current levels of adaptation are projected to be insufficient to avoid flood and coastal erosion risks and damages increasing with further warming. With 4°C of warming and high population growth, the number of households at a significant chance of flooding is projected to increase from 860,000 today to 1.9 million by the 2050s. Additional adaptation may be able to counter the increase in flood damages anticipated with 2°C of global warming, at least in some parts of the UK, but in others increasing flood risks appear inevitable especially with 4°C or more of global warming.

			Priorities for further action and research include: • Residual risks: even with current investment plans the residual risk of flooding will remain high across the UK. Improved flood defences will not be possible or affordable in every area, and with climate change a greater disparity in risk between protected and non-protected areas may emerge. Some individual coastal communities are vulnerable to coastal erosion and sea level rise. More action is needed to support communities facing increasing risks, especially in areas where formal flood defences are unlikely and long term viability is at risk. • Urban water management: climate change is expected to lead to significant increases in heavy rainfall, with sewers in many urban areas already at or over capacity. More action is needed protect individual properties whilst also beginning to redesign urban landscapes (such as through the use of sustainable drainage approaches) to be able to cope with more intense patterns of rainfall. • People and communities: as well as residential homes and other buildings, a significant number of hospitals and other care facilities are located in exposed areas. The evidence suggests that the long-term health and wellbeing impacts of flood events are considerable and more research is needed to assess and understand how best to manage these. • Infrastructure: electricity sub-stations, road and rail networks, water treatments works, ports and airports, and fixed line and mobile communications assets, are all exposed to increasing flood risks. Further work is needed to assess and address vulnerabilities, including as a result of interdependencies between networks.⁷ This includes the risk of sewer failure and consequential flooding.

Chapter Twelve: Technology

This chapter focus on some aspects of technology in relation to Children’s Services in the coming years.

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	Staff College (2017 unpublished)		See think piece Carole did for Staff College, unpublished. Although out of date, still some relevance and challenges within and suit this purpose well. Staff College Think Piece - Digitalisation \
2	Social media, digital professionalism and CPD (Research in Practice, 2018)		
3	“What Will Schools Look Like in the Future?”. Video by Freethink (2016).	Education	Education may be much more individualised, with technology playing a foundational role - moving away from the “mass production” model of the current education system. Each child defining their own experience, as the education system adjusts to a society in which computers do much of the work that adult humans used to. Cases in the United States suggest that this kind of education can help children develop more effectively with regards to the kind of social and emotional skills which will become increasingly important in the workplaces of the future.

4	Pillars and Foundations: Next practice in children's services (Selwyn, 2016)	Online services, service design	As the physical presence of services becomes more expensive, as users increasingly expect triage and the first tier to be online, and as self-help grows in acceptance, there will be an inevitable shift to online services. This will be a first tier of new digital children's services. One of the challenges of early help service design is that it uncovers lots of unmet need – leading to more expensive overall costs in the short-term. We therefore require early help services to be an order of magnitude cheaper to meet additional demand. Online services offer that opportunity where every team has a virtual presence as the first point of engagement, information, advice, guidance, chat, peer networking, referral, skypeing, etc. We know that health is on the verge of an electronic revolution as previously expensive test equipment becomes mainstream and built into smart phones and wearable technology. It is only a matter of time before this is networked to the GP practice and integrated into online advice and support. Whilst personal health is further ahead, it gives us a clear signpost for next practice in children's services.
5	Pillars and Foundations: Next practice in children's services (Selwyn, 2016)	New technology, automation, service design	47% of jobs in the US are at risk from computerisation and it's likely that this wave of change will hit children's services, accelerated by austerity. Next practice is hinting at the following shifts: the first point of contact for services is likely to be online: We will integrate data across partners to generate a needs assessment for every family and showing who needs more help (surely one day we will solve the legal issues); Commissioning and professional decision making will be increasingly underpinned by big data, predictive modelling of need and the likely effect of interventions; Productivity will improve through automation of repeatable

			processes and professionals recording information with users (co-ownership of data) rather than returning to the office; DNA coding can already indicate which children have greater resilience to emotional neglect – so it is increasingly likely that these technologies will become affordable and useful to help tailor services to individuals (accepting the morality issues); And personal technology will enable a whole range of outcomes and service improvements such as self-diagnosis, medical monitoring, tailored interventions, assistive technologies, online education, video sessions, remote monitoring and new social interactions. The only question is how long it will take before we are able to embrace next practice to both improve outcomes and deliver up the savings?
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Chapter Thirteen: Ethics, Morals and Values

