



## Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Date**        **Tuesday 4 July 2017**  
**Time**        **9.30 am**  
**Venue**       **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham**

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### Business

#### Part A

**Items during which the Press and Public are welcome to attend. Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chairman's agreement.**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2017 (Pages 3 - 8)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations
7. Care Quality Commission (CQC), Review of Health Services for Children Looked After and Safeguarding (CLAS) in County Durham - Report of North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Groups (Pages 9 - 14)
8. Supporting Care Leavers into Education, Employment and Training (Pages 15 - 20)
  - a) Report of the Corporate Director for Children & Young People's Services
  - b) Presentation by Strategic Manager Progression and Learning and Operations Manager Looked After and Permanence
9. Update on Progress of Recommendations of Self Harm by Young People Review Report - Joint Report of Corporate Director of Adults and Health Services and Director of Transformation and Partnerships (Pages 21 - 34)
10. Quarter Four 2016/17 Performance Management Report - Report of Director of Transformation and Partnerships (Pages 35 - 54)
11. Refresh of the Committee's Work Programme 2017 - 2018 - Report Director of Transformation and Partnerships (Pages 55 - 64)

12. Summary of Minutes from the Children and Families Partnership (Pages 65 - 66)
13. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

**Clare Pattinson**  
Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall  
Durham  
26 June 2017

To: **The Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillor C Potts (Chairman)  
Councillor H Smith (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors B Bainbridge, D Bell, J Blakey, P Brookes, J Charlton, J Considine, R Crute, M Davinson, S Durham, N Grayson, C Hampson, K Hopper, I Jewell, L Mavin, A Patterson, A Reed, M Simmons, A Willis and M Wilson

**Faith Communities Representatives:** Mrs C Craig and Mrs A Swift

**Parent Governor Representatives:** Mr R Patel

**Co-opted Members:** Miss K Ashcroft and Mr J Conlon

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**Contact: Jackie Graham/ Jo March      Tel: 03000 269704/ 03000 269709**

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**DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Friday 7 April 2017 at 9.30 am**

**Present:**

**Councillor C Potts (Chairman)**

**Members of the Committee:**

Councillors J Armstrong, D Bell, K Corrigan, C Hampson, J Hart, D Hicks, S Morrison, M Nicholls, L Pounder and H Smith

**Faith Community Representative:**

Mrs A Swift

**Co-opted Members:**

Mr J Conlon

**1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors O Gunn, K Hopper and P Stradling

**2 Substitute Members**

There were no substitute members.

**3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**4 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**5 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties**

There were no items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties.

**6 Progress on the Implementation of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy**

The Committee received a joint report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships and the Corporate Director of Children and Adults Services that provided an update on progress on the Implementation of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Strategic Manager for Special Educational Needs and Inclusion gave a presentation about SEND (special educational needs and/ or disabilities) that highlighted the following (for copy see file of Minutes):-

- The Vision – every opportunity for children & young people to take control and achieve their potential
- Strategy Priorities – co-production, person centred approach & outcome focussed
- Strategy
  - Participation
  - Promotion and Prevention
  - Personalisation
  - Preparing Adulthood
- County Durham Deprivation

In response to a question from Councillor Hart about funding, he was advised that £1.3m had been ringfenced for County Durham. Parent and individuals would be consulted with before any decisions were made.

Councillor Hart further asked about the performance levels and if they were realistic for SEND children and what impact this had upon mental health. The Strategic Manager explained that there were different levels of need and that the aim was for each child to achieve to their highest potential. The mental support was aligned to the strategy and would be linked up.

The Strategic Manager advised that they did work with schools and academies further to a question from Councillor Hart. The Head of Education added that one academy had opted out but was part of a trust with Sunderland, and therefore there was not a lot of contact or influence with this school.

Councillor Hart went on to ask if the demand was falling for County Durham and was advised that the service were seeing a change in need rather than seeing an increase in the demand. There was an increase in living longer and a higher level of more complex needs. The Head of Education added that there had been an increase in children with autism but that schools were very good at meeting the needs of children.

Councillor Armstrong asked how this would be rolled out to school governors and was advised that there was a SEND representative on every school governing panel and that there was a framework in place. Referring to the joint Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspection the Strategic Manager advised that they would get five days' notice but assured Members that they were prepared and ready for inspection.

The Chairman asked that should this occur the Committee should be made aware so that they could keep an oversight.

The Strategic Manager for Special Educational Needs and Inclusion gave a second presentation about the Children, Young People and Families Plan that highlighted the following (for copy see file of Minutes):-

- The Vision – ambitions for all children & young people in County Durham
- Objectives – children and young people realise and maximise their potential, make healthy choices and have the best start in life, a think family approach in embedded in our support for families
- SEND Strategy
- Governance Arrangements
- Making Changes Together - Parent Carer Forum – helping to shape provision
- eXtreme – Children and Young People Forum – helping to shape provision
- SEN population – Education Health Care Plans, EHC Plan Process, Early Years, KS2 & KS4, further education, employment and training
- What you will find through each key age phase and transition

Councillor Nicholls asked what percentage of parents were involved and was advised that every parent was involved in the process. The Strategic Manager added that the membership of the Parent Forum was 100+ and the steering group ran events with approximately 300 parents in attendance. He said that it was a very engaging process with parents having access to twitter, facebook and the local offer.

Councillor Smith suggested that on the last slide it should read 'to achieve their aspirations' as it would read better. The Strategic Manager thanked Councillor Smith for her comment and this would be changed. The Head of Education added that this was the first draft that was being shared with Scrutiny and that it was helpful to receive feedback.

The Chairman thanked the Strategic Manager for his presentations.

**Resolved:**

That the report and presentations be received and noted.

**7 Education Attainment and Standards 2016 - Education Service Update**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services that provided a full summary of educational outcomes in County Durham, and related updates on the focus and provision of education services (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Head of Education gave a detailed presentation that highlighted the following (for copy see file of Minutes):-

- Overarching message from the report – children and young people in County Durham continue to perform very well
- Early years
  - % good level of development – significant areas of deprivation whereby some children were not ready for school i.e. still in nappies and unable to hold a knife & fork. Level with national average.
  - Free early education places in line with national targets – challenge to persuade some families to take up places and a challenge in finding enough places.
- Key Stage 1 – doing well against national measures reflecting well in the schools leadership and governing bodies

- Key Stage 2 – surpassing national averages and for those most vulnerable children support through free school meals
- Key Stage 4 – performing around the national average.
- Key Stage 5 – no national indicators

Councillor Hart asked if the target for year 2 phonics was possible to reach as involved a small number of children with SEND. The Head of Education said that schools were working hard to deliver training and to share good practice. The whole cohort did include SEND children and she acknowledged that some children did not have any communication skills and therefore, some children would not reach the target. Councillor Hart further asked if the data was meaningful to collect and was advised that it was mandatory to collect the data. She added that realistically some children were very able but would not reach the phonics test target but they would keep a focus on it.

Referring to the move to teacher assessments the Head of Education stated that the local authority carried out a sample basis throughout the County, further to a point raised by Councillor Hart. The Head of Education further explained that each school carry out school assessments every year and was part of the teachers performance management. Mrs Swift added that a lot of time was taken up by moderating other schools, and that assessment was the best way as the teachers knew the children very well.

Councillors Nicholls was pleased to see targets being reached by people pulling together and working together.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Education for a very encouraging and positive report.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

The Head of Education played a DVD from the pupils of the Woodlands, the former Pupil Referral Unit, that showcased the positive work going on at the school, how pupils view learning and their education, and the fact that they should be given a second chance.

She informed the Committee that the children had chosen the new name for the school and the uniform. She advised that the two primary schools in the County were the Willows and the Beeches.

Councillor Armstrong commented that the Willows was a fabulous school that had excellent partnership working.

Councillor Hicks said that it was a brilliant idea to change the name as would help get rid of the stigma attached to it.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Education for sharing the DVD as it showed a very positive step forward and that choosing the name of the school would help give the children a sense of ownership.

## **8 Quarter 3 Performance Management 2016/17**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Management Team which presented progress against the council's corporate performance framework for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People priority theme for the second quarter of the 2016/17 financial year, covering the period October to December 2016 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager, Performance and Information Management reported that the recent recruitment of social workers had been successful and that the oversight of the Corporate Parenting Panel would be strengthened with the inclusion of Scrutiny and Cabinet Members.

With reference to looked after children the Committee were informed that there had been an increase from 661 cases last year to 785 this year. This area would be closely monitored as could have some budget implications moving forward.

A more positive message was reported for children in care with the number of referrals dropping to 3723 from 4616, with the re-referral rate dropping by 20%.

There had been improvements in the latest figures for child protection reviews, up to 94% at the end of the year, and the under 18 conception rate continued to reduce. However, childhood obesity continued to see an increase. Four local authorities would take part in a pilot programme for Public Health England with a focus on early years and the ante-natal unit.

The Chairman expressed concerns at the childhood obesity figures rising, despite the Committee's best efforts to raise awareness and put measures in place.

Councillor Nicholls said that to give children the best start in life it was important for schools to teach PE, and encouraged that this came back on board.

The Strategic Manager, Performance and Information Management said that a survey had been conducted with all primary and secondary schools with one of the questions asking how children see PE in school. The feedback from this may help understand how children take part in physical activity in and out of school. He would feed this back to members.

Councillor Hart commented that some schools have individual programmes to support PE and best practice should be shared.

Mrs Swift said that it was a challenge for schools and that most schools would make PE a priority if they had time however, Maths and English were priority subjects. She suggested that lifestyle challenges such as children using iPads, being taken everywhere in cars instead of walking and the diet were part of the problem. She said that head teachers like herself had asked what could they stop doing in order to fit in more PE.

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **9 Quarter 3 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2016/17**

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Financial & HR Services which provided the Committee with details of the forecast outturn budget position for the CAS service grouping, highlighting major variances in comparison with the budget for the year, based on the position to the end of September 2016 as reported to Cabinet in November (for copy see file of minutes).

Mrs Swift referred to paragraph 14 of the report in relation to the schools reserves budget that had reduced to £13.7 million and asked if there were concerns going forward for the 2018/19 budget.

The Finance Manager explained that the figure of £9.8 million would be used as a one off by schools to support the base budget. He further explained that this would be looked at on a school by school basis and work would be ongoing with schools to assess their budgets. Any problems would be raised with the school and the Corporate Director of Resources.

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **10 Refresh of the Work Programme for the Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships, which provided Members with information contained within the Council Plan 2016-2019, relevant to Children and Young People's Services. This would allow members to refresh the Committee Work Programme to reflect the 3 objectives and subsequent outcomes identified within the Council Plan or Altogether Better for Children and Young People (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer advised that this was the last opportunity for members to consider the work programme and welcomed any comments. She reported that last year had been very productive and a very busy year for the Committee.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) That the report be noted
- (ii) That a further report be brought to Committee on 4 July 2017.

The Chairman placed on record her thanks to all Members for their valuable contribution over the last year.

**Children and Young People's  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**



**4 July 2017**

**Care Quality Commission (CQC), review  
of health services for children looked  
after and safeguarding (CLAS) in County  
Durham**

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**Report of Gill Findley Director of Nursing Durham Dales, Easington  
and Sedgefield CCG and North Durham CCG**

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**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide an overview of recommendations from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) review of health services for children and looked after and safeguarding in County Durham.

