



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

**Date** Thursday 7 July 2022  
**Time** 9.30 am  
**Venue** Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham

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### **Business**

#### **Part A**

**Items which are open to the Press and Public  
Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chair's agreement  
and if registered to speak**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 May 2022 (Pages 3 - 12)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. CAMHS Waiting Times - Presentation from the Director of Operations and Transformation (CAMHS and Learning Disabilities) Tees, Esk and Wear Valley (Pages 13 - 24)
7. Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board
  - a) Report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services (Pages 25 - 32)
  - b) Presentation by the Deputy Chair of the Children, Young People and Families (Pages 33 - 46)
8. Performance Management Quarter 4 2021/2022 - Report of Corporate Director of Resources (Pages 47 - 70)
9. Refresh of the Work Programme
  - a) Report of the Corporate Director of Resources (Pages 71 - 96)
  - b) Presentation by the Finance Manager CYPS (Pages 97 - 102)
10. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

**Helen Lynch**  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall  
Durham  
29 June 2022

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, I Cochrane, M Currah, S Deinali,  
J Griffiths, O Gunn, C Hunt, L Kennedy, C Lines, C Martin, L Mavin,  
D Mulholland, K Rooney, A Sterling, S Townsend, C Varty, E Waldock  
and M Walton

**Faith Communities Representatives:**

Mrs L Keenan and Mrs L Vollans

**Parent Governor Representatives:**

Mr P Debret-Watson

**Co-opted Members:**

Ms R Evans and Ms A Gunn

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**Contact: Paula Nicholson      Tel: 03000 269710**

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## DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Thursday 5 May 2022 at 9.30 am**

**Present:**

**Councillor C Hood (Chair)**

**Members of the Committee:**

Councillors J Cosslett, C Bell, O Gunn, C Hunt, B Kellett, L Kennedy, C Martin, D Mulholland, A Reed, K Rooney, M Stead, S Townsend, C Varty, E Waldock and M Walton

**Faith Community Representative:**

Mrs L Vollans

**Co-opted Members:**

Ms R Evans

**Also Present:**

Councillors M Simmons

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Deinali, J Griffiths, L Mavin and Mrs L Keenan.

### **2 Substitute Members**

Councillor B Kellett substituted for Councillor J Griffiths and Councillor M Stead substituted for Councillor L Mavin.

### **3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2022 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

#### **4 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

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

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

#### **6 Developing a new County Durham Children, Young People and Families Strategy**

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Service and the Chair of Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board (CYP&F) that provided an update on the development of the new County Durham Children, Young People and Families Strategy – Growing Up in County Durham (GUICD) 2022-25 (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning and Deputy Chair Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board and the Strategic Manager, Partnerships were in attendance to present the report and deliver a presentation (for copy of presentation, see file of minutes).

The presentation provided the aims of the strategy, what the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board had been focussing on, Coproduction – working with the whole family, what's important to young people, families and carers and timeline and next steps.

Members were advised that the new strategy would run from 2022 to 2025 and was aligned to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The new strategy underpinned the work carried out by the service and with partners including the voluntary sector.

In refreshing the strategy, the Children, Young People and Families partnership had obtained the views of children and young people via the Youth Council, Investing in Children, One Point service and schools.

The main focus of the strategy was in four areas; Best Start in Life to promote support from the earliest stage; Prevention and early help to reduce reliance on services and to develop family hubs; Transformation that includes a maternity pathway and continuity of care; and Transitions where there are gaps in support for families.

Members were advised of the process in developing the strategy and for their input in providing answers to a series of questions:

- What words and phrases do you think should be included in a new vision for children, young people and their families?

- What aspirations should we have for our children and young people?
- What things are important as young people get older and become adults?
- What challenges do children, young people and families face?
- What can families and communities do?

The Strategic Manager Partnerships offered to come back to committee with a developed strategy at a later date.

The Chair thanked officers for their presentation and reminded members that comments on the new strategy would be recorded and collated and sent back to the service as a formal response of the committee, but that did not prevent any members who wished to comment individually.

Councillor Gunn commented that she was pleased to see that the Youth Council were involved in the development of the new strategy and that voluntary organisations were seen as part of the partnership. She indicated that it was crucial for school staff to be involved in the strategy as they were the first port of call to identify children and families in need, supported children and were part of the community. She then referred to words and phrases and a key word was opportunities and they needed to look at a succession of opportunities, it was about going forward while children and young people were developing.

The Strategic Manager, Partnerships responded that she would take on board Councillor Gunn's comments in the development of the strategy. She would reach out to schools and link with the Head of Education and Skills and schoolteachers and take account of what she said in relation to key words.

Councillor Walton commented that she was thrilled at the involvement of children in the strategy who had a powerful voice and opinion that was heard at the Corporate Parenting Panel and the children felt that they were listening, and it was important that this continued. She then suggested there should be a specific focus on teenagers as they were often negatively portrayed by the media and there could be issues with maturity of some teenagers. She was thrilled that voluntary groups and community groups were recognised and indicated that there was an issue around people saying that there was nothing for children to do but in her ward that was not the case but finding enough volunteers to run events such as youth clubs was the issue and they needed to impress on adults that they needed to be involved and be part of the solution. She suggested that a key word was connectivity and that using other avenues for promotion such as schools, doctors' surgeries and community groups and encouraged councillors to promote the work too. She would like to see the draft report and indicated that consideration needed to be given to the language and words and phrases used so that it was not negative and that positive words be used.

The Strategic Manager, Partnerships responded that she would take on board her comments and thanked the Councillor for her suggestion of asking councillors to support the work of the strategy.

Ms Evans commented that she would like to see the implications of climate change embedded into the report. She then referred to co-production and County Durham did well in talking and engaging with communities, but this was not true co-production as the parameters were set, it was not starting from the bottom, but she could see a lot of work with groups within the community. She then referred to the end of the universal youth work provided by the council and that relying on the voluntary sector to run events was fine but if you did not get volunteers the event would not happen; equally funding was problematic too. She also referred to distances and access to services, especially in the Teesdale area and commented that there was not a lot of information on this in the strategy and should be included.

The Strategic Manager, Partnerships indicated that she would take on board the comment on climate change. She acknowledged Ms Evans' comment with regard to co-production, and stated they were on a journey which was heading in the right direction. In terms of access to services this was something that young people had brought forward and would be considered as part of the development of the strategy.

The Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning and Deputy Chair Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board responded that in terms of the voluntary sector she agreed with all the comments and that more of the NHS budget went into mainstream services than the voluntary sector and they needed to change their approach to this. They had set up a voluntary sector development fund in health which was designed to do that and look at how the voluntary sector could add to that pathway and deliver part of the service and shift some of the funding into the voluntary sector if they could better deliver that pathway.

Ms Evans referred to social prescribing and that she was not sure how much it did for young people.

The Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning and Deputy Chair Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board indicated that there was a social prescriber for children in the Chester-Le-Street area and she thought that more would follow in future years.

Councillor Varty commented that people don't get to see the same person due to changes in personnel and that continuity was needed to be included into the strategy.

The Joint Head of Integrated Strategic, Commissioning and Deputy Chair Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board agreed that continuity was important

as the practitioner would know the back story without the person having to repeat the details of why they needed an appointment. She commented that the partnership were working with Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust to improve staffing within the service and were working together with family hubs. The comment on continuity would be reflected into the strategy.

Councillor Townsend commented that her area had two Sure Start Centres that were now gone and had resulted in difficulty contacting the Health Visitor as they were now located in the Church Hall, and this was not publicised. She then referred to the creation of play groups, there were residents who had ideas and knowledge but did not have support in governance or finance, but she was glad to hear about the voluntary sector development fund. She commented that a number of voluntary sector organisations were no longer able to be fully non-commercial due to the funding which was seen as negative from the users.

Councillor Townsend suggested that if the partnership had engaged with children who had special educational needs and disabilities and children in the care system it was important, they were able to read the strategy and the words they have used.

The Joint Head of Integrated Strategic, Commissioning and Deputy Chair Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board responded that they had looked to increase funding for Durham Community Action who work as an infrastructure organisation across County Durham and looked to stabilise them by giving a longer-term guarantee of funding and would encourage voluntary sector organisations to link in with Durham Community Action.

Councillor Gunn commented that the funding was not there for a universal youth service and was lost some time ago. She then commented that one in four children were living in poverty and she did not know what words or phrases could be put other than how to lift children out of poverty. She asked how often when talking to young people in the groups identified did the issue of poverty come up. This was an area that was cloaked for a variety of issues such as free school meals. She wanted to stress that the issue of child poverty was important and crucial and would like to know if it was on the agenda.

The Strategic Manager, Partnerships responded that it had come up in their initial findings from young people in terms of the consultation and engagement done so far. Finances and the cost of living was on their agenda and were concerned about.

**Resolved:** (i) That the report be noted.

(ii) That the comments on the new strategy be recorded and submitted as the formal response of the committee.

## **7 Quarter 3 2021/22 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn**

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Resources, that provided details of the outturn budget position for Children and Young People's Services highlighting major variances in comparison with the budget for the year, based on the position at the end of December 2021 (for copies see file of minutes).

The Children and Young People's Finance Manger was in attendance to present the report and highlighted the major variances. Specific reference was made to the three schools operating a licensed deficit position and that they were operating at levels below the agreed deficit.

Councillor Walton referred to the underspend due to vacant posts and was concerned the impact the vacancies would have on future plans and asked what the authority were doing to address this.

The Finance Manager responded that they were focusing on the issues of attracting staff which was a priority and several working groups had been established. A full response would be provided in writing to Councillor Walton.

**Resolved:** That the report be noted.

## **8 Impact of the Education White Paper: Opportunity for all; Strong Schools with Great Teachers**

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services that provided Members with information on Education White Papers and its impact upon the system and strategic planning around education within the council (for copy or report, see file of minutes).

The Head of Education and Skills was in attendance to present the report and explained the implications of each chapter of the White Paper in particular Chapter 4.

The Head of Education and Skills advised members of the content of the white paper highlighting concerns regarding attainment at key stage 2 and key stage 4, especially in relation to English and Maths. White Paper also identified issues with teaching pupils with special educational needs and disabilities and highlighted the Green Paper in relation to SEND had recently been published.

The Head of Service advised that there were gaps between disadvantaged pupils and their less disadvantaged peers and COVID had increased these gaps further.

Examinations were going ahead for the first time in two years, and it was a worry because within the county some pupils had greater access to schools than in others. County Durham had a mixed system with maintained schools, academy

trusts with one school or more and single academies. There were 168 maintained schools that required support and were committed to being part of the local authority, but this would reduce as the service was aware of the Church of England school's options to move to academies in the coming three to four years.

The Head of Service referred to chapter one of the White Paper which considered recruitment of teachers, incentives to fill positions and improvements to the system and to improve the quality, experience and network of special educational needs co-ordinators (SENCOs). Members were advised that there was intense pressure to recruit leaders as many were leaving the profession after three to four years.

Chapter two of the White Paper focused on curriculum, behaviour and attendance. Members were advised that Ofsted had changed focus to measuring quality provided and how to network and share information. In relation to County Durham networking was good, attendance was tough and difficult to assess as there was a time lag but probably matched national levels. Schools share attendance data, this was developed through the pandemic this data indicates that secondary school attendance in the county was 70%, but it should be at 97%. This was very important as it impacted on a young person's life chances. The White paper did not identify how this would be improved although it did refer to elective home education. However, County Durham does have provision in place for elective home education and getting young people back into school.

Chapter three of the white paper focuses on SEND and targeted support for all children who need it and suggests a national tutor programme if a child was not attending school.

Chapter four looked to introduce a fairer stronger system and that by 2030 all children would be taught in a strong Multi Academy Trust (MAT) or in a school planning to become part of a MAT, this would be a 10-year scheme to give consistency in the system. Members were advised that a strong MAT would consist of 7000 students or 10 schools or more. However, the service had requested more information on this as the narrative for County Durham was different for them to get to a MAT of this size. Local authorities would be involved in the setting up of trusts but not in running them and this was happening now. There were concerns of national trusts taking over schools in the county.

The Head of Service advised that if this white paper was mentioned in the Queen's speech, then there was a possibility that it would receive Royal Assent more quickly. There was a need to understand the timeline, which was not given, and more information was required in relation to how the Department for Education view the region.

