



Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date Thursday 26 September 2019

Time 9.30 am

Venue Committee Room 2 - County Hall, Durham

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 1 July 2019 (Pages 3 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations
7. Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2018/19 - Report of Independent Chair Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (Pages 11 - 48)
8. Ofsted Education Framework 2019
 - a) Report of the Corporate Director Children and Young People's Services (Pages 49 - 54)
 - b) Presentation by the Schools Setting Leadership Advisor (Pages 55 - 62)
9. Consultation on High Needs Block funding for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and Inclusion Support
 - a) Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services (Pages 63 - 78)
 - b) Presentation by the Head of Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children (Pages 79 - 88)
10. Quarter One 2019/20 Performance Management Report (Pages 89 - 110)

11. Budget
- a) Budget Outturn 2018/2019 Quarter 4 - Joint Report of the Corporate Director of Resources and the Corporate Director Children and Young People's Service (Pages 111 - 126)
 - b) Budget Forecast 2019/2020 Quarter 1 - Joint Report of the Corporate Director of Resources and the Corporate Director Children and Young People's Service (Pages 127 - 140)
12. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Helen Lynch
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
18 September 2019

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

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

Councillors P Atkinson, B Bainbridge, A Batey, D Bell, J Blakey, P Brookes, J Charlton, B Coult, R Crute, S Durham, N Grayson, C Hampson, K Hopper, I Jewell, L Kennedy, L Mavin, M Simmons, A Willis and M Wilson

Faith Communities Representatives:

Mrs C Johnston

Parent Governor Representatives:

Mrs J Norman and Mr R Patel

Co-opted Members:

Ms R Evans and Mrs P Parkins

Contact: Kirsty Gray

Tel: 03000 269705

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 **Monday 1 July 2019 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor H Smith (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors C Potts, D Bell, J Blakey, B Coult, R Crute, C Hampson, K Hopper, I Jewell, M Simmons and A Willis

Parent Governor Representative:

Mrs J Norman

Co-opted Members:

Ms R Evans and Mrs P Parkins

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Atkinson, B Bainbridge, A Batey, P Brookes, J Charlton, S Durham, L Kennedy, L Mavin, M Wilson, Mrs C Craig (Faith Rep) and Mrs C Johnston (Faith Rep)

2 Substitute Members

Councillor Maddison for Councillor Grayson

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2019 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

Ms Evans referred to Durham County Council's pledge earlier in the year to make the county Carbon Neutral and asked what the impact of this would be on children and young people. She suggested that an implication on the report appendix would be helpful.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer confirmed that this fell under the remit of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and that they were monitoring it. This particular issue would be reported to a meeting of that committee on 12 July and all were welcome to attend. Councillor Crute added that full Council were expecting to receive an update at the next meeting on 17 July.

6 Media Relations

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer presented Members with recent press articles relating to the remit of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee;

- Children at risk of higher obesity because they don't get enough sleep
- Children aged five and under at risk of internet addiction
- One in five children living in poverty
- Childcare crisis hitting poor families hardest

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

7 Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements

The Committee considered a report of the Independent Chair of Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership that provided an update on the transition from the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to the new statutory partnership arrangement known as the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP) (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Independent Chair referred to a copy of the plan that outlined the new safeguarding arrangements and he highlighted the vision of what the partnership were trying to achieve. He advised of the structure including the day to day functioning and the independent scrutiny arrangements.

The new structure of the DSCP is more streamlined to ensure that the right people are engaged to provide an immediate response when necessary. Members were advised that representatives from the three safeguarding partners of the CCGs, Durham Police and Durham County Council made up the Executive Group.

He went on to explain the DSCP would engage with the Criminal Justice Service, Education Sector, Health Service and the Voluntary and Community Sector who would help to shape the agenda for the Executive.

The Chair was pleased to receive this report and see a more streamlined and accountable approach. She asked how long it would take to bed these changes in. The Independent Chair explained that the Performance and Impact Group would expect to see changes from the first quarter. The Executive Group meets monthly and would be able to flag up any issues that can be actioned much more quickly. He would come back to a future meeting of the committee to report on the effectiveness.

With a multi-agency set-up and people having a different knowledge base and skills, Councillor Jewell asked how this was all brought together. The Independent Chair explained that there was a need to know about each others role and that the Executive Group would break down any barriers to be able to prioritise work. From the start the partnership had consulted with partners about how to engage and to be realistic in terms of their contribution to the partnership. For example, the Probation Service were informed of how to engage on a national level however some local partners would be more effective in the community setting. He went on to say that the common agenda for all was to keep children safe.

Councillor Crute asked for assurances in relation to the flow of data so that whole systems would work without any barriers. The Independent Chair explained that the partnership were aware of what data could be shared.

Referring to the Young Commissioner, Councillor Potts asked how they would be involved. The Independent Chair advised that service users and practitioners had been involved in the process and discussions would take place about how to include the Young Commissioner. They would engage with young people and coordinate a young people's annual report from feedback from agenda days and internal scrutiny panels.

Resolved:

- (i) That the content of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the update of the transition arrangements was received.
- (iii) That an annual update from the DSCP to ensure links were made between local child death issues and learning from regional reviews be agreed.
- (iv) That a report on the effectiveness of the changes come back to a meeting in 6-12 months time, be agreed.

8 County Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019/2020 - Part B Children

The Committee received a report and presentation from the Chief Officer, Durham and Durham Dales Easington & Sedgefield, and North Durham Clinical Commissioning Groups, and Chair of the County Durham Integrated Board that presented part B (Children and Young People) of the Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019/20 (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery, North Durham and DDES CCG highlighted the key areas of the plan which had been developed under the leadership of the Integrated Steering Group for Children, which included:

- Children and Young People's Strategy
- The Integrated Steering Group for Children governance and work programme
- Integrated commissioning approach for children and the priorities linked to the inspection regimes in children's services
- Therapy services
- Development of place based 0-19 services

The Director of Commissioning Strategy and Delivery informed the committee of a joint development session that was held on 13 June with the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board that discussed the development of the longer term plan. Information from this session would be shared with this committee.

The committee were informed that there would be a focus on how services would work together to ensure that every child had the best start in life with a focus on:-

- Smoking in Pregnancy
- Healthy Weight

There would also be a focus on the transition to adult services and the need for improvements for:-

- Review of Looked After Children
- Review of SEND

Ms Evans commented on the inclusion of the community and voluntary sector and service users for the co-production of the plan. She asked how young people would independently access services in the Dales when out of hours services were being removed. The Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Development explained that the community and voluntary sector has been involved as a partner and they were helping to make improvements. Training in teams and working with partners would make the overall experience a better one for service users. With regards to delivering services at a local level she advised that not all services could be delivered in this way. She added that targeted work was being carried out for

out of hours services and that transport and outreach services were being looked at.

The Deputy Director of Public Health advised that the Local Authority was further ahead in terms of planning and were working together with partners on how to include residents in the process. With regards to access she added that they were also looking at online support via social media, including access to counselling services. She also reminded members about the role of the pharmacy and the self support opportunities.

Councillor Jewell referred to cuts in services and thought there was a mis match in terms of the strategic vision and the operational side of services, referring in particular to Villa Real Special School.

The Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Development explained that there was a requirement to meet therapy needs of children however there had been challenges in terms of staffing. She assured members that the service had an obligation to meet the needs of the SEND population although it should be noted that the needs had increased and the service was stretched.

The Chair appreciated that the plans for transitions were difficult and that neurodisability and SEND required specialist teams that had no equivalent in adult care, resulting in the care being fragmented. She said that changes in service delivery needed to change to ensure that young people could continue their care.

In response the Associate Director of Operations, CDDFT said that provider organisations did recognise the issues around transitions and he highlighted a concern in paediatrics when young people were discharged at a certain age. Services were looking at how to deal on a case by case basis so that care could be managed in a better way. He informed the committee that discussions had been taking place with the current 0-19 provider, Harrogate and District NHS FT, about extending the service to 0-25 year olds. He added that this was about co-production and ensuring we moved forward with partners.

The Deputy Director of Public Health advised the committee that Head of Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children was leading on a transition group for 14-15 year olds, with a focus in particular on mental health and autism. An update would be given at a later date.

Further to a query from Councillor Crute about bringing Part A for Adults and Part B for Children together, the Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery explained that many services span age ranges including A&E and NEAS however she assured members that an individual or a groups needs were always met. She said that this would span both Adults, Wellbeing and Health and Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committees going forward.

Resolved:

- (i) That the report and plan were noted.
- (ii) That the approach to the development of the long term Durham System Health and Wellbeing Plan outlined in the report be noted.

9 Quarter Four 2018/19 Performance Management Report

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships which presented the progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the Council's Corporate Performance Framework for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People priority theme (for copy see file of minutes).

Referring to the 20 week timescale for completed Education Health and Care Plan's (EHCP), Councillor Coult asked how long the remainder of plans were taking to complete. The Corporate Equality and Strategy Manager explained that the threshold was at 20 weeks however a lot of EHCP's were completed in 20-28 weeks with very few slipping beyond that timescale. He went on to explain that there were many reasons for the delay including the capacity to complete the plan and making sure that the right placements were available. In Durham if there was not an agreed placement the plan could not be completed.

Councillor Crute referring to the DurhamWorks programme asked if the figure of 5,800 people could be broken down by education, employment and training. He also referred to the social work academy and the role scrutiny had played in recommending the reduced case loads for social workers. The Corporate Equality and Strategy Manager said that the investment into the academy would take time to see benefits however recruitment through the academy would see a lower case load within the first year that would gradually increase.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Scoping Report: Elective Home Education

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships that provided scope for an in-depth review in to Elective Home Education (EHE) (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer reported that since this review was agreed last July there was now an opportunity to comment and make changes to the terms of reference and project plan. She highlighted the four key lines of enquiry, the expected outcomes and asked that eight members express in interest in being part of the group.

Ms Evans would be interested in those families who had chosen home education due to a breakdown of relationship with the school.

Councillor Maddison referred to the interactive whiteboards used and asked if parents would have access to those resources. She was particularly concerned about looked after children and how this impacted on the deterioration of results.

The Head of Education and Skills advised that the methods used at home depended upon the individual circumstances of the parent as some were more technically enabled than others. This would be looked at as part of the review.

Councillor Jewell expressed his concerns about the lack of interaction and communication for those children being educated at home.

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained within the report be agreed.

11 Refresh of the Work Programme

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships that gave details of the updated work programme for 2019/20 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer advised that included in the work programme were several items where members had requested further progress updates, there were also new areas of work for members to consider and members would receive a progress update on the recommendations from the Role of the Social Worker from a Child's Perspective review report.

Members were advised that in addition to the six diaried meetings an additional four special meetings had been arranged and there was a possibility of an additional special meeting as it was likely that could be an Ofsted Inspection of the Authority's Children's Services at some point during the municipal year.

As in previous years the Committee would hold a meeting at a school and this year it was to be Durham Johnston in March 2020. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer would meet with the Head Teacher closer to the time, but it was suggested that due to parking issues members should travel together in transport provided by the authority.

Members were reminded that any suggestions for in depth review could not be considered until completion of the Elective Home Education review activity.

Although a full programme, the Chair said that any further ideas would be welcome.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

12 Verbal update on Review of Children's Residential Care Homes

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer gave an update into the review of Children's Care Homes. The draft report had been compiled and evidence had been gathered so that the recommendations could be drafted. The report would come back to committee for approval before being reported to Cabinet.

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



26 September 2019

**Local Safeguarding Children Board
Annual Report 2018/19**

**Report of Michael Banks, Independent Chair Durham Safeguarding
Children Partnership**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present the final Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual Report 2018/19. This is the final report prior to transitioning to the new statutory partnership arrangement known as the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP).

Executive summary

- 2 In 2018 partner agencies of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board undertook a process of transition to new local safeguarding arrangements that were compliant with statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.
- 3 Throughout this period of transition an Executive Group was established but the Board and the LSCB Business Team continued to work in parallel to the new arrangements, progressing the work of the safeguarding partnership and continuing to fulfil all of its statutory functions.
- 4 The LSCB Annual Report 2018/19 demonstrates the extent to which the functions of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, as set out in the earlier national statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (March 2015), have been effectively fulfilled.
- 5 The report describes the work undertaken against the LSCB's 2018-19 priorities and describes local governance arrangements and links to other strategic partnerships across County Durham.

- 6 The report provides an overview of performance monitoring as well as providing a summary of the use of restraint in secure centres; Serious Case Reviews; Child Death Reviews; and the LSCB's provision of multi-agency training provision.
- 7 This Annual Report is the last for the LSCB and the first for the Independent Chair of the Board. The report includes achievements in LSCB priorities, information relating to the Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) which occurred in 2018 and the transition to the DSCP. This report will be shared with partners and made available on the DSCP website.

Recommendation(s)

- 8 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
 - a) Note the content of this report.
 - b) Endorse the 2018/19 Annual Report of Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Background

- 9 Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) was a statutory body established under the Children Act 2004. It was independently chaired (as required by statute) and consisted of senior representatives of all the principle stakeholders working together to safeguard children and young people in County Durham.
- 10 The LSCB's primary responsibility was to provide a way for local organisations that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in County Durham and to ensure that they did so effectively.
- 11 Statutory Guidance from Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015) required each Local Safeguarding Children Board to produce and publish an Annual Report evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area.

Transition to New Arrangements

- 12 The LSCB, in accordance with statutory guidance, transitioned to new safeguarding arrangements during 2018/19. The transition project ensured that the new partnership was compliant with legislation and able to fulfil its responsibilities.
- 13 During the transition period an Executive Group was established, and Safeguarding Partners identified the Relevant Agencies required to support local safeguarding arrangements. The Transition Project co-ordinated five work streams: Governance, Data and Legal; Serious Case Reviews; Child Death Overview Panel; Performance and Quality; Training and Communications.
- 14 A report outlining the transition to new safeguarding arrangements was sent to Cabinet for approval in April 2019.

Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation

- 15 The LSCB continued to facilitate a multi-agency Missing and Exploited Group (MEG) sub group. This group has reported that funding has been secured in relation to ERASE and PCSOs. The MEG has joined with the equivalent group in Darlington and will be re-named Child Exploitation Group to reflect its wider focus of County Lines and Modern Day Slavery.
- 16 The LSCB training programme increased the reach of the Exploitation and Grooming and partner training including bus companies and fast food outlets for the first time. Partners also reported progress relating to operations Artemis and Makesafe disrupting offenders and targeting hotspot locations.

Working Together

- 17 During 2018/19, the Working Together sub group have focussed on the efforts of partners seeking to reduce the average length of time a neglect case is 'live/open', to increase the timeliness of Initial Health Assessments

submitted for Looked After and increase the number of recorded challenges in cases.

- 18 The Working Together group also commissioned a survey of practitioners, undertaken by the LSCB Business Team, and used the learning to review and revise several key documents and operational tools available from the LSCB website.

Tackling Neglect

- 19 The Neglect sub group, in conjunction with Public Health England, established a working group to raise awareness of the impact of poor oral health and dental neglect. The Neglect group identified the need to create a pathway for children who miss medical appointments to raise awareness of neglect by changing the recorded event from “Did Not Attend” to ‘Was Not Brought’ and identifying subsequent action.
- 20 Partners shared progress on initiatives relating to tackling neglect such as the review and relaunch of the Home Environment Assessment Tool and the introduction of the Signs of Safety practice model. This model addresses the needs of children and families by identifying their strengths and supporting their development to improve the wellbeing of children affected by Neglect.

Empowering Young People

- 21 The Empowering Young People sub group is a new group bringing together a range of partners to create a ‘scorecard’ to enable services to define and develop improvements in their service approaches to engaging with young people.
- 22 The group looked at identifying what is required to increase confidence in young people who have safeguarding concerns, to improve the recognition of current engagement practice and improve the influence of the voice of the child in processes such as child protection conferences. To increase young people’s awareness of safeguarding issues a safeguarding engagement module was co-produced between local authority officers, partner agencies, teachers and young people in schools.
- 23 The LSCB renewed its subscription to the Investors in Children recognition scheme and the Empowering Young People group identified that there was greater scope for the development of initiatives that encourage meaningful participation by children and young people in 2019/20, ensuring feedback from young people fed into the work of the new partnership arrangements.

Professional Challenge

- 24 Durham LSCB have instigated five Serious Case Reviews in 2018/19 and published one Serious Case Review Report. The LSCB has introduced a series of short documents called 7-Minute Briefings, to improve the communication of learning from Serious Case Reviews. The Annual Report identifies the following recurrent themes of published serious case reviews:

- Bruising / Injuries to non-mobile babies
 - Sexually Harmful Behaviour
 - Non-compliance with Child Protection Procedures
 - Blockages in Communication and Information Sharing
 - Lack of Holistic and Robust Assessments
 - Lack of Professional Curiosity and Triangulation of Information
- 25 The LSCB hosts an annual Serious Case Review learning conference to share learning and improve understanding of issues, concerns and themes identified.
- 26 The Child Death Overview Panel for Durham and Darlington publish a separate annual report regarding key learning from child deaths and the completion of recommendations following reviews. In 2018/19 there were 38 sudden or unexpected child deaths in Durham.
- 27 Preparations were made for the implementation of new Child Death Review arrangements from April 2019.

Performance Monitoring and Quality Assurance

- 28 The LSCB Business Team provided quarterly performance reporting to the LSCB based on a range of indicators identified by partners. The indicators reported related to the LSCB's priorities and this was supported by single and multi-agency auditing to review practice in relation to CSE, strategy meetings and child protection plans.
- 29 The LSCB also completed a "Section 11" audit which contained more than 5600 separate pieces of information including responses from more than 138 schools and academies from across County Durham. 90% of the schools who contributed to the Section 11 said that they used the audit to prepare for their own Education reviews. Agencies identified a total of 63 separate actions which, with the findings of the audit, were compiled into a report and submitted to the LSCB.
- 30 The LSCB has responsibility for ensuring multi-agency participation in the completion of the JTAI Action Plan created after the multi-agency safeguarding review on the theme Domestic Abuse. Findings from the JTAI inspection, which includes inspectors from Ofsted, Care Quality Commission (CQC), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP), led to more than 100 actions being identified to address specific areas for improvement.
- 31 The LSCB also monitors, through the Quality and Performance Group, the use of restraint at Aycliffe Secure Services Centre. There was a total of 520 incidents which required restraint during 2018/19 resulting in 94 injuries. This is a slight reduction compared to the previous annual report and has been achieved during a period of increased occupation at the Centre.

Policy and Procedures

- 32 The LSCB continues to provide six-monthly reviews to maintain the multi-agency procedures and ensure the information reflects local and national changes. The Child Death Overview Panel has been reviewed to include a GP at each meeting, and lay member engagement during thematic reviews.
- 33 Procedures updated in 2018/19 were:
- Tackling Neglect Strategy
 - Neglect Practice Guidance
 - Thresholds Document
 - Children's Services Referral Form (New)
 - Home Environment Risk Assessment Tool (HEAT) and Guidance
 - HEAT Analysis and Action Plan (New)
 - Children and Families Outcomes Framework and Practice Toolkit

Training and Communication

- 34 The LSCB offered 10 core courses in 2018/19 as part of the multi-agency training programme and 22 bespoke training events were delivered to single agencies. A total of 98 multi-agency training events were delivered and attended by a total of 1,854 with 93% of attendees marking the training as good or excellent.
- 35 The LSCB provide access to a full range of e-learning courses and in 2018/19, 6,665 e-learning courses have been completed with 97% of those completing evaluations stated they would recommend the course to a friend or colleague. An analysis of overall training impact showed that 66% of participants believed that training provided by the LSCB had improved outcomes for the children and families.
- 36 The LSCB Website is the main communication channel and access point for local safeguarding information and materials. Pages on the website have been viewed more than 14,137 times by more 27,000 users.

Conclusion

- 37 The LSCB Annual Report 2018/19 is the final report of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and presents information to show how functions of the LSCB, as set out in the earlier national statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (March 2015), and the agreed priorities have been effectively addressed.

Background Papers

Contact: Mark Quinn, Performance and Programme Coordinator Tel: 03000 265772

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) was a statutory body established under the Children Act 2004. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 (Statutory Guidance) requires each Local Safeguarding Children Board to produce and publish an Annual Report evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area

Finance

Yearly financial contributions to Durham LSCB are received from partner agencies and are detailed in the LSCB Annual Report.

Consultation

Consultation with partner agencies and stakeholders has been undertaken as part of the development of the LSCB Annual Report.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty

The LSCB Annual Report identifies the actions to safeguard the needs of vulnerable children and young people.

Crime and disorder

The LSCB Annual Report reflects priorities and action that impact positively on crime and disorder in County Durham. The report shows effective partnership working with the Safe Durham Partnership.

Staffing

The priorities identified in the LSCB Annual Report will be delivered using existing resources. Durham County Council will contribute to the delivery of the priorities in partnership with other responsible authorities.

Accommodation

No adverse implications.

Risk

No adverse implications.

Disability Issues

No adverse implications.



Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Safeguarding Children
In County Durham

www.durham-scp.org.uk

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1. Foreword by Independent Chair

“Hello and welcome to the *very last* Annual Report of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)! This is because over the past year, the LSCB, in addition to focussing on its usual priorities of safeguarding children and promoting their welfare, has transitioned into the new Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership in fulfilment of the legislative requirements of the Children and Social work Act 2017 and its underpinning guidance, *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018*. During last year the LSCB was subjected to a Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI), alongside its statutory partners, and therefore also was required to focus on the resulting recommendations.

This report therefore covers three main areas, namely:

- Achievements against 2018/19 LSCB priorities
- JTAI recommendations, action plan and achievements

The transition from LSCB to DSCP

In addition to the above, the report will outline the context in which the LSCB operated, its governance and structure, performance monitoring and quality assurance, together with a breakdown of the partnership budget. It will also provide an overview of Serious Case Reviews finalised during last year, and Child Death Reviews undertaken.

If every child in County Durham is to flourish, achieve their potential and live life in abundance, then their safeguarding and welfare are the bedrocks on which this will be built. Our focus as Durham LSCB has been on such outcomes, so that **‘Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm’**.

I would like to thank the many partner organisations and their representatives who were members of the LSCB. They were part of a successful partnership which we will use as a platform for greater multi-agency working and integrated services benefiting our children and their families. I would particularly like to thank those people who lead our subgroups which focussed on LSCB priorities; our Lay Members who gave their time and talents as volunteers, and our Children and Young People Portfolio Holder, the latter two bringing a further level of independent scrutiny. Finally, I would like to thank all those partners involved in the management of the transition process to Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership, and particularly the LSCB Business Unit whose collective talents continuously support the operations of the partnership.

It has been quite a year and I hope this report sheds a little light on the last year of the Local Safeguarding Children Board”.



Michael Banks
Durham LSCB Independent Chair

2. Introduction

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board has a statutory duty to prepare and publish an Annual Report which describes how our partners safeguard vulnerable children and young people.

Our primary responsibility is to provide a way for the local agencies that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to ensure that they do so effectively.

Section 3 of the report highlights some statistical information about County Durham and provides a local context for our work.

Section 4 describes the local governance arrangements and structure of Durham LSCB. It also provides information on the new Safeguarding Arrangements that were introduced in 2018/19 through the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

Section 5 highlights some of the achievements and the progress that has been made in the last year as well as reporting on the work undertaken against the 2018/19 priorities.

Section 6 covers our Performance Management Framework and describes the multi-agency audits we have undertaken. It also provides an overview of Serious Case Reviews and the use of restraint in Aycliffe Secure Services Centre.

Section 7 outlines our multi-agency training provision and describes the marketing and communication activity undertaken by the LSCB.