**Background**

- 2 The inspection was conducted under Section 48 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008. There are no specific judgements on performance within the methodology, however the report provides a narrative account of the quality of health services for looked after children and the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements within health for all children.
- 3 The inspection also checked whether healthcare organisations were working in accordance with their responsibilities under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004. This includes the statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.
- 4 The inspection included services commissioned by Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG (DDES CCG), North Durham CCG (NDCCG) and Durham County Council (DCC).
- 5 Provider services reviewed were:
  - a. County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT)
  - b. Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV)
  - c. Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT).
  - d. Lifeline provider for adult and child substance misuse.
  - e. Full Circle service providing therapeutic input in respect of emotional support and attachment issues.
  - f. Contraception and sexual health services
  - g. GP Practices

- 6 The inspection explored the effectiveness of health services for looked after children and the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements within those services. Looking at the role of healthcare organisations in understanding risk factors, identifying needs, communicating effectively with children and families, liaising with other agencies, assessing needs and responding to those needs and contributing to multi-agency assessments and reviews.
- 7 Review methodology: the CQC gathered information both during and before the visit including document reviews, interviews, focus groups and visits. Where possible CQC also met and spoke with children and young people. Tracking and sampling of cases followed the experiences of children to explore the effectiveness of health services in promoting their well-being. In total, CQC took into account the experiences of 121 children, young people and care leavers and foster carers.
- 8 The report is available on the CQC website here [Link](#)
- 9 **A summary of key recommendations are outlined below:**

#### **County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust Emergency Departments/Urgent Care**

- **Recommendation 1.1:** Put in place facilities and arrangements at the emergency department to ensure effective observation of children waiting for treatment and the prompt identification of the deteriorating child.
- **Recommendation 1.4:** Ensure that risk assessment documentation in use in the urgent care centres and emergency department promotes the consideration of risks to children as a result of hidden harm.

#### **Safeguarding**

- **Recommendation 1.12:** Put effective operational governance arrangements in place to ensure that practitioners are systematic in their assessments, recordings, articulation of risks and in stating expected outcomes when making referrals into children's social care.
- **Recommendation 1.16:** Ensure robust frontline safeguarding governance arrangements are in place in services providing emergency treatment in order that safeguarding concerns are appropriately identified and acted upon.

#### **Paediatrics**

- **Recommendation 1.11 & 2.2\*:** Ensure that where children and young people have been admitted to the paediatric ward through serious self-harm, individual risk assessment and risk management plans are put in place in order that environmental and personal safety/peer safety risks are fully considered and addressed.

- **Recommendation 1.2:** Ensure the provision of at least one paediatric trained nurse on duty at all times in the emergency department in line with RCPCH and CQC requirements

\* This recommendation also applies to DDES CCG, ND CCG and TEWVFT.

### **Tees Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust**

- **Recommendation 2.5:** Put effective operational governance arrangements in place to ensure that practitioners are systematic in their assessments, recordings, articulation of risks and in stating expected outcomes when making referrals into children's social care.
- **Recommendation 2.7:** Ensure that copies of all key safeguarding documentation, including referrals to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH), Child in Need (CIN) and child protection minutes and plans, are promptly and properly secured as part of the individual client record to enable practitioners to access the complete record when working with their client.

### **Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust**

- **Recommendation 3.1:** Include an overall risk evaluation of information gathered on the home environment assessment with guidance to practitioners on the appropriate next steps resulting from the analysis.
- **Recommendation 3.3:** Ensure that quality assurance for health assessments and the resultant health plans for looked-after children is undertaken in the relevant frontline services and that arrangements are effective in driving up quality and consistency.
- **Recommendation 3.4:** Work with MASH partners to ensure there is sufficient health professional capacity in the MASH and that the role is utilised to best effect within the arrangements

### **County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust**

- **Recommendation 4.1:** Include consideration of the young people's presentation and demeanour as part of the standard assessment in the sexual health service.
- **Recommendation 4.2:** Ensure that practitioners hear and record the Voice of The Child when undertaking initial and review health assessments, quoting the child whenever possible in order that the child's voice fully informs the assessment and health plan.
- **Recommendation 4.6:** Ensure that young people who are looked after are engaged in co-producing the provision of health passports for care leavers; that the final health reviews of care leavers are comprehensive,

aligned with the statutory review and subject to effective quality assurance

### **General Practice**

- **Recommendation 5.1:** Work with GPs across County Durham to improve the quality and comprehensiveness of referrals to First Contact and MASH.
- **Recommendation 5.3:** Work with GPs across County Durham to make effective use of child sexual exploitation risk assessment tools to identify children and young people who may be at risk of exploitation.

### **Lifeline**

- **Recommendation 6.1:** Ensure that practitioners' reports to child protection case conferences are subject to appropriate operational management oversight and quality assurance.
- **Recommendation 6.3:** Ensure that practitioners undertake child safeguarding training at a level commensurate with their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children from hidden harm.
- **Recommendation 6.4:** Ensure that a note is made on case records of discussions of the case in supervision and any resultant decisions or actions.

### **Clinical Commissioning Groups**

- **Recommendation 7.1:** Ensure there is sufficient capacity in the designated roles for safeguarding and looked-after children to meet national and local priorities for strategic development and effective governance
- **Recommendation 7.2:** Work with MASH partners to ensure there is sufficient health professional capacity in the MASH and that the role is utilised to best effect within the arrangements

### **Action Planning and Monitoring**

- 10 Following receipt of the final report single agency action plans were developed by Durham Dales Easington and Sedgefield CCG, North Durham CCG, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, Tees Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust, Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust and Durham County Council Public Health and were submitted to the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding and Looked After Children who compiled an overarching action plan in response to all inspection recommendations.

- 11 Some actions were identified for more than one agency these were considered by providers and commissioners to ensure a co-ordinated multi-agency action:
- a. quality of looked after health assessments,
  - b. updating of home environment checklist
  - c. Individual risk assessment/management plans for serious self-harm.
- 12 The final action plan was approved by the Director of Nursing and was submitted to CQC on 2 May 2017. The CQC have responded advising some areas require strengthening for the action plan to be an effective tool to help drive improvement. County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust and Tees Esk Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust have been requested to provide tangible examples of impact and evidence of improved outcomes in relation to the final 'Evidence' column within the action plan.
- 13 Monitoring of action plan progress will be led by the Designated Nurse for Safeguarding and Looked After Children in North Durham CCG and undertaken on a bi-monthly basis. Providers will also provide assurance through reporting progress to commissioners within their respective Quality Review meetings.

### **Recommendations**

- 14 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
- Receive this report for information

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**Contact: Gill Findley Director of Nursing Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG and North Durham CCG**  
**Tel: 0191 3713222**

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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**Finance** – There are financial implications within this inspection report around increasing the capacity within the MASH and the capacity of the Designated Nurse Safeguarding and Looked After Children. There may also be financial implications around the development of a perinatal mental health pathway in compliance with NICE Guidance and ensuring the provision of at least one paediatric trained nurse on duty at all times in the emergency department in line with RCPCH and CQC requirements

**Staffing** – Capacity within teams to manage workloads on current staffing.

**Risk** – Areas of improvements identified by the report requirement of ongoing monitoring to ensuring delivery of action plans.

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty** – none identified

**Accommodation** – No direct implications.

**Crime and Disorder** – No direct implications.

**Human Rights** – No direct implications.

**Consultation** – Public document

**Procurement** - No direct implications.

**Disability Issues** - For all children and young people the expectation is that help, care and protection are sensitive and responsive to age, disability, ethnicity, faith or belief, gender, gender identity, language, race and sexual orientation.

**Legal Implications** - No direct implications.

## Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee



4 July 2017

### Supporting Care Leavers into Education, Employment and Training

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#### Report of Margaret Whellans, Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services

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#### Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an introduction to a presentation on the progress being made to support Care Leavers to participate in Education, Employment and Training.

#### Background

- 2 Care Leavers are young people who have been in the care of the Local Authority for 13 weeks or more at any time. The Local Authority is responsible for Care Leavers as their Corporate Parent, recognising that they are a particularly vulnerable cohort of young people.
- 3 A significant amount of activity is being undertaken to support Care Leavers into Education, Employment and Training. This includes the implementation of a Participation Plan; the deployment of additional resources provided through the DurhamWorks Programme – Youth Employment Initiative; as well as the identification of more Apprenticeship and Traineeship opportunities within the Local Authority through its 'An Opportunity for Every Care Leaver' initiative.
- 4 This activity is contributing towards an increase in the proportion of Care Leavers participating in Education, Employment and Training and a reduction in the proportion who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training).
- 5 Other actions to support Care Leavers include extending access to Personal Advisers to the age of 25, as well as implementation of 'Staying Close' and 'Staying Put' requirements.

#### Participation Plan

- 6 The Local Authority has a Participation Plan in place – 'Believe, Achieve and Succeed: Increasing the Participation of Young People in Learning 2015-2018' which co-ordinates a range of activities to increase the participation of young people in Education, Employment and Training, whilst at the same time reducing the number of young people who are NEET.

- 7 One of the Participation Plan's strategic objectives is to target support to young people in vulnerable groups, who have a greater risk of being in the NEET cohort. In support of this objective, there are a number of actions directly related to Care Leavers.
- 8 The implementation of the Participation Plan, including progress against targets, is rigorously monitored through appropriate operational and strategic groups.

### **DurhamWorks Programme – Youth Employment Initiative**

- 9 DurhamWorks is a European funded, Local Authority led partnership programme that supports young people aged 16-24 who are NEET / unemployed and resident in County Durham. Funding for the programme has enabled increased resources to support Care Leavers, including sustained wrap-a-round support through three specialist DurhamWorks Transition Advisors. There are also bespoke activities to motivate and prepare young people for participation in learning, as well as a 'Learning, Working and Earning' Grant to the value of £5,000 for employers to support the employment of young people, including young people who are Care Leavers.
- 10 The specialist DurhamWorks Transition Advisors are working very closely with a broad range of partners to support Care Leavers. This is resulting in a greater understanding of the barriers that prevents some of them from progressing into sustained Education, Employment and Training. These barriers include accommodation, finance, childcare, low confidence and self-esteem, previous negative experiences of learning, mental health, youth offending, and transport.
- 11 As a result of DurhamWorks, there have been a number of positive progressions for Care Leavers into opportunities, including Apprenticeships, Traineeships, Study Programmes and employment.

### **An Opportunity for Every Care Leaver**

- 12 'An Opportunity for Every Care Leaver' is a Local Authority initiative to identify and promote opportunities for Care Leavers, to support its responsibilities as Corporate Parent. Key developments include:
  - The creation of Service Group Champions to promote the benefits of providing opportunities to young people who are Care Leavers.
  - The identification of opportunities within Service Group areas, including Apprenticeships and Traineeships.
  - The development of a central brokerage function to match young people who are Care Leavers with identified opportunities.
  - The adoption of rigorous targets to increase the number of Apprenticeships and Traineeships provided to young people who are Care Leavers by 2020.

