



Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date Monday 2 March 2020
Time 9.30 am
Venue Durham Johnston Comprehensive School, Crossgate Moor, DH1 4SU

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 13 January 2020 (Pages 3 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Scrutiny in Durham - Presentation by Tom Gorman, Corporate Scrutiny and Strategy Manager (Pages 11 - 22)
7. Schools Engagement for Climate Emergency
 - a) Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services (Pages 23 - 26)
 - b) Presentation by Rich Hurst, Education Development Advisor -Sustainability Education, Children and Young People's Services (Pages 27 - 48)
8. Education Attainment and Standards 2019 - Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services (Pages 49 - 60)
9. What is there for young people to do in County Durham?
 - a) Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services (Pages 61 - 72)
 - b) Presentation by Martyn Stenton, Head of Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children (Pages 73 - 76)
10. 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 February 2020

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,
J Charlton, B Coult, R Crute, S Durham, N Grayson, D Hall,
C Hampson, K Hopper, I Jewell, L Kennedy, L Mavin, M Simmons,
A Willis and M Wilson

Faith Communities Representatives:

Mrs C Johnston

Parent Governor Representatives:

Mrs J Norman

Co-opted Members:

Ms R Evans and Mrs P Parkins

Contact: Kirsty Charlton

Tel: 03000 269705

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 **Monday 13 January 2020 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor H Smith (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors C Potts, P Atkinson, B Bainbridge, A Batey, J Blakey, J Charlton, B Coult, R Crute, C Hampson, K Hopper, I Jewell, L Mavin, M Simmons and M Wilson

Co-opted Members:

Mrs J Norman

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Bell and A Willis, and Ms R Evans and Mrs P Parkins.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute Members in attendance.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 and 27 November 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Coult declared a personal interest in item no. 7.

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 provided the Committee with recent press articles relating to the remit of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Award for Inspirational social worker who helped set up County Durham Academy - Northern Echo 3/12/19
- Child Poverty in North East 'at Worst' level in memory - Northern Echo 5/12/19
- More than 28% of England's secondary schools now in the red, study finds - Guardian 19/12/19
- Troubled Families programme gets £165m cash boost - BBC 6/1/20

Councillor Potts reminded Members who were also school governors, that there was a school benevolent fund which was in place to assist families in need with the cost of school uniform.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

7 Mainstream Primary and Secondary School Funding Formula 2020-21 and High Needs Block

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services and the Corporate Director of Resources which provided an update on mainstream primary and secondary formula funding arrangements for the coming financial year and the approach to setting the local formula for mainstream primary and secondary funding in 2020-21, and a presentation from the Head of Finance & Transactional Services (for copies see file of minutes).

The Head of Financial and Transactional Services advised members that funding formulas were due to be replaced next year but the government were satisfied that the local authority was moving forward. The funding was allocated on a lag basis using numbers from the previous financial year. This had both challenges and benefits, but it was impossible to work out funding on an in-year basis.

Members were advised that the national funding formula (NFF) benefitted schools in more affluent areas and areas of deprivation were least likely to benefit. It did not protect schools from falling rolls.

In response to a question from Mrs Norman about the number of schools who may be affected negatively from the change to the NFF, the Head of Finance & Transactional Services confirmed that all schools would benefit from the changes, however this area would not benefit as much as others. Had 4% been applied to all schools, they would have received more. Modelling which had been done to assist in the response to the consultation, could be provided and in response to a further question on whether any feedback to the Councils response had been received, the Head of Finance & Transactional Services confirmed that an acknowledgement of receipt had been received, but no feedback.

Councillor Jewell referred to the deficit of the High Needs Block (HNB), noting a shortfall in 20/21 and asked how long it would take to recover the balance. The Head of Finance & Transactional Services confirmed that the HNB was operating in a negative reserve and expenditure needed to be brought in line with grant funding received. For a period of time there would need to be an underspend in order to pay back the deficit, which was forecast at £2 million if nothing else changed. There was a HNB Sustainability Plan in order to reduce the deficit. The Council had formerly been given 3 years to recover any deficit to the HNB but there had been two significant changes to regulations;

- To prevent Council Tax money being used to top up
- Councils would now be given 'a reasonable period' to recover the deficit.

The plan had been prepared on that basis that a period of 5 years was reasonable. The Chair thanked the Head of Financial and Transactional Services for providing members with the information.

The Chair confirmed that Ms Evans had emailed to ask if the information was communicated to the public, in particular parents and carers and the Head of Finance & Transactional Services confirmed that the information was published and schools were given the information, however it would be a decision of the school as to whether they cascaded it to parents. He suspected parents would not be sent individual letters however the information was available as schools published their individual finance reports.

Resolved:

That the content of the report be noted and the Committee continue to monitor progress towards implementation of the National Funding Formula.

8 Child Poverty in County Durham

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which on the progress of the Child Poverty Working Group (CPWG) in addressing child poverty in County Durham, and a presentation from the Strategic Manager – One Point/Think Family Services (for copies see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager advised that over one fifth of children under 16 lived in low-income families and that across County Durham it was inequitably distributed between a low of 0.8% to a high of 59%.

It was noted that with regards to obesity in children, areas of deprivation recorded the highest numbers, and there were less activities provided and more access to hot food takeaways in these areas.

The Child Poverty Working Group (CPWP) included working towards the poverty pledge which involved working with schools and other organisations to identify a champion for child poverty. The CPWP had worked with more than 100 schools across the County, providing practical advice in cutting the cost of the school day. They had delivered activities with food during school holidays; family centres had provided poverty offer that had included personal hygiene boxes, surplus food and clothes.

The Strategic Manager advised of the three key ways County Durham has identified to tackle child poverty; Language and values associated with child poverty; poverty management in communities linked to early help; and economic inclusive growth approach.

Members were advised of future plans that included a County Durham Poverty Conference, the launch of the poverty pledge, develop holiday activities with the healthy food programme 2020, and revise the plan on a page.

Councillor Atkinson asked if success could be anticipated with regards to the Department of Education (DfE) grant funding bid for the development of free holiday provision to include healthy food and activities. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services confirmed that £150k of New Burdens Funding had been awarded to pilot a programme to provide holiday activities with healthy food across County Durham. This would be allocated by AAP's and areas with high levels of deprivation would be prioritised. There was a reliance on local groups to provide activities, but many were unaware of how to access free food. Charitable organisations such as Fareshare recycled food waste which would otherwise go to landfill and this was information which the service was trying to better coordinate.

Councillor Charlton confirmed that she had held school holiday brunch club and found it difficult to engage with families who were known would benefit. She had sent letters via the school, but as there were no exclusions, the children who attended tended to be those who were not from struggling families.

Councillor Bainbridge agreed that in her local area the activities worked well as she had volunteered in the school holidays and given out food in Chester le Street hub. She added that the provision of holiday food had to be disguised as an addition to the activity, otherwise it would be seen as a handout and families would not participate. Councillor Bainbridge asked what was being done to increase the uptake of the Healthy Start Vouchers.

The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services, confirmed that the DfE bid was offering food as an element of holiday provision. There was ongoing work with Midwives, Health Visitors and Social Workers through family centres, to recognise and encourage those who could access Healthy Start Vouchers.

Finally, Councillor Bainbridge referred to Woodhouse Close which had been described as the most deprived area in the County, and asked what was being done to assist those families who were struggling in the area. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services, confirmed that there was a family centre in Woodhouse Close and a poverty offer, surplus food was donated from local suppliers and there was a clothes bank and access to the credit union. There was also a programme 'Big Cook, Little Cook' where children and parents were invited to learn how to cook on a budget.

Councillor Crute was appalled that children were going to school in this County without food and he said that it was important that the impact of these measures were tracked. The Child Poverty Working Group and Poverty Action Steering Group had taken measures but how were outcomes tracked and how would the service ensure accurate monitoring in future. He asked how the impact of the initiatives to alleviate child poverty that were

planned or being undertaken, would be evaluated alleviate child poverty. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services confirmed that take up of activities and access to services such as the credit union, was used to track impact, however the overall impact was multi-faceted as there were many other areas of work which would improve the lives of families' in the County – assisting parents into work. Child poverty would be maintained as a key priority, but she also added that the Council may need to lobby government and stress the issues.

Councillor Jewell highlighted that it was possible that some struggling families were missed due to the way poverty was measured – he asked how the Council could identify a strategy to measure effectiveness and asked how the grant funding would be coordinated if the bid was successful. The Strategic Manager - OP/Think Family Services replied that part of the single assessment was to ask for confirmation of income so that they could ensure they were accessing the services that were available to them. There was a child poverty conference planned later in the year, and this would be pivotal in determining, with partners, the next steps.

