



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

**Date** Monday 1 July 2019

**Time** 9.30 am

**Venue** Committee Room 2 - County Hall, Durham

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### Business

#### Part A

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

1. Apologies for absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 March 2019 (Pages 3 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations
7. Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements - Report of the Independent Chair of Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (Pages 11 - 42)
8. County Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019/2020 - Part B Children
  - a) Report of Chief Officer, Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield and North Durham Clinical Commissioning Groups and Chair of the County Durham Integrated Care Board (Pages 43 - 46)
  - b) Presented by Sarah Burns, Director of Community Strategy and Delivery, North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group (Pages 47 - 72)
9. Quarter Four 2018/19 Performance Management Report - Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships (Pages 73 - 96)
10. Scoping Report: Elective Home Education - Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships (Pages 97 - 106)

11. Refresh of the Work Programme - Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships (Pages 107 - 118)
12. Verbal update on Review of Children's Residential Care Homes
13. 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  
21 June 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 Craig and Mrs C Johnston

**Parent Governor Representatives:**  
Mrs J Norman and Mr R Patel

**Co-opted Members:**  
Ms R Evans and Mrs P Parkins

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**Contact: Kirsty Gray**

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**DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

At a Meeting of **Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in Committee Room 2 - County Hall, Durham on **Thursday 28 March 2019 at 9.30 am**

**Present:**

**Councillor C Potts (Chairman)**

**Members of the Committee:**

Councillors H Smith, B Bainbridge, D Bell, P Brookes, J Charlton, J Considine, S Durham, C Hampson, K Hopper, I Jewell, L Kennedy, L Mavin, A Patterson, A Willis and M Wilson

**Apologies:**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Simmons, Mr R Patel (Parent Governor Rep) and Mrs C Craig (Faith Rep)

**1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Crute and Simmons, and Mrs Craig, Ms Evans, Mrs Parkins and Mr Patel.

**2 Substitute Members**

There were no substitute Members in attendance.

**3 Minutes**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 28 February 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer confirmed that some of the Members were given a tour of the Durham Learning Resource following the meeting where they were given an introduction to the work and purpose of the centre. They encouraged schools and governors to use the venue for meetings and extended the invitation for Members to visit. The Chairman advised that it was a fantastic facility and encouraged Members who were also governors to give feedback to their schools.

#### **4 Declarations of Interest, if any**

There were no declarations of interest.

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

There were no items from co-opted Members or interested parties.

#### **6 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;

- Autism Accreditation for Villa Real in Consett
- Heads warn of £5.7bn school funding gap

#### **Resolved:**

That the presentation be noted.

#### **7 Neglect in County Durham**

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which provided an update on Neglect in County Durham and a presentation by the Strategic Manager for the One Point and Think Family Service (for copies see file of minutes).

The Committee received a presentation which highlighted the definition of neglect, the causes, the impact of neglect on children, the link between neglect and poverty, the neglect of older children and lessons learned from the JTAI and progress of actions by the LSCB Neglect sub-group.

The Chairman commented on the high number of cases in Durham which were categorised under neglect and it was established that although the figure for Durham was higher compared to the North East and Nationally, there were questions with regards to the way information was recorded and when combining all categories, the overall figure was similar. Durham had a low emotional harm figure.

Councillor Considine confirmed that as a member of the Fostering Panel, she had undertaken a very informative 1-hour training course with regards to Signs of Safety and suggested that it would be beneficial for Members to participate and especially those of whom were school governors.

Councillor Brookes said that the increase in abuse could not solely be put down to social economics and he suspected the prevalence of neglect had rocketed as services made improvements to the identification process and it was reassuring because it showed staff training was working, however he asked for further information on the way that data was recorded. The Corporate Equality and Strategy Manager confirmed that socio-economics had been stable over a number of years, however changes over the past few years there had been changes in employment and welfare reform and the creation of a 'working poor'. Although a small number, people on benefits, with low incomes and essentially little money, were more prone to having children who suffered from neglect.

The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services added that there was a question over how the government defined poverty, as it was no longer unemployed families who were suffering, but working families were under pressure due to increased childcare costs and fuel and rent increases.

With regards to identifying the signs of neglect, the Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services confirmed that schools were excellent at identifying signs of neglect and they were not afraid to make referrals if they had concerns about children.

Councillor Kennedy referred to the figures given on the number of children on the rate of neglect by deprived areas and queried whether more area-specific information could be provided. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services confirmed that a cluster map could be provided, to demonstrate hotspot areas in the County.

Councillor Kennedy confirmed that there were positive relationships between the VCS, schools and One Point in her area and the community centre often provided free food and activities for children who were identified as being in need.

Councillor Bainbridge asked how many people were on the vulnerable parent pathway and the Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services confirmed that there were between 2500 families at any one time working with One Point but she couldn't confirm the proportion of those whom were categorised as neglect, although it was high. Within Families First there were between 1000-1500 and they included children in need, those with a child protection plan and those undergoing safeguarding proceedings.

Councillor Jewell asked how confident Children and Young People's Services were that they were picking everyone up and whether services had a proactive or reactive approach. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services confirmed that she was confident that the approach was more proactive than in the past, the Home Environment Assessment Tool which was undertaken by Midwives and Health Visitors during pregnancy and shortly after birth was able to highlight concerns very early on and schools were also playing a huge role in addressing

concerns. She could never say that every child was picked up as there were still those late night Police referrals, however they were much less common.

Councillor Charlton queried the ability of secondary schools in identifying and referring neglect as children were less open the older they got. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services confirmed that as children got older, they were identified by risk taking and anti-social behaviour, and mental health issues.

Councillor Kennedy confirmed that she knew from experience working in secondary school that separate pastoral teams would work with children and families, and if they did not attend meetings, a referral to One Point would be made and information would be passed on.

The Operations Manager, First Contact, also added that it was difficult to identify signs and symptoms of neglect in teens as much of the behaviour displayed mimicked normal adolescent behaviour.

Councillor Hopper queried whether adequate measures were in place to monitor the frequent movement of families' from one local authority to another and the Strategic Manger - OP/Think Family Services, confirmed that there were procedures in place and a recent case which had been managed successfully.

Councillor Patterson confirmed that there was a worrying increase with regards to neglect and the National funding formula did not take into account the additional burden on schools to deal with it. She suggested that there was a lack of hard evidence which demonstrated the link between Children and Young People's Services and Public Health and suggested a fact find review may need to take place as children needed better outcomes. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services, confirmed that the figures were being scrutinised to ensure problem areas were being targeted.

## **Resolved:**

That the report and presentation be noted.

## **8 Pre-Birth Intervention Service**

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which provided an update on the work undertaken by the Pre-birth Intervention team to improve pre-birth work across children's services and a presentation was received from the Strategic Manager, Families First North (for copies see file of minutes).

The Committee received a presentation which highlighted the danger of neglect, the affect and the cycle of parents who had children removed into the care system, more likely to have emotional, environmental and mental health difficulties as adults

and therefore were more at risk of having vulnerable children. It highlighted the benefits of a pre-birth intervention service, the service delivery and numbers of referrals, including a number of case studies from pregnancy to birth.

Councillor Brookes queried the proportion of parents who were successful in legally challenging care proceedings and also whether the Council had to take legal control of children who had been placed with parents or relatives. The Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that there was a legal framework but the pre-birth service would expect that unless there was a clear indication that the baby would be able to remain in the care of the parents, that pre-proceedings would take place. Parents were able to receive legal aid and consideration was given very early in the pregnancy which enabled legal advice to be sought and this ensured there was a very clear plan in place when a baby was born. There was an opportunity to use Legal Orders however it was not felt necessary as there was nothing to be gained from such. The relationship in Durham between families' and professionals in the pre-birth service tended to be strong enough for engagement to take place and orders were therefore only necessary and should only be used as a last resort should a child be unable to remain with the family.

Councillor Hopper queried how vulnerable adults who had already had children removed, were supported in making more positive choices in future. The Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that parents were encouraged to engage with multi-agency professionals on a range of issues that may have led to them being unable to care for their children.

Councillor Smith confirmed that there had been some positive changes over the years and as a retired paediatrician she had experienced occasions when the first intervention with vulnerable families were when women were admitted to hospital labour wards. The Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that work from the pre-birth service would be passed to the families first teams if the relevant criteria was demonstrated.

Councillor Kennedy referred to the Pause group which worked with women to prevent repeated pregnancies which would result in children being removed from care. The Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that to be eligible for the programme women had to commit to an 18 month plan which included long-term contraception, but the idea was to work towards a more positive future and make more positive choices.

### **Resolved:**

That the report and presentation be noted.

## **9 Supporting Solutions Service**

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which outlined the activity and development of the Supporting Solutions Service (SSS) from April – December 2018 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that an area which need action was staff foster care, after only one out of six approved foster carers had been retained.

Councillor Kennedy congratulated the team on the success of the 'nest' and asked whether there was any data to link children from certain areas as being more likely to use it. The Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that data had not yet been mapped, but this would be something that could be provided in future.

Councillor Charlton was disappointed at the suggestion in the report that CAHMS had not been more closely involved in the multi-agency steering group and the Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that there was a meeting with senior managers to look at fostering a closer working relationship.

Councillor Brookes confirmed that the SSS was an excellent facility but queried why there was only one bed at the nest and whether families' which had more than one child would be turned away or split up. The Operations Manager, First Contact, confirmed that there was also a staff bed which would always be given up for a young person, however they did not want to encourage it becoming a place for multiple beds due to the emotive nature of use is for. It was also to be used for very short periods, with the view of returning to the family home and to avoid entering the care system.

The Strategic Manager, Families First North, confirmed that it was also registered with Ofsted as the team wanted to ensure it met the relevant standards of an emergency children's home and should Ofsted advise that it did not require registration, it would still be managed to Ofsted standard framework.

In response to a question from Councillor Kennedy the Operations Manager, First Contact, confirmed that this was a one bedroom crash pad as it was only to be used for one night only. It was intended for very specialist care for children in crisis and due to the intensity of the care required, it would not be appropriate to have more than one bed.

In response to a question from Councillor Jewell, the Operations Manager, First Contact, confirmed that intelligence would be shared with the police if a child was suspected of being involved in child sexual exploitation or crime, however the crash pad was used in the context of living arrangements and would be used when relationships at home had become untenable and the police had usually been called to remove the young person. Intervention would assist in the child returning home the next day with a plan and would include services to support the family. Councillor Jewell asked whether the young people tended to know each other and

the Operations Manager, First Contact, confirmed that it was possible due to the fact that usually young people displaying risk taking behaviour would be drawn to one another having experienced similar life experiences. Risk-taking behaviour was found to manifest in young people who had suffered from trauma and this was something to bear in mind when young people were a handful in and out of school.

### **Resolved**

That the report be noted.

## **10 Quarter 3: Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2018/19**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services, which provided details of the updated forecast outturn for Children and Young People's Services, highlighting any major variances in comparison with the budget based on the position to the end of quarter 3 (for copy see file of minutes).

Councillor Durham referred to the overspend in the LAC service and asked for a breakdown on externally placed children so that Members could monitor any ongoing themes considering this accounted for a large proportion of the budget. The Finance Manager, CYPS, confirmed that further information could be provided and he would formulate how this could be presented to Members for the next quarter.

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **11 Quarter Three 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).

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **12 Refresh of the Work Programme**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships provided the opportunity to review and refresh the work programme for 2019/20 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer confirmed that the Joint CYPS and S&S OSC - Residential Children's Homes Working Group would be attend a final meeting to be presented with the key findings and agree recommendations which would be presented to the Committee in July.

Members were asked to express interest in contributing to the review group for Elective Home Education, which would commence shortly.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

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

**1 July 2019**

**Durham Safeguarding Children  
Partnership Arrangements**



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

**Electoral division(s) affected:**  
Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide 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) and a copy of the Plan outlining the new safeguarding arrangements (Appendix 2).

**Executive summary**

- 2 Throughout 2018 partner agencies of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board undertook a process of designing new local safeguarding arrangements that were compliant with statutory guidance.
- 3 Safeguarding partners have up to 12 months, from 29 June 2018, to agree their local arrangements, how to provide for independent scrutiny of their work, agreeing their funding plans, equitable and proportionate to meet local needs and identify which relevant agencies they consider appropriate to work with them to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their area.
- 4 Safeguarding partners must notify the Secretary of State for Education when they publish their arrangements any time before the end of the 12 month period. Following publication of their arrangements, safeguarding partners have up to three months to implement the arrangements.
- 5 Throughout the period of transition to the new arrangements the LSCB has continued to carry out all its statutory functions.
- 6 During the transition process an Executive Group was established which consisted of representatives of the three safeguarding partners (local authorities, chief officers of police, and clinical commissioning groups). The Executive Group made the decision to complete the transition to new arrangements by the end of March 2019.

## **Recommendation(s)**

- 7 Members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
- a) Note the content of this report.
  - b) Receive the update on the transition arrangements to Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 and the new Safeguarding Arrangements Plan (Appendix 2).
  - c) Agree to receive an annual update from the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership to ensure links are made between local child death issues and learning from regional reviews etc.

## **Background**

- 8 Under the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, LSCBs, set up by local authorities, will be replaced.
- 9 Under the new legislation, three safeguarding partners (local authorities, chief officers of police and clinical commissioning groups) must make arrangements to work together with relevant agencies (as they consider appropriate) to safeguard and protect the welfare of children in the area.
- 10 LSCBs must continue to commission Serious Case Reviews (SCR), until the point at which safeguarding partner arrangements begin to operate in their area. Likewise, LSCBs must continue to ensure that Child Death Reviews are undertaken by the established Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) until the point at which new Child Death Review Partner arrangements are in place.
- 11 Under the new arrangements the responsibility for how the system learns the lessons from serious child safeguarding incidents lies at a national level with the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (the Panel) and at local level with the safeguarding partners.
- 12 Child death review partners (local authorities and clinical commissioning groups) must set up child death review arrangements. From 29 June 2018, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel ("the Panel") may commission and publish national reviews of serious child safeguarding cases which they consider are complex or of national importance.

## **Transition Process**

- 13 Development sessions were convened between July and October 2018 at which LSCB partner agencies agreed a proposal for a new structure and

governance arrangement in response to the Statutory Guidance Working Together 2018.

- 14 The new structure proposal included establishing an Executive Group of the three safeguarding partners to oversee the transition process and prepare for the implementation of the new arrangements following publication.
- 15 A Transition Project was initiated with a Transition Project Group coordinating five distinct work streams. LSCB partners decided that each work stream should be Chaired by a partner agency representative and aim to ensure that the new arrangements were compliant with the expectations as set out in statutory guidance. The work streams addressed the transitional requirements as follows:
  - (I) Work Stream 1: Governance, Data and Legal  
Chair: Health
  - (II) Work Stream 2: Serious Case Reviews  
Chair: LSCB Business Manager
  - (III) Work Stream 3: Child Death Overview Panel  
Chair: DCC Public Health
  - (IV) Work Stream 4: Performance and Quality  
Chair: Police
  - (V) Work Stream 5: Training and Communications  
Chair: DCC Children and Young People's Service
- 16 Each work stream followed an agreed delivery plan of objectives and reported progress to the Project Group to ensure LSCB partners were kept informed of progress throughout the period of transition. The work stream chairs also attended the Executive group to report progress directly to safeguarding partner representatives.

## **Consultation**

- 17 Throughout the transition period partners undertook both consultation with safeguarding stakeholder groups and compiled findings from previous engagement. The information was used to inform the development of the new arrangements.
- 18 The consultation included:
  - Survey of key safeguarding concerns of parents and carers
  - Survey of DCC CYPS Service Users
  - Two 'Agenda Days' (focus groups of, and facilitated by, young people)
  - A Focus Group session with Police Cadets

- A survey of Designated Safeguarding Leads in Secondary Schools
- Learners at New College affected by the Safeguarding Alert Process
- Review: School Parent Questionnaire
- Review: Durham Vision: Stage one consultation
- Review: Durham Pupil Survey 2017

## **Main implications**

### ***Safeguarding Partnership***

- 19 Following implementation of the new arrangements the DSCP membership will consist of an extended DSCP Executive group and Relevant Agency partners (virtual members).
- 20 The Relevant Agencies will also be represented by four agency groups that will be expected to meet and provide assurance reports to the Executive Group on an annual basis. These agency groups will represent the Criminal Justice Service, Education Sector, Health Service and the Voluntary and Community Sector.
- 21 Relevant agencies will not be required to attend every meeting but will nevertheless have a part to play in the business of the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership.
- 22 The Independent Chair and The Local Authority Children and Young People's Service representative will engage with the Local Authority Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People every six months.

### ***Independent scrutiny***

- 23 The Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership will call upon different aspects of scrutiny throughout the year to review arrangements and inform the annual report. The safeguarding partners have agreed that the independent scrutiny will come from:

- Independent Chair
- Commissioned annual review
- Third party assurance and DSCP Support Team
- Internal Scrutiny Panel (to include Lay members, parents, practitioners and young people)
- External regulatory functions

and will:

- Provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of services to protect children.

- Assist if there is disagreement between the leaders responsible for protecting children in the agencies involved in the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership.
- Support a culture and environment conducive to robust scrutiny and constructive challenge.
- The Independent Chair will work independently of the three safeguarding partners and in liaison with the DSCP Business Unit.

### ***Safeguarding Practice Review***

- 24 From 29 June 2018, local authorities are required, under a new statutory duty, to notify the Panel of incidents where they know or suspect that a child has been abused or neglected and the child has died or been seriously harmed.
- 25 LSCBs must continue to make decisions on initiating and publishing SCRs until the point at which safeguarding partner arrangements have been published and are in place.
- 26 They must also continue to ensure that the review of each death of a child normally resident in the LSCB area, is undertaken by the established child death overview panel (CDOP), until the point at which new child death review partner arrangements are in place. At the latest the new safeguarding and child death review arrangements must be in place by 29 September 2019, in Durham it is planned to be in place by 1st April 2019.
- 27 They should set out any decisions on SCRs which are outstanding at the time of handover and before safeguarding partner arrangements begin to operate in a local area, LSCBs should plan how and when to hand over all relevant data and information. LSCBs should ensure the retention of pertinent historical records and arrange to pass on copies of records they hold to the safeguarding partners. In doing so, they should comply with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation and provide a clear audit trail.
- 28 The Serious Case Reviews that are not complete at the point of LSCB should seek to complete and publish any incomplete serious case reviews within six months of the date of the decision to initiate the review but has a maximum of 12 months to do so. In this 12-month grace period the LSCB may not commission any further SCRs or continue with any other former activities and the latest date for completion and publication of an LSCB initiated Serious Case Review is 29 September 2020.

### ***Child Death Review***

- 29 A child death review partner in relation to a local authority area in England is defined under the Children Act 2004 as (a) the local authority, and (b) any

clinical commissioning group for an area any part of which falls within the local authority area.