- 13 A significant barrier preventing some Care Leavers from progressing into an Apprenticeship or employment opportunity is the significant financial disadvantage that ensues once they cease to be eligible for certain Government benefits. Therefore, a priority is to utilise funding identified by the Local Authority in May 2017 to provide financial support to Care Leavers to ensure they are not at a financial disadvantage.

### **Other Actions**

- 14 The Children and Social Work Act 2017 requires the Local Authority to extend support to Care Leavers to the age of 25, including provision of Personal Advisers. In preparation, the Local Authority has reviewed the Personal Adviser role and additional workforce development has been put in place.
- 15 As a result of the Children and Families Act 2014, young people in foster care in England have the right to stay with their foster families until they reach the age of 21, if both parties agree. The Local Authority has recently implemented a new process whereby 'Staying Put' is introduced into care planning when the young person reaches 15.5 years of age or sooner.
- 16 Following Sir Martin Narey's review of children's residential care in 2016<sup>1</sup>, the Government has committed to implementing several of his recommendations, including introducing 'Staying Close' whereby young people leaving residential care will receive a guarantee of support for three years up to the age of 21. The Local authority has incorporated this measure into its Care Leaver Accommodation and Support Protocol.

### **Participation in Education, Employment and Training – Performance Data**

- 17 The Local Authority collects performance data in relation to the participation of young people who are Care Leavers in Education, Employment and Training, as required by the Government.
- 18 The Progression and Learning Service (part of Durham County Council's Children and Young People's Services) supports the delivery of a number of statutory responsibilities on behalf of the Local Authority to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate in Education, Employment and Training. In order to meet these responsibilities, the Local Authority is required to track and report the destinations of young people to the Department of Education on a monthly basis.
- 19 The following table shows the latest performance data for 16-18 year olds who are resident in County Durham, including the proportion of young people participating in RPA (Raising of the Participation Age) compliant Learning; the proportion of young people who are NEET; and the proportion of young people whose destination is Not Known to the Local Authority.

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<sup>1</sup> Department for Education (2016) 'Residential Care in England – report of Sir Martin Narey's independent review of children's residential care.'

	April 2017			April 2016		
	All 16-18	Looked After	Care Leavers	All 16-18	Looked After	Care Leavers
Total Cohort <sup>1</sup>	16,595	91	151	16,957	89	114
Participating in Learning <sup>1</sup>	84.2%	79.1%	56.0%	85.1%	74.2%	52.6%
NEET <sup>1</sup>	6.2%	11.0%	30.7%	6.2%	18.5%	33.9%
Not Known <sup>1</sup>	2.6%	3.3%	6.0%	2.7%	3.4%	7.9%

<sup>1</sup>Local Authority CCIS, Department for Education.

20 Compared to the same period last year, the proportion of Looked After young people and Care Leavers aged 16-18 participating in Learning has increased, and the proportion who are NEET or Not Known has decreased.

21 To be identified as participating in RPA compliant Learning, a young person must be engaged on one of the following routes:

- Full-time study in a School, College or with a Training Provider (minimum 540 directed learning hours);
- Full-time work or volunteering (20 hours or more) combined with part-time education or training leading to relevant regulated qualifications;
- An Apprenticeship, Traineeship or Supported Internship.

22 The Looked After and Permanence Service (part of Durham County Council's Children and Young People's Services) tracks and reports on the destinations of Care Leavers aged 17-21 to the Department of Education on a quarterly basis. This captures the destination of Care Leavers at the time of their birthdays. The definition used by the Looked After and Permanence Service to identify a Care Leaver aged 17-21 as participating in Education, Employment or Training is more flexible than that used by the Progression and Learning Service to identify a young person aged 16-18 as participating in RPA compliant Learning.

23 The following table shows the latest performance data for 17-21 year old Care Leavers compared with the same period in 2015/2016:

	2016/2017	2015/2016	North East	England
Total Cohort	239	232	NA	NA
Participating in Education, Employment or Training	69.5%	57.3%	50.0%	52.0%
NEET	25.1%	40.1%	40.0%	38.0%

17-21 year old Care Leavers – County Durham 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 Quarter 4; North East and England 2015/2016.

- 24 Compared to the same period last year, the proportion of Care Leavers aged 17-21 participating in education, employment or training has increased and the proportion who are NEET has decreased.

### **Conclusion**

- 25 This report has outlined the actions being taken to increase the participation of young people who are Looked After or Care Leavers into Education, Employment and Training. The impact of these measures is evident in improved participation performance data for both 16-18 year old and 17-21 year old cohorts.

### **Recommendations**

- 26 It is recommended that members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
- (a) Note the information contained within this report.
  - (b) Continue to monitor performance in relation to the participation of young people who are Looked After or Care Leavers in Education, Employment and Training.

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**Contact: Linda Bailey, Strategic Lead: Progression and Learning, Children & Young People's Services Tel: 01325 375 940.**

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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**Finance** – None.

**Staffing** – None.

**Risk** – None

**Equality and Diversity** – None

**Accommodation** - None

**Crime and Disorder** – None

**Human Rights** – None

**Consultation** – None

**Procurement** – None

**Disability Discrimination Act** –None

**Legal Implications** – None

**Children & Young People's  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**



**4 July 2017**

**Update on Progress of  
Recommendations of Self Harm  
by Young People Review Report**

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**Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation  
and Partnerships, and Jane Robinson, Corporate Director of  
Adult and Health Services**

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**Purpose**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to update members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the progress made against the recommendations from the review of Self Harm by Young People.

**Background**

- 2 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee added Self-harm by Young People to its work programme following its refresh at their meeting in June 2014. This was because the committee were concerned about the number of young people in County Durham who self-harm, especially those who do not come into contact with any support services. The committee wanted to raise awareness and understanding of self-harm among young people and adults.
- 3 The terms of reference for the review were agreed by the Committee at its meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014. The objective of the review is to raise awareness of self-harm by young people to young people and adults involved in their lives and to investigate how early intervention and support can be increased following five key lines of inquiry.
  - What policies and practices Durham County Council have in place to help, support, prevent and intervene early where looked after children and young people self-harm?
  - How reliable/accurate is performance data and what does it tell us about self-harm in this area compared to regional and national data.
  - What services are available in the community for young people with anxieties or mental health problems to talk to people and how accessible are these services?
  - How are schools addressing students' issues that may lead them to self-harm? What prevention and early intervention methods do they use?

- How can awareness of self-harm be increased among young people, parents and carers and what are the signs to look out for?
- 4 The review found that self-harm was hidden and usually a symptom of an underlying emotional problem that young people found difficult to cope with and that young people go to great lengths to hide.
  - 5 During the course of the review the group met with several groups of young people many of whom had self-harmed. They advised the group that for them self-harm was a coping mechanism to help them deal with the issues in their lives. The group was advised that young people feel that adults do not listen and trivialise their problems.
  - 6 The review group's report on Self Harm was presented to Cabinet at their meeting on 15 April 2015. On 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee received an initial update on the progress made on the recommendations.
  - 7 The action plan attached at appendix two provides a further detailed response to each of the committee's recommendations with a timescale as to when the tasks will be complete.

### **Recommendation**

- 8 Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to note the progress update on the recommendations from Self-harm by Young People review report and comment accordingly.

### **Background Papers**

- Cabinet Report: Self-harm by young people Scrutiny Review report – 15 April 2015
- Progress Update on Recommendations of Self Harm Review Report – November 2015

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**Contact: Keith Allan**  
Ann Whitton

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Tel: 03000 268143

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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**Finance - None**

**Staffing – None**

**Risk - None**

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty –** The review report takes into consideration Equality and Diversity; an Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out.

**Accommodation - None**

**Crime and Disorder - None**

**Human Rights - None**

**Consultation – None**

**Procurement - None**

**Disability Issues – None**

**Legal Implications – None**



				link in with national campaigns, working closely with Youngminds, Time to Change and other national programmes as well as promoting the use of MindEd resources for parents
<b>Review Recommendation</b>	<b>Progress report of action taken to implement recommendation</b>	<b>Resib'ty</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	
2) That the Cabinet give consideration to developing specific pages for parents/carers giving information on preventing self-harm and how to support their children. Also that the pages are designed by or with direct involvement of young people who have knowledge of self-harm and emotional health and wellbeing such as help4teens.co.uk.	Promotion of MindEd resources <a href="http://www.minded.org.uk">www.minded.org.uk</a>	Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Implementation Group	March 2015	The use of MindEd resources will be promoted through the Parent Support Network
	Launch of <a href="http://www.suicidesaferdurham.uk">www.suicidesaferdurham.uk</a> .	Public Mental Health Strategy Group	Launch September 2015 Promotion ongoing	Website launched and actively managed. The website includes helplines.
	Papyrus HopeLine have extended hours of operation during the weekend Mon-Fri: 10am-10pm, weekends: 2pm-10pm Support through email and text is also available <a href="http://www.papyrus-uk.org">www.papyrus-uk.org</a>	Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience	Complete July 2015	N/A
			Ongoing	Ongoing, in development.

	Working towards page on DCC website for Children and Young People mental health and wellbeing which will also support parents who have knowledge and experience of managing self-harm.	Implementation Group		
<b>Review Recommendation</b>	<b>Progress report of action taken to implement recommendation</b>	<b>Resib'ty</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	
<p><b>3)</b> That the Cabinet highlight to school governing bodies:</p> <p>i. The necessity to refresh and update all emotional health and wellbeing policies on a regular basis specifically those that relate to self-harm.</p> <p>ii. The range of emotional health and wellbeing services that can be bought</p>	<p>Completed Guidance on Managing Self-Harm for Schools. This is now available to all schools through DLG.</p> <p>Further work to promote whole school approach to improve mental health and wellbeing to be taken forward through Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Plan.</p>	<p>Public Mental Health Strategy Group</p> <p>Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Implementation Group</p>	<p>Complete June 2015</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>The local implementation of Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) will be rolled out in pilot schools from January 2017. Fifteen individuals will be trained in early November in order to become YAM instructors within 5 County Durham schools as part of the initial pilot. It will be evaluated through an innovative co-production collaboration between Teesside University and Durham County Council. The programme is being implemented in County Durham drawing on evidence from the results of a large scale multi-site trial, which demonstrated that the programme shows a</p>

<p>in to support children and young people especially those provided for free by Public Health.</p>	<p>School governors through governor's assembly received offer of emotional health and wellbeing services and training.</p> <p>Governing body training programme 16/17 to offer training on mental health and emotional well-being sessions. Possible offer available 15/16.</p>	<p>Public Mental Health Strategy Group</p> <p>Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Implementation Group</p>	<p>Complete 2015</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>clear association with reduced levels of suicide attempts and severe suicidal ideation among young people.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>This will be delivered through the YAM project. Furthermore the Managing Self Harm Task and Finish Group have agreed universal and targeted education packages regarding self-harm and suicide prevention to be used to ensure that schools and colleges receive training for all staff and for their designated leads, to aid recognition and response to signs of self-harm and suicide risk (to be launched in December 2016). Similarly education packages have been agreed for use with Primary Care GPs.</p>
<p><b>Review Recommendation</b></p>	<p><b>Progress report of action taken to implement recommendation</b></p>	<p><b>Resib'ty</b></p>	<p><b>Timescale</b></p>	
<p>4) That Cabinet request the Corporate Director of Children and Adult Services, the Director of Public Health, the Local Safeguarding Children Board, the Joint Health and</p>	<p>Through co-production and consultation work on the CHYP Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience plan an emerging network of parents with direct experience is developing. Further work to develop a parent advisory</p>	<p>Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Implementation Group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	