Councillor Townsend referred to the provision of tutoring courses by 2024 and commented that available tutors were London based as tutors were not available during the pandemic and suggested that the government should flesh out the paper

more. She was concerned about the academisation of the whole education system and that a number of primary schools were still Local Authority maintained and commented that those secondary schools that were still under the Local Authority was due to multi academy trusts not finding them attractive. She asked if the authority set up multi academy trusts what would happen if those multi academy trusts came into trouble.

The Head of Education and Skills advised that Ofsted were strengthening requirements for MATs in relation to finance and were monitored by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). He continued that there were currently an outstanding secondary and a strong good secondary school that were local authority maintained and that it maybe the case that they were waiting for the best option.

Councillor Townsend referred to the SEND green paper 'Right Support, Right Place, Right Time and would welcome a discussion of the paper.

The Head of Education and Skills indicated that the green paper was published the day after the report was pulled together so they would get some more consistency. The green paper was a two-to-three-year plan around SEND and did not have much detail yet.

Councillor Martin referred to the report and strengthening community engagement and one of his concerns as the report indicated was that multi academy trusts be bigger in size. He asked if there was a fear that there would be less community engagement and less feeling that the community would have a stake in their local schools.

The Head of Education and Skills indicated that he would have that fear if the Department for Education (DfE) view was that there was enough trusts already in the system, but Durham have some good and really strong Durham based trusts and regional trusts that were involved with Durham schools and were committed to Durham's ethos. He was less confident about larger national trusts and whether they would understand some of the community issues. One of the key priorities would be how they best serve the needs of those communities.

Ms Evans referred to the establishment of a register for children not in school that was positive. She then referred to the parent pledge for any child falling behind and indicated that any parent with a child with SEND would look at this pledge and say that it was unlikely to happen. She then referred to the community and indicated that she always knew the name of the Headteacher at her local school, but this was no longer the case as it was now a trust and not embedded into the community.

The Head of Education and Skills referred to the register of children not in school and the authority had a strong ambition for this for a longer time. They were trying to get an attendance system in place a year in advance of the DfE expectations and

were asking schools to sign up to the attendance data that was shared on a weekly basis. He commented that they were ahead on some of these ambitions and was confident around the infrastructure and praised the schools and trusts who were happy to buy into this. He advised members that there were 27 academies within trusts in the secondary sector out of 31 secondary schools, and that something was needed around the system to join them up in a much better way.

Councillor Hunt commented that there was not enough SEND provision for children transitioning from primary to secondary education and asked what the strategy was going forward given there were not enough places for these children.

The Head of Education and Skills responded that the green paper was very much about SEND education support in primary schools then the drop off of the support in secondary schools and have huge numbers that went to specialist schools. The system was saying that the drop off was too significant and there were real challenges around secondary provision. There was a different strategy around enhanced mainstream provision that ran in secondary schools and advised members they had some schools who were targeted as having skills to support children so they could do more mainstream integration. Nationally, more spaces were needed in special schools to address the lack of mainstream integration at secondary level. Work was going on with special schools in relation to post 16 provision to allow more key stage 3 into special schools.

Councillor Gunn commented that there was little information in the terms of the amount of funding and a lot of the information required more clarification. More information was required of what it meant to be a multi academy trust due to the white paper. In relation to MATs she stressed anxiety for school staff, governors and parents and suggested that governing bodies needed more information before decisions could be taken. Councillor Gunn asked how much information was allowed to be given to provide support to governing bodies into moving to MATs. She asked if there was any support the local authority could provide to governing bodies?

The Head of Education and Skills advised that understanding the due diligence activities by governing bodies was needed before considering trusts as this was much more than just the financial provision. The expectation of the DfE was that the trusts were large and that tied in a lot of capital. They would need to provide help with how the scheme of delegations works within trusts, how the board works and the CEO and how independent the schools could be in terms of uniform and behaviour policies etc. and what was dictated at a central level or local government body level. The authority had a strong education governance support system which they funded as it was crucial for governors and their understanding. If the white paper came into legislation in the next five to ten years governors would have a crucial job. He advised that school improvement was a huge part of what the local authority does, and Leadership Advisers were available to support governance and would provide support should this process move forward.

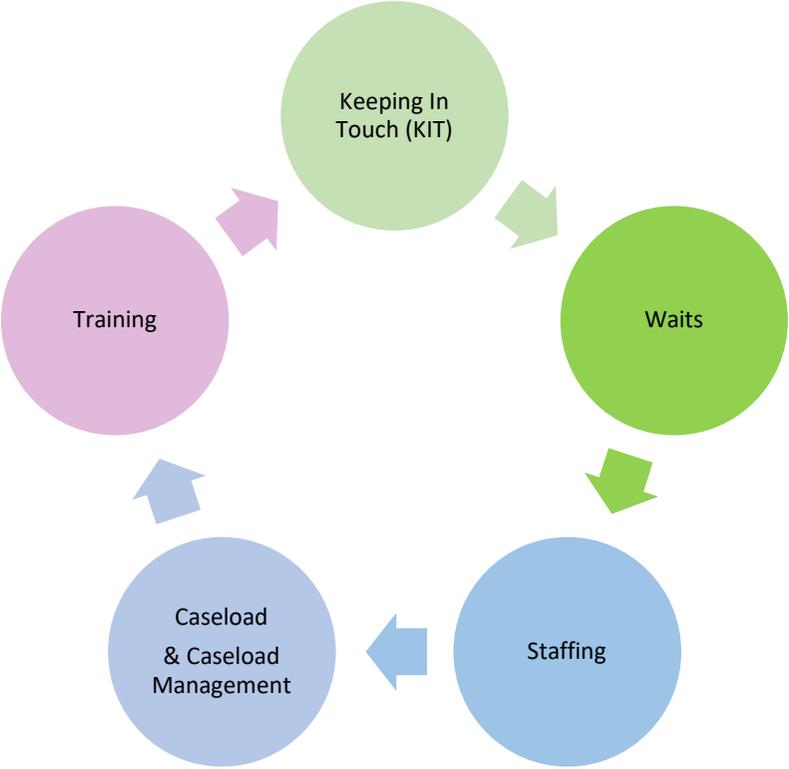
**Resolved:** That the report be noted.



Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Children & Young People's Services Durham

## Work programme- key areas



# Children & young people's services – i-THRIVE



*1 in 6 YP have MH needs, of these 30% require advice, 60% require 'Getting Help' and 5-10% require 'Getting more Help' and/or 'Risk Support'*

Meetings with external colleagues, including commissioners, VCS/3<sup>rd</sup> sector providers and some local authority colleagues to co-create and deliver the i-THRIVE framework of care

A whole system and evidenced-based approach in supporting families with their emotional wellbeing and mental health needs

Draws a clear distinction between treatment and support

Children, young people and their families are active decision makers

## Children & young people's services - i-THRIVE

- Internal restructure of CAMHS teams to align against i-THRIVE which commenced operationally in April 2021.
- Roll out of Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) to provide school based support, early help and prevention and meet young peoples need at place
  - Starting to embed in Durham and will start to develop 'whole system' practices with partner agencies
- Children, young people and their families get a more flexible access to appropriate services.
- Creates capacity in 'Getting more Help' teams to meet the needs of the more complex and risky cases
- Work planned within County Durham to further expand the 'whole system' of support to better coordinate and maximise efficiency of all available services and resource
  - North Durham pilot

## In response to CQC concerns:

- Introduced Keeping in Touch (KIT) process which is monitored daily and all staff at clinical and senior management levels have oversight.
- 97% of children (and their families/carers) currently on the Trustwide CAMHS waiting list have had KIT contact within the timeframe in accordance with their risk level.
- Waiting lists are now electronically held giving much greater visibility and accuracy across the Trust.
- Recruiting alternative roles that add value to community CAMHS teams and help meet the increases in demand, including newly qualified nurses, support workers and assistant psychologists.
- Engaged with staff to develop clinically effective solutions, drawn from their expertise, for caseload management.
- Senior leaders hold 3 x weekly huddles to monitor waiting lists & monthly tracking of training compliance.

# Waits

## **Waiting to assessment**

- Average 23 days in Durham (non-neuro referrals)

## **Waiting to Treatment**

- Average 203 days in Durham
- Strict definition of 'treatment', the support offered by the teams while young people are waiting for medical or therapeutic intervention is considered 'treatment' in other CAMHS services
- Waits for 2<sup>nd</sup> appointment (nationally recognised metric for 'treatment start') are in line with other services nationally

## Waits (specialist neuro assessment)

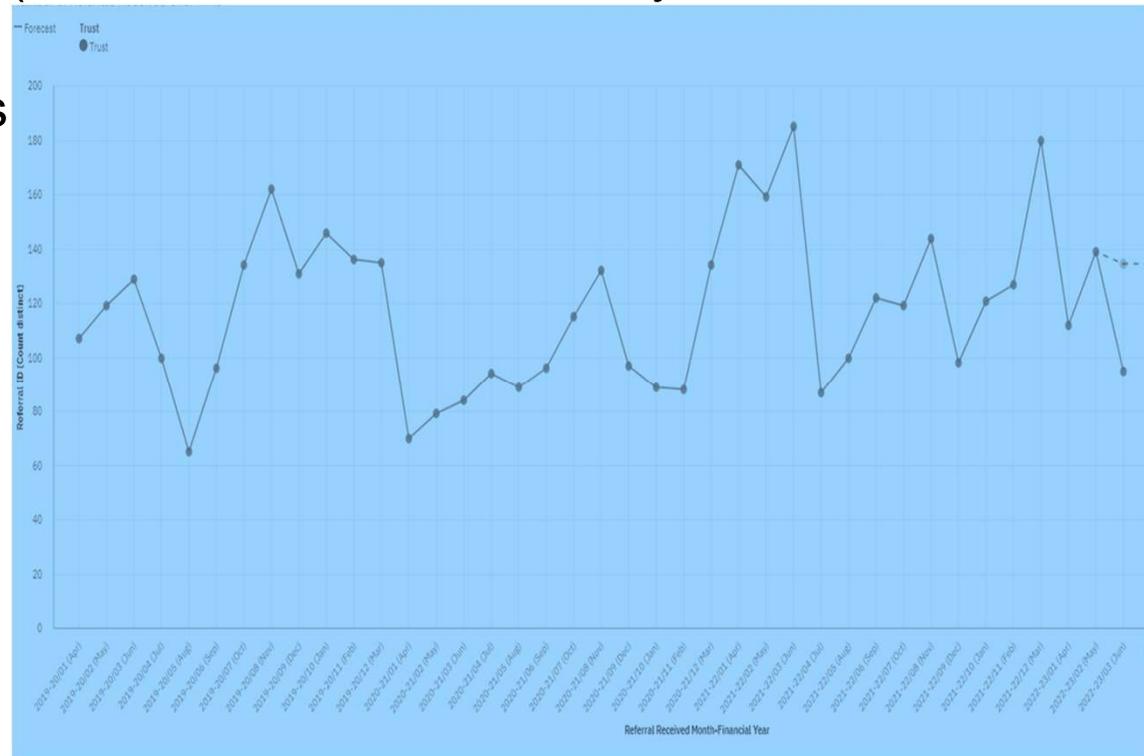
- **Waiting to Assessment**
- Average wait of those open is currently 318 days
- Waits for new referrals are currently in excess of 2 years
- This is reflective of the national picture and discussions are underway with stakeholders and partners to review what can be done to better meet families and children's needs to reduce the demand for specialist assessment.