This chapter captures some of the ethical, moral and values-based tensions and competing attitudes, which must be considered when thinking about living in England in 2035 and towards Children's Services

Item	Source	Tags	Summary
1	Future structured interviews focus semi telephone	Social change, early years, criminal justice	There has to be a bit of system transformation so we need really good clinicians and a mixture of skilled clinicians who are based within children social care as we were working with social workers helping them consider children's emotional and mental well-being and intervene with children and their families for those who are care experienced. I would like to transform children's social care so that social workers actually work with families and empower them and support them because however dysfunctional a family is it's very difficult to make up for the love that those children are going to lose from their parents. If more effort could be made to support vulnerable families then that would be good. I would like to see all resources go into good quality universal early years work and hopefully the longer term outcome of that would be to reduce significantly the number of children and young people coming into the custodial system. If you look at scandinavian countries who have more developed early years systems it's interesting to see the level of training and wages we give to, for example, a nursery nurse and prison officer. It's the wrong way round.

			In Norway, prisoners have a reintegration guarantee when leaving prison. It's not anything earth-shattering but makes it absolutely clear that other services have to meet basic levels of need for people coming out of custody, and not simply from the criminal justice system. We should absolutely have a reintegration guarantee for children and young people leaving prison and for looked after children up to the age of 24. At least, there should be very specific requirements for support that should be there. For example, it is often the case that is very hard to find suitable housing for people. It is not appropriate for an 18 year old girl to be put into a hostel on release with no support and not knowing anyone. It is not appropriate in this day and age. There is a big debate around school inclusion and the degree to which we should let children who are already very harmed by the environment in which they live and learn, and we are excluding and marginalizing them further. We can often forget that relationship based practice involves working with people who are difficult as well as those who are in need.
4	'Stepping up, Stepping Down: How families make sense of working with welfare services' (Morris et al, 2018)	Workforce, ethics, communication, relationships	4. The importance of interpersonal skills and ethical behaviour For all the families it was the interpersonal skills of workers that were most valued and these were not the preserve of any one professional group. Families felt able to work productively with professionals who were courteous, respectful and empathic. Honesty from workers was vital; this encompassed honesty about concerns, possible outcomes and service limitations. Family accounts revealed multiple cold hearted encounters with professionals. Such behaviour or responses by professionals had resulted in demeaning and hurtful experiences, and these encounters often infused the families' subsequent responses to working relationships. Ironically, such professional practices built up the resistance and levels of non-cooperation in families that then informed judgements about risk and family capacity to care for their children. Competent workers were valued. Competence included the ability to engage with, and understand, the systems the family

			was enmeshed within, and to build confidence and capabilities. Key messages: Ethical and humane practice is challenging for practitioners when faced with complex and at times conflicting needs in families. Being able to reflect on practice and access good quality supervision is critical. Utilise the knowledge of families to inform professional development and to support the development of humane practice.
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6			
7			

Chapter Fourteen: Excerpt from ADCS Safeguarding Pressures Phase 6 – forecasting the future

1. What should happen next?

We asked respondents and interviewees what they think should happen next in terms of funding and the effective use of the resources that we do have. The key messages are provided below.

- Recognise and plan for future growth in population and continuing complexity of factors that bring children, young people and families into children's services
- 'Hold our nerve' on early help and a focus on prevention
- Better use of community as assets, but there is only so much you can push that way
- More resource for children's mental health. 90% of the NHS budget for mental health is spent on adults and more could be used for children to avoid mental health problems in later life
- Recognition by central government and action to address:
 - Pressures faced as a result of schools own pressures resulting in 'off rolling' and differences in relationships between maintained schools and academies
 - A sensible funding formula for children's services that recognises there will be common factors for all local authorities, but specific factors too
 - Lack of affordable housing means some local authorities cannot offer staying put or staying close opportunities to their care leavers
 - Placement costs and control of the market.
- A system wide approach to funding for children so that partners are able to undertake their roles and contribute to improving children's outcomes.

