



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

**Date**      **Friday 23 July 2021**

**Time**      **9.30 am**

**Venue**     **County Hall, Durham - 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 12 April 2021 (Pages 3 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Introduction to Children and Young People's Services Overview
  - a) Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services (Pages 11 - 14)
  - b) Presentations by the Head of Children's Social Care; The Head of Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children and the Head of Education and Skills (Pages 15 - 22)
7. Children, Young People and Families Partnership Overview
  - a) Report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change (Pages 23 - 28)
  - b) Presentation by the Vice Chair of Children, Young People and Families Partnership (Pages 29 - 40)
8. Quarter 4 2020/2021 - Performance Management Report (Pages 41 - 62)  
Report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Interim)
9. Refresh of the Work Programme (Pages 63 - 82)  
Report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Interim)

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  
15 July 2021

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

Councillor C Hood (Chair)  
Councillor J Cosslett (Vice-Chair)

Councillors C Bell, R Charlton-Lainé, M Currah, J Griffiths, O Gunn,  
C Hunt, L Kennedy, C Lines, L Maddison, C Martin, L Mavin,  
D Mulholland, A Reed, K Rooney, S Townsend, C Varty, E Waldock  
and M Walton

**Faith Communities Representatives:**  
Mrs C Johnston and Mrs J Bruton

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

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**Contact: Kirsty Charlton      Tel: 03000 269705**

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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 remotely via Microsoft Teams on **Monday 12 April 2021 at 9.30 am**

**Present:**

**Councillor H Smith (Chair)**

**Members of the Committee:**

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

**Parent Governor Representative:**

Ms J Norman

**Faith Representative:**

Ms J Bruton

**Also Present:**

Councillors J Robinson, R Bell, L Brown, J Chaplow, P Crathorne, T Henderson, E Huntington, P Jopling, C Kay, K Liddell, S Quinn, A Reed, A Savory, J Stephenson, O Temple and R Evans

**1 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Bell, J Charlton and A Willis.

**2 Substitute Members**

There were no substitute Members in attendance.

**3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2021 were agreed as a correct record to be signed by the Chair.

**4 Declarations of Interest, if any**

Councillor Coult declared a non prejudicial interest in item no. 7 as an immediate member of her family was in receipt of an EHCP.

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

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

## **6 Director of Public Health Annual Report 2020**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Public Health which provided details of the 2020 Annual report of the Director of Public Health for County Durham (for copy see file of minutes).

The Committee received a presentation from the Director of Public Health (for copy see file of minutes).

The Director of Public Health highlighted the importance of Durham Insights which was a key website that provided statistical information covering a broad range and allowed everyone to access this information. The Durham Insight website included a COVID dashboard that provided information on the vaccine rollout as well as other information relating to COVID in County Durham. The website also included information and in-depth work such as the health assessment of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and other areas including health inequalities.

The Director of Public Health emphasised that a huge amount of work had been undertaken with schools to ensure that when they reopened it was as safe as possible and this work would continue following the Easter break.

Whilst there had been a lot of work undertaken in key settings in relation to the COVID Outbreak Management Plan, the Director of Public Health advised that work had continued in relation to all the key priority areas but gave an update specifically relating to good jobs and places to live, learn and play, where an impact assessment in employment, particularly with regards to young people would be important going forward.

Work with Housing Solutions in relation to fuel poverty had taken place and she summarised work undertaken in relation to the Best Start in Life and how the work of the health needs assessment of children with special educational needs and disabilities had helped the service to understand the needs of the children and also their families and those who worked with them. Smoking in pregnancy was another area of work which included the use of a mobile phone application to assist with

this. The Director of Public Health also highlighted the work on children and young people's mental health in school settings which was continuing.

Councillor Coult asked whether there had been an increased demand on mental health support due to COVID-19 and asked whether there was enough support to help the young people. The Director of Public Health advised there had been an additional impact on mental health and that during the course of last year Harrogate District NHS Foundation Trust who delivered the service on behalf of the Council had enhanced the support around bereavement and there was also a strong level of support from Investing in Children, which was a voluntary sector organisation. There were plans to review services to consider increasing the provision and she suggested that the Committee may consider that a dedicated item was necessary to review at a future meeting.

J Bruton, Co-opted Faith Representative and Head Teacher of a Primary School, confirmed that there had been an increase in mental health issues which was challenging as Primary Schools did not have school Counsellors. She suggested that it would be useful for a list of contacts to be recirculated. The Director of Public Health confirmed that information was sent out weekly from senior members of staff to all Head Teachers and she would ensure that the information was included.

Councillors Jewell and Hopper thanked the Director of Public Health for the work that had been undertaken.

**Resolved:**

That the report be received.

**7 SEND Overview and Focus on SEND in Mainstream Schools**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young Peoples Services which provided an update on Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in County Durham. This included current information available about children and young people with SEND, the Education Health and Care (EHCP) process, and a focus on the strengths and challenges of the mainstream offer (for copy see file of minutes).

The Committee received a joint presentation from the Strategic Manager SEND Strategy and Accessibility and Strategic Manager Specialist Inclusion Support.

Members were advised of the definition of SEND and that a child with SEND was not necessarily required to attend a special school but instead for the service to identify ways in which a child's needs could be met, either in a mainstream school setting or by other agencies.

Members were advised that in County Durham there were just over 13,000 children and young people aged 0-25 years with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and of that figure just over 12000 were of school age. Since 2016 there had been an increase in the numbers of children with SEN by approximately 20%.

The majority of primary needs were classified as Autism, moderate learning difficulties and social emotional and mental health needs, however, it was much more common for children to have a combination of those needs and in some cases all three. Just over a quarter of children and young people had their needs met through an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with approximately three quarters having their needs met via SEN support. Since 2016 there had been a 34% increase in the number of children and young people with an EHCP.

Members were given data comparisons in relation to where County Durham's children with an EHCP were educated, which indicated that most attended a special school and this was in line with regional neighbours, although above national comparators. The number of young people with SEND attending post 16 education was much higher in County Durham than both regional and national comparators.

Social and emotional wellbeing was a priority nationally and locally, and the service was working across the partnership with colleagues in Child and Adolescent Mental Health services and the Thrive Model had been adopted by Children and Young People's Services. This model recognised that everyone had a part to play in the promotion of good mental health, but if children were to experience an episode of poor mental health or provide challenge and knew how to get help, advice and support, this model was threaded through areas of work including the SEND Health Framework.

Members were advised of the Wellbeing for Education Return programme, funded by the Department for Education and partners across county Durham were working with schools, of which there had been a good take up. Other key areas of work included the Mental health in Schools Framework which had been taken up by almost 60% of schools and the service expected this to eventually be taken up by all. There were three Mental Health School Support teams in place across the County located in central, east and south areas and work was continuing with Public Health on the Youth Aware Mental Health (YAM) Programme and developing nurturing provision across lots of schools.

The service had developed a resource 'Learning, Safe, Happy and Settled' which supported children and young people back into learning. The resource was

regularly refreshed and updated and had received a wide range of contributions that were linked to the Thrive Model.

In response to a query from Councillor Coult, the Strategic Manager Spec. Inclusion Support confirmed that despite parents finding a diagnosis helpful, this was not a requirement to access services.

Councillor Coult advised that resolving mental health issues at an earlier stage could reduce the need for more significant support at a later stage.

**Resolved:**

That the report be received.

## **8 Impact of COVID 19 on Education Services**

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which provided an update on the impact of COVID- 19 on Education Services (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager: Support and Development advised that Head Teachers had been extraordinary during the pandemic and gone above and beyond and leadership advisors had worked weekends to ensure they were available to answer questions. Parents who had elected to home educate had been challenged as it was found that school was a safer environment and he thanked staff for their efforts in ensuring that.

Councillor Coult confirmed that all staff in educational services had gone above and beyond during the pandemic and not just in schools, and she wanted that to be recognised.

Mrs J Norman referred to the outbreak funding that had been allocated and queried whether this was enough to cover the additional costs that had to be met. The Strategic Manager: Support and Development confirmed that the funding was from government and was received by all Councils. DCC had bid for additional Outbreak Funding because the funding received by schools directly from the government was limited to specific areas of spend whereas the Outbreak funding was much more flexible. DCC was distributing the funding on a per capita basis so that every school would benefit from the funding but larger schools would receive more. He suspected that some would feel that it was not sufficient as there were some with greater expenses, but it would certainly still be welcomed.

Members were advised that at the beginning of lockdown in 2020 training moved online and was delivered free of charge. Whilst some of the training remained free of charge, the service had started to charge for some of the Development and Support training. The online training had been welcomed by schools and elements

of this training method would continue alongside face to face training. Contracts had continued remotely and evaluations of both contracts and training during this period were tightly monitored and remained positive. External partnership working had not been interrupted and continued to work with the Education Endowment Foundation, Teacher Development Trust and Durham University and our other local universities.

J Bruton highlighted an issue with staff pregnancy as teachers were unable to be two metres from pupils and following a risk assessment could not attend work, but they could not be signed off on sick pay and a replacement teacher had to be recruited which impacted on the school budget.

**Resolved:**

That the report be received.

**9 Quarter Three 2020/2021 Performance Management Report**

The Committee received a report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Interim) which presented progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework (for copy see file of minutes).

The Chair referred to the low uptake of the Healthy Start Voucher Scheme and staff training to address this and queried whether there was evidence that the staff training was having an impact on the uptake. The Corporate Equality & Strategy Manager advised that it was difficult to assess the impact as the Health Start Voucher Scheme was reliant on a growing number of people being eligible for universal credit and other benefits and it was too early to give an indication. Other variables would also impact on the scheme such as the impact of COVID, therefore it may take time to provide an assessment.

