



Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date Monday 11 January 2016
Time 9.30 am
Venue Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham

Business

Part A

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

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 November 2015 (Pages 1 - 6)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties
6. Media Relations - Update on Press Coverage
7. Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs (Pages 7 - 14)
 - a) Joint Report of Assistant Chief Executive & Corporate Director of Children & Adult Services
 - b) Presentation by Helen Fergusson, Strategic Manager First Contact & Intervention
8. Refresh of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment & Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019 - Joint Report of the Corporate Director of Children & Adult Services and Director of Public Health County Durham (Pages 15 - 18)
9. Refresh of the Children, Young People and Families Plan 2016 -19 - Report of the Corporate Director of Children & Adult Services (Pages 19 - 22)
10. Durham Local Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report 2014/15 - Report of the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (Pages 23 - 84)

11. Quarter 2 2015/16 Performance Management Report - Report of Corporate Management Team (Pages 85 - 98)
12. Review of the Council Plan and Service Plans - Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 99 - 106)
13. Quarter 2: Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2015/16 - Children and Adult Services - Report of Head of Finance (Financial Services) (Pages 107 - 118)
14. Summary of Children and Family Partnership Minutes 21 September 2015 (Pages 119 - 124)
15. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
1 January 2016

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

Councillor C Potts (Chairman)
Councillor M Nicholls (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors J Armstrong, D Bell, K Corrigan, K Dearden, O Gunn, D Hall, C Hampson, J Hart, D Hicks, K Hopper, P Lawton, J Measor, S Morrison, L Pounder, M Simmons, H Smith, M Stanton, P Stradling and W Stelling

Faith Communities Representatives:
Mrs G Harrison

Parent Governor Representatives:
Mr R Patel

Co-opted Members:
Mr K Gilfillan and Mr D Kinch

Contact: Jackie Graham

Tel: 03000 269704

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in Consett Academy, Ashdale Road, Consett, County Durham DH8 6LZ on **Monday 2 November 2015 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor C Potts (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors D Bell, D Hall, C Hampson, D Hicks, S Morrison, M Nicholls, L Pounder, H Smith and M Stanton

Welcome to Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee at Consett Academy

The Head Teacher Mr Reynolds welcomed all to the Consett Academy and advised members it was both a pleasure and a privilege to be working in a building such as Consett Academy which creates an excellent learning environment not only for children and young people in Consett but for the whole community. Mr Reynolds went on that he was a firm believer that schools were not just 9-5 establishments but were for the benefit of the whole community.

The Chair thanked Mr Reynolds and welcomed members and young people to the first meeting of children and young people's overview and scrutiny committee to be held out in the community. Mr Reynolds invited members of the committee to take a tour of the school following the meeting.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Armstrong, K Dearden, D Hall, K Hopper, P Lawton, J Measor, M Simmons and P Stradling.

Co-opted Members Mrs G Harrison and R Patel.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute Members.

3 Minutes of the special meeting held on 25 September and of the meeting held on 5 October 2015

The minutes of the meetings held on 25 September and 5 October 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest, if any

There were no declarations on interest.

5 Any items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties

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

6 Media Relations

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred Members to recent press articles relating to the remit of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes). The articles were:-

- The North East Schools summit had heard that exam pressure, the rise of social media and the back drop of austerity are contributing to a toxic environment for young minds. The summit also heard about the 'worrying surge of young people admitted to hospital for self-harm.
- Anti-bullying app launched in schools across the UK.

Resolved:

That the content of the presentation be noted.

7 Update on Progress of Recommendations of Self Harm by Young People Review Report

The Committee received a joint report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Corporate Director Children and Adult Services which updated members on the progress made against the recommendations from the review of Self Harm by Young People (for copy see file of minutes).

The Public Health Portfolio Lead (CAS), referred members to page 19 of the report and the recommendations that the review group had made. Progress against each of the recommendations were contained within Appendix 3 of the report and details were reported in relation to each. The Portfolio Lead explained that the County Durham Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Plan covered all aspects of the review's recommendations and responsibility for the progress would be taken by the Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Group.

A pupil of the Sixth Form Centre asked whether the training that was referred to under recommendation 3 was accessible for all teachers. In addition it was asked what ages the team were working with as mental health could affect children of all ages. In response the Public Health Portfolio Lead advised that training would be made available to all teachers and was currently in the process of being rolled out across the county. With regard to the identified age groups affected by mental health it was reported that children from the ages of 9 and upwards had been identified as being at risk, however it was known that those children ages 14-15 years were the most vulnerable to mental health issues.

Councillor Nicholls asked how confident the team were that they would be able to fulfil recommendation 5 and secure adequate funding to do so. In response it was reported that the team were confident that this recommendation could be achieved and made reference to £1.4m which had been secured for County Durham and would be coming through as expected.

Councillor Potts then asked the pupils present whether they felt that there was a greater understanding amongst young people of mental health and self-harm. In response the pupils advised that young people were now greatly influenced by social media, however this could be used positively in order to generate a greater understanding of those suffering with mental health issues and was a successful tool in spreading information and help on these matters.

Councillor Potts thanked the Public Health Portfolio Lead and asked that an update be provided in 6/12 months.

Resolved:

That the content of the report and update against recommendations be noted.

8 Welcome to Overview and Scrutiny by the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

In the absence of Councillor J Armstrong (Chair of Overview and Scrutiny) the Corporate Scrutiny and Performance Manager provided a presentation relating to the role of Overview and Scrutiny in Durham, providing details regarding the structure of the council, the six altogether better themes of the Council Plan; its Cabinet, Members and in particular the role of scrutiny in holding the executive to account (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the content of the report be noted.

9 Help and Support to Children and Young People with Autistic Spectrum Disorder

The Committee received a joint report and presentation of the Assistant Chief Executive and Corporate Director Children and Adult Services which provided the Committee with information in relation to the help and support the County Council provides to children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (for copy of report and slides of presentation see file of minutes).

The Principal Educational Psychologist and Special Educational Needs and Disability Officer provided a presentation which gave detail regarding:

- What is autism?
- Causes and prevalence (affects people of all abilities and can co-exist with other conditions)
- Terminology and forms of autism – understanding a broad range
- Implications for those on the autism spectrum
- Key areas of difference.

It was reported that not all people with autism want to be diagnosed. In some cases parents did not want to pursue this course of assessment which could be complex. In County Durham there were two teams set up to assist with diagnosis, Social Communication Assessment Teams (SCAT) and Multi Agency Assessment Teams (MAAT). In addition the region offered a Centre for those more complex cases.

Further details were reported with regard to key legislation and guidance documents and it was noted that Autism Act 2009 was the only disability specific law in England.

Moving on to the educational needs of those with Autism details were provided regarding:-

- Graduated response to meet a range of needs
- Capacity building for all schools
- Support for individual children
- SEN Support plans
- Additional support through Education Health Care Plans and Statements
- Enhanced mainstream provisions (Primary and Secondary)
- Special Schools including those with specific autism provision
- Independent special schools
- FE Colleges (mainstream and special)

Members were advised there was lots of support in schools such as visual timetables, many of the children and young people affected did not require a special educational need statement. The committee was given information that in County Durham Easington Colliery primary school, Bishop Barrington and Wellfield secondary schools provide specialist support for children and young people with autistic related conditions, colleges of further education in County Durham also provide specialist provision for young people with autistic conditions.

The Principal Educational Psychologist and Special Educational Needs and Disability Officer advised that there was money in school budgets for all these areas of support, and could be ran discreetly alongside normal schooling provisions.

In conclusion the Principal Educational Psychologist and Special Educational Needs and Disability Officer advised that Health has a key role to play in diagnosis and ongoing support for those on the Autistic Spectrum. Partner organisations and services such as; paediatrics, CAMHs, speech and language and occupational therapy assisted in providing those services. In addition the Disabled Children's Team had a role to play in supporting partners.

Councillor Morrison asked whether anything was being done to raise awareness amongst children and young people who didn't suffer with Autism. The Principal Educational Psychologist and Special Educational Needs and Disability Officer advised that this was not currently being undertaken however could be explored. In addition she advised that a facility was in place called 'Circle of Friends' who led group intervention for those who were struggling with inclusion and this further educated those without Autism to gain a better understanding of the disorder.

Resolved:

That the content of the report and presentation be noted.

10 Fixed Play Strategy Update

The Committee received a joint report and presentation of the Assistant Chief Executive and Corporate Director Neighbourhoods Services which provided detail regarding the Fixed Play Strategy for County Durham (for copy of report and slides of presentation see file of minutes).

The Strategic Manager - Culture & Sport provided an overview of the distribution of play in County Durham and the recent survey of fixed play provision. He advised that 15 settlements within the County had been identified as having below the core offer and with such were prioritised for development. Each of these sites required significant investment in order to provide the minimum standard. In addition the survey had identified 80 sites which were above core offer and the council would continue to maintain these sites for the future, with the exception of 10 which were beyond economic repair and had been identified for either transfer to Parish / Town Councils or to be removed.

Moving on, details were provided with regard to ongoing work to improve and maintain the County's fixed play provision and it was reported that a funding strategy had been developed including 106 monies, member initiatives and existing capital sums a new capital bid has been submitted for the next 2 years. totalling £520k and it was hoped that match funding would be achieved via AAP's and Members. In addition the team would be working on planning new fixed play sites and reference was made to Ebchester where planning had been ongoing for some time now.

With regard to the sites requiring investment, it was reported that the following had been identified:- Ebchester, ready to proceed once capital bids approved Crook and Shildon, members have requested that investment be prioritised to the twons central parks Blackhall, this settlemet requires teenagre provision and at present there is no agreement with Parish Council on suitable site. Castle Eden, the council does not own any land to site a play area., Burnopfield, Consett, Easington Village, Chester-le-Street, Flinthill, Perkinsville, Stanley, Station Town, Wellfield and Wheatley Hill, are all currently at the first stage of consultation.

In conclusion the Strategic Manager - Culture & Sport advised that Durham County Council were committed to improving children's play and increasing participation in physical activity. Reference was made to the significant investment that had been made at the Riverside in Chester-le-Street with the installation of a splash pad. This site had proved extremely successful with over 200,000 hits on facebook and during August a weekly attendance average of 903 children and young people enjoying the facilities.

It was also reported that the staff involved in this project had been nominated for a Great Staff Great Stuff award.

A student from the Sixth Form Centre asked whether there was any maintenance regime in place to prevent sites from becoming beyond economic repair. In response the Strategic Manager - Culture & Sport advised that the council held responsibility for 176 sites across the County and although this was challenging in terms of maintenance all sites are inspected regularly. With this in mind it was acknowledged that the county would benefit from fewer sites of better quality, where standards could be maintained and regularly monitored.

Resolved:

That the content of the report and presentation be noted.

11 Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report 2014-15

The Committee received a joint report of the Corporate Director of Children and Adult Services and Director of Public Health County Durham which presented the Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report 2014/15 for information and the Boards' achievements, in addition to its future work programme (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the content of the report be noted.

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

11 January 2016



Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs

**Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive,
and Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director of Children & Adult
Services**

Purpose of Report

- 1 To provide members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information in relation to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs. The Committee will receive a presentation from Helen Fergusson, Strategic Manager First Contact and Intervention.

Background

- 2 The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) was launched in March 2015 and is made up of professionals from agencies including police, health , children's social care, education and Harbour (voluntary sector domestic abuse service). In addition there are virtual links to other key agencies including Tees, Esk and Wear valley Mental Health Trust (TEWV); Probation and LifeLine (voluntary sector drug and alcohol service). See appendix 3 for detail. The MASH provides a central point for the screening, gathering, sharing and analysing information about children in County Durham who may be at risk of harm or who may need support services. The MASH is co-located within the First Contact Service and the Police Central Referral Unit (CRU) and is managed by the manager at First Contact.

Rationale for Creating the MASH

- 3 Following the Horden Domestic Homicide Review, a recommendation was made for the creation of a MASH to improve information sharing between agencies.
- 4 The purpose of the MASH is:
 - To improve the quality of information sharing between agencies who know and work with children when they are referred into children's social care
 - To ensure that information can be shared quickly and easily so that timely decisions can be made
 - To ensure that risk and vulnerability issues are quickly identified so that the right support is offered to the child and family

- To improve the ability of agencies to see patterns of risk and harm for children over time and across services with a view to reducing child neglect
- To improve consistency of response for children and families in Durham
- To ensure that children and families receive help early and stop issues from escalating
- To reduce the numbers of children who are re-referred into children's services as the right support is offered at the right time

The MASH Process (see appendix 2)

- 5 The MASH will screen and share information relating to referrals that are made about children where there are concerns for their welfare or their safety. It is designed to ensure that all of the available information from key agencies about a child and their family is shared in a timely way at this critical decision making point. Referrals are rated as Red (significant and immediate concerns for the child; Amber Level 4 (significant concerns for the child but not immediate) and Amber Level 3 (concerns for the child who are in need of support services but not necessarily social work support).
- 6 MASH processes require red rated referrals to be processed within 4 working hours; and Amber rated referrals to be processed within one working day.
- 7 All agencies have access to their own IT systems within the MASH and so can quickly and easily share information that they hold about children and their families. Any new multi-agency information will then be stored centrally on the social services information database and be added to the original referral information.
- 8 The MASH will analyse the information and form a more accurate opinion about the level of risk that the child is experiencing based on fuller information gathering than is possible under current processes and will then make a decision about the most appropriate service or team to meet the needs of the child and their family and send the referral to them.
- 9 The receiving team will receive a set of summary reports and analysis from all key agencies who know the child and family with an overall level of need rating for the child. Clear recommendations for further action will be included.

The benefits of the MASH

- 10 Agencies can ensure that all available information is coordinated and shared at the point of referral in order to assist in making the right decision about which service is best placed to support the child.
- 11 The MASH can access and share information more quickly and so decisions can be made more quickly meaning the child and family will receive help in a timely way. Previously, this process relied on social workers ringing individual agencies and awaiting their responses.
- 12 The MASH can help to inform professionals about how quickly they need to respond to a child who may be at risk of harm.

- 13 Children and their families will receive help as soon as they need it as professionals will be able to identify potential risk and vulnerability earlier and prevent situations escalating.

The presentation will focus on

- Progress since Go Live in March 2015
- Activity and performance
- Examples of Success
- Challenges
- Future Development Plans

Recommendation

Members of the Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to receive the presentation and note its’ content and comment accordingly.

Background Papers

None

Contact: Helen Fergusson, Strategic Manager First Contact & Interventions
Tel: 03000 266543

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing - None

Risk – This is a key statutory safeguarding function for the Council.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – The MASH is set up to provide a greater level of safeguarding to children and young people. Age is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act.

Accommodation – The current premises are no longer fit for purpose or large enough and the MASH team will move to Parsons Court in Newton Aycliffe in early 2016.