Lastly, **Section 8** identifies the priorities which the new Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership will take forward into 2019/20.

The Annual Report 2018/19 demonstrates the extent to which the functions of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, as set out in the national statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (March 2015) have been effectively fulfilled.



The information presented in this Annual Report is drawn from a wide range of sources from across the County Durham Partnership. These include the County Durham Integrated Needs Assessment; Lessons Learned from local Serious Case Reviews; the Child Death Review Annual Report; and a range of Durham LSCB strategy documents and action plans.



More Information:

Find out more information by clicking here - [Durham Insight](#)

3. Local Data

County Durham stretches from the rural North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the west to the Heritage Coastline in the east and is home to a range of national treasures including Durham Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



There are an estimated **526,980 people** living in County Durham (ONS mid 2018 population estimates). Since the previous release (mid 2017 estimates) the population of County Durham increased by 3,318 (0.6%) from 523,662 to 526,980.



The under 18 population in the County has been relatively stable since 2011 at around 101,000.



County Durham is a largely rural county comprising of **21 settlements** with an estimated population of over 5,000 people (estimated from the ONS Mid-2017 Output Area Population Estimates).



Although levels of deprivation in County Durham have improved we are ranked the **75th most deprived area** out of 326 local authorities in England



Child poverty in County Durham is higher than the England average, with **21.8% of children** under 16 years living in poverty (2016).

The county has a very diverse combination of communities ranging from some of the most sparsely populated rural areas in the country through to the larger towns and Durham City; each area with its own needs and aspirations.



Data source: [Office for National Statistics](https://www.ons.gov.uk) (ONS)

Local Safeguarding Data 2018/19 (Provisional)

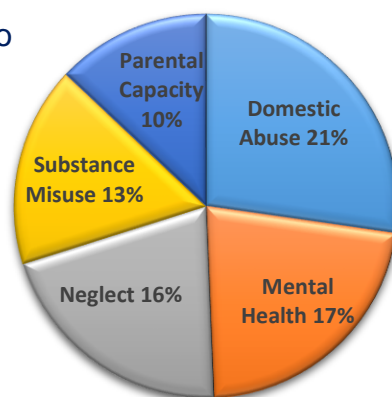
38 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan (50 per 10,000 population aged 0-18). A continued reduction from previous years figures.

Children on a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time, within two years of the previous plan **is 10.3%**

Neglect continues to be the **most frequent reason** for children being placed on a Child Protection Plan in 2018/19.

79.7% of children who were made subject of a Child Protection Plan under five years old were made so due to neglect. This is an 8.1% figure increase from the previous year.

Domestic abuse (21%) continues to be the main parental risk factor leading to children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan. Mental Health (17%), Neglect 16%), Substance Misuse (13%) and Parental Capacity (10%) are also, significant factors.



833 Children are in the Looked After system.

12 children were in Private Fostering arrangements during this period.

65 children and young people were reported missing from home in County Durham more than once.

148 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) referrals. This figure has fallen from previous years and reflects a heightened awareness. Of those targeted **the majority are girls.** Online Grooming is the most common model of CSE.

5 Serious Case Reviews commenced, and 1 Serious Case Review published.
27,745 unique users visited the LSCB website in 2018/19 with over **114,137-page views.**

A total of **98 multi-agency training courses and events** were delivered and **attended by 1,854 staff** and volunteers.

833

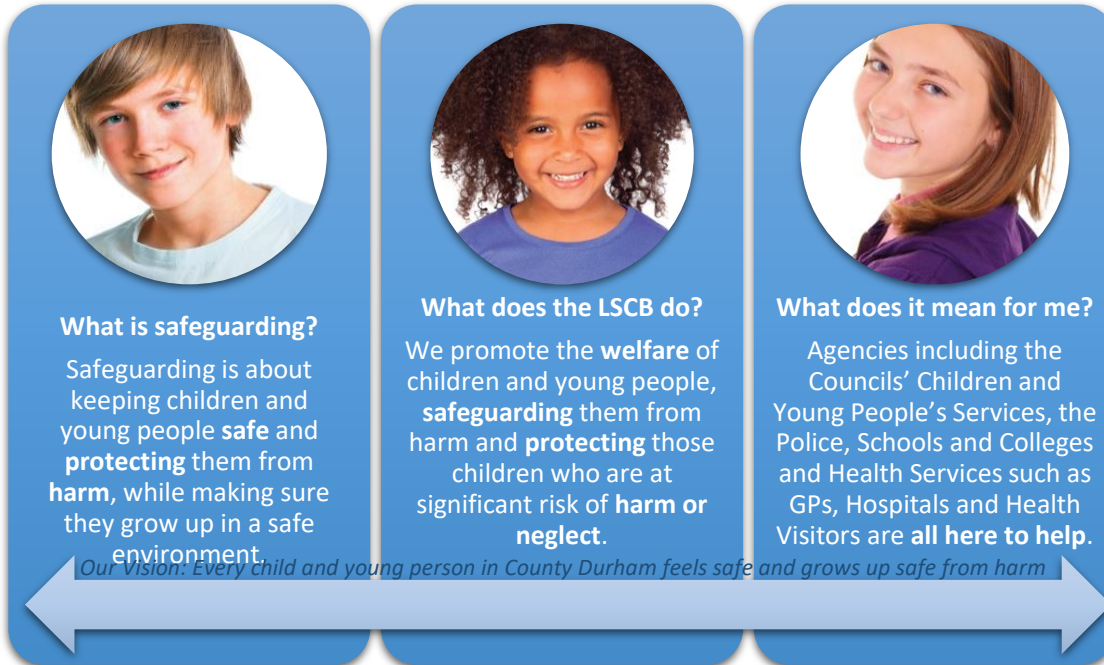
ERASE
EXPLOITATION
ERASEABUSE.ORG



4. Governance and Structure

Local Safeguarding Children Board

Each local area is required by Law to have a Local Safeguarding Children Board. The LSCB is a statutory body established in legislation (Children Act 2004) and works according to national guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015'.



What is safeguarding?
Safeguarding is about keeping children and young people **safe** and **protecting** them from **harm**, while making sure they grow up in a safe environment.

What does the LSCB do?
We promote the **welfare** of children and young people, **safeguarding** them from harm and **protecting** those children who are at significant risk of **harm or neglect**.

What does it mean for me?
Agencies including the Councils' Children and Young People's Services, the Police, Schools and Colleges and Health Services such as GPs, Hospitals and Health Visitors are **all here to help**.

Our Vision: Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm

The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board is chaired by an independent person and meets quarterly. The Board held two development sessions in 2018/19 taking the total number of meeting to six a year. Durham LSCB is supported by the LSCB Business Unit which is hosted by Durham County Council.

The functions of the LSCB were:

- *To develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area*
- *To communicate and raise awareness of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children*
- *To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the local authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advise them on ways to improve*
- *To participate in the planning of services for children in the area of the authority*
- *To undertake reviews of serious cases and advising the local authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned*

Throughout 2018/19, in accordance with the requirements of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and its supporting guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, LSCB partnership arrangements were changed and the new Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership was established on 1st April, 2019.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

The new local safeguarding arrangements have been established, led by three Safeguarding Partners and supported by Relevant Agencies. New Child Death Review arrangements were put in place.

Safeguarding Partners are identified as:

- Local Authorities
- Chief Officers of Police
- Clinical Commissioning Groups

Child Death Review Partners are identified as:


- Local Authorities
- Clinical Commissions Groups



During the transition period an Executive Group was established and Safeguarding Partners identified the **Relevant Agencies** required to support local safeguarding arrangements. These include agencies that were former members of the LSCB, but also reach out further to other agencies with safeguarding children responsibilities.

A Transition Project Board was established to co-ordinate five work streams: Governance, Data and Legal; Serious Case Reviews; Child Death Overview Panel; Performance and Quality; Training and Communications.

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board continued to carry out all of their statutory functions, until the new [Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership](#) became operational on 1st April 2019.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Consultation with Children and Young People

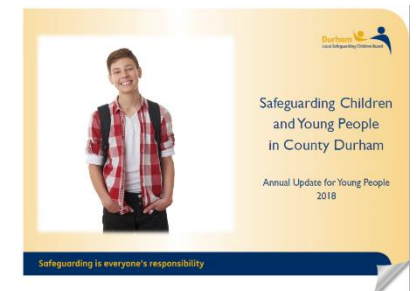
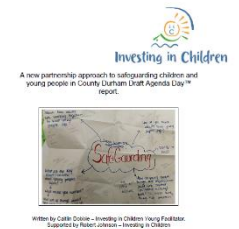
During the development of the new safeguarding partnership arrangements the partners sought to understand the concerns of children, young people and families from across County Durham.

Partners consulted with a range of young people engaged with their service areas such as looked after young people and police cadets. Investors in Children were commissioned to hold two consultation sessions, known as Agenda Days, which were led by young people in the community and a report of the findings by the lead young people was submitted to the LSCB.

Through direct engagement with groups and reviewing recent consultations already undertaken the LSCB was able to identify recurring themes in the concerns of children and young people such as,

- Cyber Safety – specifically social media, online grooming and bullying
- Emotional Wellbeing - Low mood and Anxiety, mental health
- Risky behaviour threatening personal Safety (substance misuse and criminality own or parents)

It is the intention of the new Safeguarding Partnership to utilise this awareness to inform priorities in 2019-2020.



Working across Partnerships

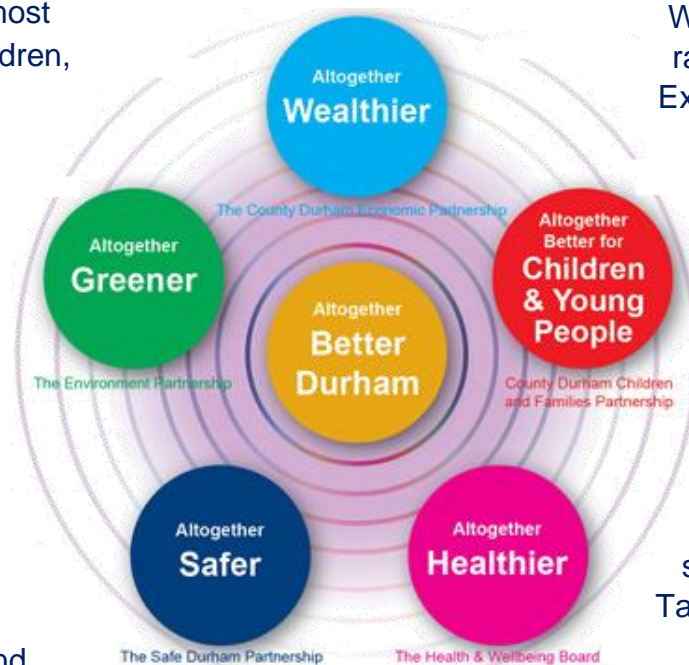
Durham LSCB worked with a wide range of themed partnerships. Together they form the overarching County Durham Partnership and work towards an 'Altogether Better Durham'.

Each of the five thematic partnerships has a specific focus:

- **The Children and Families Partnership** – Works to ensure effective services are delivered in the most efficient way to improve the lives of children, young people and families.
- **The Health and Wellbeing Board** – Promotes integrated working between commissioners of health services, public health and social care services, to improve health and wellbeing.
- **The Safe Durham Partnership** – Tackles crime, disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and to reduce re-offending.
- **The Environment Partnership** – Improves, transforms and sustains the environment to support the economy and the wellbeing of local communities.
- **The Economic Partnership** – Works to make County Durham an area where people want to live, work, invest and

- visit; whilst enabling residents and businesses to achieve their full economic potential.

Durham LSCB continued to engage and challenge these partnerships where appropriate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in County Durham.




We have strengthened our joint working with a range of partnerships on shared or similar priorities. Examples include:

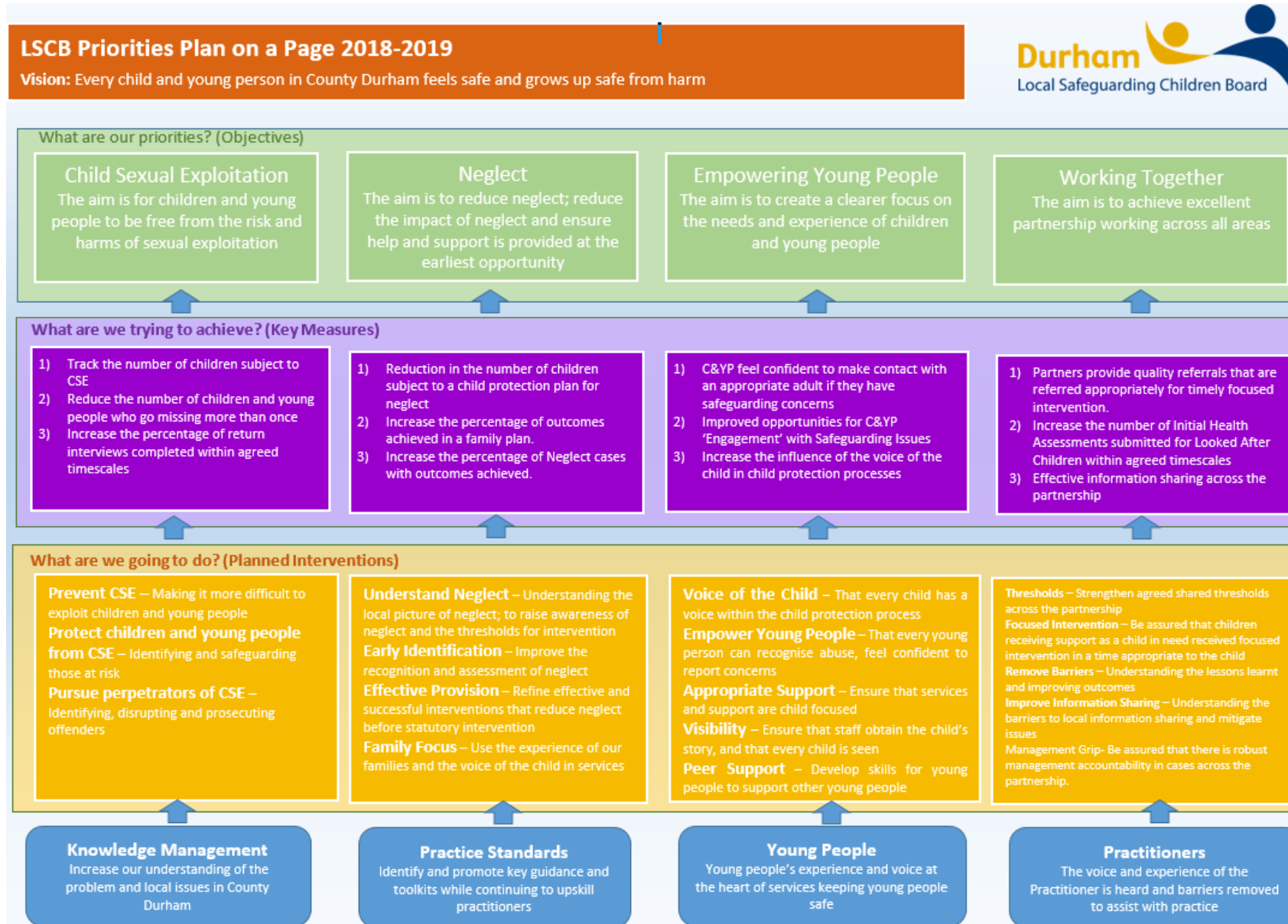
Working with the Safe Durham Partnership in respect of domestic abuse, alcohol misuse, substance misuse and counter terrorism (PREVENT duty). Aligning and improving work within sexual violence, sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation.

Joint working with the Children and Families Partnership to increase the voice of the child through work that includes the student voice survey and the Children's Commissioner's Takeover Challenge.

Greater integration of the mental health and wellbeing agenda with the Health and Wellbeing Board and the development of a range of support aimed to reduce self-harm and suicide.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [County Durham Partnership](#)

5. Achievements against 2018/19 Priorities



Professional challenge and critical reflection within safeguarding is a professional responsibility. It is a sign of good professional practice, a healthy organisation and effective multi-agency working.

Challenging decisions, practice or actions when concerns arise may alter the professional response when ensuring the safety or well-being of a child or young person or their family.



The LSCB risk register and challenge log is a well-established tool that was used to ensure partners provide mitigating actions to reduce identified risks and acts on challenges made to agencies. This is reviewed at each LSCB Board meeting.

Examples of Professional Challenge

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) challenges agencies if agreed actions are not progressed within timescales and escalation processes are in place. Similarly, the Board monitors actions for learning following a Serious Case Review to ensure actions are progressed and implemented. During 2018 a review of SCR's

identified recurring themes which required strategic and operational intervention.

The LSCB monitored and challenged agencies following s.11 audits which gave assurance that they were complying with their safeguarding responsibilities.

The Joint Targeted Area Inspection in July 2018 challenged how agencies worked together on the front line. It highlighted areas of good practice, but also 46 areas for improvement. The resulting action plan identified 108 actions to improve professional practice.

Professional challenge also takes place at a senior level through a Chief Officers Safeguarding Group which includes the LSCB Independent Chair, Durham County Council, local Clinical Commissioning Groups, Probation organisations, local NHS Foundation Trusts and Durham Constabulary.

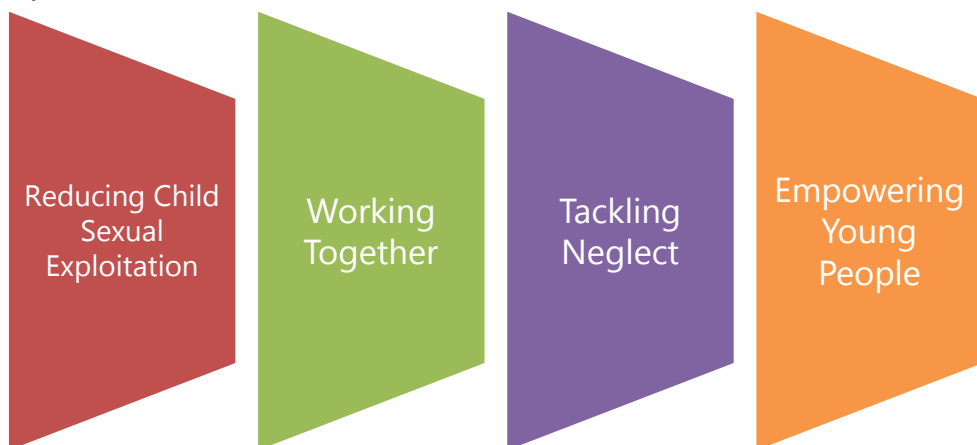
This forum allows the opportunity to challenge and share information on safeguarding issues including:

- Learning and recurring themes from Serious Case Reviews and Child Death Reviews
- Quality, impact and development of frontline practice
- Outcomes of multi-agency audits and action plans
- Emerging safeguarding concerns or trends
- Development of new Safeguarding Arrangements

LSCB Priorities 2018/19

In setting the priorities for 2018/19 the LSCB Board reviewed the progress on previous priorities and decided to continue to focus on Child Sexual Exploitation; tackling Neglect; Empowering Young People and Working Together.

Click on the tabs below to take you to each priority section in the report.



- **Online Grooming** is the most common model
- Of those young people targeted **80% are girls**
- The **average age** of victims is **12 yrs old**

Priority 1 – Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is a form of **child abuse**
- It can happen to anyone who is **persuaded, bullied or forced** into having **sex or sexual activity** such as taking and sharing naked photos of themselves
- This can be in return for things like **alcohol, money, drugs** or other gifts
- It can happen **online and face to face**
- It **ruins lives** and has serious **long-term effects** on young people and their families

Multi-agency work is coordinated through the LSCB Missing and Exploited Group (MEG). Its remit is to monitor partner activity and improve the services and responses to reported missing and absent children and the multi-agency response to Child Sexual Exploitation.

Over the past year partner agencies have continued to prove their multi-agency and single agency commitment to this work. Mainstream funding for ERASE Support Workers and PCSOs have been secured. All work is intelligence lead and is coordinated through the Durham LSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy across the following three strands:

- **Preventing** CSE from happening
- **Protecting** those who may be at risk
- **Pursuing** those who may be offending against children

We have widened our Exploitation and Grooming training to agencies not traditionally associated with safeguarding but who come into regular contact with vulnerable children. This includes some innovative work with Arriva Bus Services and Go North East. In addition, we have also engaged with taxi drivers as part of existing licenses. McDonald's restaurants across County Durham benefited from police training in Child Sexual Exploitation.

Operation Artemis focuses on tackling and disrupting offenders and dangerous perpetrators. This complements the work of Operation Makesafe targeting hotspot locations and awareness raising work protecting young people. Staff from six hotels have been trained and posters distributed to other hotels and pubs.



Some of the work we are doing to tackle CSE

- Support the **ERASE brand** - website, media campaign Erase support workers, education materials
- Increased **intelligence around Missing From Education** / Permanent Exclusions / Home Educated
- **National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day**
- **Awareness sessions held on County Lines; exploitation involved in sex working; and how CSE affects boys and men**
- Philomena Protocol launched. Its aim is to protect children who go missing from care homes.
- **Annual Childrens Homes conference held**

The LSCB has supported the police funded **Child Advocacy Centre** pilot aimed at children who are **victims of sexual abuse** and is intended to **improve the victim's journey** from report to court and beyond. In addition a new **'team around the child'** to provide a seamless therapeutic service.



In 2019 we will increase our focus on boys and young men at risk of CSE and identify ways to encourage them to report such abuse. We also recognise that parents want more information to protect their children and we will develop actions to support this.


The Missing and Exploited sub-group of LSCB joined forces with their counterparts in Darlington during 2018. This year it will be re-named Child Exploitation Group to reflect its wider focus of County Lines and Modern Day Slavery.



Learning Point

Listen to our ERASE Support Workers talk about the risk factors of Child Sexual Exploitation.



 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Missing and Exploited Children](#)

What is Working Together?

- The aim is to achieve excellent partnership working across all areas of LSCB business
- Drilling down into problems and finding solutions that work for every agency
- Changing agency culture to improve multi-agency practice following learning from Serious Case Reviews

The Working Together sub-group, having analysed the Practitioner Survey (2018), delivered on the following actions:

- Revised and relaunched the **Thresholds Document**
- Reviewed and revised **Thresholds Training**
- Revised the tools for **Focused Intervention**
- Launched '**You said...we did**' communication.

The Thresholds Document is to be reviewed again in 2019 to reflect the new Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership arrangements.

Practitioner Survey 2019 This was conducted to ensure that the voice and experience of the practitioner is heard and barriers removed to assist with practice.

During 2018/19, our focus was on the following key measures:

- Reduce the average length of time a neglect case is 'live/open'
- Increase the number of Initial Health Assessments submitted for Looked After Children within agreed timescales
- Increase the number of recorded challenges in cases

Some of the work to support Working Together

- **Thresholds:** Strengthen agreed shared thresholds across the partnership
- **Focused Intervention:** Assurance that children receiving support as a child in need, receive focused intervention in a time appropriate to the child
- **Removing Barriers:** Understanding the blockages, implementing lessons learnt and improving outcomes
- **Improve Information Sharing:** Understanding the barriers to local information sharing and mitigating issues



Learning Point

The Working Together group have also been working to implement learning from Serious Case Reviews. This two-minute video asks you to re-think 'did not attend' notifications. (Shared with permissions of Nottinghamshire LSCB)

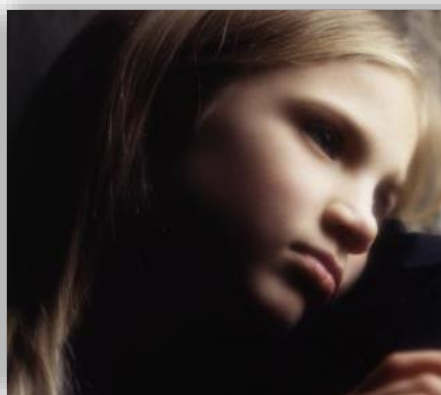


Priority 3 – Reducing Neglect

What is Neglect?