Ms J Norman referred to the free school meals (FSM) census and whether there had been a reduction in number of children eligible for free school meals that were not claiming and whether there was any data collected from children who were accessing school holiday activities with food provision, that were not eligible for FSM. The Corporate Equality & Strategy Manager confirmed that FSM data had two values, there was the number of children eligible for FSM and then those who had claimed a FSM on the day the survey was taken. Due to school closures on the day of the survey this value did not assist, however the number of children eligible across all settings had increased to one in four children and this was a concern. The information was being used by early help, to target different areas via food poverty groups and holiday hunger activities, to deliver effective programmes across school holidays.

Councillor Bainbridge was concerned that there had been no significant improvement to childhood obesity programme and the Corporate Equality &

Strategy Manager advised that it would be one of the central objectives of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and would be considered by Active Durham to bring leisure and fitness to more children.

**Resolved:**

That the report be received.

**10 Children and Young People's Services Quarter 3: Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2020-2021**

The Committee received a joint report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Interim) and the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which provided details of the forecast outturn budget position for Children and Young Peoples Services service grouping and highlighted major variances in comparison with the budget for the year, based on the position at the end of December (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the report be received.

**11 Refresh of the Work Programme**

The Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Interim) which provided the Children and Young People's Overview and Committee with the opportunity to review and refresh the work programme for 2021/2022 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer advised that the work programme had been delivered differently due to COVID and there was still a degree of uncertainty in relation to the number of meetings the committee would have allocated in the forthcoming municipal year and asked members to provide suggestions of what items they felt should be included in the new work programme.

Councillor Crute confirmed that there would be some changes to the Committee due to Members stepping down in the forthcoming County Council elections however the increase in FSM eligibility should remain a priority as should the mental health impact of COVID-19. The Committee had previously identified Education, Health and Care Plans as an area of priority and this was still a priority to the committee. The impact of the pandemic could be felt for several years.

**Resolved:**

That the report be received.

## **12 Such other business**

The Chair confirmed that J Norman was standing down as Parent Governor Co-optee as her school was converting to Academy status. She thanked her for her contribution to the Committee and its reviews during her time as a Co-opted Member.

Councillor Crute agreed that she had been a regular contributor to the Committee and on behalf of the Committee he also thanked the Chair and Vice-Chair who were both standing down in May.

The Chair thanked Officers and Members for their valued contribution.

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

**23 July 2021**



**Introduction to Children and  
Young People's Services  
Overview**

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

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide members of the committee with an introduction to the presentation giving overview of the Children and Young People's Services Service Grouping which is appended to this report at appendix two.

**Executive summary**

- 2 Children and Young People's Services bring together a number of functions to help support children, young people and families in County Durham. The structure of Children and Young People's Services with the associated Heads of service is as follows:

Helen Fergusson – Head of Children's Social Care

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

Jim Murray – Head of Education and Skills

- 3 The Children and Young People's Services Heads of Service will deliver a presentation at the meeting highlighting the key areas of work within the service grouping pertinent to the work of the committee and will take questions from committee members.

**Recommendations**

- 4 That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to:

- a) note the content of the report and presentation and comment accordingly.

## **Background**

- 5 Children and Young People's Services brings together a number of functions to help support children young people and their families in County Durham.
- 6 The team covers three key service areas of:
- Children's Social Care
  - Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children
  - Education and Skills
- 7 Children and Young People's Services provide a vast array of services to protect vulnerable people from harm working with both internal and external partners.
- 8 The presentation will cover the following areas:
- Children and Young People's Services Management Team
  - Services Provided
  - Inspection Framework
  - Partnership Working
  - Key Challenges

## **Conclusion**

- 9 Children and Young People's Services contains a wide range of front line services working with and for our communities.

## **Background papers**

- None

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**Contact:** Ann Whitton 03000 268143

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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.

### **Climate Change**

Not applicable.

### **Human Rights**

Not applicable.

### **Crime and Disorder**

Not applicable.

### **Staffing**

Not applicable.

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable.

### **Risk**

Not applicable.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable.





# INTRODUCTION TO SERVICE GROUPINGS: Children and Young People's Services

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**Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny July 2021**

# CYPS Management Team



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



Jim Murray  
Head of Education  
and Skills



Helen Ferguson  
Head of Children's Social  
Care



Martyn Stenton  
Head of Early Help, Inclusion  
and Vulnerable Children

# Services we provide

- **Education and Skills** – responsibility for providing services to secure standards and improvement in schools and other places of learning, including adult learning. Key support services also include school and governor support, school admissions and transport, school capital programme, as well as DurhamWorks.
- **Children’s Social Care** – responsibility to support and safeguard children in need of care and protection, as well as those children who are looked after with residential, fostering, adoption and supported living services. We also provide services to children with a disability and young people who leave care.
- **Early Help, Inclusion and Vulnerable Children** - responsibility to ensure early help for children and families, helping to tackle child poverty and supporting programmes such as ‘Fun with Food’, support for young people who have offended and victims of crime, educational psychology, special educational needs services and Aycliffe Secure Childrens Unit.

# Services we provide

- **Public Health** – Public Health have responsibility for the following:
  - Health protection – infectious and communicable disease control, health emergency planning, screening and immunisation programmes.
  - Commissioning health improvement services including mental health, tobacco control, stop smoking services and drug and alcohol treatment services, 0-19 health services and oral health.
  - Healthcare public health services to clinical commissioning groups and Academic public health
- **Commissioning** – have responsibility for commissioning services for children, contracting, market management, personalisation and financial protection.
- **Operational Support** – have responsibility for systems and data, statutory complaints, inspection readiness and improvement support.

# Inspection Framework

- CYPs is subject to regulatory inspections
  - Ofsted regulate services in the following areas:
    - ❑ Children's Homes (including Aycliffe Secure Unit)
    - ❑ Children's social care services (inspection every 3 years with an annual conversation and self assessment with Ofsted)
    - ❑ Schools
    - ❑ Adult learning and skills
  - Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspect:
    - ❑ Special Education needs and Disabilities Services.
  - Ofsted, Care Quality Commission, HMI Constabulary and HMI Probation jointly assess:
    - ❑ How effectively agencies are working together to help and protect children. This is referred to as a Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) and is themed.
  - HMI Probation inspect:
    - ❑ Youth Justice Services

# Partnership Working

- Durham County Council is a member of a number of boards and partnerships which aim to improve overall health, wellbeing and safety of individuals and communities across the County.
- The Council is a statutory partner of the Durham Child Safeguard Partnership (DSCP) which provides the safeguarding arrangements under which partners and other agencies work together to coordinate safeguarding services.

We work closely with a wide range of partners including:

NHS Foundation Trusts	Police
Clinical Commissioning Groups	Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner
National Probation Service	Schools
Regional Schools Commissioner	Voluntary Sector Organisations



# Challenge

## Key Challenges

- Education Review
- Early Years
- Special Educational Needs Review
- Home to School Transport
- Children in Care – Placement Sufficiency
- Integrated Services

All underpinned by Covid-19 Impact and Recovery

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



**23 July 2021**

**Children, Young People and  
Families Partnership Board**

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**Report of Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources (Interim)**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYP OSC) with background information in advance of a presentation on an overview of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board and its activity.

**Executive summary**

- 2 The presentation attached at Appendix 2 will aim to provide Members with an overview of the Children and Young People and Families Partnership Board, its strategic priorities and the development of the Children and Young People's Strategy 2022-25.

**Recommendations**

- 3 Members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
  - a) Note information contained within the presentation from the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board and comment accordingly.

## Background

- 4 From 1 April 2021, a new governance structure is in place to govern integration of health and social care in County Durham. The County Durham Care Partnership Executive will focus on system management, health outcomes, population health system management, delegation of budgets and high-level outcomes to the partnerships that sit below. One of these partnerships, will focus on children and families.
- 5 It has been agreed that the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board will support further integration of services, systems and workforce and sits alongside the following Partnership Boards:
  - (a) Acute Care Partnership Board
  - (b) Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Partnership Board
  - (c) Primary, Community and Social Care Partnership Board
- 6 The strategic priorities of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board are:
  - (a) Growing up in County Durham
  - (b) Integration
  - (c) Prevention and Early Help
  - (d) Best Start in Life
  - (e) Supporting Young People into Adulthood (14-25)
- 7 The Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board Chair is John Pearce, Corporate Director, Children & Young People's Services and the Deputy chair is Sarah Burns, Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning.
- 8 The current Children and Young People's Strategy (CYPS) 2019-2022 is due for review in 2022 and will be led by the Partnership Board, reflecting the priorities in paragraph 6.
- 9 Appendix 2 to this report contains a presentation that provides an overview of the Children and Young People and Families Partnership Board, its strategic priorities and the development of the Children and Young People's Strategy 2022-25. The presentation will be delivered by Sarah Burns, Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning and Deputy Chair of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board.

## Conclusion

- 10 The attached report and presentation provide an opportunity for Members to receive an overview of the Children and Young People and Families Partnership Board, its strategic priorities and the development of the Children and Young People's Strategy 2022-25.

## Background papers

- None

## Other useful documents

- None

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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

### **Climate Change**

Not applicable

### **Crime and Disorder**

Not applicable

### **Staffing**

Not applicable

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable

### **Risk**

Not applicable

### **Procurement**

Not applicable

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## **Appendix 2: Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board Presentation**

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Attached as a separate document.