## Crisis service:

- 24/7 service in place with access to Intensive Home Treatment (IHT) and Intensive Positive Behaviour Support (IPBS) teams
- Average wait from referral to appointment is currently 1.68 hours
- Demand does fluctuate month on month (last full month of data is May 2022, second last dot to the right, 140 referrals)

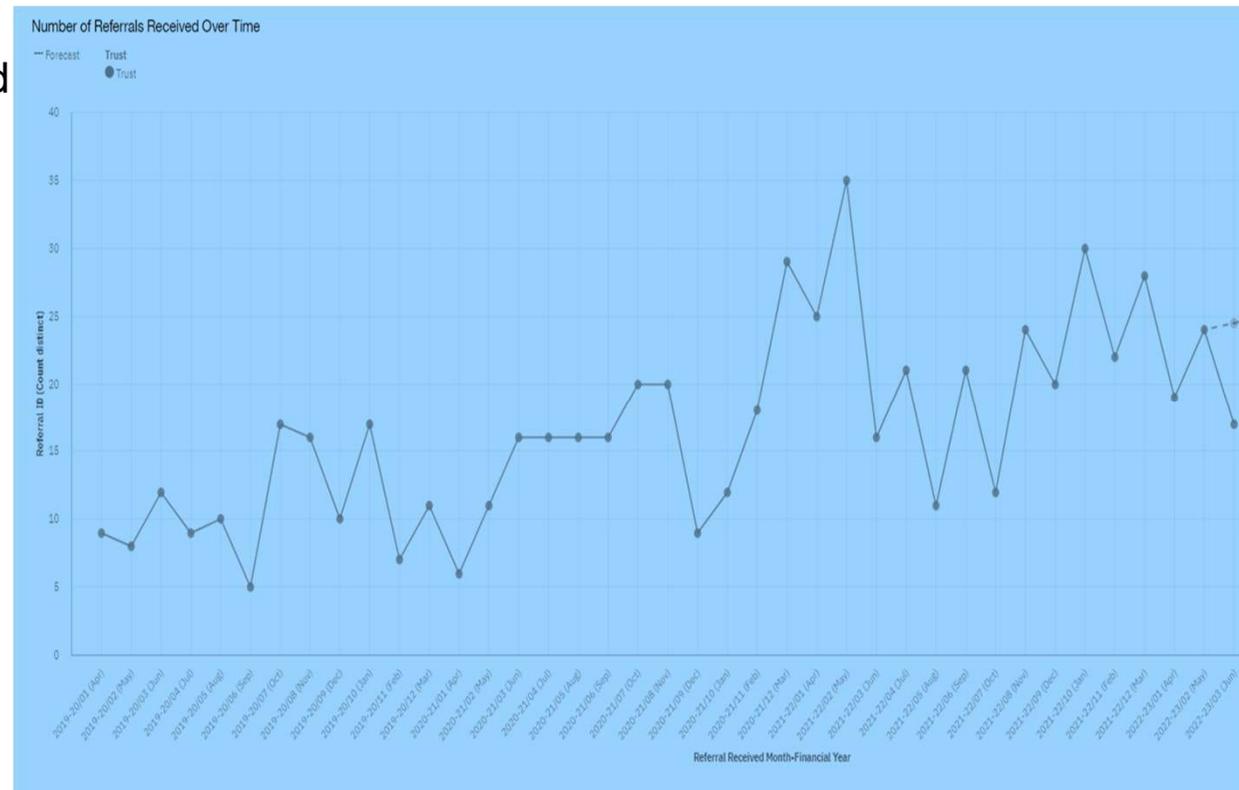
• Limited availability of tier 4 CAMHS beds nationally is putting pressure on teams

- Crisis and IHT teams are managing well, their input has reduced numbers admissions to inpatient beds overall.
- Teams are successfully supporting YP and families in the community as an alternative to admission



# Eating disorders:

- Currently no YP waiting longer than 1 week following urgent referral
- The majority of our YP who are routinely referred are seen within 4 weeks
  - 1 recent exception due to several DNA's
- Demand has increased since pre-pandemic levels (24 referrals received in May, last full month, second last dot to the right)
- YP tend to be presenting at a more advanced stage of illness currently
- Limited access to beds is putting pressure on paediatrics
- Increase in 'atypical' presentations (ARFID)
- Linked into regional and national work to identify systemic solutions to early help and prevention



## Case examples involving complex PTSD:

- Female aged 14, LAC
- Early neglect and sexual abuse by father, removed aged 6
  - In stable foster placement
- Bad memories, shame and guilt, going blank, anger
- Concerning behaviours – shoplifting, stealing food, extreme reactions to minor issues, sexually disinhibited, lying
- Peer relationship difficulties

### Treatment and outcomes:

- Lengthy involvement – over 14 months
- Initial reformulation of her difficulties and support for foster carer
- 1-1 work with young person, initially working on Shining Through Book
  - Lengthy preparation phase
  - Followed by 6 sessions EMDR
- Processing shame, blame and loss

## Case examples outcomes:

- Reduction in PTSD symptoms
- Behaviours reduced, no longer stealing/lying/ harming herself
- Less angry, able to cope with disagreements
- Thriving at school, passed GCSEs
- Went to prom
- Claimed her foster family – changed name

## Next steps:

- Work with partners to further embed i-Thrive within the whole system to better coordinate all available support services and maximise efficiencies
  - Pilot currently being scoped for North Durham to look at having multi-agency triage and decision making for YP requesting support with mental health
- Develop 'upstream' offer to families and schools to help reduce demand for specialist neurodevelopmental assessments
  - Needs-led approaches
- Communication plan for schools and public regarding service developments and how to access support
- Link with national team regarding further expansion of MHSTs for schools
  - Work towards 100% coverage
- Embed Mental Health (MH) practitioners into Primary Care Networks (PCN's) to further enhance whole system offer

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

**7 July 2022**



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

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**Report of John Pearce, Corporate Director of Children and Young  
People's Service and Chair of Children, Young People and Families  
Partnership Board**

**Electoral division affected:**

Countywide

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To provide the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the work of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board over the last year and its future work programme.
- 2 A presentation will be delivered at the meeting on 7 July 2022 by Sarah Burns, Joint Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning and Deputy Chair of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board.

**Executive summary**

- 3 The presentation attached at Appendix 2 will provide Members with an update on the work of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board, its strategic priorities, and its future work programme.

**Recommendations**

- 4 Members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
  - (a) Note the information contained within the presentation at Appendix 2, and comment accordingly at the meeting on 7 July 2022.

## Background

- 5 From 1 April 2021, a new governance structure was put 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.
- 6 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
- 7 The Integrated Care System work is progressing to ensure implementation in July 2022, with health and social care integration progressing locally against adult and children's services priorities.
- 8 The strategic priorities of the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board are:
  - (a) Service Transformation
  - (b) Prevention and Early Help
  - (c) Best Start in Life
  - (d) Transitions
- 9 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.
- 10 Over the past year, the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board has been involved in a number of areas of work including:
  - (a) Covid 19 Rapid Review
  - (b) Ockenden report (an independent review of maternity services)
  - (c) Strategic focus of Children Looked After under one year old

- (d) Children, Young People and Families Strategy – Growing Up in County Durham (GUiCD) 2022 – 25
  - (e) Enhanced parenting support pathway
  - (f) VCS development fund
- 11 The Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee have already received an update on the development of the new County Durham Children, Young People and Families Strategy – Growing Up in County Durham (GUiCD) 2022 – 25 on 5 May 2022 to ensure their views are incorporated into the developing strategy which is being coproduced with children, young people and families.
- 12 The draft Growing Up in County Durham Strategy will be presented to the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee for further comment at their meeting on 23 September 2022.
- 13 A developing future work programme for the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board include a number of areas of focus:
- (a) Different ways of delivering services
  - (b) Ockenden report – maternity services
  - (c) Therapy services for children with complex needs
  - (d) Placement Sufficiency
  - (e) CAMHS partnership working
  - (f) Social Care
- 14 Appendix 2 to this report contains a presentation that provides an update of the work of the Children and Young People and Families Partnership Board over the last year and its future work programme.

## **Conclusion**

- 15 The report and attached 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 its future work programme.

## **Background papers**

- None

## **Other useful documents**

- None

## **Author**

Julie Bradbrook

Tel: 03000 267325

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

The CYPFP ensures it incorporates the legal requirements pertaining to children's services.

### **Finance**

Resources will need to be agreed and the CYPFP will guide resource decisions and priorities.

### **Consultation**

Partners and children, young people and their families and carers have all been provided with an opportunity to shape the direction and the content of the Children and Young People's Strategy – Growing up in County Durham and will continue to be involved throughout the lifetime of the plan.

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

An Equality Impact Assessment is being undertaken as part of the process for developing the new CYPF Strategy.

### **Climate Change**

There are no climate change implications.

### **Human Rights**

There are no adverse implications.

### **Crime and Disorder**

The new strategy is aligned with and contributes to the current priorities within the Safe Durham Partnership Plan which focuses on crime and disorder.

### **Staffing**

Resources will need to be agreed and the CYPFP will guide resource decisions and priorities.

### **Accommodation**

There are no accommodation implications.

**Risk**

A clear strategy framework is vital to ensure improvement in Children's services across the County.

**Procurement**

Commissioners will take account of the GUiCD strategy when procuring services aligned to children, young people and families.

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

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Attached as a separate document.

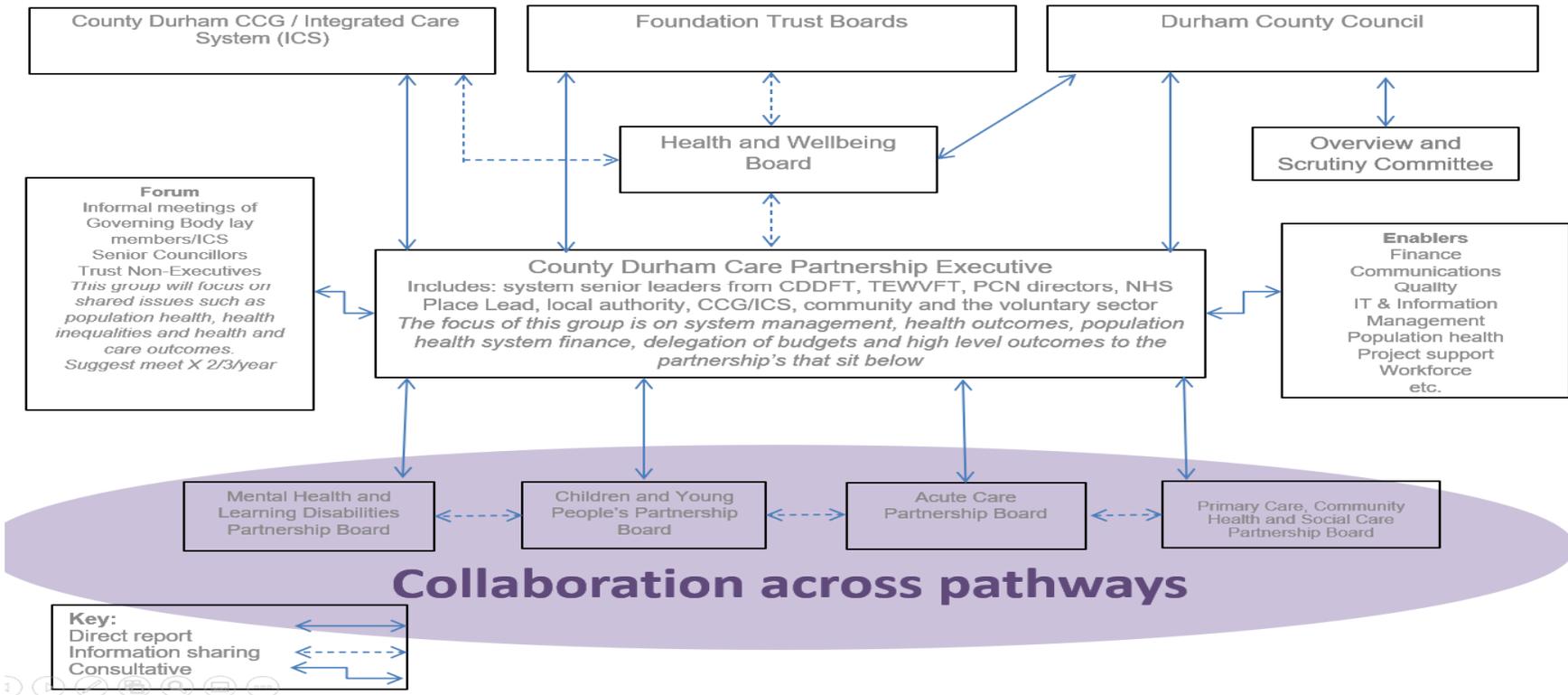
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# Children And Young People's Overview And Scrutiny Committee 7 July 2022