The Chair asked that a further update be received to a future meeting.

Resolved:

That the content of the report be noted.

9 Draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services and the Director of Public Health which presented the draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and a joint presentation from the Strategic Manager – Partnerships and the Partnerships Team Manager (for copies see file of minutes).

The presentation included the vision of the Health and Wellbeing Board and detailed information on the three key strategic priorities.

Members were advised that the draft strategy proposed three strategic priorities;

- Starting Well – which focused on care in pregnancy, early years, childhood and adolescence and how these play a key part in health and wellbeing of adults
- Living Well – which consisted of the economic and environmental factors which lead to good health in adulthood
- Ageing Well – which focused on the number and quality of healthy years, independent lives and good quality end of life care

The Strategic Manager, Partnerships, confirmed that the draft strategy was open to consultation until 14 February 2020. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer in conjunction with the Chair, would respond on behalf of the Committee but and encouraged Members to send individual comments.

Mrs J Norman queried whether the strategy was dependent on funding, and in particular whether the strategy would be affected if public health services suffered a predicted loss of £19m. The Strategic Manager – Partnerships confirmed there was no indication with

regards to funding yet, but there was a potential risk to delivering all key priorities with a reduced public health budget.

The Chair noted that the priorities which had been identified in the draft strategy covered the whole life course and gave Members the opportunity to comment.

In response to a comment from Councillor Jewell, the Strategic Manager – Partnerships agreed that in the past priorities had been more specific but had been broadened.

Mrs Norman suggested that it would be helpful for the info graphs to contain comparative information with regional and national figures to provide some context.

Resolved:

That the report and presentation be noted and a response to the consultation be provided on behalf of the Committee.

10 Performance Management Quarter 2

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Resources which presented progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the Council's corporate performance framework aligned to the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11 CYPS Revenue and Capital Outturn Forecast - Quarter 2

The Committee considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Resources which presented progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the Council's corporate performance framework aligned to the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

12 Such other business

The Chair confirmed that the Elective Home Education Review Group had formulated recommendations and a draft report would go to Cabinet in Spring 2020. She asked the Committee to consider a topic to scrutinise and to consider the timescale for submitting a report to Cabinet prior to the County Council elections in 2021.

She reiterated a number of topics which had been suggested during prior meetings, breastfeeding, smoking during pregnancy and Education Health and Care Plans and confirmed that this could be discussed again at the Special meeting in February.

The Chair confirmed that a meeting would take place at Durham Johnston Comprehensive School on 2 March 2020.

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Scrutiny in Durham

Tom Gorman,
Corporate Scrutiny and Performance
Manager

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny
Committee, 2nd March 2020



Scrutiny in Durham

- Durham County Council is a local authority that forms part of the system of **local government** in England
- The system of local government in Durham has some similarities with **central government** in the UK



Scrutiny in Durham

- The House of Commons is made up of 650 elected politicians who are Members of Parliament
- The Council is made up of 126 elected local politicians who are Councillors



Scrutiny in Durham

- The leader of the majority party in the House of Commons is the Prime Minister and together with her most senior ministers makes up the Cabinet
- The leader of the majority party of the Council is the Leader of the Council and together with nine other councillors makes up Durham Cabinet

Scrutiny in Durham

- The Cabinet of the UK Government has executive decision making powers
- It is made up of the Prime Minister and senior figures, each with their own brief or portfolio to manage

Scrutiny in Durham

- The Cabinet in Durham County Council has executive decision making powers
- It is made up of the Leader of the Council and senior councillors, each with their own portfolio



Scrutiny in Durham

- Select Committees in Parliament scrutinise spending, policy and law formulation and running of government departments
- They are made up of MPs from all parties
- There is one for each department of government and also some overarching committees
- They make recommendations to the government
- They hear evidence in public



What have the following people got in common?



Angelina Jolie



Hugh Grant



Russell Brand



Steve Coogan



Mike Ashley



Tanni Grey-Thompson



Piers Morgan



Richard Branson

Scrutiny in Durham

- Overview and Scrutiny Committees in the council:
 - hold the Executive to account
 - monitor progress
 - help develop and review policy
 - are made up of councillors from **all** parties
 - are open to the public
 - Are evidence led
 - Recommend improvements



Scrutiny in Durham

- External scrutiny role too
 - Health bodies and providers
 - Crime and disorder partnership
 - Flood risk management authorities
- Can hold Cabinet to account through the call in procedure
- Can hear community concerns through community calls for action

Scrutiny in Durham

- Councillors on Scrutiny Committees in Durham like to get out of County Hall
- Site visits to gather evidence and see things for themselves
- Meet other people who they may never see otherwise
- Hold meetings in other buildings from time to time

Questions



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

2 March 2020



Schools Engagement for Climate Emergency

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

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the engagement and opportunities for schools and young people to engage in climate change activities.

Executive Summary

2. Durham County Council has been supporting schools to reduce their carbon footprint and engage in energy related learning opportunities since 2010 with programmes such as the ECO₂.Smart Schools Programme.
3. The Enlighten programme is currently being piloted in schools and enables a whole school LED lighting retrofit. In 2019 Durham County Council adopted a bespoke Single Use Plastics pledge and encourages schools to sign up to the pledge to reduce their single use plastics.
4. Durham County Council Climate Emergency Response Plan has identified schools as a key sector to reduce carbon emissions from the school estate and encourage the next generation.

Recommendation

5. Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (in conjunction with the Environment and Sustainable Communities) are requested to note the content of this update report and to continue to monitor progress as part of the Climate Emergency Response Plan.

Background

6. Schools have been engaging and supporting energy and climate change related activities for many years
7. Since 2010 Durham County Council (through its Energy Management SLA and Carbon Management Plan) has been supporting schools to reduce their own carbon footprint and engage in energy related learning opportunities
8. Schools are a key sector for Durham County Councils' estate, they account for more than half of the emissions from DCC buildings.

Existing Support and Opportunities

9. The ECO₂ Smart Schools Programme (rebranded in 2018 from School Carbon Reduction Programme) has consistently supported schools since 2010 across the County, that are part of the Energy Management Service Level Agreement. It could support all schools in the County but they would need to fund this engagement. The recently launched supporting website provides information for schools on practical savings, learning opportunities and climate change related information. Schools energy data is provided through the Energy Manager Live Portal (all member schools have access)
10. Enlighten is a new programme presently being piloted with schools. This enables whole school LED lighting retro-fit, supported through the Energy SLA. The light fittings are supplied through the DCC framework and are being installed by Building and Facilities Management. The installation is funded through a 0% interest loan from the Salix Finance scheme. The repayments are made through the electricity savings and lower running costs of the new lights. Loans can be repaid over a maximum of 8 years. In addition to lower costs and carbon savings, the quality of the light is also better, aiding concentration and wellbeing.
11. Existing opportunities also include:
 - Earth Hour 2020 (Friday 27th March, 2-3pm)
 - The Single Use Plastics Pledge (<http://www.durham.gov.uk/singleuseplastics>)
 - Two AAP funded projects (Plastic Fantastic? and Building a Waste Free Future) both developed and run by partner charity OASES
 - Children 4 Climate Change Project – led by OASES with support from Durham University and Northumbrian Water Ltd
12. The 'Make Your Mark' young people's survey that took place in Autumn 2019 with over 15,000 respondents aged 11-18 identified Environment as the top priority. This will be acted upon through the new Youth Council currently being established

New Opportunities

13. The Climate Emergency Response Plan agreed on 12th February 2020 identifies schools as a key sector to reduce carbon emissions from the school estate and as a way to engage the next generation
14. The benefits of trees and tree planting were identified in the consultation as priority. Cllr Carl Marshall also pledged a tree would be planted for every child in school in the County. Plans are currently being developed so that children and young people are able to engage with appropriate tree planting schemes across the County starting from the next planting season in Winter 2020.
15. Low Carbon heat in the schools sector is challenge, this needs further investigation and pilot projects identified.
16. Through the Energy Management SLA we are keen to support and work closely with schools to identify new opportunities to further reduce emissions and raise knowledge and understanding of the wider climate change agenda.

Contact: Rich Hurst

Tel: 03000 265089

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – Significant financial savings have been made through carbon reduction intervention; these can be increased through wider engagement and more opportunities being made available to schools.

