

CHILDRENS DIRECTORATE FINANCE

Quarter 3



- The Children, Young People & Families Budget for 2023/24 is set at £50.917m. This is a decrease from 2022/23 of £0.464m.
- The Children, Young People & Families service had a budget uplift of £3.053m in 2023/24 to allow for expected cost & volume pressures within Placements, resulting from increases to National Living Wage, Cost of Living & Inflation.
- Additional budget has also been allocated due to the 2023/24 NJC Pay Award and Pension contribution.
- Additional Medium Term Financial Planning targets were also identified by the service of £4.575m, to give a net budget decrease of £0.464m

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES - Budget by Year						
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Budget	35.437	37.277	42.515	43.106	51.381	50.917
Increase/(Decrease)		1.840	5.238	0.591	8.275	(0.464)

2023/24 Budgetary Changes	£m
Additional Cost & Volume	3.053
Pay Award Adjustment	0.825
Pension Increase Adjustment	0.233
Reduce the use of residential care, increase the use of foster care and work to ensure children in care can return to their families or a connected person in their lives	(2.275)
Work with families to keep more children at home	(1.627)
Service & Budget Realignment	(0.673)
	(0.464)

- The Education, Participation and Skills Budget for 2023/24 is set at £12.576m. This is an increase from 2022/23 of £1.827m.
- Education, Participation and Skills had a budget uplift of £1.370m in 2023/24 to allow for the additional pressures within Home to School Transport and SEND Short Breaks.
- Additional budget has also been allocated due to the 2023/24 NJC Pay Award and Pension contribution.

EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION AND SKILLS - Budget by Year						
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Budget	10.106	9.658	10.546	10.462	10.749	12.576
Increase/(Decrease)		(0.449)	0.888	(0.084)	0.287	1.827

- The below table breaks down the delivery plan savings targets identified for 2023/24.

2023/24 Delivery Plans	£m
Identify more appropriate placement settings for those in high-cost packages	1.400
Reunify Looked After Children back to a family environment	0.500
Increase our In-House Fostering sufficiency	0.450
Utilising Grant Funding to maximise revenue funds available to the Authority	0.650
CYPF Management - In Year Savings through Budget Monitoring	0.225
EPS Management - In Year Savings through Budget Monitoring	0.717
	3.942

Quarter 3 Monitoring Position

- At Quarter 3, the Children, Young People and Families department are showing an adverse variance to budget of £8.929m. This is a change in Quarter of £4.244m
 - This adverse variance is primarily down to an increase in high cost Residential and Bespoke packages. Supported Living has also seen an increase in weekly placement costs.
 - The authority is currently backdating payments to our Special Guardianship carers as per a recent SGO Judicial Review (£0.618m)
 - The department have also declared non-achievable savings targets of £2.275m & £1.627m, which relate to the MTFP Additional savings targets plan involving working with families to keep more children at home and the reduction of Residential Care placements.

Budget Areas	2023/24 Approved Budget	Quarter 1 Forecast	Quarter 2 Forecast	Quarter 3 Forecast	Variance to Budget	Movement in Quarter
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
CYPF						
Services						
Placements, Packages & Delivery Plans	30.736	32.696	35.314	39.211	8.475	3.897
Permanency	4.005	4.005	4.077	4.284	0.279	0.207
Childrens Social Work	3.894	3.894	3.954	4.102	0.207	0.147
Initial Response Team	3.022	3.022	2.962	3.080	0.059	0.119
Targeted	3.265	3.265	3.193	2.962	(0.303)	(0.231)
CYPF Central Costs	1.986	1.986	1.986	1.986	0.000	0.000
QA Safeguarding and Bus Suppt	1.859	1.859	1.859	1.965	0.106	0.106
Adoption	1.162	1.162	1.268	1.267	0.106	(0.000)
CAMHS Specialist Services	0.610	0.610	0.610	0.610	0.000	(0.000)
Virtual School	0.379	0.379	0.379	0.379	0.000	0.000
Total CYPF	50.917	52.878	55.602	59.846	8.929	4.244

- At Quarter 3, the EPS department are showing an adverse variance to budget of £1.859m. This adverse variance is primarily down to SEND Transport – 2023/24 budget was right sized with £1.000m but since then new routes and new children have met the statutory threshold and are now realising a £1.859m pressure.

Budget Areas	2023/24 Approved Budget	Quarter 1 Forecast	Quarter 2 Forecast	Quarter 3 Forecast	Variance to Budget	Movement in Quarter
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
EPS						
Services						
Transport	6.001	6.853	7.454	7.860	1.859	0.406
SEND	3.679	3.640	3.679	3.679	0.000	0.000
Centrally Managed Schools Exp	1.234	1.234	1.234	1.234	0.000	0.000
Educational Psychology	0.679	0.649	0.679	0.679	0.000	0.000
On Course South West	0.494	0.498	0.494	0.494	0.000	0.000
PIAS & Parenting	0.463	0.435	0.463	0.463	0.000	0.000
School Improvement	0.371	0.366	0.371	0.371	0.000	0.000
Management	0.346	0.341	0.346	0.346	0.000	0.000
Organisation	0.330	0.311	0.330	0.330	0.000	0.000
Inclusion	0.253	0.223	0.253	0.253	0.000	0.000
Skills and Post 16	0.082	0.062	0.082	0.082	0.000	0.000
Outdoor education	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.000	0.000
Admissions	0.031	0.006	0.031	0.031	0.000	0.000
Early Years	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Services for Schools	(0.056)	(0.056)	(0.056)	(0.056)	0.000	0.000
Education Services Grant	(0.634)	(0.634)	(0.634)	(0.634)	0.000	0.000
Delivery Plans	(0.717)	(0.717)	(0.717)	(0.717)	0.000	0.000
Total EPS	12.576	13.232	14.029	14.435	1.859	0.406