## Overview of Children, Young People and Families Partnership Board

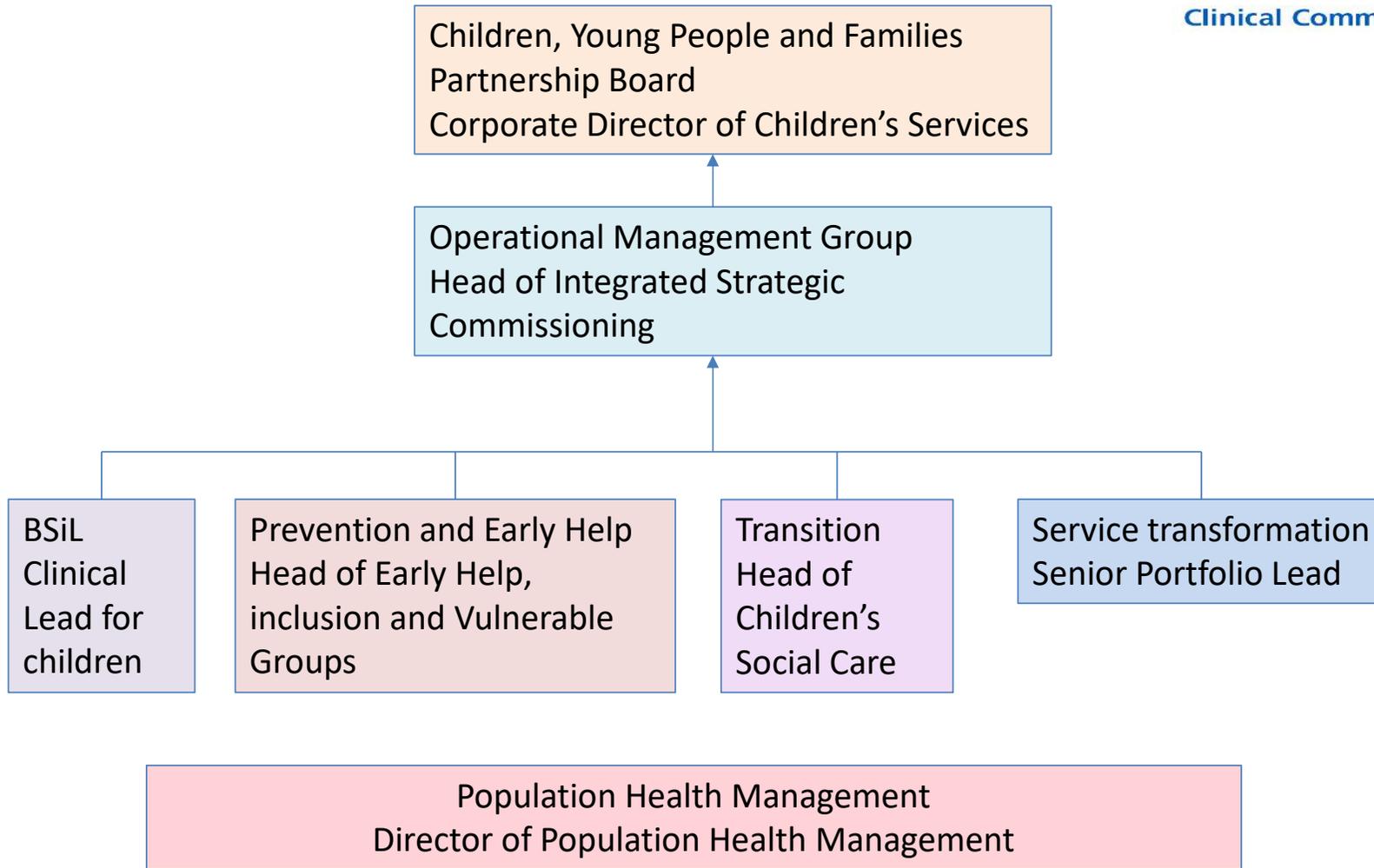
**Sarah Burns, Joint Head of Integrated Strategic  
Commissioning and Deputy Chair Children, Young  
People and Families Partnership Board**

## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE ACROSS COUNTY DURHAM (May 2021)



Growing Up in County Durham Strategy

System Operational Plan



# 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:
  - Best Start in Life
  - Early Help
  - Transition
  - Service Transformation



# Integrated Care Board



- No immediate change on 1 July 2022
- CDCP Executive will continue as the point of escalation
- Partnership Board structure will remain



# Covid 19 Rapid Review



## Indirect impacts of Covid-19 on children and Young People:

- **Societal impacts** - include widening inequalities and increasing child poverty.
- **Individual impacts** - include poorer mental health and wellbeing, poorer physical health, reduced educational attainment and reduced employment opportunities.
- The pandemic associated recession, school closures and reduced access to support services are having a **disproportionate impact** on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.
- **Waiting times** for paediatric hospital services (physical and mental health) have increased across all providers.

## Ockenden report

- Published in February 2022.
- Analysis of our current position against the recommendations
- The Local Maternity Network are leading this to ensure a collaborative approach across the region.
- Continuity of Carer
- Paused to ensure safe staffing levels



# Strategic Focus Unborns/ Under 1's



- Durham has consistently had a higher proportion of under 1s in care at year end (31 March)
- Alongside a higher proportion of CLA starts being aged under 1 – Highest 10 in England

## Strategic Delivery Group for Vulnerable Pre-Birth and under 1-year olds in County Durham

- Develop integrated pathways
- Develop and monitor a strategic plan
- Develop and implement a quality assurance framework

# GUICD strategy – Emerging themes

- Family, friends and community
  - Being Safe
  - Tackling inequalities
  - Learning and skills development
  - Impact of Covid-19
  - Emotional Wellbeing
  - Access to services
- 
- **Draft GUICD strategy – CYPOSC**  
**23 September 2022**



# Enhanced Parenting Support pathway

- Previously Vulnerable parent pathway
- Identify families who would benefit from additional support (HV's, GP's, midwives, one point service)
- Recruit onto pathway antenatally
- One Point Early Help practitioner allocated



## Enhanced Parenting Support Pathway (EPSP)

*Guidance for Midwives, Health Visitors, Family Health Practitioners and Early Help Practitioners*



# VCS development fund

- £2.5 million available over 4 years – non-recurrent
- To improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities
- To provide infrastructure support to the VCS
- To use the VCS to engage with our population when reviewing pathways/services
- To deliver part of a service or pathway

# Future work programme

- Different ways of delivering services
- Ockenden report – maternity services
- Therapy services for children with complex needs
- Hospital services
  - for children post covid
  - Transitional services – child to adult
- Placement Sufficiency
- CAMHS partnership working
- Social Care





**Thank you**

**Any questions?**

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

**7 July 2022**

**Quarter Four, 2021/22  
Performance Management Report**

**Ordinary Decision**



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**Report of Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources**

**Electoral division(s) affected:**

Countywide.

**Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To present an overview of progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework and highlight key messages to inform strategic priorities and work programmes.
- 2 The report covers performance in and to the end of quarter four, January to March 2022.

**Executive Summary**

- 3 The government has now removed the last remaining COVID-19 restrictions and launched a plan for '[living with COVID](#)' based on choice and personal responsibility.
- 4 However, as we transition from the pandemic, the household budgets of many of our residents remain tight. As of January 2021, the cost of living was at a 40 year high, prices had increased by almost 6% over a 12-month period, inflation is rising faster than wages and expected to climb above 10% within the year, and private rents are 7% higher than pre-COVID levels. In addition, more financial pressures are emerging with energy bills expected to increase by 50% following the removal of the energy price cap, and a 1.5% rise in National Insurance contributions in April 2022.
- 5 The latest published data estimated that almost 15% of households across the county were experiencing fuel poverty. However, this data relates to 2020, before the latest cost of living increases and escalation in energy prices. It is therefore expected that the actual percentage to be both higher and to increase over the coming months, with people in rural areas and/or already struggling being disproportionately affected. As

fuel prices increase, the cost of transport will increase and accessibility of the poorest people to essential services is likely to decrease, again exacerbated in rural areas.

- 6 Through the Poverty Action Steering Group (PASG) we have adopted a coherent and co-ordinated strategic approach, both within the council and across our partners to address poverty across County Durham. We are currently consulting on a revised [Poverty Action Plan](#), which sets out a comprehensive response to the impacts of the wide-ranging poverty issues within the county.

### **More and Better Jobs**

- 7 Of the 22 schools in the county inspected by Ofsted during the quarter, 17 now have a good or outstanding rating, an increase of six schools. The remaining five schools either require improvement to be good or are classed as inadequate, a net reduction of two schools.
- 8 Fourteen qualifying safeguarding complaints were made to Ofsted in relation to schools during quarter four. Although higher than the five received in the same period last year, it is four lower than quarter three which suggests stability might be returning to the school environment.
- 9 We have seen a year-on-year increase in children and young people electively home educated; there are 637 children in County Durham in this cohort, less than 1% of all pupils.

### **Connected Communities**

- 10 Ofsted announced the council's Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS) on 29 April 2022. The inspection is focussed on the effectiveness of local authority services and arrangements to help and protect children, the experiences and progress of children in care wherever they live, including those children who return home, the arrangements for permanence for children who are looked after, including adoption and the experiences and progress of care leavers.
- 11 They will also evaluate the effectiveness of leaders and managers, the impact they have on the lives of children and young people and the quality of professional practice.
- 12 Demand for children's social care support remained high throughout 2021/22 despite a reduction in referrals from the 2019/20. Over pandemic period, a combination of COVID-19 and increasingly complex cases have taken longer to work to a satisfactory outcome.
- 13 This higher demand has led to sustained high caseloads over the year which in turn led a decline in performance in some key performance areas around the timeliness of our assessments and other processes.

The service continues to recruit over-establishment to mitigate these pressures.

- 14 However, the measure to track the overall quality of service, our re-referral rate, continues on a positive trajectory much reduced from pre-pandemic and now lower than all benchmarks.
- 15 Placement sufficiency for looked after children was a key challenge throughout the year. The service continues its Residential Care and Fostering Transformation Programmes intended to build capacity and choice of placement to meet the needs of all children in our care.

## **Risk Management**

- 16 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**

- 17 That Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes 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.

## **Background**

- 18 The performance report is structured around the three components.
  - (a) High level state of the County indicators to highlight areas of strategic significance. These are structured around the [County Durham Vision 2035](#).
  - (b) Council initiatives of note against the ambitions contained within the vision alongside a fourth 'excellent council' theme contained within our [Council Plan](#)<sup>1</sup>.
  - (c) A long list of key performance indicators against the themes of the Council Plan.
- 19 It also includes an overview of the continuing impact of COVID-19 on council services, our staff, and residents.

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<sup>1</sup> approved by full council October 2020

## **Background papers**

- County Durham Vision (County Council, 23 October 2019)  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s115064/Draft%20Durham%20Vision%20v10.0.pdf>

## **Other useful documents**

- Council Plan 2020 to 2023 (current plan)  
<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2366/Council-Plan>
- Quarter Three, 2021/22 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s152742/Performance%20Report%202021-22%20003.pdf>
- Quarter Two, 2021/22 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s149087/Q2%20Performance%20Report%202021-22%20-%20Cabinet.pdf>
- Quarter One, 2021/22 Performance Management Report  
<https://democracy.durham.gov.uk/documents/s144872/Q1%20Performance%20Report%202021-22.pdf>

## **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, 2021/22



## More and Better Jobs

- 1 The ambition of More and Better Jobs is linked to the following objectives:
  - (a) Young people will have access to good quality education, training and employment;

## National, Regional and Local Picture

- 2 Latest data (February 2022) show that 495 young people aged 16-17 (from a cohort of 11,187) are not in employment, education or training (NEET). This equates to 4.4% of the cohort of 16-17 year-olds in County Durham, and compares to an average of 2.6% for England and an average of 4.4% for the north east.
- 3 The proportion of young people whose current destination is 'not known' in County Durham is 0.6%, which is lower than the average for England (1.7%), as well as the average for the north east (0.7%). The combined proportion of young people aged 16-17 in County Durham who are NEET or whose destination is not known is 5.1%. This compares to an average rate for England of 4.3% and an average rate for the north east of 5.1%.

## Council Services

### Young people will have access to good education, training and employment

- 4 During quarter four, Ofsted inspected 18 primary schools, three secondary schools and one special school. Of these:

	School type		
	Primary	Secondary	Special
moved from 'outstanding' to 'good'	2		
maintained 'outstanding' or 'good' rating	8	1	
moved from 'inadequate' or 'requires improvement' to 'good'	4	1	1
<b>Total 'outstanding' or 'good'</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
moved from 'good' to 'requires improvement'	3	1	
remained at 'requires improvement'	1		
<b>Total 'requires improvement'</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	

- 5 Children Looked After (CLA) continue to be supported by the virtual school. There are 654 CLA of statutory age as well as 85 in early years and 119 post-16. All

Personal Education Plan (PEP) meetings for the spring term took place during the period.