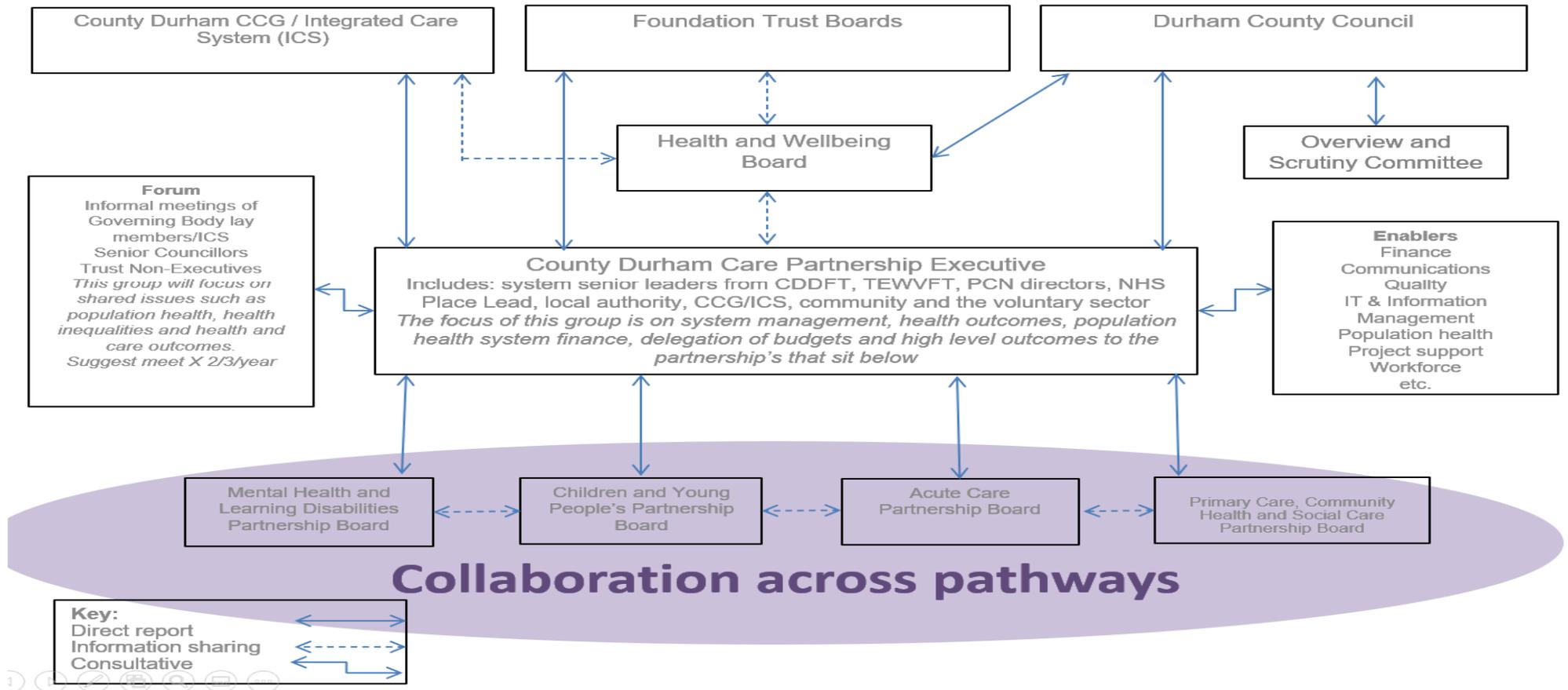
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# Children And Young People's County Durham Overview And Scrutiny Committee Care Partnership

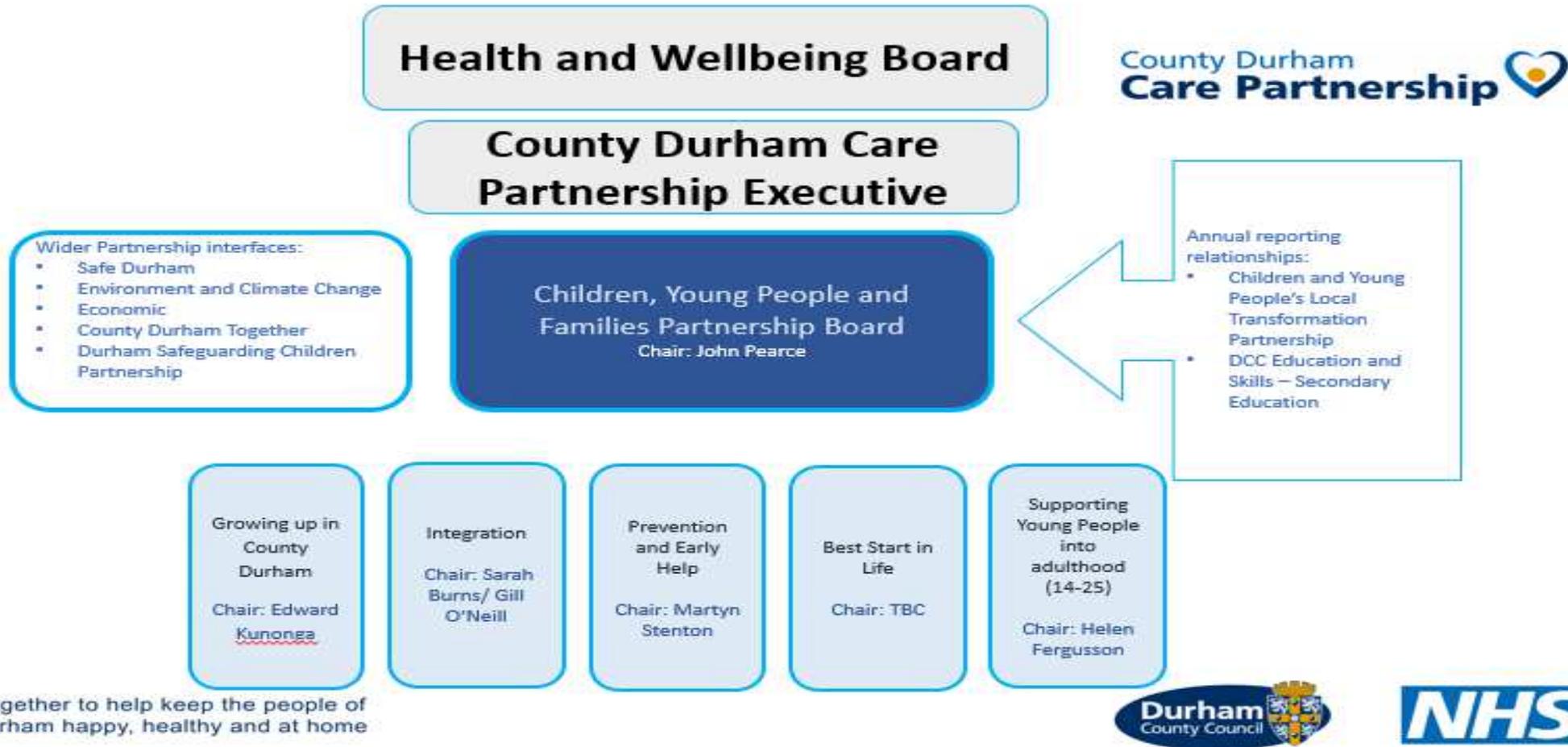
## Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board

**Sarah Burns, Joint Head of Integrated Strategic  
Commissioning and Deputy Chair Children, Young  
People and Families Partnership Board**

## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE ACROSS COUNTY DURHAM (May 2021)



# Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board Structure



Working together to help keep the people of County Durham happy, healthy and at home

# Page 2 Terms of Reference

- Support joint working arrangements across the County Durham Care Partnership and sits alongside the following Partnership Boards:
  - Acute Care Partnership Board
  - Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Partnership Board
  - Primary, Community and Social Care Partnership Board
- **Strategic priorities** identified by the CYPFPB are:
  - Growing up in County Durham
  - Integration
  - Best Start in Life
  - Early help and prevention
  - Supporting young people into adulthood (14-25)

# Progress of Strategic Priorities

## Growing up in County Durham

- Rapid review on impacts of Covid-19 on Children and Young People informed work of group
  - Review found that Covid-19 is exacerbating and creating new inequalities
- Working across all priorities to provide a population health management perspective
- The Growing up in County Durham approach is using SEND as a pilot theme to utilise integrated data, understand service performance and 3/4/5-year trends
- Statistical work of the group has been included in a regional bid for Children and Young People's Wellbeing funding which was successful.

# Page 34 Progress of Strategic Priorities

## Integration

- Develop a vision for integration across services for children and young people
- Engagement – co-production journey with children, young people and families
- 0-6 system redesign workshop
- Development of multiagency respiratory pathway

## Best Start in Life

- Health Impact Assessment on inequalities to inform CYPS

# Progress of Strategic Priorities

## Early help and prevention

- Completed self assessment to identify key priorities to progress
- Dedicated early help telephone number
- Additional priorities for unborn children and babies under one year old included in action plan

## Supporting young people into adulthood (14-25)

- Development of 14-25 Navigation Team
- Supporting the work through TEWV - development of the community mental health framework focusing on young people and transition
- Development of Adolescent Safeguarding & Exploitation Team (ASSET)

# Page 36 Cross cutting priorities

- Think Family
- Co-production – ensuring we listen to the voice of the child/ family
- Empowerment
- Early intervention / signposting
- Support for people who need it the most
- Seamless
- Workforce
- Resources

# Example of Service Change: Continuity of Carer - Maternity

- Current model of maternity care in County Durham is traditional with acute/community split
- 4500 deliveries a year and 6000 community bookings
- Across the system recognition that number of health outcomes could be improved such as smoking at time of delivery
- Aim to support women and partners to have the experience that they want - personalised care
- Continuity of care means women will have the same very small group of midwives who care for them from booking in appointment, birth and the post natal period
- Improved outcomes for women and babies

# Children and Young People's Strategy 2022-25

- Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 – Agreed at HWB March 2021
- County Durham Place Based Commissioning Plan 2020-25
  - Support integration within County Durham
- Five new priority themes of CYPFPB as the focus of the CYPS
  - Growing up in County Durham
  - Integration
  - Best Start in Life
  - Prevention and Early Help
  - Supporting Young People into Adulthood (14-25)
- Alignment of CYPS to Vision 2035
- Each section will reflect existing performance management arrangements
- New CYPS developed in 2022

# CYPS Timeline

- Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy – Agreement at HWB March 2021
- Consult with CYPFPB for initial feedback as part of Development session – October 2021
- Develop draft strategy with CYPFPB and sub groups – October – December 2021
- Agree draft strategy for wider consultation – CYPFPB December 2021
- Wider public consultation (including CYPS O&S and young people/families) – January/February 2022
- Agree CYPS – CYPFPB April 2022

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# Any questions?