- Child neglect is a **failure** to look after a child and could result in **poor health** or development
- Children (including unborn babies), need food, water, shelter, warmth, protection and health care to **grow and develop**
- Children need their parents or carers to **love and care** for them
- Neglect can also include **physical abuse, emotional abuse and sexual abuse**

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 defines neglect as “The persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development”. In 2018/19 71.2% (312 of 438) of children on a Child Protection Plan was due to neglect.



Neglect is the **greatest single cause of children needing protection and care** in County Durham

The Tackling Neglect Strategy is aligned to four strategic objectives:

- **Understand Neglect** – To understand the local picture of neglect and the thresholds for intervention.
- **Early Identification** – To improve the recognition and assessment of neglect for children to ensure the most appropriate response is given.
- **Effective Provision** – To offer effective, evidence based interventions that reduce neglect before statutory intervention is required and to act decisively where these do not result in change for the child.
- **Family Focus** – To use the experience of our families and the voice of the child in the development and delivery of services.

Some of the work to tackle Neglect

- **Signs of Safety practice model** was implemented in 2018. To date over 300 childrens services practitioners have been trained in the model and 600 partners have attended briefing sessions
- The Home Environment Assessment Tool (HEAT) has been revised and relaunched to incorporate analysis and action plan
- Analytical support from Public Health Intelligence has provided a local profile of children affected by neglect, child poverty and deprivation. The profile has been shared with the Child Poverty Working Group who have developed and implemented a wide range of interventions.

The Neglect Group in conjunction with Public Health England has established a working group to raise awareness of the impact of poor oral health and dental neglect. A 'Was not brought' pathway is to be developed and embedded.

The Neglect Group is building on the learning from a National Joint Targeted Area Inspection on Neglect of Older Children. A strategy is under development for working with older children affected by neglect utilising a trauma informed approach.

Where the right support and intervention is provided to a child or young person it can have a dramatic positive effect on them and their life opportunities.



Learning Point

Neglect Video: Michelle's Story
This is the story of Michelle and her experience of neglect as she was growing up. Click the picture to watch the video.



Durham LSCB recognise that although good progress has been delivered by services to tackle neglect we need to continue this focus to support children and young people who suffer the consequences of growing up in neglectful circumstances. The Neglect Action Plan and performance framework has therefore been reviewed for 2019/20 for the new Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Neglect](#)

Priority 4 – Empowering Young People

What is Empowering Young People?

- To increase the **voice of the child** to make sure that services take **young people's views and opinions** into account when they plan services
- Providing **education, resilience and 'up-skilling'** opportunities for young people **in safeguarding and risk awareness**
- Staff working with children and young people want to know **what they think** and how things can be made **better for them**

The Empowering Young People subgroup brought many partners together to create a 'performance scorecard' that enables services to define and develop better ways of engaging with young people.

The subgroup considered the question: "What does good look like?" and took steps to identify what changes needed to take place to achieve good in terms of the following key areas:

- What is required to increase confidence and assurance of C&YP who have safeguarding concerns
- Improved current engagement practice is identified and shared by partner agencies
- The influence of the voice of the child is improved in processes including child protection conferences
- The influence of the voice of the child in relation to neglect and other key priorities (eg: bullying) is improved.

The subgroup worked to principles rooted in Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: “you have a say in decisions that affect you.”

Our work with children and young people continues to be recognised by ‘Investors in Children’ as good practice.

To increase young people’s awareness of safeguarding issues a safeguarding engagement module for C&YP was co-produced between local authority officers, partner agencies and teachers and children in schools.

It was trialled between December 2017 and February 2018 and is now available via the LSCB website for use in all schools.

The group identified greater scope for the development of initiatives that encourage meaningful participation by children and young people in the academic year 2019/20.

We continue to increase the **visibility and voice of the child** and this year we have focused on improving the influence of children in the Child Protection processes, challenging services to develop and evidence new approaches to engaging young people in the conference process.



6. Performance Monitoring and Quality Assurance

Durham LSCB continually monitors the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of multi-agency practice through the Performance Management Framework.

Where gaps are identified, implications for the LSCB are considered and any agreed actions are monitored through the LSCB risk register and challenge log.

The LSCB sub groups (aligned to priorities) have an agreed action plan and performance scorecard. Performance and progress is reported at the sub group level and collated through the Quality and Performance Group up to the LSCB Board to monitored and challenge.

Ongoing Quality Assurance

- Monitor **partner compliance** with the statutory requirement to have effective safeguarding arrangements in place (Section 11)
- Carry out **multi-agency audits** and identify lessons to be learned and make recommendations for future improvement and feeding into LSCB training
- Multi-agency audit reports to inform the LSCB Board of the **quality of work** being undertaken and its impact on outcomes for individual children and young people
- Overview of **multi-audits** to monitor and review practice
- The use of a series of **performance scorecards**

Serious Case Reviews are published on the Durham LSCB website for a period of 12 months. There is currently one published Serious Case Review on the website.

Outcomes and findings feed into our performance structures to promote a culture of continuous learning and improvement across the partner agencies of the LSCB.

The Child Death Overview Panel for Durham and Darlington share their key learning from child deaths. They monitor and challenge agencies for the completion of recommended identified actions and publish a separate annual report. Find out more information about [Child Death Reviews](#).

Multi-agency Audits

Last year the LSCB returned to calling multi-agency partners together to review records of practice.

Partners agreed that this process should be led by a practitioner related to the specific issues being audited to assure and challenge responses received.

A Section 11 Audit is Durham LSCB's primary audit to examine the safeguarding arrangements within a broad range of organisations and provides the Board with assurance that agencies are doing what they can to ensure the safety and welfare of children and young people.

The Section 11 audit conducted in 2018/19 utilised a web-based method for collecting 200 audit responses from GPs, schools and the member organisations of the LSCB. This collated audit contained more than 5637 separate pieces of information including responses

from more than 138 schools and academies from across County Durham.

90% of the schools who contributed to the Section 11 said that they used the audit to prepare for their own Education reviews. 52 GP Practices also responded to the Section 11 with 92% of their answers confirming relevant safeguarding expectations were met and Named GPs for Safeguarding offering support to enable further improvements

Agencies identified a total of 63 separate actions which, with the findings of the audit, were compiled into a report and submitted for review and monitoring by the LSCB.

To free up resources to support the JTAI audits the LSCB Board agreed to conduct Section 11 audits on a two yearly cycle with the next Section 11 audit to be completed in 2020/21.

Other multi-agency audits undertaken in 2018/19

- Child Sexual Exploitation Cases
- Strategy Meetings
- Child Protection Plans
- Practitioner Survey
- Section 11

Joint Targeted Area Inspections

This is a new multi-agency inspection to assess how agencies work together in an area to identify, support and protect vulnerable children and young people.

A 'JTAI' includes inspectors from Ofsted, Care Quality Commission (CQC), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) and reaches across the partnership.

The JTAI reviewed safeguarding on the theme of Domestic Violence and findings from this inspection led to an action plan with more than 100 actions to address specific areas for improvement.

The LSCB has responsibility for the oversight of the action plan and to ensure multi-agency participation.

Restraint

In conjunction with Durham County Council, Durham LSCB monitors the use of restraint at Aycliffe Secure Services Centre.

Many of the young people at Aycliffe Secure Services Centre are placed there by Local Authorities and Courts outside of the Durham area. Since 2011 and in line with 'Working Together' guidance we have reported on the use of restraint.

County Durham is amongst a small number of Local Authorities who have secure services within its boundaries.

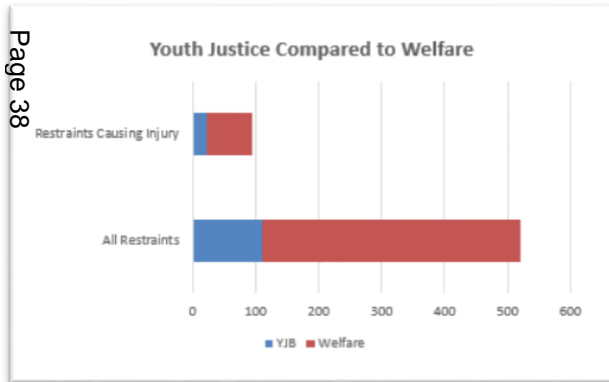
Aycliffe Secure Services Centre houses a changing population of young people (aged 11-17) with complex and challenging behaviours. The Young People have been referred through the courts because they are a risk to themselves or others, or because there is a concern about their involvement with criminal activities.

Injuries as result of restraint are graded using a set criteria

- **Level 1 – Minor Injury** - such as red marks on the skin, welts, superficial cuts and scratches, bruises which do not require medical treatment, including first aid
- **Level 2 – Minor Injury** - such as significant cuts, scratches, grazes, bloody noses, concussion, serious bruising and sprains where medical treatment is given by staff/nurse
- **Level 3 – Serious Injury requiring hospital treatment** - includes serious cuts, fractures, loss of consciousness and damage to internal organs

Aycliffe's implementation of a Restraint Minimisation Strategy continues alongside a range of alternative approaches to minimise the use and impact of restraint. As a result of these initiatives the majority of injuries are graded at Level 1.

There was a total of 520 incidents which required restraint during 2018/19. This is down from 531 in 2017/18. There were 94 injuries because of restraint, down from 108 in the previous year. There was also a slight increase in the average monthly occupancy during 2018/19.



Analysis shows an increased level of restraint and associated injury occurred in first six months of 2018/19. 69% of all injuries occurred in this period. This is due to a combination of an improved reporting

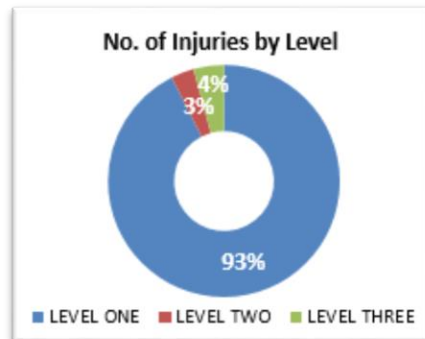
process that captures more information and an increase in occupancy with a higher proportion of young people accommodated for welfare reasons.

These young people often have more complex needs including emerging mental health and personality disorders.

The number of restraints reduced during the following six months and was lower than the same period during the previous year. The number of injuries as result of restraint also reduced by more than half during this period and included one level 2 and one level 3 three injury.

93% of injuries were graded at Level 1, with 3% graded at Level 2 and the remaining 4% at Level 3

There were four Level 3 restraint related injuries.



Throughout 2017/18 a Senior Manager from the Secure Centre has provided a quarterly restraint report to the LSCB's Quality and Performance sub group and plans for further scrutiny of individual incidents are in place for 2019/20.

Residents at Aycliffe Secure Childrens Home

- **Youth Justice Board** – Sent by a Youth Court to fulfill an order received as a result of offending behaviour.
- **Welfare** – Resident in a secure environment, usually as a result of a court order but not necessarily relating to offending behaviour. These young people are 'Looked After' by the local authority but they have additional needs that require a secure environment or facilities outside the scope of care options available within a non-secure care environment.

79% of restraints were applied to young people who are resident at Aycliffe under the category of 'Welfare'. This group also accounts for 76% of the injuries sustained because of a degree of restraint being applied.

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Aycliffe Secure Services Centre](#)

Serious Case Reviews

Durham LSCB have instigated five Serious Case Reviews in 2018/19 and published one Serious Case Review Report.

The introduction of “7 minute briefings”, short documents available on the LSCB website outlining key aspects of specific issues, provided an opportunity for professional and critical reflection of key messages from published Serious Case Reviews.



This year we have developed new guidance and supporting materials to comply with the new arrangements as outlined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018




The LSCB continued to implement the recommendations from Serious Case Reviews. Action plans are monitored by the LSCB Business Unit and reviewed by the LSCB Board through the six-monthly update report. Going forward this function will be carried out by the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive group.

Recurrent themes of published SCRs

- Bruising / Injuries to non-mobile babies
- Sexually Harmful Behaviour
- Non-compliance with Child Protection Procedures
- Blockages in Communication and Information Sharing
- Lack of Holistic and Robust Assessments
- Lack of Professional Curiosity and Triangulation of Information

We will continue to host an annual Serious Case Review themed learning conferences to contribute to the professional development of staff and improve their understanding of local safeguarding concerns and themes.


 **More Information:** Find out more information about [Serious Case Reviews](#)

Policy and Procedures

The online version of the Durham LSCB Multi-Agency Child Protection Procedures provides a web based solution that is fully searchable and allows the user to access content from a wide range of devices. We undertake reoccurring six-monthly reviews to keep the procedures up-to-date with local and national changes.

Website link - www.proceduresonline.com/durham/scb

Professionals should add the link above into work related phones, smartphones, tablets and computers to link directly to the procedures when needed.



The Child Death Overview Panel has been reviewed and is compliant with new Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance 2018. Membership has been reviewed to include a GP at each meeting, and lay member engagement during thematic reviews. To ensure robust scrutiny and challenge, Public Health England has agreed to work across four CDOPs in the north East of England, undertaking thematic reviews of: suicide and deliberate self-harm; sudden unexpected deaths; trauma and neonatal deaths. Also, County Durham and Darlington CDOPs will share joint learning with Tees Valley CDOP via twice yearly challenge review meetings.

Other procedures and guidance updated in 2018/19

- New Tackling Neglect Strategy
- Updated Neglect Practice Guidance
- Updated Thresholds Document
- New Children's Services Referral Form
- Updated Home Environment Risk Assessment Tool (HEAT) and Guidance
- New HEAT Analysis and Action Plan
- Updated Children and Families Outcomes Framework and Practice Toolkit

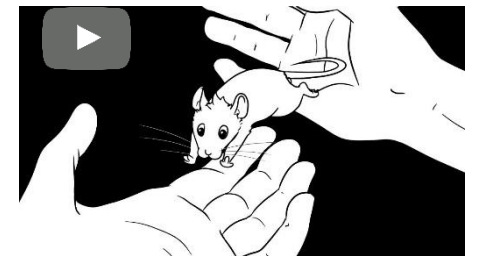
Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse
We have engaged with the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and supplied information on the work we do to protect children.



In addition, we have actively promoted the Truth Project; this offers the opportunity for victims and survivors to share their experience and be respectfully heard and acknowledged. By doing so, they are helping the inquiry to better understand the long-term impact of abuse.

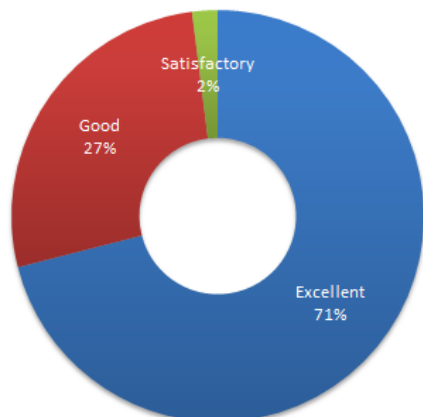
Learning Point

Watch a two-minute video about the Truth Project.



7. Training and Communication

Durham LSCB offered 10 core courses in 2018/19 as part of the multi-agency training programme. 22 bespoke training events were delivered to single agencies.



- A total of 82 courses were delivered in 2018/19. The courses were attended by a total of 1,670 staff and volunteers.
- A full total of 98 multi-agency training events were delivered and attended by a total of 1,854.

The training courses received very positive feedback with 93% of attendees marking the training as good or excellent.



Impact Analysis – Of the responses received 86% confirmed the learning from the course had impacted on their practice and 66% believed that it had improved outcomes for the children and families they work with

E-learning Courses

Durham LSCB provide access to a full range of e-learning courses through the Virtual College 'total package'.



This allows partners the ability to offer up-to-date safeguarding training to all staff through the unlimited licences available for each course. Courses include:

- Safeguarding Children and Young People from Abuse by Sexual Exploitation
- Domestic Abuse
- Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Collaborative Working: A Whole Family Approach



'This training day has helped me to understand the single assessment process and what a good assessment looks like.'

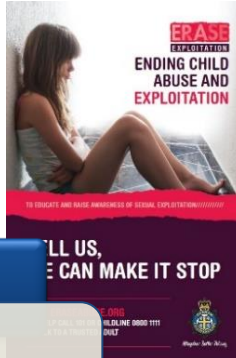
In 2018/19:

- 6,665 e-learning courses have been completed
- 97% of those completing evaluations stated they would recommend the course to a friend or colleague

 **More Information:** Find out more information about [LSCB Training Programme](#)

Marketing and Communications Activity

Marketing and communications work is delivered through the Durham LSCB Website and is the main channel and access point for local safeguarding information and materials and to support local and national campaigns.



Website stats - April 2018 to end of March 2019

- 27,745 users
- 46,198 sessions / visits
- 114,137 page views

Printed materials to raise awareness of safeguarding children were distributed to contact points such as Customer Access Points, GP surgeries, Libraries, Children Centres, Day Nurseries, Police Stations and the Neighbourhood Watch Network.



The LSCB website is the main. Content is refreshed regularly with the Toolkits and Guidance for Practitioners page, making a Referral page and Training Programme being the top three pages visited.

Campaigns we supported in 2018/19

- Children's Commissioner's Takeover Challenge
- Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day
- Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse Truth Project
- Internet Safety Day
- World Social Worker Day
- Alcohol Awareness Week
- International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls

2018/19 was a transition year from LSCB to DSCP. The consultation process included two LSCB partnership development days to inform the vision and values; structure and meetings model; and scrutiny arrangements for the new partnership.

Two awareness sessions and consultation events were held for Relevant Agencies. The website was updated to reflect the anticipated changes to the partnership. Quarterly LSCB newsletters provided partners and service users with updates and future plans.

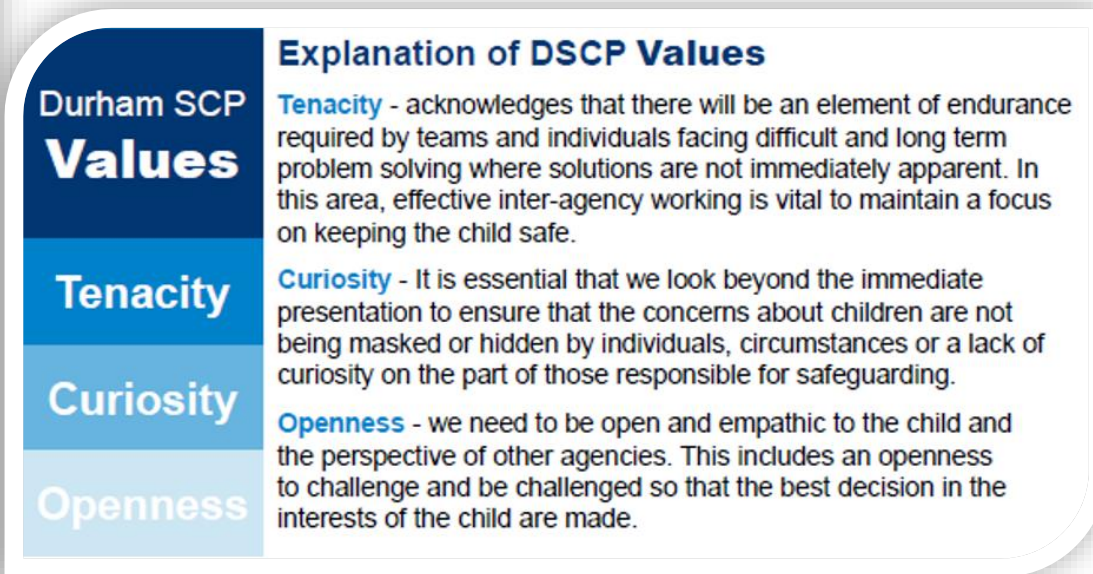
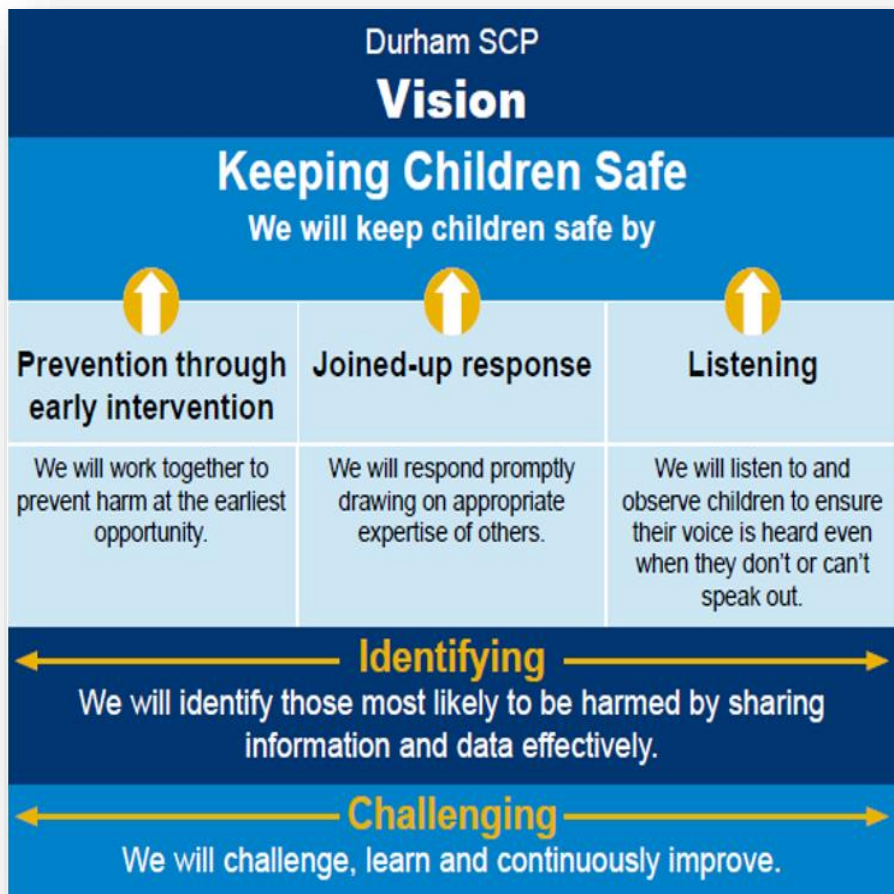
Learning Point

Watch Chris speak about the storyline and how it has helped to raise the issue of child sexual exploitation across the country.



8. Future Priorities

A balanced scorecard of indicators, based on our Vision and Values, will incorporate, for example how we monitor our performance against priorities such as neglect and child exploitation.