- 30 The two partners must make arrangements for the review of each death of a child normally resident in the area and may also, if they consider it appropriate, make arrangements for the review of a death in their area of a child not normally resident there.
- 31 They must also make arrangements for the analysis of information about deaths reviewed under this section. The purposes of a review or analysis are (a) to identify any matters relating to the death or deaths that are relevant to the welfare of children in the area or to public health and safety, and (b) to consider whether it would be appropriate for anyone to take action in relation to any matters identified. The review should also provide data to NHS Digital and then, once established, to the National Child Mortality Database.
- 32 Child death review partners for a local authority area in England must prepare and publish a report as set out in the statutory responsibilities above. They may therefore wish to ask the CDOP (or equivalent) to produce an annual report for child death review partners on local patterns and trends in child deaths, any lessons learnt and actions taken, and the effectiveness of the wider child death review process in order to assist child death review partners to prepare their report.

## Conclusion

- 33 In April 2019 the Local Safeguarding Children Board will cease to exist and will be replaced with the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP). This DSCP will be led by three statutory safeguarding partners and they are Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary, and the Clinical Commissioning Groups which have responsibility for North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield geographic areas.
- 34 The statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) sets out key roles to deliver effective safeguarding arrangements. It is essential that these arrangements are strongly led and promoted at a local level, specifically by local area leaders, including local authority Chief Executives and Lead Members of Children's Services, Mayors, the Police and Crime Commissioner and through the commitment of chief officers in all organisations and agencies, in particular those representing the three safeguarding partners. These are Directors of Children's Services, Chief Constables of police and Accountable Officers and/or Chief Nurses of clinical commissioning groups.

## Background Papers

- [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#)

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**Jacqui Doherty, Business Manager,  
Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership**

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03000 263605

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Under the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, Local Safeguarding Children Boards, set up by local authorities, will be replaced. The statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 sets out key roles to deliver effective safeguarding arrangements.

### **Finance**

Safeguarding Partners (local authority, clinical commissioning groups and police) need to agree their funding plans for the local area, ensuring they are equitable and proportionate to meet local needs.

### **Consultation**

Throughout the transition period partners undertook consultation with safeguarding stakeholder groups and compiled findings from previous engagement.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Equality and diversity has been considered throughout the transition process.

### **Human Rights**

Human rights have been considered throughout the transition process.

### **Crime and Disorder**

The new arrangements consider contextual safeguarding which is an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families, for example "county lines".

### **Staffing**

The Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership is supported by a Business Unit.

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable.

### **Risk**

A risk register has monitored risks associated with the transition and moving to the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable



# DURHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

OUR NEW ARRANGEMENTS APRIL 2019

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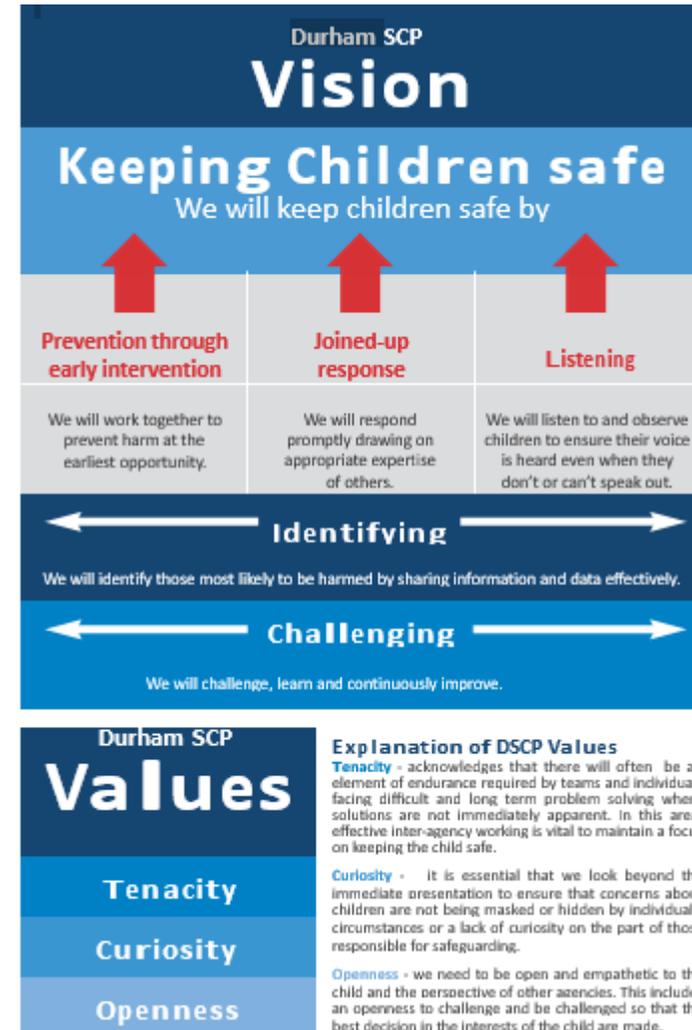
## Introduction

The Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP) is established in accordance with the Children Act 2004 (as amended by Children and Social Work Act 2017) and Chapter 3 Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. The DSCP provides the safeguarding arrangements under which the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies work together to coordinate their safeguarding services, identify and respond to the needs of children in County Durham, commission and publish local child safeguarding practice reviews and provide scrutiny to ensure the effectiveness of the arrangements.



## Vision and Values

The vision of the DSCP is to 'Keep Children Safe'.



## **Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership**

The 3 Statutory Safeguarding Partners in Durham are:

- County Durham Clinical Commissioning Groups
  - North Durham CCG
  - Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG
- Durham County Council (Children and Young People's Service)
- Durham Constabulary

The Safeguarding Partners share responsibility for ensuring effective local safeguarding arrangements. In situations that require a clear, single point of leadership, all three Safeguarding Partners should decide who would take the lead on issues that arise. These three Safeguarding Partners are charged with supporting and enabling local organisations and agencies to work together in a system where:

- children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
- partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children
- organisations and agencies challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively
- there is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats
- learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice
- information is shared effectively to facilitate more accurate and timely decision making for children and families

In order to work together effectively with local organisations and agencies the Safeguarding Partners will develop processes that:

- facilitate and drive action beyond usual institutional and agency constraints and boundaries
- ensure the effective protection of children is founded on practitioners developing lasting and trusting relationships with children and their families.

DSCP supports, oversees, challenges and facilitates these systems at a strategic level. In addition to monitoring safeguarding activity, the Partnership has a role in challenging single agency practice in relevant circumstances.

The business of the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership is carried out by DSCP Safeguarding Executive Group and the relevant partner agencies.

## Geographical area

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.



The DSCP arrangements apply to the area defined by the Durham County Council local authority boundary.

However, some partners to these arrangements may have responsibility for services beyond this area either due to their organisational boundaries overlapping other local authority areas or because they have responsibilities for children living in another area.

Durham has its challenges in relation to deprivation and the differing needs of its population. There are 100,540 young people of which 12,000 children under the age of 16 are living with

domestic abuse; 6,000 are receiving early help services; 3,500 are considered to be children in need; 800 are looked after; and 500 are subject to a child protection plan.

The DSCP child protection procedures include appropriate guidance for operational arrangements to address the needs of children and families who move across or live within different areas.



There are an estimated **100,540 children and young people (0-18)** living in County Durham



**Child poverty** in County Durham is higher than the England average, with **19.4% of children** under 18 years living in poverty



The County has **12 major centres of population** including Durham City, Chester-le-Street, Newton Aycliffe, Consett and Peterlee



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

## **Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Membership**

The DSCP membership will consist of an extended DSCP Executive group and of relevant partners (virtual members).

Extended DSCP Executive Group:

- Independent Chair
- The Local Authority Children and Young People's Service
- The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) - North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield CCG
- Durham Constabulary
- Chairs of the DSCP Sub-Groups
- Designated Doctor for Safeguarding Children
- DSCP Business Manager (for support)

The relevant agencies required to provide virtual representation or representation at subgroups, development session and agency groups are:

- County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
- Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
- Harrogate & District NHS Foundation Trust
- North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust
- City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
- North East Ambulance Service
- Durham Voice (Voluntary Sector)
- Further Education Settings
  - Bishop Auckland College
  - New College Durham
  - East Durham College

- Derwentside College
- Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass)
- Education
- Independent Schools
- Schools
- Public Health
- National Probation Service Durham
- Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
- County Durham Youth Offending Service
- Housing Services
- NHS England
- The Local Authority Adult & Health Services
- The Local Authority Early Help, inclusion and vulnerable children Services
- The Local Authority Legal Services
- The Prison Service
- County Durham & Darlington Fire & Rescue Service
- British Transport Police
- Faith Groups

Out of the relevant agencies, there will be 4 agency groups that will be expected to meet and provide assurance reports to the Executive Group on an annual basis.

Relevant agencies will not be required to attend every meeting but will nevertheless have a part to play in the business of the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Other agencies outside of the 4 agency groups are:

- Public Health
- Housing Services
- County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service
- Faith Groups

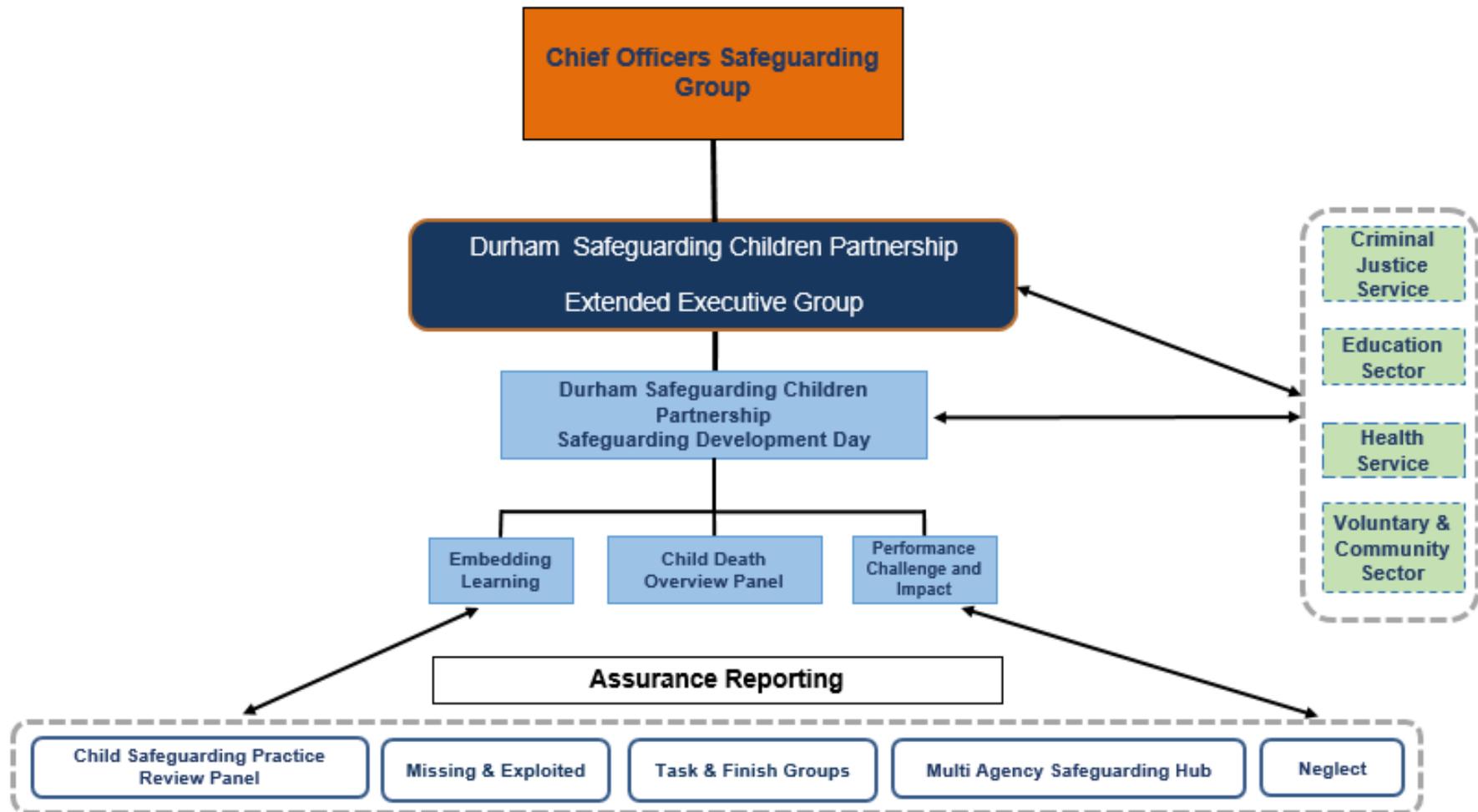
All of these members, along with other officers, will be invited to attend the Extended Safeguarding Executive meetings as appropriate, for example: to provide information and updates on actions, initiatives and inspection; and to provide annual assurance on safeguarding activity and exception reporting if necessary using the DSCP Agency Assurance Report template which will be included in the annual report. All members including Lay members will also be invited to attend DSCP development days to review priorities and identify partnership progress.

The Independent Chair and The Local Authority Children and Young People's Service representative will engage with the Locality Authority Portfolio Holder for Children every 6 months.



<b>Criminal Justice Group</b>	<b>Health Group</b>	<b>Education Group</b>	<b>Voluntary Sector</b>
Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company	Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	New College Durham	Durham Voice (Voluntary Sector)
National Probation Service	Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust	East Durham College	
County Durham Youth Offending Service	North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust	Derwentside College	
The Prison Service	City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	Bishop Auckland College	
British Transport Police	North East Ambulance Service	Schools	
Durham Constabulary	County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust	Education	
	NHS England	Independent Schools	
	The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) - North Durham CCG and Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield CCG		

# Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Structure



Use existing Task and Finish Groups of other partnerships or Task and Finish Groups prescribed by the Executive Group to progress additional partnership priorities to ensure we are responsive to emerging issues. These groups will report above

**Key:**  
 Working Relationship ———  
 Reporting Relationship - - - - -

# Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Reporting and Assurance Structure

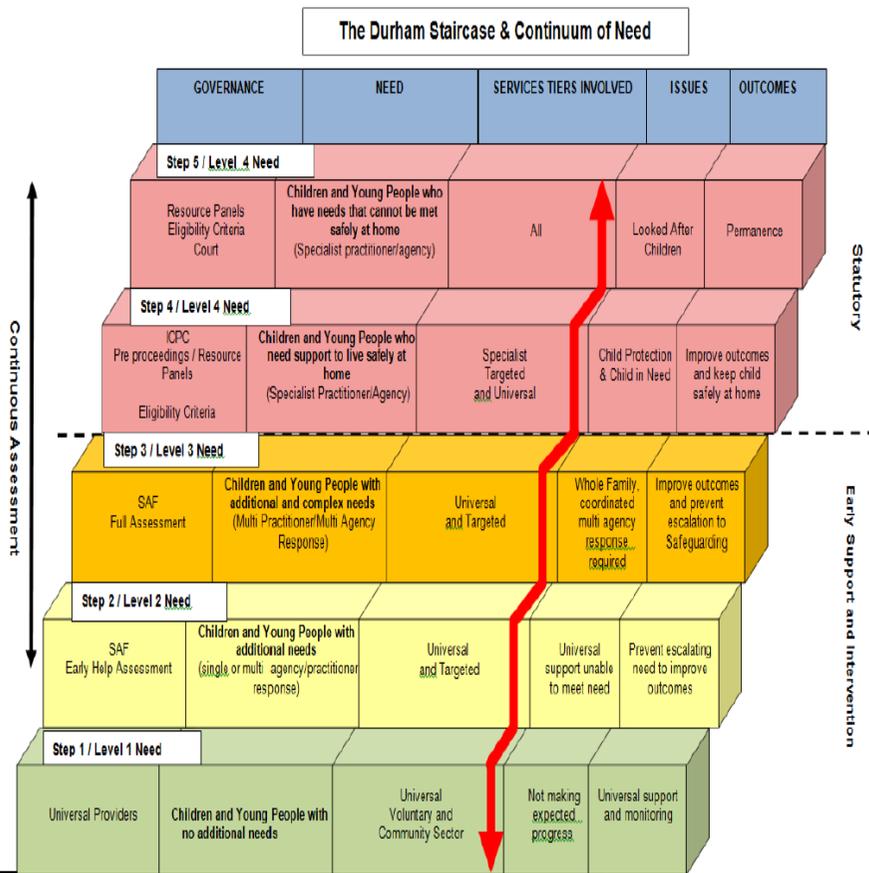


Use existing Task and Finish Groups of other partnerships or Task and Finish Groups prescribed by the Executive Group to progress additional Board priorities to ensure responsive to emerging issues. These groups will report above

Key:  
Reporting Relationship - - - - -

## Thresholds

The threshold document outlines Durham’s criteria for action when a family requires support. This tool is designed to be transparent, accessible and easily understood by families and professionals alike. The support that is offered to families should increase in line with the level of concern or risk, including referral to children's social care for assessment for statutory services.



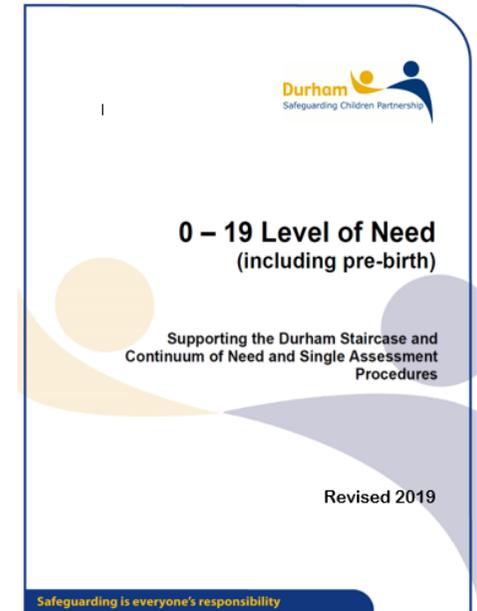
In County Durham, a staircase model has been used to illustrate levels of need since 2012. The lowest need is shown as the bottom step and the highest level of need as the top step.

Regardless of which ‘step’ children, young people and family’s needs are on, they will be supported at the earliest opportunity and continue to be supported by the relevant services as they move up and down the staircase.

The Durham staircase illustrates our integrated services pathway model and is designed to reflect the fact that the needs of children, young people and families exist along a continuum.

The staircase sets out need across 4 levels - 5 steps.

The current document [Threshold of Need](#) will stand until a review is completed in light of developments in practice, Durham’s threshold document will be reviewed and updated during 2019. It will include the strengths based approach being developed across the partnership (Signs of Safety), which seeks to build on families strengths and resilience to resolve problems and reduce risk. It will also integrate indicators about contextual safeguarding



guidance in light of growing concern about exploitation and harm caused to young people outside of their family environment. It is anticipated that the new document will be launched towards the end of 2019.

