

Draft Action Plan

Action	Status
Audit childcare providers to gather more detailed information on out of hours availability.	This will be carried out through the annual childcare audit between January 2013 and March 2013.
Update search routes online: Allowing families to search for out of hours or flexible childcare Introduce an advanced search feature allowing families to specify required windows of time.	This initial work should be completed by the beginning of November 2012. This advanced search feature should be completed by April 2013.
A page be created on the YorOK website providing parents with advice on finding informal childcare/babysitting.	This page has been created and can be found by visiting www.yor-ok.org.uk/babysitters .
The council has recently taken back in house the work relating to the recruitment of childminders. This work will target those in key areas and highlight the need for some out of hours and flexible childcare.	The first information sessions have taken place and the programme will be fully developed over the coming months. There will be a natural lag between beginning this initiative and seeing an increase in out of hours provision. This is due to the length of time it takes to train and register childminders.
The Red Cross offer a babysitting development training programme. Offering this in York would have a cost that could be the subject of a bid to funding such as the innovation fund.	We are still awaiting cost information. In most areas where this is run it is done so by youth organisations as part of young peoples personal development. Through contacting other Family Information Services across the country we have been unable to find any other areas offering anything beyond leaflets explaining how to choose a babysitter. This is an active decision by local authorities due to; limited resources meaning a focus is required on legal duties of the council towards formal childcare for families to work or train.

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	the lack of capacity to accredit or check babysitters and the risk this would present to the council from a safeguarding perspective.
York Family Information Service would incorporate into their awareness strategy support options around out of hours childcare to: mums, dads and carers potential providers of flexible childcare	This will be added to the existing awareness strategy of the Family Information Service on an ongoing basis.