Staffing - None

Risk - Durham County Council has declared a climate emergency and set targets against a backdrop of national and international protest and will mitigate any risk by undertaking detailed planning and consultation.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – A changing climate will impact on everyone, across the world, but research suggests that the poorest people are likely to suffer the worst impacts, so reducing carbon emissions now will contribute to future equality

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – None

Climate Change – this directly supports the actions of the Climate Emergency Response Plan

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement - None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None



Overview and Scrutiny

Climate Change – Schools & Young People

Rich Hurst, Education Advisor, Education Durham

Durham Johnston School

2nd March 2020



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Sci Science & Environment

PI to **Climate change: UN panel signals red alert on 'Blue Planet'**

By H BBC

Climate change

Extreme sea level events 'will hit once a year by 2050'

25

Clim:

Damian Carrington
Environment editor
@dpcarrington
Wed 25 Sep 2019 10:00 BST

2,3

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Science & Environment

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1 hour ago

Australia fire

3 January 2020 2291

Climate change

Clime
major new United Nations repoi

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9 minutes ago

Ukrainian plane crashes in Iran killing 176
8 minutes ago

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Fire crews

GETTY IMAGES

Climate Emergency – Durham 2020

Targets

Ensuring that County Durham plays its part in limiting global warming and adapting to the 'locked in' unavoidable impacts of climate change requires urgent collective action.

Cabinet agreed on 12th February 2020 to:

- Adopt a new **Durham County Council** target rising from **60% [carbon reduction] by 2030 to 80%** making significant progress towards making Durham County Council and County Durham carbon neutral taking into account both production and consumption emissions. (Maintained schools)
- Investigate what further actions are necessary to make **County Durham carbon neutral by 2050** and pledge to achieve this. Interim target of **60% by 2020** (will be known in August 2022 if achieved) (Academies)
- **This a significant moral and ethical issue to be debated and discussed**



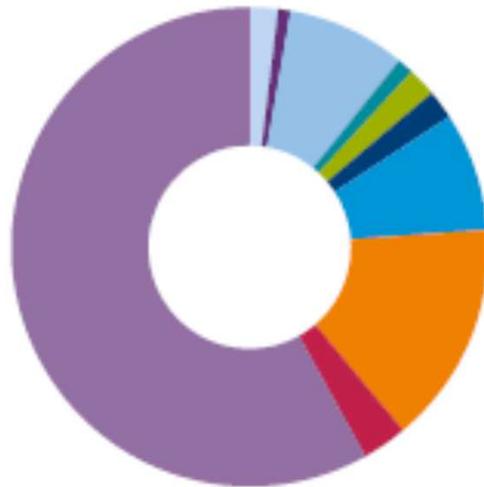
Climate Emergency Response- Engagement

Sessions held:

- **Tuesday 17th September 2019** – Children and Families Partnership – Parkside Academy (workshop session led by Oliver Sherratt (Head of Environment) and Rich Hurst – Education Advisor)
- **Friday 20th September** (Global Climate Strike Day) – Two sessions for small groups of pupils held at County Hall, Durham – led by Rich Hurst, Education Advisor and Joanne Appleby, CEO OASES
- 4 primary schools attended, 15 pupils from (Woodham Burn, Finchale Primary, Crook Primary, St Mary's RC Primary) -
- 7 Secondary schools attended, 24 pupils from (Wellfield School, Durham Federation, Belmont Community School, Sedgfield Community College, Tanfield School, Durham Johnston School, Seaham High School)
- **In-School Sessions** led by the OASES Team to work with eco-groups, school councils or classes to gather their views during September and October through an informal process of discussion and using mind maps to collect their suggestions (27 schools and 394 pupils contributed)

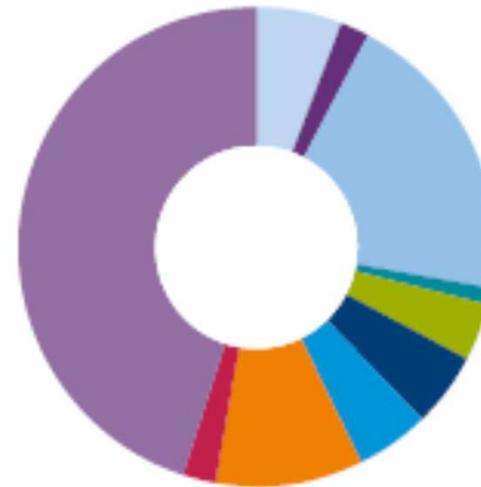
Carbon Trust 2012 – Schools Guidance

Figure 1a Schools – percentage of energy use



- Space heating (fossil fuel) 58%
- Catering (elec) 4%
- Hot water (elec) 1%
- Lighting (elec) 8%
- Office equipment 1%
- Other (elec) 2%
- Space heating (elec) 2%
- Catering (fossil fuel) 8%
- Hot water (fossil fuel) 15%
- Other (fossil fuel) 3%

Figure 1b Schools – percentage of energy cost



- Space heating (fossil fuel) 45%
- Catering (elec) 6%
- Hot water (elec) 2%
- Lighting (elec) 20%
- Office equipment 1%
- Other (elec) 4%
- Space heating (elec) 5%
- Catering (fossil fuel) 5%
- Hot water (fossil fuel) 10%
- Other (fossil fuel) 2%

Existing Projects and Opportunities for Schools

Altogether better





ECO₂ Smart Schools

(formerly School Carbon Reduction Programme)

- Schools that have signed up to the DCC Energy Management Service Level Agreement access this programme to receive in school support from the Outdoor and Sustainability Education Specialists (OASES) plus the support of the Energy Team at County Hall (and RH)
- Over 90% (240 schools) buy into the SLA.



Energy Portal

- <https://durham.energymanagerlive.com/>

The screenshot displays the Durham Energy Portal interface. At the top, it shows the Durham County Council logo, the text 'Low Carbon Economy Team Utilities Web Portal', and the email 'energy@durham.gov.uk'. A notification banner states: 'No email address registered. Please add an email address to your profile to help with correspondence and account reset features.' Below this, the user is logged in as 'stephen beresford'.

The main content area is titled 'Site Summary' for 'Durham Leadership Centre'. It includes the following details:

- Name:** Durham Leadership Centre
- Code:** 3366501
- Address:** Enterprise Way, Green Lane Industrial Estate, Spennymoor, Co Durham, DL16 6YP

A map shows the location of the site, with a red pin and labels for 'Service supply' and 'Dunelm Optical'. The map is powered by Google.

Below the site summary, there are tabs for 'Meters', 'Dashboards', 'Reports', 'Add Readings', and 'Exceptions'. The 'Dashboards' tab is selected, showing a 'Dashboard: All site' and a 'Reference Date: 23/09/2019'.

The dashboard contains three main sections:

- Messages:** A 'Welcome to the new Web Portal' message with instructions on how to use the site's features: Meters, Dashboards, Reports, Add Readings, and Exceptions.
- Definitions:** A section titled 'Data Types' explaining 'Profile' (automatic meter readings) and 'Direct' (user-submitted readings) data.
- Display Energy Certificates:** Information about Display Energy Certificates (DECs) for public buildings over 250m², including requirements for display and contact with Compliance 365.

At the bottom left, it says 'Powered by Systemslink'.

All schools have their own dedicated login to monitor their own use



Key Aspects with Energy Management – Behaviour and Settings

Heating

- Ensure that heating timers are set correctly
- If controllers are old it may make financial and carbon sense to upgrade (Salix loans are available for this)
- Often possible to switch off heating earlier in the day as heat from people inside the building helps to keep it warm enough
- Check holiday settings are set correctly