### Extended Safeguarding Executive Group

The purpose of the Extended Safeguarding Executive Group is to ensure that DSCP fulfils the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

#### Objectives:

- Set the strategic direction for safeguarding arrangements across the partnership.
- Act as a constructive critical friend and promote reflection to drive continuous improvement.
- Provide independent oversight and scrutiny in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases.
- Be informed and assured about the quality of the safeguarding work being undertaken by all partner organisations using the system of regular Agency Assurance Reports to Board in the required format.
- Seek assurance that partnership messages and learning are disseminated.
- Drive the safeguarding children agenda forward.
- Endeavour to ensure that the risk of future harm to children is reduced.

### Performance, Challenge and Impact Group

The purpose of the Performance, Challenge and Impact group is to monitor the impact and outcomes of partner activity on behalf of the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP), as required by Chapter 3 of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

The group will consider the performance of all agencies involved in safeguarding children using the Vision of the DSCP as a basis from which to assess good practice and concerns, reporting such to the Safeguarding Executive Group, by using data and intelligence.



## Objectives:

### Performance

- To report the key quality and performance standards that reflect the above Vision and Values.
- Hold agencies to account for their organisational performance reporting concerns to the DSCP.
- Maintain the DSCP performance report card.

### Effectiveness

- Ensure robust systems are in place to measure the effectiveness of safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Ensure gaps in understanding and performance are understood, communicated and actioned.

### Impact

- Ensure that performance is assessed through the eyes of the child.
- Ensure that performance is assessed with clear line of sight to front line practice.
- Ensure that the limitations of any performance data is recognised and consideration is given to areas where it is not possible or difficult to collate data but remain important in keeping children safe.

## Embedded Learning Group

The purpose of the Embedding Learning Group is to improve the quality of multi-agency safeguarding frontline practice through the implementation of a joint, co-ordinated approach which will ensure good outcomes for children which will be evidenced through multi-agency audit; peer review and inspection.

The work will respond to the recommendations and actions from inspection; audit; child safeguarding practice reviews; local learning lessons reviews; complaints; performance information; and feedback from children and families. This is to ensure multi-agency safeguarding practice is high quality; makes a difference to children; and enhances learning about what works for children and families.

### Objectives

- Understand and communicate key areas for multi-agency practice improvement following inspection activity, multi-agency audits and/or lessons from local and national child safeguarding practice reviews across their own agencies;
- Understand DSCP multi-agency performance information and what this means for practice improvement as well as areas of good practice;
- Work together to identify and address aspects of frontline practice that require improvement;
- Contribute to the development and delivery of identified actions and plans which will ensure practice improvements keep children safe;
- Contribute and co-ordinate to multi-agency audit processes and

ensure all areas for improvement are actively addressed through individual and joint agency action;

- Monitor and challenge progress against identified improvements so that all partners are held to account;
- Develop required systems to ensure effective partnership working across all statutory and inspection requirements;
- Have clear links to workforce development and training to ensure lessons learned are effectively disseminated;
- Identify and celebrate good practice and encourage the partnership to do more of it.
- Complete the Learning & Workforce Development Strategy which sets out the partnership approach to learning and development.
- Identifying training needs, setting the Safeguarding Children Competency Framework/Training levels, and multi-agency training.

### Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

The purpose of the County Durham & Darlington Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is set out in HM Government Child Death Review Statutory & Operational Guidance (England). These terms of reference for the CDOP are therefore based on that guidance.

Working Together 2018 specifies that:

When a child dies, in any circumstances, it is important for parents and families to understand what has happened and whether there are any lessons to be learned.

In County Durham and Darlington the child death review will be considered jointly for the purpose of undertaking child death reviews

and learning lessons across the agencies that delivery services in both County Durham and Darlington.

The responsibility for ensuring child death reviews are carried out is held by 'child death review partners,' who are defined in County Durham and Darlington as Durham and Darlington Local Authorities, North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group, Durham Dales & Easington Clinical Commissioning Group and Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group.

Child death review partners must make arrangements to review all deaths of children normally resident in the local area and, if they consider it appropriate, for any non-resident child who has died in their area.

In order to fulfil the requirements of the child death review process, County Durham and Darlington will request information agencies who have had involvement for the purposes of enabling or assisting the review. Agencies must comply with the request, and if they do not, the child death review partners may take necessary action to seek compliance.

The purpose of a review and/or analysis is to identify any matters relating to the death, or deaths, that are relevant to the welfare of children in the area or to public health and safety, and to consider whether action should be taken in relation to any matters identified. If child death review partners find action should be taken by a person or organisation, they must inform them.

In addition, County Durham & Darlington CDOP will publish an annual report of the analysis of the Child Death Reviews undertaken and what they have done as a result.

## Objectives

- To collect and collate information about each child death, seeking relevant information from professionals and, where appropriate, family members;
- To analyse the information obtained, including the report from the Child Death Review Meeting(s), in order to confirm or clarify the cause of death, to determine any contributory factors, and to identify learning arising from the child death review process that may prevent future deaths.
- To make recommendations to all relevant organisations where actions have been identified which may prevent future child deaths or promote the health, safety and wellbeing of children.
- To notify the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and local Safeguarding Partners when it suspects that a child may have been abused or neglected
- To notify the Medical Examiner (once introduced) and the doctor who certified the cause of death, if it identifies any errors or deficiencies in an individual child's registered cause of death. Any correction to the child's cause of death would only be made following an application for a formal correction;
- To provide specified data to NHS Digital and then, once established, to the National Child Mortality Database;
- To produce an annual report for Child Death Review partners on local patterns and trends in child deaths, any lessons learnt and actions taken, and the effectiveness of the wider child death review process.
- Exception reports to be presented to the Safeguarding Executive group as and when required.

- To contribute to local, regional and national initiatives to consider learning from child death reviews, including, where appropriate, approved research carried out within the requirements of data protection.
- To engage with regional partners to ensure learning is shared and implemented.

## Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership will identify serious child safeguarding cases which raise issues of importance in relation to the area and commission and oversee a review of those cases where they consider it appropriate to do so. The identification of serious child safeguarding cases will primarily be through the notification requirements<sup>1</sup> placed on Durham County Council which require certain incidents to be notified to the national Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. In Durham this responsibility will lie with a multiagency single point of contact (SPOC) group to determine if the criteria is met for a notifiable incident. Any organisation within statutory or official duties in relation to children (including all members of the partnership) should inform the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Unit of any incident which they think should be considered as a notifiable incident and should be considered for a child safeguarding practice review<sup>2</sup>.

The definition of a serious child safeguarding case are those in which:

- abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; *and*

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<sup>1</sup> s16C(1) of the Children Act 2004 (as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017)

<sup>2</sup> Child perpetrators may also be the subject of a review, if the definition of 'serious child safeguarding case' is met.

the child has died or has been seriously harmed.

Serious harm includes (but is not limited to) serious and/or long-term impairment of a child's mental health or intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development. It should also cover impairment of physical health. This is not an exhaustive list. When making decisions, judgment should be exercised in cases where impairment is likely to be long-term, even if this is not immediately certain. Even if a child recovers, including from a one-off incident, serious harm may still have occurred.

### Notification of incidents

When a Safeguarding Partner knows or suspects that a child has been abused or neglected and the definition of a serious child safeguarding case applies, a referral will be made to the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Unit to hold a multiagency notification consideration meeting to determine if the criteria is met for a notifiable incident within 5 working days of becoming aware of the incident.

A meeting of single points of contact members will be arranged and a decision made as to whether the criteria for a notifiable incident is met.

If the criteria is met for a notifiable incident Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership will notify the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel on behalf of Durham County Council of any incident that meets the notification criteria within 5 working days of becoming aware using the approved online notification process.

### Rapid Review

The Business Unit will arrange for a Rapid Review to be undertaken and completed for:

- All cases agreed to be a notifiable incident.

The aim of a Rapid Review is to enable safeguarding partners to:

- Gather the facts about the case, as far as they can be readily established at the time.
- Discuss whether there is any immediate action needed to ensure children's safety and share any learning appropriately.
- Consider the potential for identifying improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- Decide what steps they should take next, including whether or not to undertake a child safeguarding practice review.

As soon as the Rapid Review is complete, the safeguarding Business Unit should send a copy to the National Panel. They should also share with the National Panel their decision about whether a local child safeguarding practice review is appropriate, or whether they think the case may raise issues which are complex or of national importance such that a national review may be appropriate.

The Rapid Review will be undertaken and completed within 15 working days of notification and will be coordinated by the DSCP Business Manager. A detailed process for Rapid Reviews has been agreed across Durham. (See Appendix A)

When considering whether to commission a child safeguarding practice review the safeguarding partners will have regard to the

definition of a serious child safeguarding case (see earlier) and the following criteria:

Whether the case:

- highlights or may highlight improvements needed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, including where those improvements have been previously identified.
- highlights or may highlight recurrent themes in the safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children.
- highlights or may highlight concerns regarding two or more organisations or agencies working together effectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- is one which the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel have considered and concluded a local review may be more appropriate.

Where there are differences of opinion in whether the criteria for a review have been met, a majority decision will be accepted (i.e. 2 of the 3 partners in agreement). The Safeguarding Partners may consider that a child safeguarding practice review is appropriate for cases that do not meet the definition of a 'serious child safeguarding case' but nevertheless might reveal learning related to good practice, poor practice or near misses.

The response of the National Panel to the Rapid Review will be reported back to the Safeguarding Partners. Should the National Panel disagree with the decision made by the Safeguarding Partners the DSCP Business Manager will circulate the details of the response and convene a meeting/telephone conference of the DSCP Executive Group to consider the information provided and review the initial decision. The Safeguarding Partners, with advice from the

Independent Chair, may decide to adhere to their initial decision or conclude that a Child Safeguarding Practice Review should be commissioned, in either case the justification should be clearly recorded and provided to the National Panel.

The outcome and rationale for the Safeguarding Partners' decision on whether or not to conduct a review will be communicated in writing to the child/family concerned. Where possible this should be provided in person through the practitioner currently working with the family (social worker/police officer) to allow an opportunity for any questions to be raised and responded to.

The Independent Chair will complete a 6 monthly audit of the Rapid Reviews undertaken during the previous period to provide assurance to the Extended Safeguarding Executive Group that the process is working effectively and that appropriate decisions are being made with a clear rationale.

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews will be undertaken in line with the local procedures. The process will be managed by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. Once completed the Review Report will be presented to the Extended Safeguarding Executive Group for sign off.

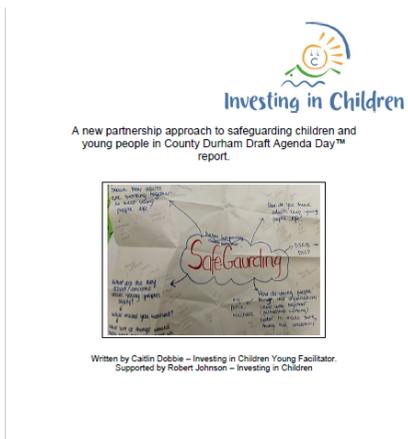
Reviews will be completed and published within six months unless there are extenuating circumstances such as an ongoing criminal or coronial proceedings. Any delay to the completion or publication of a review will be approved by the Extended Safeguarding Executive Group and the reasons notified to the National Panel and Secretary of State. In some circumstances the Extended Safeguarding Executive Group may consider it not to be appropriate to publish a review report in which case arrangements will be made to publish information about

the improvements that should be made following the review. The Safeguarding Executive Group will set out for the National Panel and the Secretary of State the justification for any decision not to publish either the full report or information relating to improvements<sup>3</sup>.

Publication of Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews or information about the improvements that should be made will be via the DSCP website. The reports/information will remain on the website for a one year period and thereafter will be available on request. The NSPCC maintains a national case review repository where case reviews remain available electronically for five years.

The learning from the reviews will be fed into the Embedded Learning Group to assure that learning is disseminated and embedded by practitioners.

## Voice of Children and Families



We will create a Young Commissioner Apprenticeship which will be supported by Investing in Children (a community interest company).

The Young Commissioner will engage with young people and coordinate a young people's annual report from feedback from agenda days below and the internal scrutiny panel.

<sup>3</sup> Safeguarding partners should have regard to any comments that the Panel or the Secretary of State may make in respect of publication.

Our Young Commissioner and the internal scrutiny panel will meet 6 monthly and will include young people, families, Lay Members and practitioners. The panel will review and scrutinise the previous 6 months' work of the partnership and influence the priorities and forward plan.

Investing in Children will facilitate 2 agenda days with young people annually to review the previous years' work and influence the next year.

We will continue to ask our relevant agencies and other partners how they ensure they have captured the voices of children, young people and families in their work as well as identifying other innovative ways to gather this feedback through the partnership.

We have engaged with young people in the development of this plan.

## Independent scrutiny

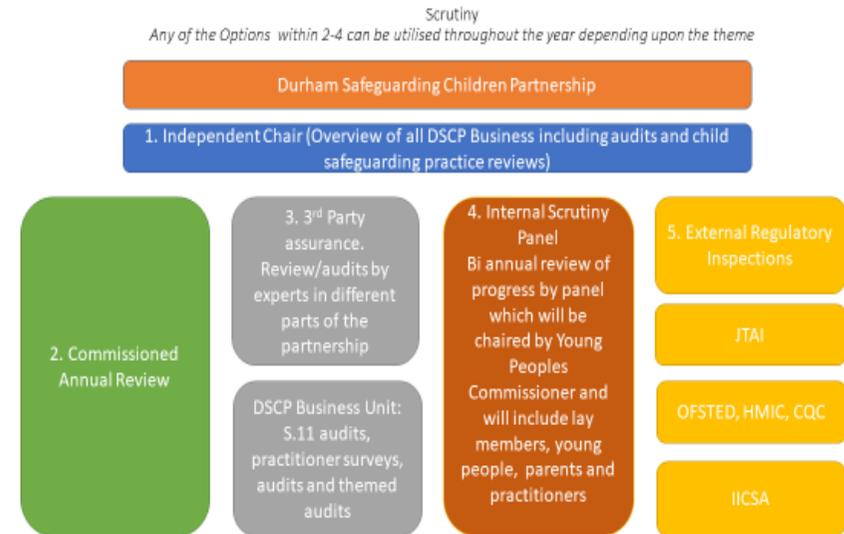
As described in Chapter 3 of Working Together the three Safeguarding Partners are responsible for determining local arrangements including involving other relevant agencies. The Safeguarding Partners have agreed that the independent scrutiny will come from 5 areas.

- Independent Chair
- Commissioned annual review
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party assurance and DSCP Support Team
- Internal Scrutiny Panel (to include Lay members, parents, practitioners and young people)
- External regulatory functions

The Safeguarding Partnership will call upon different aspects of scrutiny throughout the year in order to respond to findings in a timely manner review and inform the annual report.

The scrutiny functions will form part of these arrangements and will achieve the following:

- Provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of services to protect children.
- Assist if there is disagreement between the leaders responsible for protecting children in the agencies involved in the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership.
- Support a culture and environment conducive to robust scrutiny and constructive challenge.
- The Independent Chair will work independently of the three Safeguarding Partners and in liaison with the DSCP Business Unit.



The key questions in terms of the scrutiny function:

- How effective are the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in getting a clear line of sight on single agency and multi-agency practice?
- Do the arrangements enable space for reflection and learning from practice?
- Do the partnership arrangements have a positive impact on multi-agency working and/or front-line practice?

The role of the scrutiny functions is to:

- Assess how well organisations come together to cooperate with

one another to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to hold each other to account for effective safeguarding.

- Contribute to the content of the partnership's annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements, their performance and the effectiveness of local services. Assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families including early help.
- Assess whether the three Safeguarding Partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations.

### Partnership Yearly Report & Review of Arrangements

It is the intention of the DSCP to publish a report at least once annually. Partners will ensure the report is widely available.

The DSCP Annual Report will:

- set out what has been done and outline the effectiveness of the partnership in practice.
- outline actions relating to local child safeguarding practice reviews and what the Safeguarding Partnership has done as a result.
- present evidence of the impact of the work of the Safeguarding Partners and relevant agencies on outcomes for children and families.
- include a record of actions taken by the Safeguarding Partnership during the reporting period (or planned to be taken) to implement the recommendations of any reviews.
- highlight ways in which the Safeguarding Partnership have sought and utilised feedback from children, young people and families to inform their work and influence service provision.
- include the evidence collated through independent scrutiny.

- provide evidence from the assurance reporting from the relevant agencies and the structure supporting the partnership.

### Schools, Educational Establishments and Early Years Settings

The Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership will include a 'virtual membership' of relevant partners.

These members, along with other officers, will be invited to attend as appropriate, for example: to provide information and updates on actions, initiatives and inspection; and to provide assurance on safeguarding activity using the DSCP Agency Assurance Report template which will be included in the annual report.

DSCP have identified schools (including multi-academy trusts), colleges and other educational providers, in the local area to be fully engaged, involved and included in the new safeguarding arrangements. A representative, or representatives, for educational



providers will also, therefore be virtual members of the Safeguarding Partnership. The reporting relationship between the Education Sector and DSCP Executive is shown in the DSCP structure chart.

### **Children Living Away From Home**

The Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership will ensure that those responsible for looking after children in settings away from home, including residential homes for children, foster carers, mental health and custodial settings are engaged with the safeguarding arrangements through the Safeguarding Partner responsible for commissioning those services or by direct contact with those organisations.

### **Secure Children's Home**

There is one secure children's home in County Durham. The Performance, Challenge and Impact Sub-group will receive the Annual Ofsted Report and the notes of regulatory visits and a representative from the secure children's home is a member of this Sub-Group. The Performance, Challenge and Impact group, will have an overview of the restraints that have taken place on a quarterly basis and the findings will be included in the DSCP annual report.

### **Funding**

The funding arrangements for the Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership have been agreed for 2019/20 and will comprise of:

- Contributions by partner organisations at the same level as previously provided to the Local Safeguarding Children Board 2018/19.

- Accommodation and communications services provided by Durham County Council and hosting of the Business Unit with the ability to seek legal advice from the Council's Legal services when required.
- The contributions from Health Partners will be collated and provided by the Clinical Commissioning Group.

The existing LSCB reserve will be transferred to the new safeguarding arrangements.

A review of the funding arrangements will be undertaken during 2019 to enable the Safeguarding Partners to consider the future resourcing requirements; agree the level of funding provided by each Safeguarding Partner; and any contributions from relevant agencies. The review will consider how the reserve should be used and the appropriate level of reserve moving forward and will also take account of the statutory guidance which requires the Safeguarding Partners' funding of the arrangements to be 'equitable and proportionate'.

### **Safeguarding Offer**

The Safeguarding Partnership has undertaken a review of the safeguarding offer to ensure that the provisions meet the requirements of Working Together 2018. This review will support the new arrangements including funding.

### **Audit**

The DSCP Audit Framework describes the Safeguarding Partnership approach to multi-agency and inter-agency audit. An annual audit programme will be agreed and overseen by the Embedded Learning Group and the aim will be to undertake a minimum of six multi-agency audits annually. Single agency audits will also be undertaken and reported to the Embedded Learning Group on a quarterly basis.