County Durham  
**Care Partnership**



Working together to help keep the people of  
County Durham happy, healthy and at home



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

**23 July 2021**

**Quarter Four, 2020/21  
Performance Management Report**



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**Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources (Interim)**

**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.

**The impact of COVID-19**

- 2 2020/21 has been dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Across the world more than 115 million people have been infected and more than 2.5 million have died.
- 3 Following confirmation of its first cases in January 2020, the UK government subsequently put in place [restrictions](#) to contain the virus, minimise deaths and prevent health and social care systems being overwhelmed. Those restrictions, in varying forms, have impacted our everyday lives, our health and the economy ever since.
- 4 At the beginning of quarter four, in response to a huge increase in COVID-19 cases and the discovery of a faster spreading variant, restrictions were tightened with a third national lockdown. At the same time, the national vaccination programme<sup>1</sup> continued to be rolled out.
- 5 The subsequent fall in infection rates allowed the government to implement plans for a [gradual and phased route out of lockdown](#). The first step, centred around children and students returning to face-to-face teaching, was enacted in March 2021.
- 6 In line with these developments, alongside our continuing public health role and work with other agencies on the Local Resilience Forum

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<sup>1</sup> started on 8 December 2020

(covering both County Durham and Darlington) to protect our communities and support those affected by the pandemic, we are also developing plans for future recovery.

- 7 The COVID-19 surveillance dashboard can be accessed [here](#).

## **Performance Reporting**

- 8 This performance report is structured around the three externally focused results-based ambitions of the [County Durham Vision 2035](#) alongside a fourth 'excellent council' theme contained within our [Council Plan](#)<sup>2</sup>. It also includes an overview of the impact of COVID-19 on council services, our staff, and residents.

## **More and Better Jobs**

- 9 We remain concerned about the longer-term impacts of the pandemic. The economic situation is contributing to financial pressures across the county, with increased levels of children eligible for free school meals and many households at risk of falling into poverty. Although educational attainment is broadly in line with performance across the country, the longer-term impact of COVID-19 is expected to affect the futures of our young people.

## **Long and Independent Lives**

- 10 Throughout 2020/21, we continued to successfully improve outcomes for vulnerable children and their families with services which are joined up and responsive to their needs, and we remain on track to achieve 'significant and sustained outcomes' for around 6,000 families as part of our stronger families programme.
- 11 Poverty pressures remain a major issue and we expect the situation to deteriorate over the coming months. Increases in basic living costs and additional expenditure incurred due to school closures (meals, heating and equipping children for online learning) has hit those with little disposable income hard - especially as their normal coping strategies are no longer available to them, e.g. eating at friends and families, accessing the internet at their local library, buying clothes at charity shops. We are concerned that although more than 12,000 pupils registered at schools are eligible for free school meals (27%, up from 24% last year), a quarter of them are not claiming them.

## **Connected Communities – Safer focus**

- 12 In relation to keeping children and young people safe, there are many positives across this area. We continue to perform well in relation to the

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<sup>2</sup> approved by full council October 2020

timeliness of processing statutory referrals (first contact) and single assessments (and are carrying out audits to ensure quality of assessments remains consistently high).

- 13 However, we are continuing to experience budget and placement pressures as demand for children's social care remains high, with a comparatively high number of children on a child protection plan and the highest recorded number of children looked after (CLA). Although safeguarding referrals remain lower than expected, which reflects the national picture, those relating to children in danger of significant harm remain static.

### **Risk Management**

- 14 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. The latest report can be found [here](#).

### **Recommendation**

- 15 That Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter four performance, the impact of COVID-19 on performance, and the actions being taken to address areas of underperformance including the significant economic and well-being challenges because of the pandemic.

### **Author**

Andy Palmer

Tel: 03000 268551

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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.

### **Climate Change**

We have declared a climate change emergency and consider the implications of climate change in our reports and decision-making.

### **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.



# Durham County Council Performance Management Report

## Quarter Four, 2020/21



## More and Better Jobs

1 The ambition of More and Better Jobs is linked to the following key questions:

(a) Do our young people have access to good quality education and training?

### **Do our young people have access to good quality education and training?**

- 2 Following eight Section 8 monitoring visits by Ofsted (which were not graded), all schools received the judgement that 'leaders and those responsible for governance are taking effective action to provide education in the current circumstances'. The quality of remote education and support for children and young people returning to school are the focus for further action.
- 3 Of the 31 schools currently accessing higher level support from leadership advisers, 17 are further supported and challenged through a School Scrutiny Group.
- 4 During quarter four, five qualifying safeguarding complaints were made to Ofsted. This is significantly lower than the 20 made over the same period last year, and could be due to improved practice in schools and better communication with parents or the impact of COVID-19 which led to most children and young people accessing virtual learning rather than attending schools.
- 5 With partners, we have developed a protocol which establishes the whereabouts of a child before the school can delete the child's name from the school register. The protocol will ensure children moving between areas are appropriately tracked.
- 6 Seventy two of the 95 cases referred during quarter four have been closed. Of the remaining 23 open cases, five are currently outside of the UK waiting to return, three are being electively home educated, three have moved out of county (relevant local authorities have been informed), four have moved elsewhere in Durham and discussions are ongoing about school transfers, and eight are waiting to start at County Durham schools.
- 7 Ninety two percent of pupils were attending state-funded schools across the county, on 18 March 2021, compared to 91% nationally. There were 93% in primary, 92% in secondary and 85% in special schools. For vulnerable groups, this is 86% for those children with a social worker, compared to 82% nationally and 85% for pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) compared to 85% nationally.

- 8 During quarter four, between 0.6% and 0.7% of the school aged population were being electively home educated. The fluctuation is due to movements in and out of the county and in and out of the Elective Home Education (EHE) system. Fifty seven children and young people returned to school during the quarter, supported by the EHE team.
- 9 Fifty-nine requests for early years SEND Support was considered during quarter four, 24 more than last year. Thirty-eight requests to initiate statutory assessment were agreed. In addition, support was sought for children returning to schools and early years settings who have had limited attendance during the pandemic but are moving to reception in September 2021.
- 10 Of the 621 Personal Education Plan meetings held, 92% were rated as being of a high standard, an improvement from the autumn term.
- 11 Our Behaviour and Inclusion Panels (BIPs) continue to address high rates of exclusion through early identification and a proactive approach to pupil support. Throughout quarter four, three pupils at risk of exclusion were supported by the primary panel (none were permanently excluded) and the secondary panel supported 44 pupils (two pupils were permanently excluded, however only one pupil had accessed support through the Secondary BIP). No pupils from special schools were permanently excluded. Nineteen secondary managed moves have been arranged to support students at risk of permanent exclusions and one primary managed move.
- 12 Across County Durham, the proportion of young people (aged 16-24) Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) is 5.6%, which equates to 596 young people from a cohort of 10,683. [DurhamWorks](#) continues to offer intensive and individualised support, and to date have helped more than 8,200 young people, 86% of whom progressed to employment, education, training or gained an accredited qualification on leaving.
- 13 Nationally, COVID-19 has increased the number of young people who are NEET. Across the North East, there has been a 16% increase compared to last year, nationally the increase is 5.4%. However, the whereabouts of 2% of the national cohort is not known compared to 0.7% across the North East and County Durham.
- 14 Across County Durham, 5.1% of young people aged 16-17 are undertaking an apprenticeship, significantly higher than the 3.8% national average. However, the overall proportion in apprenticeships has reduced due to COVID-19 with more of those aged 16-17 year continuing in full time education or training as opposed to employment.

**LONG AND INDEPENDENT LIVES:** Are children, young people and families in receipt of universal services appropriately supported and are children, young people and families in receipt of early help appropriately support?

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## Think Family

**5,414 families turned around** (2015 - Mar 21)

following intervention...

**2,127** workless families progressed to work

**2,560** families reported reduced mental health issues

**967** families reported reduced substance misuse

**1,054** families achieved significant & sustained outcomes (2020/21)

## Healthy Start Vouchers

**% take up**  
(Feb-21)

Co. Durham

61%

North East

62%

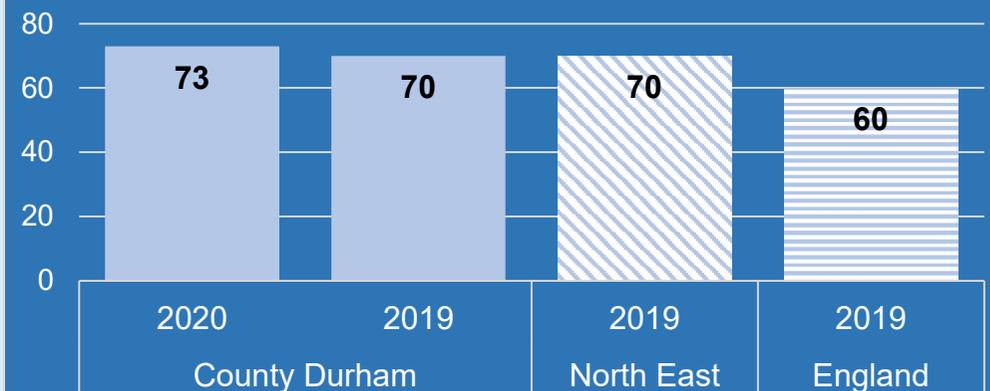
England

54%

**1,715** cases open to One Point  
(as at 31 Mar 2021)

**95%** of early help assessments completed within 45 working days  
(Jan-Mar 2021)

## % EHCP completed within 20 week time period



- 15 Throughout 2020/21, laptops and WIFI routers have been provided to support remote learning and facilitate contact between vulnerable children and professionals. Almost 2,000 laptops and 600 routers have been provided to vulnerable children, in addition to the 5,000 devices allocated to local schools.

## **Long and Independent Lives**

- 16 The ambition of Long and Independent Lives is linked to the following 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?