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights - None

Consultation – None

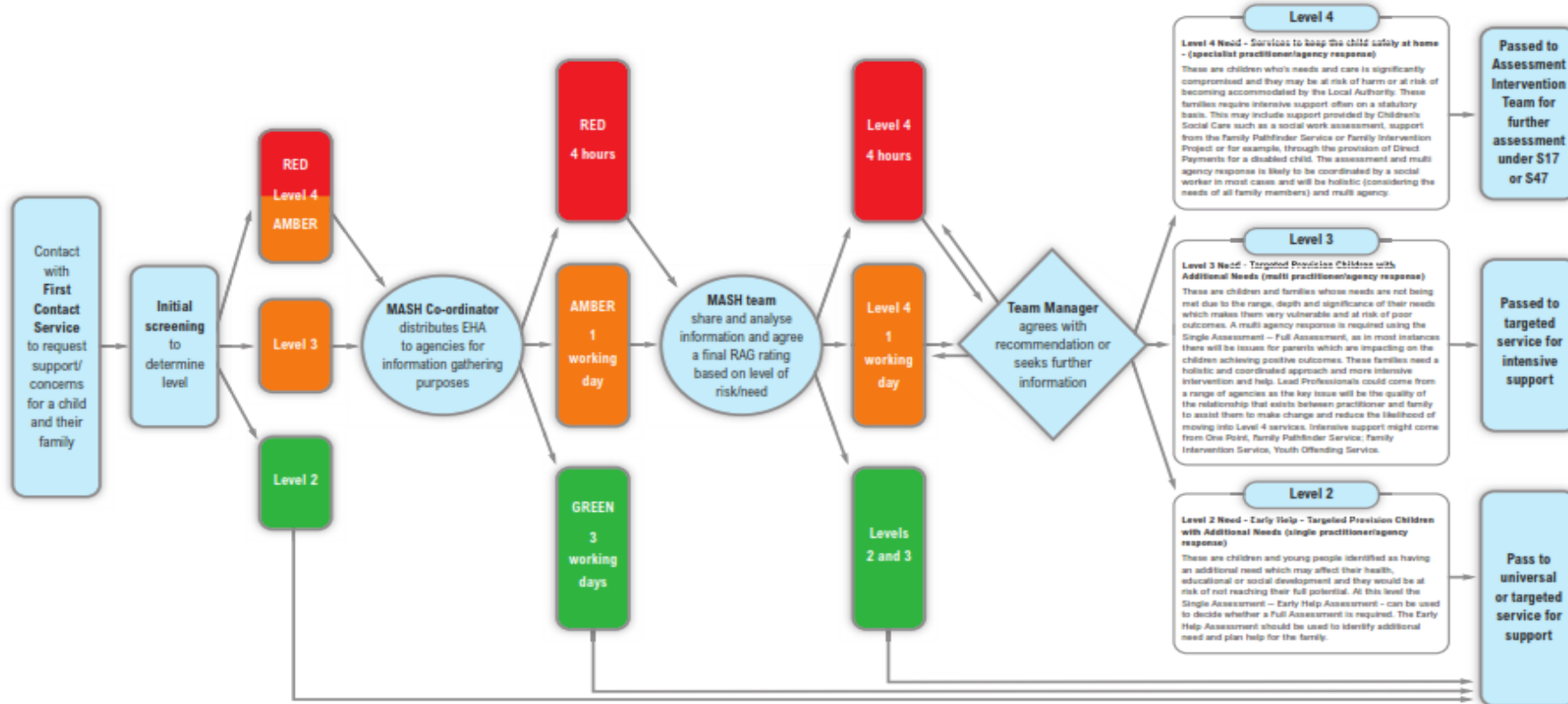
Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

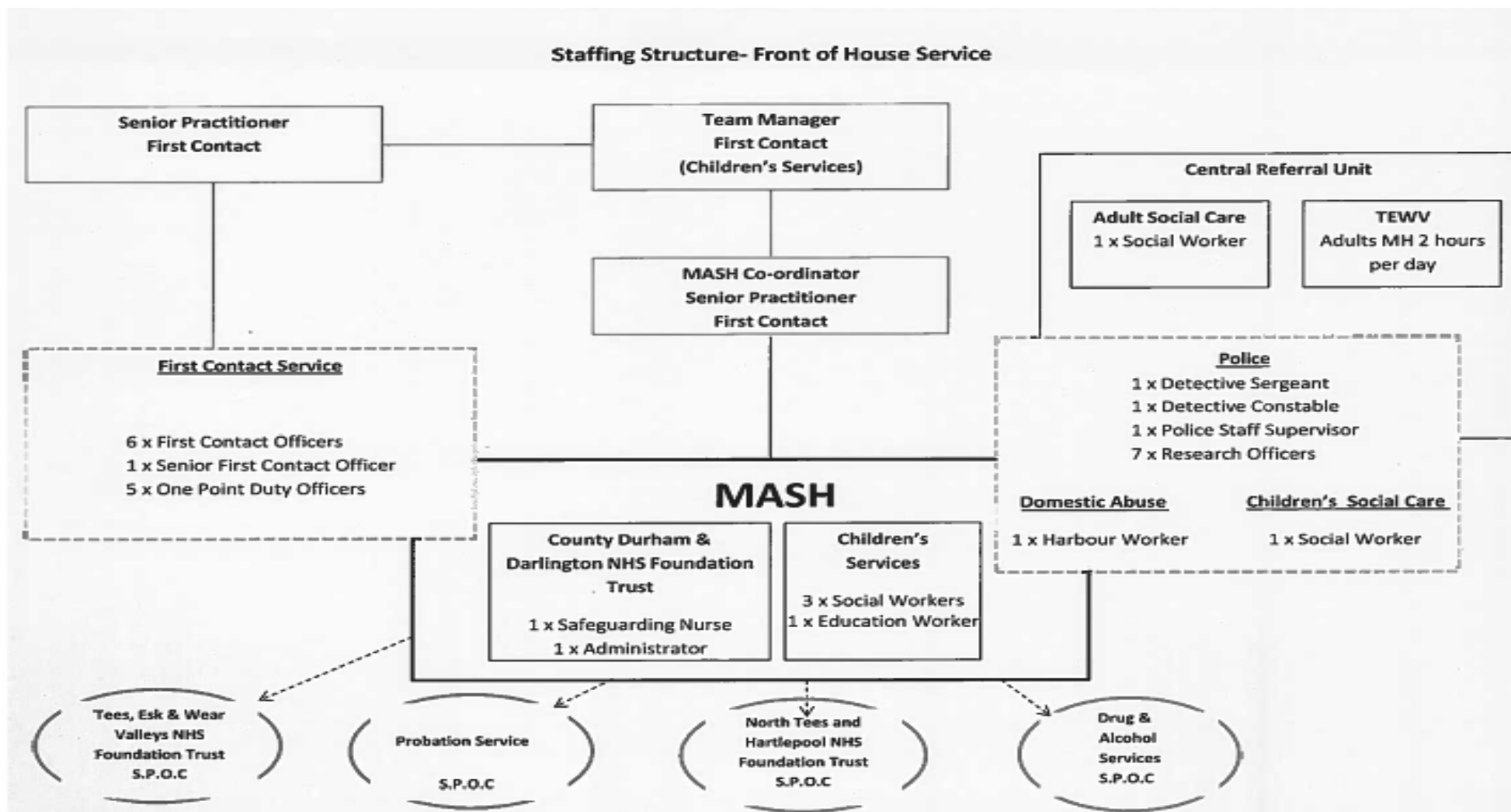
Legal Implications – None

Appendix 2

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Process Pathway



Appendix 3



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

11 January 2016



**Refresh of the Joint Strategic Needs
Assessment and Joint Health &
Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019**

**Report of Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director of Children and
Adults Services**

Anna Lynch, Director of Public Health County Durham

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the refresh of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-19.
2. A presentation will be provided at the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11th January 2016.

Background

3. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places clear duties on local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to prepare a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) through Health and Wellbeing Boards.
4. Consultation relating to health and wellbeing has taken place with over 260 people from various groups including voluntary organisations, patient reference groups, Area Action Partnerships, members of Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, service users and carers attending the Health and Wellbeing Board's Big Tent engagement event in November 2015.
5. Consultation in relation to health issues has also taken place with young people through Investing in Children reference groups, and the 'Try it Out' Young People's Patient Congress organised by North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Young carers and their families have also been consulted through The Bridge Young Carers Service.
6. The refresh of the JHWS 2016-19 includes updates on policy information, consultation and evidence from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Annual Report of the Director of Public Health County Durham.

Consultation Questions

7. Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be asked the following questions as part of the consultation process:

- Are these still the correct outcomes on which the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy framework is built or do you think there are any changes required? (Appendix 2)
- Are these still the right strategic actions in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-19?
- Are there any gaps in the strategic actions?

Next Steps

8. The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-19 will be presented for agreement at the Health and Wellbeing Board meeting on 8th March 2016.
9. A copy of the final Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-19 will be circulated to members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information.

Recommendations

10. Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to:
 - Provide comments to Ann Whitton, Overview & Scrutiny Officer by **20th January 2016** on the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016 -19.
 - Note that any feedback from the Committee will be fed into the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Contact:

Peter Appleton, Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adults Service

Tel: 03000 267 388

Andrea Petty, Strategic Manager, Policy, Planning and Partnerships

Tel: 03000 267 312

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – Ongoing pressure on the public services will challenge all agencies to consider how best to ensure effective services are delivered in the most efficient way.

The demographic profile of the County in terms of both an ageing and projected increase in population will present future budget pressures to the County Council and NHS partners for the commissioning of health and social care services.

Finance - Staffing - There are no staffing implications.

Risk – There are no risk implications

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - Equality Impact Assessments have been completed for both the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS).

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – The key equality and diversity protected characteristic groups were considered as part of the process to identify the groups/organisations to be invited to the Health and Wellbeing Board Big Tent annual engagement event in November 2015, which was attended by over 260 people from various groups including service users, patients, carers, members of the voluntary and community sector and GP's as well as professionals from partners agencies.

Accommodation - There are no accommodation implications.

Crime and Disorder - The JHWS is aligned with and contributes to the current priorities within the Safe Durham Partnership Plan.

Human Rights – Human rights have been considered in the production of this plan.

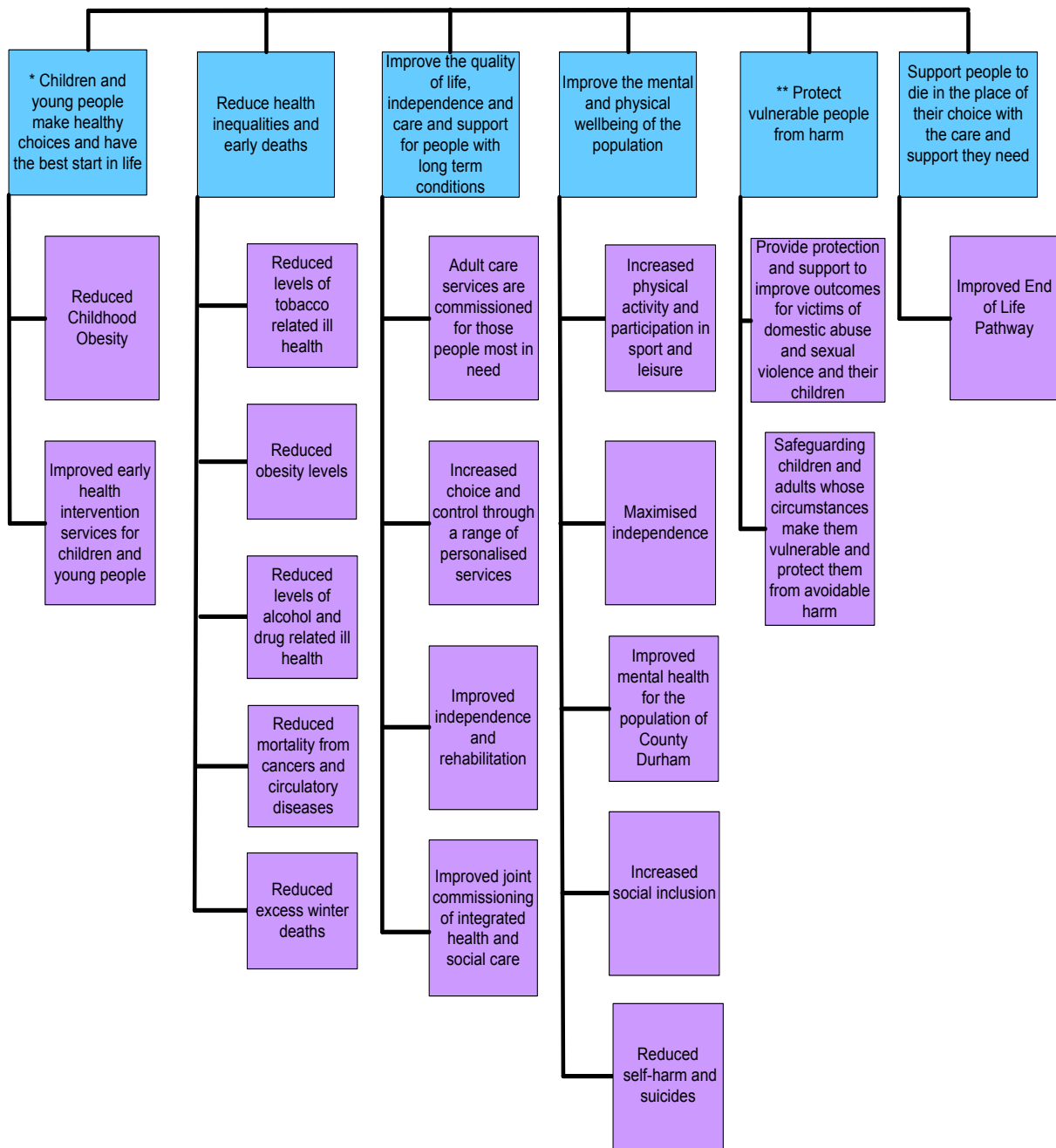
Consultation - Consultations have taken place with over 500 key partners and organisations including service users, carers, patients, members of the voluntary and community sector and GP's as well as professionals from partner agencies to ensure the strategy continues to meet the needs of people in the local area and remains fit for purpose for 2016-19.

Procurement - The Health and Social Care Act 2012 outlines that commissioners should take regard of the JHWS when exercising their functions in relation to the commissioning of health and social care services.

Disability Issues – Issues in relation to disability have been considered throughout the development of the JHWS.

Legal Implications - The Health and Social Care Act 2012 places clear duties on local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to prepare a JHWS. The local authority must publish the JHWS. The Health and Wellbeing Board lead the development of the JHWS.

Appendix 2: JHWS Objectives and Outcomes Framework



* Shared objective for the Children and Families Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board

** Shared objective for the Safe Durham Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board

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



11 January 2016

**Refresh of the Children, Young People
and Families Plan 2016-19**

**Report of Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director of Children and
Adults Services**

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the refresh of the Children, Young People and Families Plan (CYPFP) 2016-19.
2. A presentation will be provided at Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11th January 2016.

Background

3. The CYPFP is being refreshed for 2016-19, to ensure it is fit for purpose and continues to meet the needs of children and young people.
4. The refresh of the CYPFP 2016-19 includes updates on policy information, consultation and evidence from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Community Safety Strategic Assessment. Performance indicators have also been reviewed to ensure that they remain appropriate to the priorities in the plan.
5. The CYPFP is also aligned to the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and both plans have a shared objective 'Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life'. There are a number of cross cutting issues such as self-harm, teenage conceptions and alcohol misuse by young people which will be dealt with jointly by the Children and Families Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
6. Consultation has taken place with key partners and organisations to inform the refresh of the CYPFP for 2016-19.
7. Consultation has also taken place with young people through Investing in Children reference groups and with young carers through The Bridge Young Carers Service.
8. Following consultation events young people identified the following issues:
 - Access to quality education and advice regarding sexual health
 - Support for young people and families around risk taking behaviour including drinking, drugs and unprotected sex
 - Prevalence of self-harm in young people
 - Emotional health and wellbeing/stress of young people
 - Develop opportunities for Peer Support networks

- Provide opportunities for young people to engage in positive activities
- Better promotion of services available to children, young people and families

9. The Health and Wellbeing Board hosted an engagement event in November 2015, which was attended by over 260 people. This included a workshop on the Children and Young People Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Plan for County Durham 2015-2020. Feedback from this event has been taken into account in the refresh of the CYPFP for 2016-19.