The programme will reflect the priorities for safeguarding children in Durham and will be informed by:

- Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews.
- Performance indicators.
- The findings and themes from previous audits.
- The outcome of inspections by regulatory bodies.
- Section 11 Audits.
- Practitioner Survey.

### Inter-agency training

The Embedded Learning Group is responsible for the Learning & Workforce Development Strategy which sets out the Safeguarding Partnership approach to learning and development. This includes identifying training needs, setting the Safeguarding Children Competency Framework/Training levels and multi-agency training.

The Training Strategy is designed to provide the approach to support commissioners and practitioners to embed good practice in relation to the safeguarding of children and young people in County Durham. It aims to ensure that all staff working with children and/or adults are aware of the need to safeguard and promote the safety and welfare of children and are skilled and competent in carrying out their

responsibilities when concerns arise. This includes the use of early help services.

Every partner organisation of Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership is required to produce a service specific training plan that outlines how safeguarding training will be delivered.

All DSCP training will be based on relevant legislation and statutory guidance. The standards will be monitored on behalf of the DSCP through the Embedded Learning Group.

All aspects of training will seek to achieve better outcomes for children and young people by fostering:

- a shared understanding of the tasks, processes, principles, roles and responsibilities outlined in national guidance and local arrangements for safeguarding children and promoting their welfare;
- more effective and integrated services at both a strategic and operational case level;
- improved communication and information sharing between professionals, including a common understanding of key terms, definitions and levels of need;
- effective working relationships, including an ability to work in multidisciplinary groups or teams;
- sound child-focused assessments and decision-making;
- learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs) and child death reviews.

## **Working with other Strategic Partnership Boards**

The DSCP will have a working and reporting relationship with a number of other Partnership Boards including the Local Safeguarding Adults Board, Safe Durham Partnership and Health & Wellbeing Board. This relationship will ensure the DSCP is cognisant of, and has the opportunities to challenge arrangements in relation to the safety and welfare of children and young people, for example:

- Domestic abuse
- Think Family
- Modern slavery
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Prevent and Channel
- Exploitation
- Health and wellbeing of Looked After Children.

This challenge will take place through regular updates from the relevant Partnership Boards.

## **Evaluating our Partnership Arrangements**

The Safeguarding Partners and Relevant Agencies in County Durham are committed to the ongoing development of Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership. We will ensure that services are targeted to support children and families in need in order to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Through self-assessment, continuous audit and scrutiny (external and internal):

- We will have line of sight of frontline delivery of services;
- We will have an awareness of the outcomes for children and families in County Durham;
- We hear the voice of children and young people; parents and carers and practitioners.

## Signatories

### Margaret Whellans

Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services  
Durham County Council

### Gill Findley

Director of Nursing  
Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield CCG  
North Durham CCG

### Jo Farrell

Deputy Chief Constable  
Durham Constabulary

Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.

 Braille  Audio  Large print

العربية Arabic	(中文 (繁體字)) Chinese	اردو Urdu
polski Polish	ਪੰਜਾਬੀ Punjabi	Español Spanish
বাংলা Bengali	हिन्दी Hindi	Deutsch German
Français French	Türkçe Turkish	Melayu Malay

**-Email:[dscp@durham.gov.uk](mailto:dscp@durham.gov.uk)**

**Phone-number:-03000-265770**

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



**1 July 2019**

**Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019/20  
Part B Children and Young People**

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**Report of Stewart Findlay, Chief Officer – Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield, and North Durham Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), and Chair of the County Durham Integrated Care Board**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present part B (Children and Young People) of the Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019/20.

**Executive Summary**

2. As part of the County Durham Health and Care Plan partners of the Integrated Care Board agreed to work collaboratively to develop a 2019/20 Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan.
3. The first part of the plan (Part A) was presented at the March Health and Wellbeing Board meeting, and focused predominantly on adults. It identified a number of key operational delivery priorities across partners for 2019/20, and set out a number of shared agenda areas related to quality, finance, workforce, performance and estates.
4. Part B has been developed under the leadership of the Integrated Steering Group for Children. Its content focuses on the following key areas:
  - a) Children and Young People's Strategy
  - b) The Integrated Steering Group for Children governance and work programme
  - c) Integrated commissioning approach for children and the priorities linked to the inspection regimes in children's services.
  - d) Therapy services review
  - e) Development of place based 0-19 services
5. In relation to the development of the long term plan the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Chair of the Adults, Wellbeing and Health Scrutiny Committee have agreed to hold a joint development

session on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The development session will provide an opportunity to explore the operating environment for health, social care and prevention and the priorities that need to be set out in a longer term plan. This will take account of the draft County Durham Vision and Strategy 2035, NHS Long Term Plan and other national strategies and policies.

6. A planning group, reporting to the Integrated Care Board, has been established comprising senior officer leads from each partner organisation. The role of the planning group will be to support the coordination and development of the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Long Term System Plan. This will include agreement of an outline timetable for developing a final draft long term plan by autumn 2019 and a programme of public and stakeholder engagement including Area Action Partnerships.

### **Recommendation(s)**

7. Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
  - a) Consider the report and plan attached at appendix 2.
  - b) Note the approach to the development of the long term Durham System Health and Wellbeing Plan outlined in the report.

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Commissioning Support

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

From an NHS perspective the plan makes reference to the NHS Constitutional Standards and steps to achieve these, which are support in law; all NHS Organisations are therefore obliged to adhere to these. There are also changes and implications for NHS Standard Contracts, again subject to the appropriate law in this regard.

### **Finance**

The plan sets out the shared financial landscape and how partners will work together.

### **Consultation**

The plan outlines a programme of engagement and consultation in relation to key programmes across the system in 2019/20. Public engagement and / or consultation will be undertaken in accordance with standard practice and legal requirements.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

All schemes / projects detailed in the CCGs Operational Plan are subject to Equality and Diversity Risk Assessment, Quality Impact Assessment, and Data Protection Impact Assessments. These are to ensure that any service reform does not negatively impact on any one part of our community.

### **Human Rights**

The Human Rights Act (2000) ensures that all public authorities in the UK, including NHS organisations, have a positive obligation to respect and promote peoples' human rights. These are underpinned by the core values of Fairness, Respect, Equality, Dignity and Autonomy for all. These values are at the heart of high quality health and social care, and continue to be upheld through the NHS Long Term Plan and Planning Guidance.

### **Crime and Disorder**

There are no implications within either the Long Term Plan or Guidance in this regard.

### **Staffing**

Workforce is reflected in the plan; including the development of new roles and the recruitment of additional staff to fulfil the outcomes are stated. Detailed workforce plans are to be developed in 2019/20.

**Accommodation**

Specific changes to accommodation requirements are detailed in the plan under the estates section. Such changes will be subject to appropriate engagement and consultation processes on an individual basis.

**Risk**

Failure to deliver on the plan would increase the risks of poorer outcomes for our community, and the risk of direct intervention in relation to NHS partners from NHS England / NHS Improvement.

**Procurement**

There are no implications for procurement within this report at this point.

# Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019-2020



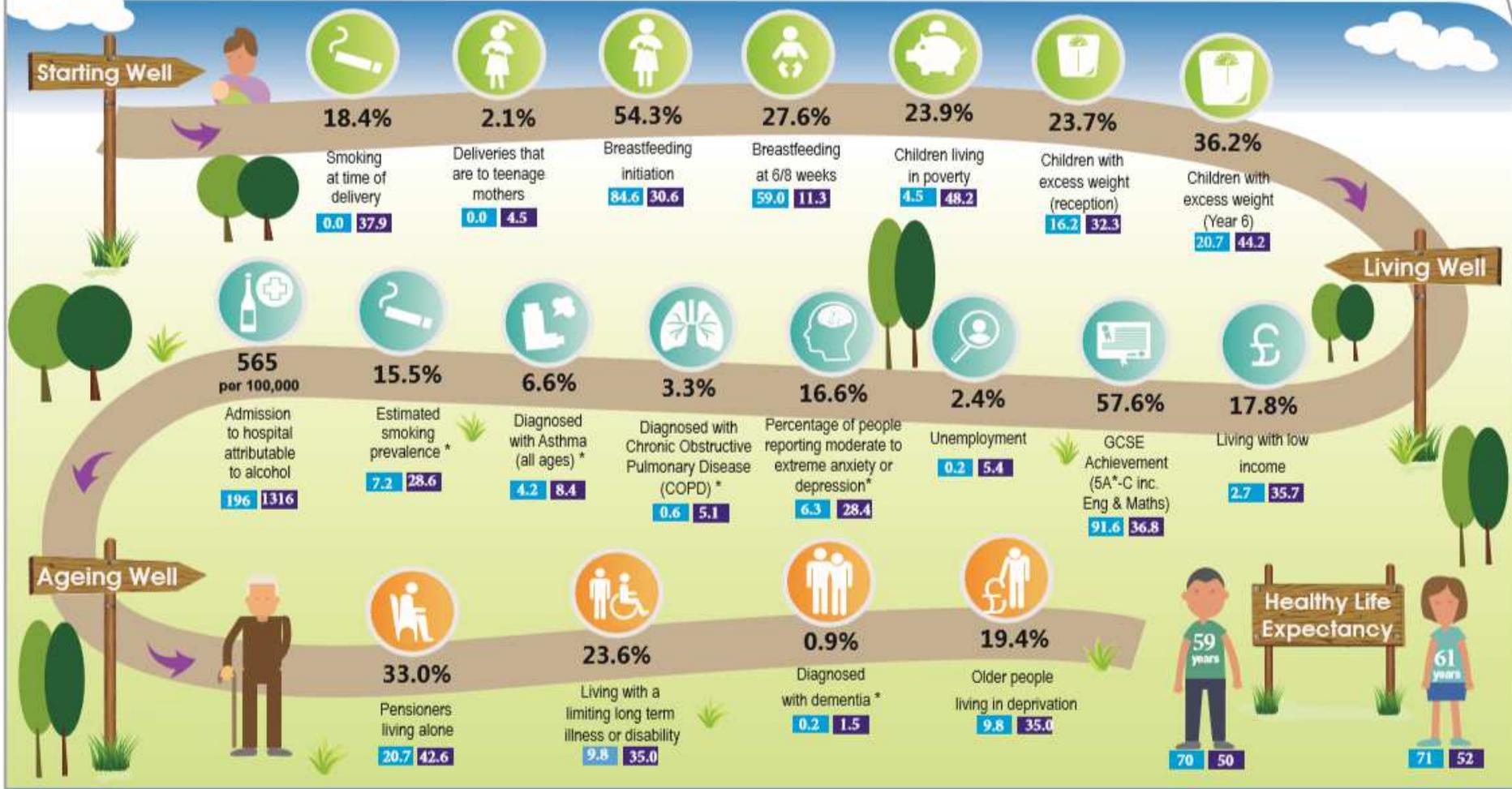
# Partners within the Durham System Plan

- City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust – CHS
- Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust – HDFT
- County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – CDDFT
- Durham County Council – DCC
- Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield Clinical Commissioning Group – DDES CCG
- North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group – ND CCG
- North East Ambulance Service – NEAS
- North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust - NTFT
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust – TEWV



# A walk through the life course in County Durham

Key  
■ Best MSOA in County Durham  
■ Worst MSOA in County Durham



Public health intelligence to inform....

Publichealthintelligence@durham.gov.uk

## Introducing the Taylor family

This is a fictional County Durham family – the Taylor family. However, they face some of the key challenges that a lot of our local communities face.



Supporting and working with the Taylor family to improve health and wellbeing in County Durham are a plethora of organisations. The County Durham Partnership is made up of key public, private and voluntary sector organisations that work together to improve the quality of life for the people of County Durham. The County Durham Partnership is made up of five thematic groups, altogether wealthier, altogether better for children and young people, altogether healthier, altogether safer and altogether greener. These groups work collectively in a range of partnerships including the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board, the Safer Durham Partnership, County Durham Children and Families Partnership and the Area Action Partnerships. Improving the public's health can only happen by working with other partnerships in County Durham which are a key asset.



# Local Priorities: Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy Vision

**County Durham is a healthy place, where people live well for longer**

Good jobs and places to live, learn and play

Every child has the best start in life

Support positive behaviours

Improved mental health and wellbeing for everyone

Promoting a healthy workforce

Better quality of life

# Introduction



The County Durham Integrated Care Board (ICB) brings together partners in Health and Social Care commissioning and delivery. This forum was established as health and social care partners recognise the need to collaborate to achieve improved outcomes for the population within existing resources. This forum has been proven to be effective in co-ordinating commissioning and delivery activities across the County.

Historically each organisation has had their own delivery plan in line with their governance and assurance requirements. The organisations that are part of the ICB have separate local, regional and national policies, politics, regulators and stakeholders. However these policies and plans impact on the same people and communities in County Durham.

It is recognised by partners that our individual plans are interlinked and that the actions of one organisation will have an impact across the wider health and social care system. We are bringing together the key components of the separate organisational plans into a single County Durham Health and Wellbeing Plan. This will enable greater involvement from partners and greater oversight as we work to deliver our priorities in County Durham. The ICB does not replace governance arrangements within individual organisations, but allows us to have a common view of the issues and priorities across County Durham and ensure that we are joined up as we work to deliver improvements.

The development of a County Durham Health and Wellbeing Plan follows a strong track record of joint working and collaboration between health and social care. The development of a shared plan will strengthen that joint working, but also allow us to demonstrate how effective collaboration is in County Durham. We have also aligned this plan, where appropriate, to the Health and Wellbeing Board's Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy which is currently in development.

This plan sets out the key activities that we will be working on together across the next twelve months. The plan aims to set out the context that individual organisations are working in and how this effects the areas that we need to work on in Durham. We recognise that the landscape in health and social care is rapidly changing and this plan will be need to be reviewed after six months and updated to reflect any emerging priorities.

Work is ongoing to develop a longer term plan that sets out to deliver the requirements of the Care Act, Children and Families Act, the NHS Long Term Plan and other relevant policy documents. This plan will demonstrate the journey towards greater system thinking in commissioning, delivery, performance monitoring, driving efficiency and improving outcomes for the people of County Durham.

The plan explains the key projects that we are working on together and should be read alongside individual organisational plans, partnership plans and also national policy which is covered later in this report. The plan also sets out how we will engage and consult where appropriate with the public and stakeholders if there are changes to services proposed.

There will be an opportunity in the summer to meet with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board to examine the operating environment and the priorities set out in this and future plans in more depth.

# National & Local Context

There is a wealth of national and local information that we use to form our plans

Many of the key deliverables are set out in national policy documents or in statute



The NHS Long Term Plan



**Prevention is better than cure**

Our vision to help you live well for longer

Care Act 2014



HM Government

County Durham SEND Strategy 2019/20

Director of Public Health Annual Report 2018

**A new vision for 'The Taylors'  
Improving health in County Durham**

Autism Strategy

**NHS Operational  
Planning and  
Contracting Guidance  
2019/20**

County Durham Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Children & Young People's Strategy 2019/22

County Durham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

# Durham Context



We recognise our place boundaries with others in the Integrated Care Partnership and the wider Integrated Care System of Cumbria and the North East, however our Health and Care plan relates to the place of County Durham. This plan helps us meet head on the challenge set for the Health and Wellbeing Board to be a more integrated system to protect the services for the people of Durham; we have strong foundations on which to build in the next 12 months.

The JSNA contains a range of information to help us understand the major health and wellbeing issues of importance locally. This information, when placed in context and linked to evidence, can provide intelligence and insight which, if communicated in the right way and to the right people can better inform decisions. It helps to inform the planning and improvement of local services, and guides us to make the best use of the funding. [Durham Insight](#) is an integral part of Durham County Council's Integrated Needs Assessment approach with the main aim of informing and supporting our joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and other assessments and strategies managed by the authority and its partners. Locally it has provided the evidence base for the Children and Young People's Strategy and JHWS and underpinned the development of the 6 priorities that have emerged from this that are reflected in the Taylor family.

Overall health and wellbeing has improved significantly in County Durham but it still remains worse than the England average. In addition, large health inequalities still remain across County Durham, especially with regards to breastfeeding, babies born to mothers who smoke, childhood obesity and premature deaths. The impact of this becomes obvious when looking at life expectancy; a child born today in the most deprived areas of County Durham could expect to live between 7 and 8 years less than one born in the least deprived areas.

Our ambition as a whole system is to work differently and collaboratively with partners across organisational boundaries to best meet the needs of the local population. We recognise there is still more to do, but great progress has been made in recent times with some specific examples below:

- A re-procured Community Services contract is now in place which has helped re-define service delivery and enable greater collaboration in particular to support integration and joint working between health and social care. The new structure reflects the arrangements of the CCGs and primary and social care being built up from the local TAPs (Teams around Patients), to locality and then countywide services. The NHS long term Plan has demonstrated Durham is ahead of the game with place based care.

# Durham Context



- Durham, Darlington and Teesside NHS mental health and learning disability partnership (formerly accountable care partnership) is now in place and is about improving outcomes for service users through partnership working. It makes sure funding set aside for mental health and learning disability services remains within those services and through the partnership we can provide a more streamlined system.
- We have worked closely with our Ambulance Service (NEAS) and acute provider Trust (CDDFT) to improve access to Urgent and Emergency care and Acute services.
- Work on the Troubled Families project, which encompasses a whole system, whole family approach to improve outcomes for children has achieved to the point where it has been given earned autonomy for the next funding allocation giving more freedom to innovate in this important area of work
- A Health Needs Assessment for young people who offend found evidence that the young people did not regularly access traditional health services which led to health inequalities and increased risk of offending. A Health Steering Group commissioned a multi-agency professional health team based within CDYOS and have seen significant improvements to both the level of access and the quality of health services received for young people who offend.
- Based on the Blackpool model The Positive Lives initiative delivered through the DCC support and recovery team, funded by the CCGs works with the high intensity users of emergency services and is impacting on the demand on these services

Work is also now underway to develop an Integrated Commissioning approach with the Council and the CCGs to help us get the best quality services for our people through the most efficient use of resources available. Through stakeholder engagement we have started some transformation conversations and feedback from people across the system is they value the opportunities presented to work collectively in the future.