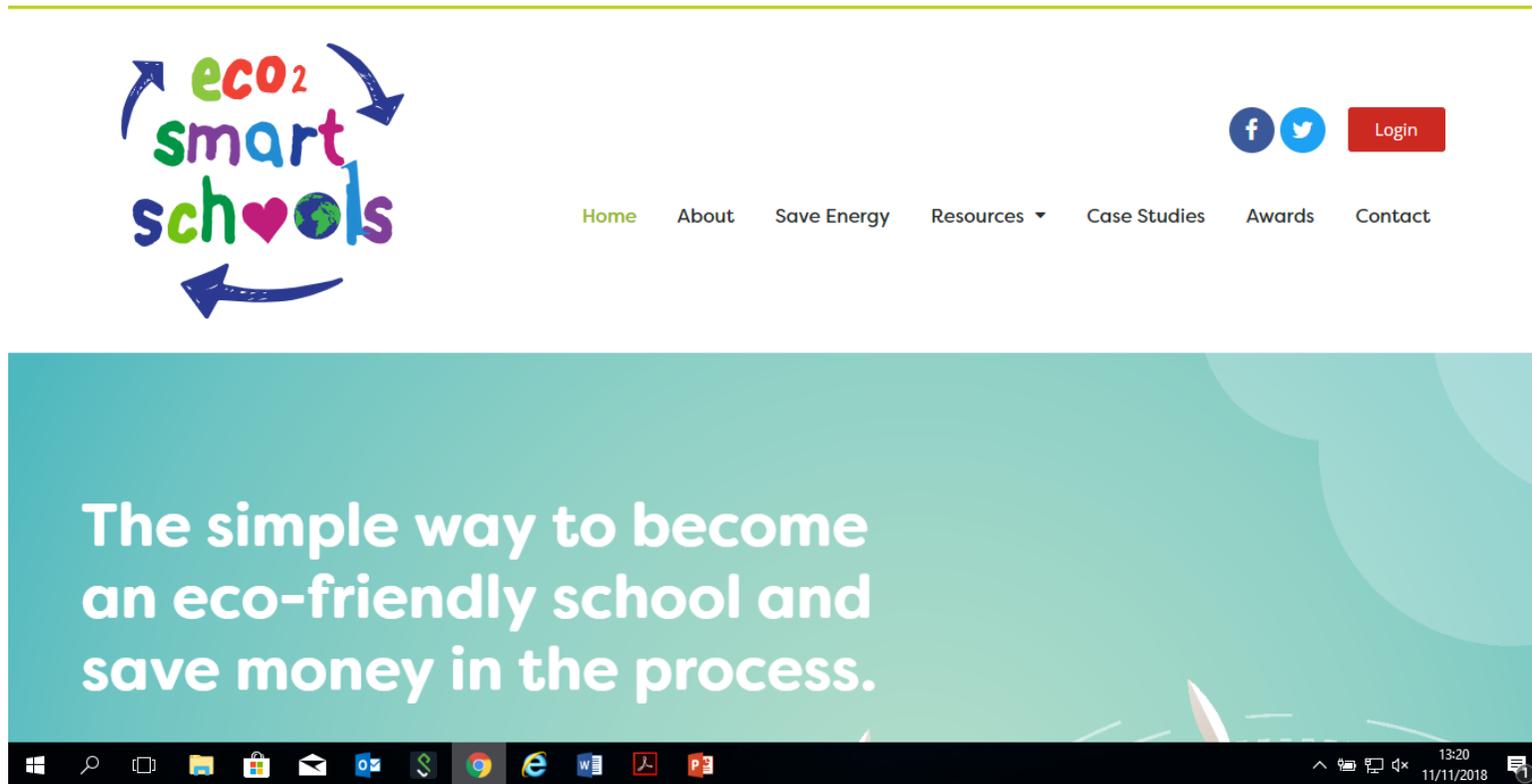
ICT/ Lighting

- Ensure equipment is only on when being used
- Ensure effective evening shutdowns are in place for ICT
- Check on outside lighting – if on timers ensure appropriate settings

Engagement

- Maximise the goodwill and interest of staff and pupils to monitor and campaign for greater energy efficiency at school and home

New Website <https://eco2smartschools.org.uk>



Durham SLA schools, same login as Energy Portal



Enlighten Project

- Whole school retrofit of LED lighting
- Package involving Education; Low Carbon Team; Construction PPM Unit, Service Direct
- Funding provided by Salix 0% interest loan (up to 8 year payback)
- Provides Improved learning environment compared to fluorescent or incandescent lighting; enhanced light for reading/concentration; better potential sleep for pupils as full spectrum light provided by LEDs triggers 24-hour hormonal response cycle
- Saves money on electricity bills

Benefits of LEDs (cont.)



Earth Hour 2020

- Durham has run for many years its own hours for schools and staff
- Friday 27th March 2020
 - 2-3pm for schools
 - 3-4pm for DCC staff
- The aim is to switch off all unnecessary electrical equipment for the hour and minimize energy use. In schools we encourage them to use the hour to investigate energy/ climate change issues



Children 4 Climate Change?

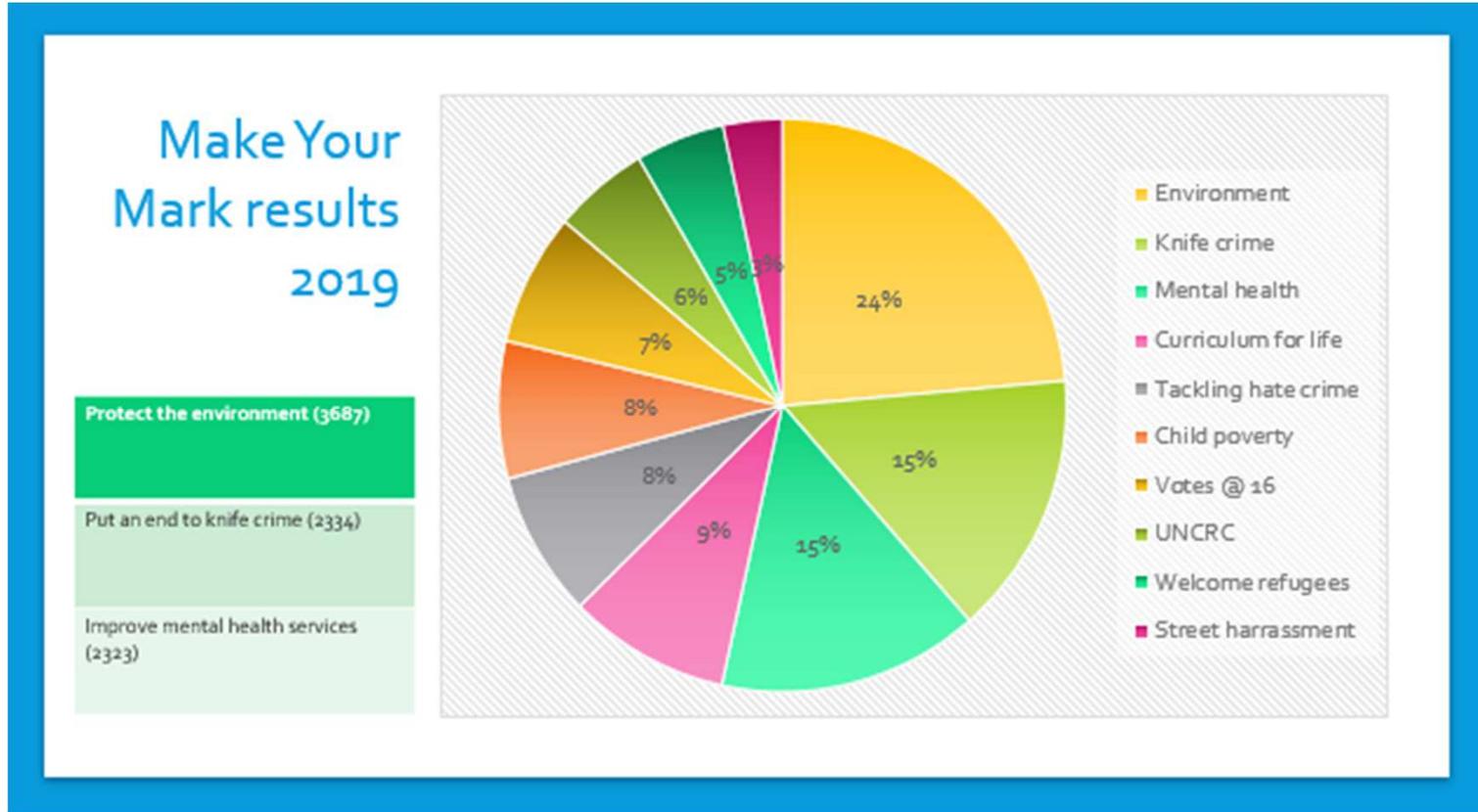
- This project led by OASES working with Durham University and with additional funding from Northumbrian Water will work with 25 schools over 3 years across the County to engage young people with climate issues and work with them to produce youth voice climate content to be uploaded onto a dedicated website.
- Participants also engage with the John Muir Award and can get the Discover individual accreditation
- Six primary schools involved to date (from Y5 upwards), secondary schools are welcome to take part