Consultation

10. Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be asked the following questions as part of the consultation process:

- Are these still the correct outcomes on which the CYPFP is built upon or do you think there are any changes required? (Appendix 2)
- Are these the right strategic actions in the CYPFP?
- Are there any gaps in the strategic actions?

Next Steps

11. The Children, Young People and Families Plan 2016-19 will be presented for agreement at the Children and Families Partnership meeting on 21st March 2016.

12. A copy of the final Children and Families Plan 2016-19 will be circulated to members of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information.

Recommendations

13. Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to:

- Provide comments on the Children, Young People and Families Plan to Ann Whitton, Overview and Scrutiny Officer by **20th January 2016**.

Contact:

Peter Appleton, Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adults Service

Tel: 03000 267 388

Andrea Petty, Strategic Manager, Policy, Planning and Partnerships

Tel: 03000 267 312

Julie Bradbrook, Partnership Manager, Policy, Planning and Partnerships

Tel: 03000 267 325

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - Ongoing pressure on the public services will challenge all agencies to consider how best to ensure effective services are delivered in the most efficient way to improve the lives of children, young people and families.

Staffing - There are no staffing implications.

Risk – There are no risk implications

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - The key equality and diversity protected characteristic groups are considered as part of the consultation process. The CYPFP has engaged with and consulted with children, young people and families across all backgrounds, ages and equality strands. The CYPFP has ensured that the voice of all children and young people is heard, shared and reflected within the plan.

Accommodation - There are no accommodation implications.

Crime and Disorder – The CYPFP is aligned with and contributes to the current priorities within the County Durham Youth Offending Service Youth Justice Plan and Safe Durham Partnership Plan..

Human Rights – Human rights have been considered in the production of this plan. Children and young people have been central to the development of this strategic plan and the plan has ensured that their voices are heard.

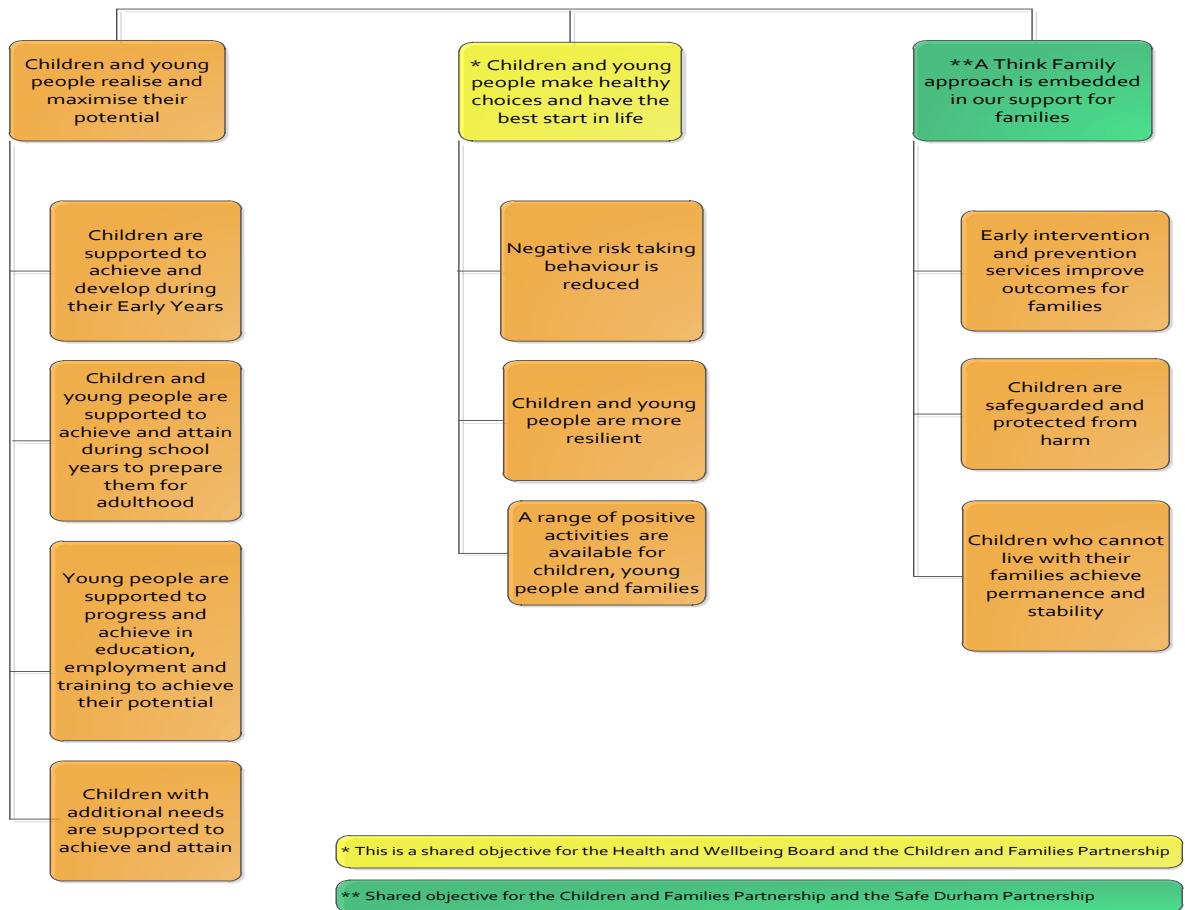
Consultation – Extensive consultation has been carried out in the development and approval of this plan. Partners, parents, families, children and young people have all been provided an opportunity to shape the direction and the content of this plan at each stage.

Procurement - There are no procurement implications.

Disability Issues – The views and needs of families of and children with disabilities have been considered and reflected in the plan and the needs of children with disabilities remains paramount to the work of the Children and Families Partnership.

Legal Implications – There are no legal implications.

Appendix 2: CYPFP 2016-19 Objectives and Outcomes Framework



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

11 January 2016



**Durham Local Safeguarding Children
Board Annual Report 2014-15**

**Report of Jane Geraghty, Independent Chair Local Safeguarding
Children Board**

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2014-15 (attached at Appendix 2).

Background

2. Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a statutory body established under the Children Act 2004. It is independently chaired (as required by statute) and consists of senior representatives of all the principal stakeholders working together to safeguard children and young people in Durham.
3. Its statutory objectives are to:
 - coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and
 - ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes
4. The LSCB's primary responsibility is to provide a way for local organisations who have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in County Durham and to ensure that they do so effectively.
5. Working Together (2015) requires each Local Safeguarding Children Board to produce and publish an Annual Report evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area.
6. During 2014/15 the LSCB has seen a year of restructure and development for the Board. This includes the appointment of a new independent chair, a review of LSCB sub-groups and the alignment of the partnership structure of the LSCB Business Unit from Children's Services to Planning and Service Strategy in Children and Adults Services.
7. The Independent Chair has a crucial role in making certain that the Board operates independently and secures an independent voice for the LSCB. Jane

Geraghty became the new Independent Chair of the LSCB Board in October 2014. The LSCB has also recruited two lay members to the LSCB Board to provide further independent scrutiny.

8. Throughout August and September 2015 the draft LSCB Annual Report 2014/15 has been presented to the LSCB Board, partner agencies and stakeholders for consultation and comment. The feedback received has been incorporated into the final document.

Annual Report

9. The Durham LSCB Annual Report 2014/15 sets out the work of multi-agency partners to ensure effective arrangements are in place to safeguard and protect vulnerable children and young people from abuse and neglect.
10. The report describes the work undertaken against the 2014-15 priorities and sets out the future priorities for 2015-16. It describes the local governance arrangements and structure of Durham LSCB, the linkages to other strategic partnerships across County Durham and work with other LSCBs.
11. The report provides an overview of the performance monitoring framework and quality assurance plan as well as providing a brief summary of safeguarding privately fostered children, the use of restraint in secure centres, Serious Case Reviews, Child Death Reviews and the single and multi-agency training provision.
12. The LSCB has reviewed its vision, which has been agreed as: **'Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm'**.
13. Some achievements and progress highlighted in the Annual Report are as follows:
 - Development of the Early Help Strategy
 - The introduction of a County Durham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
 - Development and implemented the 'Collaborative working and information sharing between professionals to protect vulnerable adults and children' information sharing protocol
 - Developed a Safeguarding Framework to improve links with Health & Wellbeing Board, Children & Families Partnership and Safe Durham Partnership
 - Development of a Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy and delivery plan
 - Developing and implementing a Child Sexual Exploitation audit and sharing the information through other council and partnership structures
 - Supported 'Never Do Nothing' training (a safeguarding standard for voluntary and 3rd sector organisations)
 - Set up a Young People's Reference Group for the LSCB
 - Developing a new LSCB website, with input from young people

Challenge and Impact

14. The LSCB has a role in relation to challenging partners on the impact they are making to safeguard children and young people in order to provide assurance to

the LSCB. The Annual Report provides examples of challenges raised by the LSCB, the resulting progress and the impact this has had on the delivery of services and improvements in safeguarding.

15. For example, challenging partners to improve the voice of the child has resulted in collaborative work with 'Investing in Children' and the development of the Young People's Reference Group for the LSCB. These young people have met with members of the LSCB Board on a number of occasions and their views have been taken into account in the LSCB work plan and the Board's priority setting arrangements. An example of a direct impact of listening to these young people is the inclusion of the self-harm priority for the LSCB for 2015-16.
16. Other examples within the report include a challenge to partners to:
 - improve Early Help responses leading to the development of a Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub
 - improve links with wider strategic partnerships structures leading to aligning work on cross-cutting Strategies such as the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse Strategies
 - improve work on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) leading to a CSE audit identifying risk factors and a subsequent action plan
 - Improve joint training and alignment of training programmes leading to joint delivery of Domestic Abuse training and Child Sexual Exploitation training and the delivery of e-learning training for Counter Terrorism and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

LSCB Priorities for 2015-18

17. Durham LSCB held a development day in March 2015 to review progress on the priorities from 2014-15, consider key challenges, improve the use of its resources and to set its future priorities. In setting the priorities for 2015-16 the Board consulted with children and young people. The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board has agreed the following priorities:
 - Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation
 - Improving Early Help
 - Reducing Neglect (contributory factors are domestic abuse; alcohol misuse; substance misuse; parental mental health)
 - Reducing self-harm and improving young people's self-esteem
 - Increase the voice of the Child
 - Ensuring that each agency is accountable for delivery of its own safeguarding responsibilities
18. Alongside the identified priorities above the LSCB has highlighted priority areas of work for 2015/16, which include:
 - Supporting and challenging the new Children's Services Transformation arrangements for the delivery of children's services
 - Improving the performance and quality assurance information to support and improve performance on the Board's priorities
 - Strengthening our engagement with children and young people especially those from vulnerable communities such as Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and

- Transgender, young carers, Gypsy Roma Travellers, young people who offend and children and young people with additional needs
 - Building on the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) training offered to health professional and develop an Female Genital Mutilation Practice Guidance
 - Work with the County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG) to promote the need for domestic abuse services to support children, young people and their families
 - A continued focus on information sharing supporting and promoting good practice across multi-agency teams
 - Continue a programme of self-improvement
19. There is the opportunity for the LSCB to develop closer working arrangements with wider partnership on shared or similar priorities. Examples include:
- **The Health and Wellbeing Board** – through greater integration of self-harm and suicide prevention agenda and contributing to the development
 - **The Safe Durham Partnership** – contributing to the development of actions covering Hidden Harm in respect of domestic abuse; alcohol misuse, substance misuse. Aligning and improving work within sexual violence, child sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation
 - **The Children and Families Partnership** – working together to increasing the voice of the child and Early Help provision
20. The LSCB priorities above and priority areas of work are supported by a detailed LSCB Business Plan outlining the actions to be undertaken in 2015/16.
21. The Durham LSCB Annual Report 2014/15 was agreed at the LSCB Board Meeting on the 15th October 2015.
22. The report is available on the Durham LSCB Website www.durham-lscb.org.uk and will be disseminated through partners own organisational governance structures.

Recommendations

23. The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:
- a. Note the content of this report.
 - b. Accept the LSCB Annual Report for information as an overview of the work undertaken in 2014/15 and priorities for action in 2015/16.

Contact: Jacqui Doherty, LSCB Business Unit Manager Tel 03000 263989

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

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

Staffing

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

Risk

No adverse implications.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty

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

Accommodation

No adverse implications.

Crime and disorder

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

Human rights

No adverse implications.

Consultation

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

Procurement

No adverse implications.

Disability Issues

No adverse implications.

Legal Implications

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

**Appendix 2:
Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2014-15**

The logo features a stylized figure in dark blue with a yellow circle above its head, and a yellow swoosh below it.

Durham

Local Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Report

2014 / 2015

Safeguarding Children in County Durham

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Section 1: Foreword by Independent Chair



Welcome to my first Annual Report as independent chair of Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The role of the chair is to bring independent scrutiny and challenge to the work of the LSCB Board. Since being appointed in September 2014 I have immersed myself in scrutinising the work and development of the LSCB and I am encouraged by what I have seen. I am looking forward to my first full year in 2015 and eager to progress the good work of partners in County Durham.

Over the last year we have reviewed and updated our vision to **‘Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm’**. Our children and young people are at the heart of all we do and I have already challenged the Board to increase the ‘voice of the child’ in our plans and actions in the coming years and to understanding more fully the experience of the child or young person receiving help and support.

This Annual Report is intended to give local people an account of the Board’s work over the past year to improve the safety and wellbeing of children and young people across County Durham. The report reflects the activity of the LSCB and its sub-groups against its priorities for 2014/15. It covers the major changes and improvements of our partners’ service delivery, where they link with the Board’s overall strategies and the impact we have had. It will also report on the Serious Case Reviews and Child Death Reviews undertaken and identify the priorities we will take forward into 2015/16.

In 2014/15 we have improved performance in some key areas and responded to continued reforms and changes to public services. Where possible we have used these reforms and changes as an opportunity to learn more about each other’s priorities and challenges and to strengthen our partnership working.

2014/15 has also been a year of restructure and development for the Board and my thanks go to LSCB Business Unit for their hard work and dedication during a time of huge demand and tight deadlines. I would also like to thank the many partner agencies whose commitment and motivation helps deliver our shared priorities, develop new innovative initiatives and for the ongoing work to safeguard children in many different settings. It is through your hard working and effective teams that, at times, complex safeguarding issues are addressed and supported. I will continue to act as your critical friend, to scrutinise, challenge and seek continued improvement in services.

Lastly I would like to welcome our two new Lay Members, Helene Petch and Peter Harrison who give their valuable time and expertise to the work of the LSCB in County Durham.

Jane Geraghty
Independent Chair

Section 2: Introduction

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

Section 3 of the report highlights some statistical information about County Durham and provides a local context for our work. This section gives information on national policy that shapes the work of the LSCB such as the increased national focus on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). It provides information on our local challenges that drive local work and innovation. The section also provides information in relation to those young people who have been involved in Children's Social Care and Youth Justice Service.