Appendix 1 – LSCB Membership

Durham LSCB Membership

- The Board is chaired by an **independent person** commissioned by the Durham County Council Chief Executive
- **National Probation Services** – represented by the Head of Durham NPS
- **Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company** – represented by the Head of Services County Durham and Darlington
- **North Durham, Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Groups** – represented by the Director of Nursing (*Vice-Chair of Durham LSCB*)
- **Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children**
- **Designated Doctor for Safeguarding Children**
- **NHS England** – represented by the Director of Nursing for the Clinical Commissioning Groups
- **Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust** – represented by the Associate Director of Nursing (Safeguarding)
- **County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust** – represented by the Associate Director of Patient Experience & Safeguarding
- **North Tees & Hartlepool Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** – represented by the General Manager Nursing and Professional Standards
- **Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust** – represented by the Head of Safeguarding Children
- **City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust** – represented by the Associate Director of Safeguarding
- **Cafcass (County Durham)** – represented by the Service Manager
- **County Durham Council** represented by:
 - Corporate Director, Children and Young People’s Services
 - Head of Early Help, Assessment & Safeguarding
 - Head of Adult Care
 - Head of Education
 - Strategic Manager – Children’s Services Reform & Youth Offending Service
 - Director of Public Health County Durham
 - Strategic Manager – Housing Solutions
- **National Offender Management Service** – represented by the Regional Safer Custody Lead
- **Durham Constabulary** – represented by the Force Lead for Safeguarding (Superintendent Level)
- **The Voluntary & Community Sector** – represented by the Voluntary Sector Representative (Durham Voice)

- **Schools** – represented by:
 - Durham Association of Secondary Heads
 - Durham Association of Primary Heads
 - Durham Association of Special Schools
- **Further Education** – represented by:
 - Head of Student Services, Bishop Auckland College
 - Advice Support Careers Manager, New College Durham
- **Lay Members** – represented by three members of the community whose remit is to challenge the LSCB on the accessibility by the public, children and young people of its plans and procedures
- **Lead Member** – represented by the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People’s Services (participant observer)
- **Faith Communities** – represented by the Safeguarding Lead for Durham Diocese

Contact Details	
Durham LSCB	03000 265 770
Durham County Council	03000 260 000
Durham Constabulary	101
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust	0191 333 2333
North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	0191 389 8600
Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield CCG	0191 371 3222
Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	01325 552 000
North Tees & Hartlepool Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	01642 617 617
Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust	01423 885 959
City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	0191 565 6256
NHS England North	0113 825 1609
Cafcass (County Durham)	0300 456 4000
Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company	0808 168 4848
National Probation Service North East Division	01325 246 260
National Offender Management Service	0300 047 6325
Schools and Colleges	web link only
Voluntary and Community Sector	web link only

LSCB Advisors

The Board is advised by:

- A member of Durham County Council Corporate & Legal Services nominated as the Board’s legal advisor
- The Durham LSCB Business Manager
- Head of Partnerships & Engagement, Durham County Council
- Strategic Manager – Partnerships, Durham County Council

Appendix 2 – LSCB Staffing and Budget

Page 7/16
Staffing

The LSCB is supported by the following officers:

- LSCB Business Manager
- LSCB Quality & Performance Coordinator
- LSCB Strategy and Development Officer
- LSCB Training Coordinator
- LSCB Admin Coordinator
- LSCB Administrator
- LSCB Admin Apprentice

LSCB Budget

The financial contributions from partner agencies are as follows:

Partner	2017/18 Contribution	2018/19 Contribution
Durham County Council	£171,604	£171,604
Clinical Commissioning Groups	£95,097	£95,097
Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680	£2,680
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680	£2,680
North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680	£2,680
Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680	£2,680
Durham Constabulary	£29,285	£29,285
Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company	£1,340	£1,340
National Probation Service	£2,032	£2,032
Further Education Colleges	£2,100	£2,100
Cafcass	£550	£550
Total	£312,728	£312,728

Durham LSCB Annual Report 2017 / 2018 / 2019 - Safeguarding Children in County Durham

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board has a statutory duty to prepare and publish an Annual Report which describes how our partners safeguard vulnerable children and young people in County Durham. Our primary responsibility is to provide a way for the local organisations that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in County Durham and to ensure that they do so effectively.

The children and young people of County Durham are at the heart of what all LSCB partners do and our vision of **'Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm'** continues to drive services forward.

This Annual Report gives an account of the Board's work over the past year to improve the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. The report reflects the activity of the LSCB and its sub groups against its priorities for 2018/19. It covers the major changes and improvements of our partners' service delivery, where they link with the Board's overall strategies and the impact it has had. It also reports on the Serious Case Reviews undertaken and identifies the priorities to be taken forward into 2019/20.

Equality and Diversity

Durham LSCB strives to promote equal access to safeguarding services, particularly for those children who are unable to communicate, due to their age, disability or first language.

DSCP Business Unit
County Hall
Durham
County Durham
DH1 5UJ

Email: dscpsecure@durham.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 265 770

A copy of this report is available on www.durham-scp.org.uk



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Item:

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

26 September 2019

**Ofsted Education Framework
2019**



**Report of John Pearce Corporate Director Children and Young
People's Services**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information relating to the new Ofsted Education Framework.

Executive summary

- 2 The new framework is a refocussing on the quality of education in the curriculum and how it has been conceived and taught. An emphasis on safeguarding of children will remain and schools will need to demonstrate to inspectors how well they identify concerns, help children and families and manage situations effectively.
- 3 The report provides a summary of the feedback from the Education Development Partner.

Recommendations

- 4 That Members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive and comment on the report and presentation.

Background

- 5 In January 2019 the government went out to consultation on proposals for changes to the education inspection framework from September 2019.

- 6 Arrangements have been made for the Head of Education and Skills to present to members of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee a presentation (attached at appendix 2) detailing the changes in the Ofsted Education Framework.

Detail

- 7 The new framework should be a shift away from performance data to judging the quality of the curriculum; how it has been conceived, taught and experienced by pupils. There will be an emphasis on the knowledge, skills and behaviours acquired by pupils and a sharp focus on **ALL** children accessing high quality education. This is to ‘combat’ off-rolling but also applies to children with SEND, attendance issues and those with challenging behaviour who may miss out on aspects of their education.
- 8 A focus on safeguarding will be maintained with inspectors looking at how well the school **identifies** concerns and needs, **helps** children and families and **manages** the situation effectively.
- 9 There will be an emphasis on school leaders having a conversation with inspectors around the quality of the education children receive in the school rather than a discussion of the data.
- 10 Judgements will be made regarding overall effectiveness, the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development and leadership and management. Of these, quality of education will be the key indicator of a school’s performance.

Quality of Education	Behaviour and Attitudes
	Personal Development
	Leadership and Management

Quality of Education

- 11 The curriculum is at the heart of the quality of education judgement. This is focused on the development of a deep body of knowledge that meets both the requirements of the national curriculum and the needs of the school and the community it serves. This includes the wider breadth of learning and experiences of the school’s own curriculum offer. There is the freedom within this to sequence how and when this learning is acquired. The working definition for the Quality of Education (QoE) judgement includes:

- the curriculum, its design and structure;
- teaching;
- assessment;
- outcomes.

- 12 Senior Leadership Teams should be able to explain their decision making regarding the design and structure of their curriculum; eg: why one topic is taught before / after another, why one topic is given three weeks and another given six, etc. They should therefore be able to explain what they are giving emphasis to and why they have chosen to do this, the 'what' (the content of the curriculum) and the 'how' (the pedagogical approaches the school is using). Schools should be able to discuss the impact of their curriculum by evidencing how it is making a difference to children's learning and outcomes. Again, this is linked to Cognitive Load Theory – learning being a shift in long term memory.
- 13 Ofsted were clear that they do not regard knowledge and skills as being separate but rather are complementary in supporting children's learning and development. The skill can be seen as the capacity to draw on what is known or to support the development of knowledge. They discussed the impact of connectivity in curriculum design and implementation so that knowledge is imparted in a carefully planned way to best enable the development of neural pathways and schema. Knowledge was described as being 'sticky'; the more you know, the more you can go on knowing and learning.
- 14 Ofsted were clear again that they do not have a preference between a knowledge led, knowledge enabled or skills led curriculum. Their focus will be on whether this supports the intent, is implemented effectively and has the appropriate and intended impact.

Judging the quality of the curriculum:

Intent – curriculum design, coverage and appropriateness

Implementation – curriculum delivery, pedagogy and formative and summative assessment

Impact – attainment, progress, the importance of developing competent readers and destinations.

- 15 **Ofsted reiterated that they would not look at school's internal data.** This was because it is difficult to establish the validity of this data in a short inspection and therefore could be considered to be unreliable. This caused consternation in our group, with many questioning this and asking if they could ask individual inspectors to look at the data. Schools need

to ensure that they have other robust and effective systems in place to evaluate the quality of education through work scrutiny, learning walks, pupil and teacher dialogues, etc. This monitoring and other first-hand evidence should answer the question of how you know the impact of your curriculum rather than evidencing through data. Awareness of Making Data Work should support with this. Ofsted talked about using this first-hand evidence and officially produced data to 'improve' not 'prove' the quality of education for the children. Learning from these activities and data should support teachers to embed knowledge and identify next steps of learning.

- 16 In our group, the consensus was that the centrality of the quality of education to the inspection process was a positive move (57% agreed, 36% strongly agreed, 7% didn't agree or disagree).

Behaviour and Attitudes

- 17 This judgement will take into account:
- High expectations, consistency and fairness of implementations of policies and practices;
 - Attitudes towards learning and other people;
 - Behaviour;
 - Exclusions;
 - Attendance;
 - Bullying.

Personal Development

- 18 This judgement will take into account:
- Social, moral, spiritual and cultural education;
 - The development of character;
 - British values;
 - Careers;
 - Healthy lifestyles;
 - Citizenship;
 - Equality and diversity.
- 19 Ofsted recognise that for some of these elements they are unable to make a final judgement on; ie: the development of character and healthy lifestyles which are influenced by many other factors as well as the work of the school. Therefore, they will evaluate what the school is doing to support this development.

Leadership and Management

- 20 This judgement will take into account:
- The vision, ethos and ethical behaviour of the school*;
 - Staff development;
 - Staff workload and well-being;
 - Safeguarding;
 - Off-rolling and gaming;
 - Governance.

*the ethical behaviour should reflect that all children are entitled to a high-quality education and school leaders are ambitious for all, including those that are hardest to reach.

- 21 Inspectors will consider how leaders engage with and manage staff, taking account of the main pressures on them.

Proposed changes to Section 8 inspections

- 22 Section 8s will continue to work from the premise that the school remains good. It will focus on specific aspects drawn predominately from Quality of Education but also elements from the other areas.
- 23 It is proposed that the lead inspector's time in school will be increased from one to two days. There is also a proposal for preparation for both section 5 and 8 inspections to be carried out on-site. This would involve the lead inspector visiting the school between 12 and 5pm on the day before the inspection to discuss the arrangements for the inspection face-to-face with the headteacher (notification would be at 10am on that day).

Conclusion

- 24 The new Ofsted education inspection framework becomes effective in September 2019. Head Teachers in County Durham's maintained schools have all received information during the Spring term.

Background papers

None

Contact: Richard Crane

Tel: 03000 265731

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable

Human Rights

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable

Climate Change

Not applicable

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

OfSTED Education Framework 2019

Gabrielle Reddington

Schools Setting Leadership Advisor

26 September 2019

Altogether better



These comments are taken from a HMCI Update to all Ofsted Inspectors January 2019:

Inspection is in essence a professional dialogue between inspectors and a provider. We want to make sure those conversations are about what matters to young people: the substance of their education. **What are they being taught? How well are they being taught it? And how is it setting them up to succeed at the next stage?** So the revised framework will focus on what young people learn through the curriculum, rather than depending on data.

Altogether better



Performance data used well is a very good thing and exam and test results matter greatly to the individual. But when we put too much weight on individual performance data as a measure of quality of education, then distortions can emerge, as we saw from our research. So instead of taking exam results and test data at face value, we'll look at how a provider's results have been achieved – whether they're the result of broad and rich learning, or gaming and cramming.

Nothing is more damaging to true standards than a culture of curriculum narrowing and teaching to the test.

Altogether better



A key principle of the new framework is to put inspection back into its proper place, where it complements published performance data.

A new **quality of education** judgement will look at how schools and providers are deciding what to teach and why, how well they are doing it and whether it is leading to strong outcomes for young people. This will reward those who are ambitious and make sure that young people accumulate rich, well-connected knowledge and develop strong skills using this knowledge.

The proposed changes will make it easier to recognise and reward good work done by schools and providers in areas of high disadvantage, by tackling the perverse incentives that leave them feeling they have to narrow the curriculum. Shifting the emphasis away from performance data will empower schools to always put the child first and actively discourage negative practices such as 'off-

rolling'
Altogether better



I must stress that there isn't and won't be an Ofsted curriculum. Not all curriculum is equally strong, but an excellent curriculum can be constructed in many different ways. And of course, good curriculum is part but by no means all of a good education. We distinguish the curriculum – what is taught – and pedagogy, which is how the curriculum is taught. It is also distinct from assessment, which is about whether learners are learning or have learned the intended curriculum.

How will we inspect it?

We've made sure that we pitch our inspection criteria at the right level and as you know, we've been putting the criteria through their paces through many pilot inspections, and will be continuing pilots throughout the spring.

Of course the application of the new framework will be a little different in the different sectors we inspect.

Altogether better



Personal Development and Behaviour

The new **behaviour and attitudes judgement** will look at how well behaviour is managed, to create the calm, orderly and safe environment that we know is a basic ingredient of good education.

Alongside that a new **personal development judgement** will look at the opportunities providers give to build character and resilience, and to prepare children and young people to succeed as adults and active citizens in modern Britain. Importantly, this judgement will not try to assess the full impact of personal development provision: that is clearly impossible on a two-day inspection.

Under the new **leadership and management judgement**, we will go further in considering whether leaders are realistic and constructive in managing workload.

Altogether better



One other thing that I hope will flow from this new approach, is that **integrity will be properly rewarded** and inspection will recognise the importance of doing the right thing by young people.

I hope we can make real progress in tackling off-rolling. The new framework has a greater focus on spotting it. So the two words that sum up my ambition for the framework and which underlie everything we will publish tomorrow are: **substance and integrity**.

The **substance** that has all children and young people exposed to the best that has been thought and said, achieving at truly high standards and set up to succeed. And the **integrity** that makes sure every child and student is treated as an individual with potential to be unlocked, and staff as experts in their subject or field, not just data gatherers and process managers. And above all that providers are rewarded for doing the right thing.

Altogether better



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Item:

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

26 September 2019



**Consultation on High Needs
Block (HNB) funding for
Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities (SEND) and
Inclusion Support**

**Report of John Pearce, Corporate Director of Children and Young
People's Services**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The report outlines the approach to, and scope of a public consultation that is underway on proposals to help reduce spending pressures on the High Needs Block (HNB) funding for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion Support.
- 2 The Council is seeking views on a series of proposals for reviewing areas of service provision, with the aim of reducing spending pressures and increasing value for money.
- 3 Following Cabinet approval on 10 July 2019, the consultation was launched on 17 July 2019 and will close on 17 October 2019.

Executive summary

- 4 The High Needs Block (HNB) of the Designated Schools Grant (DSG) provides funding for Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) and inclusion services for children, young people and young adults. Over recent years, there have been increasing spending demands on the HNB. The Council are now spending 15% more than the funding that is available as a result of: ongoing austerity; implementation of the SEND Reforms (2014); and the changing customer needs, which are becoming more complex.

- 5 Working with stakeholders, we are reviewing all areas of spending to reduce HNB expenditure where feasible, while also recognising the specific needs of individual children and young people, and the overall volume of demand for our services.
- 6 Key areas of service provision are identified for review and the Council are currently consulting with customers and stakeholders on the associated proposals, to ensure that their views inform decision making.
- 7 A further report is to be presented to Cabinet in autumn 2019, outlining the consultation findings; outcomes of further work; recommendations for change and improvement; and an associated funding strategy for 2020/21.

Recommendations

- 8 It is recommended that Members of CYPS Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
 - i) Consider the contents of this report and the consultation proposals available on the council's website at:
<http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>; and
 - ii) Give views on the consultation programme.

Background

The Current Challenge

- 9 Funding for SEND and Inclusion services is currently provided from the government through the High Needs Block (HNB) of the Dedicated Schools Grant. At present, the Council is spending around 15% more on these services than it receives and is supporting £5.6 million of expected HNB overspend in 2019/20 from the Budget Support Reserve. This situation cannot be sustained.
- 10 The spending pressures on the HNB budget derive from a combination of:
 - An extended period of ongoing austerity;
 - Government funding not keeping pace with demographic changes and inflationary demands;

- Implementation of the SEND Reforms 2014, which have extended the age range of young people that the Council are required support through the HNB up to the age of 25 years; and
- The changing and increasing complexity of needs of our children, young people and young adults.

11 This is also the case in many other local authorities.

12 The table below was included in the report presented to Cabinet on 10 July 2019 and illustrates how overall spending has increased significantly over the last four financial years and included an initial forecast position for this financial year:

Financial Year	HNB for Durham [£'000]	ESFA deduction* [£'000]	Net sum received by DCC [£'000]	Actual or Forecast Spend by DCC [£'000]	(Under) / over spend [£'000]
Actual					
2015/16	46,578	-3,093	43,485	40,685	(2,800)
2016/17	47,325	-2,924	44,391	45,491	1,100
2017/18	48,936	-4,379	44,557	49,209	4,652
2018/19	51,130	-4,400	46,730	54,141	7,411
Initial Forecast					
2019/20	52,707	-3,906	48,801	55,500	6,699

* ESFA deduction relates to payments made directly to some institutions, such as academies and FE colleges, directly by ESFA.

13 In Durham, a SEND and Inclusion Resources Board (SIRB) was established within the Council earlier in the year to address these cumulative issues and spending pressures. It brings together colleagues from the council's Education Services, SEND and Inclusion, Commissioning and Finance and gives cross council oversight of resources for SEND and Inclusion, including HNB spending and related council budgets.

14 Under the direction of the SIRB and in consultation with the Durham Schools Forum, we have been working with wider stakeholders, to identify changes that will improve the lives of children with additional needs, in line with the Durham SEND Strategy, while seeking to use HNB funding more effectively.

15 The work includes reviewing all areas of spending to reduce expenditure where possible, while ensuring that we continue to provide the right support, at the right time, in the right place for children and young people across the county, who have higher needs.

- 16 It is envisaged that reductions in spending and service improvement will be achieved by focussing on efficiencies, securing increased value for money, improved clarity and consistency around service provision that better matches changing customer demands, and emphasising early intervention and partnership working.
- 17 The Council are now consulting with stakeholders and customers to include children, young people, parents and carers on the proposals, to ensure that their views inform the actions to be taken, in respect of the key areas for review, that are outlined below.

Consultation Approach and Proposals

- 18 Following the report to Cabinet in July, a public consultation on the suggestions for change and improvements to service provision was launched on 17 July 2019 and will close on 17 October 2019.
- 19 Section 19 of the Children and Families Act 2014 highlights that local authorities must ensure that children, young people, parents and carers are involved in decisions about local provision. The SEND code of practice (January 2015) sets out that local authorities, CCGs and NHS England need to have effective ways of harnessing the views of their local communities so that decisions on services for those with SEN and disabilities are shaped by users' experiences, ambitions and expectations. The work which has been undertaken to date, together with the consultation over a three-month period, ensures that the Council has engaged a wide range of stakeholders.
- 20 The consultation builds on previous consultation and engagement activities, including discussions with schools, and representatives from families and young people. This includes the High Needs Review (Dec 2017), the Social Communication and Interaction Review (2018) and discussions with County Durham schools throughout 2018/2019 including Schools Forum, SEND and Inclusion Schools Forum Reference Group, Communities of Learning and Behaviour Partnership Panels, and Leadership Teams of Special Schools (March – April 2019).
- 21 The Consultation Document (available on the council's website) sets out the changes that are proposed to help improve services and use funding more effectively, by meeting the following commitments:
- To support an education system where inclusion of children and young people in their local schools is the norm, giving parents and carers confidence that their children's needs will be understood and met.
 - To offer a range of specialist learning provisions for some young people who have a high level of needs.

- To make every effort to use the all the resources available to young people effectively and efficiently.

22 The Council's proposed approach to the changes is also defined within the consultation as:

- Transforming the ways in which we work, whilst ensuring the best outcomes for children and young people using the services.
- Reviewing all areas of spending to identify ways to improve efficiency, promote early support, working in partnership, and change what we offer where possible, whilst also recognising the: specific needs of individual children and young people; the overall volume of young people with SEND needs; and the changing pattern of demand on different service areas.

23 Overall, the proposals:

- suggest a new approach to meeting needs more effectively;
- suggest how the Council might be able to support children with very high needs, with less reliance on placements a long way from home;
- look at how the Council might make specialist support available to children in mainstream schools who would benefit;
- outline new ways of meeting the needs of children who are excluded or for whom mainstream school is not the best option; and
- suggest how the Council's approach to Post 16 education might help young people progress towards employment and independent living.

24 The report to the Cabinet in July 2019 outlined the following areas for review, chosen in large part due to their impact on spend from the HNB fund:

a) **Centrally Managed Services**

Centrally Managed Services¹ provided by Durham County Council include functions such as: support to nursery pupils and children with sensory and learning difficulties; services provided by the

¹ Information on the full range of services can be viewed in the: Support and Services for Schools and Settings 2019-20.pdf directory at:
https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/durham/fsd/files/support_and_services_for_schools_and_settings_2019-20_2.pdf

Equalities and Intervention team; and SEND management and support posts. It is proposed that the Council continue to provide centrally managed services in the future to ensure a consistent approach and quality of service and carry out extensive reviews to ensure value for money and a reduction in costs where possible.

b) Special Schools.

Ten special schools in Durham provide specialist teaching and support for children and young people with the most complex special education needs. Funding from the HNB is provided for a set number of places in each school. Whilst there is a broad range of specialist provision in the county, there are currently 37 vacant places in County Durham. In contrast, places are being sought in the private independent sector (sometimes out of our county), which can often be significantly higher than a place in our special schools and incur extra transport costs. This is placing a higher cost demand on the funding. In 2018/19 we spent £24.2 million in this area and we forecast we will spend £24.4 million this year. Based upon the above it is proposed that we extend the range of specialist places offered in County Durham, so children can access services locally rather than attend out of area, high cost independent placements.

c) Joint commissioning of services – integrated therapies

Views are sought on the following proposals for joint commissioning:

- Bringing together the resources from education, health and care to improve local access to speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy for children and young people.
- Developing new ways of offering therapies locally which meet the aspirations and preferences of families within the available resources.
- Making the best use of therapists to offer prompt assessments, delivery of appropriate therapy in local settings and promote the confidence of families.

d) Joint Commissioning of Services – equipment, auxiliary aids and adaptations

Current arrangements for providing these is complex and regularly requires input from colleagues in education, health and education settings. A strategic review has taken place and it is now planned to work on a clearer and more consistent approach with updated

guidance and streamlined processes. This is expected to lead to better, swifter support and increased value for money which collectively will support better use of HNB funding. Through the consultation we are seeking views on two proposals:

- Assistance requested by schools from the HNB funding only be used to purchase items that are deemed to be specialist (not normally available in a school or setting).
- Review the existing guidance so all schools apply a consistent approach

e) Top up Funding support

Top up Funding is the provision of HNB funding to schools when provision to meet an individual child or young person's SEND needs would cost more than the school's Core Funding budget. At present every school decides on the amount of extra funding they need for each child. This has resulted in differences in the amount of support a young person gets depending on how the school completes an application. It is proposed that in future we apply a 'banding system' to Top up Funding to support schools to ensure SEND needs are consistently and more appropriately met, in a timely manner.

f) Targeted funding support

When schools have a high number of students with Top up Funding, they are still required to provide the core funding for each pupil from the school's budget. This can mean that schools with a high number of students with Top up Funding can find that they do not have enough core funding. Therefore, Targeted Support funding is provided to help schools increase their core funding. The amount of Targeted Support funding that a school receives is currently determined by a formula and does not require schools to provide evidence of whether they need more money or what the additional money will be used for. We are proposing to provide Targeted Support Funding when a School applies for help. To receive the funding, the school's application will have to meet a set of conditions that we will set in consultation with schools.

g) Post 16 funding support

This provides an element of funding to the post 16 sector to support the education costs of young people over 16 with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP). This has created a new and growing demand on the HNB in recent years since the SEND reforms were introduced. A review of all applications in 2018/19 took place and from this a fair pricing model for support was developed and discussed with providers. It is proposed to roll out the fair pricing

policy and application criteria to all providers of Post 16 provision in County Durham.

h) Financial support provided through local partnerships of schools

In Durham, fifteen Communities of Learning partnerships along with four Secondary Behaviour Partnerships and a Primary Behaviour Partnership receive HNB funds to support schools locally in providing the right support to children and young people with SEND and Inclusion needs. It is proposed that we continue to support schools and key providers to work in local partnerships to identify and meet the needs of children and young people with SEND and other vulnerable learners in their area. It is also proposed to only release funds on receipt of a clear business plan and for partnerships to report back on the impact of the funding for children and young people.

i) Pupil referral unit and alternative provision

The Woodlands Pupil Referral Unit is the County Council's provision for permanently excluded pupils and those identified as close to permanent exclusion. The aim of The Woodlands is to deliver a tailored academic, social, emotional and therapeutic programme to support young people to move on successfully to their next steps in education, employment or training. The Woodlands has an on-site capacity of 75 but with more than 200 permanently excluded pupils on roll. Over 100 young people access off-site alternative provision supported by this fund. This has caused increasing budget pressures, which is replicated nationally.