If these are not addressed, respondents were overwhelmingly clear that provision of services would be untenable and a vicious circle of increasing demand, reducing services, inadequate inspections requiring increased funding and remedial work to deal with increasing demand. Responses frequently included phrases such as "I can't see it ending well" "cliff edge" "tipping point" "the wheels fall off".

Respondents felt that we would see:

- More children living in poverty
- A reduction in early help services and cut in prevention which would create more issues for other services such as health, education, social care, and adult services
- An increase in the number of and placement costs for children looked after
- As the demand for, and cost of, statutory social work increases, more local authorities issuing Section 114 notices that they are unable to balance their budgets
- Negative Ofsted inspection judgements which require more money to get out of inadequacy
- Staff would leave the service.

2. Challenges and enablers

We have provided evidence throughout this report of the changes in prevalence of activity, characteristics and needs of children and young people and, the services designed to meet these. This shows a very busy terrain of interlocking factors, challenges and enablers which will be present in differing combinations in different places. Being able to focus on what has, or could have the biggest impact, and identifying why different authorities will face different challenges, and have different enablers, is therefore critical.

Common cost and price pressures - these are common to all local authorities and include: growth in numbers of children; new unfunded or underfunded legislative duties (for example, extension of the PA role to all care leavers up to age 25 and SEND reforms, including implementation of EHC plans and extending the scope to all those aged up to 25); and, price and wage inflation including national minimum wage, national insurance increases and the apprenticeship levy.

Common drivers of demand - these are pressures driving demand for all services to **vulnerable children** in all local authorities including statutory SEND and social care services. These impact differentially (i.e. to different degrees in different local authorities) but are apparent to some degree everywhere, and include: growth in child poverty; effects of welfare and housing reform on mobility; home to school transport including SEN transport; impact of exclusions/off-rolling on SEND reforms and high needs; growth in prevalence of certain conditions, for example, autism; prevalence of domestic violence; child sexual exploitation; missing children; gangs; unaccompanied asylum seeking children; needs of complex adolescents; growth in demand for mental health support; cuts to schools'

pastoral services; referral behaviour and the performance of partner safeguarding agencies (particularly police and health) adding to demand; and, the increased complexity of need in social care and SEND casework.

Local authority specific pressures - these pressures are present in all local authorities but to different extents and in different combinations. These pressures impact on a local authority's capacity to prevent and/ or manage demand for statutory services, and the ability to prevent unit costs rising. These include: council financial position/fragility overall; dedicated schools grant and high needs block funding including overspends; a local authority's ability to attract external funding (for example, DfE Partners in Practice or Innovation Programme grant funding); local commissioning arrangements and market capacity; impact of previous budget reductions made to preventative services for vulnerable children; service improvement driven by Ofsted performance including intervention; staff recruitment difficulties and reliance on agency social work staff; impact of child deaths, serious case reviews and practice reviews locally and nationally; relationships with partners including schools; efficacy of adult and other council services; and geographic challenges, for example, rurality and those areas with significant coastal populations.

The main challenges and enablers cited by respondents (questionnaire, interviewees and case studies) are provided below. Those in bold represent the top five.

CHALLENGES	ENABLERS
1. Common cost and price pressures for all local authorities: • Financial pressures (delivering services in the context of reduced resources) • SEND reforms and new duties such as extended care leavers to age 25 • Price and wage inflation • NI/apprentice levy • Population changes.	1. Factors common to all local authorities: • Working with Ofsted in a different relationship under ILACS framework • Focus on evidence-based programmes. 2. Common drivers of demand for services to vulnerable children:

2. Common drivers of demand for services to vulnerable children:

- **Increase in poverty, levels of vulnerability and need as a result of austerity and welfare reforms**
- The impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)
- Homelessness and impact of housing availability and cost and migration between local areas
- Contextual safeguarding: Emerging new risks to children and young people and developing staff expertise in managing these risks
- Increase in presenting complexity of need
- Growth in mental ill-health and lack of access to effective mental health services
- Pressure on schools and 'off rolling'
- Continued increase in 'trigger trio'
- Family Justice System, delays and decisions made in care proceedings
- UASC.