In Section 4 we describe the local governance arrangements and structure of Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, the linkages to other strategic partnerships across County Durham and working with other LSCBs. In Section 5 we highlight some of the achievements and the progress that has been made in the last year as well as reporting on the work undertaken against the 2014/15 priorities including Early Help; Information Sharing; parental issues of Domestic Abuse, Alcohol and Drug Misuse and Mental Health; tackling Child Sexual Exploitation; strengthening our engagement with children and young people; supporting the new arrangements for the delivery of children's services and the development and self-improvement of the LSCB Board.

Section 6 covers our Performance Monitoring Framework and Quality Assurance Plan as well as providing a brief overview of safeguarding privately fostered children, the use of restraint in secure centres, Serious Case Reviews and Child Death Reviews. Section 7 discusses our single and multi-agency training provision. The LSCB training programme has seen an increased collaboration with a range of organisations; Durham County Council; County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust; Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, Durham Constabulary and Barnardos; in the planning, design and delivery of training. This has strengthened and enhanced the quality of training while avoiding duplication and promoting the importance of inter-agency working. Lastly, Section 8 provides the priorities we will take forward into 2015/16.

The information in this Annual Report is drawn from a wide range of sources from across the Children and Families Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and Safe Durham Partnership. Together these Partnerships, (along with Environmental and Economic themes), work under the County Durham Partnership towards the overarching vision of an 'Altogether Better Durham'. The report demonstrates the extent to which the functions of the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, as set out in the national statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (March 2015) are being effectively discharged.

Section 3: The Local Context

3.1 Our Community

In 2014, there were an estimated 517,773 people living in about 228,000 households in County Durham, with 12 major centres of population including Durham City, Chester-le-Street, Newton Aycliffe, Consett and Peterlee. The county stretches from the remote rural North Pennine Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the West to the Heritage Coastline in the East and is the home to a range of treasures including Durham Cathedral and Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Commonly regarded as a predominantly rural area, the county varies in character from remote and sparsely populated areas in the west to former coalfield communities in the centre and east, where villages tend to accommodate thousands rather than hundreds of people.

The number of children aged 0-15 in 2014 is 88,500 an increase of 200 (0.3%) since 2013. Despite recent increases in birth rates since 2001, this age group has declined by 6.1%, 5,700 fewer children. This is in contrast to national trends the number on children has increased by 3.5% over the same period.

By 2030, the number of children and young people aged 0-17 is projected to increase by 6.5%, reversing some of the declining trends seen prior to 2011.

Between 2001 and 2013, due to the increase in birth rate, the 0-4 age group in County Durham increased by 10.7%. As a result of an increase in the birth rate, it is expected that there will be in the region of 1,220 more primary aged pupils by 2023/24 than there were in 2013/14.



Growing up in poverty has a significant impact on children and young people both during their childhood and beyond. Almost a quarter of children in County Durham (23%) are living in poverty compared to an England average of one fifth (20.6%).

3.2 Key National Policy Drivers

Revisions to Working Together to Safeguard Children March 2015

Following consultation the government has updated and replaced the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children published in 2013. The revisions include changes to:

- the referral of allegations against those who work with children
- notifiable incidents involving the care of a child
- the definition of serious harm for the purposes of serious case reviews



Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation

The focus on Child Sexual Exploitation continues to grow following the Jay Report into Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham and the Casey Inspection Report of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, both of which were damning in their assessment of local services and governance.

In March 2015, HM Government released 'Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation'. The report sets out a range of measures aimed at preventing Child Sexual Exploitation through improved joint working and information sharing, better protection of vulnerable children, stopping offenders and supporting victims and survivors. In recognition of the harm caused to victims, Child Sexual Exploitation was elevated to a national threat with a requirement to adopt the PURSUE approach to combat it.

Female Genital Mutilation

Tackling Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) has risen in prominence in recent years and in 2014 clearer direction from central government about the safeguarding responsibilities of local agencies was issued. The government is clear that political or cultural sensitivities must not get in the way of uncovering and stopping this abuse. FGM should never be ignored, FGM is child abuse.

FGM is a hidden crime and identifying girls at risk of FGM is not straight forward because; it may be the only incident of child abuse, usually from what is otherwise a loving family; there are rarely reasons for routine examinations, so they are not routinely seen by people outside of the family and girls are unlikely to disclose FGM for fear of consequences to and from family members and the wider community.

A factor to be considered in County Durham due to its rural nature is the possible family isolation within the local community – Government research suggests that communities / families less integrated into British society are more likely to carry out FGM because they may be unaware it is harmful or illegal, are isolated and there are no support networks to tell them otherwise.



Troubled Families

In June 2014, the Government announced plans to expand the Troubled Families Programme (known as Stronger Families in County Durham) for a further five years from 2015/16 and to reach an additional 400,000 families across England.

For Durham this means an additional 4,330 families will be targeted. The expanded programme will continue to focus on families with multiple high cost problems and continue to include families affected by poor school attendance, youth crime, anti-social behaviour and unemployment. Offender management teams have embedded a 'Think Family' approach into their work and strong links now exist to promote and support the needs of families and children of offenders. This ensure a joined up approach to meeting families' needs and recognising and understanding the impact of adults' problems on a child's life. However, it will also reach out to families with a broad range of problems, including those affected by domestic abuse, substance misuse and

those with a range of physical and mental health problems. We know these are indicators of neglect and Durham LSCB is embedded in the work of Stronger Families and Think Family Programmes.

Counter Terrorism and Security Act

The Prevent Strategy is a cross-Government policy that forms one of the four strands of CONTEST: the United Kingdom's Strategy for Counter Terrorism. It includes the anti-radicalisation of vulnerable adults and children. Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism.

There is no obvious profile of anyone likely to become involved in extremism or a single indicator of when a person might move to adopt violence in support of extremist ideas. The process of radicalisation is different for every individual and can take place over an extended period or within a very short time frame. However, we do know young people are vulnerable to grooming and radicalisation. PREVENT includes work to identify and support those susceptible to violent extremism into appropriate interventions. These interventions are aimed to stop the vulnerable being radicalised. Those services working with children and young people (such as schools and Children's Services) continue to work with the Safe Durham Partnership, who oversees this priority.

Transforming Rehabilitation (Probation Reforms)

The Transforming Rehabilitation Programme sets out the Government's plans to transform the way in which offenders are managed in the community, in order to bring down re-offending rates. The key aspects of the reforms are:

- The creation of a new public sector National Probation Service to manage high risk offenders, (which took place in June 2014).
- The creation of 21 regional private sector Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) managing all other offenders (which took place in February 2015).
- Every offender released from custody will receive statutory supervision and rehabilitation in the community.
- A nationwide 'through the prison gate' resettlement service will be put in place, meaning most offenders are given continuous support by one provider from custody into the community. Offenders are held in a prison designated to their area for at least three months before release.
- New payment by results incentives for CRCs to focus on reforming offenders.

Adult offenders managed by the new National Probation Service include all those who pose the highest risk of serious harm to the public – this group will include those subject to Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. The new National Probation Service will continue to carry out assessments of the risk of serious harm posed by each offender and advise the courts and Parole Board accordingly. All other adult offenders will be managed and supervised by Community Rehabilitation Companies.

3.3 Our Local Drivers

Alcohol

Parental alcohol misuse – Parental alcohol misuse has a considerable negative effect on children, young people and the family. Children and young people experience poor outcomes due to parental alcohol misuse including foetal alcohol syndrome, school attainment, inferior health and wellbeing, neglect, greater likelihood of exposure to crime and alcohol-related domestic violence. In 2014/15 18.6% of initial child protection conferences in County Durham were as a result of parental alcohol misuse. Balance (the North East Alcohol Office) estimate that the number of children living with a parent(s) who drink at high risk levels in County Durham is 49,353.

Child Sexual Exploitation – Alcohol is a common vulnerability factor in incidence of child sexual exploitation and grooming. Alcohol increases risk taking behaviour, it can impair decision making processes and can reduce the ability to sense dangerous situations or people. This can also involve child victims and perpetrators exchanging sexual favours for alcohol. Young people often consume alcohol in private homes or

on or off the street, such as wooded areas and parks. Often this alcohol is purchased through 'proxy' sales, i.e. someone else purchasing the alcohol for them.

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Alcohol consumption by young people – The amount of young people drinking in the UK is reducing (Health & Social Care Information Centre, 2014) and this is no different in County Durham. However, those young people who do drink alcohol are drinking more in volume and more frequently. Young people are more likely to experience poor outcomes due to their own alcohol consumption than any other age group. Alcohol related youth offending continues to be a focus for our Youth Offending Services and although we have seen reductions in this area we will continue to support interventions to reduce alcohol related offending by young people further.



Under-18 alcohol specific admissions – rates are significantly higher in County Durham than England. The rates are the 18th worst in the Country (LAPE, 2014).

Sexual health and teenage pregnancy – Evidence suggests that alcohol can contribute to misjudgements about sexual behaviour and alcohol consumption in young people is associated with an increased likelihood of having sex and at a younger age, of contracting sexually transmitted infections and teenage pregnancy. Teenage conception rates have reduced from 43.2 per 1,000 population of 15-17 year olds in 2012 to 33.7 in 2014, but remain higher than the national average of 27.7. (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2014).

Domestic Abuse

The main parental risk factor leading to a child being made subject to a child protection plan is domestic abuse. In County Durham the levels of domestic abuse related incidents reported to the police have seen a continuous but small increase since 2009/10. Domestic abuse continues to be under-reported. Plans to build on the Central Referral Unit were developed as part of the Early Help Strategy and resulted in the implementation of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) launched in March 2015.

In September 2013 Durham County Council commissioned Harbour to deliver a countywide domestic abuse service and a domestic abuse referral pathway was agreed and launched in December 2014 as part of the multi-agency 'Sorry's Not Enough' campaign. From April 2015 the countywide domestic abuse service was widened to provide a holistic service focussed on early intervention. The LSCB has links to the County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG) and we will continue to promote the need for domestic abuse services to support children, young people and their families.



Our annual training programme in relation to domestic abuse focuses on improving the understanding of risk factors; equipping practitioners with knowledge and skills to undertake effective risk assessment and ensuring practitioners and managers are clear about referral pathways and key points of contact. Over the last year the LSCB were challenged to improve the links and with other Strategic Partnerships. This has had a positive impact on Domestic Abuse training. Both the LSCB training and the Safe Durham Domestic Abuse training has been aligned and brought together with a multi-agency set of trainers now delivering the training.

Information Sharing

This remains an important issue highlighted in learning from Serious Case Reviews both nationally and locally here in County Durham. We will continue to keep a focus on information sharing supporting and promoting good practice across multi-agency teams.

3.4 Our Children

Our approach is to ensure strong safeguarding culture and arrangements where the focus is firmly on the experience of the child or young person and their journey to getting early help and support. In planning, resourcing, designing and managing our work there are some key facts that are of importance to us.

Looked After Children

When children become Looked After there are significant challenges in providing them with placement stability and improved outcomes and in equipping them for life beyond the care system. We know that by understanding the reasons for children become Looked After enables agencies to target their early help and family support services. Reduction in the number of children Looked After is a good indicator of the impact of our early help strategy.

The percentage of Children in Need referrals that occurred within 12 months of the previous referral has reduced from 27.4% in 2013/14 to a provisional figure of 22.8% in 2014/15, which is better than the 2013/14 national rate of 23.4%.

Child Protection Plan

Provisional data at 31 March 2015 indicates that 377 children were subject to a Child Protection Plan, a rate of 37.6 per 10,000 population. This is a reduction from 45.1 in March 2014 and is better than the March 2014 England average (42.1).

The percentage of Child Protection Plans that lasted two years or more is provisionally 0.9%, which is an improvement from the

previous year (2.1%) and is better than the 2013/14 national average (2.6%).

The most frequent reason for children being placed on a child protection plan in 2014/15 was **Neglect** (68.8%) with **Physical Abuse** (16.7%) being the second most significant reason.

The LSCB continues to respond to the issues of neglect and its impact on children and young people’s wellbeing and outcomes. We have implemented the provision of specialist training for multi-agency practitioners supporting children identified as at risk or subject to neglect by their parent/carers. We have used improved national guidance and lessons learned from Serious Case Reviews to develop this training further and cover early help, child development and the long term impact of neglect on children.

As a Board we recognise the need to better understand the links between the impact of our training and professional practice on children’s outcomes.

Parental Risk Factors

Domestic abuse continues to be the main parental risk factor leading to children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan, accounting for **36% of child protection conferences** recorded for 2014/15. Parental alcohol misuse, substance misuse and mental health, are the next most common.

Opposite - Number of conferences with specified parental factor (percentage of all conferences, initial and review with specific risk factor recorded) during 2014/15.

In 2012, domestic abuse was identified as a priority for the LSCB and is now embedded into the Board’s core activities. Specialist training continues to be provided for multi-agency practitioners and includes awareness raising sessions as well as more in-depth specialist sessions presented by specialist workers.

	Initial conference	Review conference
Parental factors relating to mental health issues	37 (4.32%)	143 (16.71%)
Parental factors relating to domestic abuse	42 (4.91%)	308 (35.98%)
Parental factors relating to alcohol misuse	22 (2.57%)	159 (18.57%)
Parental factors relating to substance misuse	32 (3.74%)	157 (18.34%)
Parental factors relating to risk to children	12 (1.4%)	60 (7.01%)

The Age of Children on a Child Protection Plan

Age	Total	%
Unborn	7	1.9
< 1	42	11.1
1 to 4	115	30.5
5 to 9	132	35.0
10 to 15	76	20.2
16 to 17	<6	1.3
TOTAL	377	100.0

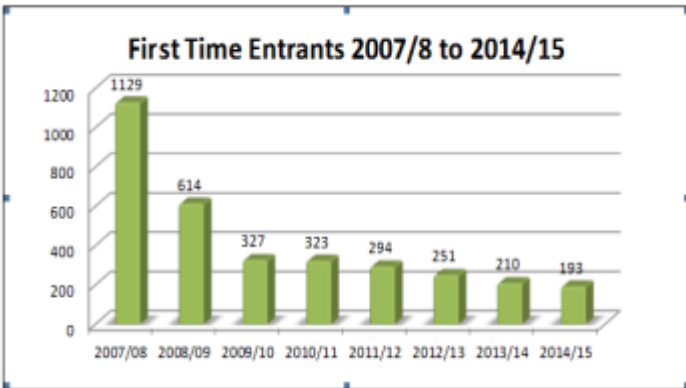
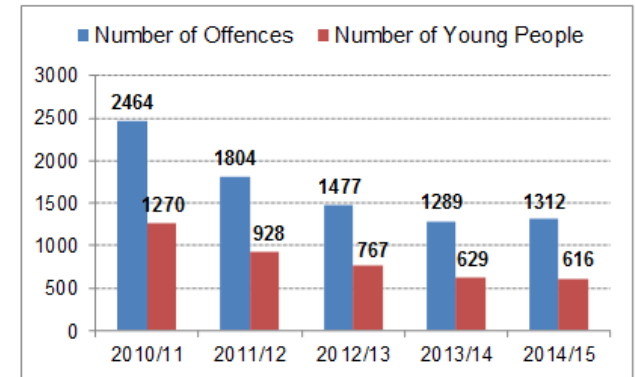
As shown in the table **43.5% of children** who were made subject of a Child Protection Plan **were under five years old**, (2014-15) indicating how vulnerable this age group is and indicating the importance of the Early Help strategy in engaging with families as early as possible.