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

- 17 Having already achieved more than 400,000 successful family outcomes, the national Troubled Families programme (known as '*Stronger Families*' in County Durham) continues to deliver significant and sustained outcomes with families.
- 18 The government has now renamed the programme '*Supporting Families*' and made £165 million available to fund it nationally. The programme will continue to support the most vulnerable families and address complex issues such as anti-social behaviour, crime, school attendance, worklessness, domestic abuse and mental health.
- 19 Across County Durham, we achieved our 2020/21 target of 730 successful family outcomes, including 146 'Continuous Employment' outcomes which was the second highest nationally. Our target for 2021/22 is to turn around 761 families.
- 20 We have completed our one year on review of our 'Locality Early Help Conversations'<sup>3</sup>, a multi-agency group supporting professionals who have worries about families. Feedback from professionals was extremely positive and the new process will continue with recommendations for further improvements being the focus of the Prevention and Early Help Partnership for 2021.
- 21 The Royal College of Psychiatrists has published a [report](#) stating that almost 400,000 children sought help for mental health problems during the pandemic. Data from NHS Digital shows that whilst the crisis is affecting people of all ages, it is under-18s who are suffering most.

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<sup>3</sup> Copies can be obtained by emailing [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

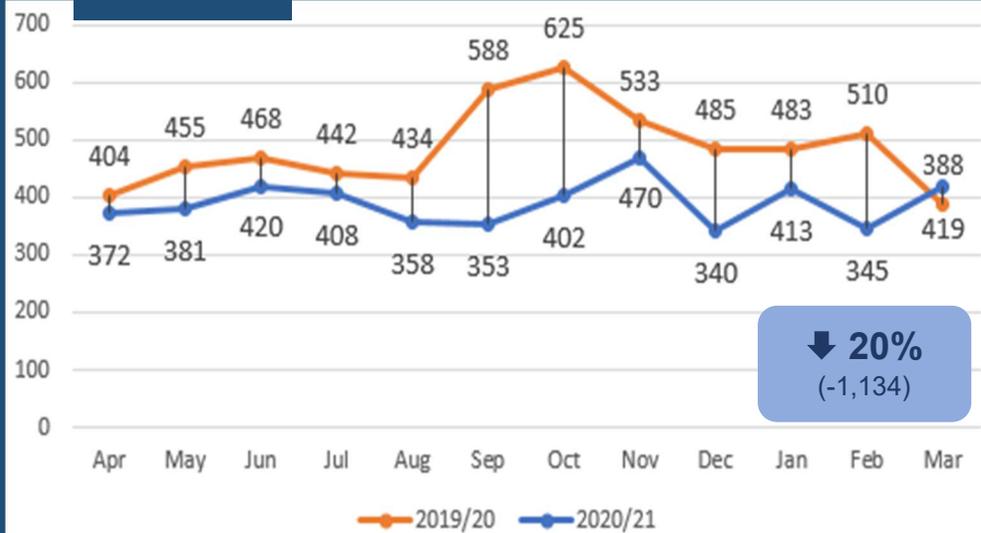
- 22 The Royal College of Psychiatrists' analysis found that between April and December 2020:
- More than 80,000 additional children and young people were referred to mental health services - more than 372,000 in total - 28% more than 2019.
  - More than 600,000 additional treatment sessions were given to children and young people - almost 3.6 million in total - 20% more than 2019.
  - More than 18,000 children and young people needed urgent or emergency crisis care - including assessments to section because they or others are at harm - 18% more than 2019.
- 23 Our early help provision, such as the Young Adult Support Café (YASC), continues to operate online alongside existing online support (such as Rollercoaster and Kooth). Twenty nine YASC sessions were delivered during quarter four with 17 young people attending.
- 24 Having focused on promoting the YASC during quarter four, enquiries from professionals, parents and carers have significantly increased. However, this has not impacted on the number of young people accessing YASC provision.
- 25 Although young people not previously engaged in the face-to-face YASC offer are struggling to access the emotional well-being peer support being delivered virtually, we are continuing to meet young people one to one either virtually or socially distanced to support them to access the project.
- 26 Young people accessing YASC have been working with Investing in Children and Rollercoaster Family Support to engage in the United Voice agenda which supports discussions in relation to service development of both the Prevention Admissions work and the TEWV 16-25 service. There are clear links between United Voice and the Durham Youth Council to ensure a joint approach to young people engaging in discussions that inform the mental health agenda.
- 27 In the lead up to Time To Talk Day, Self-Harm Awareness Day and Eating Disorders Week young people created a series of social media campaigns to raise awareness, provide links to local support services and challenge stigma associated with mental health. These campaigns were shared via Investing in Children and Stamp It Out social media as well and circulated through local networks including the Emotional Well-being Locality Forums.
- 28 Young people have expressed how challenging they have found the national lockdown - feeling socially isolated with limited face-to-face interaction with peers which includes most young people being unable to access their education setting. In the last quarter, three young people who access YASC were admitted to hospital due to mental ill health (all admitted to Adults Services).

- 29 Investing in Children are currently agreeing a venue for the East YASC project which launched in May 2021 for the first face-to-face YASC session since March 2020.
- 30 Young people continue to support planning of future campaigns. The year's significant campaign was Mental Health Awareness Week (10-16 May) with a theme of 'Nature'.
- 31 Young people from YASC continue to link in with United Voice and are supporting work relating to the Neurodevelopmental Pathway, understanding the mental health commissioning process, and discussions relating to Self-Harm and Eating Disorders Paediatric Admissions.
- 32 Across County Durham, as at January 2021, more than 20,000 pupils were eligible for free school meals. Of the 12,185 pupils in maintained schools, 9,122 received a free school meal on census day (75%). Therefore, 3,063 children were eligible for but not claiming free school meals on that day. Take-up in January 2021 may have also been impacted by attendance at school due to COVID.
- 33 National lockdown has resulted in delays to all services contributing to Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). However, the Department for Education counting rules make allowances for significant disruption to the assessment process, and the definition regarding timeliness in relation to the 20 weeks has also changed. Given the disruption to schools, the allowance relating to schools closed for four weeks or more during the advice gathering stage has been considered for all EHCP assessments. Therefore, provisional compliance to the 20-week target for the year so far is 50%.

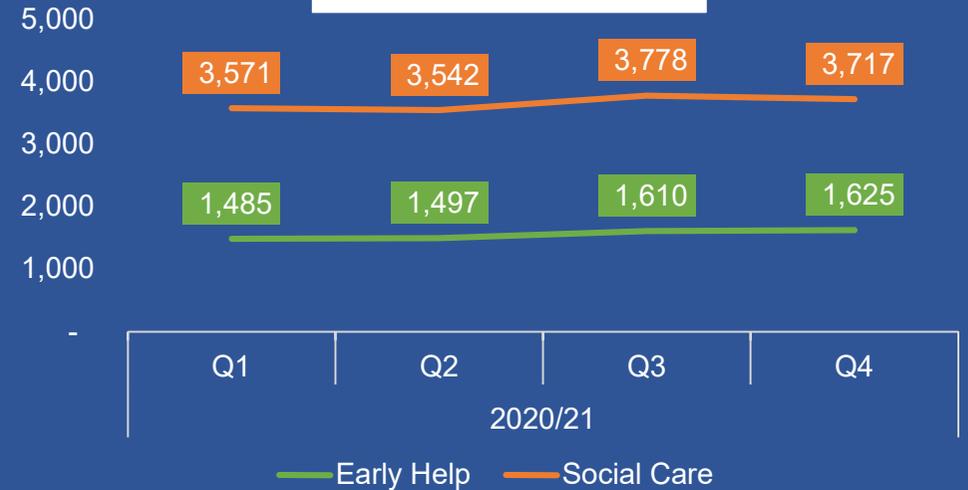
# CONNECTED COMMUNITIES SAFER: Are children, young people and families in social work services appropriately supported?

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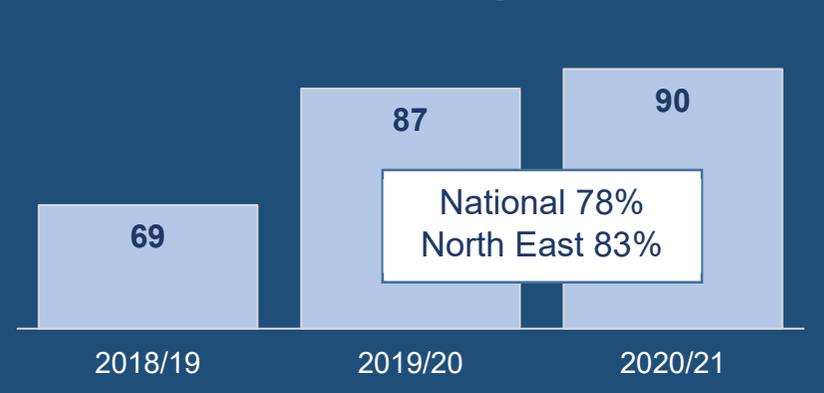
## Referrals