- 6 Attendance rates were 92.9% across all settings on 3 March 2022. This improvement in the attendance rate followed a period in January 2022 when rates declined to 84.5% around the same time as there were increases in infection rates associated with COVID-19. The decline in attendance in January 2022 was mirrored nationally. Rates of attendance for children and young people with a social worker were 88% and for those with an EHCP 91% on 3 March 2022 and the same trend was noted of declining rates in attendance for vulnerable groups in the month of January 2022.
- 7 Overall numbers of pupils electively home educated (EHE) remain low fluctuating between 0.6% and 0.8% of the school age population. Year on year, comparing similar time period markers there is an ongoing rising trend in EHE numbers. This trend has continued in the current quarter and this trend is reflected nationally. Staff continue to support families to return to school where this is the preferred choice of families and a multi-agency EHE panel continues to support EHE children and young people via meetings, safe and well calls and other checks. A newly developed business application tool adds an additional layer of oversight for the cohort, and it is anticipated that this will enable more sophisticated triaging moving forward.
- 8 During quarter four, 14 qualifying safeguarding complaints were made to Ofsted in relation to County Durham schools. This compares to five in the same period last year. This increase could be a consequence of the pandemic, given that most children and young people were accessing virtual learning rather than attending schools for large parts of 2020, so their social interaction with staff and peers was limited. During quarter three this year there were 18 qualifying complaints, which highlights that there has been a slight reduction during quarter four and may indicate that stability is returning to the school environment.
- 9 Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to identify children missing from education in their area. With partners, a protocol is in place to establish the whereabouts of a child before the school can delete their name from the school register. The protocol includes referral to children's social care, police, NHS and local authority services to ensure children moving between areas are tracked, in appropriate cases. In quarter four, 125 students were referred to the local authority.

	No. of children
Successfully tracked	87
Moved within county. School transfer discussions ongoing	1
Moved out of county. Relevant local authorities informed	16
Referred for school attendance enforcement action	1
Processing as admissions to schools in County Durham	13
Has an EHCP is and awaiting placement	2
Awaiting further information from referrer	5

- 10 Our Behaviour and Inclusion Panels continue to provide support to pupils at risk of exclusion. During quarter four, 24 pupils were supported by the primary panel (none were permanently excluded) and 331 by the secondary panel (there were 24 permanently excluded pupils from panel schools and two from the two schools who do not participate within the panel arrangements and one from a Special School).
- 11 Managed moves for 57 secondary pupils and one primary pupil were arranged. Of the 24 secondary best advice transfer meetings, two moved from out of county to Durham and 22 from Durham to Durham schools. Fourteen students transferred following the meeting and the other 10 remained at their home school.
- 12 Eight quality assurance visits were carried out at alternative provision providers (providers such as pupil referral units that are used when pupils are unable to access mainstream school for reasons such as exclusion, behavioural issues or illness) and resulting action plans shared. Three students were reintegrated back into mainstream education following a permanent exclusion.
- 13 Young people aged 15-24 who are NEET / at risk of becoming NEET are supported through DurhamWorks. The original programme, which commenced in 2016, came to an end in December 2021. Overall, 8,750 young people were supported by DurhamWorks during this period, of which 55% were defined as 'vulnerable'. 6,297 (78%) young people subsequently progressed into education, employment and training or gained a qualification on completion.
- 14 The original programme achieved 94% of its target for 'starts', as well as 104% and 111% of its targets for 'completions' and 'progressions' respectively. An analysis concluded that for every £1 spent on the DurhamWorks, the social return on investment achieved was £2.78.
- 15 As a result of funding secured from the European Social Fund / Youth Employment Initiative, as well as the Youth Futures Foundation, three new DurhamWorks programmes commenced in January 2022: DurhamWorks, DurhamWorks 3 and DurhamWorks Futures. These programmes ensure that

young people who are NEET / at risk of becoming NEET (including young people who are defined as 'vulnerable' and experience significant labour market disadvantage) will have access to transition support, financial support to overcome specific barriers, as well as a range of learning provision and activities to enable them to progress into education, employment and training.

- 16 As part of our statutory responsibilities, we collect the destinations of Year 11 school leavers on an annual basis. The latest report shows that of those young people who completed secondary education in June 2021, 93.3% (5,246) progressed into post-16 learning, 2.9% (162) became NEET, out of a cohort of 5,621 young people. This compares to 93.9% (4,907) of young people who completed secondary education in June 2020 who progressed into post-16 learning and 3.2% (169) who became NEET, out of a cohort of 5,228 young people.
- 17 Following collaboration with Durham University to launch Durham Global Alliance in October, we have jointly promoted the Lunar New Year celebrations, the Language Detective programme for schools and the continuing professional development event for teachers of Spanish. Working with the University's School of Modern Languages and Cultures we engaged their students in delivering activities for 1,150 County Durham pupils. We have also created opportunities for 30 international students to work as volunteers in our schools; a further 12 supported Lunar New Year and 150 pupils were engaged in the 'It's a small world' project in March.
- 18 In addition, during the year, we have delivered a successful programme of events to school audiences across County Durham and the wider north east region that helped build language and intercultural awareness skills. The programme delivered 12 events, mostly achieved online due to pandemic restrictions, and involved 3,320 learners.
- 19 Government funding for international opportunities in education and training is limited to the Turing Scheme and in 2021/22, 11 of the of the successful 114 projects nationally were from County Durham schools which received more than £300,000 in grant awards.

## **Long and Independent Lives**

- 20 The ambition of Long and Independent Lives is linked to the following key objectives:
  - (a) Children and young people will enjoy the best start in life, good health and emotional well-being;

- (b) Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities will achieve the best possible outcomes;

## **National, Regional and Local Picture**

- 21 Under-18 conception data have shown a continued reduction in rates which continue to be below the north east average, although latest data does not include any period of the pandemic.

## **Council Services**

### **Children and young people enjoying the best start in life, good health and emotional well-being**

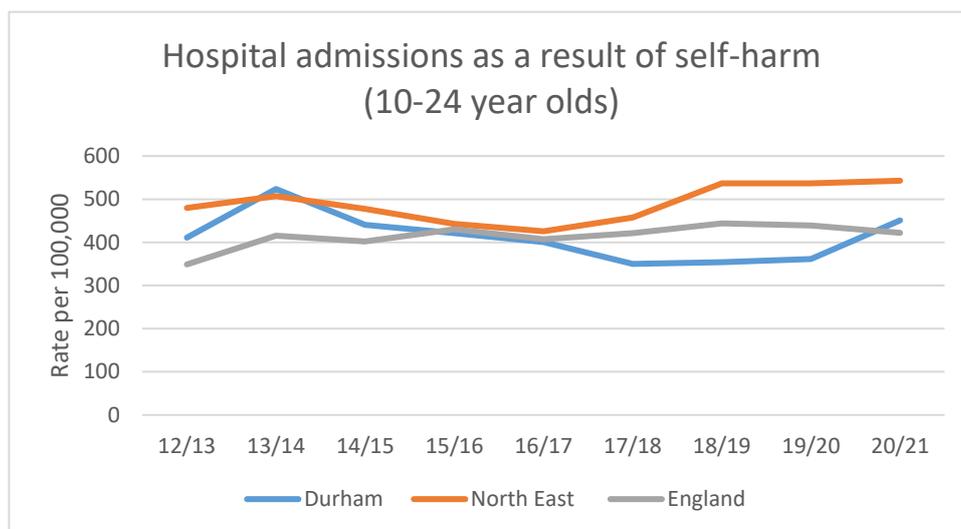
- 22 Work is taking place to refocus the Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Steering Group, to narrow the gap and address inequalities which young people may face.
- 23 Work to support the Active 30 scheme has continued and is now embedded in the Fun and Food website to support young people to be active during holiday periods. The half term holiday in February 2022 saw an increase in people accessing the website for ideas. The public health team is exploring how the programme can further support secondary schools from September 2022.
- 24 Consultation has been undertaken in Shildon to gauge appetite for the Play Streets pilot scheme, with the pilot expected to take place during the school summer holidays. This aims to empower residents to encourage outdoor play, to support physical health and mental wellbeing.
- 25 The 2020/21 National Child Measurement Programme data collection was severely hampered by COVID, with the result being that most local authorities have no data for that year due to an insufficient sample. Analysis by NHS Digital and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, however, demonstrates that the national data is reliable and comparable to previous years.
- 26 Key points from the national release include:
- There was an unprecedented increase in the prevalence of obesity and severe obesity for Reception and Year 6, for boys and girls, between 2020 and 2021 (nationally).
  - Boys, particularly in Year 6, have experienced the largest increases in obesity and severe obesity.

- The largest increases in the prevalence of obesity and severe obesity in boys and girls have occurred in the most deprived areas of England, resulting in the large and persistent disparities in child obesity having worsened.

27 In County Durham, childhood obesity has been rising over time, so we can reasonably expect that trend to continue into the pandemic period. Based on the national data we can also reasonably assume that the gap between the most and least deprived children in terms of obesity will also increase locally.

28 In Reception around 1 in 4 pupils is of excess weight (overweight or obese) in County Durham (24.9%, 2019/20). This means that 3 in 4 Reception pupils are of healthy weight. For Year 6 pupils being of excess weight increases to around 1 in 3 (37.6%, 2019/20).

29 The increase in overall admission rates for self-harm is also reflected in data specifically for those under-18. While regional and national rates reduced or remained the same during the first year of the pandemic, admission rates for children due to self-harm in County Durham increased significantly. This also reflects studies noted in the WHO report, which found ‘a general rise in self-harm presentations among adolescents’.



30 Significant work has been undertaken at the request of the Children and Young People’s Mental Health Partnership, to better understand self-harm, with a particular focus on under-reporting and recording. A multi-agency Self Harm Action Plan has been developed and focuses on data, response and prevention.

31 In relation to the Stronger Families programme, the 2021/22 target of 760 families turned around was achieved. Overall, between April 2015 and March 2022, 6,077 families have been turned around, out of 14,444 eligible families identified through the programme to date.

### **Stronger Families**

**6,077 families turned around**  
(2015 – March 2022)

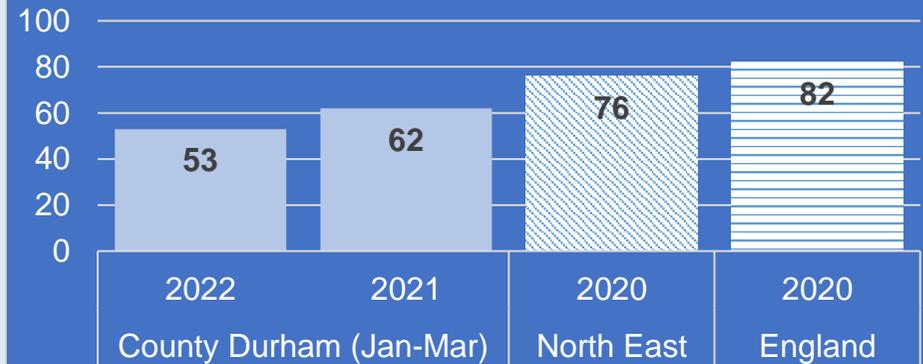
following intervention...

**2,525** workless families progressed to work

**3,513** families reported reduced mental health issues

**1,697** families reported reduced substance misuse

**% EHCP completed within 20 week time period**



## **Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities will achieve the best possible outcomes**

- 32 We have continued to see an increase in new requests for education, health and care plan (EHCP) assessments. For the period January to March 2022, there has been a 73% increase in the number of requests compared to 2021, which is also an increase of 45% since 2019 (pre-pandemic). 53% of assessments completed in the period (excluding exceptions) were within the 20 week timescale which is lower than for the same period last year although there has been a 13% increase in the total number of assessments completed in the period following the embedding of a new casework team.