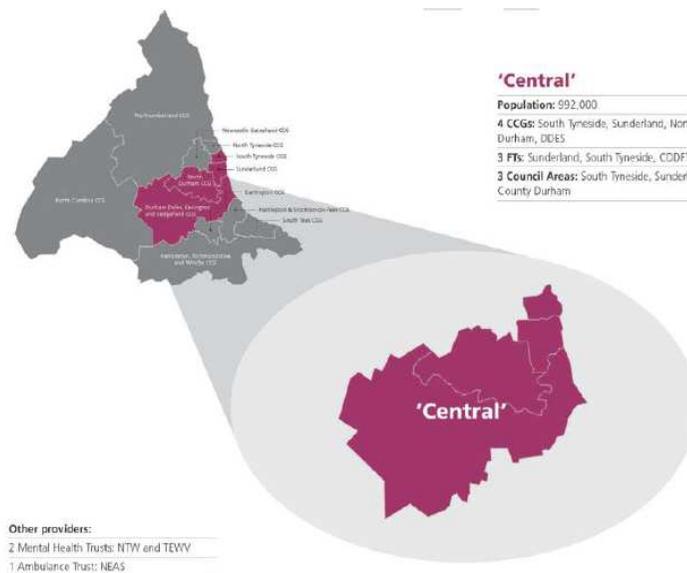
We recognise there is still more to do; we are on a journey and looking to the future, we will be having conversations with our stakeholders with workshops to further develop our thinking.

# Boundary Relationships

County Durham sits in the centre of the North East and has relationships with a number of surrounding H&SC commissioners and providers. County Durham is part of the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care System and is part of the 'Central' Integrated Care Partnership as shown in the diagram.

The NHS commission services based on their registered population i.e. those registered with one of the member GP practices whereas the LA commissions/provides services for the resident population. For people that live at the boundaries of the county this can sometimes cause complexities for H&SC services.

Changes to public health commissioning have meant that pathways have had to be in place for some patients living near the borders or perhaps attending a school in another county.



DCC commissions a number of services collaboratively with other North East local authorities as appropriate.

The two Durham CCGs work collaboratively with the Tees and Darlington CCGs to commission health services for the population.

The majority of County Durham residents receive acute care from three providers:

- County Durham & Darlington FT
- City Hospitals Sunderland FT
- North Tees & Hartlepool FT

There are also contracts in place with four other acute trusts including Gateshead, Northumberland, Newcastle and South Tees.

The majority of mental health care is delivered by Tees Esk Valleys NHS FT with some care provided by Northumberland Tyne and Wear FT.

These complexities can be challenging, but there are arrangements in place to ensure that dialogue takes place with neighbouring mental health and physical health providers, neighbouring local authorities and neighbouring commissioning organisations to ensure that pathways are smooth and effective.

# Public Engagement and Consultations



Partners are committed to working together when engaging/consulting with the public and stakeholders in future wherever possible and we aim to develop a system plan that joins up engagement and consultation activities across County Durham.

The plan will focus on broad ongoing engagement activities for some of our key project areas such as access to services, improving care for frail and elderly care, primary care, outpatient care as opposed to issue specific engagement. We feel that this approach will help the public and stakeholders to have a greater understanding of the need for service development and improvement across the NHS and Local Authority.

This will not replace any of our formal duties to inform, engage or consult with stakeholders and the public, but will ensure that a broader range of patients' views can be considered.

We will inform:

- When there is a temporary change that would only affect current users and they wouldn't be aware of the change i.e. short term/temporary change in hours of opening for a service

We will engage:

- When we are considering changing the way a service is delivered or when we want to develop alternative options for service delivery. We need to secure input before we develop the options to understand what users/carers/staff think about the services
- Where substantial development or variation changes are proposed

We will seek views of Health Overview and Scrutiny and ensure appropriate communication takes place in all circumstances

# Public Engagement and Consultations

## Quarter 1

- Learning disability commissioning Strategy
- Shotley Bridge Hospital - engagement
- Urgent treatment centre staffing model – engagement
- Stroke rehabilitation – engagement
- Ward 6 inpatient Services - engagement
- Pre consultation engagement Sunderland and South Tyneside Path to Excellence Phase 2
- Clinical Strategy – Hospital Services, South Integrated Care Partnership – engagement
- Strategic Review of Looked After Children Services

## Quarter 2

- Stroke rehabilitation
- Ward 6 inpatient Services
- Pre consultation engagement Sunderland and South Tyneside Path to Excellence Phase 2
- Strategic Review of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities services

## Quarter 3

- Mental health rehabilitation and recovery services – engagement
- Shotley Bridge Hospital - consultation
- Sunderland and South Tyneside Path to Excellence Phase 2 - consultation

## Quarter 4

- Mental health rehabilitation and recovery services – engagement
- Co-production with children, young people and families

# Shared Agenda

## Finance

- The financial landscape across health, social care and public health is challenging with all partners experiencing increased costs and the need to ensure more effective allocation of budgets through greater efficiencies.
- Some examples that contribute to this are:
  - Continued impact of austerity
  - Potential cut to the public health grant circa £19 million
  - Increase in demand on Children's Services social care and SEND
  - Above inflation pay awards in the health sector
  - Efficiency targets set nationally for the NHS
  - Growing demand for services to meet the needs of the population, particularly in hospitals
- Partners are careful not to shunt costs on to another and work to achieve better outcomes from the local health and social care £.
- Some examples of work programmes to support this are:
  - Ensuring the sustainability of hospital based services
  - Transforming community services around the health and social care needs of patients and to support the effective use of hospital services.
  - Reforming the outpatient system to ensure a focus on clinical outcomes and improvement
  - A focus on prevention and the longer term aim to improve outcomes
- A finance sub group of the Integrated Care Board is established to support a greater understanding of financial planning across health and social care.

## Workforce

- There are significant workforce challenges across health and social care in Durham and across the country. There are shortages of GPs, social care staff, nursing, therapies and a number of medical specialities.
- Some key programmes are already in place to address some of the challenges:
  - GP and practice nurse career start scheme
  - Regional international GP recruitment scheme
  - Social care academy
  - Bid for a work programme to support organisational development across community health and social care
  - Mental health time to change workforce group.
- There is more to do regarding workforce. Partners are establishing a group in 2019/20 to ensure an even greater focus on plans to address shortages and the capacity and skills needed to support the long term plan and service transformation.
- In relation to NHS workforce planning Health Education North East is working with partners in County Durham to support plans regarding medical, nursing and therapy shortages.

# Shared Agenda

## Digital and Technology

- Digital and technology are key enablers to support delivery of the plan and longer term service transformation.
- Some examples of key schemes for 2019/20 across partners include:
  - Expansion of the digital programme in care homes to enable access to records by primary care and social workers, support for prescribing and remote monitoring of people with long term conditions.
  - Continued access through the roll out of the great north care record.
  - Roll out of e-consultations in primary care
  - Development of the replacement to the Social Services Information Database (SSID) system
  - Development of the electronic patient record system business case for acute services
  - Liquid logic
  - Proposed re-procurement of the health record system in acute services

## Estates

- An estates group has been established with all partners across health and social care. The purpose of the work is:
  - shared planning of estate utilisation
  - Ensuring effective use of current estate and reducing costs for all partners
  - Ensuring estate plans support the transformation of community and primary care services
- Continue to explore shared use estate developments, key examples implemented:
  - the Lavender Centre in Pelton
  - Lanchester Medical Centre
  - Care coordination centre
- In relation to the estate plan in 2019/20 some key projects include:
  - Engagement in early 2019 and consultation later in 2019 on options for Shortly Bridge Hospital
  - Planned closure of Crook Health Centre
  - Proposed closure of Kieper Clinic
  - Relocation of clinical services from Dr Piper House in Darlington for Darlington Memorial Hospital
  - Business case for UHND Emergency Care Centre

# Shared Agenda

## Quality

Quality and effectiveness of primary, community and secondary care in collaboration with our partners remains at the forefront of our priorities:

- Learning and sharing across the Durham System to support improvement
- Reducing the incidence of avoidable harm across the system
- Working with partners to achieve the best clinical outcomes for our population (for example, working with Local Authorities to support effective, efficient and high quality Continuing Health Care outcomes, supporting the implementation of the Enhanced Care in Care Homes strategy and reducing rates of Healthcare Acquired Infection (HCAI) across all provision
- Ensuring the best patient experience, supporting the implementation of patient experience forum
- Supporting the population in promoting patients to become actively involved in their own care and treatment
- Providing high quality social care services to children, young people and families, adults and carers.

## System Performance

As a system we will continue to focus on delivery of the constitutional targets and improve the health outcomes, against key standards, for our population.

There are some priority areas that we are focused on but not limited to as partners identified below:

- Cancer 62 day - will require a collaborative approach as the standard has not been consistently achieved by all provider organisations.
- Permanent admissions of older people (aged 65 years+) to residential/nursing care homes per 100,000 population.
- Non-Elective admissions/100,000 population
- Percentage of older people (aged 65yrs+) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/rehabilitation
- Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC) delayed days per 100,000 population
- Improving access to physiological therapies
- Improving mental wellbeing for people of all ages, including suicide prevention and reducing loneliness
- A&E 4 hour standard
- Ambulance performance standards
- Initial Health Assessments completed within statutory timelines
- % pregnant mothers smoking at time of delivery
- SEND Local Area high priority indicators including timeliness of EHCPs and performance of therapy services

# Governance – leadership and accountability

The County Durham Integrated Care Board (ICB) works alongside the Health and Wellbeing Board. The ICB provides senior system wide leadership and accountability to support the vision and direction of travel set out in the County Durham Health and Care Plan. There is an Integrated Steering Group for Children that provides senior leadership across partners in respect of the priorities for children and young people.

There are a number of sub groups, set out in the overarching shared County Durham Partnership structure that support the work of the ICB and Integrated Steering Group for Children.

It is important to note that each partner as a statutory organisation retains accountability to its own governing body.

Within the ICB arrangements outlined, partners have agreed to plan together. A health, social care and prevention planning group has been established, reporting to IBC, with representatives from each organisation. The aim is to support the development of:

- an annual Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan
- a long term plan taking account of Health and Wellbeing Board priorities and the recently published NHS long term plan.

# Governance – delivery

To support and coordinate delivery of the Health and Wellbeing System Plan the following mechanisms have been established by partners. Their aim is to reduce duplication and support partnership working:

- **Groups to support the Integrated Steering Group for Children** - with a focus on SEND, LAC, transitions and other priorities
- **System assurance group** – chief officer level responsible for assurance of delivery including performance.
- **Programme board** – oversight of the key programmes and escalation to the system assurance group.
- **System delivery group** – operational delivery and implementation of plans
- **Planning group** – supports the development of the annual Durham system plan and long term plans.
- **Local A & E delivery board** – oversight of the urgent and emergency care system for County Durham

# Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019-2020

## Part B - Children and Young People



# Local Priorities: Children & Young People's Strategy

**Children & Young People's Strategy Vision: County Durham will be a great place for children & young people to grow up in & for Durham to be a place where all children & health, happy, safe and achieving their potential**

All children & young people have a safe childhood

Children & Young People enjoy the best start in life, good health & emotional wellbeing

Young people gain the education, skills & experience to succeed in adulthood

Children & young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) achieve the best possible outcomes

# Prevention

Promoting  
positive  
behaviours

**Name of scheme:** Smoking in pregnancy

**Partner(s):** Whole system

**Scheme dates:** April 2020

**Need for the scheme:** At 18.4% across Durham we have higher than national numbers of women still smoking at time of delivery. This is unevenly distributed across County Durham with more women in deprived communities still smoking demonstrating significant inequalities. There has been great efforts made to reduce this % and the trend line is going in the right direction. However to achieve the national ambition of less than 6% of women still smoking at time of delivery by 2022 there is a significant amount of work to do across all partner agencies. County Durham has established a multi-disciplinary SiP steering group to drive an action plan forward to tackle the inequalities – working under the regional local maternity system (LMS). Work this next year includes improving ownership of the issue in maternity services, changing the narrative to a one of addiction and treatment, workforce development and better capturing of data to drive improvement

**Aim and benefits of scheme:**

Fewer still births - Fewer neonatal deaths - Fewer low birth weight babies - Better outcomes for mum

Culture change: Change the language from lifestyle choice to tobacco dependence and raise the profile of the clinical impact of smoking in pregnancy

Workforce: Ensure all staff working in maternity pathway are adhering to NICE guidance

Smoke free home: 0 – 19 service to continue the smoke free pathway from maternity to reduce the risk of relapse

**Name of scheme:** Obesity / healthy weight

**Partner(s):** Whole system

**Scheme dates:** April 2020

**Need for the scheme:** County Durham has 23.7% reception age children and 36.2% of year 6 children with excess weight. At present these % are not reducing. We also have over two thirds of the adult population estimated to be overweight. The whole system healthy weight action plan sets out the work to be achieved which for the next year includes a focus and commitment to preventing children from becoming overweight in the first place through dedicated work during maternity and early years. Significant work is underway and must continue on changing the lived environment such as work on fast food takeaways, workplaces through health at work scheme, active travel and extensive work in schools such as the promotion of Active 10,20,30 (daily mile). Work is also linked to the County Durham child poverty plan and supporting out of school activities to include healthy food. Work with culture and sport is critical and aligning with the wellbeing approach and social prescribing will happen over the next year.

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** Excess weight and obesity have both short and long term impacts on the health and wellbeing of people but also impacts upon the economic outcomes of the County due to the known link between increased levels of absenteeism and obesity related ill health. Reducing obesity will in turn reduce the risk of type two diabetes, risk of cancer, risk of CVD and also risk of poor mental health as there is a strong association between obesity and depression. Following FISCH and tier three review implement a new pathway for children with excess weight and monitor impact

# Maternity Service

**Name of scheme:** Maternity Service Review

**Partner(s):** CCGs, CDDFT, NTFT, STFT

**Scheme dates:**

**Need for the scheme:** The southern ICP footprint has a total population of just over 1.1 million including almost 200,000 women of child-bearing age resulting in over 12,000 annual births. These families are served by five CCGs commissioning maternity services from three acute provider Trusts. The majority of births take place in a hospital environment with approximately 80 homebirths per annum. Overall birth rates are predicted to increase slightly from 12,227 annual births in 2015, to 12,626 annual births in 2020

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** In order to deliver the vision for maternity services is in line with the Five Year Forward View staff will be supported to deliver women centred care working with highly trained and competent staff in a culture of innovation and improvement working across organisational boundaries. This will include implementing the national maternity services review "Better Births" on behalf of the NCNE ICA; a focus on reduction of health inequalities and variations in standards of care; encouraging collaboration between providers to provide the best care, in the most appropriate setting, closer to the home wherever possible; determining optimal service models based on multiple considerations including quality of care, financial stability and workforce sustainability, as well as support for clinical work via a functioning digital care record (e.g. Great North Care Record); and changing the focus from hospital-based services to community hubs that build services around the family.

**Name of scheme:** Gynaecology Service Review

**Partner(s):** CCGs, CDDFT

**Scheme dates:**

**Need for the scheme:** Gynaecology services are included as interdependency with the maternity and obstetric services to understand any impact on the services.

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** The new model proposed will require the development of a clear escalation plan and communication pathways across the health economy. It is recognised that alongside this a wider system change will be required to ensure that pathways, competencies and governance are robust and reach into the community and primary care in order to build confidence amongst the team and attract new recruits to the service. To enable this change we must create a single managed Women's and Children's service which patients and staff can clearly identify; that provides strong clinical leadership, governance & management oversight; a single unified workforce; and adopt a single electronic patient management system.

# Children and Young People Services

**Name of scheme:** Implementation of the SEND Strategy

**Partner(s):** Whole System

**Scheme dates:** April 2019

**Need for the scheme:** 1 in 6 children in County Durham have SEND. Life with SEND can be difficult if needs go unidentified or unmet, with the right support there is no reason that children and young people cannot function well and make progress in many or all aspects of their life. It is recognised that while provision from 0-25 is a great benefit for young people there is still a need to ensure that young people are prepared for their transition into adulthood. This strategy encourages opportunities that develop outcomes in independence, good health, resilience/inclusion and employment (or life opportunities relevant to needs) throughout childhood in preparation for adulthood.

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** The County Durham SEND Strategy is aligned to the Children and Young People's Strategy (2019 – 2022). As part of this Strategy we aim to bring the whole resources of local public services and the voluntary sector to work with children and families to improve the life chances of our children and young people. Our aspiration is for County Durham to be a great place for children and young people to grow up in. We will deliver this through:

Co-ordinated leadership and governance across the local area. Ensuring that young people with SEND are well prepared for adult lives and can live independently- Providing better coordinated services for children and young people with SEND across the local area including Alternative Education Provision, Place Based Therapies.

**Name of scheme:** Strategic review - Children who are Looked After (CLA) **Partner(s):** Whole System

**Scheme dates:** May 2019

**Need for the scheme:** Numbers of children in County Durham who are moving into the care system continue to rise. Significant work has already been done and is ongoing to increase the number of fostering and adoption opportunities. However some of these young people have complexities and challenges that require specialist and in some cases bespoke interventions. These services come at a high cost and require significant planning and market development if we are to ensure we have sufficiency to meet the needs of these individuals. Health Needs Assessments are also to be undertaken with all Children who are Looked After.

**Aim and benefits of scheme**

The key elements of CLA provision including fostering and residential care both commissioned and in house will be reviewed from a sufficiency quality and value for money perspective. This work will be the basis of our strategic planning, sufficiency strategy and market development going forward.

Implementation of transformed mental health pathway for children looked after and care leavers

# Children and Young People Services

**Name of scheme:** Paediatric Therapies Services      **Partner(s):** CCGs, CDDFT, North Tees & Hartlepool FT and DCC      **Scheme dates:** April 2019 onwards

**Need for the scheme:** The three Children's Therapy Services; Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy (OT) and Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT) were procured in 2012/13 and commissioned by the former Primary Care Trust (PCT) in County Durham and Darlington. Two providers were commissioned, County Durham and Darlington NHS FT to provide Physiotherapy and OT, and North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust to provide SaLT. There has been no formal review since. Currently the three services work in silo and service users are opting for out of area private education establishments that are able to provide an integrated service; this is at a high cost to the CCG and local authority and means that children have to travel some distance to school. In order for the CCG and Local Authority to comply with the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) agenda there is a need to move to an integrated therapies service.

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** The local authority and health services will work together to provide a service that can respond to the current challenges to Education Health Care Plans (EHCP) with regards to identified therapy provision. An integrated service will facilitate a joint initial assessment for children who may require all three therapies. This will be provided in the child's current school or their home meaning there will be no need for children to travel out of County for this service.

**Name of scheme:** Development of placed based 0-25 services      **Partner(s):** whole system      **Scheme dates** review commences March 2019:

**Need for the scheme:** Some services are generally quite local to where people live e.g. childminders, nurseries, primary schools, GPs. Others we need to agree whether they are in local arrangements ( e.g. support from health visitors to all families) or provided as specialist county/regional based services (e.g. support for complex hearing and sensory impairment) We currently don't have an agreed locality footprint across County Durham for different service arrangements and governance. In general the more universal a service is we can arrange in localities, the most specialist and low incidence we arrange county wide / organisation wide or commission to meet a specific need. This work will encompass the review of the current 0-19 services contract which will be recommissioned in the next 12 months and the therapies reviewed.

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** We want to work together in partnership to support good outcomes with children and families and close the gap in unacceptable inequalities. Working with children, families and communities as close as possible to where they live and provide the 'right support at the right time in the right place' to support early intervention and support children, families and communities to help themselves where possible. Scheduling of and access to services is important especially where children and families have multiple issues and a more integrated approach will enable this.