Single Use Plastics

- All schools are being encouraged to sign the Durham Single Use Plastic Pledge
<http://www.durham.gov.uk/singleuseplastics>
- Schools wanting to engage further can engage with the Plastic Free Schools Programme
<https://www.sas.org.uk/plastic-free-schools/>
- Plastic Fantastic? – East Durham Rural Corridor AAP funded programme led by OASES working with 5 schools this year (intergenerational project)
- Building a Waste Free Future – Chester le Street AAP funded – 6 schools involved led by OASES creating Eco-bricks from non recyclable SUP's



'Make Your Mark' YP Survey



- www.durham.gov.uk/youthvoice

New Opportunities/ Challenges



Treemendous Opportunities

- From Winter 2020 there will be lots of opportunities for schools/ young people to engage with tree planting/ biodiversity projects
- These will contribute to the pledge to plant a tree for every young person in County Durham
- More information will follow

Low Carbon Heat

- This is one of the biggest challenges all sectors face to retrofit buildings and transition to low or zero carbon emitting heating systems.
- The technology is available but expensive to retrofit. There are many issues in schools/ public buildings such as asbestos/ poor insulation/ poor fabric etc

Next Steps

- We are keen to engage with all schools/settings and partner organisations to investigate opportunities in the short/ medium and longer term to 2050.
- Please do get in touch

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Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

2 March 2020



Education Attainment and Standards 2019

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

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this annual report is to provide a full summary of educational outcomes in County Durham, 2019, and related updates on the focus and provision of education services.

Executive Summary

2. Educational outcomes for Durham pupils continue to be positive with a small number of exceptions.
 - Early Years key outcomes for all children remain above national averages, but disadvantaged children are performing less well than their peers, despite a marked closing of the gender gap.
 - At Key Stage 1, Durham's children perform well against the key national indicators of 'at least expected standards' (EXS+) in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. At 'Greater Depth', continued improvement over a sustained period has ensured that outcomes are now marginally above national averages across headline measures.
 - At Key Stage 2, performance has exceeded the national averages in all key indicators except for reading. (age-related expectations: AS+). Although there is evidence of improvements in High Scores within mathematics, it is still in this area and reading, where work remains to be done by schools and those supporting them.
 - At Key Stage 4, a number of schools continue to show some significant improvements over the last 2/3 years. We have a group of consistent performers now who achieve in line with the best schools regionally. Whilst we are confident that some of our lowest performing schools have turned a corner and will benefit

from improvement initiatives with the DFE One Vision project, other positive indicators do not disguise the fact that further improvement is necessary.

- Key Stage 5 results continue to be above national averages for state funded schools, with an increased number of students achieving the higher grades in both academic and applied general qualifications. This continues to be an area of strength.

Recommendations

3. Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to note the information contained in the report.

Background

4. Improving educational outcomes for children and young people in Durham is a key priority of the County Council. Support to schools and settings in order that this is achieved, remains a prime focus of both the performance and standards and the professional support and development teams within the Education department.
5. The results from tests and examinations at the Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4/5 for 2019, provide the key outcome measures for early years, primary and secondary education respectively. This report compares the performance of our schools and settings against national outcomes, to provide an indication of the context of these results.

Early Years outcomes

6. Early Years outcomes are measured by the percentage of children reaching a good level of development (GLD) according to national Early Years Profile criteria. At the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage, children are assessed by the percentage reaching a good level of development in relation to the Early Learning Goals. Assessments are made against pre-set levels, with internal and external moderation. Their themes include:
 - Communication and language
 - Physical development
 - Personal, social and emotional development (PSE)

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

7. Early Years Foundation Stage outcomes are as follows:

| Early Years % GLD | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | | 2019 | |
| | Durham LA | National | Durham LA | Durham LA | National | Durham LA | Durham LA | National |
| All | 69 | 69 | 72 | 69 | 69 | 72 | 71.8 | 71.8 |
| Boys | 62.3 | 62.1 | 65.0 | 62.3 | 62.1 | 65.0 | 65.6 | 65.5 |
| Girls | 76.2 | 76.8 | 79.6 | 76.2 | 76.8 | 79.6 | 78.3 | 78.4 |

8. As the table above indicates, Durham’s outcomes continue to improve and remain in line with national; Durham’s year-on-year improvement has been constant since 2014. With high levels of deprivation in parts of the County and the fact that Early Years outcomes were historically significantly below national outcomes prior to 2014, this represents a significantly positive picture. Our progress reflects the hard work of all Early Years settings, effectively supported by the local authority Early Years team.
9. The gap between disadvantaged children and all children, nationally and in Durham, has widened again. This is a priority for the Early Years improvement team and targeted work is being undertaken with schools and settings in order to close the vulnerable groups’ attainment gap as soon as possible.
10. The take up of the free Early Years entitlement for two-year olds has reached 89% in the last two years, compared with the national average figure of 72%. This was a government funded childcare initiative specifically targeted at reducing the early years attainment gap.

Key Stage 1 outcomes

11. In all key measures at Key Stage 1, Durham’s outcomes are above national, as the table below indicates:

| | National | Durham |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| % Expected Standard Re, Wr, Ma | 67% | 68% |
| KS1 Expected standards (EXS+) | | |
| Reading | 75% | 76% |
| Writing | 69% | 72% |
| Maths | 76% | 77% |

12. Key Stage 1 outcomes have been a priority for the local authority in recent years from 2016. This improvement was sustained moving us into the 42nd percentile this year. This remains an area of performance in the County where ongoing attention is required, and scrutiny invited. Targeted support to schools where outcomes were below expectations, continues through our Monitoring and Intervention in Schools support within our Education teams.
13. In terms of 'GD', which indicates pupils working at greater depth within expected standards, Durham children at KS1 have improved over three years, with outcomes above national averages in all headline measures. This is a priority area for support across all key stages within the local authority and the challenge provided for our most able pupils throughout their time in our schools and settings.

| GD | National | Durham |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| Reading | 25% | 26% |
| Writing | 15% | 17% |
| Maths | 22% | 23.0% |

14. The phonics screening checks were introduced to identify the children who need extra help by their schools to improve their reading skills. The proportion of pupils meeting the required standard of phonic decoding by the end of year 1 was at 82% and matched that of the national average. Breaking this down further, 79% of boys achieved this milestone compared with 86% of our girls. By the end of year 2, 93% had achieved this compared with a national average of 91%. Boys at 91% and Girls at 95% comparing favourably with 89% and 94% respectively alongside national figures.
15. Our highest performing schools in terms of attainment at KS1, included: Sedgfield Hardwick Primary, Seaham Trinity Primary, St Margaret's C of E Primary, Belmont C of E and Burnopfield Primary.

16. Our highest performing schools in terms of progress at KS1, included: Finchale Primary, Sedgfield Hardwick Primary, Benfieldside Primary, Seaview and Burnopfield Primary.

Key Stage 2:

17. At the end of the primary stage of education (age 11) formal national assessments of pupils' attainment in mathematics and English take place through externally set and marked tests. Writing is judged by teacher assessments, moderated by the local authority against set national criteria. Assessments are made against "those meeting at least age-related expectations" (AS+) for this age group.
18. The table below sets out the percentage of pupils in Durham and nationally achieving KS2 AS+ in English (reading), English (writing), mathematics, grammar/punctuation/spelling (GPS) and RWM combined in 2018.

| KS2 (AS+) | National | Durham |
|------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Reading (test) | 75% | 73% |
| Writing (teacher assessment) | 78% | 80% |
| Mathematics (test) | 79% | 80% |
| G/P/S | 78% | 79% |
| RWM combined | 65% | 65% |

19. The proportion of pupils achieving age related expectation in reading dropped this year for the first time in over five years. Closer analysis of this from our education support teams, identifies non-fiction reading performance and is already being supported across a number of targeted schools.
20. The table below sets out the percentage of pupils in Durham and nationally achieving KS2 High Scores (HS) in English (reading), English (writing), mathematics, grammar/punctuation/spelling (GPS) and RWM combined in 2019.

| KS2 (HS) | National | Durham |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Reading (test) | 27% | 25% |
| Writing (teacher assessment) | 20% | 22% |
| Mathematics (test) | 27% | 24% |
| G/P/S | 36% | 33% |
| RWM combined | 11% | 10% |

21. Attainment levels across the local authority continue to be very strong against national levels and the significant trend of improvement in Durham continues year on year. Where levels are below national averages (eg: High Score maths and reading), the local authority education support teams have targeted school improvement work in place.
22. Outcomes for Free School Meal pupils (FSM) indicate that Durham's schools continue to support our disadvantaged pupils well. The table below shows data for pupils who have been in receipt of FSM at any point during the previous 6 years (known as FSM ever-6 or FSME6). The table reflects the wider impact of reading scores.

| KS2 (FSME6) | National 2019 | Durham 2019 |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Reading | 62 | 60.9 |
| Writing | 67 | 69.9 |
| Mathematics | 67.3 | 69.4 |
| RWM combined | 51.4 | 51.3 |

23. Whilst gaps with non-disadvantaged pupils nationally are reducing and comparisons with similar pupils nationally are positive, further steps to improve the attainment of disadvantaged pupils in Durham will continue to be taken in future work planned between the school improvement teams and our settings.
24. Our highest performing schools in terms of KS2 attainment, included: Staindrop C of E Primary, New Seaham Academy, Coxhoe Primary, St Margaret's C of E and Green Lane C of E Primary.