3. Local authority specific factors

- **Recruitment and retention - shortage of experienced social workers**
- **Local commissioning arrangements and market capacity (including foster carer recruitment, reliance on IFAs and residential provision)**
- **Maintaining early help services in the face of reducing funding. Non-statutory nature makes it most vulnerable to cuts**
- Behaviours and functioning of partner agencies (particularly police and health)
- Impact of previous cuts already made to preventative services
- Geography – challenges for rural and coastal populations
- Council financial position overall, reliance on overspends and reserves
- Impact of child deaths/SCRs/practice reviews locally and nationally.
-

- Better identification of risk (e.g. CSE, FGM, trafficking, domestic violence)
- Work at a national level to raise the profile and status of the social work profession
- Developing community assets and finding community solutions.

3. Local authority specific factors

- **Local political and organisational support: Commitment of Elected Members and Council Leaders**
- Strong and stable leadership in children's services
- Collaboration with others such as through Regional Improvement Alliances, Partners in Practice etc
- Committed workforce and building a stable workforce through programmes such as social work apprenticeships
- Different ways of working, transformation programmes – e.g. strengths- based approaches, such as restorative practice, signs of safety and motivational interviewing
- Early help and earlier targeted intervention, and interface between early help and social care.

Reported as both Challenge and Enabler:

- Change and influence of politicians (local or national) with potential to destabilise or enable.
- Working Together 2018: opportunity to review the safeguarding landscape and how agencies work together, but emphasis on agencies apart from the Social care, Police and Health are not as strong.
- Technology: Lack of shared client record management systems, or transition to new systems is costly and changes impact on staff, but access to effective IT systems is an enabler.

Figure 78: Summary of challenges and enablers

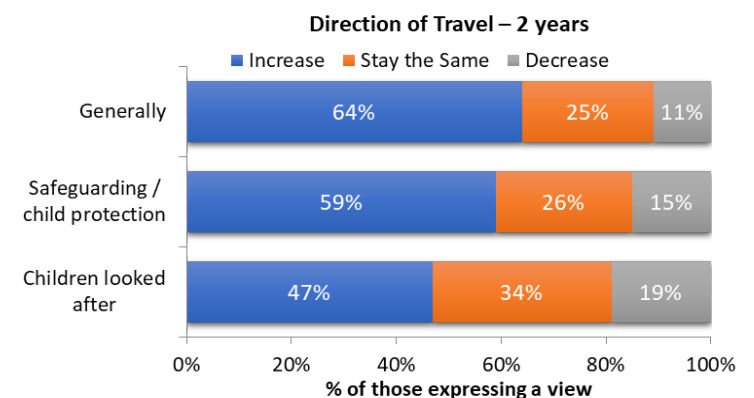
Direction of Travel

Two years ago, phase 5 concluded that *“there are myriad factors outside of the direct influence of the local authority which impact upon the provision of effective services to children and their families, but local leaders and services have managed thus far to contain some of them – a situation which may no longer be feasible”*.

79% of 70 responding authorities in October/November 2017 to the DfE Children’s Services Omnibus Wave 3 research report (DfE 2018g) were very confident in the local authorities understanding of how to improve their children’s social care services and 20% were fairly confident.

Key findings

Respondents were less optimistic about the next two years than they were two years ago in phase 5. Of the 109 respondents, 64% predicted a general continued rise, compared to 40% two years ago. This is despite some innovative and enabling approaches within local areas and regions to manage demand and at the same time improve outcomes.



Given past trends have seen an increasing trajectory of demand, we anticipate this will continue to increase given the levels of vulnerability and complexity of needs. There is no evidence to suggest that levels of need will reduce across safeguarding and looked after children's services across England. The variation between authorities based on their individual characteristics, availability of funding, and a range of other different variables in some cases specific to them, as well as different ways of working, is likely to continue.

In addition to those already mentioned within previous sections, other variables mentioned by respondents which will steer the direction of travel in the next two years but which are difficult to assess include:

- Impact of Ofsted inspections (positive or negative)
- Increasing academisation of schools, school organisation and funding
- Changes to health services
- Political changes (local and national)
- Brexit (financial and economic impact as well as workforce).

Authorities said that the direction of travel of demand would depend on the ability to stabilise early help, maintain strong leadership and system-wide approaches.

Interviewees spoke about how much has been done to alleviate pressures through better ways of working, protected and extra investment from the local authority. There is hope that the programmes and changes that local authorities are putting in place to reduce demand will be effective, but these may not fully address the increases in demand in the system and will take time to take their full effect. By which time, demand could be even higher, as we can see from the predictive modelling below.