In May 2019, a national review of permanent exclusion, alternative and Pupil Referral Unit provision found that whilst permanent exclusion is sometimes appropriate, it should be a last resort. The review calls on local authorities, schools, and other agencies to establish effective partnership working to intervene earlier to avoid exclusion. We are seeking views through the consultation on reducing the numbers of children and young people on the roll of The Woodlands Pupil Referral Unit. The proposals include: providing more resources to the Behaviour Panels so they can buy additional early interventions and therapeutic support and increase the number of young people back into school; and increasing the number of young people, particularly in years 7 and 8, to reintegrate quickly into mainstream or specialist schools from The Woodlands (PRU).

Consultation Plan

25 A comprehensive schedule of information, events, briefings, workshops and other activities is underway to consult on the above proposals, with a wide range of customers and stakeholders to include: Schools Forum Reference Group (SFRG); County Durham Schools Forum; Durham Association of Primary Head Teachers (DAPH); Durham Association of Secondary Head Teachers (DASH); Heads from Special Schools, Education and SEND / inclusion staff; schools; colleges; elected members; parents; children and young people; and partner organisations. The plan is summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Outline Consultation Plan

Timescale	Consultation Activity
17 July 2019 (Consultation Launch)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website consultation page launched including survey, video and Consultation Document (with Easy Read available and added) • Notifications to key stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and colleges • Parents/carers • Voluntary Community Sector organisations • DCC Members & CYPS staff • Parent and carer support groups • Alternative providers • Independent service providers • Pupil Referral Unit • School Governors • Area Action Partnerships • Schools Forum Reference Group • SENDCo staff • Clinical Commissioning Groups • SEND strategic partnership, Integrated Steering Group for Children • Social media posts including video by Head of Service • Notice placed on Schools Extranet • Durham Voice Newsletter article
Aug 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates to CYPS management teams, CMT Transformation Group, AHS Management Team
Sept – Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminders about consultation (following school holidays) – letters to schools, notice on Extranet • Meetings of professionals representing schools, special schools, alternative education providers, post-16 learning providers and independent providers • Updates to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND Strategic Partnership • Durham Association of Primary Headteachers • Durham Association of Secondary Headteachers • Headteacher Briefings • Integrated Steering Group for Children • CMT Transformation Group • CYPS Overview and Scrutiny Committee • Schools Forum Reference Group • Durham Schools Forum • Chairs of Communities of Learning Meeting • Chairs of Behaviour Panels Meeting • Focus groups for special interest groups which represent children and young people, as well as parents and carers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Treasures • Rollercoaster Group • eXtreme Group • Together 21 • SENDCO Networks • Making Changes Together • Buzz magazine article • Posters in local GP surgeries, community centres
17 Oct 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close of Consultation
13 Nov 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of findings and recommendations to Cabinet

26 Further information about the consultation and access to an online survey is available on the Council's website at:

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>

27 The website sets out the background to the consultation, what we are consulting on, and how we are doing this, through:

- An introduction to the consultation supported by an introductory video
- The Consultation Document – this presents the: rationale and background to the proposals; the legal context to the consultation, to include the council's responsibilities under the Children and Families Act 2014 and SEND Code of Practice; and explains how local authorities are funded to support SEND and Inclusion services. The work undertaken with partners, providers and stakeholders leading up to the consultation is also outlined, along with the council's proposed approach, commitments to, and proposals for change.
- A consultation survey form on 'Support for SEND services and young people who need support to stay in education' – this questionnaire can be completed by any individual to feedback their views on the proposals and provides the opportunity for parents, carers and other stakeholders to explain how they perceive the proposals could impact on them / their children / their services users.

28 During the initial six weeks of the consultation, 1,342 people have viewed the consultation web page on the Council's website, and 65 people have responded to the survey. The video has been viewed 102 times from the web page.

29 The consultation has also been promoted via Facebook, with the post reaching over 22,400 people since the consultation launch. During the initial six weeks the post had received 236 reactions, comments and shares and the video has been watched over 9000 times, via Facebook.

Next Steps

30 As outlined above, further consultation activities are being conducted up to the end of the consultation on 17 October 2019. Further work on the proposals is taking place, informed by the findings of the consultation and further equality impact analysis work. A report is scheduled to be presented to Cabinet on 13 November 2019, setting out the updated financial forecast position, summary of the consultation findings, recommendations regarding the proposed changes, and the associated strategy in respect of funding for 2020/21.

- 31 Further options will also be considered for reducing the overspend in consultation with Durham Schools Forum to include a transfer of resources from the Designated Schools Grant to the HNB to enable the continuation of several areas of support for young people with SEND.
- 32 Consultation about the proposals and options for funding high needs is due to be discussed further with the Durham Schools Forum at meetings in September, October and November 2019. This will also aim to consider the latest known information about the Government's spending plans for schools and high needs pupils.
- 33 Further options will also be considered for reducing the overspend in consultation with Durham Schools Forum to include a transfer of resources from the Designated Schools Grant to the HNB to enable the continuation of several areas of support for young people with SEND.

Conclusion

- 34 Durham County Council wants to do the best it can for children, young people and young adults with SEND and those at risk of exclusion from education. This means trying to address areas of pressure from the HNB without significantly impacting on support to individual children and young people and minimising the impact on schools' budgets and council resources which are already under pressure.
- 35 Key areas of initial focus are outlined in this report and we are now conducting wider stakeholder engagement over a three-month period between 17 July and 17 October 2019.
- 36 Alongside this, further work will take place on forecasting future spend from the HNB and discussions with Schools Forum are planned for the autumn regarding the position of schools and the need to consider further options including a transfer of resources from the DSG to enable the continuation of several areas of support for young people with SEND.

Background papers

- Cabinet Report on High Need Block Funding for SEND and Inclusion Support, 10 July 2019
- Consultation on High Need Block Funding for SEND and Inclusion Support, 17 July – 17 October 2019
<http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>

Contact: Martyn Stenton,
Head of Early Help, Inclusion
and Vulnerable Children
Tel: 03000 268 067

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Sections 45-53 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 sets out the funding framework governing schools finance.

The Children and Families Act 2014 covers the SEND reforms and is accompanied by statutory guidance for organisations to follow through the SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years (2015).

The overarching legal implication within the report is the Equality Act 2010 with respect to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). Section 149 of the Act details the requirement when taking decisions to have due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity for people with protected characteristics, foster good relations between such groups and eliminate unlawful discrimination. It is necessary the impact on those groups is fully analysed as part of the review of the consultation responses.

Finance

The report highlights the significant overspend position in the HNB. The outturn position for 2018/19 was a £7.4 million overspend in the HNB and the current estimate is an over spend of £6.7 million for 2019/20, with £5.6 million of this supported by the Council's general fund.

The report sets out several proposed actions as part of a programme of work through an HNB sustainability plan which seek to support young people with SEND within the resources available. Alongside this, the Council and other local authorities are continuing to lobby the Government for additional resources.

Consultation

Section 19 of the Children and Families Act 2014 makes clear that local authorities must ensure that children, young people, parents and carers are involved in decisions about local provision. The report sets out proposals to consult with early year settings, schools, special schools and colleges along with other stakeholders including children and families over a three-month period from 17 July to 17 October 2019.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

An equality impact assessment (screening stage) has been undertaken.

At this stage, current areas of work should not necessarily negatively impact children and young people with SEND and their families/carers but will ease

funding pressures and contribute towards longer term sustainability of high needs funding. The HNB sustainability plan aims to create more inclusive and targeted support to address SEND and this supports our public sector equality duty. Further equality analysis will be undertaken as the programme progresses to ensure decision makers are fully informed of any potential equality impact.

Human Rights

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Staffing

There may be changes required in staffing based on the proposals outlined in the report.

Accommodation

None

Risk

The programme of work being overseen by the SEND and Inclusion Resources Board is being progressed as part of a programme management approach and includes developing a risk register which is frequently updated. Key risks are summarised in the Cabinet Report, 10 July 2019. Careful consideration of risks and possible unintended consequences is taking place regarding each of the areas of work and this will be further informed from the consultation.

Procurement

Commissioning and procurement implications are being considered for each of the proposals in the HNB sustainability plan.

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CYPS Overview and Scrutiny Committee 26th September 2019



**Consultation on support for SEND and
young people who need support to stay
in education**

17th July – 17th October 2019

**Martyn Stenton, Head of Early Help, Inclusion and
Vulnerable Children**

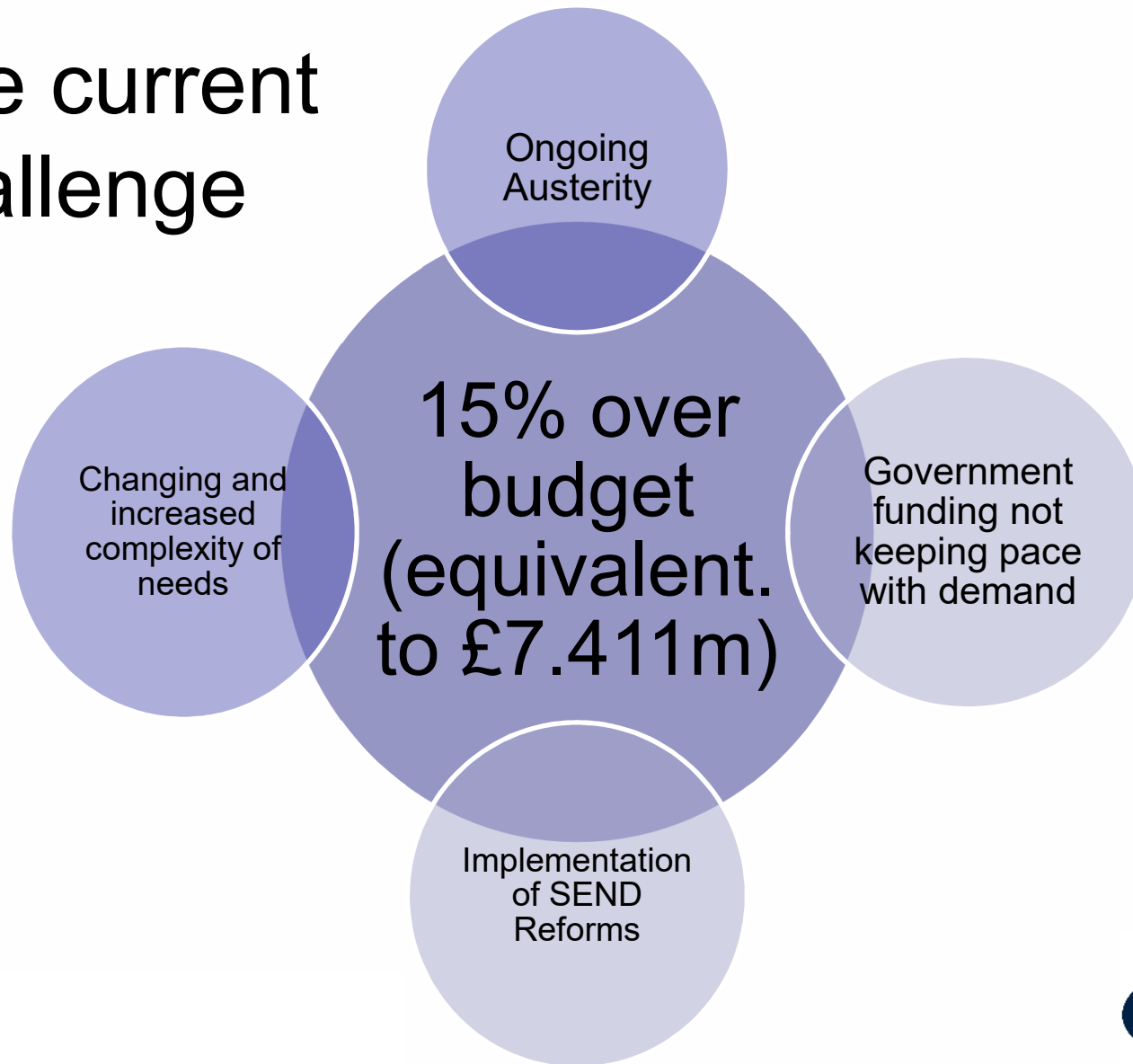


Introduction



- **Consultation underway on our services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and those who need support to stay in education.**
- **Outline of current challenges**
- **Consultation Approach and Proposals**
- **Consultation Plan**
- **Next Steps and Recommendations**

The current challenge



Overall spending

Financial Year	HNB for Durham [£'000]	ESFA deduction* [£'000]	Net sum received by DCC [£'000]	Actual or Forecast Spend by DCC [£'000]	(Under) / over spend [£'000]
Actual					
2015/16	46,578	-3,093	43,485	40,685	(2,800)
2016/17	47,325	-2,924	44,391	45,491	1,100
2017/18	48,936	-4,379	44,557	49,209	4,652
2018/19	51,130	-4,400	46,730	54,141	7,411
Initial Forecast					
2019/20	52,707	-3,906	48,801	55,500	6,699

* ESFA deduction relates to payments made directly to some institutions, such as academies and FE colleges, directly by ESFA.

The Aims of the Consultation

- Through the consultation we want to work with local families, communities and learning providers to help shape how we best meet the needs of children and young people with the money available to us.
- We want to try and ensure we can provide the right support, at the right time, in the right place for children and young people across the county who have higher needs.



The proposals:

- Suggest a new approach to meeting needs more effectively;
- Suggest how the Council might be able to support children with very high needs, with less reliance on placements a long way from home;
- Look at how the Council might make specialist support available to children in mainstream schools who would benefit;
- Outline new ways of meeting the needs of children who are excluded or for whom mainstream school is not the best option;
- Suggest how the Council's approach to Post 16 education might help young people progress towards employment and independent living.

What are we consulting on?

Central services including support to nursery pupils and sensory and learning difficulties

Funding and places in special schools

The commissioning of support services such as integrated therapies, equipment, aids and adaptations

Top up and targeted funding to schools for young people with extra needs and Post 16 provision

Financial support provided through local partnerships of schools

The pupil referral unit and alternative provision

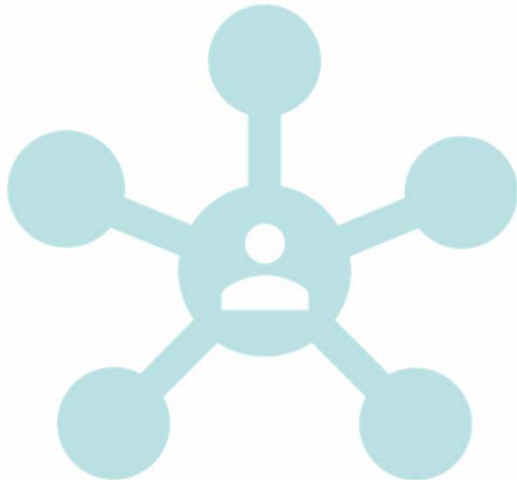


Consultation Plan

- **17th July – launch of consultation**
 - Webpage live <http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>
 - Notifications to key stakeholders (letters to all schools and parents/carers/guardians)
 - Extranet
 - Social media posts – video
- **July/Aug/Sep**
 - Information to local councillors, Area Action Partnerships, and voluntary sector organisations.
 - Briefings at meetings for DCC members and key officers
 - Meetings of professionals representing schools, special schools, alternative education providers, post 16 learning providers and independent providers
- **September/October**
 - Reminder of consultation (following school holidays)
 - Scrutiny, Durham Schools Forum
 - Focus groups for special interest groups which represent children and young people as well as parents and carers
- **17 October - End of consultation**
- **13 November – findings and recommendations to Cabinet**

Next Steps

- Collation of responses and further development of proposals
- Equality impact analysis work
- Further work and assumptions regarding forecast demand and expected resources
- Report to Cabinet in autumn 2019
- Further options will also be considered for reducing the overspend/developing services to better meet local needs



Recommendations

It is recommended that Members of CYPS Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

i) Consider the contents of the report and the consultation proposals available on the council's website at:

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/consultation>; and

ii) Give views on the consultation programme.

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

26 September 2019

**Quarter One 2019/20
Performance Management Report**



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

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide.

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People priority theme.

Performance Report for quarter one, 2019/20

- 2 The performance report for quarter one, 2019/20 is attached at Appendix 2. It is structured around a set of key questions aligned to the Altogether Better for Children and Young People priority theme and includes the key performance messages from data available this quarter along with visual summaries and data tables for each key question.

Future Performance Reporting

- 3 As our current vision, which forms the basis of this performance report, is over nine years old and many of the original aims have been achieved, we are developing a new set of proposed ambitions that better reflect the needs and opportunities of County Durham. This new vision will be launched in the autumn and the format and content of this performance report will be modified to align to the new ambitions.

Executive summary

- 4 There are many positives in this area. Strong multi-agency delivery through our Early Help Strategy and the stronger families programme is helping to drive opportunity, address inequalities and secure better outcomes for children, young people and their families. Schools across the county have maintained their success from last year and there has been significant improvements in the academic performance of

disadvantaged pupils in relation to Attainment 8. Caseloads across children's social care have improved, and there is improving performance in a number of areas. Improvements in practice are also being supported through more detailed review and analysis of performance information, as well as continued development/refinement of data reports and dashboards following the migration to Liquidlogic. There are however still a number of challenges: poverty pressures across the county, the proportion of secondary schools rated as 'requires improvement' or 'inadequate' and the comparably high rates of teenage conceptions and alcohol-specific hospital admissions for under-18s. We are mitigating these concerns by reviewing educational provision across the county (including elective home education), strengthening our links with Ofsted and educational establishments, implementing initiatives and interventions that support physical and mental wellbeing of children and young people and improve their life chances.

Risk Management

- 5 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.

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 Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership. 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.

Recommendation

- 6 That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter one performance, and the actions being taken to address areas of underperformance.

Contact: Jenny Haworth

Tel: 03000 268 071

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable.

Finance

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

Consultation

Not applicable.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Equality measures are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Human Rights

Not applicable.

Crime and Disorder

A number of performance indicators and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

Staffing

Performance against a number of relevant corporate health indicators has been included to monitor staffing issues.

Accommodation

Not applicable.

Risk

Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly performance management report.

Procurement

Not applicable.

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Altogether better



Durham County Council Performance Management Report

Quarter One, 2019/20



ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Age (1) children, young people and families in receipt of universal services appropriately supported and (2) are children, young people and families in receipt of early help appropriately supported?

Schools judged good or outstanding
(as at 30 June 2019)

100%
Early Years

90%
Primary

64%
Secondary



Click [here](#) for the relationship between secondary school Ofsted ratings and indices of deprivation.

401 children and young people known to be electively home educated (as at June 19)

% EHCP completed within 20 week timescale

Durham (Jan-Jun 19)
64%

North East (2018)
82%

England (2018)
60%

Target
90%

Student Voice Survey (spring 18/19)

3,111 pupils from **74** primary schools

5,625 pupils from **29** secondary schools

Detailed results will be available during quarter two.

2,210

cases open to **One Point** (as at 30 Jun 19)



2,885 families

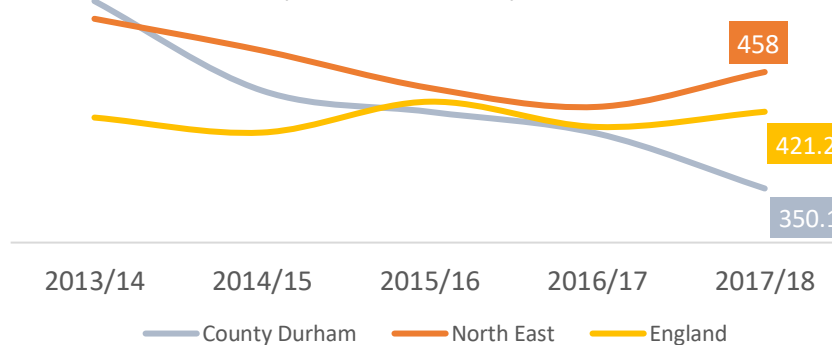
have achieved significant and sustained outcomes (as at end June 2019).

66% of May 2020 target

Early help assessments completed within 45 working days (Apr-Jun19)

88%

Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm per 100,000 (10-24 years)



Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Framework

Under-18 conception rate is higher than the same period last year, lower than the North East & higher than England

Alcohol specific hospital admissions for under-18s (rate per 100,000)

Durham (2015-2018)

53.1

↓ 3.1 from 12 months earlier

North East (2015-2018)

62.7

↓ 2.1 from 12 months earlier

National (2015-2018)

32.9

↓ 1.3 from 12 months earlier

■ better than last year
■ worse than last year

Altogether Better for Children and Young People

- 1 The priority theme of Altogether Better for Children and Young People is structured around the following four key questions:
 - (a) Are children, young people and families in receipt of universal services appropriately supported?
 - (b) Are children, young people and families in receipt of early help services appropriately supported?
 - (c) Are children, young people and families in receipt of social work services appropriately supported and safeguarded?
 - (d) Are we being a good corporate parent for looked after children?

Are children, young people and families in receipt of universal and early help services appropriately supported?

- 2 We are developing, with key partners, an updated strategic approach to early help to ensure effective, targeted and co-ordinated 'early help' that promotes opportunity, addresses inequalities and secures better outcomes for children, young people and their families. Feedback from parents, carers, children and young people helped to shape its approach. Key actions over the coming year include implementation of Early Help Guidance and Support meetings which will provide an environment for professionals to discuss those children and families in need of early help and decide on best possible solutions in order to provide the right support to the child and family, developing a Quality Improvement Framework across Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children services and developing programmes to support children young people and families affected by parental conflict.
- 3 One in every five children (20%) across the county is eligible for, and claiming, free school meals (compared to one in seven (15%) nationally) and although the take-up rate (based on eligible children taking their free meal on census day) has decreased nationally, it has remained relatively static across the county (at 80%).
- 4 As at 30 June 2019, more than 8,000 families were engaged with our Stronger Families Programme. One of only 14 councils with Earned Autonomy (EA) status, and therefore eligible to receive all of the funding over 2018/19 and 2019/20 from the Troubled Families programme, we are working collaboratively to a 'whole family' approach to ensure children, young people and families with a range of multiple and complex needs can access effective early help.
- 5 We have made progress in several key areas: redesigning our One Point Service; providing more targeted early help and outcome focussed working; implementing the Voluntary and Community Sector Alliance programme; and, providing specialist social care services such as the Pre-Birth Intervention Service and Supporting Solutions (Edge of Care Service).