## **Connected Communities**

- 33 The ambition of Connected Communities is linked to the following key objectives:
- (a) All children and young people will have a safe childhood;

## **Council Services**

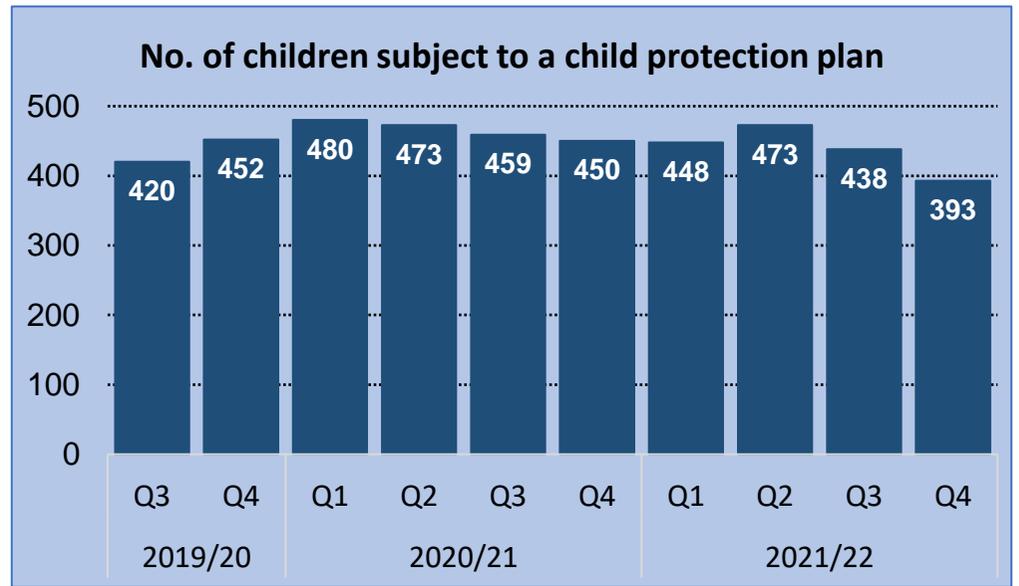
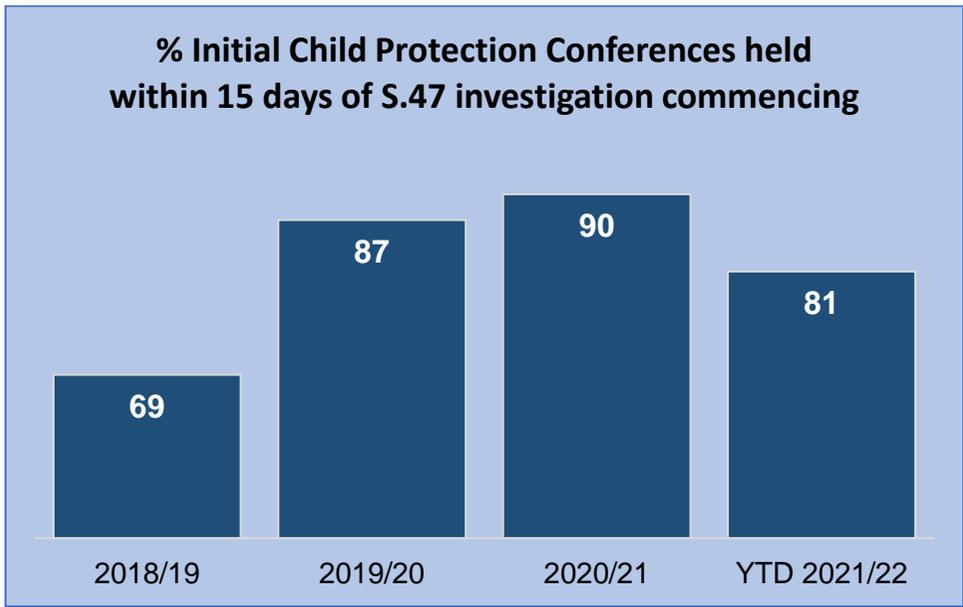
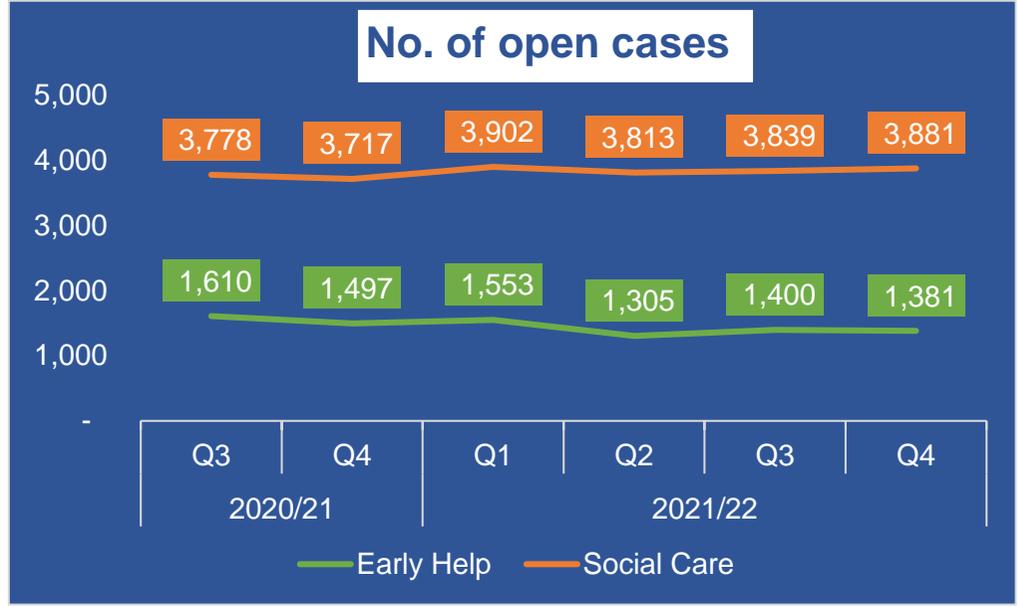
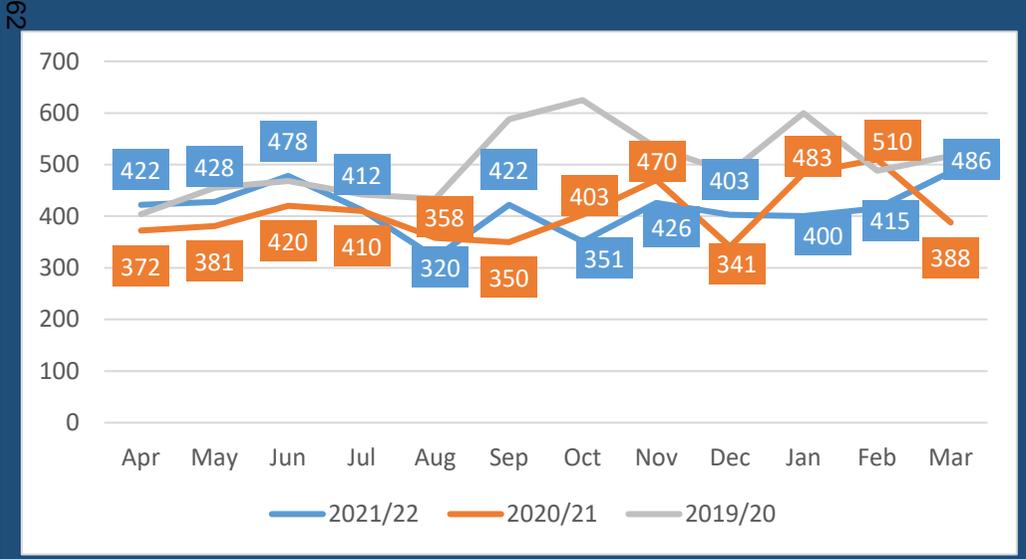
### **All children and young people will enjoy a safe childhood**

- 34 In 2021/22, we received almost 5,000 safeguarding referrals into our children's social care teams. Domestic abuse remains the most common reason for referrals into children's social care, followed by neglect and sexual abuse. Both COVID-19 and complexity of cases has led to around 3,500 children and young people open to statutory social care teams in County Durham at any one time.
- 35 This has impacted on social worker caseloads, and some have higher caseloads than we would want. Due to demand pressures on our frontline teams some key areas of performance have decreased in recent months, for example the proportion of our assessments which are completed within a 45 working day timescale and timeliness of initial child protection conferences. Senior managers are aiming to address this with service redesign and continued close work with colleagues in early help. The council continues to support children's social care to recruit staff over-establishment.
- 36 A key area for improvement which we have focused on since 2019/20 was reducing the re-referral rate. This means children who are referred back into children's social care who had a previous referral in the last 12 months. This has decreased to 19% from 28% in 2019/20, and is now lower than in our national, statistical and regional neighbours.

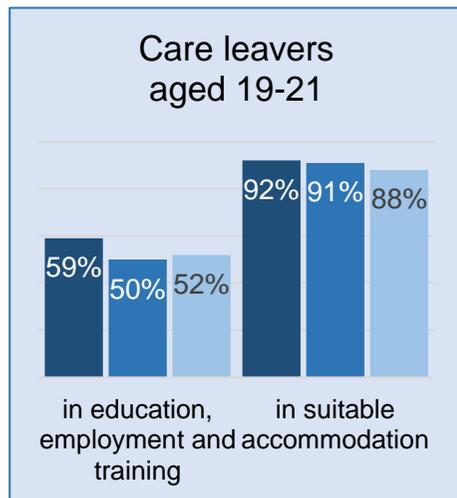
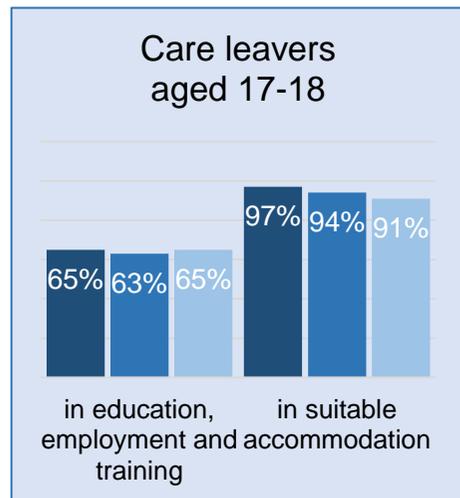
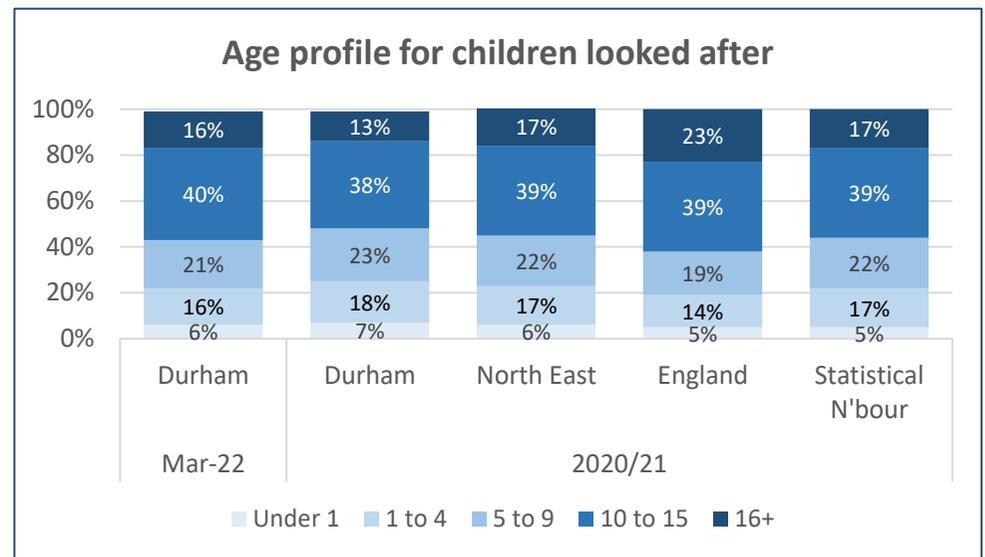
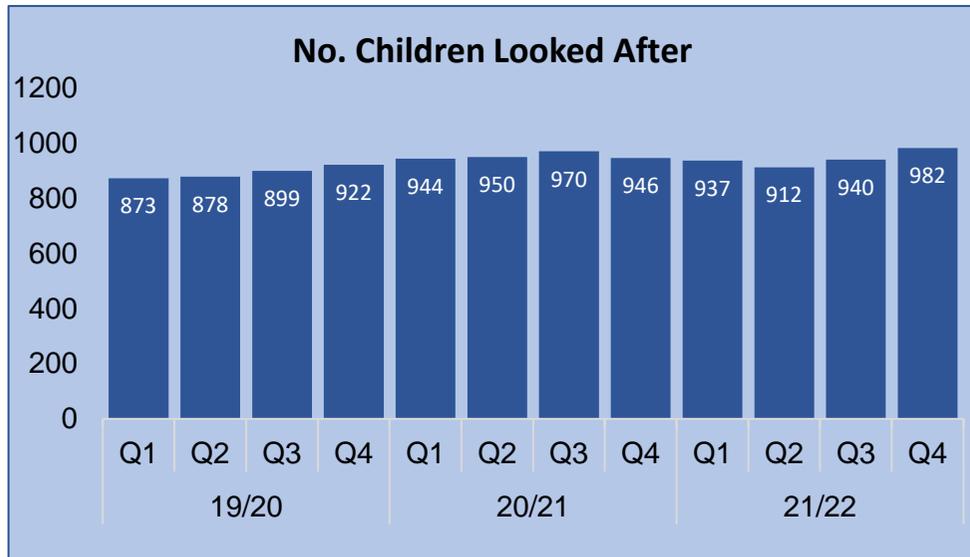
- 37 Whilst the number of children in care across the county reduced following increases during COVID, primarily due to the inability for children to leave care due to court closures etc., we have experienced a recent increase and although this has not reached levels during COVID we are facing significant placement pressures. This is not just an issue local to County Durham but is also being experienced regionally and nationally.
- 38 We are working closely with colleagues in County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust's Children Looked After Team to ensure our children in care receive timely health assessments and at least annual dental checks. This is closely monitored through the Corporate Parenting Panel.
- 39 We continue to progress our Residential Care and Fostering Transformation Programmes with the aim of increasing in-house capacity through recruitment and retention of foster carers and longer-term development of new council-run children's residential homes.
- 40 We have rebranded marketing materials, reviewed social media campaigns, and launched targeted campaigns to attract foster carers with the skills and expertise to care for children with disabilities and sibling groups. We have also increased capacity in the recruitment team to increase assessments and their timeliness, and developed a new training programme for our foster carers.
- 41 The current residential care transformation work programme includes one new children's home delivered in 2021/22, five homes planned for 2022/23 and two future children's homes identified for 2023/24. There may be some slippage of future projects, dependent on our ability to develop these at pace and we are working closely with colleagues across the council in regeneration, legal and finance.
- 42 Ofsted announced the council's Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS) on 29 April 2022. The inspection focussed on the effectiveness of local authority services and arrangements:
- to help and protect children;
  - the experiences and progress of children in care wherever they live, including those children who return home;
  - the arrangements for permanence for children who are looked after, including adoption;
  - the experiences and progress of care leavers.
- 43 They will also evaluate the effectiveness of leaders and managers; the impact they have on the lives of children and young people and the quality of professional practice.

# CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

## Referrals



# CONNECTED COMMUNITIES



As at 31 Mar 2022

■ County Durham ■ North East ■ England

### Where our children in care live

In-house foster care	41%	Independent living (incl. supported lodgings)	4%
Independent fostering agency	18%	Placed for adoption	4%
Friends and family	15%	In-house children's homes	3%
Placed with parents	7%	NHS/ Health Trust	<0.5%
External residential (incl. children's homes and res school)	7%	Secure (incl. YOI and prison)	<0.5%

## Key Performance Indicators – Data Tables

Page 64

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	50.1	2020/21 (academic year)	Tracker	48.8 (green)	50.9 (amber)	49.2 (green)			No
15	Average point score per A level entry of state-funded school students	41.2	2020/21 (academic year)	Tracker	39.9 (green)	41.6 (amber)	40.0 (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	4.4	Feb 2022	Tracker	5.6 (green)	2.6 (red)	4.4 (green)			Yes
18	Gap between average Attainment 8 score of Durham disadvantaged pupils and non-disadvantaged pupils nationally (KS4)	-14.6	2020/21 (academic year)	Tracker	-14.4 (amber)	-14.4 (amber)	-16.2 (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 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	90	as at 31 Mar 2022	Tracker	89 (green)	88 (green)	92 (amber)			Yes
22	Ofsted % of secondary schools judged good or better	67	as at 31 Mar 2022	Tracker	64 (green)	77 (red)	69 (amber)			Yes
23	Exclusion from school of all Durham children - percentage of children with at least one fixed exclusion	1.88	2019/20 (academic year)	Tracker	2.2 (green)	1.87 (amber)	2.22 (green)	2.39 (green)		No

\*Not reporting for 2020/21 as assessments did not take place

## LONG AND INDEPENDENT LIVES

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### 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	76.0	Jan 2021	Tracker	75.8 (green)	82.6 (red)	82.6 (red)			No
25	Under-18 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 17	16.5	2020	Tracker	19.0 (green)	13.0 (red)	18.6 (green)	18.1 (green)		Yes
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)	52.5	2018/19-2020/21	Tracker	52.8 (green)	29.3 (red)	52.0 (amber)	46.7 (red)		Yes
28	Young people aged 10-24 admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000)	450.9	2020/21	Tracker	361.2 (red)	421.9 (red)	542.9 (green)	619.6 (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)	53	Jan-Mar 2022	Tracker	62 (red)	58 (red)	75.9 (red)	82.0 (red)	2020	Yes

\*\*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. NCMP data for the academic year 2020/21 has been published, however, local authority data is not available due to a 10% sample in each area being recorded.

### 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 4)	130 <sup>2</sup> [986/761]	Jan-Mar 2022	761 (green)						Yes

<sup>2</sup> Annual target of 761

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	87.3	Jan-Mar 2022	80 (green)	88.2 (amber)					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	97 [4,459 / 4,586]	2021/22	Tracker	93 (green)	N/A	N/A	N/A		Yes
56	% of statutory children in need referrals occurring within 12 months of a previous referral	19 [923 / 4,963]	2021/22	Tracker	22 (green)	23 (green)	22 (green)	23 (green)	2020/21	Yes
57	% of single assessments completed within 45 working days	79 [5,103 / 6,482]	2021/22	Tracker	89 (red)	88 (red)	87 (red)	86.9 (red)	2020/21	Yes
58	Rate of children subject to a child protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18	39.09 [393]	as at Mar 2022	Tracker	45 [450]	41	67	59	2020/21	Yes
59	Rate of children in need per 10,000 population (Cases open to Children's Social Care)	386 [3,881]	as at Mar 2022	Tracker	368 [3,717]	321	461	421	2020/21	Yes
60	Rate of children open to One Point (early help) 10,000 population aged under 18	135 [1,381]	as at Mar 2022	Tracker	159 [1,625]					Yes
61	% of strategy meetings initiated which led to an initial child protection conference being held within 15 working days	81 [578 of 713]	2021/22	Tracker	87 (red)	83 (red)	85 (red)	87 (red)	2020/21	Yes
62	% of Social Workers with fewer than 20 cases	49	as at Mar 2022	Tracker						Yes
63	% of Statutory Case File Audits which are given a scaling score of 6 or above	85.2	Jul-Sep 2021	80						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	96 [982]	as at 28 Mar 2022	Tracker	93 [946]	67	108	103	2020/21	Yes
65	% of children adopted from care (as % of total children leaving care)	18 [65]	2021/22	Tracker	18	10	13	13	2020/21	Yes
66	% of CLA who are fostered incl. friends and family, independent fostering agency, In-house foster care	73.6 [723]	as at 28 Mar 2022	Tracker	73.9 [699]	71	72	72	2020/21	Yes
67	% of external residential placements	7 [68]	as at 28 Mar 2022	Tracker	6 [55]					Yes
68	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who had a dental check	81	Mar 2022	Tracker	41 (green)	40 (green)	43 (green)	41 (green)	2020/21	Yes
69	% of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more who have had the required number of health assessments	88	Mar 2022	Tracker	91 (amber)	91 (amber)	94 (red)	94 (red)	2020/21	Yes
70	Emotional and behavioural health of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more (score between 0 to 40)	14	2020/21	Tracker	13.5 (green)	13.7 (green)	13.9 (green)	13.8 (green)	2020/21	No
71	Average Attainment Tracker 8 score of Children Looked After	20.5	2019/20	Tracker	25.6 (red)	21.4 (red)	21.7 (green)	22.4 (red)		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	65	As at 31 Mar 2022	Tracker	76 (red)	65 (green)	63 (green)	63 (green)	2020/21	Yes
74	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in education, employment or training	59	As at 31 Mar 2022	Tracker	56 (green)	52 (green)	50 (green)	54 (green)	2020/21	Yes
75	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in suitable accommodation	97	As at 31 Mar 2022	Tracker	95 (green)	91 (green)	94 (green)	93 (green)	2020/21	Yes
76	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in suitable accommodation	92	As at 31 Mar 2022	Tracker	90 (green)	88 (green)	91 (green)	92 (green)	2020/21	Yes

\*provisional data \*\*not reporting for 2019/20 as assessments did not take place

## 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	8.5	as at Feb 2022	Tracker	5.1 (green)	4.3 (green)	7.1 (green)	6.5 (green)		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	14.0	Oct-Dec 2021	14.7 (green)	16.6 (green)	8.8 (red)	11.6 (red)	11.2 (red)		Yes
42	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth (%)	29.8	2021/22	Tracker	29.0 (green)	47.6 (red)	35.4 (red)	35.1 (red)		Yes

### **CONNECTED COMMUNITIES**

#### **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)	147	Oct 2020-Sept 2021	Tracker	174 (green)	220 (green)	303 (green)	231 (green)	2019/20	Yes
81	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%)	33.5	2019/20	Tracker	37.8 (green)	38.4 (green)	41.8 (green)		Oct 2017-Sep 2018	Yes

## 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**	388	2021/22	Tracker	new**					Yes

\*\* 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**



**7 July 2022**

**Refresh of the Work Programme  
2022/23 for Children and Young  
People's OSC**

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**Report of Paul Darby, Corporate Director of Resources**

**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 2022/2023.

**Executive summary**

- 2 CYPOSC review their work programme 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 have an extensive work programme and we must ensure we are able to accommodate issues that may arise during the term of the work programme.

**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 2022/2023.
- b) Agree the work programme for 2022/2023 as attached at appendix 2 and the flexibility it offers to respond to emerging issues.
- c) Identify a topic for in-depth or light touch review activity

## **Background**

- 6 Scrutiny committees adapted to the change during the pandemic and some of those adaptations have become a part of business as usual for the committee such as briefing reports being used to provide information to members of the committee. The CYPOSC work programme is refreshed annually and takes into consideration the priorities of the Committee and areas identified by the service.
- 7 The overview and scrutiny committee's work programmes are informed by:
  - Council Plan
  - County Durham Vision 2035
  - Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions
  - Partnership Plans and Strategies
  - Performance and Budgetary control data
  - Changes in government legislation
  - Key questions for improving performance.
- 8 The County Durham Partnership agreed a Vision for County Durham 2035 which 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
- 9 Each ambition contains a number of objectives together with some council specific objectives. Following the refresh of the Council Plan in April 2022, it is now structured around five objectives which capture the three ambitions:
  - Our Economy
  - Our People
  - Our Communities

- Our Environment
- Our Council

## **Council Plan 2022 - 2026**

- 10 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.
- 11 Both the Vision for County Durham and the Council Plan are structured around the three ambitions which are mentioned above and below are the relevant objectives that apply to CYPOSC.