# Children and Young People Services

**Name of scheme:** Transitions

**Partner(s):** Whole System

**Scheme dates:** April 2019 onwards

**Need for the scheme:** The County Durham Children and Young People's Strategy 2019-2022 sets aspirations to improve the life chances of children and young people. By 2022 one aim is *'to see our more vulnerable children and young people living safe and healthy lives, achieving well and making successful transitions to adulthood'*. Transitions is therefore a focus for all partners including the public, who on consultation selected young people's transition from children to adult services as one of their four priorities for 2018/19. We will improve service user and their families' experience of transitions and improve arrangements particularly the support for vulnerable young people aged 14+ who require ongoing support when moving into adult services.

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** The local authority and health services will work together to develop and improve the arrangements to support the effective transition of vulnerable young people aged 14+ - 25 years towards adulthood including where required, specific arrangements to support their transition to adult services.

Working with children and young people, carers and families and engaging with the workforce we will focus on evidenced based local need, improve co-ordination and co-production in the planning and delivery of transition arrangements, improve access and build on existing good practice to establish a quality assurance framework.

**Name of scheme:** Children & Young People (CYP) Neurodevelopmental pathway

**Partner(s):** TEWV

**Scheme dates:** 19/20 Q1 – Q3

**Need for the scheme:** To provide streamlined pathways for Children and Young People with autism, and / or with a learning disability to ensure they receive the right support promptly.

**Aim and benefits of the Scheme:** The output will be to complete an improvement event utilising TEWV's Quality Improvement Methodology to review current pathways and to agree streamlined processes to ensure children and young people receive the right support the first time. The benefits should be reduced waiting time for children and young people with autism or a learning disability to receive an assessment and signposting to appropriate post-assessment treatment or support.

# Children and Young People Services

**Name of scheme:** Children's mental health and resilience **Partner(s):** whole system

**Scheme dates:** April 2020

**Need for the scheme:** The County Durham CYP MH local transformation plan (LTP) takes a Thrive approach which ensures we start at the point of promoting good mental health and developing protective factors such as building resilience in children and families. There are currently good programmes of work in place across County Durham operating at an early help stage such as parent peer support and children's bereavement support but these are short term funded. Young people who experience a complex bereavement are known to be at greater risk of self harm and suicide. By ensuring effective bereavement support is in place for young people who are more vulnerable they can build their coping mechanisms to consider alternative coping strategies to self harm and can avoid suicidal ideation. If these lower level mental health support services are not in place the risk is that parents are less able to manage young people's mental health issues at home and needs are escalated to acute treatment services such as CAMHS. The LTP seeks sustainable funding for these two short term contracts. In addition to this County Durham will be submitting a wave two EOI for trailblazer funding when the call is announced which would provide additional investment for young people wrapped around school and FE settings.

**Aim and benefits of scheme:** Maintaining children's mental wellbeing, intervening early through evidence based interventions known to work, young people reporting improved wellbeing, fewer young people attempting to take their own lives

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

**1 July 2019**

**Quarter Four 2018/19  
Performance Management Report**



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**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 four, 2018/19**

- 2 The performance report for quarter four, 2018/19 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 were many positives during 2018/19; educational improvements across all key stages, early indications of decreasing caseloads across children's social care (additional information attached at Appendix 3) and a slow-down in the growth in the number of children looked after (CLA). There were also causes for concern; the widening gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils in GCSE attainment, 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. Further improvements are also needed to support pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). We are mitigating these concerns through a number of actions including a strategic review of the education service, a four-year plan to meet the needs of those with SEND and the implementation of preventative interventions. Our new case management system (Liquid Logic) will support further improvement in staff practice.

## **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.
- 6 *Failure to protect a child from death or serious harm (where service failure is a factor or issue).*

Management consider it possible that this risk could occur which, in addition to the severe impacts on children, will result in serious damage to the council's reputation and to relationships with its safeguarding partners. To mitigate the risk, actions are taken forward from Serious Case Reviews and reported to the Local Safeguarding Children Board. 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**

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

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**Contact:** Jenny Haworth

Tel: 03000 268071

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **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.



*Altogether better*



# Durham County Council Performance Management Report

## Quarter Four, 2018/19



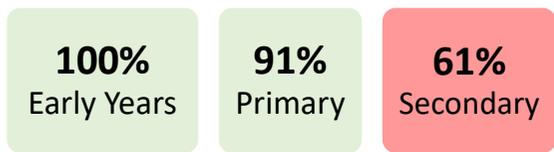
# ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Are (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?

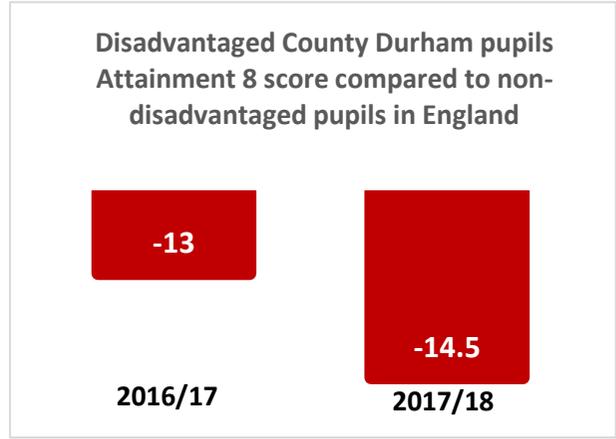
## Educational Attainment 2017/18 academic year

Early Years Foundation Stage achieving good level of development <b>72.8%</b>	KS2 pupils achieving expected standard in Reading, Writing, Maths <b>68%</b>
KS2 Attainment Gap <b>-18</b>	Average Attainment 8 KS4 <b>45.0</b>
KS4 Attainment Gap <b>-14.5</b>	A-level average point score <b>33.4</b>

Schools judged good or outstanding (as at 28 February 2019)



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



Attainment 8 - more information available [here](#).

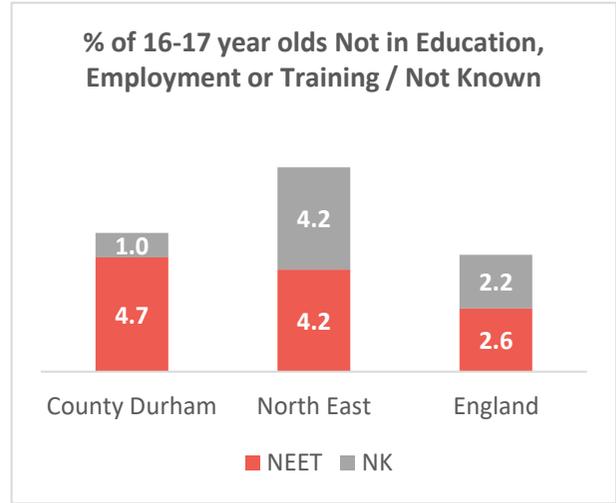
## % of children with at least one fixed term exclusion

<b>2.05%</b> Durham 17/18 (↑ 0.1pp from 16/17)	<b>2.29%</b> North East 16/17 (↑ 0.28pp from 15/16)	<b>2.29%</b> England 16/17 (↑ 0.18pp from 15/16)
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## % of SEND pupils with at least one fixed term exclusion (Autumn term 2018)

- 2.4%** of pupils receiving SEN support with a fixed term exclusion
- 1%** of SEN primary school pupils
- 3.6%** of pupils in Pupil Referral Unit / Special Schools
- 4.8%** of SEN secondary school pupils (0.5% had at least one permanent exclusion)

Legend: ■ better than last year ■ worse than last year



**498** children and young people known to be electively home educated (as at March 19)

# ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

1) Are 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?

**One Point**

**2,341** cases open (as at 31 March 2019)

**94.5%** assessments completed within 45 working days (Apr 18 - Mar 19)

2,575 families have achieved significant and sustained outcomes, as described in [County Durham Family Outcome Framework](#) (as at end March 2019).

This equates to **59%** of the target of 4,360 by May 2020.

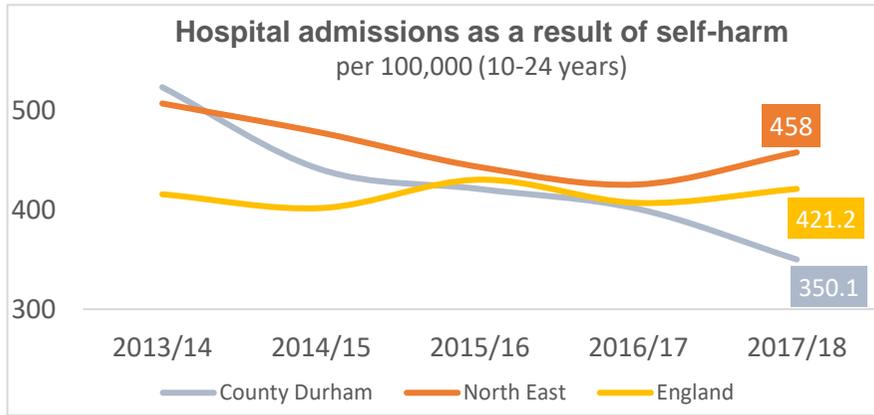


## Stronger Families Earned Autonomy: Assessment of Progress

Assessment Area	Grade
Delivery of the Plan	Developing
Troubled Families Contribution	Maturing
Whole Family Practice	Maturing
Population outcomes	Developing

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

Durham (2015-2018)	North East (2015-2018)	National (2015-2018)
<b>53.1</b> (↓ 3.1 from 12 months earlier)	<b>62.7</b> (↓ 2.1 from 12 months earlier)	<b>32.9</b> (↓ 1.3 from 12 months earlier)



## Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Framework

- under-18 conception rate is higher than the same period in the previous year
- lower than the North East ↓
- higher than England ↑

## **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 Post-Ofsted support, following judgement that a school 'requires improvement' or is 'inadequate', includes Education Development Partner<sup>1</sup> (EDP) support, a review to evaluate progress to Ofsted recommendations and establishing a School Scrutiny Group to evaluate the impact of improvement actions.
- 3 Local Authority Monitoring and Intervention for Improvement (MII) procedures are a fundamental part of Education Durham, our school improvement service, and ensure schools receive support and monitoring appropriate to their needs. EDPs and the Head of Education review current issues and progress to actions at termly review meetings. EDPs ensure related support and monitoring is both timely and effective across all phases from EYFS through to secondary.
- 4 Consultation on Ofsted's proposed changes to the school inspection framework closed on 5 April 2019. A new framework is expected in September 2019.
- 5 The Education Service is reviewing its strategic approach to continue meeting the needs of both pupils and schools in terms of support and challenge. It is focused on making sure that we enhance our credibility as a service that provides real impact in schools.
- 6 We are planning our first Schools and Academies Conference for September and developing links with Ofsted, the Department for Education (DfE) and educational organisations such as the Education Endowment Foundation so we are at the forefront of educational developments both regionally and nationally.
- 7 The DfE has published new guidance, for both local authorities and parents, in relation to non-statutory elective home education. This coincided with the Government's response to the 'Call for Evidence', suggesting an intention to consult

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<sup>1</sup> Job role within Education Development Service

on new legislation which will place a duty on; local authorities to maintain a register of children who do not attend school, parents to inform the local authority if their child is not attending a mainstream school, settings attended by children on the register to respond to local authority enquiries, and local authorities to provide support to home educating families.

- 8 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee will begin a local review on elective home education in July 2019.
- 9 We have developed a Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy, based on feedback from children, young people, families and key partners, which sets out where we would like to be in four years. The strategy is supported by a one-year action plan and is available on the Local Offer [website](#).
- 10 Unprecedented demand has impacted on our ability to complete Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) for children and young people with SEND within 20 weeks, and the 90% target was not achieved. The following contributed to the demand increase: communications to schools regarding high needs block funding pressures and top-up funding requests, the requirement to submit all requests before the Easter term break (pushing the consistently high volume of requests received in May, June and July into the latest quarter), and increased parental awareness and pressure for EHCPs over SEND support plans.
- 11 During the Autumn term just over 250 pupils with SEN had at least one school exclusion. 13 secondary school SEN pupils had a permanent exclusion. We are undertaking further analysis, comparing to students without SEN and looking at seasonal and geographical trends. The results of this analysis will be included in a future report.
- 12 An independent review of how head teachers use exclusion has produced 30 recommendations which includes making schools accountable for pupils they exclude. This is to prevent 'off-rolling' which is primarily in the interest of the school rather than the pupil. The Government intends to consult this year on how to make schools more accountable for permanently excluded children.
- 13 We are one of 14 local authorities awarded Earned Autonomy, which ensures children and families with complex needs receive effective 'whole family' 'outcomes focus' support at the earliest opportunity.
- 14 As part of the Earned Autonomy Memorandum of Understanding, we hosted a monitoring visit in April 2019 by members of the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Families Team. MHCLG concluded *"In relation to system transformation, we could see that there is strong and consistent leadership for whole family working and that significant progress has been made to embed this practice across the partnership of services. You have a strong vision to develop the 'earlier help' offer as evidenced by the place-based approach and Voluntary and*

*Community Sector (VCS) alliance work. In particular, the VCS alliance is creating more links and capacity across the Early Help system both to support families earlier and to reduce demand for acute services.”*

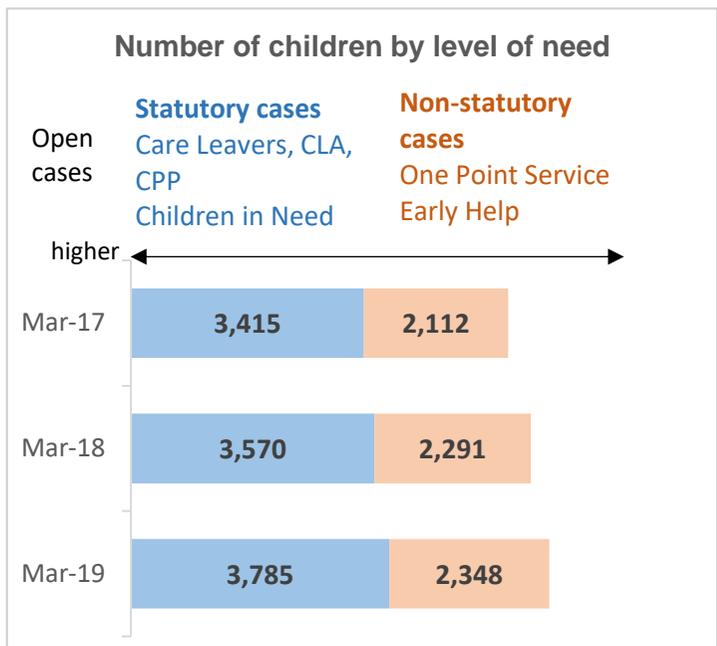
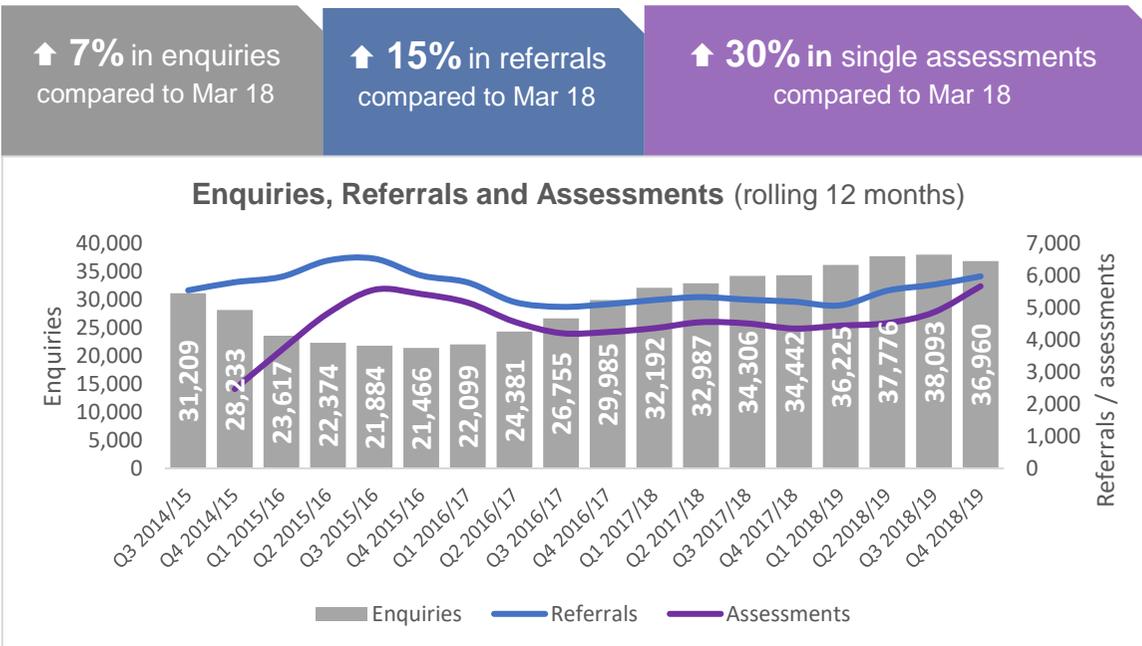
- 15 We are working with partners, to bring together intelligence which will enable us to target unmet needs earlier and more effectively.
- 16 More than 5,800 young people aged 16-24 are being helped by DurhamWorks to secure a place in education, employment or training (EET). 89% of those completing the programme have secured a place in EET or gained an accredited qualification.
- 17 There has been a 64% reduction in teenage conceptions since 1998 (499 to 181 in 2017) but some parts of the county have persistently higher rates than the countywide average. To address these inequalities, we are working with partners to co-ordinate a range of preventative interventions.
- 18 Having assessed the relationship and sex education (RSE) needs of children looked after, care leavers and the professionals supporting them, including foster carers, we are developing a bespoke offer which will inform and update our Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan.
- 19 A 2017 survey by Balance found only one in 20 adults in the North East were aware of national guidance stating children should not drink any alcohol before the age of 15. In conjunction with our partners, we held the ‘what’s the harm?’ event to increase parental knowledge of the dangers of children drinking alcohol.
- 20 In July 2016 the former Local Safeguarding Children’s Board (now Durham Safeguarding Children’s Partnership) established a managing self-harm task and finish group. Its purpose is to progress actions identified within the CYP Mental Health, Emotional Well-being and Resilience Transformation Plan, including: implementing a self-harm and suicide risk multi-agency pathway to enable appropriate and timely intervention, developing mental health led education package on self-harm and suicide prevention for schools and GPs, and developing best practice guidance for all schools and colleges.
- 21 We continue to promote resilience and emotional well-being in children and young people. 2,253 pupils participated in the Youth Aware Mental Health (YAM) programme which was rolled out to seven schools, part of a national randomised control trial co-ordinated by the DfE, in January 2017. We also created a bespoke package, currently being evaluated by the University of Brighton, which we rolled out to 25 schools each year from 2017.

# ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

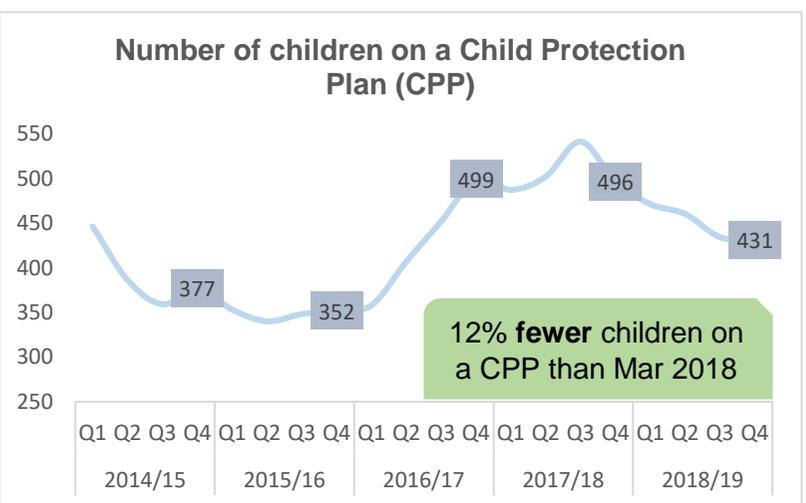
## 3. Are children, young people and families in receipt of social work services appropriately supported and safeguarded?

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Journey of a child



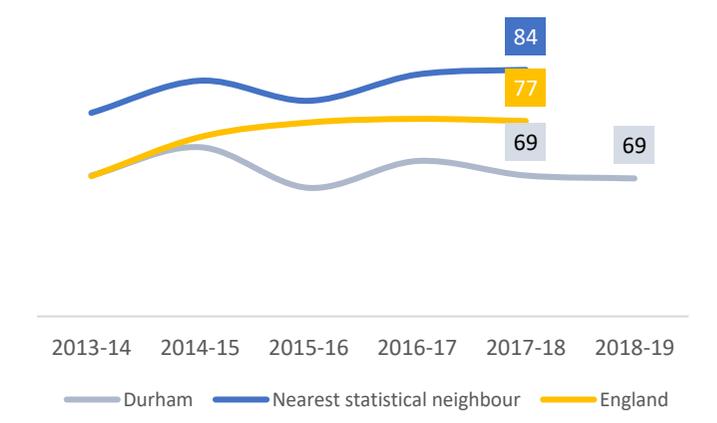
Highest % of assessments completed within timescale in 2018/19 during quarter 4



Quality of case work file audit: (Jan-Mar 2019)

**86.5%** (32 of 37) case files given a scaling score of 6 or above.

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



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

- 22 As at 31 March 2019, our statutory social work teams were supporting 3,785 children, including 431 children on a child protection plan and 833 looked after children.
- 23 In early January, we received a focused visit from Ofsted. Inspectors recognised the progress we are making, stating that we have a good understanding of our challenges, appropriately focused improvement plans and good support. They recognised that the pace of change, stepped up over recent months, needs to be maintained and increased. We continue to implement our planned changes as well as addressing additional recommendations following the focused visit<sup>2</sup>.
- 24 Following a further increase in statutory re-referrals within 12 months, we are undertaking additional analysis to identify any possible reasons for this increase.
- 25 We continue to closely monitor our child protection processes and the focus on holding Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) within 15 days of a strategy meeting is starting to drive improved performance. Following sharp increases between 2015/16 and 2017/18, the number of Section 47 investigations<sup>3</sup> has stabilised. During quarter four, more assessments were completed within 45 working days. This follows the introduction of proportionate assessments in late 2018 which aims to complete the least complex assessments within 25 working days.
- 26 Significant investment, additional recruitment and support has improved the caseloads of social workers, a greater proportion now have caseloads of 20 or less. Permanent Team Managers are now in place in all of our Families First Teams. The quality of the case files, which were audited during the quarter, has improved and reflects ongoing improvements.
- 27 A recommendation from our 2016 Children's Services Ofsted inspection was 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"*. Our new case management system (Liquidlogic) successfully went live on 1 February 2019; providing a much-enhanced system to support staff practice and allows high quality recording of every child's journey. Phase 2 of the project is now underway and includes:

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<sup>2</sup> [Ofsted focused visit summary](#) (10-11 January 2019)

<sup>3</sup> If we have reasonable cause to suspect that a child who lives, or is found, in our area is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, we carry out a Section 47 investigation to determine whether any action should be taken to safeguard that child.

- A children's portal which allows partner agencies to refer directly into the system. We are exploring its functionality for communicating and sharing documents with parents/carers and young people.
- A mobile app for social workers to carry out case recording, irrespective of connectivity, when visiting families, removing the need to re-key information at a later date. The app is being tested and a pilot due to commence in July.
- A provider portal which allows electronic invoices to be confirmed by foster carers prior to payment. All payment remittance is also available through the portal.

28 From 1 April 2019, Durham's Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) was replaced by Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP) which is led by three statutory safeguarding partners: Durham County Council, Durham Constabulary and the Clinical Commissioning Groups with responsibility for North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield geographic areas. New safeguarding arrangements were launched on 3 May 2019.

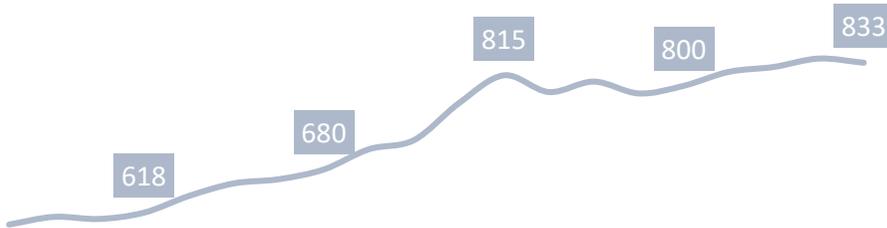
### **Are we being a good corporate parent to Children Looked After (CLA)?**

- 29 As at 31 March 2019, there were 833 children in care. The current number of CLA is high by historical standards, but growth slowed over the last couple of years following a significant period of increase. Between March 2015 and March 2017, CLA increased by 32% but in the two years since the number has increased by 2%. The rate of CLA remains above the national average but below our most similar and nearest neighbouring councils.
- 30 The high number of CLA has impacted upon the stability and availability of placements, as well as contributing to financial pressures, but we have established a Placement Stability Improvement Plan to develop safe, stable and secure placements.
- 31 We are continuing our foster care recruitment campaign to increase in-house capacity. Our January campaign aimed to take advantage of the increased interest in fostering seen in January on an annual basis. The national "Foster Care Fortnight" campaign in May will be our next focus, with specific focus on those who wish to foster teenagers and sibling groups as there is currently a gap in provision.

# ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

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

### Number of Children Looked After



Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																
2014/15				2015/16				2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			

The Local Authority has successfully slowed the increase in CLA to just over 800: over the last 21 months there has been a 3% increase compared to 32% the two years prior to that. We have also seen a slight reduction (6 young people) from quarter three, 2018/19.

### Outcomes for care leavers

% age 17-18 in education, employment or training (EET)

**63.9%**

↓ 18.1pp

64% England

% aged 17-18 in suitable accommodation

**96.4%**

↑ 23.4 pp

89% England

% aged 19-21 in suitable accommodation

**94.4%**

↑ 7.4pp

84% England

*Following the migration to Liquidlogic, data for our care leavers is currently being checked to ensure accuracy. Data is therefore provisional.*

as at 31 March 2019

compared to same period the previous year

### % of children looked after continuously for 12 months with required number of health assessments:



Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2016/17				2017/18				2018/19			



Care Provider Classification	%
In-house foster care	48.6
Friends and family	16.3
Independent Fostering Agency	14.3
Placed with parents	7.6
In-house residential (incl. children's homes)	3.9
External residential (incl. children's homes and res school)	3.2
Placed for adoption	3.1
Independent living (incl. supported lodgings)	2.7
Secure (incl. YOI and prisons)	0.1

- 32 We feel that care proceedings take too long for some children. Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (CAFCASS) data identifies variance in performance between the North and South Durham Family Courts which we use<sup>4</sup>. We continue to work closely with our legal team to ensure the best outcomes for children. The average duration of care proceedings in South Durham (27 weeks) remains lower than the England average (33 weeks), however North Durham (34 weeks) exceeds this.
- 33 We are working with colleagues in County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust to ensure initial health assessments are undertaken within 20 days of a child becoming looked after. Workshops have been held with council and health colleagues to review the process and ensure children who come into care receive a health assessment as quickly as possible.
- 34 Provisional figures show fewer children were adopted compared to last year. We continue to focus on our Adopter Recruitment Strategy and during 2019/20 will move adoption services to a Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) called Adopt Coast to Coast.
- 35 We continue to maintain good relationships with children leaving care and remain in touch with the majority, whom we support to live in suitable accommodation, and access employment, further education and training.
- 36 Overall attainment of CLA is broadly positive, with improvements in writing, grammar punctuation and spelling, maths at Key Stage 2 and very strong performance in English at Key Stage 4. Our children in care made better progress from Key Stage 1 to 2 in writing and maths than those not in care. They also achieved above average for the CLA cohort nationally and regionally at most measures. Identified areas for improvement include reading at Key Stage 2, maths and the need to close the gender gap. We have developed new book packages, combined with activities to promote comprehension, for primary pupils. We are also working with schools to identify gaps in learning and will provide every child in years 2, 6 and 11 with one-to-one tuition. We have also supported schools to be attachment and trauma aware.

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<sup>4</sup> Click [here](#) for more information about average duration of care applications (Section 31) by Designated Family Judge area in England.

## 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](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

### KEY TO SYMBOLS

	Direction of travel	Benchmarking	Performance against target
<b>GREEN</b>	Same or better than comparable period	Same or better than comparable group	Meeting or exceeding target
<b>AMBER</b>	Worse than comparable period (within 2% tolerance)	Worse than comparable group (within 2% tolerance)	Performance within 2% of target
<b>RED</b>	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](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

## ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

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

Page 88 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	45.2			Yes
				N/a	GREEN	RED	AMBER			
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			Yes
				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			Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	AMBER			
30	% of 16 to 17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	4.7	Dec 18-Feb 19	Tracker	4.6	2.6	4.2			Yes
				N/a	AMBER	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			Yes
				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			Yes
				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			Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	RED			
34	Ofsted % of Primary schools judged good or better	91*	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	91	87	90		as at 28 Feb 19	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN			
35	Ofsted % of secondary schools judged good or better	61*	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	65	75	56		as at 28 Feb 19	Yes
				N/a	RED	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	2.05	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	1.95	2.29	2.29		2016/17 (academic year)	Yes
				N/a	RED	GREEN	GREEN			
37	% of all school pupils eligible for and claiming Free School Meals (FSM)	19.4	Jan 2018	Tracker	20.2	14.2	19.8			No
				N/a	GREEN	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			Yes
				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			Yes
				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			Yes
				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)	68	Jan-Mar 2019	90	78.8	64.9	78.8		2017	Yes
				RED	RED	GREEN	RED			

## ALTOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

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

Page 90 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]	59 [2,574]	Sep 14- March 19	67.5 [2,945] <b>RED</b>	N/a <b>GREEN</b>	32.1 <b>GREEN</b>	36.9 <b>GREEN</b>	27.0 <b>GREEN</b>	Sep 2018	Yes
46	% of children aged 0-2 years in the top 30% IMD registered with a Family Centre and having sustained contact	90.0	2018/19	80 <b>GREEN</b>	89.6 <b>GREEN</b>					Yes

## 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	85.2 [4,267]	2018/19	Tracker N/a	85.4 [4,322] <b>AMBER</b>					Yes
48	% of statutory children in need referrals occurring within 12 months of a previous referral	21.2 [1441]	2018/19	Tracker N/a	16.3 [843] <b>RED</b>	21 <b>AMBER</b>	18 <b>RED</b>	18 <b>RED</b>	2017/18	Yes
49	% of single assessments completed within 45 working days	77.6 [4,460]	2018/19	Tracker N/a	80.4 [3,916] <b>RED</b>	83 <b>RED</b>	82 <b>RED</b>	86 <b>RED</b>	2017/18	Yes
50	Rate of children subject to a child protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18 [number of children]	42.9 [431]	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker N/a	49.3 [496] N/a	45 N/a	66 N/a	50 N/a	as at 31 Mar 18	Yes

## 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]	376.47 [3,785]	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	355 [3,570]	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]	233.5 [2,348]	as at 31 Mar 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	69.2 [510]	2018/19	75	69.4 [592]	77	83	84	2017/18	Yes
				<b>RED</b>	<b>AMBER</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED</b>		
54	% of Social Workers with fewer than 20 cases	56	as at 9 Apr 19	Tracker	48	44.1				Yes
				N/a	<b>GREEN</b>	<b>GREEN</b>				
55	% of Statutory Case File Audits which are given a scaling score of 6 or above	86.5	Jan-Mar 2019	80	New indicator					Yes
				<b>GREEN</b>	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	
Page 66	Rate of children looked after per 10,000 population aged under 18 [number of children]	82.9 [833]	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	80 [800]	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

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

Page 92 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]	12.3* [39 of 316]	2018/19	15	14.1 [53 of 375]	13	14	19	2017/18	Yes
				RED	RED	RED	RED	RED		
58	% of CLA who are fostered	73.6 [613]	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	81.4 [651]	73	77	73	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a	N/a		
59	% of external residential placements	2.5 [21]	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	3.4 [27]					Yes
				N/a	GREEN					
60	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who had a dental check	91.3	As at 31 Dec 2018	Tracker	95	88	94	95	2017/18	No
				N/a	RED	GREEN	RED	RED		
61	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who have had the required number of health assessments	91.4	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	91.3	88	94	95	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	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	19.3	20.1	19.5	2016/17 (academic year)	Yes
				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	32	33	38	2016/17 (academic year)	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	RED		
65	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in education, employment or training (EET)	64	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	82.3	64	66	64	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	RED	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)	54	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	59.3	51	52	58	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	RED	GREEN	GREEN	RED		
67	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in suitable accommodation	96	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	73.0	89	93	84	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		
68	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in suitable accommodation	94	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	86.9	84	91	90	2017/18	Yes
				N/a	GREEN	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	7.9	as at Feb 2019	Tracker	9.2	5.4	7.2	6.9		Yes
				N/a	AMBER	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		

## ALTOGETHER HEALTHIER

### 1. Are our services improving the health of our residents?

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	16.6*	Oct-Dec 2018	14.7 <b>RED</b>	17.4 <b>GREEN</b>	10.5* <b>RED</b>	14.9* <b>RED</b>			Yes
77	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth	28.6	Jan-Mar 2019	Tracker N/a	29.1 <b>AMBER</b>	46.4 <b>RED</b>	33.7 <b>RED</b>		Jul-Sep 2018	Yes

\*provisional data

## ALTOGETHER SAFER

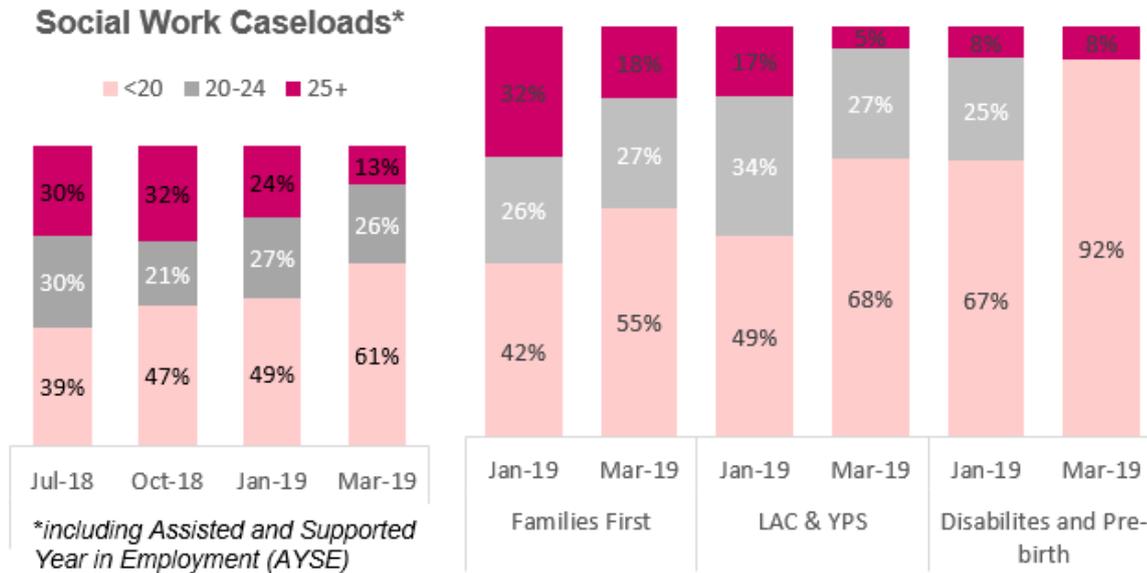
### 1. How effective are we at tackling crime and disorder?

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)	250.2	Oct 17- Sep 18	Tracker N/a	371 <b>GREEN</b>	248 <b>AMBER</b>	328.5 <b>GREEN</b>	252.6 <b>GREEN</b>		Yes
94	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%)	46.3	Jul 16 – Jun 17	Tracker N/a	43.8 <b>RED</b>	40.1 <b>RED</b>	41.8 <b>RED</b>			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	169	2018	Tracker N/a	191 N/a					No
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## Appendix 3: Additional information regarding social work caseloads



Over the last few years escalating demands for statutory social care for children combined with an increasingly complex mix of cases had led to challenging workloads for social care staff. In response the council authorised significant investment providing additional recruitment and support which is alleviating some of these pressures. In July 2018 just 39% social workers and ASYEs had a caseload of 20 or fewer. By April 2019 this proportion had improved to 61%.

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



**1 July 2019**

**Proposed Review of Elective  
Home Education –  
Scoping Document**

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

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a scope for an in-depth review in to Elective Home Education (EHE).

**Executive summary**

- 2 Members of CYPOSC agreed to undertake a review of Elective Home Education following members concerns about the rise in numbers of children in County Durham who are educated at home. Members want to examine the standard of education for children who are home educated, how relationships with partners protect children from harm, relationships with schools and support available for children and families.
- 3 This report details the scope of the investigation, terms of reference and meetings project plan in respect of the review.

**Recommendations**

- 4 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to receive this report, consider, comment and agree to the proposed terms of reference as set out in paragraphs 19 – 24 and the project plan at appendix 2 for the review.

## Background

- 5 At its meeting on 2 July 2018 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYP OSC) agreed its work programme for the ensuing year including an in-depth review into elective home education. Due to the committee's workload there has not been an opportunity to commence this work until now.
- 6 Members of the Committee have raised concerns about the increase in the numbers of children and young people in County Durham who are educated at home for whatever reason.