- 6 To date, we have evidenced that 2,885 families have achieved significant and sustained outcomes through our Stronger Families programme which equates to two-thirds of our March 2020 target.
- 7 Across the county, eight in ten pupils (81%) attend a primary or secondary school rated as 'good' or 'outstanding'. Although slightly higher than the North East average (79%), it is below the England average (84%). Ofsted has now piloted its new school inspection framework prior to full implementation from September 2019.
- 8 Ofsted is refocusing inspections of schools, early years settings and further education and skills providers. Inspectors will spend less time looking at exam results and test data, and more time considering how a nursery, school, college or other education provider has achieved their results. Schools will be empowered to put the child first and be actively discouraged from negative practices, such as 'off-rolling', where schools remove pupils in their own best interests, rather than that of the pupils. Such schools are likely to find their 'leadership and management' judged inadequate under the new framework.
- 9 More than 9,600 schools across England have voluntarily registered to participate in the Reception Baseline Assessment pilot this autumn. Schools will complete the assessment within six weeks of the children starting school. It will be an activity-based assessment of pupils' ability in language, communication and literacy and mathematics. It will be used as the baseline for measuring the progress primary schools make with their pupils. This is a voluntary pilot and it is not yet known which County Durham primary schools are participating.
- 10 The overall attainment 8 score (formerly GCSE) for pupils in County Durham has risen again to 44.7 from 44.4 last year. This is a measure of a pupil's average grade across a set of eight subjects. Disadvantaged attainment 8 has improved considerably to 40.4 compared to 35.5 in 2018.
- 11 The proportion of pupils achieving success at grade 4 and above in both English and maths is 60%. This matches last year's performance, which was an improvement from 56% in 2017. The average attainment score for both subjects has also increased. (A level 4 is deemed as a 'pass' which is similar to the old 'C' grade).
- 12 The A-level overall point score is now 35.4 compared to 31.9 three years ago, and the average attainment grade has increased to B-. This is higher than the national average of C+.
- 13 Pupils who did not receive the grades they hoped for and those looking for careers advice are supported by [DurhamWorks](#) to find apprenticeships, recruitment and training for 16 to 24-year-olds across the county.

- 14 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is undertaking a review of elective home education, focusing on education standards, protecting children from harm and the support available for children and their families. Evidence gathering will commence in September 2019 and recommendations considered in early 2020.
- 15 Although better than the national level, our performance in relation to completing Education Health & Care Plans (EHCP) for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) within 20 weeks has deteriorated. This stems from the significant increase in demand for EHCPs in early 2019. Identifying placements for children with complex needs remains both a local and national issue and is a consistent factor in EHCPs going out of timescale.
- 16 As part of our work to improve the mental health of our children and young people in County Durham, and in response to the new theme of the Ofsted led Joint Targeted Area Inspection around mental health, there are a number of activities planned as part of the Children and Young People Mental Health and Resilience Local Transformation Plan.
- 17 We are participating in the national rollout of the [Mental Health Services and Schools and Colleges Link Programme](#) (MHSSCLP), a ground-breaking initiative to help CCGs and local authorities work with schools and colleges to provide timely mental health support to children and young people. It works to empower staff by brokering contact, sharing expertise and developing a joint vision for CYP mental health and wellbeing in each locality.
- 18 We are also delivering the Durham Resilience programme (DRP) to develop greater awareness and understanding of resilience within schools and to promote working practices that support resilience in both pupils and staff. The Youth Aware Mental Health (YAM) programme which, to date, has reached 2,253 year 9 pupils across 14 schools continues to be rolled out.
- 19 A recent consultation event with children, young people and their families at Durham Cricket Ground, gathered views on the Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) within schools. Feedback will be used to inform our 'Trailblazer' bid which was successful in securing funding for the three MHST across County Durham. There is over £1 million coming into Durham from NHS England and Public Health are complementing this funding for the next three years. The funding will support 5-18 year olds within up to 60 educational establishments which includes three colleges in a North, South and East team structure.
- 20 We have introduced a children, young people and family-focused physical activity offer within the context of the developing wellbeing model. It will be introduced via a locality-based stepped approach between September 2019 and August 2020.

- 21 Across the county, tooth decay remains a concern. Phase 3 of the tooth brushing “train the trainer” scheme, available to the top 30% deprived areas across the county with the County Durham Integrated Needs Assessment for Oral Health indicating the priority areas, started at the end of April. An additional 14 settings, with the combined potential to reach 540 children, have accepted this offer.
- 22 A County Durham Oral Health Neglect Conference, held in early May 2019, raised awareness of dental decay being a significant factor in neglect. Feedback from the conference will help develop an action plan led by the neglect sub-group.
- 23 Although teenage conceptions across the county have greatly reduced, they remain higher than nationally. To help young people make informed choices and in preparation for the introduction of statutory Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) in September 2020, a range of interventions, co-ordinated through the Teenage Parent Steering Group and delivered by key stakeholders, has been put in place. The Integrated Sexual Health Service (ISHS) delivered by County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT) are increasing their offer for young people particularly in areas where conception rates are consistently 20% higher than the Durham average. The ISHS have recently consulted service users with the aim of improving the service offered this includes the following;
- (a) Increase in the numbers of community-based evening Teen Plus Contraception and Sexual Health (CaSH) /GUM clinics;
 - (b) Ensure that weekend provision of CaSH/GUM is made available;
 - (c) Increase in the number of community-based walk in Teen Plus CaSH clinics;
 - (d) Increase in the number of school-based CaSH clinics.
- 24 The Student Voice Survey was carried out in early 2019 for the third year. Responses were received from 3,111 pupils attending 74 primary schools and 5,625 pupils attending 29 secondary schools across County Durham. Analysis of these results is ongoing and will be reported later this year; key topics include achievement and quality of teaching, safety and bullying, use of technology, careers advice, and wellbeing, including eating habits, mental health, alcohol and drugs and culture and sport.

Are children, young people and families in receipt of social work services appropriately supported and safeguarded?

- 25 As at 30 June 2019, our statutory social work teams were supporting 3,470 children, including 368 children on a child protection plan and 873 children in care.

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

3. Are children, young people and families in receipt of social work services appropriately supported and safeguarded?

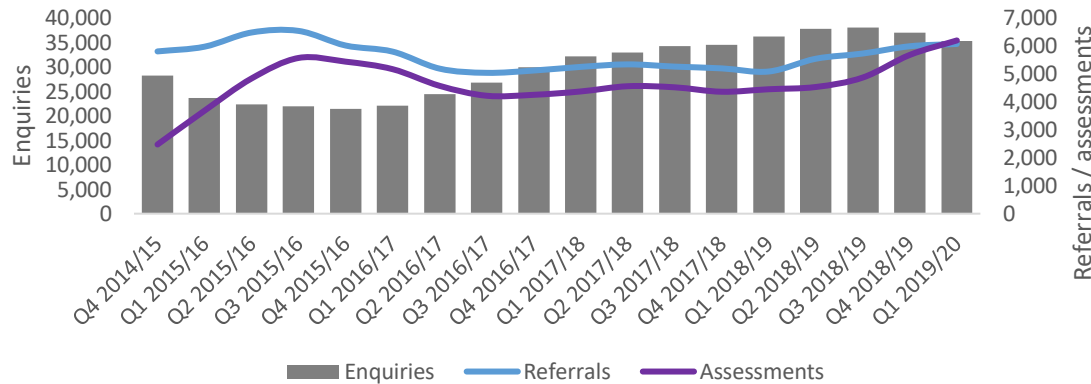
Journey of a child

↓ **2%** in enquiries compared to Jun 18

↑ **19%** in referrals compared to Jun 18

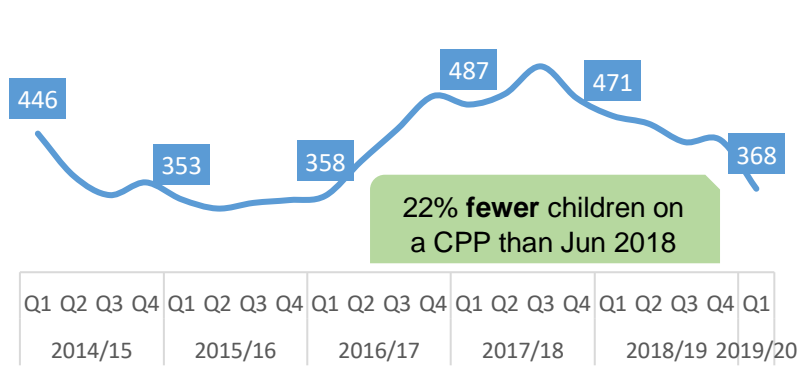
↑ **39%** in single assessments compared to Jun 18

Enquiries, Referrals and Assessments (rolling 12 months)



91% social work assessments completed within 45 working days (Apr-Jun19)
Highest ever in June 2019 at 96%

Number of children on a Child Protection Plan (CPP)



Quality of case work
Collaborative audits (Jan-Mar19)

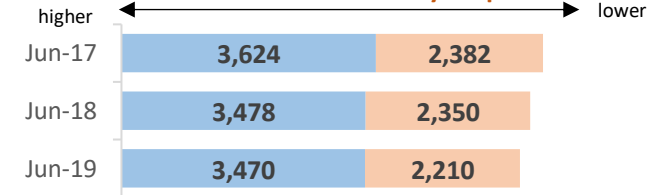
86% case files given a scaling score of 6 or above



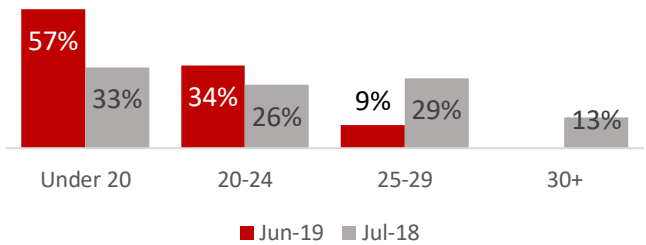
Number of children by level of need

Level 4 (statutory cases)
LAC, CPP, Children in Need

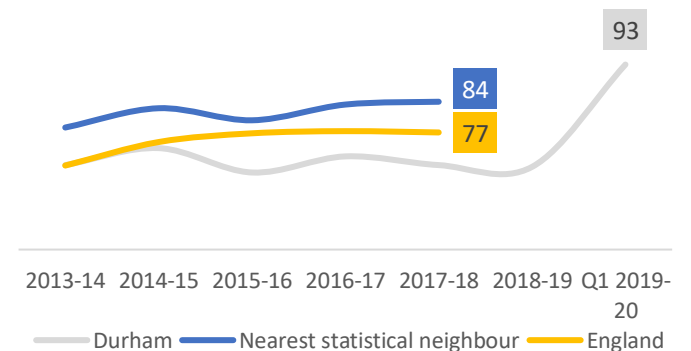
Level 3/2
One Point Service,
Early Help



Social Worker - Caseload Distribution



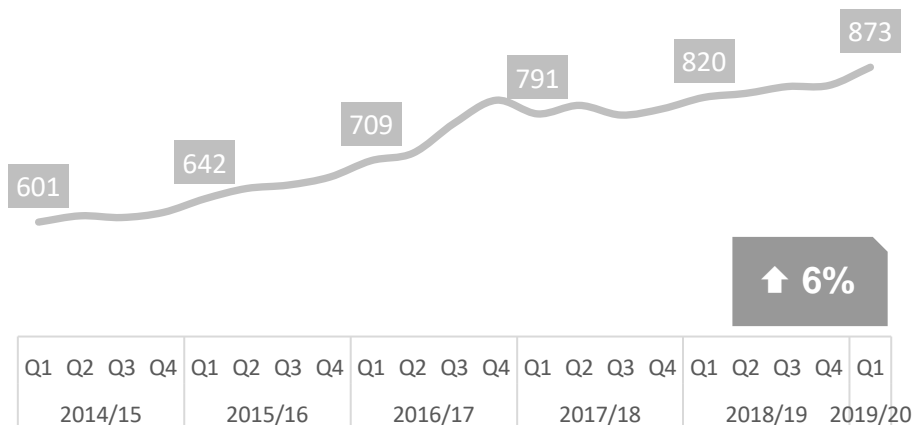
% of Initial Child Protection Conferences held within 15 days of Section 47 investigation commencing



- 26 During quarter 1, around nine in ten children's case files audited were scored as six or above. Detailed analysis of our collaborative audit work is routinely reported to our social care Quality Improvement Board and corrective action and support put in place where the need for improvement is identified. We have commissioned external peer review of our audit process. Improvements in practice are also being supported through more detailed review and analysis of performance information, as well as continued development / refinement of data reports and dashboards following the migration to Liquidlogic.
- 27 The move to a new case management system was driven by a recommendation from our 2016 Children's Services Ofsted inspection to "continue with the plan to review existing recording systems to ensure that children's case records are organised in such a way that they present a coherent, accurate and easily accessible picture of a child's journey". Moving to a new children's social care case management system is a significant and complex project which is providing many modernising improvement opportunities to process and present performance data and management information in new ways as well as develop our understanding of outcomes for children and families.
- 28 Some significant performance improvements are evident, supported by the introduction of monthly performance clinics across the social care service. Highlights include the timeliness of assessments and initial child protection conferences.
- 29 A reduction in children on a child protection plan (CPP) is evident. Initial analysis has begun which shows that of those CPPs closed in less than three months the most common reason was the child becoming looked after (four in ten children) but for those CPPs closed in over three months the main reason was that "threshold of significant harm no longer being met". We will continue to provide updates on our findings.
- 30 Signs of Safety, which continues to be implemented across the service as the model for practice, has been positively received by social workers, children, young people and families. This is in addition to a new system of collaborative audits, making practitioners, children, young people and families central to the audit process. Social workers value the feedback and learning the process provides. The quality of the case files, which were audited during the quarter, has improved and reflects ongoing improvements.
- 31 In the last six months, eight agency workers have been employed on permanent contracts and a further four are currently undergoing pre-employment checks for new posts. This is part of a strategic investment in children's social care and, as a result, caseloads have reduced, with no Social Workers now having a caseload of 30 or more, assisting us in our aim to create an environment where good quality social work practice can flourish.

4. Are we being a good corporate parent to Children Looked After (CLA)?

Number of Children Looked After



Children's Commissioner Stability Index 2019

CLA with **0 Social Worker changes** over 12 months

46%

39% England

43% Statistical Neighbours

CLA with **0 placement changes** over 24 months

57%

53% England

52% Statistical Neighbours

CLA with **any school changes** in 1 year

14%

17% England

16% Statistical Neighbours

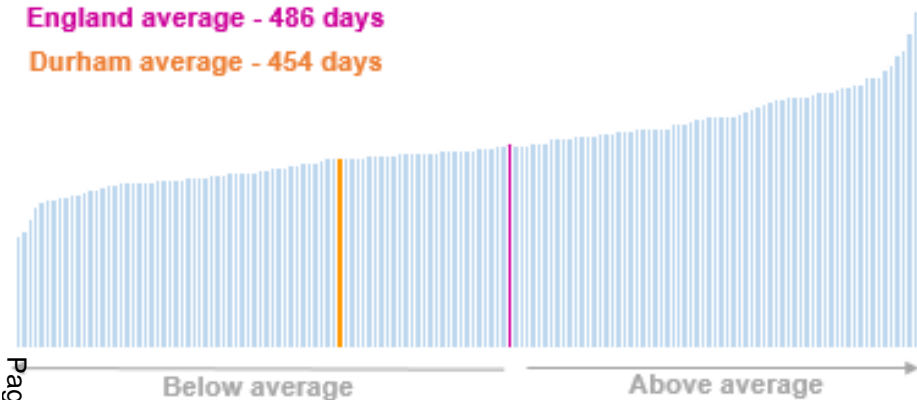


The [Stability Index](#) is an annual measure of the stability of the lives of children in care. It was first launched by the Children's Commissioner in 2017 to shine a light on the issue of stability... and ultimately drive improvements in stability for children in care. (Data relates 2017/18)

Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family (2015-18)

England average - 486 days

Durham average - 454 days



Where do our children in care live? %

Where do our children in care live?	%
In-house foster care	48.0
Friends and family	16.4
Independent Fostering Agency	14.4
Placed with parents	7.7
In-house residential (incl. children's homes)	3.6
External residential (incl. children's homes and res school)	4.0
Placed for adoption	3.2
Independent living (incl. supported lodgings)	2.3
Secure (incl. YOI and prisons)	0.2

Are we being a good corporate parent to Children Looked After (CLA)?

- 32 As previously reported, the number of children in care increased in Durham from 2016 and then stabilised at around 800, this has however begun to increase again since summer 2018. Increases in CLA are evident throughout most of the North East and regional analysis has been undertaken. This analysis is intended to inform and support a deep dive of children looked after numbers, primarily examining if any trends or features can be identified which can explain the recognised increase in children looked after which will be led by the regional Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS). Despite the more recent increasing trend our rate of children in care per 10,000 children aged 10-17 is lower than the North East average and is third lowest in the region based upon provisional 2018/19 data.
- 33 It is encouraging to note that despite an increasing number of children in care, around eight in ten children in care live in foster care and the national Children's Commissioner Stability Index 2019 identifies placement stability, social worker changes and school moves as better than national and statistical neighbour averages.
- 34 Linked to our increase in children in care, care proceedings across the county increased by 24% in 2018/19, whilst decreasing by 5% nationally. Durham has the 21st highest rate of care proceedings in the country. Regionally, only one council was not in the top quartile of care proceedings nationally. The family courts used by the council, and other North East councils, regularly do not meet the 26 week target for care proceedings, with high levels of demand in the region prevalent. We continue to work closely between our children's social care service, legal team, Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) and the courts to achieve the best outcomes for children and their families. Fortnightly legal panels are well established to ensure as little drift and delay as possible for children and their families.
- 35 The next key foster carer recruitment period, our main campaign activity, will be in September. The 'empty nester' campaign is time marked by the start of a new academic term which heralds changes in family life and family composition. Last year, our highest number of enquiries were in September.
- 36 There were 48 children adopted from care in the 12 months to August 2019. Adoption timeliness is positive with the average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family in 2015-18 reducing from 2014-17 and lower than the England and statistical neighbour average.

Key Performance Indicators – Data Tables

There are two types of performance indicators throughout this document:

- (a) Key target indicators – targets are set as improvements can be measured regularly and can be actively influenced by the council and its partners; and
- (b) Key tracker indicators – performance is tracked but no targets are set as they are long-term and/or can only be partially influenced by the council and its partners.

A guide is available which provides full details of indicator definitions and data sources for the 2017/18 corporate indicator set. This is available to view either internally from the intranet or can be requested from the Strategy Team at performance@durham.gov.uk

KEY TO SYMBOLS

	Direction of travel	Benchmarking	Performance against target
GREEN	Same or better than comparable period	Same or better than comparable group	Meeting or exceeding target
AMBER	Worse than comparable period (within 2% tolerance)	Worse than comparable group (within 2% tolerance)	Performance within 2% of target
RED	Worse than comparable period (greater than 2%)	Worse than comparable group (greater than 2%)	Performance >2% behind target

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.

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at performance@durham.gov.uk

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Are children, young people and families in receipt of universal services appropriately supported?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
27	Average Attainment 8 score	45.0	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	44.6	46.6	44.9			No
				N/a	GREEN	RED	GREEN			
28	Average point score per A level entry of state-funded school students	33.4	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	31.9	32.4	32.5			No
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN			
29	% of pupils achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths (KS2)	67.7	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	64.6	65	68			No
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	AMBER			
30	% of 16 to 17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	5.3	Apr-Jun 2019	Tracker	5.1	2.9	4.6			Yes
				N/a	RED	RED	RED			
31	Gap between average Attainment 8 score of Durham disadvantaged pupils and non-disadvantaged pupils nationally (KS4)	-14.5	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	-13	-13.5	-15.4			No
				N/a	RED	RED	GREEN			
32	% of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage achieving a Good Level of Development	72.8	2017/18 (academic year)	64	71.9	71.6	71.5			No
				GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN			
33	Gap between % of Durham disadvantaged pupils and % of non-disadvantaged pupils nationally who achieve expected standard in reading, writing and maths (KS2)	-18	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	-18	-20	-16			No
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	RED			
34	Ofsted % of Primary schools judged good or better	90	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	92	87	91		as at 31 May 19	Yes
				N/a	AMBER	GREEN	AMBER			
35	Ofsted % of secondary schools judged good or better	64	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	61	75	56		as at 31 May 19	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	RED	GREEN			

*provisional data

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

1. Are children, young people and families in receipt of universal services appropriately supported?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
36	Exclusion from school of all Durham children - percentage of children with at least one fixed exclusion	2.16	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	1.95	2.33	2.81		2016/17 (academic year)	No
				N/a	RED	GREEN	GREEN			
37	% of all school pupils eligible for and claiming Free School Meals (FSM)	20.8	Jan 2019	Tracker	19.4	15.4	21			Yes
				N/a	RED	RED	GREEN			
38	Under-18 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 17	23.7	2017	Tracker	21.6	17.9	24.7			No
				N/a	RED	RED	GREEN			
39	% of five year old children free from dental decay	74.2	2016/17	Tracker	64.9	76.7	76.1			No
				N/a	GREEN	RED	AMBER			
40	Alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18s (rate per 100,000)	53.1	2015/16-2017/18	Tracker	56.2	32.9	62.7			No
				N/a	GREEN	RED	GREEN			
41	Young people aged 10-24 admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000)	350.1	2017/18	Tracker	400.8	421.2	458.0			No
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN			
42	% of children aged 4 to 5 years classified as overweight or obese	25.0	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	24.1	22.4	25.0			No
				N/a	AMBER	RED	GREEN			
43	% of children aged 10 to 11 years classified as overweight or obese	37.1	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	37.7	34.3	37.5			No
				N/a	GREEN	RED	GREEN			
44	% of Education Health and Care Plans completed in the statutory 20 week time period (excl. exceptions)	63.9	Jan-Jun 2019	90	92.4	60.1	81.7		2018	Yes
				RED	RED	GREEN	RED			

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Page 106
Are children, young people and families in receipt of early help services appropriately supported?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
45	% of successful interventions (families turned around) via the Stronger Families Programme (Phase 2) [number]	66 [2,885]	Sep 14- Jun 19	TBC	N/a	49.9	52.5	46.5	Mar 19	Yes
					GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		
46	% of children aged 0-2 years in the top 30% IMD registered with a Family Centre and having sustained contact	90.2	2018/19	90	89.4					Yes
				GREEN	GREEN					

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

3. Are children, young people and families in receipt of social work services appropriately supported and safeguarded?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
47	% of statutory referrals received by the First Contact Team or Emergency Duty Team processed within 1 working day	93.1 [1,207]	Apr-Jun 2019	Tracker	88.1 [1,120]					Yes
				N/a	GREEN					
48	% of statutory children in need referrals occurring within 12 months of a previous referral	33.2 [440]	Apr-Jun 2019	Tracker	17.9 [232]	21	18	18	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	RED	RED	RED	RED		
49	% of single assessments completed within 45 working days	90.5 [1,285]	Apr-Jun 2019	Tracker	75.7 [892]	83	82	86	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		
50	Rate of children subject to a child protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18 [number of children]	36.6 [368]	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	47 [471]	45	66	50	as at 31 Mar 18	Yes
				N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

3. Are children, young people and families in receipt of social work services appropriately supported and safeguarded?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
51	Rate of children in need per 10,000 population aged under 18 (statutory L4 open cases) [number of children]	345.1 [3,470]	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	346.9 [3,478]	341	460	404	as at 31 Mar 18	Yes
				N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		
52	Rate of children at level 2 or 3 per 10,000 population aged under 18 (One Point open cases) [number of children]	219.8 [2,210]	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	228.4 [2,291]					Yes
				N/a	N/a					
53	% of strategy meetings initiated which led to an initial child protection conference being held within 15 working days	92.5 [147]	Apr-Jun 2019	75	72.5 [137]	77	83	84	2017/18	Yes
				GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		
54	% of Social Workers with fewer than 20 cases	52.1	as at 9 Apr 19	Tracker	45.5	44.1				Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN				
55	% of Statutory Case File Audits which are given a scaling score of 6 or above	85.7	Apr-Jun 2019	80	New indicator					Yes
				GREEN	N/a					

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

4. Are we being a good corporate parent to Looked After Children?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
56	Rate of children looked after per 10,000 population aged under 18 [number of children]	86.8 [873]	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	80.5 [807]	64	95	90	as at 31 Mar 18	Yes
				N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Are we being a good corporate parent to Looked After Children?