Projections

We can predict from analysis of historical trends and population projections, new burdens and new duties that the pressure on existing services will increase at a higher rate than previously experienced. For example:

UNIVERSAL DEMAND FACTORS	
Population:	<i>IF</i> we have more children living in the local area, THEN there will be a need for more school places, other services and proportionate increase in children and families in need of help.
Poverty:	<i>IF</i> there is greater poverty, THEN there will be more children in need of help.
Housing:	<i>IF</i> the availability of affordable suitable housing does not increase THEN there are likely to be more children at risk of homelessness and in the social care system.
Health:	<i>IF</i> universal child health services are not available to promote, prevent or treat health issues, THEN there are likely to be more children and families who will develop more serious problems which will require attention from higher tier, more specialist health services and children’s social care.
Mental Health:	<i>IF</i> there is limited improvement in accessing services that prevent and treat mental ill-health for children, young people and adults, THEN there are likely to be more young people suffering acute distress, requiring access to higher cost in-patient services and there will be a greater negative impact on children’s future life chances.
RESULTING SERVICE DEMAND FACTORS	
Increased caseloads:	<i>IF</i> demand increases, with no additional funding for services or workers, <i>IF</i> difficulty recruiting & retaining workers continues, <i>IF</i> the number of workers decreases THEN it is likely that the caseloads of existing workers will increase, THEN there will be greater drift in the

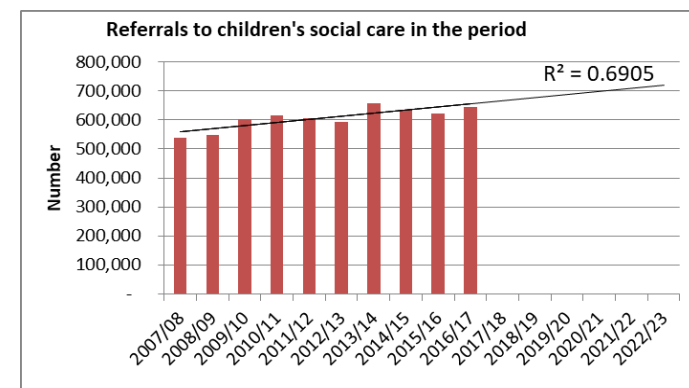
	system, THEN we have more children in the system for longer. IF demands increase and recruitment and retention of skilled social workers decline, THEN there will be an increased reliance on agency staff at a greater cost. THEN, children and young people's needs will not be met.
More costly services:	IF demand for placements for children looked after continues to increase THEN there could be less availability of the right placement at the right time at the right cost as markets are saturated unless there is future market development.
RESULTING OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES	
Escalating issues:	IF needs cannot be met in a timely way, by supporting the child and family at the earliest possible stage, THEN problems will escalate and require more costly intervention. Most importantly, the quality of children's future adulthood will be poorer.

Current and projected prevalence

Forecast calculations below are based purely on linear regression of historical data as the most basic and commonly used predictive analysis (i.e. a forecast based on trends). The R^2 value in each of the charts shows how robust this calculation is (the higher the R^2 the more statistically significant the result will be).

- An increase in referrals to children's social care**

Although numbers have fluctuated there could be 716,000 referrals by 2022/23, over 100,000 more than there were in 2007/8. However, greater changes in the number of referrals between local authorities more recently forecasts less accurate.

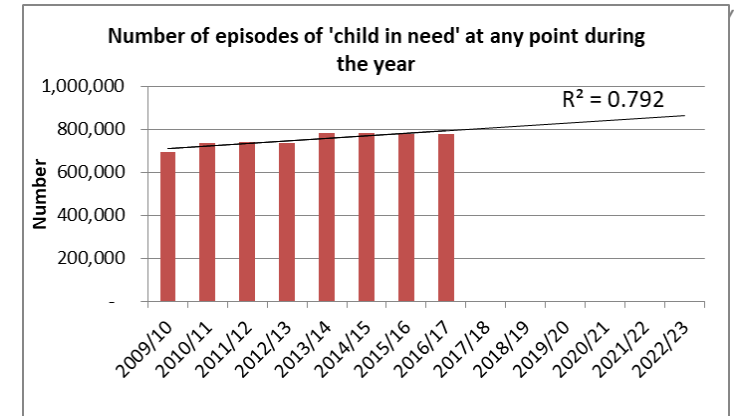


makes

- **There will be more children in need**

There could be over 750,000 children in need at any point in the year by 2022/23. Whilst there does appear to have been a stabilising of numbers of children in need over the past three years, the increase in population, diminishing ability to step down to early help because of cuts to services, and contributory factors above would appear to suggest that this 'levelling' over the past three years is unlikely to continue. Given the increase in the number of children within this CIN cohort (which includes child protection and looked after), we could assume that those children in this cohort who are receiving services under Section 17 only may reduce.