<p>Wellbeing Board and the Children and Families Partnership give consideration as to how to engage with parents of children to advise on the importance of good mental health and the warning signs to look out for in relation to risk taking behaviours.</p>	<p>panel around mental health and emotional wellbeing supporting the implementation plan is underway.</p> <p>One parent support group is now established with a second group expected to begin January 2016. Social media network is due to launch January 2016</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Work is currently ongoing to commission a total of two parent support groups within County Durham. These are expected to be in place by January 2017.</p>
<p><b>Review Recommendation</b></p>	<p><b>Progress report of action taken to implement recommendation</b></p>	<p><b>Resib'ty</b></p>	<p><b>Timescale</b></p>	
<p>5) That through discussions at the Health and Wellbeing Board, appropriate commissioners and providers give consideration to the establishment of a single point of contact for services that offer mental health service and support which would ensure that all incidents are logged and picked up by the appropriate service in a timely manner and</p>	<p>CHYP Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience plan has a key priority to develop one stop shops for children and young people which will include provision for those who self-harm.</p> <p>CAMHS Crisis Service is established and pilot programme of extended hours.</p>	<p>Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Implementation Group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Complete. Pilot review</p>	<p>There is as yet no single point of access for self-harm (CAMHS have one pathway). Development of education packages for primary care and schools and colleges is in progress. Pathway is to be agreed at the LSCB Board in October 2016.</p> <p>Following the initial pilot, CCGs have extended the CAMHS Crisis Service, the service will move to a 24/7 service model imminently.</p>

<p>in doing so create a single multi-agency pathway and registry of self-harm.</p>			<p>December 2015</p>	<p>The CAMHS Crisis Service currently provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive mental health and risk assessments for children and young people</li> <li>• Time-limited intervention, tailored to meet individual needs</li> <li>• Intensive support within the home/appropriate setting, where appropriate, for up to 72 hours post assessment or until risks are contained</li> <li>• Constructive advice-problem solving and solution-focused resolutions</li> <li>• Collaborative working with the young person, their family and/or carers and other relevant professionals and agencies to develop a crisis care plan</li> <li>• Liaison and consultation with other professionals and members of the children's workforce</li> <li>• Telephone support for parents, carers, service users and other professionals, such as NHS 111, GPs, the police and social services</li> <li>• Training to other services and professionals (including GPs, Police; local authority care home staff, teachers), to help to identify children and young people with mental health needs earlier</li> <li>• Post suicide support including joint working with schools and police; supervision and support to professionals affected by suicide</li> <li>• Assertive engagement with young people and their families</li> <li>• A targeted approach, working with 'hard to reach' groups</li> </ul>
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	<p>Crisis Care Pathway workshops taking place December 2015 and January 2016 to create single multi-agency pathway.</p> <p>Information sharing agreements are underway initially with foundation trusts to develop self-harm real-time profile for County Durham. Next steps with Further and Higher Education.</p>	<p>Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat</p> <p>Public Mental Health Strategy Group</p>	<p>January 2016</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The service has received national recognition and is an exemplar case study on the NHS England website  <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/mentalhealth/case-studies/durham-camhs/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/mentalhealth/case-studies/durham-camhs/</a></p> <p>Under review</p>
<b>Review Recommendation</b>	<b>Progress report of action taken to implement recommendation</b>	<b>Resib'ty</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	
6) That Cabinet give consideration to how youth services leaders/workers, school nurses and health visitors can have a role in schools in relation to emotional health and	Young people have been given opportunities through Investing in Children to provide feedback about how and where support is best provided (through the School Nursing Review, CAMHS Review, Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing	Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Implementation Group	Ongoing	Investing in Children have recently undertaken further Agenda Days with children and young people around the mental health and wellbeing to inform the re-fresh of the Local Transformation Plan

<p>wellbeing support to young people.</p>	<p>and Resilience Plan &amp; Mental Health Needs Assessment).</p> <p>Plans to update broader school emotional wellbeing policies and develop guidance.</p> <p>Emotional health and wellbeing approaches in school are not generally subject of stand-alone policies and are embraced within their other duties and responsibilities including equality/accessibility issues, SEND policies, safeguarding, pupil premium and Ofsted requirements relating to personal development behaviour and welfare. Schools are aware of the need to update these regularly.</p> <p>Establish the role of Primary Mental Health Workers in schools linked to Social, Emotional and Wellbeing Pathway and delivered through 0-19 Service (Health Visitors and School Nurse service)</p>	<p>Children and Families Partnership</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>September 2016</p>	<p>This is under development. Currently a self-harm in education task and finish group is examining the feasibility of having a trained mental health professional in each school. This has not yet been agreed. The MindEd learning path runs alongside this.</p>
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<p>7) That Cabinet give consideration to providing all adults (School Staff, Children's Home Staff, Youth Services Staff) who come into contact with young people on a regular basis receive basic mental health and emotional wellbeing awareness training.</p>	<p>Children and young people workforce will receive mental health and emotional wellbeing training as part of the broader CHYP Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Plan. Interim training:</p>	<p>Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Implementation Group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Primary Mental Health Workers have provided awareness sessions/training to a range of disciplines who have contact with children and young people, including GPs and practice nurses.</p> <p>The CAMHS Crisis Service also offers training to other services and professionals (including GPs, Police; local authority care home staff, teachers), to help to identify children and young people with mental health needs earlier.</p> <p>Linked to building capacity and capability of the workforce, County Durham has been involved in the national Children and Young People's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (CYP IAPT) service transformation programme since 2012. CYP IAPT is a whole service transformation model that seeks to improve the quality of children and young people's mental health services.</p>
	<p>Managing self-harm training for schools based staff to support refreshed guidance will be available from November 2015.</p>	<p>Public Mental Health Strategy Group</p>	<p>July 2016</p>	<p>Approximately half of secondary schools have received training around self-harm. The remaining will be invited to attend one of two dates in early November.</p>

	<p>Children's Home and Youth Service staff offered Mental Health 1<sup>st</sup> Aid and Managing Self Harm training.</p> <p>Emotional wellbeing awareness raising in schools. 238 Schools supported 2014/15 Mental Health emotional wellbeing capacity building, e.g. through training, coaching or consultation 409 staff from 66 schools 2014/15</p>	<p>Public Mental Health Strategy Group</p> <p>Public Mental Health Strategy Group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Training using Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) is being piloted within County Durham (staff being trained early November 2016). This programme seeks to increase the robustness of young people's mental wellbeing as well as giving them the tools and knowledge to discuss mental wellbeing and health topics.</p>
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**Children and Young People's  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**4 July 2017**



**Quarter Four 2016/17  
Performance Management Report**

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**Report of Corporate Management Team  
Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships  
Councillor Simon Henig, Leader of the Council**

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**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To present progress against the council's corporate performance framework by Altogether priority theme for the fourth quarter of the 2016/17 financial year.

**Background**

- 2 This report sets out our key performance messages from data released this quarter and a visual summary per Altogether priority theme that presents key data messages showing the latest position in trends and how we compare with others.
- 3 Key performance indicator progress is reported against two indicator types which comprise of:
  - (a) Key target indicators – targets are set for indicators where improvements can be measured regularly and where improvement can be actively influenced by the council and its partners; and
  - (b) Key tracker indicators – performance is tracked but no targets are set for indicators which are long-term and/or which the council and its partners only partially influence.
- 4 A comprehensive table of all performance data is presented in Appendix 3.
- 5 In line with Ofsted findings and to strengthen our political and management oversight of frontline social work practice, we are piloting new reporting of the Altogether Better for Children and Young People theme, making clearer to senior managers and members the performance issues and quality of frontline practice in children's social services.
- 6 We continue to look at ways to further develop the format of the report, as part of the transformation programme, to provide a clearer way of understanding how the council is performing, with the leanest possible process.

- 7 An explanation of symbols used, how we classify our performance as red, amber or green and the groups we use to compare ourselves is in Appendix 2.
- 8 To support the complete indicator set, a guide is available which provides full details of indicator definitions and data sources for the 2016/17 corporate indicator set. This is available to view either internally from the intranet (at Councillors useful links) or can be requested from the Corporate Planning and Performance Team at [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk).

### **Key Performance Messages from Data Released this Quarter**

- 9 The council is working to improve children's services in Durham in line with [Ofsted findings](#) across four key areas: political and management oversight; management and staffing capacity; the quality of social work practice; and compliance with regulations. An improved performance framework has been developed to improve political and management oversight based on key questions designed to facilitate greater scrutiny of performance. This is included in Appendix 5. From this quarter, both quantitative and qualitative data is presented in this performance report, which will provide assurance against these questions.
- 10 Performance is considered across three levels:
  - (a) How our **early help and universal children's services** help support children in the wider community.
  - (b) How our **assessment and safeguarding services** are supporting children at risk and children in need.
  - (c) Corporate **parenting support** for the 810 children for whom the council is their parent, and 239 care leavers.<sup>1</sup>

### **Early Help and Universal Services**

- 11 Child health shows under 18 conceptions continue to reduce. Although under 16 conceptions have increased, the three-year pooled data continue to show a decrease and the long term trend shows sustained decreases from 2008-10. Mothers smoking at time of delivery has reduced from last year but remains a concern, particularly in Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield Clinical Commissioning Group area. There have been fewer hospital admissions for alcohol-specific conditions under 18 and more patients attended the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service within timescale.
- 12 The key performance issue identified is achievement of the target to turn around families. At the end of March 2017, Durham had identified and claimed

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<sup>1</sup> Figures as at Q4 2016/17

results for 16.7% (727) families as being ‘turned around’<sup>2</sup> against the Family Outcome Framework. Durham’s performance is above both the region (15.7%) and national average (13.2%) but below local estimates at this stage in the programme (1,063). The programme itself is dependent on performance reward funding so there is a financial risk and achieving the results required in order to close the claims gap remains a priority for the service.

### **Assessment and Safeguarding Services**

13 Four key performance issues are identified this quarter that we need to address, better understand or keep under greater scrutiny:

14

- (a) Percentage of statutory referral processed within timescales.
- (b) Number of children and young people on a child protection plan.
- (c) Staffing and Resourcing: Social work caseloads
- (d) Quality of assessment and casefiles.

#### *Statutory referrals*

15 The target to process 85% of statutory referrals within 24 hours was not met with 73.4% being processed within this timescale. Although this target was not met, any referrals where there are immediate safeguarding issues are processed within 4 hours. New procedures have been developed together with the police to reduce the number of unnecessary referrals, which are currently being piloted. It is anticipated that more of the remaining referrals will be processed within timescales.

#### *Children on a child protection plan*

16 There has been a significant increase in the number of children with a child protection plan (CPP) from 350 in 2015/16 to 501 during 2016/17. The rate of children in Durham with a CPP is lower than the North East but more than the England average. The increase has implications in terms of increased work pressures and caseloads for social workers. Further analytical work to fully understand the reasons for the increase in children on a CPP will be carried out over the next quarter. Neglect (77%) is the most common reason to have a CPP amongst Durham children, followed by emotional abuse (14%), physical abuse (6%) and sexual abuse (3%). Timeliness of care plan reviews for children subject to a CPP is good.

