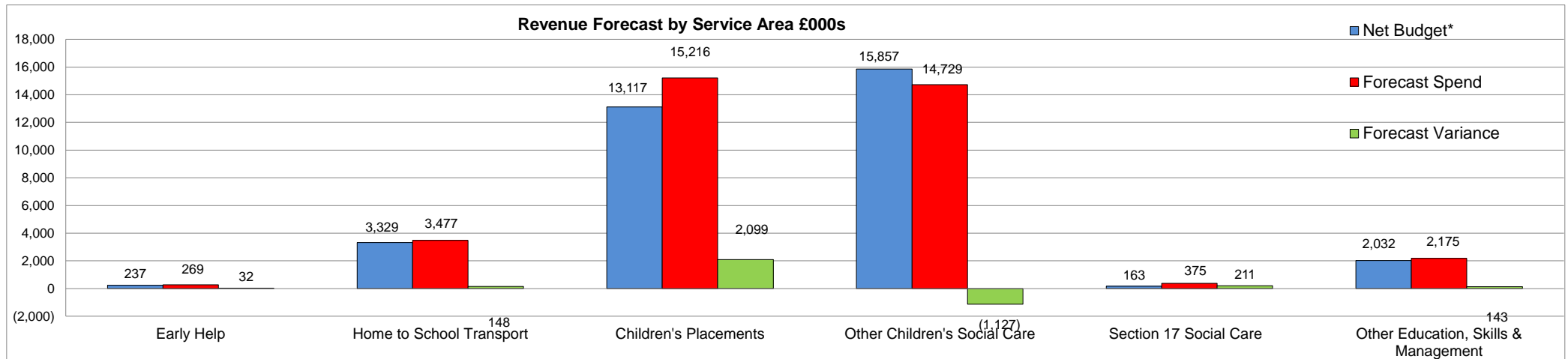


**Children, Education and Skills Portfolio 2020/21 Position**  
**Period 09 (December 2020)**

**1. Revenue Position**



**2. Explanations for Key Revenue Variances**

Service Area	Net Budget*	Forecast Spend	Forecast Variance	Commentary on material variances
	£000s	£000s	£000s	
0 - 25 SEND	2,534	2,640	106	
Section 17 CDT	493	1,192	699	Section 17 CDT remains a red risk given current demand and continues to be the subject of a focused piece of work. Provision of £450k available to offset this is held in Other Children's Social
Early Help	237	269	32	
Home to School Transport	3,329	3,477	148	Since period 6, we have had to make several service changes due to the impact of Covid. Additional funding from the DFE has been received to support this. Provision to cover the projected deficit is included in the Other Children's Social Care budget from the new Social Care Grant.
Children's Placements	13,117	15,216	2,099	Children in Care numbers continue to rise from 361 (local) in March 2020 to 464 (local) in December 2020. There are also Covid costs being incurred. An initial estimate of £325k is included so far for placements and £49k for personal allowances, but trend analysis is being used to provide further details of the financial impact. From 1st April to 31st October, only 26 local children had left care compared to an average of 64 at the same point in the previous three years; the main issue now appears to be legal capacity with a blockage on discharge of orders and we have brought in support to address this in the first quarter of 2021.
Other Children's Social Care	15,857	14,729	(1,127)	This underspend reflects MTFs and grant funding held to offset pressures elsewhere within the Portfolio.
Section 17 Social Care	163	375	211	Provision of £100k for new FSS S17 available to offset overspend pressure.
Other Education, Skills & Management	2,032	2,175	143	Staffing and other savings but offset by a net £207k from lower income in the Music Service for which a Covid bid has been made (the net position is after some £0.5m income shortfall which is being claimed through the government's Income Loss scheme which is available to all LA's).
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>37,761</b>	<b>40,072</b>	<b>2,311</b>	
Covid-19 Agreed Funding	0	(1,182)	(1,182)	Subject to final review and allocations from the Covid-19 fund.
Funding from Children's Reserve	0	(1,129)	(1,129)	Drawdown from the Children's Reserve of £2.045m.
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,761</b>	<b>37,761</b>	<b>0</b>	

### 3. Three Year Savings Targets £000s

None for Children's Services

### 4. Capital Position

Schemes	Budget	Spend to Date	Forecast Spend	Forecast Variance	Comments
	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	
Total North Solihull Primary Programme	1,557	1,560	1,628	71	Yorkswood is now complete although the final account is a matter of ongoing dispute. Awaiting a detailed report from our Building Design service. Works to Kingshurst Primary School were completed in December 2020.
Total Schools Improvement Programme	1,382	556	1,382	0	Olton is now on site while Valley and Cheswick Green have all been the subject of some delay due to the pandemic. However, activity has resumed around these projects, although the cash flow within the programme will need adjusting between years. Engagement around progressing 1 form entry expansion at Alderbrook Academy is ongoing.
Total Schools Improvement Programme - HNB	1,149	687	1,124	(25)	Project design, planning and procurement works to support the SEN schemes highlighted is continuing. Demolition works planned to facilitate vacant possession of the free school site by the dfe.
Total Schools Maintenance Programme	909	421	909	0	This sub programme continues to address our stock condition priorities. Further to approval by the Cabinet Member to the new budget arrangements on the 9 July 2020 the majority of works are in progress or complete.
Total General Programme	448	221	448	0	Ongoing schemes including ICT Refresh and DDA Compliance.
Total School Managed Programme	680	549	683	3	On-going school managed schemes.
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,125</b>	<b>3,994</b>	<b>6,174</b>	<b>49</b>	