## No. of open cases



## % Initial Child Protection Conferences held within 15 days of S.47 investigation commencing



## No. of children subject to a child protection plan



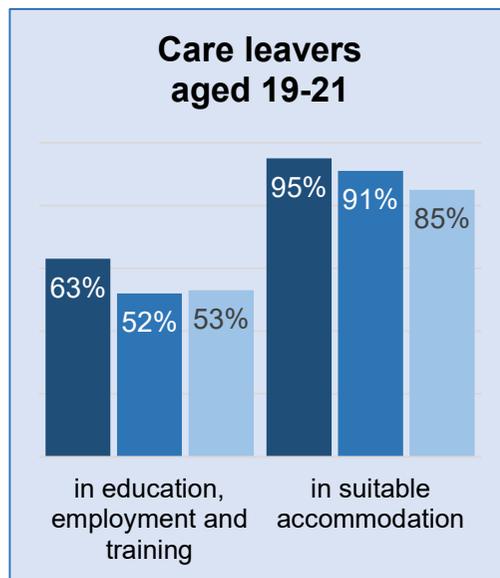
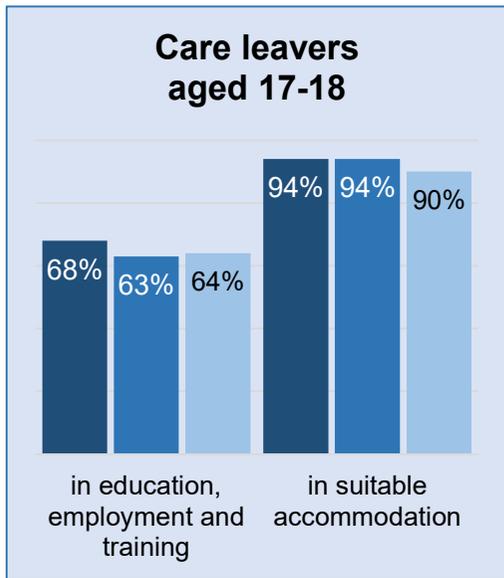
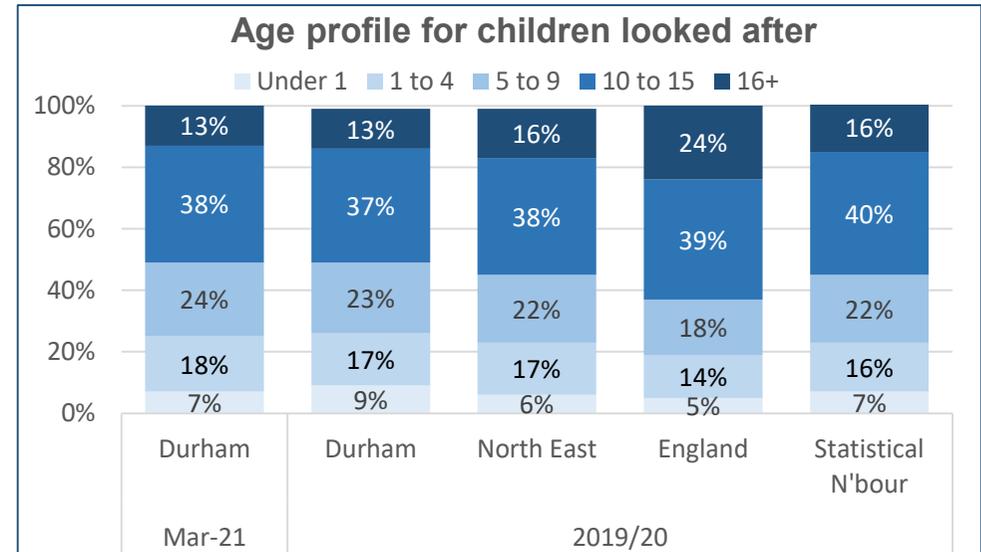
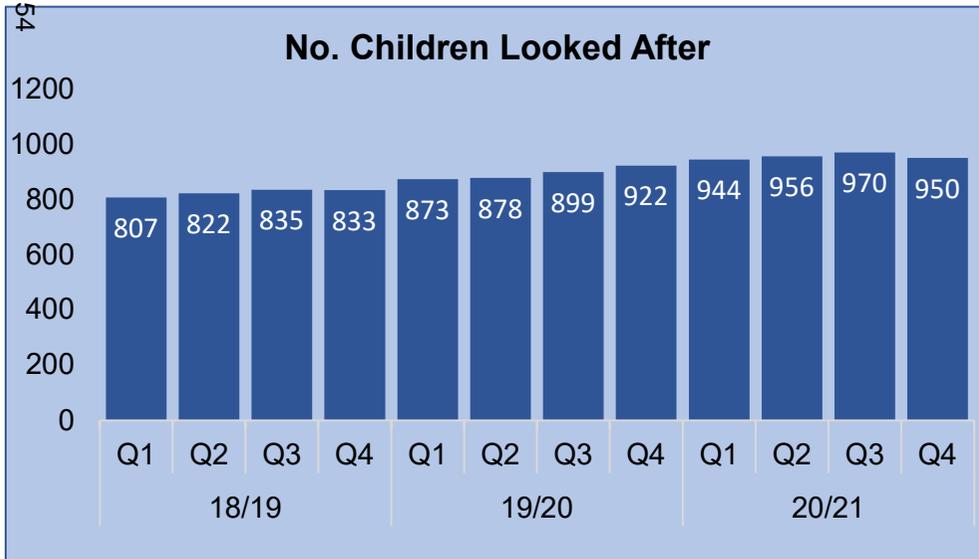
## **Connected Communities - Safer**

- 34 The ambition of Connected Communities – Safer is linked to the following key questions:
- (a) Are children, young people and families in receipt of social work services appropriately supported and safeguarded?
  - (b) Are we being a good corporate parent for children looked after?

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

- 35 During 2020/21 in line with the national trend, County Durham received 20% fewer safeguarding referrals than in 2019/20.
- 36 However, detailed analysis has shown referrals relating to children suspected of or likely to be suffering significant harm has remained static, despite the overall decrease. The analysis also highlighted that we are seeing fewer children with multiple referrals – our re-referral rate, a key area for improvement, has reduced from 29% in 2019/20 to 23% in 2020/21, which brings us in line with benchmarks and is a reflection of improved and sustained outcomes for the children and families we work with.
- 37 The complexity of the referrals to Children’s Social Care is increasing and COVID-19 has prevented us closing some cases as we have been unable to complete actions identified in children’s plans, for example parental attendance at domestic abuse perpetrator courses as the courses are not running.
- 38 This has impacted on the caseloads of social workers. However, the newly qualified social workers recruited earlier this year will soon be able to hold more cases as they progress which will have a positive impact on caseloads.
- 39 Our social workers continued to maintain face-to-face visits with children and families, particularly for those we are most concerned about. In addition, they have seen most children and young people within five days of a referral decision date, and the timeliness of key areas of work, such as assessments and Initial Child Protection Conferences, have been maintained and in some instances improved.

# CONNECTED COMMUNITIES SAFER: Are we being a good corporate parent to Children Looked After (CLA)?



■ County Durham ■ North East ■ England

### Where our children in care live

In-house foster care	42%	Independent living (incl. supported lodgings)	4%
Independent fostering agency	17%	Placed for adoption	4%
Friends and family	14%	In-house residential (incl. children's homes)	3%
Placed with parents	7%	NHS/ Health Trust	<0.5%
External residential (incl. children's homes and res school)	6%	Secure (incl. YOI and prison)	<0.5%

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

- 40 The accelerated increase in CLA during COVID-19 was predominantly due to the closure of/delays in court proceedings, rather than an increase in children starting to be looked after. This trend started to reverse during quarter four as the courts re-opened. However, there is a long-term rising trend in CLA across the county which is being closely monitored.
- 41 The higher numbers of CLA is reflected nationally, and has led to placement and budget pressures. Since the first lockdown, our in-house foster care capacity has reduced, primarily due to some foster carers de-registering or taking a break due to the pandemic. New recruitment campaigns are due to begin.
- 42 We are progressing with our Residential Care Transformation Programme, having opened one small children's home this year and planning to reconfigure / develop homes for children and young people with complex needs through to 2023.

## 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 2020/21 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
GREEN	Same or better than comparable period	Same or better than comparable group	Meeting or exceeding target
AMBER	Worse than comparable period (within 2% tolerance)	Worse than comparable group (within 2% tolerance)	Performance within 2% of target
RED	Worse than comparable period (greater than 2%)	Worse than comparable group (greater than 2%)	Performance >2% behind target

### National Benchmarking

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

### North East Benchmarking

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

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

## MORE AND BETTER JOBS

### Do our young people have access to good quality education and training?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
14	Average Attainment 8 score	48.8	2019/20 (academic year)	Tracker	Not comparable	53.1 (red)	48.4 (green)			No
15	Average point score per A level entry of state-funded school students	39.9	2019/20 (academic year)	Tracker	Not comparable	39.5 (green)	38.3 (green)			No
16	% of pupils achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths (KS2)**	65	2018/19 (academic year)	Tracker	67	65 (green)	67 (red)	61 (green)		No
17	% of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training	5.6	Jan-Mar 2021	Tracker	4.1 (red)	2.9 (red)	4.8 (red)			Yes
18	Gap between average Attainment 8 score of Durham disadvantaged pupils and non-disadvantaged pupils nationally (KS4)	-14.4	2019/20 (academic year)	Tracker	Not comparable	-13.5 (red)	-15.1 (green)			No
19	% of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage achieving a Good Level of Development**	71.8	2018/19 (academic year)	64 (green)	72.8 (amber)	71.8 (green)	71.8 (green)			No
20	Gap between % of Durham disadvantaged pupils and % of non-disadvantaged pupils nationally who achieve expected standard in reading, writing and maths (KS2)**	-19.8	2018/19 (academic year)	Tracker	-15.1 (red)	-20 (green)	-18 (red)			No
21	Ofsted % of Primary schools judged good or better	89	as at 31 Mar 2021	Tracker	91 (red)	87 (green)	91 (red)			No
22	Ofsted % of secondary schools judged good or better	64	as at 31 Mar 2021	Tracker	61 (green)	76 (red)	60 (green)			No
23	Exclusion from school of all Durham children - percentage of children with at least one fixed exclusion**	2.2	2018/19 (academic year)	Tracker	2.1 (green)	2.44 (green)	2.78 (green)	2.86 (green)		No

## LONG AND INDEPENDENT LIVES

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

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
24	% of free school meals (FSM) eligible pupils taking FSM	75.8	Jan 2020	Tracker	79.4 (red)	78.7 (red)	78.7 (red)			TBC
25	Under-18 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 17	26.4	2018	Tracker	23.7 (red)	16.7 (red)	24.9 (red)	25.0 (red)		No
26	% of five year old children free from dental decay	73.2	2019	Tracker	74.2 (amber)	76.6 (red)	76.7 (red)	71.7 (green)		No
27	Alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18s (rate per 100,000)	52.8	2017/18-2019/20	Tracker	54.7 (green)	30.7 (red)	55.4 (green)	55.3 (green)		Yes
28	Young people aged 10-24 admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000)	361.2	2019/20	Tracker	354.3 (red)	439.2 (green)	536.6 (green)	656.3 (green)		Yes
29	% of children aged 4 to 5 years classified as overweight or obese**	24.9	2019/20	Tracker	24.0 (red)	23.0 (red)	24.8 (amber)	25.0 (green)		No
30	% of children aged 10 to 11 years classified as overweight or obese**	37.6	2019/20	Tracker	37.7 (green)	35.2 (red)	37.5 (amber)	37.2 (amber)		No
31	% of Education Health and Care Plans completed in the statutory 20 week time period (excl. exceptions)	73	2020	Tracker	70.2 (green)	60.4 (green)	69.8 (green)	68.9 (green)	2019	TBC

\*\*The National Child Measurement Programme ended in March 2020 when schools closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Comparisons to North East and Nearest Statistical Neighbours should be treated with caution as not all submitted of their measurements.