#### *Staffing and Resourcing: Social work caseloads*

17 Children’s services have set an optimum caseload size of 20 cases per social worker to provide practitioners with the best opportunity to deliver high quality frontline practice with children and families. The number of cases per social worker has reduced from the baseline of February 2016 when the Ofsted inspection took place. However, figures have shown an increase in the number of practitioners holding more than 20 cases during the current

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<sup>2</sup> Turned around refers to families who have benefitted from successful interventions which aims to assist individuals in a family to achieve reductions in crime/antisocial behaviour, improve school attendance or move back into employment through the Stronger Families Programme.

quarter. There is work ongoing to reduce caseloads and regular monitoring of caseload sizes takes place monthly. Recruiting additional social work staff should assist in further reducing caseload levels to ensure that they are more manageable and reach the agreed target of no more than 20. Vacancy levels have remained relatively static despite a push on recruitment over the previous 12 months. This is as a direct result of the steady number of leavers over the last 12 months and the number of new appointments to the council.

#### *Case audit findings*

- 18 A new approach to case file auditing has been developed to quality assure social work practice and recording. A sample of around 5% of cases are selected randomly and allocated to auditors (managers and supervisors who are independent of these cases.) A number of thematic audits were also carried out relating to cases on areas of key concern for the council or the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. The grades used for scoring these audits are the same as those used by Ofsted (inadequate, requires improvement, good or outstanding). Although there has been some improvement, our target to achieve a grading of good or above for 65% of audited casework by March 2017 has not been met with 48% of statutory social work team cases files being assessed as reaching this standard at this stage. It is worth noting that case files audited date back to before the introduction of the new quality assurance process where the bar was raised, and social workers now have a better understanding of the new standards. There is an ongoing push on quality and improvement within teams with progress under close and regular management scrutiny.

#### **Corporate Parenting Support**

- 19 Despite the increase in LAC, timeliness of looked after reviews has remained stable and is better than regional and national benchmarks. In quarter four there were 14 reviews held out of timescale, involving 21 children. However, all reviews have now been completed. Procedures are in place to ensure the timing of reviews are closely monitored and delays are kept to a minimum.
- 20 The rate of children adopted from care has improved from 11.3% (21 children, April to December 2015) to 20.2% (49 children, April to December 2016). Durham also continues to perform well in relation to time taken from court order to matching an adoptive family and moving children in. The majority of LAC in County Durham have a long-term plan for permanence i.e. children are placed with foster carer (currently around 67%).
- 21 Two key performance issues are identified this quarter in relation to support for looked after children and care leavers that we need to address, better understand or keep under greater scrutiny:
- (a) Increase in the number of children looked after
  - (b) Changes of social worker.

#### *Numbers of Looked after children*

22 There were 810 looked after children (LAC) at the end of March 2017 in County Durham, significantly more than last year (680). This has been generally increasing since a low base of 410 in 2008. Although the absolute number of LAC has increased, the rate of children looked after per 10,000 (0-17 years) population is now in line with the regional position, significantly above national levels. There are implications in terms of the council's corporate parenting responsibilities, workload pressures and increased costs to the council. Whilst the number of children looked after due to neglect has increased, further work is to be carried out to gain a better understanding of the reasons for an increase in the number of children looked after. Annual unit costs of placements vary from nil to £208,000. In response to the high number of children in care and the mix of placements, significant demand on services and projected budget overspend, the Placement Efficiency Plan seeks to provide a framework, setting out a number of strategies, which will deliver both service improvements and placement efficiencies.

#### *Changes of social worker*

23 Stability is very important for children in care and care leavers. Durham took part in the pilot data collection on social worker changes for the Children's Commissioner's Stability Index project. The Stability Index is a long term project which aims to develop measures of stability experienced by children in care, covering different aspects of their lives. Both the level of multiple placement moves for looked after children in 2015/16, and mid-year school moves were in line with national and regional averages. Data on the number of changes of primary social worker show that 42% of children have no changes of social worker, 30% have one change, but 16% of children have had two changes and 12% have had three or more changes of social worker. This provides a baseline against which efforts to improve workforce stability and to restructure the service can be measured.<sup>3</sup>

24 The latest position in volume trends is presented in the charts available at Appendix 4

## **Risk Management**

25 Effective risk management is a vital component of the council's agenda. The council's risk management process sits alongside our change programme and is incorporated into all significant change and improvement projects.

26 The key risk in delivering the ambitions of this priority theme and how we are managing it is *Failure to protect a child from death or serious harm (where service failure is a factor or issue)*. Management consider it possible that this risk could occur which, in addition to the severe impacts on children, will result in serious damage to the council's reputation and to relationships with its safeguarding partners. To mitigate the risk, actions are taken forward from serious case reviews and reported to the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

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<sup>3</sup> Stability Index Preliminary Findings: Durham Information Pack, The Children's Commissioner's Office (2017)

Lessons learned are fed into training for front line staff and regular staff supervision takes place. This risk is long term and procedures are reviewed regularly. (critical / possible)

### **Key Data Messages by Altogether Theme**

- 27 The next section provides a summary per Altogether theme of key data messages. The format of the Altogether themes provides a snap shot overview aimed to ensure that key performance messages are easy to identify. The Altogether themes are supplemented by information and data relating to the complete indicator set, provided at Appendix 3.

# Altogether Better for Children and Young People

## Early Help & Universal Services

### Safeguarding



**89.1%** CAMHS patients attended within timescale, more than last year (77.3%)(2016/17)

### Hospital admission episodes for alcohol-specific conditions Under 18s (Per 100,000 0-17 population)

	Durham	North East	England
2012/13—14/15	<b>72.8</b> (219)	<b>66</b> ✓	<b>39</b> ✗
2013/14—15/16	<b>67.5</b> (203)	<b>66.9%</b> ✗	<b>37.4</b> ✗

### Achieving Aspiration



**2%** of Durham children with at least one fixed exclusion, similar to last year (1.94%) (2015/16)



**92%**

**Primary**

**68%\***

**Secondary**

\*10 out of 31 schools judged as Requires Improvement or Inadequate (1 less than last quarter). 5 LA maintained schools and 5 academies.

**Not in Education, Employment or Training**

4.3% of 16-17 year olds in Durham are not in education, employment or training, higher than national (2.7%) and North East (4.0) averages

### Conception rate (Jan—Dec 2015)

**Under 16**

**Under 18**

**6.6** per 1,000 female population (**50** conceptions), slight higher than the 2014 rate (5.8 and 46 conceptions)

**26.4** per 1,000 female population (**219** conceptions), fewer than last year (28.5 and 243 conceptions)



**17.4%** of mothers smoking at time of delivery\*  
An improvement on last year (18%) but slightly above the target of 17.2%



\*Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield clinical commissioning Group area has the third highest rate in the North East and the eleventh highest in England.

**727 families**

benefitted from successful interventions\* (16.7% of phase 2 overall total of 4,360 families by March 2020), above both the regional (15.7%) and national average (13.2%)

**Stronger Families Programme**

\*this aims to assist individuals in a family to achieve reductions in crime/anti-social behaviour, improve school attendance or move back into employment through the Stronger Families Programme.

**Sustained contact with Children's Centre**

**88%\*** of Durham 0-2 year olds in the top 30% IMD\*\* having sustained contact, more than last year (83%) (2015/6)

\* provisional figure, \*\*Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2010

# Altogether Better for Children and Young People

## Assessment and Safeguarding (Apr 2016-Mar 2017)

### Safeguarding

Child's journey

**5,112 Children in need referrals (CiN)**, fewer than last year (5,994)

**4,192 Single Assessments**, fewer than last year (5,125)

**501 Children with a child protection plan (CPP)** more than last year (350) (CPP rate = 50 per 10,000)

#### Our response

**Statutory referrals** processed in 24 hrs. Target of 85% not met

73.4%

**CiN referrals occurred within 12 months of previous referral**  
Target of 19.5% met

18.9%

**Single assessments completed in 45 days** Target of 85% not met

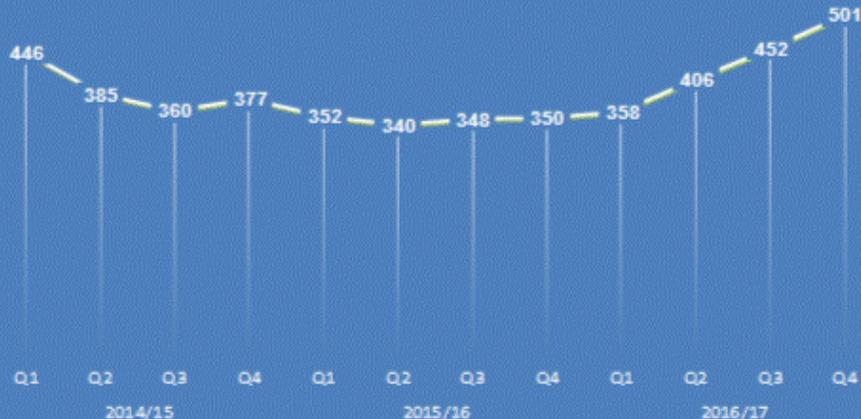
83%

**Children with a CPP with all reviews completed within timescale (Tracker)**

94.4%

**Durham's children with a CPP (50 per 10,000)** is fewer than North East average (59.6) but more than England average (43.1)

Number of children with a child protection plan

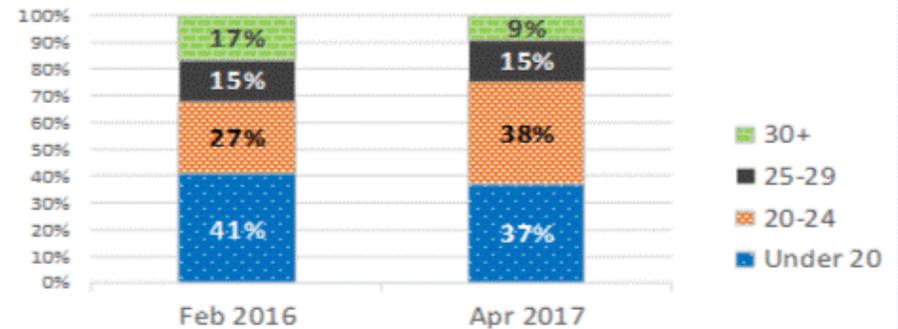


## Social Work Practice

### Social Worker Caseload (Feb 2016—Apr 2017)

- ◆ Caseload levels have improved from Feb 2016 (Ofsted inspection)
- ◆ Target caseload is 20 per social worker

% of Staff\* by WTE Caseload Range



\*All Agency Staff and Students assumed to be 1.0 WTE. Team Managers, Social Work Consultants, ASYE's, and Students Social Workers have been excluded from the WTE of Staff and any cases they hold have also been excluded.