The LSCB continues to support the voluntary and community sector through the provision of targeted safeguarding training to Early Year’s providers. This has led to better identification of vulnerable families and children at risk. We have also incorporated lessons learned from Serious Case Reviews into our training in order to support practitioners and managers to improve their understanding and assessment skills.

Youth Justice

Since 2010-11 there has been a **46.8% decrease** in the number of offences committed (2,464 to 1,312) and a **51.5% reduction** over the same period in the number of young people offending (1,270 to 616).

2014-15 saw a fourth successive year reduction in the number of young people offending, however a slight increase in the number offences committed, when compared to the previous year. The graph to the right shows the year on year reduction in young people offending and the reduction, since 2010-11, in the number of offences.



As a result of our integrated pre court/out of court system which provides assessment and intervention at a young person’s first point of contact with the youth justice system (first offence), we have reduced first time entrants (FTEs) and re-offending.

Between 2007/08 and 2014/15 we have achieved **82.9% reduction** in first time entrants, from 1129 in 2007/08 to 193 in 2014/15.

Locally County Durham Youth Offending Service has been a key member of the local probation reforms transitional arrangements.

Section 4: Local Safeguarding Children Board Governance and Structure

4.1 Local Safeguarding Children Board

Each local area is required by Law to have an LSCB. The LSCB is a statutory body established in legislation (Section 13 of the Children Act 2004) and works according to national guidance, the most significant being the latest version of 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015'.

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

The functions of the LSCB are:

To develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area.

These could include:

- the action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention
- training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children
- the recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children
- the safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered
- having a clear strategy in place for tackling Child Sexual Exploitation
- co-operating with neighbouring children services and their Board partners

To raise awareness of both the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and action to so do

To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the local authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children **and advise them on ways to improve**

To participate in the planning of services for children in the area of the authority

To undertake reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned

The LSCB does not commission or deliver direct frontline services and does not have the power to direct other organisations, which retain their own existing lines of accountability for safeguarding. However, the LSCB does have a role in quality assurance making it clear where improvement is needed and where appropriate reviewing and challenging existing procedures.

To fulfil this role, the LSCB uses data to:

- Assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help
- Quality assure practice, including through joint audits of case files involving practitioners and identifying lessons to be learned
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training

4.2 Linkages across other partnerships and services

The County Durham Partnership (CDP) is the overarching partnership for County Durham and is supported by five thematic partnerships, each of which has a specific focus:

- **The Economic Partnership** - Aims to make County Durham a place where people want to live, work, invest and visit whilst enabling our residents and businesses to achieve their potential
- **The Children and Families Partnership** - Works to ensure effective services are delivered in the most efficient way to improve the lives of children, young people and families in County Durham
- **The Health and Wellbeing Board** - Promotes integrated working between commissioners of health services, public health and social care services, for the purposes of improving the health and wellbeing of the people in the area
- **The Safe Durham Partnership** - Tackles crime, disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the environment and seeks to reduce re-offending
- **The Environment Partnership** - Aims to transform and sustain the environment within County Durham, maximising partnership arrangements to support the economy and the wellbeing of local communities.



4.3 LSCB Membership and Governance

The LCSB is a statutory partnership made up of local agencies. In County Durham there is a longstanding and high commitment amongst partner agencies to develop and improve arrangements to protect and safeguard children from harm and to share responsibility and accountability for those services. A membership list is attached at Appendix 1.

Durham LSCB has a Governance and Memorandum of Understanding in place and forms the formal agreement between the Board and all partner agencies. It outlines the accountability arrangements; key purposes; functions and tasks of the LSCB; membership; and agreed standards and expectations of LSCB services. The document also sets out the wider links with other key strategic partnership groups such as the Children & Families Partnership; the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Safe Durham Partnership.

In line with national requirements, the Board continues to be chaired by an independent person, an arrangement that has been in place since 2011. The Chair has a crucial role in making certain that the Board operates independently and secures an independent voice for the LSCB. Jane Geraghty became the new Independent Chair of the board in October 2014, and a new vice chair Gill Findley (Director of Nursing Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG and North Durham CCG) took up post in May 2015.

The LSCB Business Unit has been realigned to Planning and Service Strategy within the Local Authority to develop the links with other partnership structures and strengthen the joint working on a range of strategies such as the County Durham Domestic Abuse Strategy, the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and the Early Help Strategy.

4.4 LSCB Board Meetings

The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board meets bi-monthly and attendance is monitored and reported annually as part of the Board's governance and effectiveness arrangements. Throughout 2014/15 the Board has been well supported by partner agencies. The membership of the Board is made up of the senior strategic leaders and managers of the partner agencies.

Action plans against priorities and performance are reported, monitored and challenged. Progress on Child Death Reviews and Serious Case Reviews are updated and completed Serious Case Reviews are published on the LSCB website for a period of 12 months. The findings and recommendations are disseminated to partners and any action plan coming out of a review is also monitored by the Board.

4.5 Learning and Improvement

Durham LSCB continually monitors the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of multi-agency practice through the LSCB Performance Management Framework. Where gaps are identified, implications for the LSCB are considered and progressed through business planning and the work of sub-groups.

We will continue to:

- Monitor partner compliance with the statutory requirement to have effective safeguarding arrangements in place (section 11)
- Apply the national Children Safeguarding Information Performance Framework, based on an 'Outcomes Based Accountability' approach asking three questions:
 - How much did we do?
 - How well did we do it?
 - Did it make a difference?
- Develop a series of scorecards for priority areas, e.g. CSE
- Develop a multi-agency Audit and Quality Assurance forward plan designed to provide much more information about the quality of work being undertaken and its impact on outcomes for individual children and young people.

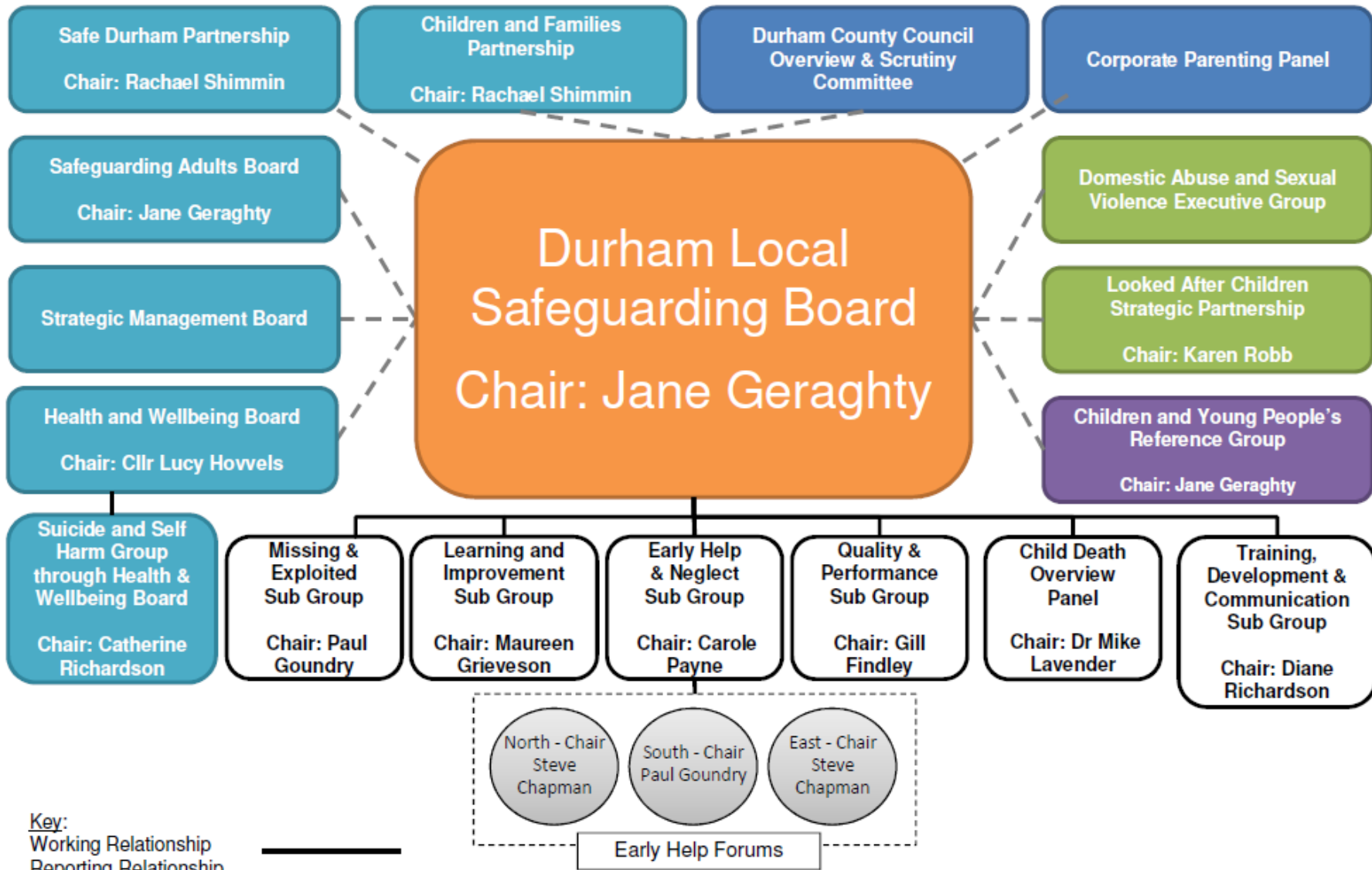
Outcomes and findings feed into our learning and improvement structures to promote a culture of continuous improvement across the LSCB.

In 2014 we have undertaken a range of steps to develop our practice to improve our effectiveness, building on and addressing the outcomes of our LSCB self-assessment and the feedback arising from the Local Government Association review of October 2014.

We continue to implement the recommendations from Serious Case Reviews and host learning events where key messages and the lessons learnt from the Serious Case Reviews we have published are shared with practitioners and agencies.

Child Death Overview Panel for Durham LSCB and Darlington LSCB Boards share key learning from child deaths. Action plans implemented and reviewed by the Child Death Overview Panel at each meeting.

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board Structure



4.7 Sub Groups

The LSCB has in place a number of sub-groups, taking forward the priorities of the Board.

Missing and Exploited Sub-Group (MEG) – This group focusses on monitoring activity and improving services and responses to reported missing and absent children and Child Sexual Exploitation.

Learning and Improvement Sub-group – This group considers serious incidents, commissions serious case reviews, oversees and monitors progress on agreed actions for specific local cases.

Quality and Performance Sub-group – This group oversees the quality and standards of safeguarding practice across the partnership to ensure that the LSCB fulfils its statutory function. Performance is monitored and analysis of the effectiveness of procedures is undertaken. The group also plans and monitors the LSCB audit programme.

Early Help and Neglect Sub-group – This group reviews and improves the referral pathways and access to help and support for families at an earlier stage of need and thereby reduce the number of families entering the system in crisis. This group supports three Early Help Locality Forums for a range of multi-agency practitioners.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) – This is a joint group of both Durham and Darlington LSCBs. It has responsibility for reviewing the available information on all child deaths.

Training, Development and Communications Sub-group – This group reviews, plans and develops delivery of multi-agency training programmes using information from Learning Lessons Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and complaints as well as national and regional guidance. Lastly, this group has responsibility for the development and delivery of a LSCB Communication Strategy.

In addition are the following groups with links to the LSCB Board.

Children and Young People's Reference Group – This group has been set up to actively engage with children and young people and seek their views on a range of safeguarding issues.

Suicide and Self Harm Group – This group is a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board with a relationship to the LSCB and tackles the causal factors for suicide, attempted suicide and self-harm, which incorporates children and young people.

Looked After Children Strategic Partnership – This group has a reporting relationship to the LSCB; it aims to improve educational achievements; to improve post 16 services and to improve the health and emotional well-being of looked after children and young people.

4.8 Equality and Diversity

The LSCB strives to promote equal access to safeguarding services, particularly for those children who are unable to communicate, due to their age, disability or first language, with those people or services that are able to protect them.

Policies and procedures of the LSCB are subject to an equality impact assessment to ensure that new policies and procedures do not discriminate on any basis.

Equality and diversity, challenging discrimination and values underpins the delivery of all LSCB training. LSCB training considers a broad range of issues such as parental mental illness, parental learning disability, substance misuse, child neglect, CSE and children who are deaf or disabled. It also recognises the impact of social disadvantage such as poverty, poor housing and worklessness. Durham LSCB also strives to ensure that its courses are open and accessible to all and create an environment where participants feel able to challenge and be challenged in a safe and constructive way.

The LSCB has a complaints review system in place for child protection conferences to ensure that where there is concern raised by parents and carers and young people, they will be treated with respect, are listened to and their views taken into account.

4.9 Working with other LSCBs

Durham LSCB works collaboratively with other Local Safeguarding Children Boards to share learning and agree safeguarding policies and procedures which impact on children and families and cross our Local Authority boundaries. This includes Cross Boundary Procedure for North East England LSCBs (children who move from one authority area to another), Child Deaths, Serious Case Reviews and lessons learned.

There is invaluable work across the region promoting good practice in areas such as training, policies and procedures and lessons learned. We are an active member of the LSCB Regional Business Managers Group. Our regional priorities will focus on key issues of child sexual exploitation and neglect.

Section 5: Achievements and progress against 2014/15 Priorities

5.1 LSCB Priorities 2014/15

The 2013/14 Annual Plan identified the following priorities:

- Early Help
- Information Sharing
- Parental issues of Domestic Abuse, Alcohol and Drug Misuse and Mental Health
- Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation;
- Strengthening our engagement with children and young people
- Supporting the new arrangements for the delivery of children's services
- Development and self-improvement of the LSCB Board

5.2 Achievements and Progress Highlights

- Development of the Early Help Strategy and sharing with the Children and Families Partnership
- The introduction of a County Durham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
- Development and implemented the 'Collaborative working and information sharing between professionals to protect vulnerable adults and children' information sharing protocol
- Developed a Safeguarding Framework to improve links with Health & Wellbeing Board, Children & Families Partnership and Safe Durham Partnership and to align Domestic Abuse, Alcohol and Drug Misuse and Mental Health work
- Development of a CSE Strategy and delivery plan
- Developing and implementing a CSE audit and sharing the information through other council and partnership structures
- Supported 'Never Do Nothing' training (a safeguarding standard for voluntary and 3rd sector organisations)
- Set up a Young People's Reference Group for the LSCB

- The LSCB and the Safe Durham Domestic Abuse training has been aligned and brought together with a multi-agency set of trainers now delivering the training
- LSCB support to Childrens Services innovations funding bid, training programmes, single assessment and Think Family
- Reviewed the leadership of the LSCB and appointed new Chair, Vice-Chair and Business Manager
- Appointed two new Lay Members to act as an independent voice
- Review of the governance of LSCB sub-groups, each of which is now chaired by a LSCB partner member
- Developing a new LSCB website, with input from young people

5.3 Challenge and Impact

Here we provide examples of challenges raised by the LSCB, the resulting progress and the impact this has had on delivery of services and improvements in safeguarding.