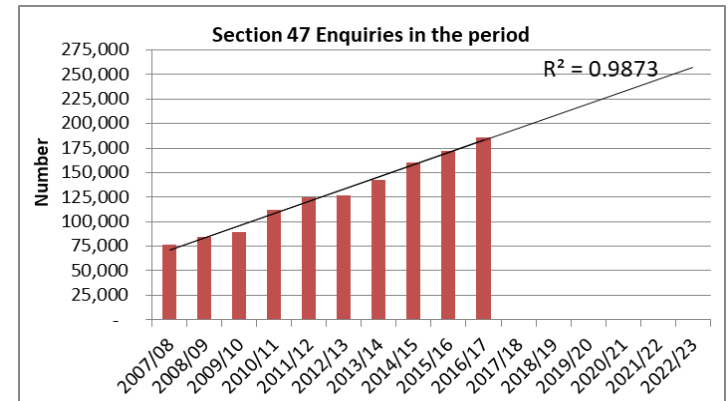
Figure 81: Forecast children in need based on trends only



- **We will have more children who are subjects of Section 47 enquiries**

The increase in the number of Section 47 enquiries is the most dramatic change in historical and projected further increase. It is also the most accurate forecast (R^2). A forecast of over 250,000 in 2022/23 – over 180,000 more Section 47s being completed based on this trajectory of consistent year-on-year increases.

Figure 82: Forecast section 47 enquiries based on trends only



- **We will have more children subject of a child protection plan**

The predicted increase in the number of children who are the subjects of a child protection plan at the 31st March each year is forecast to increase by 56% from 2008/08 levels to over 66,000 children by 31st March 2023.

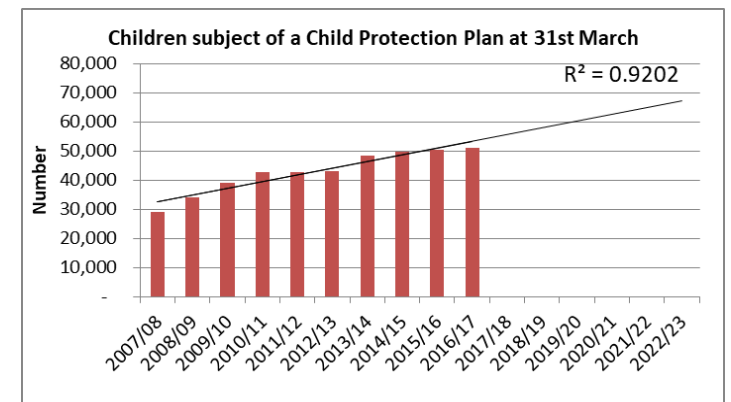


Figure 83: Forecast children subject of a child protection plan based on trends only

- **We will have more children looked after**

There could be 81,000 children looked after at 31st March 2023 –20,000 more than there were at the beginning of Safeguarding Pressures research in 2007.

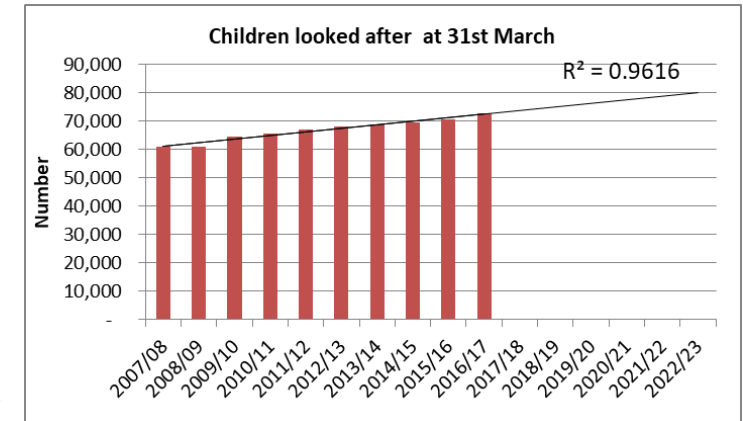


Figure 84: Forecast children subject of a child protection plan based on trends only