### Casefile Quality

- ◆ The quality of casework has improved but remains significantly low
- ◆ The target for all casework being 65% good by March 2017 has not been met

Statutory casefile quality	Ofsted March 2016 (20 cases)	Quarter 4 March 2017 (158 cases)
Good or above	40%	48%
Below Good	60%	52%

# Altogether Better for Children and Young People

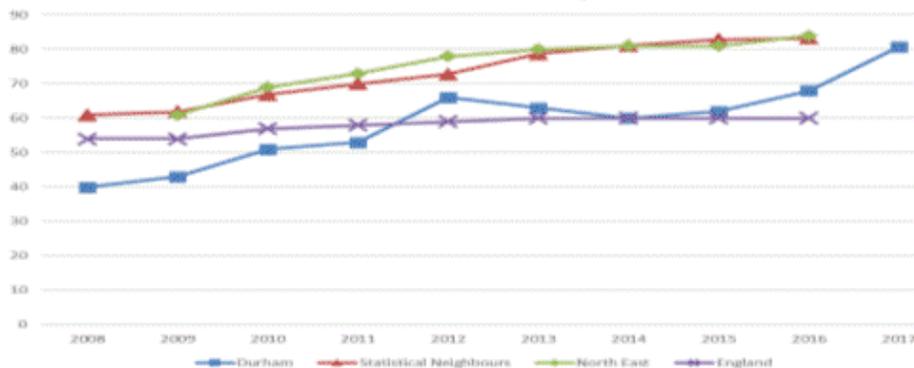
## Corporate Parenting Support(31 Mar 2017)

### Safeguarding

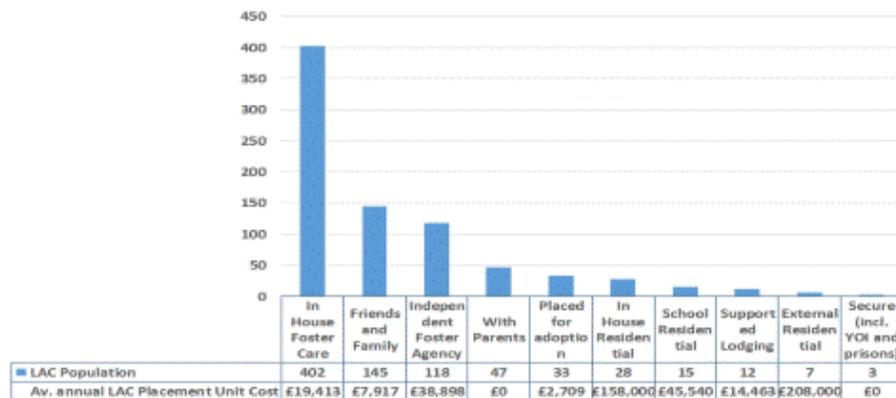


- **810** children currently looked after (LAC), more than last year (680)
- **319** LAC children during the year are no longer registered
- **239** care leavers are also receiving support
  - ◆ **94%** LAC reviews completed within timescale
  - ◆ **19%** Increase in LAC rate from 68 per 10,000 children to 80.8
  - ◆ A range of factors affected the increase including a change in the way neglect cases are handled

LAC Rate, per 10,000 children aged under 18



Number of LAC by Placement Type and Annual Av. Unit Cost As of 31 March 2017



### Achieving Aspiration

#### Education & School Attendance (2015/16 academic year)

LAC	Durham Ave.	National LAC Ave.	Notes
<b>31.3%</b>	49.2%	22.8%	GCSE Average Attainment 8 score of Looked After Children
<b>44%</b>	59%	25%	Achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths (KS2)
<b>5%</b>	2%	10% 2014/15	LAC with at least one fixed exclusion from school, fewer than last year (9%)
<b>4.7%</b>	11%	9.1% 2014/15	LAC classed as persistent absentees (attendance at Primary & Secondary school)
<b>25.1%</b>	4.3% (Nov 16 - Jan 17)	38%	Care leavers aged 17-21 not in education, employment or training (31 Mar 2017)

**87.1%** LAC had a dental check, fewer than last year (95.5%)

**84.8%** LAC have had the required number of health assessments, fewer than last year (89%)

### Social Work Practice

#### SOCIAL WORKER CHANGES FOR LAC 2015/16

■ No changes ■ 1 change ■ 2 changes ■ 3+ changes



◆ **542** LAC (67%) have a plan for permanence

◆ **53** children (17.3%) adopted of those leaving care (2016/17), compared to 21 (11.3%) last year

#### Timeliness of adoption: Durham is better than North East and England

Moving children in with adoptive family (target of 450 days)	Durham 477 days (2016/17)	North East 563 days (2015/16)	England 522 days (2015/16)
From court order to deciding on a match to an adoptive family (target of 220 days)	Durham 196 days (2016/17)	North East 211 days (2015/16)	England 244 days (2015/16)

## **Recommendations and reasons**

28 That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive the report and consider any performance issues arising there with.

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**Contact: Jenny Haworth**  
**Tel: 03000 268071**

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Appendix 1: Implications

Appendix 2: Report Key

Appendix 3: Summary of key performance indicators

Appendix 4: Volume measures

Appendix 5: Performance Framework

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## Appendix 1: Implications

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**Finance** - Latest performance information is being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

**Staffing** - Performance against a number of relevant corporate health Performance Indicators (PIs) has been included to monitor staffing issues.

**Risk** - Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly monitoring report.

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty** - Corporate health PIs are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

**Accommodation** - Not applicable

**Crime and Disorder** - A number of PIs and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

**Human Rights** - Not applicable

**Consultation** - Not applicable

**Procurement** - Not applicable

**Disability Issues** - Employees with a disability are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

**Legal Implications** - Not applicable

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## Appendix 2: Report key

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### Performance Indicators:

#### Direction of travel/benchmarking

Same or better than comparable period/comparator group

**GREEN**

Worse than comparable period / comparator group (within 2% tolerance)

**AMBER**

Worse than comparable period / comparator group (greater than 2%)

**RED**

#### Performance against target

Meeting/Exceeding target

Getting there - performance approaching target (within 2%)

Performance >2% behind target

- ✓ Performance is good or better than comparable benchmark
- ✗ Performance is poor or worse than comparable benchmark
- ↔ Performance has remained static or is in line with comparable benchmark

### National Benchmarking

We compare our performance to all English authorities. The number of authorities varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils, for example educational attainment is compared to county and unitary councils however waste disposal is compared to district and unitary councils.

### North East Benchmarking

The North East figure is the average performance from the authorities within the North East region, i.e. County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-On-Tees, South Tyneside, Sunderland. The number of authorities also varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils.

### Nearest Neighbour Benchmarking:

The nearest neighbour model was developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), one of the professional accountancy bodies in the UK. CIPFA has produced a list of 15 local authorities which Durham is statistically close to when you look at a number of characteristics. The 15 authorities that are in the nearest statistical neighbours group for Durham using the CIPFA model are: Barnsley, Wakefield, Doncaster, Rotherham, Wigan, Kirklees, St Helens, Calderdale, Dudley, Northumberland, Tameside, Sheffield, Gateshead, Stockton-On-Tees and Stoke-on-Trent.

We also use other neighbour groups to compare our performance. More detail of these can be requested from the Corporate Planning and Performance Team at [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk).

## Appendix 3: Summary of Key Performance Indicators

### Table 1: Key Target Indicators

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
<b>Altogether Better for Children and Young People</b>											
17	CASCYP 15	Percentage of children in the early years foundation stage achieving a good level of development	69.0	2015/16 ac yr (final)	64.0	GREEN	63.6	GREEN	69.3	68.4*	2015/16 ac yr (final)
									AMBER	GREEN	
18	CASAS5	First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 to 17 (per 100,000 population of 10 to 17 year olds) <b>(Also in Altogether Safer) [1]</b>	382	2016/17	582	GREEN	372	RED			
19	CASCYP 9	Percentage of children in need referrals occurring within 12 months of previous referral	18.9	2016/17	19.5	GREEN	21.1	GREEN	22.3	20.6*	2015/16
									GREEN	GREEN	
20	CASCYP 31	Percentage of statutory referrals received by the First Contact Team or Emergency Duty Team processed within 1 working day	73.4	2016/17	85.0	RED	81.6	RED			
21	CASCYP 32	Percentage of single assessments completed within 45 days	83.0	2016/17	85.0	RED	84.2	AMBER	83.4	82.1*	2015/16
									AMBER	GREEN	
22	CASCYP 14	Percentage of successful interventions (families turned around) via the Stronger Families	16.7	Sep 2014 - Mar 2017	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	13.2	

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
		Programme (Phase 2) (Also in Altogether Safer) [2]								GREEN	
23	CASCYP 8	Percentage of mothers smoking at time of delivery (Also in Altogether Healthier)	17.4	Oct - Dec 2016	17.2	AMBER	18.0	GREEN	16.5	16*	Oct - Dec 2016
									RED	RED	

[1] Previous period data amended /refreshed / final published data

[2] Reported as a % target PI again following 2015/16 when the numbers were reported as a tracker indicator

**Table 2: Key Tracker Indicators**

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
<b>Altogether Better for Children and Young People</b>											
112	CASCY P33	Average attainment 8 score/score for LA (all pupils at the end of key stage 4 in state-funded mainstream and special schools and academies - replacing GCSE attainment)	49.2	2015/16 ac yr (final)	New indicator	NA	New indicator	NA	48.5 <b>GREEN</b>	48.7* <b>GREEN</b>	2015/16 ac yr (final)
113	CASCY P37	Average point score per A level entry of state-funded school students	31.9	2015/16 ac yr (final)	New indicator	NA	NA	NA	31.8 <b>GREEN</b>	30.63* <b>GREEN</b>	2015/16 ac yr (final)
114	CASCY P16	Percentage of 16 to 17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) <b>(Also in Altogether Wealthier)</b> [3]	4.3	Nov 2016 - Jan 2017	4.1	<b>RED</b>	NA [4]	NA		4* <b>RED</b>	Nov 2016 - Jan 2017
115	CASCY P34	Gap between the average Attainment 8 score of Durham disadvantaged pupils and the average Attainment 8 score of non-disadvantaged pupils nationally (at KS4)	-12.5	2015/16 ac yr (final)	New indicator	NA	New indicator	NA	-12.3 <b>AMBER</b>	-13.3* <b>GREEN</b>	2015/16 ac yr (final)

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
116	CASCY P35	Gap between the percentage of Durham disadvantaged pupils and the percentage of non-disadvantaged pupils nationally who achieve the expected standard in reading, writing and maths (at KS2)	-16	2015/16 ac yr (final)	New indicator	NA	New indicator	NA	-22.0 <b>GREEN</b>	-23*	2015/16 ac yr (final)
117	ACE016	Percentage of children in poverty (quarterly proxy measure) <b>(Also in Altogether Better Council)</b>	22.1	As at May 2016	22.2	<b>GREEN</b>	22.4	<b>GREEN</b>	15.5 <b>RED</b>	22.6* <b>GREEN</b>	As at May 2016
118	CASCY P18	Percentage of children aged 4 to 5 years classified as overweight or obese <b>(Also in Altogether Healthier)</b>	24.3	2015/16 ac yr	23.0	<b>RED</b>	23.0	<b>RED</b>	22.1 <b>RED</b>	24.6* <b>GREEN</b>	2015/16 ac yr
119	CASCY P19	Percentage of children aged 10 to 11 years classified as overweight or obese <b>(Also in Altogether Healthier)</b>	37	2015/16 ac yr	36.6	<b>AMBER</b>	36.6	<b>AMBER</b>	34.2 <b>RED</b>	37* <b>GREEN</b>	2015/16 ac yr
120	CASCY P29	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%) <b>(Also in Altogether Safer)</b>	45.9	2014/15	45	<b>AMBER</b>	44.7	<b>RED</b>	37.9 <b>RED</b>	44.7* <b>RED</b>	2014/15
121	CASCY P20	Under 18 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 17	26.4	Jan - Dec 2015	26.1	<b>AMBER</b>	28.5	<b>GREEN</b>	20.8 <b>RED</b>	28* <b>GREEN</b>	Jan - Dec 2015
									3.7	6.2*	Jan -