Page 108 Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
57	% of children adopted from care (as % of total children leaving care) [number of children]	9* [7 of 78]	Apr-Jun 2019	15	12.5 [10 of 80]	13	14	19	2017/18	Yes
				RED	RED	RED	RED	RED		
58	% of CLA who are fostered	77.7 [678]	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	80 [646]	73	77	73	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		
59	% of external residential placements	3.6 [31]	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	3.2 [26]					Yes
				N/a	GREEN					
60	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who had a dental check	94.7	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	93.7	88	94	95	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	RED	RED		
61	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who have had the required number of health assessments	89.8	as at 30 Jun 19	Tracker	89.9	88	94	95	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	AMBER	GREEN	RED	RED		
62	Emotional and behavioural health of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more (score between 0 to 40)	15.5	2017/18	Tracker	16.0	14.2	14.1	14.0		No
				N/a	GREEN	RED	RED	RED		
63	Average Attainment 8 score of Children Looked After	23.2	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	21.9	18.9	20.8	19.5	2017/18 (academic year)	No
				N/a	N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		
64	% of CLA achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths (at KS2)	36.6	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	35	35	44	38	2017/18 (academic year)	No
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	RED	RED		
65	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in education, employment or training (EET)	Data being validated	Data being validated	Tracker	N/a	64	66	64	2017/18	No
				N/a	N/a	GREEN	RED	GREEN		

ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

4. Are we being a good corporate parent to Looked After Children?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
66	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in education, employment or training (EET)	Data being validated	Data being validated	Tracker	N/a	51	52	58	2017/18	No
				N/a	N/a	GREEN	GREEN	RED		
67	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in suitable accommodation	Data being validated	Data being validated	Tracker	N/a	89	93	84	2017/18	No
				N/a	N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		
68	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in suitable accommodation	Data being validated	Data being validated	Tracker	N/a	84	91	90	2017/18	No
				N/a	N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		

Other additional relevant indicators

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER

1. Do residents have good job prospects?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
4	% of 16 to 17 year olds in an apprenticeship	7.8	as at Jun 2019	Tracker	9.8	5.8	7.6	7.7		Yes
				N/a	RED	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		

ALTOGETHER HEALTHIER

Are our services improving the health of our residents?

Page 110 Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
69	% of mothers smoking at time of delivery	18.7*	Jan-Mar 2019	14.7 RED	17.5 RED	10.9* RED	16.6* RED			Yes
77	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth	28.3	Apr-Jun 2019	Tracker N/a	29.2 RED	47.3 RED	33.8 RED		Jan-Mar 2019	Yes

*provisional data

ALTOGETHER SAFER

1. How effective are we at tackling crime and disorder?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
90	First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 to 17 (per 100,000 population of 10 to 17 year olds)	257	Jan 17- Dec 18	Tracker N/a	371 GREEN	238 RED	332 GREEN	251 GREEN		Yes
94	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%)	46.3	Oct 16 – Sep 17	Tracker N/a	41.6 RED	39.2 RED	41.7 RED			Yes

4. How well do we tackle abuse of vulnerable people, including domestic abuse, child exploitation and radicalisation?

105	Number of child sexual exploitation referrals	128	Jul 18- Jun19	Tracker N/a	191 N/a					Yes
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Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

26 September 2019

**Children and Young People's Service –
Revenue and Capital Outturn 2018/19**



Report of Corporate Directors

John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources

**John Pearce, Corporate Director Children and Young People's
Service**

Electoral division(s) affected: Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide details of the 2018/19 revenue and capital outturn for Children and Young People's Services (CYPS) highlighting any major variances in comparison with the budget as at 31 March 2019.

Executive summary

- 2 This report provides an overview of the revenue and capital outturn 2018/19. It provides an analysis of the CYPS budgets and outturn for the service areas falling under the remit of this Overview and Scrutiny Committee and complements the reports considered and agreed by Cabinet on a quarterly basis
- 3 In summary, CYPS had a cash limit overspend of £3.386 million against a revised budget of £107.865 million in 2018/19, which represented a 3.1% overspend. The previously in-year forecast position (at Quarter 3) was a cash limit overspend of £2.663 million.
- 4 On 13 March 2019 Cabinet approved transfers from General Fund Balances of £0.9 million to the CYPS earmarked reserves of £1.763 million to ensure the previously forecast overspend position of £2.663 million would not lead to a negative cash limit reserve carried forward at 31 March 2019.
- 5 Following an increase in the CYPS overspend position at outturn, Cabinet (10 July 2019) approved a further transfer from the Council's General Reserve of £0.723 million to the CYPS Cash limit to avoid a negative cash limit position being carried forward to 2019/20.

- 6 Details of the reasons for under and overspending against relevant budget heads are disclosed in the report.
- 7 The report provides details of the 2018/19 outturn for maintained schools budgets, their retained balances and details relating to High Needs spending and centrally held Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) reserves last year.
- 8 Schools had a net contribution to retained balances of £1.354 million in 2018/19, with a total net retained balance at the year-end of £17.744 million.
- 9 Twenty-one schools had a negative retained balance at the year-end, with the cumulative deficit balances for these schools totalling £6.723 million.
- 10 The report identifies the continuing challenges and significant overspends that occurred against the High Needs DSG budgets in 2018/19.
- 11 Centrally retained DSG budgets overspent by £8.347 million in total, resulting in a forecast net overdrawn / negative DSG retained balance of £0.348 million at 31 March 2019.
- 12 The High Needs Block element of the retained DSG activity overspent by £7.411 million in 2018/19 and has an associated £2.728 million deficit, contributing to the overall retained deficit position of £0.348 million at 31 March 2019.
- 13 Finally, the report provides an update on the outturn spending against the capital programme within CYPS, where actual expenditure for 2018/19 totalled £16.193 million against the revised Capital Budget of £18.994 million for 2018/19.

Recommendation

- 14 Members of Overview and Scrutiny committee are requested to:
 - (a) note the CYPS revenue and capital outturn for 2018/19

Background

- 15 The County Council approved the Revenue and Capital budgets for 2018/19 at its meeting on 21 February 2018. These budgets have subsequently been revised to take account of transfers to and from reserves, grant additions/reductions, budget transfers between service groupings and budget reprofiling between years. This report covers the financial position for:
- (a) CYPS Revenue Budget - £107.865 million (original £106.564 million)
 - (b) CYPS Capital Programme – £18.994 million (original £28.819 million)
- 16 The original CYPS revenue budget were revised to incorporate a number of budget adjustments in year as summarised in the table below:

	£'000
Original Budget	106,564
Reason for Adjustment	
Transfer from Contingencies	1,501
Use of (+) / contribution to CYPS reserves (-)	-971
Use of (+) / contribution to Corporate reserves (-)	1,289
Transfer from other services	0
Transfer to other services	-518
Revised Budget	107,865

The use of (+) / contribution to (-) CYPS reserves consists of:

Reserve	£'000
SEND Reform Grant reserve	219
Emotional Wellbeing reserve	-95
Mental Health Counselling reserve	47
Movement Difficulties reserve	-7
School and Governor Support reserve	64
Durham Learning Resources reserve	14
CPD Reserve	615
High Needs Strategic Review reserve	13
Tackling Troubled Families reserve	164
YOS Development reserve	6
Extended Personal Advisor reserve	-19
National Assessment and Accreditation reserve	-197

Reserve	£'000
North East Social Work Alliance reserve	378
Schools Reserve	760
School Condition Survey reserve	73
Adult Learning reserve	250
Education ESF 15-18 reserve	142
Education ESF 18-21 reserve	55
Secure Services Capital reserve	-672
Durham Music Service reserve	36
Swimming Pool reserve	3
Easington Sports Partnership reserve	2
Durham Sports Partnership reserve	30
Early Years Activity reserve	29
DSG High Needs Block reserve	-2,881
Total	-971

- 17 The summary financial statements contained in the report cover the financial year 2018/19 and show:
- The approved annual budget together with actual income and expenditure as recorded in the Council's financial management system;
 - The variance between the annual budget and the actual outturn;
 - For the CYPS revenue budget, adjustments for items outside of the cash limit to take into account such items as redundancies met from the strategic reserve, capital charges not controlled by services and use of / or contributions to earmarked reserves.

Revenue Outturn

- 18 The CYPS service had a cash limit overspend of £3.386 million against a revised budget of £107.865 million in 2018/19 which represents a 3.1% overspend. The previously forecast position (at quarter 3) was a cash limit overspend of £2.663million
- 19 The tables below show the revised annual budget, actual expenditure and the variance at the year end. The first table is analysed by Subjective Analysis (i.e. type of expense) and shows the combined position for CYPS, and the second is by Head of Service area.

Subjective Analysis (Type of Expenditure)

	2018/19 Budget £'000	2018/19 outturn £'000	Variance (under) / over spend £'000	Items Outside Cash Limit – £'000	Cash Limit Variance £'000	MEMO: Cash Limit Variance QTR3 £'000
Employees	74,715	73,732	-983	57	-926	(1,961)
Premises	4,088	4,354	266	-224	42	(21)
Transport	15,136	16,730	1594	0	1594	1,007
Supplies & Services	11,669	12,069	400	-455	-55	143
Third Party Payments	30,187	33,176	2,989	0	2,989	2,407
Transfer Payments	1,748	1,667	-81	0	-81	(139)
Capital	43,349	30,953	-12,396	13,604	1,208	326
Other Income Summary	-73,027	-74,813	-1,786	401	-1,385	901
Total	107,865	97,868	-9,997	13,383	3,386	2,663

Analysis by Head of Service Area:

	2018/19 Budget £'000	2018/19 outturn £'000	Variance (under) / over spend £'000	Items Outside Cash Limit – £'000	Cash Limit Variance £'000	MEMO: Cash Limit Variance QTR3 £'000
Head of Childrens Services	1,541	1,161	-380	-3	-383	-331
Looked After Provision Permanence and Care Leavers	32,310	36,779	4,469	-316	4,153	3,796
Efficiency and Improvement	131	131	0	0	0	-1
Secure Services	-2,341	-2,072	269	-269	0	-
Aycliffe Site and Price Training	628	469	-159	163	4	29
Head of Education	-1,108	-1,102	6	0	6	-12
Progression and Learning	2,345	2,346	1	-20	-19	-8
School Places and Admissions	29,588	17,597	-11,991	12,870	879	190
SEN and Disability and Inclusion	2,439	2,705	266	-100	166	171
Support and Development	2,346	1,515	-831	19	-812	-764
Childrens Services Operational Support	6,534	6,241	-293	-69	-362	-303
Safeguarding and Professional Practice	1,135	1,139	4	11	15	27
One Point and Think Family	966	-149	-1,115	1	-1,114	-1,069
Childrens and Central Support Recharges	7,261	6,645	-616	640	24	24
Families First North	8,186	8,563	377	144	521	385
Families First South	9,444	10,251	807	37	844	901
Head of Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children	720	271	-449	-2	-451	-404
Youth Offending Service	1,959	1,931	-28	-26	-54	32

	2018/19 Budget £'000	2018/19 outturn £'000	Variance (under) / over spend £'000	Items Outside Cash Limit – £'000	Cash Limit Variance £'000	MEMO: Cash Limit Variance QTR3 £'000
Central Charges	3,781	3,447	-334	303	-31	0
Total	107,865	97,868	-9,997	13,383	3,386	2,663

20 The table below provides a brief commentary of the cash limit variances against the revised budget, analysed by Head of Service. The table identifies variances in the core budget only and excludes items outside of the cash limit: (e.g. central repairs and maintenance) and technical accounting adjustments (e.g. capital charges).

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Head of Childrens Social Care		
Safeguarding and Professional Practice	Overspend in this area related to the cost of a new Strategic Manager with no budget provision in the current financial year offset by surplus income from the ASYE programme. The Service have identified funding for the management post in 2019-20.	15
Families First North	An over spend on unbudgeted agency staff costs in excess of savings accrued through vacancies totalled £0.188 million. An over spend on transportation costs mainly through the use of taxis totalled £0.187 million. Supplies and Services mainly associated with accommodation assistance, short term benefit cover and office set up costs following the restructure and movement of staff in Childrens Services was overspent by £0.028 million. Expenditure on short term interim fostering allowances with no budget provision totalled £0.118 million in 2018-19.	521
Families First South	An over spend on unbudgeted agency staff costs in excess of savings accrued through vacancies totalled £0.307 million. Transportation of children mainly through the use of taxis was overspent by £0.066 million and legal costs associated with child care cases overspent by £0.205 million. Expenditure on an increasing number of children placed under Special Guardianship and Child Arrangement Order arrangements resulted in an overspend of £0.324 million. There was a net underspend of (£0.089m) on direct payments, short breaks and home care for children with a disability. Expenditure on short term interim fostering allowances with no budget provision totalled £0.031 million in 2018-19.	844

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Looked After Provision, Permanence and Care Leavers	<p>The overspend in the LAC service was mainly as a result of the following contributing factors-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased costs of DCC employed staff at the in-house provided residential homes has led to significant levels of overtime c£0.215 million as a result of sickness and other absences. £2.624 million overspend on LAC Placements including young people placed in welfare and high dependency beds in Secure accommodation. £0.751 million net overspend on permanent adoption placements with external voluntary organisations and other local authorities £0.373 million shortfall against the income budget for joint CCG funded placements. £0.190 million overspend on transportation costs mainly related to the cost of hired transport. 	4,153
Efficiency and Improvement		(0)
Head of Childrens Services	The underspend mainly relates to the budget for recruitment and retention payments and temporary agency Social Work Assistants being held at this level although the actual expenditure was captured within the employee team budgets.	(383)
		5,150

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Head of Education		
Director/Head of Education	There is an overspend of £6k in this area linked to the appointment of an interim Head of Education during 2018/19.	6
Progression and Learning	There is a small forecast under spend relating to staffing vacancies.	-19
School Places and Admissions	The over spend in this area relates to additional expenditure on Home to School transport and in particular transport relating to pupils with SEN.	879
Support and Development	This underspend primarily relates to accessing of alternative funding for the previously base budget funded nursery sustainability of £485k. There is also an under spend on employee budgets due to vacancies in the early years team.	-812
Central charges	There is an under spend in this area due to the change in bad debt provision.	-25
		29

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Childrens Services Operational Support		
Childrens Services Operational Support	The under spend in this area relates to vacancies across Locality Support teams, which are currently being held in advance of MTFP savings.	(362)
		(362)

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Head of Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children		
Childrens and Central Support Recharges	The overspend relates to a payment to HMRC following a change in the treatment of taxable benefits relating to car leases, and covers staff across the whole service.	24
Aycliffe Site and Price Training	The small over spend relates to ongoing premises costs on the Aycliffe site pending demolition of all the remaining buildings.	4
One Point and Think Family Service	The service accessed additional non recurrent income of (£0.615m) in 2018/19. The One Point Service also saved (£0.148 million) from vacant posts. The balance of the saving (£0.351 million) is mainly from savings on building repairs, minor improvements, activities and office expenses.	(1,114)
Head of Early Help Inclusion and Vulnerable Children	The underspend mainly relates to planned savings on the activity budget and on minor building improvements, these budgets were previously held in the One Point Service.	(450)
Secure Services	Secure Services made a net surplus of £0.672m mainly from the sale of welfare beds, the surplus was transferred to the Secure Services earmarked reserve at the year end.	0
Youth Offending Service	The saving in CDYOS relates mainly to savings on premises and supplies partly as a result of less than expected expenditure on the Belmont premises.	(54)
SEN, Disability and Inclusion	The overspend relates to the funding of ER/VR costs released as part of a recent restructure and which are not associated with delivering MTFP savings.	167
		(1,423)

- 21 In summary, the service overspent its cash limit budget by £3.386m in 2018/19. The outturn position incorporates the MTFP savings built into the 2018/19 budgets, which for CYPS in total amounted to £2.742m.
- 22 On 13 March 2019 Cabinet, based on the Quarter 3 forecast of outturn, approved transfers from General Fund Balances of £0.9 million and the application of CYPS earmarked reserves of £1.763 million to clear what would have been a negative cash limit reserve carried forward at 31 March 2019.
- 23 Following the increase in the CYPS overspend position at outturn, Cabinet (10 July 2019) approved a further transfer from the Council's General Reserve of £0.723 million to the CYPS Cash limit to avoid a negative cash limit position carried forward to 2019/20.
- 24 The CYPS Cash Limit carried over at 31 March 2019 is therefore a zero balance.

Schools

- 25 Maintained schools¹ approved original budgets in March and April of 2018. These budgets took account of funding allocated from the Dedicated Schools Grant, based on formula allocations and band funding for special schools, as well as income from grants and other sources. Budgets were subsequently revised to take account of changes made by the schools, to take account of changes in income, (including SEN funding) and revised spending plans. This report covers the financial position for:
- *Schools Revenue Budget - £234 million (original £233 million)*
- 26 The original and final schools' revenue budgets are summarised in the table below:

Schools' delegated budgets (£000s)	
Original Budget	232,260
In-year adjustments	1,373
Revised Budget	233,633

- 27 The summary financial statements contained in the report cover the financial year 2018/19 and show: -

¹ Figures in the report exclude schools that converted to academies at the start or during the year, but include Our Lady of the Rosary RC Primary, which converted to an academy on 1 May 2019.

- The approved annual budget, together with actual income and expenditure as recorded in the Council's financial management system;
 - The variance between the annual budget and the outturn position;
- 28 Overall, schools underspent by £8.959 million against a revised budget of £233.633 million which represents a 3.8% underspend.
- 29 The table below show the revised annual budget, actual expenditure and the variance at the year end. The table is analysed by Subjective Analysis (i.e. type of expense).

Subjective Analysis (Type of Expenditure)

<i>Schools' delegated budgets (£000s)</i>	Original Annual Budget	Revised Annual Budget	Final Outturn	Variance (Final Outturn to Revised Annual Budget)	MEMO: Forecast at Quarter 3	Variance (Final Outturn to Forecast at Quarter 3)
Employees	196,964	199,163	199,206	43	198,051	1,155
Premises	13,137	13,577	13,177	(400)	13,443	(266)
Transport	1,537	1,616	1,755	139	1,746	9
Supplies and Services	37,598	41,150	41,000	(150)	39,725	1,275
Income	(53,848)	(59,636)	(66,475)	(6,839)	(59,477)	(6,998)
Other	36,871	37,763	36,011	(1,752)	37,585	(1,574)
Total	232,259	233,633	224,673	(8,960)	231,073	(6,399)

- 30 Schools underspent by £8.959 million compared to their Revised Budget, an increase in under spend of £6.399 million compared to the forecasts at Quarter 3. This resulted in the retained balances held by schools at 31 March 2019 totalling £17.744 million.

2018/19 outturn Impact on Schools retained Reserves

Reserves Position as at 31 March 2018

- 31 Maintained schools budgets and carry forward accumulated surpluses and deficits from one year to the next. At the end of 2017/18 the net balances carried forward by schools totalled £18.415 million:

	31 March 2018 £000
Maintained Schools	18,063
Communities of Learning	384
Loans to Schools	(32)
Total	18,415

- 32 The Communities of Learning balance relates to unspent amounts allocated to clusters of schools to support collaborative provision for Special Educational Needs. This balance was moved to centrally held DSG reserves in Q1 2018-19.
- 33 Loans to Schools are the amounts outstanding for loans made to schools under the old loan scheme, which ended in 2013. Schools are now able to obtain loans from a new scheme, financed by the Council.
- 34 In relation to maintained schools, the balances carried forward form part of the resources available to the school to fund current or future year's activity. The retained balances supplement the budget share determined by the schools funding formula, pupil premium and other income generated by the school.
- 35 All schools have delegated budgets and carry forward any under or over spends to the following financial year as either a surplus or deficit retained balance. At 31 March 2018, 20 schools had a deficit balance, where their spending had exceeded their accumulated balances, totalling £5.634 million:

	Schools with deficits at 31 March 2018	
	No.	£000
Nursery	1	10
Alternative provision	-	-
Primary	13	330
Secondary	5	5,220
Special	1	74
Total	20	5,634

- 36 With the exception of 3 (secondary) schools where the section 151 officer (Corporate Director, Resources) has granted permission to set a deficit budget and the nursery school, all of these schools were forecast to clear their deficits in 2018-19.

Developments in 2018/19 - Academisation

- 37 In 2018/19 five schools converted to academies. Excluding the balances for these former maintained schools, the total adjusted maintained school balances brought forward to 2018-19 was £16.420 million.

2018/19 outturn Impact on Schools retained Reserves

- 38 Maintained schools have delegated budgets and carry forward accumulated surpluses and deficits from one year to the next. At the 31 March 2019 there was an overall net surplus balance £17.774m to be carried forward to 2019/20. A summary is shown below:

School balances at 31 March 2019 (£million)				
	Surplus balance of at least 2.5% of funding	Surplus balance below 2.5% of funding	Deficit balance	Total
Nursery	(0.874)	-	-	(0.874)
Alternative Provision	-	-	-	-
Primary	(18.510)	(0.034)	0.315	(18.230)
Secondary	(2.438)	-	6.082	3.645
Special	(2.611)	-	0.325	(2.285)
Total	(24.433)	(0.034)	6.722	(17.744)

- 39 The numbers of schools in each category are shown below:

School balances at 31 March 2019 (no of schools)				
	Surplus balance of at least 2.5% of funding	Surplus balance below 2.5% of funding	Deficit balance	Total
Nursery	11	-	-	11
Alternative Provision	-	1	-	1
Primary	176	3	14	193
Secondary	7	-	6	13
Special	8	-	1	9
Total	202	4	21	227

- 40 The significance of balances above or below 2.5% of funding is that the Council views a balance of at least 2.5% as being appropriate in terms of the ability of schools to cope with unforeseen expenditure during the year.

- 41 All schools were expected to either recover the deficit by the end of the current financial year or have submitted requests for permission to set a deficit budget. Tanfield, Wolsingham, Wellfield and St Bede's will not be able to recover their deficit during the current year and have been granted permission to set a deficit budget in 2019/20 based on an agreed recovery plan. All four of these schools are exploring options for academy conversion, which would require the council to write-off their deficit balances on conversion.