25. Our highest performing schools in terms of KS2 progress, included: New Seaham Academy, Staindrop C of E Primary, Cleves Cross Primary and Nursery School Academy, Greenland Community and Coxhoe Primary.

Key Stage 4:

26. Assessment at Key Stage 4 continues to be through externally set and marked GCSE and GCSE equivalent examinations across a wide range of subjects and courses. Outcomes are graded by a numerical system involving points scores which has been applied comprehensively since 2017 (partially in 2016).
27. The DfE continues to advise that Progress 8, which is a relative measure, should not be compared year-on-year because the same score in different years could result from markedly different situations. As Progress 8 is cohort-driven, it does not serve as an effectiveness measure over time for schools or local authorities.
28. Outcomes remain below national averages across progress 8 and attainment 8 measures and have remained virtually static over a three-year period placing us in the lowest quintile nationally. Our contextual value-added data, however, over this period has placed our pupil outcomes in the top 20% of those achieved nationally. In summary, 8 of our secondary schools achieved above average progress 8 scores, 11 achieving average scores, 6 below average and 4 well below average.

| KS4 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | National 2019 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Progress 8 | -0.23 | -0.23 | -0.22 | 0 |
| Contextual Value Added Progress 8 | +0.14 | +0.13 | +0.15 | 0 |
| 4+ GCSE in both English and Maths | 58% | 61% | 60% | 65% |
| 5+ GCSE in both English and Maths | 35% | 39% | 38% | 40% |

29. Our lower achieving schools are currently being supported by a DfE initiative called Opportunity North East. The scheme supports the LA to accelerate progress in these schools using leaders from other high achieving schools and a financial grant of up to £280,000 to address their

individual improvement priorities. Currently Tanfield, Bishop Barrington, Greenfield and Durham Community Business College are being supported through this initiative.

30. Sedgefield at +0.51 was our most successful school in the progress 8 measure although The Academy at Shotton Hall, Dene Academy, Wellfield and St Bede's Peterlee are all worthy of mention as they all achieved scores in excess of +0.25, all above average scores with high proportions of disadvantaged children in their cohorts and all in the east of the county.
31. Outcomes for the Local Authority in key headline KS4 measures show that the improvements made in 2018 have been partially sustained in 2019. The proportion of pupils achieving levels 4-9 in English and maths moved from 57.5% in 2017 to 61.5% in 2018 and 60% in 2019. In summary, 15 secondary schools have achievement levels above national averages with Durham Johnston, Wellfield, Sedgefield and Framwellgate School, all 76% and above.
32. Similarly, at levels 5-9 outcomes improved from 34.5 % in 2017 to 38.5% in 2018 and 38% in 2019. In summary, 14 of our secondary schools are above national averages in this measure. Durham Johnston, Teesdale and St Bede's Peterlee are all 58% and above in this measure. Maths continues to be our priority for improvement around both teaching standards and the regional recruitment crisis in this subject.
33. Our progress gender gaps remain static too, males at -0.43 have slightly closed the gap on last year with their peers nationally who achieved -0.27. There continues to be large variations in progress 8 scores for different groups of pupils with white British males significantly underperforming nationally. Our females make positive progress, however, at +0.01, nationally this gender progress is stronger at +0.22.
34. In respect of Alternative Provision (the education provision made for those children who are not able to follow an educational pathway in a regular maintained school or academy), the attainment 8 scores of this growing group of children is below average and affects the overall performance across all pupils in County Durham. Significant proportions of disadvantaged pupils with enrolments within alternative provision and our pupil referral unit have had an impact upon attempts to diminish attainment gaps with other pupils nationally. A number of projects in

2019/20 have been introduced to increase the impact and accountability of these settings as part of a wider inclusion strategy.

35. Disadvantaged pupils who attend County Durham schools achieve close to the progress 8 national average for similar pupils nationally, scoring -0.49 on average compared to a national of -0.46. The attainment 8 score for this group of pupils matches exactly that of national comparisons at 36 points. Within Durham we have 9 secondary schools that exceptionally make positive progress with disadvantaged pupils.
36. Entry rates to the EBacc continue to fall locally but have remained static nationally. Only 32% of Durham pupils entered qualifications in all the relevant EBacc subjects, down from 34% in 2018 and 35% in 2016. The national average in 2019 was 40%. The largest fall in terms of entry for qualifications by Durham pupils in 2019 was in Languages; this is similar to the national picture. Schools and academies continue to struggle to recruit high quality teachers of MFL and continue to restrict their language offers further, mostly around Spanish and French options.
37. In relation to EBacc, the DfE's preferred key measure of performance has changed to an average point score in the last set of performance tables. By this definition of EBacc, the local authority's performance score is 3.76 compared to a national of 4.07. Whilst this performance area is not an LA strength, it should be noted that the authority has over 10 secondary schools which perform significantly above national averages and have strong curricular provision in this area.

Key Stage 5 results

38. AS levels, A levels and vocational qualifications have gone through major reforms in the last few years, however, performance comparisons are now more stable.
39. Applied General Qualifications have undergone significant change and there is now a much higher proportion of examination assessment, which has impacted on some candidates. The drop in APS (average points score) for this qualification, both nationally and in Durham, can be at least partially explained by this.
40. Achievement at AS level no longer contributes to an A Level qualification

41. Despite this, the results for County Durham students have strengthened in line with those of previous years. Our academic and applied general attainment continues to be above national figures for state funded schools with an increased number of students achieving the higher grades in both types of course. A-levels remain the dominant qualification taken in school sixth forms and the average grade achieved by Durham pupils has risen from C+ to B- across the full range of subjects studied.

| Key Stage 5 | 2018 Durham | 2018 National | 2019 Durham | 2019 National |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| APS per A Level entry | 32.96 | 32.12 | 34.71 | 32.87 |
| APS per Applied General entry | 30.92 | 28.43 | 31.36 | 28.89 |
| AAB or higher in 2 Facilitating subjects | 15% | 13.7% | 18.3% | 14.1% |

42. Progress at A level is average or above average in 12 out of 15 schools, and average, above average or well above average for Applied General qualifications in the 12 schools where these qualifications are taken by students.
43. The highest progress scores at A-level are at Teesdale School and 6th Form, Durham Johnston Comprehensive School and Durham Sixth Form Centre.
44. The highest average point scores per A level were achieved in Durham Johnston and Teesdale, both being over 41 points per subject (B/B+).
45. In Applied General Qualifications highest progress scores are at Durham 6th Form Centre and St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Byron College Peterlee.

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None

Finance

None

Consultation

None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None

Human Rights

None

Climate Change

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Staffing

None

Accommodation

None

Risk

None

Procurement

None

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

2 March 2020

**'What is there to do for young people in
County Durham'**



**Report of John Pearce, Director of Children and Young People
Service**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To update the Children and Young People's Service Overview and Scrutiny members on 'What is there for young people to do in County Durham'. For the purposes of this report we refer to young people being aged between 11- 19 years including for those with additional needs such as SEND.

Executive summary

- 2 County Durham has approximately 51,627, 11year-19-year olds. (ONS 2018).
- 3 Durham County Council and key partner organisations including Schools and the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) provide a broad range of activities and support for young people living in County Durham, including for those with additional needs such as SEND.
- 4 There are also a broad range of opportunities for young people in County Durham to have their say in the types of activities they would like to access. A recent 'Make Your Mark' consultation with children and young people (CYP) highlighted that of the 47 local concerns that were shared, 'lack of facilities for young people/ lack of youth services' was the highest-ranking concern, with 832 CYP from across the county commenting on this area. The 'cost and availability of public transport' was also a common concern mentioned by 407 CYP county-wide. This could undoubtedly have an impact on the ability of young people to get to and from extra-curricular activities. This feedback has also been shared via

the Student Voice Survey where Secondary aged respondents said they are most likely to go to parks/ open spaces and the cinema regularly (57% and 31% respectively). Interestingly, nearly two thirds said they would not like to be involved in clubs. Conversely, a lack of time, school/ homework commitments, a lack of confidence and poor body image were significant deterrents from physical activity. Notably, lack of money was also a deterrent for 549 young people.