## National Context

- 7 The Education Act 1996 provides that: "The parent of every child of compulsory school age shall cause him/her to receive efficient full-time education suitable –
  - a) To his/her age, ability and aptitude, and
  - b) To any special educational needs he/she may have. Either by regular attendance at school or otherwise."This means that the responsibility for a child's education rests with their parents. In England, education is compulsory, but going to school is not.
- 8 The Education Act 2002 suggests that it is the job of each local authority to find an appropriate balance between parental autonomy and its overall responsibilities for education of children in its area.
- 9 The Department for Education recommends that local authorities have a written policy statement on elective home education which is clear and transparent; offer guidance to all known home educating families; regularly review their home education policies and provide clear details of their complaints procedure that deals with complaints in a sensitive and timely manner. Some local authorities operate a voluntary registration scheme to provide support more readily. However it is not a legal obligation for either local authorities or parents.
- 10 In April 2018, the Government published non-statutory guidance for local authorities to help them understand their role in relation to elective home education. At this time the Government also called for evidence on the greater oversight of children whose parents elect to educate them from home in relation to registration of children, monitoring of home education provision and support offered for families home educating. The second part of the consultation was on two revised Department for Education guidance documents, one for local authorities and one for parents. The consultation closed in July 2018.

- 11 In April 2019 the government published its response to the consultation on home education. Data from the consultation estimate 57,600 children of compulsory school age are home educated in England which is in line with an estimate produced by the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS). The government has suggested that the numbers given are under estimates as there are children educated at home that local authorities know nothing about.
- 12 The results of the consultation indicate that local authorities were in favour of a statutory system of registering children who are educated at home. Local authorities also were in favour of a statutory framework to monitor and assess the suitability of home education of an individual child. In relation to support for families who home educate there was no unanimity on what changes were required.
- 13 The government stated that "despite the lack of consensus on the need to alter the framework within which home education operates, [it] believes that there is a basis for changing the landscape for children not in mainstream school education in order to help achieve the aim that every child should receive a good education." It added that "at the heart of any change would be the need for proportionality, parental choice and respect and recognition of the diversity of education settings."<sup>1</sup>
- 14 A new consultation running from April to June 2019 will seek views on proposed legislation to establish a register maintained by local authorities of children not attending mainstream schools together with associated duties on parents and proprietors of certain educational settings. It will also consult on proposed legislation to establish a duty to support parents who educate their children at home and seek support from their local authority in doing so.

## **Local Context**

- 15 Durham County Council provides a guide to EHE that explains what the local authority must do if parents choose to home educate their child and what they must do. It explains that the local authority will work in partnership with parents throughout if they choose to home educate their child.
- 16 Durham County Council operates a voluntary registration scheme for parents who home school their child, this helps the local authority to identify children who are being educated at home.
- 17 Durham County Council takes a partnership approach to ensuring that children who are home educated have a good wellbeing and are

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<sup>1</sup> House of Commons Library, Briefing Paper Number 5108, Home Education in England April 2019

protected from harm. Colleagues from Police and Health together with officers from DCC's Children's Services, Progression and Learning and Education sit on DCC's EHE Panel.

## **Reviews by Other Local Authorities**

- 18 Staffordshire County Council conducted a review into elective home education in May 2018 that made four recommendations, two of the recommendations relate to making representations to Ofsted and to support a private members bill to support national registration. The other two recommendations refer to supporting their EHE service.

## **Terms of Reference**

- 19 The review will examine the number of children who are home educated in County Durham, whether the figures have increased/decreased and the reasons for this. It will consider legislation and DCC policies and procedures in place to ensure children being EHE are receiving a suitable education and how the authority addresses issues with schools. The review group will also consider the number of attendance orders issued and pursued and whether levels have increased or decreased.
- 20 Information in relation to children with additional needs including Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND); children known to children's social care and known to police who are educated at home will be considered by the review group.
- 21 The review will explore the extent of partnership working to safeguard children and finally the review will look at how the authority support children and families in relation to EHE.
- 22 The review will consider why families choose to home educate their children, what support is offered to them and what the outcomes are for children receiving education at home including funding implications.
- 23 The review will consider evidence from officers of the Council from Children & Young People's Services including representatives from education, Children's Social Care, Durham Police and children and families who home educate.

## **Objectives**

- 24 The aim of the review is to investigate Durham County Council's Elective Home Education offer and follow four key lines of enquiry:
  - a) The level of EHE in County Durham; data overview including location, age, gender and ethnicity analysis.

- b) Children being home educated are receiving a 'suitable' education
- c) Children being home educated are supported, safeguarded and protected from harm
- d) How the Local Authority works in partnership with other agencies.

## Outcomes

- 19 It is expected that the following outcomes will be achieved from this review:
- a) Greater awareness of the home education level in County Durham including how this is monitored, voluntary registration schemes and funding implications to families, schools and DCC.
  - b) An understanding of how partnership working, and data sharing improves and protects children being educated at home
  - c) An insight into the support provided to children and their families who choose home education.

## Approach

- 20 The review will consist of meeting with members receiving verbal and written evidence via reports and presentations.

## Membership

- 21 A working group will be established of no more than 10 members from the membership of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board will be ex-officio members of the working group.
- 22 A project plan is attached at appendix two that sets out a schedule of review group meetings and evidence required.

## Reporting

- 23 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive regular updates during the evidence gathering process. On completion of the evidence gathering and following formulation of the recommendations, a report will be drafted and shared with Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee before being presented to Cabinet and then shared with Children and Families Partnership.

## Timescale

- 24 The review will commence evidence gathering in September 2019 and expects to be in a position to take a report to Cabinet for consideration early 2020.

## Conclusion

- 25 The Committee agreed to undertake a review of Elective Home Education at its meeting in July 2018, members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is invited to agree the proposed review scoping report.

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**Contact:** Tom Gorman

Tel: 03000 268027

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable

### **Finance**

Not applicable

### **Consultation**

Not applicable

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Not applicable

### **Human Rights**

Article 28 of the UNCRC says that children and young people have the right to education no matter who they are, regardless of race, gender or disability; if they're in detention, or if they're a refugee.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Not applicable

### **Staffing**

Not applicable

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable

### **Risk**

Not applicable

### **Procurement**

Not applicable

**Elective Home Education – DRAFT PROJECT PLAN**

<b>WHEN Times/Dates/ Locations</b>	<b>DESIGNATED LEAD Member/Officer</b>	<b>WHO Key Witness, including Expert Witnesses from inside the organisation</b>	<b>Engagement External Organisations, Expert Witnesses from External Organisations and Members of the Public</b>	<b>WHAT Evidence/Information</b>	<b>HOW Meeting/Visit/ Correspondence/ Briefing Paper/ Research/ Engagement</b>	<b>OUTCOMES</b>	<b>WHY</b>
16 September 2019  1.30pm  Farnham Room	Cllr Smith/Potts  Ann Whitton	Ian Shanks/Clare Nicholls		<p>The level of EHE in County Durham this will include a data overview that looks at location, age, gender, ethnicity analysis and additional needs.; Reasons for becoming EHE including looking at school attendance orders including how many issues and pursued and any change in levels.</p> <p>DCC's Policies and Procedures to ensure our children are receiving a good standard of education.</p> <p>What happens in relation to school funding when a child is educated at home?</p>	Meeting	<p>Members will be aware of the level of EHE in County Durham including the data overview and whether there has been an increase/decrease in the number of attendance orders issued and pursued and the reasons for this.</p> <p>Members will understand how DCC policies and procedures ensure children are receiving a good standard of education.</p> <p>Members will have an understanding in relation to funding implications to parents, schools and DCC</p>	It is important that members are aware of the levels of EHE in the county, the trend over the last couple of years and the policies and procedures in place.

				How do parent access financial support			
30 September 2019 1.30pm Committee Room 1B	Cllr Smith/Potts Ann Whitton	Ian Shanks/Clare Nicholls	Children's Social Care Durham Police	Effective data sharing and partnership working to ensure that children receiving EHE are safeguarded and work done with schools to address off rolling and children with additional needs including SEND and those children who are known to Children's Services and the police.	Meeting	Members will understand how a partnership approach has been taken and how effective this has been and how it benefits children's education.	Members will see how partnership working is providing a joined-up approach in relation to EHE.
21 October 2019 1.30pm Committee Room 1B	Cllr Smith/Potts Ann Whitton	Ian Shanks/Clare Nicholls	Children's Social Care Durham Police	What support is given to children and families in relation to EHE including feedback from families.	Meeting	Members will be aware of the support offered and provided to parents and children involved in EHE.	Members will have an understanding of the support available for children and families who home educate, their views via feedback information and why they choose to educate their children in this way.
TBC	Cllr Smith/Potts Ann Whitton		Engagement with Children/ Parents who have home educated	Members will have an opportunity to speak with parents who have educated their child at home	Focus Group	Members will have an understanding of why families choose to educate their children at home and feedback from their experiences.	Members will have an understanding of the support available for children and families who home educate, their views via feedback information and why they choose to educate their children in this way.

1 November 2019  1.30pm  Committee Room 1B	Cllr Smith/Potts  Ann Whitton			Key Findings	Meeting	Members will consider the key findings and formulate their recommendations.	Members will formulate their recommendations from the key findings.
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**Children and Young People's  
Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee**

**1 July 2019**

**Refresh of the Children and  
Young People's OSC Work  
Programme 2019 - 2020**



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

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

None

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide for members consideration an updated work programme for the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2019 – 2020.

**Executive summary**

- 2 Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed at its meeting on 28 March 2019 to refresh its work programme for 2019 - 2020.
- 3 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are encouraged to identify areas for scrutiny investigation.
- 4 Elective Home Education was identified as a topic for in depth review at its meeting on 2 July 2018. This work will commence in September 2019.

**Recommendations**

- 5 Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to:
  - a) Discuss and agree the new work programme 2019 – 2020 as detailed at appendix two.
  - b) Identify topics for an in-depth scrutiny review.

## Background

- 6 At its meeting on 28 March 2019 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the actions identified within the Council Plan 2016 – 2019 for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People priority theme and agreed to refresh its work programme to include a number of these actions. In addition, topics have been identified in line with the Sustainable Community Strategy, Cabinet Notice of Key Decisions, Partnership plans and strategies, performance and budget control data and government legislation.

## Detail

- 7 In accordance with this decision, a work programme for 2019 – 2020 has been prepared and is attached at appendix two. The work programme is very comprehensive drawing on topical areas across the remit of the committee and it should be noted that it is also flexible in respect that topics can be added throughout the year.
- 8 Members are encouraged to identify areas of scrutiny investigation (in depth and light touch reviews) from the work programme. Members have previously identified the following areas for consideration as scrutiny investigations:
- a) Elective Home Education - This review will carry out a data analysis looking at the numbers of children involved and the reasons behind home schooling decisions. It will also explore statutory duties and safeguarding measures. This work will commence in September 2019.

## Conclusion

- 9 The work programme identifies areas of work that fall within the remit of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. However, the work programme is flexible to allow for topics to be added to it throughout the year.

## Background papers

- Council Plan 2016 – 2019
- Report to Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 28 March 2019

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**Contact:** Tom Gorman

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **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

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME  
2019 TO 2020**

**Children and Young People's OSC**

**Lead Officer:** Tom Gorman

**Overview and Scrutiny Officer:** Ann Whitton

**IPG contact:**

**Note:**

**O/S Review** - A systematic 6 monthly review of progress against recommendations/Action Plan

**Scrutiny/Working Group** – In-depth Review

**Overview/progress** – information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review

**Performance** – ongoing monitoring (quarterly) performance reports/budgets

	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
<b><i>O/S Review Updates</i></b>				
Role of the Social Worker from a Child's Perspective	18 November 2019	Helen Fergusson	To provide progress on the members recommendations at least six months following the report being considered by Cabinet	Members will receive information on how their recommendations are progressing.
Private Children's Homes  Joint with Safer Stronger Communities OSC	TBC	Karen Robb	Members will consider evidence from DCC, Partners, Children's Homes and Children in Care Council.	Members will have an awareness of the number of private children's homes in County Durham and their impact.
<b><i>Scrutiny/Working Group</i></b>  In depth review				
Elective Home Education	September 2019	Ian Shanks/Clare Nicholls	Awareness of how many children in County Durham are home educated and why. Has there been an increase	Members will have greater awareness of the home schooling position within DCC; awareness of voluntary registration schemes ; an understanding of partnership

			in numbers and if so what are the reasons for this. What safeguarding checks are in place? What are our statutory duties? Are children who are home educated ready for further education or work?	working and data sharing to protect children who are home educated and of support available for children and families in the system.
<b>Overview/Progress</b>				
Durham Safeguarding Children's Partnership	1 July 2019	Michael Banks Independent Chair DSCP	Members will be aware of the new arrangements for the Safeguarding Children Partnership	Members will receive information relating to the new Safeguarding Children Partnership and the differences between this and the old LSCB.
County Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019/20 Part B - Children	1 July 2019	Sarah Burns, Director of Community Strategy and Delivery, CCG	Members will receive an outline of approach to the development of a five year Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan for children	Members will be aware of the plan and have the opportunity to ask related questions.
Case File Audit TBC	26 September 2019	Helen Fergusson	Members will be provided with information relating to how the service audits social care case files and how this is improving the quality of work.	Members will have awareness of the case file audit process and how the service is performing.

Ofsted Framework 2019	26 September 2019	Richard Crane	Members will be aware of the new Ofsted Framework for the inspection of schools	Members will receive information relating to the new Ofsted framework and when the framework will come into force in our schools and the focus of the framework.
High Needs Block Sustainability Plan Consultation	26 September 2019	Martyn Stenton	A formal response from the committee will be provided following the meeting.	Members will have an opportunity to add their comments to the consultation
Growing Healthy 0-19	Special 14 October 2019	Michelle Baldwin	Members will receive information on health visiting and school nurses and actions taken in relation to the new contracts and will provide consultation feedback.	Members will receive the latest information in relation to 0-19 programme in County Durham and information about the new contract consultation and provide feedback.
Teen Pregnancy and Sexual Health	Special 14 October 2019	Michelle Baldwin/ Helen Riddell	Members will be provided with information in relation to sexual health provision provided for young people and what is being done to address teen pregnancy.	Members will be are of the opportunities and challenges of addressing teen pregnancy and sexual health including the issue of reporting data.
Liquid Logic Progress Update	Special 14 October 2019	Keith Foster	Members will be aware of the new system and the difference it is making within the service.	Members will receive information on how liquid logic is performing six months on from the launch.

LSCB Annual Report	Special 14 October 2019	Independent Chair DSCP TBC	Members will be appraised of the achievements of the LSCB over the last 12 months and of their priorities for the coming year.	Members will have the opportunity to raise questions with the LSCB rep in relation to the Annual Report.
Corporate Parenting Annual Report	Special 14 October 2019	Cllr Brookes, Chair CPP/Jayne Watson	Members will receive the first CPP annual report	Members will be aware of the work of CPP and its priorities going forward.
School Funding	18 November 2019	Paul Darby	Members will receive a progress update on school funding	Members will be aware of the latest school funding position.
Social Worker Academy	18 November 2019	Chris Ring/ Rachel Harris	Members will have knowledge of how the academy has performed and its plans for the future	Members will receive information on how many social workers have graduated from the social worker academy, where they are now and what they are doing and what the plans are for the academy's future.
Neglect in County Durham	18 November 2019	Karen Davison	Members will continue to monitor neglect in the county and receive information how the County Council is addressing child neglect	Members will be aware of the number of child neglect cases and what the service is doing to help children and families.
Best Start in Life	Special 27 November 2019	Michelle Baldwin	Members will receive information on giving children the best start in life such as	Members will be aware of initiatives to give children the best start in life and

			smoking in pregnancy; breastfeeding	performance information and plans going forward.  Members of AWH OSC will be invited to attend.
Children and Young People's Mental Health	Special 27 November 2019	Tammy Smith	Members will receive a detailed presentation on public health initiatives relating to children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing	Members will be aware of plans and programmes going forward to address the children and young people's mental health agenda. Members of AWH OSC will be invited to attend.
Child Poverty Overview	13 January 2020	Karen Davison	Members will receive a progress update on the authority's plans to address child poverty.	Members will have an awareness of the various activities and plans provided by the Council and its partners.
Pre Birth teams	13 January 2020	Andrea Houlahan	Members will be provided with information on how the service is performing.	Members will be aware of the progress made in the new service areas and how this has impacted on the lives of children.
Implementation of Signs of Safety Model Practice	Special 7 February 2019	Helen Fergusson/ Chris Ring	Members will receive information relating to the impact of the implementation of the Signs of Safety Model Practice	Members will be aware of how the signs of safety model is impacting on practice.
Heathy Weight Alliance	2 March 2020	Karen McCabe	Members continue to monitor childhood obesity and will receive a progress update on	Members will be aware of the progress being made and of new and ongoing projects to help children and families.

			the work being carried out to help children and families.	Members of AWH OSC will be invited to attend this session.
What is there for Young People to do	2 March 2020	Martyn Stenton	Members will receive information on what activities there are for young people in County Durham	Members will be aware of YPs activities and how they are delivered.
Educational Outcomes	2 March 2020	Richard Crane	Members will receive information relating to educational outcomes.	Members will be aware of how the county is performing in relation to educational outcomes and aware of some of comparisons regionally and nationally.
Young Carers	30 March 2020	Martyn Stenton	Members will receive information on what support is offered to young carers in County Durham	Members will be aware of the support and opportunities available for young carers.
ERASE	Special 27 April 2020	Lisa Wood/ DS Ian Haddick TBC	Members will be updated with ERASE activities and the impact the initiative is having on County Durham's children and young people.	Members will be aware of work that has been done to keep children and young people safe in county Durham.  Members from Safer and Stronger Communities will be invited to attend.
JTAI Action Plan Progress on actions	Special 27 April 2020	TBC	Members will receive information on the progress against the actions identified in the JTAI Action Plan	Members will be aware of progress being made against actions and will be able to discuss and ask questions.  Members from Safer and Stronger Communities will be invited to attend.

DPH Annual Report	Send electronically	TBC	Members will receive the DPH report electronically	
HWB Annual Report	Send electronically	November 2018	Members will receive the annual HWB annual Report electronically	
<b>Performance &amp; Quality</b> Q 4 Q 1 Q 2 Q 3	1 July 2019 26 Sept 2019 13 January,2020 30 March 2020	Stephen Tracey		Ongoing – to provide members with information on performance of the service grouping and highlight areas of prominence (those going well, and those giving cause for concern). From quarter 1 2016 members will receive information on the quality of services such as social work.
<b>Budget Outturn Report</b> Q 4 (18/19)&Q1(19/20) Q 2 Q 3	26 Sept 2019 13 January 2020 30 March 2020	Andrew Baldwin		Ongoing – highlight areas of concern. Committee to receive updates on the affects and implications of MTFP on service groupings

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