In the development of the Early Help Strategy we challenged partners to improve the early help responses within the Central Referral Unit. The impact of this challenge was the development of a successful police innovation funding bid resulting in the implementation of a County Durham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) launched in March 2015.

A recommendation of the Local Government Association (LGA) peer review challenged the LSCB to improve the links with wider strategic partnership structures. Over the last year we have clarified and improved the LSCB Board's relationship to other strategic partnerships across County Durham. This has already resulted in closer working arrangement such as the Domestic abuse worker now based in the MASH; the development of a Domestic Abuse Referral Pathway and alignment of Training Programmes, the LSCB training and the Safe Durham Domestic Abuse training has been aligned and brought together with a multi-agency set of trainers now delivering the training.

We have contributed into the draft County Durham Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and the draft Safe Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy. In addition we have been able to utilise wider partnership resources and structures to improve an LSCB response, for example; we have linked the LSCB Self-Harm priority to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) sub-group who are already addressing this issue. This has had the added impact of improving the visibility and influence of the LSCB Board.

A challenge from the Chair of the LSCB was to improve the voice of the child. This has resulted in collaborative work with 'Investing in Children' and the development of the Young People's Reference Group for the LSCB. These young people have met with members of the

LSCB on a number of occasions and their views have been taken into account in the LSCB work plan and our priority setting arrangements. An example of a direct impact of listening to these young people is the inclusion of the self-harm priority for the LSCB 2015-16.

Partners were also challenged in relation to work on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) which resulted in a CSE audit taking place to identify numbers and risk factors.

Responding to Working Together guidance's stating volunteer staff need to be aware of their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children the LSCB have proactively supported the 'Never Do Nothing' training across County Durham. Never do nothing is a safeguarding standard for voluntary and 3rd sector organisations to promote good practice in the safeguarding of children and young people. It provides guidance for individuals; staff, volunteers, carers, etc as well as providing a framework for delivery of safeguarding within any organisation, within any sector – so that no-one is left in any doubt as to what action to take when they have a concern about the welfare of a child or young person in County Durham.

Challenge also takes place at a very senior level through a Chief Officers Safeguarding Group which includes the County Council's Chief Executive, Independent Chair of the LSCB, Corporate Director of Children and Adults Services, Chief Officers of the Clinical Commissioning Groups, the local NHS Foundation Trust and Police Constable as well as other senior managers. This forum allows the opportunity to challenge and share information to ensure line of sight on safeguarding issues including:

- Child Sexual Exploitation and the commitment to provide additional resources from the Police
- Ensure training programmes are joined up with the LSCBs
- Ensure quality of front-line practice
- Share outcomes of multi-agency audits and action plans

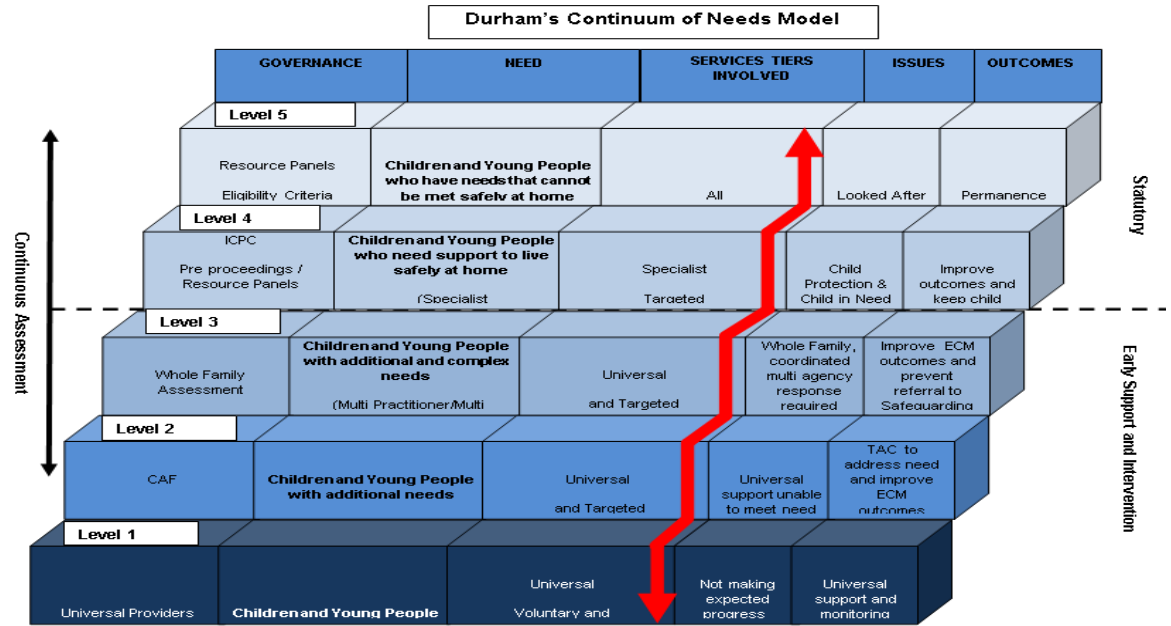
5.4 Progress on LSCB priorities 2014/15

Early Help

The LSCB recognises early help as a key priority area for making significant impact on outcomes for children. 'Working Together 2015' identifies this as an area where LSCBs need to bring more challenge to partners to demonstrate that families are receiving help at an earlier stage and before matters escalate. Partners have responded to the challenge to develop strategies that shape and deliver services in a number of new ways. These include: The Early Help Strategy; a strong continuum of needs framework and the local authority re-design of children's services.

We have worked alongside the Children and Families Partnership to help develop an Early Help Strategy and Action Plan. Our role will continue to be one of challenging partners as to what changes they are making to the way they deliver services to children and families to make them more child centred, more responsive and available at a much earlier point to prevent problems escalating.

The Durham Continuum of Needs Model is designed to reflect the fact that children and young people's needs and those of their families exist along a continuum. The model recognises that needs may change over time and is based on the principle that children and young people's welfare and safety is a shared responsibility and should be a seamless positive journey. Regardless of which 'step' children, young people and families are identified on they will be supported at the earliest opportunity and continue to be supported by the relevant services as they move up and down the staircase.



Through the Stronger Families' programme we have engaged with our offender management structures. Durham Constabulary, Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company, Youth Offending Services and Anti-social Behaviour Teams are all fully involved in this work. The second phase of the 'Troubled Families' programme will identify and support families over a wider range of need, one being 'Parents and Children Involved in crime or anti-social behaviour'. This will enable teams to reach not only families where there is a young person involved in crime or anti-social behaviour, but to include adult offenders who have parenting responsibilities.

In terms of safeguarding arrangements outcomes for children and families it is expected that more families will receive help at an earlier point and be empowered to take control of their own lives, avoiding the need for statutory intervention. We look to see a reduction in the number of Children In Need, Look after Children and children subject to a Child Protection Plan.

Impact of the Early Help Strategy can be seen through a range of activity; the development of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH); Early Help Forums are now up and running across the County. The forums will be used as a line of communication between the LSCB and front line practitioners; 'Never Do Nothing' training (a safeguarding standard for voluntary and 3rd sector organisations); the new single

assessment practice guidance underpins the work across children's services and is now in use alongside a range of practice tools. Multi agency audits continue to be driven by the LSCB and a new audit process within children's services was introduced in June 2014.

Early Help has started to be recognised in everyday practice as crucial to achieving positive outcomes for children and their families. Early Help is now written into many policies, plans and strategies across the Durham partnership.

Information Sharing

This remains an important issue highlighted in learning from Serious Case Reviews both nationally and locally here in County Durham. In 2014 the LSCB developed and implemented an information sharing protocol called 'Collaborative working and information sharing between professionals to protect vulnerable adults and children.' This protocol has also been shared with wider safeguarding arrangements and has been approved by both the LSCB and the Safeguarding Adults Board and endorsed through single agency governance arrangements.

The protocol captures the existing guidance on information sharing and signposts professionals that their safeguarding responsibilities carry with it an expectation that information sharing is the norm. The main emphasis is to ensure information is shared to enable children to be better safeguarded and families offered early help. The protocol is supported by a guidance document for professionals, which is made available as part of LSCB training. In 2015 we will review and revise the protocol to ensure compliance with the latest version of 'Working Together' published in March 2015 and the Care Act 2015.

Parental issues of Domestic Abuse, Alcohol and Drug Misuse and Mental Health

Domestic abuse continues to be the main parental risk factor leading to children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan. Parental alcohol misuse, substance misuse and mental health, are the next most common. These parental risk factors are discussed in greater depth in section 3.3 'Our Local Drivers'.

Probation reforms have led to a greater focus on rehabilitation and tackling the critical pathways of offending. It is no surprise these align directly with the parental risk factors above. The National Probation Service and Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company continue to become more involved in this area of work as they adapt delivery of services to improve the management of offenders in areas such as 'Through the Gate' provision (rehabilitation and resettlement in the community); exit strategies after statutory supervision and pathways into mainstream services and transitional arrangements for young people who offend. Other project such as the 'Checkpoint' (offender diversion scheme) contribute to tackling parental issues of Domestic Abuse, Alcohol and Drug Misuse and Mental Health and as a result impact positively on the outcomes for children.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Child Sexual Exploitation can have a serious long-term impact on every aspect on children's lives, health and education. It damages the lives of families and carers, which can lead to family break-ups.

There are strong links between sexual exploitation and those young people who are reported missing from home. Recent analysis conducted by Tasking and Coordinating (Missing From Home Summary Report – Early Findings February 2015) highlighted a range of risks associated with missing including sexual exploitation, mental health, alcohol or drugs issues with motivation for missing including family conflict or relationship issues. The offender profile is one of 'street grooming' and use of social media to exploit children.

We have developed a CSE Strategy and Action Plan to detect, prevent and disrupt all forms of Child Sexual Exploitation including online child abuse as well as contact offences. The Missing from Home (MFH) and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) procedures focus on early identification and prevention meaning we identify children at risk and work to reduce this risk, rather than waiting for harm to occur before we act.

Durham was successful in a bid to the Governments Children's Social Care Innovation Fund 2014/15 for a therapeutic support programme at Aycliffe Secure Centre for children who have been sexually exploited. This will offer targeted support in helping young people deal with trauma and in making the transition from the secure setting into more independent living.

We have also developed a CSE Disruption Toolkit allowing practitioners to highlight to the police risk factor behaviour around potential perpetrators. The use of this toolkit continues to be promoted in presentations and awareness raising events.

Durham Constabulary has become the first Force in the UK to adopt a new training package aimed at protecting children from abuse. 'Intervene to Protect a Child' (IPC) is a new and proactive training tactic which has had significant success in the United States. Early successes in Durham indicate the potential this training can have on protecting children from abuse. The Transforming Rehabilitation agenda (probations reforms) have enabled offender managers greater collaboration with Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs and Missing and Exploited Group. Hundreds of police officers and other agency staff such as teachers, neighbourhood wardens and probation officers have been trained in this innovative technique. In 2014/15 we have also:

- Carried out LSCB audits for both CSE and missing children incidents to assess child protection practice and improve outcomes for children who go missing
- Undertaken an audit of responses for named suspects



- Developed a CSE marketing strategy
- Created the 'ERASE' brand (Educate and Raise Awareness of Sexual Exploitation) to tackle child sexual exploitation (ERASE offers parents and carers advice on how to communicate with their children about who they speak to on-line and off-line)

Agencies continue to work together to tackle CSE and planned actions for 2015/16 include:

- A dedicated ERASE team will be piloted and launched in August 2015 and will include a Detective Sergeant, two PCSOs and an Admin Support Officer. This team will focus on early identification of young people at risk and suspected offenders and use problem solving tactics to address CSE
- Widen our training and awareness to those services not traditionally associated with safeguarding e.g. taxi drivers
- Development and launch of an 'ERASE' website
- Develop transitional arrangement with Safeguarding Adults Board for those young people reaching their 18th birthday, who remain vulnerable to sexual exploitation
- Develop stronger relationships with communities through Area Action Partnerships (AAP), raising awareness of CSE and how to report concerns or intelligence of CSE
- Actively engage young people within identified vulnerable groups at risk of CSE (for example, lesbian, gay, bisexual or transsexual, and special needs) that face additional barriers around reporting and support

Strengthening our engagement with children and young people

The LSCB actively engages and seeks the views of children and young people on wider safeguarding issues.

We have continued to improve the way we involve young people, throughout 2014/15 we have worked collaboratively with 'Investing in Children' to set up a Young People's Reference Group for the LSCB. These young people have met with members of the LSCB on a number of occasions and their views have been taken into account in the LSCB work plan and our priority setting arrangements.



Staff from the LSCB have conducted community visits alongside these young people to see first-hand their concerns. A direct impact of listening to these young people has been the inclusion of the self-harm priority for the LSCB 2015-16.

Working with young people and local communities is a key area for the LSCB to take forward into 2015/16. This direct link to young people in their own communities and understanding the 'voice of the child' has brought a positive and different perspective into the LSCB Board, listening to what young people tell us and acting upon it. We will continue and widen our engagement with young people and will work towards achieving Investors in Children status in 2015.

We will also create a more cohesive link with Area Action Partnerships to encourage communities to be more 'safeguarding of children and young people' focused and promoting safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Supporting the new arrangements for the delivery of children's services

Durham County Council Children's Services is on a journey of major transformation and has completed two phases of that work. The vision is being delivered through a transformational change programme.

The programme consists of three main phases:

1. Piloting of new service forms – reflection and learning 2009/12
2. Service transformation, policy and procedure development – 2013/14
3. Service reform based on learning from phases 1 and 2 – 2015/16

Phase 1 and Phase 2 have already been delivered.

Durham was successful in a bid to the Government's Children's Social Care Innovation Fund 2014/15. The funding will allow Children's Services to build on the progress they have already made to date and accelerate developments more quickly than we would otherwise have been able to do without this significant additional investment. The Project is underpinned by a significant programme of workforce development designed to create a new culture by developing new skills and attitudes, through training, mentoring, clinical consultation and challenge.

The main innovative elements of Durham's Project are:

- Creation of 10 integrated teams (Families First) across the County, focussed on early help and significantly increasing the range, access, quality and effectiveness of services for the whole family across the continuum of need
- Creation and development of third sector alliances to build community capacity and sustainable change for families
- An intensive workforce development programme to support the new teams and the whole workforce



- Significantly enhanced service user engagement to change the relationship between professional and service user

Working alongside these arrangements is an aligned model of universal services, such as schools, community health services and voluntary and community sector organisations. It is their role to ensure that need is identified at the earliest point, so that early help can be provided. These services are already engaged through three Early Help Forums.

Three child protection teams will continue working with children subject to Child Protection Plans and children in care proceedings and a Looked After Children's Team will work with children with permanence plans. We hope to see:

- A reduction in the number of Look after Children
- A reduction in the number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan
- More Children and families receiving Early Help
- Improved social work practice

An independent evaluation will commence in March 2016.