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
	P21	per 1,000 girls aged 13 to 15							RED	RED	Dec 2015
123	CASCY P23	Emotional and behavioural health of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more (scored between 0 to 40)	14.9	2015/16	15.1	GREEN	15.1	GREEN	14.0	14.5*	2015/16
									RED	RED	
124	CASCY P30	Percentage of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) patients who have attended a first appointment within nine weeks of their external referral date	89.1	2016/17	87.4	GREEN	77.3	GREEN			
125	CASCY P26	Young people aged 10 to 24 years admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000 population aged 10 to 24 years) <b>(Also in Altogether Healthier)</b>	489.4	2011/12 - 2013/14	504.8	GREEN	504.8	GREEN	367.3	532.2*	England - 2011/12 - 2013/14 NE - 2010/11 - 2012/13
126	CASCY P28	Rate of children with a child protection plan per 10,000 population	50.0	As at Mar 2017	45.1	RED	34.9	RED	43.1	59.6*	As at Mar 2016
									RED	GREEN	
Page 51	CASCY P12	Percentage of children subject to a child protection plan who had all of their reviews completed within required timescales	94.4	2016/17	89.4	GREEN	93.9	GREEN	93.7	91.7*	2015/16

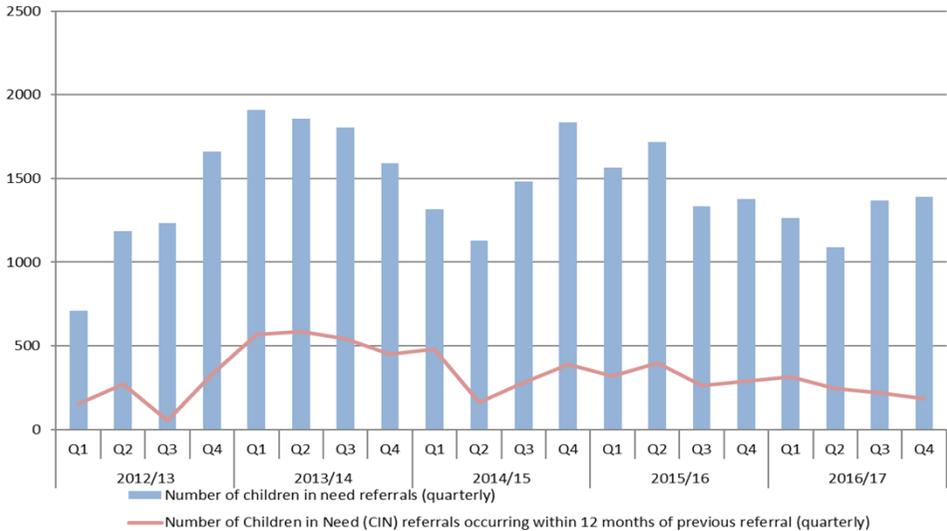
Page 52 Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
128	CASCY P36	Number of child sexual exploitation referrals [5]	148	2016/17	143	NA	211	NA			
129	CASCY P24	Rate of looked after children per 10,000 population aged under 18	80.8	As at Mar 2017	78.3	RED	67.6	RED	60.0 RED	84* GREEN	As at Mar 2016
130	CASCY P11	Percentage of children looked after who had all of their reviews completed within required timescale	94.0	2016/17	94.2	AMBER	94.1	AMBER			

[3] The high number of school leavers whose status is 'not known' impacts significantly on this indicator

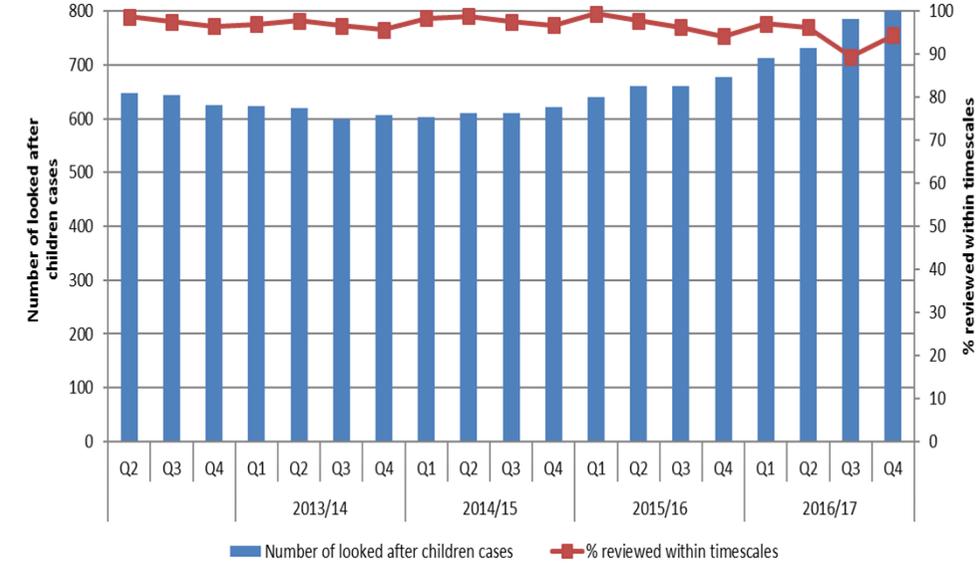
[4] The definition was revised this period from 16-18 year old to 16-17 year old so unable to compare previous data

[5] Previous period data amended / refreshed

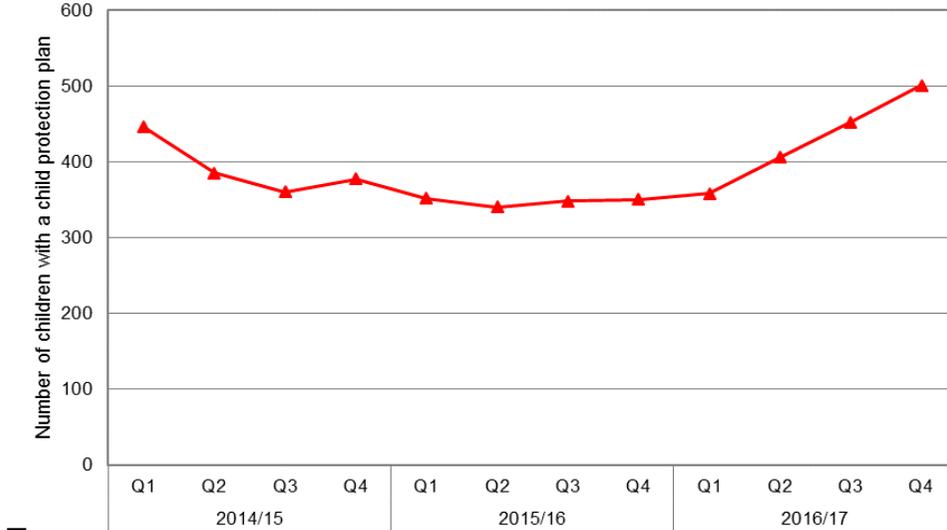
**Chart 4. Children in need referrals within 12 months of previous referral**



**Chart 5. Looked after children cases**



**Chart 6. Children with a child protection plan**



## Durham Framework

Levels				Theme	Sub-Questions
4. Corporate Parenting Support	3. Assessment and Safeguarding Services	2. Early Help	1. Universal Services	Safeguarding	Am I safe?
				The Voice of the Child	Is my voice heard? Am I happy Is there anything else that would help me? Do I know where to go for further support?
				Achieving Aspiration	Am I healthy? Am I achieving my potential?
				Social Work Practice	Is my past and present well understood? Is my professional support system stable?

## Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee



4 July 2017

### Refresh of the Committee's Work Programme 2017 - 2018

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## Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships

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### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide for Members consideration an updated work programme for the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2017-18.

### Background

- 2 At its meeting on 7 April 2017, the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the actions identified within the Council Plan 2016 – 2019 for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People priority theme and agreed to refresh its work programme to include a number of these actions. In addition, topics have also been identified that are in line with the Sustainable Community Strategy, Cabinet Notice of key decisions, Partnership plans and strategies, performance and budget control data and government legislation

### Detail

- 3 In accordance with this decision, a work programme for 2017 – 2018 has been prepared and is attached at appendix two. The work programme is very comprehensive drawing on topical areas across the remit of the committee and it should be noted that it is also flexible in respect that topics can be added throughout the year.
- 4 Members are encouraged to identify areas of scrutiny investigation (in depth and light touch reviews) from the work programme. Members had previously identified an area for consideration as a scrutiny investigation as Children's Social Care.

### Recommendation

- 5 Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:
  - a) Discuss and agree the new work programme 2017 – 2018 as detailed in appendix two.
  - b) Identify a topic for in depth scrutiny review.

**Background Papers**

Council Plan 2016 – 2019

Report to Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 7 April  
2017

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**Contact: Tom Gorman**  
**Ann Whitton**

**Tel: 03000 268027**  
**Tel: 03000 286143**

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**Appendix 1: Implications** (The following implications are taken directly from the report to Cabinet on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016)

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**Finance** - The Council Plan sets out the corporate priorities of the Council for the next three years. The Medium Term Financial Plan aligns revenue and capital investment to priorities within the Council Plan.

**Staffing** - The Council's strategies are being aligned to achievement of the corporate priorities contained within the Council Plan.

**Risk** - Consideration of risk is undertaken in the preparation of the Council Plan and Service Plans.

**Equality and diversity/Public Sector Equality Duty** - A full impact assessment has previously been undertaken for the Council Plan. The actions underpinning the Council Plan include specific issues relating to equality and aim to improve the equality of life for those with protected characteristics. The Plan has been influenced by consultation and monitoring to include equality issues. There is no evidence of negative impact for particular groups.

**Accommodation** - The council's Accommodation programme is a key corporate programme contained within the Council Plan.

**Crime and disorder** - The Altogether Safer section of the Council Plan sets out the Council's contributions to tackling crime and disorder.

**Human rights** – None

**Consultation** - Council and partnership priorities have been developed following an analysis of available consultation data including an extensive consultation programme carried out as part of the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy and this has been reaffirmed by subsequent consultation on the council's budget.