- 5 The forthcoming introduction of a County Durham Youth Council provides an opportunity for young people across the county to influence and shape the types of cultural, sport and leisure activities they would like to access in order to meet their needs.

Recommendation

- 6 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to note the contents of the report

Background

- 7 Durham County Council and key partner organisations provide a broad range of activities and support for young people living in County Durham. In addition to the opportunities listed below there is also a range of sports clubs, uniformed organisations and other groups who provide opportunities for young people to pursue various interests.

School and Colleges

- 8 School and colleges typically provide a broad range of activities for young people. These include a range of sports, music, drama, ICT, Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), debating and programmes such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Most sessions are offered on a lunchtime or after school. Schools are often used as hubs for schemes such as the mini police and cadets.
- 9 There is an expectation that educational settings monitor the attendance of children and young people in extra-curricular activities and carefully consider the inclusion of students for whom engagement could be more difficult (e.g. those with special educational needs and difficulties, currently looked after children and young carers).

Durham County Council's Culture, Sport and Tourism Services

- 10 The Culture, Sport and Tourism Service provide a range of activities across County Durham. These include a countywide library offer such as holiday programmes for young people and families, a summer reading challenge, with specific libraries offering the following:

- (a) Clayport Library's Coderdojo programme, which is a global network of free, volunteer-led, community-based programming club for young people. Where anyone aged 7-17 can learn to code, build a website, create an app or a game, and explore technology in an informal, creative, and social environment.
 - (b) Cornforth Library hosts a weekly Lego club;
 - (c) Chester- le-Street library hosts weekly stories and crafts.
- 11 The Community Arts programme has a commitment to work with children, young people and families and includes the following opportunities:
- (a) programme of workshops with the libraries service;
 - (b) engagement workshops alongside cultural programming, including visual arts programme and performance programme;
 - (c) workshops alongside the Festivals programme.
- 12 A range of physical activities are available for young people. The 'Join In' physical activity programme offers:
- (a) Doorstep Clubs – in 11 venues across the county – open access weekly multi-sport activity clubs for young people typically age 11+;
 - (b) After school clubs in 9 schools (primary, junior and secondary) across the county (NB. this is a closed programme to children within participating schools);
 - (c) The Mid Durham AAP summer holiday programme provides activity sessions, throughout 5 weeks of the holidays, (Lanchester, Esh Winning, Ushaw Moor, Adison Park, Langley Park and Burnhope).
 - (d) Derwentside school sport and physical activity programme – weekly coaching and after school and physical activity festival – operates via and SLA currently across 15 schools – age 4-11 years;
 - (e) The Club Durham programme engages with Sports Clubs across the county many of which have children and young people's sessions.
- 13 Across the County, Leisure Centres offer a range of activities for children, young people and families including:
- (a) Ready set splash
 - (b) Waves slide & splash
 - (c) Aqualearn: swimming lessons
 - (d) General swim
 - (e) Pool inflatable sessions
 - (f) Indoor adventure soft play
 - (g) Soccer stars
 - (h) Gymnastics
 - (i) Young lifestyle gym memberships
 - (j) Athletics Track
 - (k) 3G facilities

- 14 The Ways to Wellbeing programme offers a countywide programme including:
- (a) Group exercise (e.g. yoga, circuits, pilates etc) available to anyone aged 16+;
 - (b) Supported swim session – Spennymoor Leisure Centre – available 16+;
 - (c) Walk Durham programme -available 18+;
 - (d) Run Durham – available 16+;
 - (e) Cycle Durham – available 16+;
 - (f) Physical activity sessions including walking netball, walking football, badminton etc available in Leisure Centres across the county for anyone age 16+.

Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) Grant Funding to support youth activities

- 15 The AAP Youth Forums actively engage children and young people in a wide variety of ways including through surveys as well as targeted engagement events. AAPs distribute a range of funding supporting local communities. A Youth Fund is available specifically to support community-based provision for young people. For 2018/19 this amounted to £131,876 with an additional £96,606 external match funding. In 2018/19 this funding supported 53 projects, involving 5,490 young people. A broad range of projects were supported including projects aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour, schemes to help young people make healthy choices and improve mental health and wellbeing. The fund also supports the VCS to deliver youth clubs across the County.
- 16 AAPs also provide funding to local community groups which are targeted at children and young people. For 2018/19 funding focusses on children and young people provided £958,379 in grant funding with an additional £1,319,556 in external match funding. This funding supported 158 projects including engaging young people in voluntary work, gaining accredited qualifications and formal training, improving the quality of life, independence and support for people, improving mental health and wellbeing, preventing vulnerable people from harm, reducing inter-generational and repeat offending. This funding engaged 39,003 children and young people.

DurhamWorks

- 17 Durham County Council (DCC) is the lead body for DurhamWorks, a partnership programme with six external Delivery Partners. DurhamWorks supports unemployed 16-24 year old County Durham residents to progress into employment, training or education. DurhamWorks provides flexible and bespoke support in the way that best meets their needs and barriers to

progression. A range of opportunities are available through DurhamWorks such as:

- (a) access to confidence building and life skills delivered by the Delivery Partners (SHAID, Cornforth Partnership, Groundwork, Foundation of Light and Citizens Advice County Durham, Delta North Consett);
- (b) access, if they are young parents, to a Young Parents Programme delivered by DCC One Point and key partners which supports them to improve their basic skills, build confidence in their parenting and employability. It also helps them to look at flexible working options;
- (c) access to accredited/non-accredited basic skills qualifications;
- (d) work experience, pre-employment training, job and industry experience opportunities and jobs opportunities through sector routeway delivery.
- (e) Volunteering opportunities as a pathway into employment.

18 DurhamWorks also provide a range of specialist provision for young people with additional needs such as SEND, young people with social emotional and mental health needs and Autism.

County Durham Local Offer

19 The County Durham Local Offer provides a range of information and advice to help and support children and young people up to the age of 25 who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) by bringing together information in one place. The Local Offer Youth Offer includes things to do such as days out, youth groups, sports and clubs, such as

- (a) Durham Area Disability Leisure Group: who help families living with disability to participate in, visit and enjoy a wide range of sport, leisure and social activities;
- (b) Durham Phoenix Fencing Club: promote the sport of fencing within the Durham area, offering group and individual coaching
- (c) MiXiTdays: give you the opportunity to get involved in high quality drama, film and performance if you have disabilities and support needs.
- (d) Enter CIC Theatre Academy: with activities including, musical theatre, dance, drama, music, guitar, drumming, singing.

The One Point Service

20 In September 2016 Durham County Council's Cabinet approved a Strategy for Youth Support in County Durham. The strategy outlined a revised delivery model for a targeted youth support services. There are five key elements of the delivery model as follows:

- (a) Single Assessment & Team Around the Family;
 - (b) Team Around the School;
 - (c) Support for Teen Parents;
 - (d) Re-Engagement of young people who are NEET;
 - (e) Team around the Community.
- 21 The One Point Service provides a vehicle for this model and provides early help to children, young people (0-19 or 25 with SEND) and their families in need of additional help and support to achieve positive outcomes. During 2019, 1,447 young people had an assessment and a range of additional support and help provided to meet their needs. This can be where required multi-agency support coordinated through Team around the Family arrangements. Young people can be supported in the following ways by the One Point Service:
- (a) one to one work with a One Point member of staff;
 - (b) attending a group in a Family Centre;
 - (c) attending a group in their school (Team around the School)
 - (d) signposted to a programme or activity in the local community.
- 22 The following are groups for young people that can be delivered in the One Point Family Centres:
- (a) Safer boys or girls' group: these are groups for teenagers aged 13+ looking at risk and the consequences of behaviour. This group usually runs for between 4 -6 weeks;
 - (b) Teen Zone: this is a group for young people who attend secondary school. This group looks at self-esteem, building resilience, healthy eating and managing your emotions;
 - (c) Young Parents Programme: this is a group for young parent, or those about to become one. The group supports young people to improve their basic skills and confidence levels. It helps them understand the developmental needs of their child, offering practical support. It also helps them to look at flexible working options, including self-employment, and move them into sustainable employment or education;
 - (d) Strengthening Families; this is a 7-week programme for parents/carers and young people 10-14 years. Parents and young people will attend together to learn ideas for making the teenage years a little bit easier and help improve their family's relationships.