Development and self-improvement of the LSCB Board

The LSCB Board recognises the importance of self-improvement, to be effective it needs to continuously learn from its own experiences and that of others. Building on and addressing the outcomes of our LSCB self-assessment and feedback arising from the LGA review of October 2014 we have:

- Revised our performance indicators and implemented a new dataset to better reflect priorities
- Appointed two lay members
- Strengthened the scrutiny / challenge role and developing a framework for evidencing impact and difference
- Strengthened the engagement and participation of children and young people in the work of the Board
- Clarified the Board's relationship with other partnership forums
- Improved the visibility and influence of the Board
- Strengthened the engagement and participation of frontline staff including involvement in audit work

We have undertaken a range of steps to develop our practice and values to improve our effectiveness - keeping the child's journey at the forefront of what we do. In addition, we have clarified our business objectives and aligned our LSCB operations against our objectives.

Section 6: Performance Monitoring and Quality Assurance

6.1 Performance Monitoring and Quality Assurance

Durham LSCB's primary responsibility is to provide a way for local organisations that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the locality, and to ensure that they will do so effectively. Our Performance Monitoring Framework and quality assurance plan monitor and developed these arrangements.

In the last year we have continued to monitor and develop Section 11* auditing covering the following organisations:

- Durham Constabulary
- North Tees and Hartlepool Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust
- County Durham Youth Offending Service
- Durham County Council Children's Services
- Durham Dales Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group
- North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group
- Hassockfield Secure Training Centre (up to Oct 2014)
- National Probation Service (Durham)
- Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
- Children and Families Court Advisory Support Services
- County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust

We have also carried out LSCB audits for both CSE and missing children incidents to assess child protection practice and improve outcomes for children who go missing and undertook an audit of responses for named suspects.

*Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places duties on a range of organisations and individuals to ensure their functions – and any services that they contract out to others – are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The LSCB provides a statutory function of auditing the Board’s partner organisations to ensure their compliance to this statute.

6.2 Quality Assurance Forward Plan

In 2015/16 we will:

- Develop an on-line version of Section 11 audits
- Review governance arrangements
- Review Memorandum of Understanding
- Develop consistent use of auditing tools and processes
- Identify and develop areas for auditing
- Develop reporting formats to include case studies and make the voice of the child more visible
- Develop additional ‘Quality’ reporting to include areas such as complaints, serious case reviews and child death overview monitoring

6.3 Safeguarding Privately Fostered Children

The LSCB Board monitors the local arrangements for safeguarding children who are privately fostered. The Board includes specific data in its ‘Top Ten’ performance indicator list and on an annual basis is provided with a full report setting out the Local Authority’s strategy and specific arrangements to raise awareness in the community, monitor and support children and young people who are in such placements.

6.4 The Use of Restraint – Safeguarding Young People in Secure Settings

County Durham is among a small number of Councils who have secure services within its boundaries. In 2014/15 the Youth Justice Board (YJB) took the decision to close Hassockfield Secure Training Centre, this means only partial data for this centre can be provided. The LSCB also monitors the use of restraint at Aycliffe Secure Services Centre. Many of the children are placed by Local Authorities outside the area

and by the criminal courts. Since 2011 and in line with Working Together guidance we have reported on the use of restraint in the two secure settings within County Durham.

Hassockfield Secure Training Centre

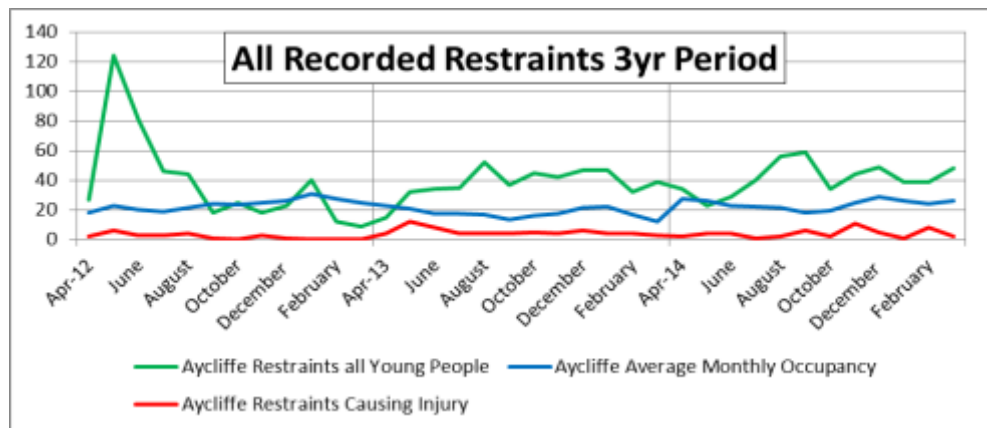
Month	Hassockfield Restraints all Young People		Hassockfield Restraints Causing Injury		Hassockfield Average Occupancy	Hassockfield Occupancy at 1 st of Month
	2013-14	2014-15	2013-14	2014-15	2013-14	2014-15
April	89	61	17	6	45	55
May	65	19	9	1	42	43
June	75	32	11	4	42	37
July	43	47	6	3	42	38
August	45	28	3	5	45	41
September	45	36	5	3	42	32
October	58	18	3	0	50	32
November						
December						
January						
February						
March						
TOTAL	420	241	54	22		
Average per month	60	34.4	7.7	3.1	44	39.7

Table 1: Total Incidence of Restraints and Restraints causing Injury: (April 2014 – Nov 2015 & the previous period for comparison.)

This centre was closed in November 2014. Hassockfield catered for up to 58 young people, male and female. Young people lived in four separate house blocks with three of the 'house' blocks having two residential living units.

During the last reporting period, up to the point of closure, the gender occupancy ratio was consistently a little over 2:1 (annual totals - male 232:109 female). However, incidents of restraint by gender were closer to 4:1 (annual totals - male 19:50 female).

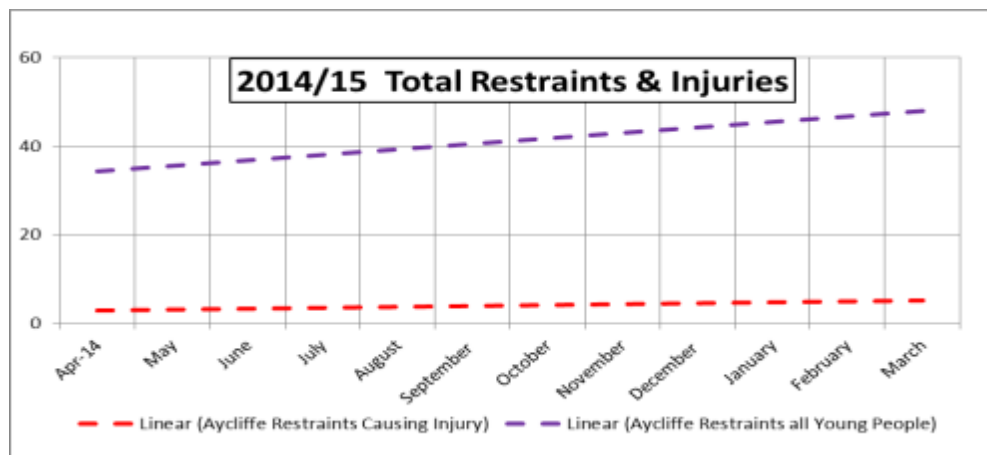
Aycliffe Secure Services Centre



Aycliffe Secure Services Centre is licensed by Ofsted for up to 42 places. The centre has five secure children’s homes and a step-down facility with 24 beds commissioned by the Youth Justice Board. Local Authorities can also commission places for young people on welfare grounds if the courts decide that young people meet the legislative criteria required to place them in a secure setting.

The trend of restraint incidents has stayed consistent with a very slight downward direction of travel during the three year period shown in graph above. Peaks most often occurring around late Summer and the Christmas holiday periods.

The trend of restraint incidents leading to injury has also maintained a consistent level but with a slight upward trend in the 2014/15 reporting period.



The trend over the course of the reporting period (2014/15) defies the longer term trend with an upward direction, however, during this period there have been 107 Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI) incidents relating to a single individual. As a statistical outlier, incidents relating to this young person represent 22% of all the incidents at the centre during the reporting period. This rate of incidence is high, even amongst other high incidence individuals.

Overall, there was a total of 111 different young people at Aycliffe between April 2014 and March 2015. 74 young people (66.7%) were required to be restrained in this period. Nine young people were responsible for 50% of the RPI’s with 12 young people being restrained ten or more times during their stay at Aycliffe.

6.5 Serious Case Review Function

We have commenced five Serious Case Reviews in 2014/15. There are a number of recurrent themes running through these reviews:

- Parental misuse of substances or alcohol
- The role of males within a family setting / household who have contact with children and young people
- Multi-agency engagement with safeguarding processes
- Information sharing

These themes are reflected in national findings for Serious Case Reviews published in 2014/15.

We continue to implement the recommendations from Serious Case Reviews both multi-agency and single agency recommendations. Action plans are reviewed by the Learning and Improvement Group bi-monthly.

In 2015 we will host a range of learning events where key messages and the lessons learnt from the Serious Case Reviews we have published will be shared with practitioners and agencies. We will also present progress against Serious Case Reviews action plans.

The LSCB will continue to challenge agencies to demonstrate that they have implemented the learned lessons.

6.6 Child Death Review Function

There are two interrelated processes for reviewing child deaths:

1. Rapid Response by a group of key professionals who come together for the purpose of enquiring into and evaluating each unexpected death; *and*
2. An overview of all deaths up to the age of 18 years (excluding both those babies that are stillborn and planned terminations of pregnancy carried out within the law) in Durham and Darlington areas, undertaken by a panel

Child Death Review Notifications

There were 31 child death reviews in County Durham between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015. Of the 31 child deaths there were:

- 25 Rapid Responses (this is a process for gathering key professionals to enquire into and evaluate circumstances of an unexpected death)
- 20 deaths that have been or will be considered at a Local Case Discussion meeting (for most unexpected deaths a local case discussion takes place when all the information has been gathered and all agencies involved with the child and family before and at the time of their death are invited to the meeting.)
- 17 deaths reviewed at Panels during 2014/15 (the Child Death Overview Panel's purpose is to conduct an overview of all child deaths)
- 21 child deaths are ongoing reviews and will be brought forward to 2015/16

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Between April 2014 and March 2015 there were six Child Death Overview Panels in which 44 cases were reviewed. At each Child Death Overview Panel, the Designated Doctor for Child Deaths presents the circumstances of each death to the multi-agency panel. The case is reviewed in detail and recommendations/actions logged for monitoring purposes.

The CDOP were of the view that there were 15 deaths in which modifiable factors may have contributed to the death. These factors are defined as those which, by means of locally or nationally achievable interventions, could be modified to reduce the risk of future child deaths.

Out of the 44 Child Death Reviews completed, nine Local Case Discussions were presented at the Child Death Overview Panel.

Timescale for Child Death Review Completion

Out of the 44 completed reviews, 20% were completed in less than six months. This is an increase from 9% in 2013-14. A large majority of reviews that were 'carried forward' from an earlier period were completed during 2014/15. We will continue to work together to complete reviews in a more timely way.



Key learning from child deaths

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A thematic review was undertaken during the 2014/15 operating period of all child deaths and the findings presented at the Child Death Overview Panel and Durham LSCB and Darlington SCB Boards. As a result an action plan was formulated and is reviewed by the Child Death Overview Panel at each meeting to ensure that all actions have been completed.

The following themes were identified:

- Perinatal and infant deaths
 - CTG training (electronic foetal monitoring during labour)
 - Consultant presence on obstetric wards
 - Awareness of risk factors to prevent Sudden Infant Death (SIDs)
- Other child deaths
 - Mandatory training in paediatric resuscitation
 - Consultant assessment in children with complex health problems
 - Emergency care plans for children with complex health problems

6.7 Policy and Procedures

Durham LSCB proactively reviews policies and procedures as systems change and are developed. These form part of the work undertaken with Early Help, Children Services Transformation and Child Sexual Exploitation to name a few.

Others include:

- Updated Single Assessment Framework and thresholds document to support new ways of working and focussing on early help
- Re-alignment of LSCB sub-groups to match priorities
- Safeguarding Framework - Improved links with Health & Wellbeing Board, Children & Families Partnership and Safe Durham Partnership
- Taking forward recommendations of LGA peer review
- Strengthening the influence of the board in key areas, particularly schools
- Clarification of the role and contribution of students attending child protection conferences

Building on the outcomes of our LSCB self-assessment and feedback arising from the LGA review we have aligned our LSCB operations against our objectives and re-aligned the LSCB sub-groups to match priorities. The Policy and Procedures group was disbanded in January 2015 as part of this re-alignment and the policy and procedures function has passed to the LSCB Business Unit.

As the new arrangements for the delivery of Children Services continue to be implemented in County Durham we will review and update our procedures accordingly. These will include Child Protection Procedures; Single Assessment Procedures; Missing Children Procedures and Families First Procedures.

Section 7: Training

7.1 Single and Multi-Agency Training Provision

All agencies working with children either directly or indirectly are required to provide training in order to carry out their own roles and responsibilities. This includes being able to recognise and raise concerns about children's safety and welfare. The current LSCB training group work plan includes a requirement to monitor single-agency training, undertake a training needs analysis and evaluate the impact of both single-agency and multi-agency training.

We have reviewed the Domestic Abuse training programmes of the LSCB training and the Safe Durham with the result that Domestic Abuse training has been aligned and brought together with a multi-agency set of trainers now delivering the training.

In March 2014 the LSCB Board agreed that it had a significant role in supporting the Local Authority in the delivery of training relating to the transformation of Children Services. During the year the LSCB training programme has seen an increased collaboration with a range of organisations; most notably the County Council's Learning and Development Team; County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust; Tees Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, Durham Constabulary and Barnardos; in the planning, design and delivery of training. This has strengthened and enhanced the quality of training while avoiding duplication and promoting the importance of inter-agency working.

7.2 Training Programme

The purpose of the LSCB multi-agency training is to support staff and volunteers to achieve better outcomes for children and young people by fostering:

- a shared understanding of the tasks, processes, principles, roles and responsibilities outlined in national guidance and local arrangements for safeguarding children and promoting their welfare
- more effective and integrated services at both the strategic and individual case level
- improved communication and information sharing between professionals, including a common understanding of key terms, definitions and thresholds for action
- effective working relationships, including an ability to work in multi-disciplinary groups or teams

- sound child focused assessments and decision-making
- learning from Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) and reviews of child deaths

All new and existing courses were updated in line with Durham's Single Assessment procedures.

7.3 Courses delivered in 2014/15

A total of **84 courses** were held throughout the year and were attended by **1,580 staff and volunteers**. The courses with the highest total attendance over the year were:

- Safeguarding Processes
- Assessment and Intervention
- Engaging with Families
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Neglect

Overall, 75.2% of the 84 courses delivered were filled to capacity; of those participants offered a place 16.4% cancelled and 11.1% did not attend without notice. Of those applicants attending a LSCB training course, 72.8% were offered a place on the course they applied for, however 19.9% of these applicants still cancelled their places indicating that access to preferred courses is not the cause of cancellations.

Courses were well attended by services such as One Point, Durham County Council Children Services, County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust and the Voluntary Sector. Attendance from Police, School staff and Adult Services (who all have key objectives in protecting children) has been low and this low attendance will be addressed in 2015/16.