**Procurement** – None

**Disability Issues** - Accessibility issues are considered in the design of our planning document.

**Legal Implications**- None

<p><b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2017 TO 2018</b></p> <p><b>Children and Young People's OSC</b></p> <p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Tom Gorman</p> <p><b>Overview and Scrutiny Officer:</b> Ann Whitton</p> <p><b>IPG contact:</b> Carole Payne</p>	<p><b>Note:</b></p> <p><b>O/S Review</b> - A systematic 6 monthly review of progress against recommendations/Action Plan</p> <p><b>Scrutiny/Working Group</b> – In-depth Review</p> <p><b>Overview/progress</b> – information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review</p> <p><b>Performance</b> – ongoing monitoring (quarterly) performance reports/budgets</p>
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	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
<b><i>O/S Review Updates</i></b>				
Self-Harm by Young People	4 July 2017	Keith Allen	Update on progress of recommendations following the self-harm review	The initial update was given to members November 2015 members requested they receive further update.
Take up of Free School Meals and Holiday Hunger	16 January 2018	Roger Goodes, Alison Young/Karen Sproates	Increase awareness among parents, carers and school administration of the availability of DCC eligibility checking system and awareness of holiday hunger	Members will have an awareness of the systems used by DCC to promote the take up of free school meals. Members will be aware of where holiday hunger activities have taken place and will receive an evaluation of them.

			activities taking place in County Durham.	
<b>Scrutiny/Working Group</b> In depth review				
Role of the Social Worker (TBC)				
<b>Overview/Progress</b>				
Support for Care Leavers	4 July 2017	Linda Bailey/ Carole Gill	To provide members with information in relation to the support given to care leavers such as accommodation, finance, training and employment	Members will have an understanding of the support the council provides to its care leavers.
Case File Audit	TBC	Julie Scurfield	Members will receive information on the audit process of case files in Children's Services	Members will be able to ask questions on the process
CQC Review of Health Services for LAC	4 July 2017	Gill Findley	Findings from the CQC review of health services of looked after children and safeguarding.	Members will have an understanding of the findings from the review.
Elective Home Education	11 September 2017	Sheila Palmerley/Ian Shanks	To provide members with information in relation to the numbers of children in the county who are home	Members will have an understanding of the numbers of children involved and ask what is in place to ensure they are safe and receiving an education.

			schooled including checks and balances carried out	
Overview of Ofsted Inspections of County Durham Schools	11 September 2017	Phil Hodgson	Members are provided with a summary of Primary and Secondary school Ofsted inspections giving detail of the score of each school, whether this is an improvement or deterioration on previous scores and what is being done to improve.	Members will have a complete understanding of the rating of the County Council's schools and the help and support they receive to ensure they improve their existing grade if necessary or continue to perform at the high level they are now performing.
Managing School Exclusions	11 September 2017	Phil Hodgson	Members will receive an overview on the numbers of exclusions in county Durham and what is being done to help the young people involved and what more can be done in maintained schools and academies.	Members will be aware of the Ofsted grading for the County Council's Primary and Secondary schools and the work being done to improve or maintain current scores.
Looked After Children Annual Report	28 September 2017	Karen Robb	To provide members with an overview of the fostering and adoption service.	Members will have an understanding of the challenges facing the service, their recent achievements and their priorities going forward
LSCB Annual Report	28 September 2017	Jacqui Doherty	Members will be appraised of the achievements of the LSCB over the last 12 months and of their priorities for the coming year.	Members will have the opportunity to raise questions with the LSCB rep in relation to the Annual Report.
Children's Services	28 September	Carole Payne	Members will receive an	From this, members will be able to identify

Update	2017		update which is originally sent to Cabinet and incorporates an update on aspects of children's services. Information will also be received on the Ofsted Improvement Plan	specific areas where they may request more information. Members will be have an understanding of how work is progressing to meet the recommendations of the Ofsted report.
Child Poverty – Equality of Opportunity	28 September 2017	Carole Payne/Karen Davison	Members will receive information on what is being done by the Council and partners to address child poverty	Members will have an awareness of the various activities/programmes throughout the Council
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	7 November 2017	Donna Sweet	To provide members with an overview of CAMHS in County Durham including information on waiting times, availability of beds and the crisis liaison service.	Members will have an understanding of the services offered to CYP in County Durham by CAMHS
Unintentional injuries Framework	7 November 2017	Chris Woodcock	To provide members of CYP OSC with an overview of the framework.	Members will gain an understanding of the extent of unintentional injury among children and young people in County Durham.
Growing Healthy 0-19 in County Durham	7 November 2017	Gill O'Neil	Members will receive information on health visiting service and school nurse service and progress on the work being done with Leeds Becket University.	Members will receive the latest information in relation to 0-19 programme in County Durham.
Summary of Lessons Learned from Serious Case Reviews	21 November 2017	Jacqui Doherty	Members will receive an overview on the number of SCR and the lessons learned	This will provide members with the assurance that outcomes of SCRs are being addressed and followed through and that

			from them	the Local Authority is learning from serious case reviews.
What is Neglect?	21 November 2017	Carole Payne	Members will receive information in relation to what constitutes neglect with examples and what happens in cases of neglect.	Members will have a clear idea of what neglect is
Role of the Social Worker	21 November 2017	Mark Gurney	Members will be aware of the tasks undertaken by front line social workers, what support they receive and an insight into their workload and the legislation which governs their work.	Members will receive the information to give greater awareness of the role of the social worker.
One Point Service	16 January 2018	Karen Davison	Members will receive an overview on how the service works including their how they work with other agencies to help children and families in the community.	Members will have an awareness of the many areas of work that are covered by the one point service especially of their multi agency working.
Obesity (Joint with Adults, Health & Wellbeing)	5 February 2018	Chris Woodcock	To provide members with an overview of how the work of the Healthy Weight Alliance is working to improve Obesity in County Durham	Members will receive information in relation to the impact the work of the Health Weight Alliance is having on Obesity including childhood obesity
Early Years Strategy – Impact of the Council’s Decision on Children’s Centres	1 March 2018	Carole Payne	Members will receive an overview of the impact of the Council’s decision on Children’s Centres, to concentrate on people rather	Members will be aware of how the changes made in 2014/15 in relation to how children’s centres operate is impacting on vulnerable children and families.

			than buildings	
Young Carers in County Durham	1 March 2018	Julie Scurfield	Members will be updated on the numbers of young carers in County Durham and how the Council is working in partnership to support them.	Members will be aware of what assistance and support is available to young carers and how DCC work in partnership to achieve this.
Stronger Families Programme	1 March 2018	Karen Davison	Members will receive an update on the Stronger Families Programme	Members will be aware of how the County Council has delivered the stronger families programme to vulnerable families in county Durham.
Children's Services Update	1 March 2018	Carole Payne	Members will receive a report updating them on all aspects of Children's Services including progress made against the Ofsted recommendations	From this, members will be able to identify specific areas where they may request more information. Members will be have an understanding of how work is progressing to meet the recommendations of the Ofsted report.
Educational Services Academic Attainment	9 April 2018	Caroline O'Neil	Members will receive a report updating them on the attainment of the County's children through all educational key stages.	Members will be aware of how the County's children are performing against national averages.
The relationship between Maintained Schools and Academies	9 April 2018	Phil Hodgson	Members requested information on the relationship between maintained schools and academies in County Durham specifically additional pressures put on maintained schools.	Members will be provided with information of how maintained schools are supported by DCC and if this affects the relationship between them and academies.
JHWB Annual Report	To be circulated		Members will receive the	Information contained in the report will

	electronically		JHWB annual report.	include health issues affecting children and young people.
Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report	To be circulated electronically		Members will receive the Health and Wellbeing Board annual report	Information contained in the report will include health issues affecting children and young people.
<b>Performance &amp; Quality</b> Q 4 Q 1 Q 2 Q 3	4 July 2017 28 Sept 2017 16 January,2018 9 April 2018	Keith Foster TBC		Ongoing – to provide members with information on performance of the service grouping and highlight areas of prominence (those going well, and those giving cause for concern). From quarter 1 2016 members will receive information on the quality of services such as social work.
<b>Budget Outturn Report</b> Q 4 (16/17)&Q1(17/18) Q 2 Q 3	29 Sept 2016 16 January 2018 9 April 2018	Graham Stephenson		Ongoing – highlight areas of concern. Committee to receive updates on the affects and implications of MTFP on service groupings

**Children & Young People’s  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**4 July 2017**

**Summary of Minutes from Children  
and Families Partnership**

**20 March 2017**



**County Durham Children  
and Families Partnership**

**Children’s Commissioner’s Takeover Challenge**

The Children and Families Partnership was awarded gold commendation, the highest level of recognition by the Children’s Commissioner, for the successful events, which took place as part of the Takeover Challenge in 2016.

Organisations opened their doors to children and young people as part of the Takeover Challenge, which is an England-wide event where organisations are encouraged to involve children and young people in decision-making. Over 3,500 young people took part in a range of activities and were able to see what it was like to ‘take over’ key roles and share their thoughts. Young people benefited from having their views heard, having fun and being inspired, and partners gained a fresh, unique and creative perspective on important issues.

Following the success of the Takeover Challenge, the Children and Families Partnership are championing this initiative and encouraging partners to consider how engagement with children and young people can take place throughout the year.

**Children and Families Partnership Priorities**

At the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March, the Partnership agreed the following three strategic priorities due to their substantial impact on outcomes for children and families:

- Reducing Child Poverty
- Building Resilience
- Best Start in Life

The Children and Families Partnership will continue to receive updates on key issues that affect children, young people and families, for example the youth employment initiative and Stronger Families programme.

**Young People’s Mental Health**

Young people, supported by Investing in Children attended the meeting to give an update on outcomes following their involvement in the CAMHS (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services) review and providing feedback on the Children and Young People’s Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Transformation Plan, including:

- Establishing an urban art group in Durham City, to provide peer support and help close the gap between transitions from CAMHS to adult mental health services.
- Setting up a young adults support café called Y-ASC, which was established as a place for young people to meet up before the urban art group. The café provides peer support for young people who are not interested in being part of the art group, but who benefit from the support in a safe environment.
- Young people from these groups are developing a cart to enter into the Red Bull Soap Box competition with the slogan 'powered by ADHD' to raise awareness and break down stigma attached to mental health.
- A peer mentoring project is being piloted in Seaham High School and North Durham Academy, in response to feedback Investing in Children received in relation to increasing the understanding of mental health issues in school.

## **Engagement with Children and Young People**

The Children and Families Partnership is committed to ongoing dialogue with young people to ensure that they are integral to the development of key areas of work to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.

Partners agreed a more active, coordinated approach to engagement with children and young people moving forward, where they will share feedback and outcomes from their own engagement activities allowing them to be utilised by others. The new approach will:

- Maximise resources and funding
- Develop relationships between partners and provide opportunities to share best practice
- Avoid duplication and encourage feedback, ensuring that children and young people don't feel over consulted and undervalued
- Allow us to identify gaps in County Durham's engagement activities so we can ensure engagement is reflective and representative
- Maximise engagement outcomes.

A web based SharePoint site has been created to record and capture the range of engagement with young people taking place across the county, and all partners are being encouraged to access, utilise and contribute to this.

The new approach aligns with Durham County Council's Transformation Programme vision to better meet the needs of residents at reduced cost and move partnership working from good to great.

Please contact [Jayne.watson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:Jayne.watson@durham.gov.uk) if you would like further information or a demonstration of the SharePoint site, or require IT access.