### **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.
- 12 The Council Plan has been structured around five objectives: Our Economy; Our People; Our Communities; Our Environment and Our Council. The key Council Plan objective for CYPOSC is Our People

## **Current Work Programme**

- 13 During 2021/2022 the CYPOSC prioritised items to be considered at formal meetings due to the size of the work programme. Reports on other items were circulated via email to members. The committee has also undertaken budgetary and performance monitoring and considered overview and progress monitoring reports and presentations in relation to the following:

## **Consultations**

- SEND Strategy
- New County Durham Children, Young People's and Families Strategy

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

- Introduction to Children and Young People's Services Overview
- Children, Young People and Families Partnership Overview
- Relationship based Social Work Practice
- Child Poverty
- Overview of Child Protection Process
- Developing a new County Durham SEND Strategy
- Key Findings from Ofsted focused visit
- Free School Meals
- Inclusion/Exclusion Update
- Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse
- Growing up in County Durham – a new Children and Young People's Strategy
- Impact of Education White Paper: Opportunity for all: Strong Schools with Great Teachers

## **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:

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Children and Young People's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing
- Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

## Areas for Consideration in the CYP OSC Work Programme

- 15 Members of the CYP OSC are asked to agree the proposed work programme for 2022/23 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. The draft work programme can be found appended to this report at appendix 2
- 16 Paragraphs 13 and 14 of the report identifies the activity undertaken by the committee during 2021/22. The committee is asked to consider areas for inclusion in the draft work programme for 2022/23 considering the current Council Plan and the Vision for County Durham 2035. It is also important that members receive information on OFSTED inspections and the results on the recent inspection report are factored into the draft work programme.
- 17 Members are encouraged to identify areas of scrutiny investigation (in depth and light touch reviews) from the work programme. However, it is anticipated that input from the thematic OSCs will be required into the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 13 development and beyond. This might include more detailed examination of budgets against the context of ongoing financial pressures faced by the Council and the need to identify further efficiencies or areas of income generation. This would impact on the committee's intention to carry out review activity in other areas for this work programme.
- 18 In relation to consideration of the involvement of the committee in the examination of budgets members will find appended to this report at appendix 3 a power point presentation which will be given to members by the Finance Manager (CYPS) to provide more information.

## Conclusion

- 19 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 2022 - 2026](#)
- [County Durham Vision 2035](#)

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**Authors:** Ann Whitton

Tel: 03000 268143

Stephen Gwilym

[Tel: 03000](#) 268140

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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 Work Programme 2022/2023</b></p> <p>Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p><b>Lead Officer:</b> Stephen Gwilym</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
Overview and Scrutiny Review					
New area for focused review TBC	The committee will need to consider and determine an area for focused review	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
<b>Overview/Progress</b>					
CAMHS Waiting Times	7 July 2022	Report to CYPOSC	Jen Illingworth, Head of Service CAMHS	Members will receive an update on waiting times and will be able to compare with information they previously considered in November 2021.	Members have raised concerns at the waiting times for children and young people to be seen by CAMHS in various sectors of their service following an item to the committee in November 2021
Children, Young People and Families Partnership	7 July 2022	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 CYPIB.	The presentation will give members of the committee an understanding of the partnership work and its priorities for 2022/2023.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Contextualised Safeguarding and Child Sexual Exploitation Workshop	26 July 2022 PM Neville Room Durham Leadership Centre	Workshop	Helen Fergusson, Lisa Wood	Members will have an understanding of the multi-agency approach to contextualised safeguarding.	Members will be aware of the multi-agency working to prevent child exploitation
Ofsted Inspection of Children's Social Care	23 September 2022	Report to CYPOSC	John Pearce/ Martyn Stenton	Members will receive information relating to the recently published Ofsted judgement report	Members will be aware of the content of the report and its findings.
Early Years Overview	23 September 2022	Report to CYPOSC	Helen Nixon	Members will receive an overview highlighting the work DCC has done to support providers	Members will have an understanding of the work of the service, how they have helped providers especially during the last 12/24 months and the benefits that has brought to

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
					children and families.
Children and Young People's Services Strategy Update	23 September 2022	Report to Committee	Andrea Petty/Julie Bradbrook	Members will be aware of the content of the final version of the strategy	Members requested that the partnership returned to committee to update them on the new strategy
Child Poverty	Special Meeting (Oct/Nov)	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.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
0-25 Family Health Services	Special meeting (Oct/Nov)	Report to Special CYPOSC Members of AWHOSC will be invited to consider this item.	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.
Best Start in Life	Special meeting (Oct/Nov)	Report to CYPOSC  Members of AWHOSC will be invited to consider this item	Michelle Baldwin/ Amanda Smith	Members will receive information on programmes that address areas such as breastfeeding; smoking in pregnancy.	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
Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report	Special Meeting (Oct/Nov)	Report to CYPOSC	Chair of CPP	Members will receive the annual report	Members of the committee will have an understanding of the work of the CPP and the work they have undertaken during 2021/2022
Support for young people not in employment, education or training and Durham Enable	14 November 2022	Report to committee  Members of EEOC are invited to attend for this item	Helen Radcliffe/ Mark Callahan	Members will receive the most up to date information on young people not in education, employment or training and of programmes to help them such as Durham Works	Members will have an understanding of what programmes are available to help young people into employment, education or training.
School Funding	14 November 2022	Report to CYPOSC	David Shirer	Members will receive information on school funding in relation to DCC	Members will be aware of the school funding process and the

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
				maintained schools	legislation under pinning it and its implications for County Durham Maintained schools
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Green Paper	14 November 2022	Report to CYPOSC	Martyn Stenton, Paul Shadforth, Janet Crawford	Members will be aware of the current levels of SEN support and future proposals	Members will receive information on the current level of SEN support available and what proposals the government is putting forward to change that.
Sufficiency Strategy	9 January 2023	Report to CYPOSC	Lyndsey Herring; Sarah Burns/ Jodie Henderson/ Paula Gibbons	Members will have an understanding of the sufficiency strategy what it does and why it is needed.	Members will be aware of the work carried out to ensure there is sufficient places available for the number of children looked

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
					after
Relationship Based Social Work Practice	9 January 2023	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.
Educational Attainment and School Ofsted Results	10 March 2023	Report to committee	Jim Murray	Members will receive information relating to educational attainment across all key stages of a child/young person's	Members will be aware of the educational attainment of children and young people 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
				development.	
Reducing Parental Conflict	10 March 2023	Report to CYPOSC	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.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Contextual Safeguarding Work	26 April 2023	Report to CYPOSC  Members of SSCOSC will be included in the circulation of the briefing report.	Lisa Wood, Police Colleagues	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.
The Pause Programme	26 April 2023	Report to CYPOSC	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.
Children and Young People's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing	Special May 2023	Report to CYPOSC  Members of AWHOSC are invited to attend for this item.	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.
Thrive Model	Special May 2023	Report to CYPOSC  Members of AWHOSC are invited to attend for this item.	Martyn Stenton	Members will be aware of the Thrive Model and of work done to support young people in schools	Members will receive information on the Thrive Model in relation to support given in schools to young people with mental health issues.
Autism Strategy	Special May 2023	Report to CYPOSC  Members of AWHOSC are invited to attend	Janet Crawford	Members will receive information on the support available to families who are awaiting an autism	Members will have an understanding of the support available for children and

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
		for this item.		diagnosis	families who are waiting an autism diagnosis
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Special May 2023	Report to CYPOSC  Members of AWHOSC are invited to attend for this item.	Jennifer Illingworth	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.
<b>Briefing Reports</b>					
Teenage Conceptions	July 2022	Briefing Report  Members of AWHOSC included in circulation	Helen Riddell	Members will be aware of the current published data and the work DCC is doing to support teenage	Members will receive information on the latest published date concerning

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
				parents	teenage conceptions
County Durham's Youth Council	TBD	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
Stronger Families Programme	October 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.
Self Harm	November 2022	Briefing Report  Members of AWHOSC	Michelle Baldwin/Julia Bates	Members will be aware of the programmes and projects to help	Members will receive information regarding the

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
		included in circulation		CYP who may have harmed themselves or be vulnerable to doing so.	multi agency work to address self harm in the county.
Review of Sexual Health Services	December 2022	Briefing Report  Members of AWHOSC included in circulation	Michelle Baldwin	Members will be aware of the results of the recent review of sexual health services in county Durham	Members will receive information of the recent review into sexual health services in county Durham
Work of the Healthy Weight Alliance	January 2023	Briefing Report  Members of AWHOSC included in circulation	Julia Bates/Michelle Baldwin	Members will be aware of the work and initiatives undertaken to address overweight in children	Members will receive information on how the Healthy Weight Alliance has worked with children and families

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Neglect	January/February 2023	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.
Support for Young Carers	March 2023	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 their families.

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
Director of Public Health Annual Report	TBD	Circulated Electronically	Director of Public Health	Members will receive the annual report	
HWB Annual Report	TBD	Circulated Electronically	Andrea Petty/ Julie Bradbrook	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
Durham Safeguarding Children Annual Report	TBD	Report circulated electronically	Chair of DSCP	Members will receive the annual report	
<b>Informal Briefing Sessions</b>					
Free School Meals	TBC	Informal Session via Teams	Jim Murray/Alison Young	Members will receive information relating to how DCC provides support to schools and encourages eligible parents to claim for FSM	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
Education, Health and Care Plans	TBC	Informal Information Session	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.
Research in Practice	TBC	Informal Information Session	Hazel Ostle/Martyn Stenton	Members will be aware of the resource and how it may help them.	The Committee will receive information on a new resource – Research in Practice and how some of its resource is aimed at Councillors
<b>Visits</b>					
<b>Family Hubs</b>	TBD	Visit		Members will have an opportunity to visit the family	Members will be able to see how the family hubs

Item	When (Subject to confirmation of OSC meeting arrangements)	How (to formal committee or circulated electronically as a briefing report)	Who	Outcome	Comment
				hubs and receive information in relation to the approach taken in developing them.	are being developed.
<b>Performance/Budget</b>					
<b>Performance</b> Quarterly reporting	7 July 2022 Sept/Oct 2022. Jan 2023 March 2023	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 2022 Jan 2023 March 2023	Report to CYPOSC	David Watchman  (Resources)	Detail of budget	Summary information to Members

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# SCRUTINY COMMITTEE JUNE/JULY 2022

**MTFP(13):**

**Involvement of Scrutiny Committees in the  
development of savings options**



# Development of MTFP(13)

- The 2022/23 revenue budget and four year financial plan for the period 2022/23 to 2025/26 [MTFP12] was approved by Council on 23 February 2022
- The MTFP12 forecasts identified a forecast £29.987 million savings shortfall for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26
- The majority of this savings shortfall [£16.607 million] was forecast to be required in 2023/24
- A lot has changed in the months since the budget was set on 23 February 2022!

# Development of MTFP(13)

- The initial MTFP(13) forecasts will be presented to Cabinet on 13 July 2022
- MTFP(13) will cover the four year period 2023/24 to 2026/27
- The forecast savings shortfall is expected to increase significantly from the forecasts include in MTFP12 due to the impact of inflationary impacts upon the council's budget and continued demographic pressures in Children's Services
- Savings options need to be developed over the coming months to ensure the council can set a balanced budget for 2023/24 if, as expected, there is insufficient resources generated from council tax and government grant increases to meet the unavoidable cost pressures we will face
- It is hoped that additional funding will be provided to the sector by Central Government but it is expected that this will not be clarified until the draft local government financial settlement is received in December 2022

# Scrutiny Role in Development of MTFP(13)

- Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board will continue to have a strategic overview of the whole MTFP(13) process – including proposals for Council Tax increases and application of reserves
- It is recommended however that thematic scrutiny committees consider options for efficiency savings and/or opportunities for generating additional income within their thematic service areas
- This will provide the opportunity for thematic scrutiny committees to play an important role in the development of the MTFP(13) and help to attain a broader understanding of the services within their remit
- Any proposals put forward by thematic scrutiny committees will be considered by Cabinet for inclusion in MTFP(13) to assist in balancing budgets for 2023/24 and beyond

# Proposed Process to Developing Savings Options

- Thematic scrutiny committees receive quarterly reports on budgetary control and service performance – this is a rich source of data
- Discussions during finance briefings with Members previously there has been a wide range of potential opportunities for efficiencies and income generation discussed
- The proposed process will provide an opportunity for these options to be considered and tested further
- Thematic scrutiny committees may wish to set up Task and Finish groups to consider options for savings
- The Task and Finish Groups may wish to produce a range of high level options they would wish to consider Cabinet to consider or may wish to carry out some of their own research into a small number of areas utilising resource from service areas and finance to support such work
- If significant work is generated by the process consideration may need to be given to reprioritising other planned scrutiny work to ensure that support teams have the capacity to meet all requirements

# Timeframes

- It must be recognised that any detailed research into specific budget areas may take a number of months and would be unlikely to identify savings to support the 2023/24 budget setting process
- At the same time savings options could be identified to support future years' budgets
- If higher level options are submitted to Cabinet for consideration for the development of the 2023/24 budget they would be required by the end of November 2022
- Thematic scrutiny committees are requested to limit the number of budget areas to be looked at in detail as it must be recognised that this work would be a major drain on services whilst they are developing broader savings plans