

# **Section Seven**

## **Childcare Sufficiency Action Plan**

The below table highlights those wards where concerns remain and have emerged during 2020 and until more is known about the impact of Covid-19 pandemic, the picture will be of concern however, plans cannot be fully implemented at this stage. The monitoring of employment and economic patterns continues along with other potential risks to the market such as Ofsted inspections once they restart.

HIGH PRIORITY

MEDIUM PRIORITY

LOW PRIORITY

| Ward                                 | Concerns   | Actions  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Ward 2 Airedale & Ferry Fryston      | Low childminder numbers  | See end of Action Plan.  |
|                                      | Shortfall of 2YO EYFE places   | Expansion of Fairburn View to offer two year old provision as part of the DfE Early Years Nursery Capital Grant.   |
| Ward 6 Featherstone                  | Shortfall of 2YO EYFE places   | Identify areas within the ward that have a shortfall of places and identify ways to increase places.   |
| Ward 7 Hemsworth                     | Low childminder numbers  | See end of Action Plan   |
| Ward 9 Knottingley                   | Large shortfall of 2YO EYFE places   | Identify any areas of possible expansion within local schools. This issue identified as part of the Knottingley Master Plan.   |
|                                      | Low childminder numbers  | See end of Action Plan   |
| Ward 12 Pontefract North             | Shortfall of 2, 3 & 4YO EYFE places  | Considering both wards in Pontefract then gaps in provision in Pontefract North are covered by surplus in Pontefract South – monitor in light of housing and economic conditions.        |
|                                      | Low childminder numbers  |  |
| Ward 13 Pontefract South             | Small shortfall of 2YO EYFE places   |  |
| Ward 14 South Elmsall & South Kirkby | Large shortfall of 2YO EYFE places   |  |
|                                      | Low childminder numbers  | See end of Action Plan   |
| Ward 16 Wakefield East               | Shortfall of 2YO EYFE places   | Closure of a setting at the time of lockdown has impacted on provision in the ward however there are a surplus number of places in Wakefield City Centre which will cover any shortfall. |
| Ward 18 Wakefield Rural              | Shortfall of 2, 3 & 4YO EYFE places  | Due to the rurality of this ward it is difficult to operate sustainable childcare in all areas of the ward.  |
|                                      | Low childminder numbers  | See end of Action Plan   |
|                                      | There is no group based U5 childcare provider in this ward which limits parental choice. | Monitor parental enquiries to identify if this becomes a greater issue if child numbers increase as housing developments continue.   |
| Ward 19 Wakefield South              | Shortfall of 2, 3 & 4YO EYFE places  | Small gap in provision, there are places available in Wakefield City Centre which would support some of the gap depending on location of parents requiring provision.                    |
|                                      | Low childminder numbers  | See end of Action Plan   |

The below actions will be re-introduced once lockdown restrictions are lifted:

| Overall                                       | Action  |
|---|---|
| <p>Low / Reducing<br/>childminder numbers</p> | <p>Childminder Recruitment Campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaflets produced and issued to advertise in public buildings.</li> <li>• Posters produced.</li> <li>• Attendance at Job Centre and local events to encourage take-up.</li> </ul> <p>Childminder Training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From April 2019 a change to the training routes have been agreed to try encourage take-up of a briefing session and then a conversion to the training session.</li> <li>• Change to pricing structure to support take-up.</li> <li>• These actions have been implemented however their success needs to be assessed once sufficient numbers are recruited to the courses.</li> </ul> <p>Further Actions to be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childminder recruitment stand to be positioned in public buildings to generate interest.</li> <li>• Further leaflet/poster mail out in areas of need.</li> <li>• Radio campaign on Aspire Radio</li> </ul> |