Family and Childcare Trust
Creating a family friendly UK

Crewe and Nantwich

Childcare – a constituency profile

- 6,700 children aged 0-4
- 12,400 children aged 5-14
- 21 per cent of children lived in poverty in 2013 (after housing costs)

Childcare costs in Crewe and Nantwich

- Nurseries are generally 5-10 per cent cheaper than the average prices for the regional. Childminder, after-school and holiday childcare is more expensive. Shortage of provision in some areas may be driving up prices.
- North West average prices are £106.14 per week for a part-time nursery place for a child under two, childminders = £3.65 per hour, after-school clubs = £43.03 per week and a holiday club = £103.38 per week.

Gaps in provision in Crewe and Nantwich

- Local authorities are obliged to carry out an annual childcare sufficiency report that examines the supply of and demand for childcare and also provides and action plan explaining how any gaps might be filled. This report is meant to be made available to councillors and parents. Cheshire East Council has not undertaken any childcare sufficiency reviews since 2011, so it is difficult to see if previous gaps have been filled.

Free early education in Crewe and Nantwich

- 1,269 two year olds were eligible for free early education in September 2014. Take up stood at 58 per cent in November 2014, lower than the regional (64 per cent) and national averages (60 per cent).
- There is an almost universal take-up of free early education among three year olds in this local authority.

Comment

This local authority needs to ensure that gaps in childcare provision do drive up costs and prevent parents from working.

Sources: ONS Mid -year population estimates, End Child Poverty Campaign, Family and Childcare Trust costs survey dataset, Department for Education Provision for Children Under Five 2014 statistics.

Registered charity number: 1077444 Registered company number: 3753345