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

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
32	% of successful interventions (families turned around) via the Stronger Families Programme (Phase 2)	100% [730]	2020/21	730 (green)	n/a					Yes

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
33	% of children aged 0-2 years in the top 30% IMD registered with a Family Centre and having sustained contact	88.2	2020/21	80 (green)	87.9 (green)					Yes

## CONNECTED COMMUNITIES – SAFER

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

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
55	% of statutory referrals received by the First Contact Team or Emergency Duty Team processed within 1 working day	89 [4,076 / 4,565]	2020/21 [prov]	Tracker	92 (red)					Yes
56	% of statutory children in need referrals occurring within 12 months of a previous referral	23 [1,063]	2020/21 [prov]	Tracker	29 [1,665] (green)	23 (green)	22 (amber)	20 (red)	2019/20	Yes
57	% of single assessments completed within 45 working days	88 [4,295]	2020/21 [prov]	Tracker	94.1 [4,702] (red)	84 (green)	89 (amber)	87 (green)	2019/20	Yes
58	Rate of children subject to a child protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18	45 [450]	as at Mar 2021	Tracker	41.6 [420]	43	70	58	as at 31 Mar 20	Yes
59	Rate of children in need per 10,000 population (Cases open to Children's Social Care)	368 [3,717]	as at Mar 2021	Tracker	363.8 [3,676]	324	463	414	as at 31 Mar 20	Yes
60	Rate of children open to One Point (early help) 10,000 population aged under 18	161 [1,625]	as at Mar 2021	Tracker	182.8 [1,847]					Yes
61	% of strategy meetings initiated which led to an initial child protection conference being held within 15 working days	90 [672 of 748]	2020/21 [prov]	75 (green)	89 [508] (green)	78 (green)	83 (green)	82 (green)	2019/20	Yes
62	% of Social Workers with fewer than 20 cases	57	as at Mar 2021	Tracker	62 (red)					Yes
63	% of Statutory Case File Audits which are given a scaling score of 6 or above	94.9 [37 of 39]	Oct-Dec 2020	80 (green)	85.7 (green)					No

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

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Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
64	Rate of CLA per 10,000 population aged under 18	94 [950]	as at Mar 2021	Tracker	89 [899]	67	108	99	as at 31 Mar 20	Yes
65	% of children adopted from care (as % of total children leaving care)	17	2020/21 [prov]	Tracker	16 (green)	12 (green)	12 (green)	18 (amber)	2019/20	Yes
66	% of CLA who are fostered incl. friends and family, independent fostering agency, In-house foster care	74 [697]	6-Apr-21	Tracker	78 [703]	72	74	73	2019/20	Yes
67	% of external residential placements	6 [54]	6-Apr-21	Tracker	4 [36]					Yes
68	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who had a dental check	29	Mar 2021 [prov]	Tracker	74 (red)	90 (red)	86 (red)	86 (red)	2019/20	Yes
69	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who have had the required number of health assessments	86	Mar 2021 [prov]	Tracker	84 (green)	90 (red)	92 (red)	93 (red)	2019/20	Yes
70	Emotional and behavioural health of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more (score between 0 to 40)	13.5	2019/20	Tracker	15.5 (green)	14.2 (green)	14.1 (green)	14.0 (green)	2018/19	No
71	Average Attainment 8 score of Children Looked After	25.6	2018/19	Tracker	24.8 (green)	19.2 (green)	20.6 (green)	20.5 (green)		No
72	% of CLA achieving the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths (at KS2)	55	2018/19	Tracker	39.5 (green)	36 (green)	47 (green)			No
73	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in education, employment or training	68	Mar 2021 [prov]	Tracker	60 (green)	64 (green)	63 (green)	65 (green)	2019/20	Yes
74	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in education, employment or training	63	Mar 2021 [prov]	Tracker	68 (red)	53 (green)	52 (green)	53 (green)	2019/20	Yes
75	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in suitable accommodation	94	Mar 2021 [prov]	Tracker	95 (amber)	90 (green)	94 (green)	100 (red)	2019/20	Yes
76	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in suitable accommodation	95	Mar 2021 [prov]	Tracker	100 (red)	85 (green)	91 (green)	90 (green)	2019/20	Yes

\*provisional data

Other additional relevant indicators

**MORE AND BETTER JOBS**

**Do residents have good job prospects?**

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
4	% of 16 to 17 year olds in an apprenticeship	5.1	as at Mar 2021	Tracker	6.8 (red)	3.8 (green)	5.3 (amber)	5.3 (amber)		Yes

**LONG AND INDEPENDENT LIVES**

**Are our services improving the health of our residents?**

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
34	% of mothers smoking at time of delivery	16.6	Oct-Dec 2020	14.7 (red)	16.3 (amber)	9.6 (red)	12.7 (red)	13.4 (red)		Yes
42	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth (%)	30.2	Jan-Mar 2021	31.8 (amber)	25.9 (green)	48.2 (red)	36.0 (red)	34 (red)	Q3 2019/20	No

**CONNECTED COMMUNITIES – SAFER**

**How effective are we are tackling crime and disorder?**

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
77	First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 to 17 (per 100,000 population aged 10 to 17)	176	2019/20	Tracker	262 (green)	220 (green)	303 (green)	231 (green)		No
81	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%)	51.9	2017/18	Tracker	41.4 (red)	38.4 (red)	41.8 (red)			No

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

Page Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	updated this quarter
92	No of individuals with a referral for 1:1 CSE Support from Supporting Solutions Team**	375	2020/21	Tracker	new**					Yes

\*under review \*\* New definition – Includes all children - High/Medium/Low Risk (Previously only High-Risk referred to Supporting Solutions)

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



**23 July 2021**

**Refresh of the Work Programme  
2020/21 for Children and Young  
People's OSC**

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**Report of Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources (Interim)**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

None

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYP OSC) with an updated work programme for 2021/2022.

**Executive summary**

- 2 CYPOSC review their work programmes each year to reflect the objectives and associated outcomes and actions identified within the Council Plan and in the context of the County Durham Vision 2035.
- 3 The proposed CYPOSC work programme has been framed around the shared County Durham Vision 2035 which has been developed with partners around three strategic ambitions – 'more and better jobs', 'long and independent lives' and 'connected communities.
- 4 Overview and scrutiny work programmes are designed to be flexible to accommodate items which may arise throughout the year. This flexibility is particularly important as we make our way along the government's roadmap out of lockdown. We will consider how best to enable the scrutiny function to respond in these times of continuing uncertainty.

**Recommendations**

- 5 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- a) Receive and comment on the proposed CYPOSC work programme for 2021/2022.
- b) Agree the work programme for 2021/2022 as attached at appendix 2 and the flexibility it offers to respond to emerging issues.

## **Background**

- 6 Scrutiny committee meetings have recently returned to meeting in person following the use of remote arrangements under the COVID 19 emergency regulations. During the lock down period work programmes were reviewed to enable remote meetings to focus on matters of highest priority. As a result, regular overview reports were circulated to members via email for comment.
- 7 The number of meetings in the corporate calendar available to overview and scrutiny have been substantially reduced since March 2020 due to staff capacity to support virtual meetings. At this point we are unsure how many meetings we will be allocated for 2021/2022 and will reprioritise work programmes if circumstances change. Any review of work programmes will take place with the chair and vice chair and in consultation with the committee.
- 8 The overview and scrutiny committee's work programmes are informed by:
  - County Durham Vision 2035
  - Council Plan
  - Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions
  - Partnership Plans and Strategies
  - Performance and Budgetary control data
  - Changes in government legislation
  - Key questions for improving performance.
- 9 The County Durham Partnership agreed a Vision for County Durham 2035 based on strategic assessment of need using our intelligence platform Durham Insight and develop following extensive consultation with the public. This sets out our strategic direction and what we would like to achieve over the next 15 years and is written around three broad ambitions for the people of County Durham:
  - More and better jobs

- People live long and independent lives
  - Connected communities
- 10 These remain the strategic ambitions in our response to COVID-19 crisis, where key impacts relate to employment, health and wellbeing and communities. They will also remain key as restrictions ease and we move along the roadmap from national lockdown and we continue with our restoration and recovery.

### **Council Plan 2020 – 2023**

- 11 The Council Plan is the primary corporate planning document for the county council and details Durham County Council's contribution towards achieving the objectives set out in the Vision for County Durham 2035 together with its own change agenda. It aims to provide a readable and accessible summary for members, partners and the public of our priorities for the county and the main programmes of work that we will undertake over the coming three years to help achieve these priorities.
- 12 Both the Vision for County Durham and the Council Plan are structured around the three ambitions which are mentioned above. An additional ambition of an excellent council has been developed for the Council Plan to capture the corporate initiatives that the council has identified and wants to undertake to transform its operations and enable achievement of the ambitions within the vision.

#### **More and Better Jobs**

- a) Young people will have access to good quality education, training and employment.

#### **Long and Independent Lives**

- a) Children and young people will enjoy the best start in life, good health and emotional wellbeing.
- b) Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities will achieve the best possible outcomes.