These basic forecasts, based purely on historical trends, confirm a national picture of more children in the system without factoring in the demand variables described above. These forecasts also assume no change (for better or for worse) in the wider societal determinants of family distress. However, the complexity and differential influence of these factors between local authorities cannot be under-estimated. For example, the Institute of Fiscal Studies (Hood and Waters, 2017) estimates that the total number of children living in poverty will increase to five million by 2020/21, but the impact will be to differing extents in different local authorities. The four quotes from respondents below highlight the variations in views from local authorities about the direction of travel.

Critical drivers of change from perspective of care experience young people in Wandsworth

- More people setting up their own business
- People will have less kids
- More self employment
- England will win the world cup
- Another riot
- 6D films in cinema
- More houses are getting raided by the homeless
- NHS riots
- Budgets of £57.90 for care leavers will be increased to £71.40
- Obesity is going to go up
- Global warming = more extreme weather
- The more rules you put in place the more people rebel
- Easier to find good families 'cause they will be robots
- Global warming leads to farmers cant grow their own crops due to extreme weather = more obesity= more illness= the hungry get wiped out!
- Electric chairs
- More people come to England
- Nike cars
- Harder GCSE's
- Stricter
- More tech, slavery, robots, hospitals
- Voting needs to change
- University wont be as popular
- Worse housing

Critical drivers of change from young people in North Yorkshire

- Voting at 16
- Increasing technology means better access to necessary things including cars, education and more accessible mental health
- More youth being engaged in politics and protesting, eg, climate change protests
- Extinction rebellion - Young people have made their mark
- Less stigma for children in care
- More training for professionals about children in care
- Mental health service could improve for young people
- More funding for looked after children
- Other mental health services other than CAMHs
- Having more access to services / important things that we need - to improve the lives of the young people
- Quality of life increased across the world with fewer LICs
- More electric cars / green spaces
- More homeless prevention services for young people
- More attention and money put towards special needs and reduced stigma
- Reduced stigma for mental health issues
- Counselling therapies available to all
- Equality of opportunity
- Reduction in child poverty
- Reduced knife crime
- CAMHS less strained
- Social class equality
- Equality within age groups
- More support for care leavers
- More people to talk
- Will there be 24 hour social work

- What will the care system look like
- More people to understand about the care system
- Non-uniform
- Equality
- Education
- Support for everyone
- Choose exams
- Votes at 16
- More young people involved in politics
- More accessible universities
- Different drug policies
- No exams (A levels, SATs, GCSEs)
- Easier access to youth services
- Equal pay
- Stop closing youth clubs
- Different classroom settings
- All, YP voices heard
- Transport is cheaper
- Online schools
- No more bullying
- More welcoming to children and people from around the world to UK
- Less tax
- No more wars and bombs
- No more poor people with health problems
- Help the other countries to be better and everyone will live a happier life
- Slow down on phone making
- Development of new social media platforms

- No uniforms
- Bigger swimming pools
- Homeless homes
- Net carbon emissions at 0 in all countries
- Change to education system to support children's talents and passions
- Finland system (less hours at school and more time learning with family)
- No mandatory tests - more emphasis on learning rather than recalling facts
- Education careers outside the norms

Negatives aspects of 2035

- Politics is only about party politics
- No people in power are for the people
- BREXIT
- Corrupt society
- Money makes the world go round
- The world is not run on empathy, it is run on the economy
- Politics is set in its ways

Key drivers

- Stricter
- Global warming - our futures! Protest!
- More hospitals
- Artificial intelligence
- Schools will be stricter
- Getting a scholarship

- More housing for young people
- Younger people getting opportunities
- SAS increased
- A job
- The NHS gets paid more
- Equality - rights, race, pay, humanity
- Easier education - help for learning difficulties
- Support for everyone - any type of support
- Good economy - more funding for change
- More communication between people using technology
- Brexit - who knows?!
- Greater improvements with politics leading to more protests
- More youth services
- Technology = too much access
- Social media - all voices are heard
- Brexit stopping students studying abroad - making it difficult