Dedicated Schools Grant Centrally Retained block

- 42 In July 2018 the Department for Education provided an updated Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation of £384.144m for Durham. The original DSG retained block budgets were revised to incorporate a number of budget adjustments as summarised in the table below:

	Schools Block	High Needs Block	Early Years Block	Central School Services Block	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Original Allocation	298,582	51,131	31,603	2,828	384,144
Reason For Adjustment					
Recoupment for academies	(90,084)	-	-	-	(90,084)
Recoupment for EFA direct funded places	-	(4,400)	-	-	(4,400)
Funding received by DCC	208,498	46,731	31,603	2,828	289,660
Delegated to Mainstream Schools	(207,881)	-	-	-	(207,881)
Delegated to Alternative Provision Schools	-	(4,459)	-	-	(4,459)
Delegated to Special Schools	-	(23,160)	-	-	(23,160)
Transfer to Enhanced Mainstream Provision	-	(776)	-	-	(776)
Transfer to Nursery Outreach schools	-	(382)	-	-	(382)
Transfer to Maintained Nursery Schools	-	-	(1,059)	-	(1,059)
Centrally retained budget	617	17,954	30,544	2,828	51,942

- 43 The centrally retained DSG budgets over spent of £8.347 in 2018/19 million to year end, which represents a 16% over spend. Details of where the overspending is occurring is provided in the table below:

DSG Block	Budget	Provisional Outturn	Over / (Under) Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools	617	904	287
High Needs	17,953	25,364	7,411
Early Years	30,544	31,249	705
Central Schools Services	2,828	2,772	-56

DSG Block	Budget	Provisional Outturn	Over / (Under) Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Total	51,942	60,289	8,347

- 44 The over spend position was largely driven by spending against the High Needs Block, which overspent by £7.411 million in 2018/19.
- 45 The table below shows the DSG earmarked reserve position as at 1 April 2018 and the position as at 31 March 2019, taking into account the transfer of £384k from school reserves in relation to Communities of Learning funding:

DSG Reserves	High Needs Block [£'000]	Early Years Block [£'000]	Schools Block [£'000]	Total DSG [£'000]
Balance as at 1 April 2017	6,070	2,361	2,728	11,159
Use [-] / Contribution [+] in 2017/18	(4,652)	(286)	(1,488)	(6,426)
Balance as at 31 March 2018	1,418	2,075	1,240	4,734
Planned Use [-] / Contribution [+] in 2018/19	(7,411)	(705)	(231)	(8,347)
Transfer from COLs	384	0	0	384
Transfer from PFI re-financing	2,881	0	0	2,881
Balance as at 31 March 2019	(2,728)	1,370	1,009	-348

- 46 The over spend position on the Retained element of the DSG reserves (including the High Needs Block) resulted in a deficit over and above available reserves of £0.348 million carried forward at 1 April 2019.

Capital Programme

- 47 The CYPS capital programme was revised early in 2018-19 to take into account budget reprofiled from 2017/18 and was revised further following changes agreed by MOWG and Cabinet in year.
- 48 The revised budget is presented below together with actual expenditure in 2018/19:

Capital Budget	Revised Budget 2018/19 £'000	Actual Expenditure 2018/19 £'000	Variance 2018/19 £'000
SCP - LEP	154	82	-72
Childrens Care	1	1	0
CYPS-Childrens Services - PSS	1,598	1162	-436
Early Intervention & Involvement	0	0	0
Early Years	637	456	-181
School Devolved Capital	4,177	2,327	-1,850
School Related	12,151	11,916	-235
Free School Meals Support	6	3	-3
Secure Services	270	246	-24
CYPS Total	18,994	16,193	-2,801

49 The £2.8million Capital underspend has been reprofiled into the 2019/20 capital budget to enable completion of the capital plans following approval at Cabinet (10 July 2019).

Background papers

Cabinet Report

- 2018/19 Q2 Forecast of Outturn – 14 November 2018
- 2018/19 Q3 Forecast of Outturn – 13 March 2019
- 2018/19 Outturn Report – 10 July 2019

Contact: Andrew Baldwin – Finance Manager

Tel: 03000 263 490

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

There are no implications associated with this report

Finance

Financial implications are detailed throughout the report which provides an analysis of the revenue and capital outturn position.

Consultation

There are no implications associated with this report.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

There are no implications associated with this report.

Human Rights

There are no implications associated with this report.

Crime and Disorder

There are no implications associated with this report.

Staffing

There are no implications associated with this report. Any over or under spending against the employee budgets are disclosed within the report

Accommodation

There are no implications associated with this report.

Risk

The management of risk is intrinsic to good budgetary control. This report forms an important part of the governance arrangements within CYPS. Through routine / regular monitoring of budgets and continual re-forecasting to year end the service grouping can ensure that it manages its finances within the cash envelope allocated to it.

Procurement

There are no implications associated with this report.

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

26 September 2019

Children and Young People's Service

**Revenue and Capital Outturn Forecast
– Quarter 1 - 30th June 2019**



Report of Corporate Directors

John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources

**John Pearce, Corporate Director Children and Young People's
Service**

Electoral division(s) affected: Countywide

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide details of the forecast outturn budget position for the CYPS service grouping, highlighting major variances in comparison with the budget for the year, based on the position to the end of June 2019.

Executive Summary

2. The CYPS service is forecasting a cash limit overspend of £2.124 million against a revised budget of £114.749m in 2019/20, which represents a c.1.86% overspend.
3. The projected capital outturn is a nil variance against a revised budget of £23.988 million.

Recommendations

4. Members of Overview and Scrutiny committee are requested to:
 - a. note the forecast CYPS revenue and capital outturn for 2019/20

Background

5. The County Council approved the Revenue and Capital budgets for 2019/20 at its meeting on 20 February 2019. These budgets have subsequently been revised to take account of transfers to and from reserves, grant additions/reductions, budget transfers between service groupings and budget reprofiling between years. This report covers the financial position for:

- *CYPS Revenue Budget - £114.749m (original £118.039m)*
- *CYPS Capital Programme – £23.988m (original £25.873m)*

6. The original CYPS revenue budget has been revised to incorporate a number of budget adjustments as summarised in the table below:

Reason For Adjustment	£'000
Original Budget	118,039
Reason For Adjustment	
Transfer from Contingencies	1,292
Use of (+)/contribution to CYPS reserves (-)	426
Use of (+)/contribution to Corporate reserves (ERVR) (-)	600
Transfer from Other Services	87
Transfer to Other Services	-5,695
Revised Budget	114,749

7. The use of (+) / contribution to (-) CYPS reserves consists of:

Reserve	£'000
SEND Reform Grant Reserve	235
Tackling Troubled Families Reserve	153
Early Years Activity Reserve	41
Easington Sports Partnership	-3
Total	426

8. The summary financial statements contained in the report cover the financial year 2019/20 and show:

- The approved annual budget together with actual income and expenditure as recorded in the Council's financial management system;

- The variance between the annual budget and the forecast outturn;
- For the CYPS revenue budget, adjustments for items outside of the cash limit to take into account such items as redundancies met from the strategic reserve, capital charges not controlled by services and use of / or contributions to earmarked reserves.

Revenue Outturn

9. The CYPS service is forecasting a cash limit overspend of £2.124 million against a revised budget of £114.749m, which represents a c.1.86% overspend in 2019/20.
10. The tables below show the revised annual budget, actual expenditure to 30 June 2019 and the forecast of outturn to the year end, including the variance forecast at year end. The first table provides a Subjective Analysis (i.e. type of expense) and shows the combined position for CYPS, and the second analysis the outturn position by Head of Service.

Subjective Analysis (Type of Expenditure)

Children and Young Peoples Services	Revised Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Employees	72,507	17,456	70,640	-1,867
Premises	4,293	937	4,178	-115
Transport	17,059	3,059	18,085	1026
Supplies & Services	10,961	3,709	10,732	-229
Third Party Payments	30,756	6,029	33,158	2,402
Transfer Payments	2,116	293	1,589	-527
Capital	24,972	0	24,972	0
Central Support and Other Recharges	20,689	1,255	21,125	436
Grant	-19,940	-4,083	-19,921	19
Contributions	-3,272	-469	-3,354	-82
Sales	-79	-17	-74	5
Charges	-15,573	-2,720	-15,859	-286
Rents	-549	-100	-672	-123
Recharges	-29,075	-6,745	-27,544	1,531
Other Income	-116	-186	-182	-66
Total	114,749	18,418	116,173	2,124

Analysis by Head of Service Area

Children's Social Care	Revised Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Safeguarding and Professional Practice	1,336	342	1,259	-77
Families First North	8,877	1,565	8,818	-59
Families First South	4,370	939	4,323	-47
Recharges and Non-Target	6,687	175	6,687	0
Head of Children's Services	1,842	440	1,373	-469
Looked After Children and Permanence	8,020	1,736	7,201	-819
Looked After Children Resources	31,215	8217	35,102	3,887
Strategic Manager First Contact and Specialist	3,718	899	3,694	-24
Total	66,065	14,313	68,457	2,392

Education	Revised Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Build Schools For The Future	-1,011	-1,642	-1,011	0
Support and Development	1,299	-1,506	733	-566
Progression and Learning	973	2,263	911	-62
School Places and Admissions	36,445	3,082	37,316	871
Head of Education	-1,117	89	-1,117	0
Central Support	4,095	-2,150	4,095	0
Redundant Cost Centres	0	1	0	0
Total	40,684	137	40,927	243

Operational Support	Revised Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Childrens Services Operational Support DG1800	1,453	427	1,370	-83
Total	1,453	427	1,370	-83

Early Help Inclusion and Vulnerable Children	Revised Annual Budget	YTD Actual	Forecast Outturn	Variance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Redundant Early Help and Childrens Services	0	30	0	0
Childrens and Central Support Recharges	0	0	0	0
SEN Disability and Inclusion EHIVC	2,792	666	2,879	87
One Point & Think Family Service	2,924	2,034	2,628	-296
Head of Early Help Inclusion and Vulnerable Children	567	60	366	-201
Secure Services	-1,678	406	-1,678	0
Youth Offending Service	1,413	310	1,395	-18
Aycliffe Site and Price Training	529	35	529	0
Total	6,547	3,541	6,119	-428

Total	114,749	18,418	116,173	2,124
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11. The table below provides a brief commentary of the forecast cash limit variances against the revised budget, analysed by Head of Service. The table identifies variances in the core budget only and excludes items outside of the cash limit (e.g. central repairs and maintenance) and technical accounting adjustments (e.g. capital charges).

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Head of Childrens Social Care		
Safeguarding and Professional Practice	The forecast underspend is mainly from savings in vacant posts (£21K) in the IRO team together with savings on staff travelling (£9K) and surplus grant income (£47K) from the DfE for AYSE social workers .	(77)
Families First North	The forecast underspend mainly relates to savings on Direct Payments	(59)
Families First South	The forecast underspend mainly relates to savings on vacant posts	(47)
Looked After Provision, Permanence and Care Leavers	The forecast underspend mainly relates to forecast savings (£0.578 million) on inter agency adoption fees and (c £77,000) on in house adoption allowances together with (£0.146 million) on leaving care accommodation costs.	(819)
Looked After Children Resources	<p>The overspend in the LAC Resources is mainly as a result of the following contributing factors-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £3.32 million overspend on LAC Placements including young people placed in welfare and high dependency beds in Secure accommodation offset by savings (£0.870 million) from delays in opening the new childrens home in Wingate and the two externally provided solo homes. • £0.534 million overspend on an increasing number of children placed under Special Guardianship and Child Arrangement orders. • £0.397 million shortfall against the income budget for joint CCG funded LAC placements. • Increased costs of in-house provided residential homes c£0.340 million mainly as a result of sickness and other absences. Some of these cover arrangements are being provided by staff recently appointed to run the new childrens home. • £0.047 million overspend on children remaining with carers post 18 in Staying Put Arrangements • The balance of the forecast over spend £0.119 million mainly relates to forecast overspends in transportation and supplies and services 	3,887
First Contact and Specialist	The underspend mainly relates to savings from vacant posts.	(24)
Head of Childrens Services	The underspend mainly relates to temporary growth monies for agency social work assistants and permanent growth funding for agency staff to cover staff turnover, sickness and maternity leave etc. The budget for this expenditure is held at Head of Service Level although the forecast expenditure is captured within the employee forecasts in the team budgets.	(469)
		2,392

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Head of Education		
Director/Head of Education	In line with budget.	-
BSF PFI	In line with budget	-
Progression and Learning	This under spend relates to an over achievement of income relating to the Think Family Grant.	(62)
School Places and Admissions	Home to school transport is forecast to be over budget by £1 million and this is partially offset by forecast under spends in Further and Higher Education Establishment Pension Liabilities of £100k and £29k additional income from fines relating to parents taking their children out of school during term time.	871
Support and Development	This underspend primarily relates to accessing of alternative funding for the previously base budget funded nursery sustainability of £455k. There is also a forecast under spend on employee budgets due to the early achievement of the Support and Development restructure.	(566)
		243

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Childrens Services Operational Support		
Childrens Services Operational Support	The under spend in this area relates previous year's restructure in Children Services Operational Support service.	(83)
		(83)

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Head of Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children		
Aycliffe Site and Price Training	No variance in budget	(0)
One Point and Think Family Service	The One Point Service is forecasting an underspend of (£0.136 million) on employees mainly from savings on vacant posts and one off savings on minor improvements and general repairs (£0.150 million) which is being held to meet known budget pressures in 2020-21. The balance of the forecast saving (£10K) is mainly from savings on transport and supplies and services.	(296)
Head of Early Help Inclusion and Vulnerable Children	The forecast underspend mainly relates to planned savings on the activity and premises budget previously held in the One Point Service, this saving is being held to meet known budget pressures in 2020-21.	(201)
Secure Services	Secure Services are forecasting to breakeven at Q1.	(0)
Youth Offending Service	The variance in CDYOS relates to a forecast overspend on employees of £52K as a result of no vacancies to cover the staff turnover savings budget off set by savings on supplies and services (£19k) , third party payments (£38K) and surplus income (£13K) from external bodies to cover salary costs.	(18)
SEN,Disability and Inclusion	The forecast overspend relates to an overspend on employees £35K to cover maternity leaves and a forecast shortfall in income from Communities of Learning £36K. The balance of the overspend £16K relates to an overspend on premises offset by savings on supplies and services.	87
		(428)

12. In summary, the service is forecast to overspend against its cash limit budget by £2.124m. The outturn position incorporates the MTFP savings built into the 2019/20 budgets, which for CYPS in total amount to £30,000. This has been achieved via a reduction in the early years sustainability budget within Support and Development

Schools

13. The council maintains 226 schools, including nursery, primary, secondary, special and Alternative Provision (AP) schools.
14. In 2019-20 schools are planning to spend £311 million, funded by income of £72 million, budget shares of £229 million, (from central government funding), and £10 million of accumulated surplus balances.

<i>Schools' delegated budgets (£ million)</i>	Nursery	Alternative Provision	Primary	Secondary	Special	Original Annual Budget
Employees	4.259	3.341	158.458	54.416	24.313	244.787
Premises	0.260	0.143	10.373	4.570	1.091	16.436
Transport	0.021	0.623	0.415	0.948	0.311	2.317
Supplies and Services	0.496	1.681	31.263	11.074	2.918	47.432
Income	-3.714	-1.329	-45.988	-15.960	-4.533	-71.523
Net expenditure	1.323	4.459	154.521	55.047	24.100	239.450
Budget share	-1.067	-4.459	-147.955	-52.990	-22.747	-229.218
Contribution from reserves	0.256	-	6.566	2.057	1.354	10.232

15. Schools carried forward balances of circa £18 million at 31 March 2019 and are currently planning to carry forward balances of circa £7 million at 31 March 2020.

16. A summary for each category of school is shown below:

School budget plans 2019-20 (£ million)	Gross expenditure	Gross income	Budget share	Transfer to / from accumulated balance	Balance at 31 March 2019	Balance at 31 March 2020
Nursery	5.036	-3.714	-1.067	0.256	-0.874	-0.618
AP	5.788	-1.329	-4.459	-	-	-
Primary	200.508	-45.988	-147.955	6.566	-18.200	-11.635
Secondary	71.007	-15.960	-52.990	2.057	3.645	5.702
Special	28.633	-4.533	-22.747	1.354	-2.285	-0.932
Total	310.973	-71.523	-229.218	10.232	-17.715	-7.484

17. The balances at 31 March 2019 represented 5.7% of planned gross expenditure for 2019-20, and the forecast balance at 31 March 2020 represents 2.4%.

18. Experience indicates actual final retained balances may be significantly higher than initial forecast final balances. This variance is a result of a cautious approach adopted by many schools which frequently prudently budget on a 'worst-case scenario' basis.

19. In practice schools will actively seek to reduce expenditure during the year to ensure they maintain a reserve balance for unforeseen demands in future years. This was illustrated in 2018-19 where original budgeted use of retained reserves indicated that the year end balance would be approximately £9.3 million compared to the actual retained reserve carried forward of £17.715 million. The impact on reserves is significant although

the actual variance of outturn from initial budget was small at 2.1%.

20. The table below provides a breakdown of the forecast balances compared to planned gross expenditure:

Forecast balances at 31 March 2020 (numbers of schools)		Nursery	Alternative Provision	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Deficit balance		-	-	7	5	1	13
Surplus balance compared to gross expenditure is less than:	2.5%	1	1	50	4	3	59
	5%	4	-	50	2	3	59
	10%	1	-	51	2	1	55
	15%	1	-	17	-	1	19
	25%	2	-	14	-	-	16
50%	2	-	3	-	-	5	

21. Note that around half of schools have surplus balances of less than 5% of planned gross expenditure and three-quarters of schools have balances of less than 10%.
22. The size of the forecast balance relative to gross expenditure is relevant to considering whether a balance is adequate to provide a school with sufficient contingency to cope with unexpected expenditure or loss of income. However, it is also relevant to consider the overall size of the reserves, because some costs are likely to be similar regardless of the size of the school, for example if a school needs to employ an additional teaching assistant (typical annual cost would be £25,000). The table below provides a breakdown of the forecast balances by the size of the forecast balance:

Forecast balances at 31 March 2020 (numbers of schools)		Nursery	Alternative Provision	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Schools with a forecast deficit balance		-	-	7	5	1	13
Forecast surplus balance is less than:	-£10,000	-	1	29	-	3	33
	-£20,000	4	-	14	-	-	18
	-£30,000	1	-	19	-	-	20
	-£40,000	-	-	22	1	-	23
	-£50,000	2	-	13	2	-	17
	-£100,000	1	-	50	1	-	52
	-£150,000	3	-	21	-	3	27
	-£300,000	-	-	6	3	2	11
	-£400,000	-	-	1	-	-	1
	-£500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
->£500,000	-	-	-	1	-	1	

23. A total of 13 schools prepared budget plans that would result in a deficit balance at 31 March 2020, something that requires approval from the council's S.151 officer. Four of these schools were allowed to set a budget with a deficit balance, (known as a licensed deficit). The remaining schools have either been able to revise their budget plan to avoid a deficit or are reviewing their budget plans before the S.151 officer makes a final decision.

24. Schools with forecasts of deficit balances are shown below:

School budgets and forecast balances (£) (negative figures are surpluses)	Gross expenditure	Balance at 31 March 2019	Balance at 31 March 2020	Forecast change in balance
Tanfield School	4,145,000	513,000	503,000	-9,000
Wolsingham School	4,031,000	1,559,000	1,849,000	290,000
Wellfield School	4,958,000	3,365,000	3,265,000	-100,000
St. Bede's RC, Peterlee	4,348,000	481,000	1,353,000	872,000

25. The council will continue to monitor schools' spending plans and advise schools where they need to make savings. All schools will have a budget review in the autumn, which reviews current spending plans and also makes forecasts of budgets for the coming financial year.

Dedicated Schools Grant Centrally Retained block

26. In July 2019 the Department for Education provided an updated Dedicated Schools Grant allocation of £393.267 million, including temporary high needs block funding of £1.057 million. The original DSG retained block budgets have been revised to incorporate a number of budget adjustments as summarised in the table below:

	Schools Block	High Needs Block	Early Years Block	Central School Services Block	Total
	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million
Original Allocation	306.075	52.503	31.833	2.856	393.267
Reason for adjustment					
Recoupment for academies	-103.858	0	0	0	-103.858
Recoupment for EFA direct funded places	0	-3.911	0	0	-3.911
Funding received by DCC	202.217	48.592	31.833	2.856	285.498
Delegated to Mainstream Schools	-201.611	0	0	0	-201.611

	Schools Block	High Needs Block	Early Years Block	Central School Services Block	Total
	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million	£ million
Delegated to Alternative Provision Schools	0	-5.515	0	0	-5.515
Delegated to Special Schools	0	-23.862	0	0	-23.862
Transfer to Enhanced Mainstream Provision	0	-0.683	0	0	-0.683
Transfer to Maintained Nursery Schools	0	0.000	-1.068	0	-1.068
Centrally retained budget	0.606	18.532	30.765	2.856	52.759

27. The Quarter 1 financial forecasts for the DSG budget show an over spend of £6.659 million against a budget of £52.759 million to year end, which represents a 13% over spend.

DSG Block	Budget £ million	Outturn £ million	Over / (Under) Spend £ million
Schools de-delegated	0.606	0.606	0.000
High Needs	18.532	25.191	6.659
Early Years	30.765	30.765	0.000
Central Schools Services	2.856	2.856	0.000
Total	52.759	59.418	6.659

28. The forecast over spend position is driven by the High Needs Block, which is forecast to over spend by £6.308 million.
29. The table below shows the DSG earmarked reserve position as at 1 April 2017 and the projected position as at 31 March 2020 taking into account the projections in this report:

DSG Reserves	High Needs Block £ million	Early Years Block £ million	Schools Block £ million	Total DSG £ million
Balance as at 1 April 2017	6.070	2.361	2.728	11.159
Use [-] / Contribution [+] in 2017/18	-4.652	-0.286	-1.488	-6.426
Balance as at 1 April 2018	1.418	2.075	1.240	4.734
Use [-] / Contribution [+] in 2018/19	-7.411	-0.705	-0.231	-8.347
Transfer from COLs	0.384	0	0	0.384
Transfer from PFI re-financing	2.881	0	0	2.881
Balance as at 1 April 2019	-2.728	1.370	1.009	-0.348

Forecast Use [-] / Contribution [+] in 2019/20	-6.659	0.000	0.000	-6.659
Contribution from general reserves	5.600	0.000	0.000	5.600
Forecast balance as at 31 March 2020	-3.787	1.370	1.009	-1.407

30. The forecast over spend position on the High Needs Block will result in a deficit over and above available reserves of £3.787 million, which is offset by reserve balances in the other DSG blocks of £2.379 million, resulting in a cumulative deficit position of £1.407 million.

Capital Programme

31. The revised Budget is presented below together with actual expenditure to date. The budget may be amended further with approval from MOWG.
32. Summary financial performance to the end of June is shown below:

CYPS	Annual Budget	Actual Spend	Remaining Budget	Managers Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education - LEP	515	48	467	515	0
Children's' Care	392	0	392	392	0
Early Years	181	24	157	181	0
School Devolved Capital	5,843	595	5,248	5,843	0
Education School Related	15,298	3,134	12,164	15,298	0
Planning & Service Strategy	1,753	24	1,729	1,753	0
Secure Services	6	-20	26	6	0
Total	23,988	3,805	20,183	23,988	0

Background papers

Cabinet Report

- 2019/20 Q1 Forecast of Outturn – 11 September 2019

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

The consideration of regular budgetary control reports is a key component of the council's Corporate and Financial Governance arrangements. This report shows the forecast spend against budgets agreed by Council in February 2019 in relation to the 2019-20 financial year. The forecasts contained within this report have been prepared in accordance with standard accounting policies and procedures.

Finance

Financial implications are detailed throughout the report which provides an analysis of the revenue and capital projected outturn position.

Consultation

None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Human Rights

None.

Crime and Disorder

None.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

The figures contained within this report have been extracted from the General Ledger, and have been scrutinised and supplemented with information supplied by the Service Management Teams and budget holders. The projected outturn has been produced taking into consideration spend to date, trend data and market intelligence, and includes an element of prudence. This, together with the information supplied by Service Management Teams and budget holders, helps to mitigate the risks associated with achievement of the forecast outturn position.

Procurement

None.