Holiday activities with healthy food

- 23 During 2019, the VCS Alliance team begun the process of mapping and advertising existing holiday activity with/without food provision across the county and have developed links with a broad range of providers. In summer 2019 there were over 1,800 activities with/without food delivered across County Durham by a range of agencies including DCC leisure

centres and libraries, One Point Family Centres, VCS organisations and schools – with a focus being on ‘low cost, no cost activities’. Activities included family cooking sessions, fun days, emotional wellbeing activities and themed arts and craft sessions, outdoor games, gardening activities and day trips. These activities were promoted through a number of platforms including Family Information Service, One Point Family Centres, AAP’s and local community notices. The information was also shared with a huge range of professionals that work directly with children and young people, ensuring that those children and young people who would benefit most from the provision, had a good understanding of what was available and how to access activities near to where they live. Over summer 2019, the One Point Family Centres (0-19 years) offered 59 activities with either hot or cold healthy food to children, young people and parents/carers. In total 365 adults and 646 children/young people attended the sessions. The activities provided included family cooking sessions, fun days, emotional wellbeing activities and themed arts and craft sessions.

The Voice of Young People

- 24 There are a number of ways in which young people can have their voice heard and influence what services and activities they would like to be available to them.
- (a) In 2019, Education Durham researched the extent to which young people feel they have a voice and found evidence of student councils in every school they spoke to. In primary schools, school councils are often divided into sub-committees (e.g. eco group, fundraising group) whereas secondary schools tend to be more likely to have opportunities for students to hold leadership responsibilities, including mirroring senior leadership roles.
 - (b) The **Student Voice Survey** is completed bi-annually by primary and secondary schools across the County. In 2019, 3,111 primary students and 5,625 secondary students responded to questions on a range of topics. Young people were asked about their engagement in extra-curricular activities. Over half of primary respondents (9-11 year olds) take part in after-school clubs and nearly two thirds are involved in clubs outside of school. Interestingly, nearly two thirds said they would not like to be involved in clubs. For young people aged 11- 16 years 19% of respondents take part in school-based extra-curricular activities. Outside of school, sports/ physical activities are much more popular (56%) than other activities (21%). Respondents offered a range of reasons for wanting to engage in physical activities, including keeping healthy, having fun and being with friends. Conversely, a lack of time, school/ homework commitments, a lack of confidence and poor body image were significant deterrents from physical activity. Notably, lack of money was also a deterrent for 549 young people. Secondary aged respondents said they are most likely to go to parks/ open spaces and the cinema regularly (57% and 31% respectively). Half never visit a library and over a third never visit museums (39%) or theatres (36%).

- (c) **Make Your Mark** is the UK's largest youth consultation that asks 11-18 year olds to rank their top concerns from a list of 10 that are decided upon by members of the UK Youth Parliament. Our regional turnout grew exponentially this year from 155 responses in 2018 to 15,699 in 2019. For the first time, County Durham's young people had the opportunity to share 'local issues' in addition to their national concerns. Of 47 local concerns that were shared, 'lack of facilities for young people/ lack of youth services' was the highest-ranking concern, with 832 CYP from across the county commenting on this area. The 'cost and availability of public transport' was also a common concern mentioned by 407 CYP county-wide. This could undoubtedly have an impact on the ability of young people to get to and from extra-curricular activities.
- (d) **Youth Council:** In response to a series of consultations carried out with primary, secondary, special school and college students, the first county-wide Youth Council will be operational in 2020. The Youth Council's remit will be to address issues that are common to young people, to explore workable solutions to these issues and affect meaningful change using a designated budget. Two Youth Council members will also be elected to represent Durham nationally as UK Youth Parliament reps. This role involves attending the UK Youth Parliament's annual sitting in the House of Commons. Every secondary school and college will be approached to run an election to find two 11-17 year old Youth Council representatives. Guidance has been issued to ensure that elections are democratic and that consideration is given to how best to support:
- i. Vulnerable and minority groups including those whom are disadvantaged and/ or currently looked after
 - ii. Students with SEND
 - iii. Students lacking in confidence to take part
- Two seats will be made available for young people who are currently looked after and those who are not currently attending school/ college. Education Durham is liaising with other departments in the Council and further afield to ensure that all young people hear about this opportunity and are fairly represented.
- (e) **Youth Summits** hear the voices of a wide range of young people, Durham County Council we will be hosting youth summits from July 2020 to bring young people together to discuss matter that are important to them. These engaging events will give young people the chance to come together with stakeholders to discuss practical strategies around Make Your Mark priorities and other issues that are raised by young people over the course of the year.
- (f) **Investing in Children** is a commissioned provider working to ensure the voice of the child is heard in County Durham. In addition to this commissioned work as an independent community interest company liC also run their own engagement using the following mechanisms, which the council can utilise. A number of teams

within the Children and Young People's Service have received the Investing in Children status to show that they have listened to the views of children and young people and responded to them. Reference groups are held in local community settings and mostly project based with different topics being chosen by the young people themselves with young people self-nominating due to interest in the subject area. Agenda Days are a tool developed by liC to enable large (15-30) groups of children and young people to explore issues and create an agenda for action and provides an open, adult-free environment in which participants can share experiences, have discussions and come up with possible actions. Provide affordable leisure activities: an hourly charge has been introduced for short break activities to make them more accessible. The Extreme group supports young people with disabilities to share their views. A wide variety of work has been delivered across partner organisations to achieve the pledges detailed in the SEND promise including providing affordable leisure activities: an hourly charge has been introduced for short break activities to make them more accessible.

- (g) **Children and Families Partnership (CFP)** has strategic responsibility for delivering better outcomes for children, young people and their families in County Durham. It consults with children and young people to find out what issues they may be facing and works to address these problems through the services they represent. The CFP ensures active inclusion of children and young people in dialogue that results in change for example influencing the Active 30 programme.
- (h) **Children and Young People' Participation Group** across the Young People's Service meet on a monthly basis and the Voice and Change Champion network where young people attend/influence decision making with staff.

Next Steps

- 25 To ensure young people continue to influence issues that are important to them , including having positive cultural and leisure activities which are accessible to them DCC will roll out elections for youth council and UK Youth Parliament representatives and host a county wide youth summit in the coming months.
- 26 As part of ongoing developments within the DCC Culture, Sport and Tourism Service intend to explore the feasibility of developing an approach to Poverty Proofing leisure and cultural programmes. Young people will also be involved in the co -production of a coordinated and accessible countywide '2gether 4 Fun and Food' (holiday activities with healthy food) programme for summer 2020.

Conclusion

27 This report has sought to bring together an overview of universal and targeted opportunities for young people in County Durham along with opportunities currently existing and being developed to give young people a greater say and influence in what is available. It highlights there are a wide and varied range of things to do for young people in County Durham. Young people also have a range of opportunities to influence the types of activities they would like to have available to them. The Student Voice Survey and Make your Mark have provided rich feedback from young people on the types of activities they would like to access and where they would like these activities to be across the county. The feedback also highlights the barriers some young people face in accessing extracurricular activities with cost, a lack of transport, homework commitments and lack of body confidence articulated as critical barriers to involvement in activities.

Background papers

None

Other useful documents

None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None

Finance

None

Consultation

Range of opportunities for young people to engage

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None

Human Rights

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Staffing

None

Accommodation

None

Risk

None

Procurement

None

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CYPS Overview and Scrutiny

2nd March 2020

**'What is there to do for young people
in County Durham'**



- **County Durham has approximately 51,627, 11year-19-year olds. (ONS 2018).**
- **Durham County Council and key partner organisations including Schools and the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) provide a broad range of activities and support for young people living in County Durham, including for those with additional needs such as SEND.**

- **School and Colleges-** sports, music, drama, ICT, Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), debating and programmes such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award
- **Durham County Council's Culture, Sport & Tourism Services-Libraries, Community Arts, physical activity programme Leisure Centres**
- **Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) Funding to support youth activities**
- **DurhamWorks** -access to confidence building and life skills, work experience, Volunteering opportunities
- **County Durham Local Offer** -provides a range of information and advice to help and support children and young people up to the age of 25 who have SEND by bringing together information in one place.
- **One Point Service-targeted** early help support for young with additional needs
- **Holiday activities with healthy food** –range of activities with food during school holidays

Voice of Young People