#### **Connected Communities**

- a) All children and young people will have a safe childhood.

## **Current Work Programme**

- 13 During 2020/2021 the CYPOSC prioritised items to be considered at a reduced number of formal meetings due to the coronavirus pandemic. Reports on other items were circulated via email to members. However, although there was a reduced number of formal meetings the committee has undertaken budgetary and performance monitoring and considered overview and progress monitoring reports and presentations in relation to the following:

### **Areas of Overview and Monitoring Activity**

- Impact of COVID 19 on Children and Young People's Services
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Child Poverty
- Neglect
- 0 – 25 Healthy Child Programme
- Best Start in Life
- Director of Public Health Annual Report
- Impact of COVID 19 on Education Services
- Healthy Weight Alliance
- Young Carers
- Stronger Families Programme
- Tobacco Dependency in Pregnancy
- Pre Birth Services
- Signs of Safety Update
- Progress on recommendations from the Children's Residential Care Homes Review
- Progress on Recommendations from The Role of the Social Worker from a Child's Perspective

### **Budgetary and performance monitoring:**

- Quarterly budgetary monitoring for the Children and Young People's Service Grouping.

- Quarterly corporate performance monitoring for the Children and Young People's Service Grouping.

14 In addition, the CYP OSC has also considered the following areas which cut across objectives in the Council plan or cut across the remit of other Overview and Scrutiny Committees including:

- ERASE

### **Areas for Consideration in the CYP OSC Work Programme**

15 Members of the CYP OSC are asked to agree the proposed work programme for 2021/22 that 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.

16 Paragraph 13 of the report identifies the activity undertaken by the committee during 2020/21. The committee is asked to consider areas for inclusion in the work programme for 2021/22 in light of the current Council Plan and the Vision for County Durham 2035. Appendix 2 of this report sets out a draft work programme for consideration.

### **Conclusion**

17 The work programme identifies areas of work that fall within the remit of CYP OSC and is flexible in its delivery.

### **Background papers**

- [Council Plan 2020 -2023](#)
- [County Durham Vision 2035](#)

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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

### **Climate Change**

Not applicable

### **Crime and Disorder**

Not applicable

### **Staffing**

Not applicable

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable

### **Risk**

The Overview and Scrutiny work programme is an important element of the Council's governance and risk management arrangements.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable

<p><b>Overview and Scrutiny Draft Work Programme 2020/21</b></p> <p>Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Tom Gorman</p> <p><b>Overview and Scrutiny Officer:</b> Ann Whitton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More and better jobs</li> <li>• People live long and independent lives</li> <li>• Connected communities</li> </ul>	<p>Note:</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Review – A systematic six monthly review of progress against recommendations/action plan</p> <p>Scrutiny/Working Group – In-depth review/light touch review</p> <p>Overview/progress – Information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review</p> <p>Performance/Budget – Ongoing quarterly monitoring performance reports/budgets</p>
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Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
<b>O/S Review Progress on Recommendations</b>					
<b>Elective Home Education</b>	September/October 2021	Briefing Report	Ian Shanks and Clare Nicholls	Members will understand how their recommendations are progressing.	Members will receive information on the progress of their

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
					recommendations
<b>Scrutiny/Working Group (light touch / in-depth review)</b>					
<b>Overview/Progress</b>					
Introduction to Children and Young People's Services	23 July 2021	Report to CYPOSC	CYPS Heads of Service	Members will be aware of the services provided by the service and the challenges they face; how they work with partners and the inspection regime.	Members will have an understanding of the service provided to children young people and their families.
Children, Young People and Families Partnership	23 July 2021	Report to CYPOSC	Sarah Burns Vice Chair of the CYP & F Partnership	Members will understand how the work of the committee fits with the work of the	The presentation will give members of the committee an understanding of the partnership

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
				CYPIB.	working and with the item above give a complete picture.
County Durham's Youth Council	September 2021	Briefing Report	Sarah Blakeman	The committee will gain an understanding of the work of the Youth Council in its first year	Members will be familiar with the work and achievements of the Youth Council
SEND Strategy	TBC	Circulated Electronically Member response required	Paul Shadforth/ Janet Crawford	The committee will comment and feed into the SEND Strategy	Members will have an opportunity to comment on the draft strategy.
Overview of Child Protection Procedures	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Chris Ring/ Helen Fergusson	Members will be aware of the Child Protection Procedures in place in the County	Members will have an understanding of the safeguarding pathways available.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Relationship Based Social Work Practice	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Chris Ring	Members will receive information on the signs of safety model practice and hear of its impact on social work caseloads	Members will be aware how this model of practice is benefitting children, young people and families with a social worker.
Neglect	October 2021	Briefing Report	Karen Davison	Members will receive information of the prevalence of child neglect in County Durham and the measures taken to address it.	Members will continue to monitor the levels of neglect in County Durham and scrutinise the actions to address it.
Children and Young People's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Michelle Baldwin/Julia Bates	Members will receive information on the various programmes to support children and young people with mental health and emotional	Members will Continue to monitor and scrutinise the number of programmes on offer to CYP both in school and in

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
				wellbeing issues.	the community and provide comment on them.
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Michelle Trainor/?	Members will receive information on CAMHS including in patient services	Members will continue to monitor the services provided by CAMHS including waiting times for initial appointments and inpatient services.
Support for Young Carers	December 2022	Briefing Report	Karen Davison	Members will receive information on the work being done to support young carers in County Durham	Members will continue to monitor the help and support available to young carers and

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
					their families.
0-25 Healthy Child Programme	December 2021	Briefing Report  Members of AWHOSC will be included in the circulation of this briefing report.	Michelle Baldwin/ Julia Bates/ Amanda Smith	Members will receive information from HDNHSFT in relation to the contracts they provide to DCC such as health visiting and school nurse.	Members will scrutinise the projects within the programme and gain an understanding of their performance.
Children and Young People's Services Strategy Consultation	TBC	Report to Committee	Andrea Petty/Julie Bradbrook	The committee will provide comment on the draft strategy to the consultation.	Members of the committee will have an opportunity to add their collective views to the consultation

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Child Poverty	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Karen Davison/ John Mitchell	Members will receive information on the work being done by DCC to address child poverty.	Members will continue to monitor and scrutinise the various projects and schemes to address child poverty in County Durham and comment accordingly.
Free School Meals	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Jim Murray/Alison Young	Members will receive information relating to how DCC provides support to schools and encourages eligible parents to claim for FSM for their children to ensure schools receive the correct pupil premium grant	Members will have an understanding of the numbers of people claiming for FSM, the procedures in place to aid a stress free claim and work with schools to promote FSM

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Holiday Activities with Food	February 2022	Briefing Report	Karen Davison	Members will receive information of the programmes in place to ensure children receive food during the school holidays	Members will have an understanding of the programmes and their locations.
Reducing Parental Conflict	February 2022	Briefing Report	Karen Davison	Members will receive information on support available to children living in families or suffering domestic violence	Members will have an understanding of the support provided to children and young people who are experiencing domestic violence.
Early Years Overview	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Helen Nixon	Members will receive an overview highlighting the work DCC has done to support	Members will have an understanding of the work of the service, how they have helped

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
				providers	providers especially during the last 12/24 months and the benefits that has brought to children and families.
Inclusion	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Jim Murray/David Wall	Members will receive information in relation to expanding pupil mobility, exclusion, managed moves and alternative provision	Members will have an understanding and the importance of inclusion on a child's educational development.
The Impact of Academisation	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Jim Murray	Members will receive an overview of the impact of acadamisation on County Durham's schools	Members will have an understanding of the impact of the acadamisation of county Durham's faith schools.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Stronger Families Programme	March 2022	Briefing Report	Karen Davison	Members will receive information on how many families lives have been turned around by the focussed help and support of the programme.	Members will continue to monitor the programme, the targets and performance to date.
Response to Contextual Safeguarding Work	March 2022	Briefing Report  Members of SSCOSC will be included in the circulation of the briefing report.	Lisa Wood	Members will receive information on work to protect vulnerable children from being exploited.	Members will be aware of the partnership working taking place to help and support vulnerable children.
Best Start in Life	TBC	Report to CYPOSC  Members of AWHOSC will be invited to	Michelle Baldwin/ Amanda Smith	Members will receive information on programmes that address areas such as breastfeeding;	Members will continue to monitor and scrutinise the Best Start in Life Programmes.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
		consider this item		smoking in pregnancy.	
Education, Health and Care Plans	TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Martyn Stenton/ Paul Shadforth/ Janet Crawford	Members will receive information giving detail of how the new legislation will impact of children and families who have EHCPs in County Durham	The Committee will be aware of the implications of the new legislation and what DCC is doing to implement it.
The Pause Programme	April 2022	TBD	Jac Tyler	Members will receive information relating to the Pause programme and the relaunch of the Pre-Birth Service	Members will have an understanding of the programme and its initial impact in County Durham.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Educational Attainment	May 2022	Briefing Report	Jim Murray	Members will receive information relating to educational attainment across all key stages of a child/young person's development.	Members will be aware of the educational attainment of children and young people in County Durham.
Durham Safeguarding Children Annual Report	TBD	Circulated Electronically	Chair of DSCP	Members will receive the annual report	

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report	TBD	Circulated Electronically	Chair of CPP	Members will receive the annual report	
Director of Public Health Annual Report	TBD	Circulated Electronically	Director of Public Health	Members will receive the annual report	

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
HWB Annual Report	TBD	Circulated Electronically	Andrea Petty/ Julie Bradbrook	Members will receive the annual report	
<b>Performance/Budget</b>					
<b>Performance</b> Quarterly reporting	23 July 2021 Sept/Oct 2021. Jan 2022 March 2022 TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Stephen Tracey  (Resources)	To provide Members with progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework.	Summary information to Members
<b>Budget Outturn Report</b> Quarterly reporting -	Sept/Oct 2021 Jan 2022 March 2022 TBC	Report to CYPOSC	Andrew Baldwin  (Resources)	Detail of budget	Summary information to Members