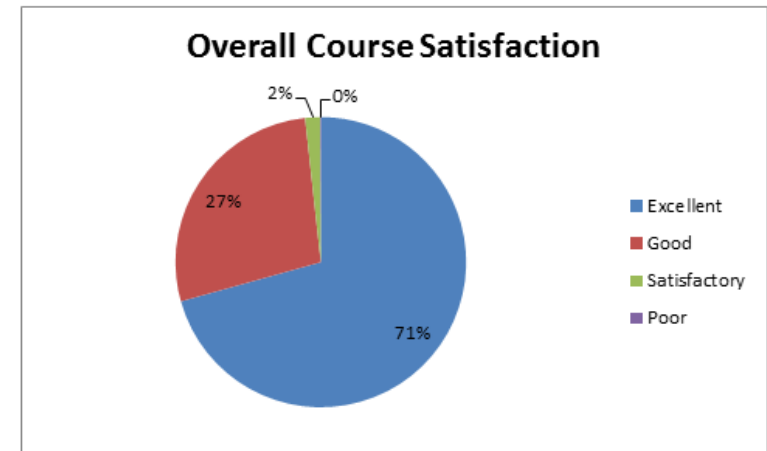
7.4 E-learning

Currently three e-learning courses are available on the Durham LSCB website; Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect (ACAN), Safeguarding Children from Abuse by Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and PREVENT – Counter Terrorism awareness. Over the last year **1,707 people** have accessed and passed the ACAN course and **2,090 people** have accessed and passed the CSE e-learning.

7.5 Training Evaluation

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Evaluation sheets for all training delivered by Durham LSCB are completed at the end of each training session. The training courses received very positive feedback with 71% of attendees marking the training they received as excellent. The chart opposite illustrates overall satisfaction levels of the courses delivered throughout 2014/15.

Follow up evaluations are carried with staff in the three months after attending a training session to assess the longer term benefits of training. 100% of those surveyed stated that the training had fulfilled their personal objectives set within the training and 81% of those surveyed agreeing that the learning from their training had improved outcomes for their clients.



'The course gave a clear picture of the process and actions needed by other professionals prior to the case being allocated to a social worker.'

'I feel able to explain the purpose of my assessment to the family which promotes their confidence to share their circumstances with me.'

'I am now more able to support the child / young person as I am now more aware of the long term effects Neglect has on them.'

'Greater understanding and knowledge of parental mental health, able to offer better advice when speaking to affected parents on the phone, understand what they are going through and their stresses and concerns better.'

'This course is applied on a daily basis, every hour of every day to change the lives of clients.'

'More comfortable when involved in core groups.'

'Gave me new ideas of activities to carry out with parents around children's needs.'

'I am wiser on how to get the child's views on the process.'

Comments from evaluation surveys 2014-15

7.6 Future Training

In 2015/16 several new courses will be offered. These are:

- LADO – Local Authority Designated Officer training. This two hour briefing is designed for Senior Nominated Officers within organisations that have responsibility for safeguarding issues including managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence and Female Genital Mutilation – This one day course will be delivered in collaboration with County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust and HALO (honour based violence and forced marriage project)
- Child Sexual Exploitation and Online Grooming – This full day aims to increase awareness of child sexual exploitation of internet abuse, online grooming and abusive images of children and provides staff with a greater understanding of the issues and processes so that children and young people can be safeguarded
- Child Sexual Exploitation training sessions will be developed specifically for taxi drivers operating in the Durham area
- Aligned Domestic Abuse training (amalgamated LSCB / Safe Durham training)
- Hidden Sentence – Funded by Think Family, this covers the impact of prison on children and families

Section 8: Future Priorities

The LSCB will continue to tackle child protection and safeguarding issues and support partners providing child safeguarding.

8.1 LSCB Priorities 2015/16

The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board has agreed the following priorities for 2015/16:

- Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation
- Improving Early Help
- Reducing Neglect (contributory factors are Domestic Abuse; Alcohol misuse; Substance misuse; parental mental health)
- Reducing self-harm and improving young people's self-esteem
- Increase the voice of the Child
- Ensuring that each agency is accountable for delivery of its own safeguarding responsibilities

8.2 Priority areas of work

Alongside the identified priorities above the LSCB has highlighted priority areas of work for 2015/16, these are:

- Supporting and challenging the new Children's Services Transformation arrangements for the delivery of children's services
- Improving the performance and quality assurance information to support and improve performance on the Board's priorities
- Strengthening our engagement with children and young people especially those from vulnerable communities such as Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and Transgender, young carers, Gypsy Roma Travellers, young people who offend and special needs children and young people
- Building on the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) training offered to health professional and develop an Female Genital Mutilation Strategy / Practice Guidance
- Work with the County Durham Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG) to promote the need for domestic abuse services to support children, young people and their families
- We will continue to keep a focus on information sharing supporting and promoting good practice across multi-agency teams
- Continue a programme of self-improvement

8.3 Plan on Page

Our 'Plan on a Page' (within our Business Plan 2015-18) identifies actions for our 2015-16 strategic priorities.

Outcome and Business Priorities	Objectives for 2015-18	Actions in 2015-16
Reducing Child Sexual Exploitation	Ensure services are targeted, responsive and effective	1) Deliver taxi driver awareness sessions to taxi drivers in County Durham
	Embed the prevent, protect and pursue agenda into practice and service	2) Promote the Erase website 3) Increase soft intelligence of perpetrators
Improving Early Help	Ensure services support families at an earlier stage to prevent child protection intervention	4) Embed the Early Help Strategy into practice 5) Review the understanding of the early help agenda across services
	Reduce the number of young people subject to child protection plans	6) Refresh the governance and focus of the Early Help Forums
Reducing Neglect (contributory factors are Domestic Abuse; Alcohol misuse; Substance misuse; parental mental health)	Ensure that services are targeted, responsive and efficient for children suffering from neglect	7) Refresh Early Help Strategy to include Neglect and Hidden Harm 8) Engage thematic partnerships (Safe Durham / Health and Wellbeing / Children and Families) and align joint actions on Neglect
	Reduce the impact of neglect contributory factors on the outcomes of children and young people suffering from neglect	
Reducing self-harm and improving young people's self-esteem	Ensure services are targeted, responsive and effective	9) Review the services for children and young people who self-harm
		10) Review the services for children and young people who experience poor self esteem
Increase the Voice of the Child	Views of children and young people are used to inform services and best practice	11) Embed the learning from the young people's reference group into service provision and practice
Ensuring that each agency is accountable for delivery of its own safeguarding responsibilities	Continued development of Leadership, Challenge and Learning (as below)	
Leadership	Ensure collective leadership across all agencies	12) Deliver new LSCB business plan
	Increase access of data and analysis and improve understanding	13) Embed Performance Management Framework
Challenge	Expand collective learning and improvement	14) Conduct SCR Lessons Learned events
	Develop effective policies and procedures across all agencies	15) Update the Child Protection Procedures and ensure document control process is in place
Learning	Develop effective systems, processes and polices through audits	16) Partners to implement recommendations from audits to ensure they are fulfilling their statutory obligations
	Use evidence of impact to challenge	17) Challenge agencies to demonstrate lessons learnt following a Serious Case Review
Learning	Ensure that the skills and knowledge of practitioners is effective, using learning from Serious Case Reviews	18) Publish SCR reports
		19) Continue to analyse impact of training 20) Progress the thematic tool for SCRs

These actions will be assigned to the appropriate sub groups and be monitored and reviewed quarterly by the LSCB Board.

Appendix 1 – LSCB Membership

Durham LSCB Membership

- The Board is chaired by an independent person commissioned by the Durham County Council Chief Executive
- National Probation Services – represented by the Head of Durham
- Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company – represented by Head of Services County Durham and Darlington
- North Durham, Dales, Easington & Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Groups – represented by:
 - Director of Nursing (Vice-Chair of Durham LSCB)
 - Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children
- NHS England – represented by the Deputy Director of Nursing
- Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust – represented by the Associate Director of Nursing (Safeguarding)
- County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – represented by:
 - Associate Director of Patient Experience & Safeguarding
 - Designated Paediatrician
 - Head of Children and Families
- North Tees & Hartlepool Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – represented by the Deputy Director of Nursing
- Cafcass (County Durham) – represented the Service Manager
- County Durham Council represented by:
 - Corporate Director, Children & Adults Services
 - Head of Children’s Services
 - Head of Adults Care
 - Head of Education
 - Strategic Manager - Youth Offending Service
 - Director of Public Health County Durham
 - Housing Solutions Manager
- National Offender Management Service – represented by Public Protection Manager

- Durham Constabulary – represented by the Force Lead for Safeguarding (Superintendent Level)
- The Voluntary & Community Sector – represented by the Voluntary Sector x2 Representative
- Schools represented by:
 - Durham Association of Secondary Heads
 - Durham Association of Primary Heads
 - Durham Association of Specialist Schools
- Further Education – Head of Student Services, Bishop Auckland College
- Lay Members – represented by two members of the community whose role is to support stronger public engagement in local child safety issues and to challenge the LSCB on the accessibility by the public and children and young people of its plans and procedures
- Lead Member – represented by the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People Services
- Faith Communities – represented by the Safeguarding Lead for Durham Diocese

LSCB Advisors

The Board is advised by:

- A member of Durham County Council Corporate & Legal Services nominated as the Board's legal advisor
- Durham LSCB Business Manager
- Head of Planning and Service Strategy, Children and Adult Services, Durham County Council
- Strategic Manager Policy Planning and Partnerships, Children and Adult Services, Durham County Council

Appendix 2 – LSCB Staffing and Budget 2014/16

Staffing:

The LSCB is supported by the following officers:

- LSCB Business Manager
- LSCB Quality & Performance Co-ordinator (deputises for Business Manager)
- LSCB Strategy and Development Officer
- LSCB Training Co-ordinator
- LSCB Admin Co-ordinator
- LSCB Administrator

LSCB Budget

The financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March in each year. Budget management is the responsibility of the Durham LSCB Business Manager and financial reports will be presented to the Board at six monthly intervals.

The majority of the budget relates to staffing costs, this includes costs associated with the independent chair. Other major costs relate to training and Serious Case Reviews.

The financial contributions from partner agencies in 2014/15 were as follows:

Partner	Contribution
Durham County Council	£171,604
Clinical Commissioning Groups	£95,097
Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680
North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680
Durham Constabulary	£29,285
Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust	£2,680
Haddockfield Training Centre	£2,680
Further Education Colleges	£1,400
NHS England	£2,000
Cafcass	£550
Total	£313,336

The financial contributions from partner agencies in 2015/16 are as follows:

Partner	Contribution
Durham County Council	£171,604
Clinical Commissioning Groups	£95,097
Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680
North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust	£2,680
Durham Constabulary	£29,285
Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company	£1,340
National Probation Service	£1,340
Further Education Colleges	£2,100
Cafcass	£550
Total	£309,356

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Appendix 3 – Partner updates in the wider partnership

Stronger Families

In April 2012, the Government launched the Troubled Families Programme, known locally as the Stronger Families Programme, to incentivise local authorities and their partners to turn around the lives of over 120,000 families by May 2015. Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board, the Children and Families Partnership and Safe Durham Partnership work jointly on this agenda.

Phase 1 of this programme aimed to work with families where children are not attending school, young people are committing crime, families are involved in anti-social behaviour and adults are out of work. The County Durham Stronger Families Programme met the target in March 2015 to turn around its targeted number of 1,320 families by May 2015. Families have received help and support delivered with a 'Think Family' multi-agency approach coordinated by a Lead Professional and a Team Around the Family utilising a single multi-agency care plan in order to reduce duplication and maximise impact.

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

The two Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) that cover Durham are:

- NHS Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield Clinical Commissioning Group (DDES)
- NHS North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (covering Derwentside, Chester-le-Street and Durham)

Both CCGs' Directors of Nursing and the Designated Professionals are active Board members and also support the LSCB chairing a LSCB sub-group. In addition, CCGs are active members of the Safe Durham Partnership Board and multi-agency strategic groups for Domestic Abuse, Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and the strategic group for Looked After Children.

The CCGs have mandatory safeguarding children training well established for their staff. In addition, annual education sessions are offered to the CCG governing bodies regarding their corporate safeguarding responsibilities.

The CCGs have continued to support primary care in their safeguarding responsibilities by ensuring that training is delivered through Protected Learning Time (PLT) events. The CCGs audited the impact of the safeguarding training in the 2014 to 2015 academic year which has indicated

that 47% of attendees who had previously attended safeguarding children training had used the knowledge gained over the last year. 28% of the total attendees stated that their practice had changed procedures as a result of the training.

CCGs have also continued to support GP Practice safeguarding leads through the programme of quarterly development sessions. These are led by the Designated Professionals, are well attended and are generally evaluated positively.

North Durham CCG led the development of the ChildSafe Trigger Tool which provides a systematic way of ensuring all correspondence regarding trauma in children is looked at by GP Practices from a safeguarding perspective. The information then forms part of the whole picture of the child's life and experience.

The ChildSafe Trigger Tool was audited in April and May 2014 and showed it was generally embedded within primary care practice in North Durham. The ChildSafe Trigger Tool has been included as good practice in the updated national Royal College of GPs Safeguarding Children Toolkit.

The CCGs have strengthened the quality requirements within the NHS contract, requesting NHS provider Trusts to provide evidence of their training, policy and safeguarding activities and assurance that actions and any learning has been taken forward. The information is considered through clinical quality review groups, where CCGs and designated professionals are positioned to question and acknowledge practice.

The CCGs both evidence their commitment to the safeguarding of children in County Durham through a safeguarding declaration on their website and a safeguarding children strategic delivery plan. Both CCGs have a link on the front page of their websites to the LSCB procedures.

Durham Constabulary

Durham Constabulary continued to support schools in raising awareness around CSE and online safety to young people, including offering training at conferences and events. Durham Police also organised young people's conferences, which included learning from a range of agencies around CSE, internet safety and healthy relationships and respect. Safeguarding and Neighbourhoods have merged Commands ensuring the accurate education of children and their parents/carers around safeguarding issues is included in the Mini Police, Junior Neighbourhood Watch, Jet and Ben lessons, School Carousels and by Neighbourhood Teams who engage with young people.

The Police continue, in partnership with the LSCB, to monitor and improve practice when tackling CSE. In summer 2015 we will see the implementation of a dedicated multi-agency team (ERASE Team) which will focus on early identification, problem solving and offender disruption reduce the number of children who are frequently reported Missing From Home and reduce the risk of Child Sexual Exploitation.

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Durham Police are the first Force nationally to pilot pioneering training and techniques to spot warning signs around those who may pose a risk to children by providing an understanding of how sex offenders operate. The training and tools will continue to be developed and multiagency training offered in 2015 and 2016.

The Durham Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Durham Constabulary continue to work closely with a range of other agencies to improve outcomes for young people. In December 2014 the PCC held a 'One Year On' Regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy. Since its launch work there has been a number of achievements including employing a worker from Harbour to work within the MASH who engages victims at critical times to offer support and help. The strategy will also focus more closely on child sexual exploitation.

In January 2015 the Force launched its 'through the eyes of a child' campaign to focus officers attending domestic abuse incidents to consider what life is like for the children in that family. In support of this initiative officers are required at every domestic abuse incident to wear body worn cameras, speak with any children in the home and view their living conditions including bedrooms and to capture their voice and act upon any concerns. At the same time the Safe Durham Partnership has increased the numbers of its Independent Domestic Abuse Advocates to improve the support we give to victims. A New Domestic Abuse Team will launch in September 2015, focusing on those standard and medium risk victims to make sure they and their families are supported and to ensure perpetrators are disrupted using tools such as domestic violence protection orders and notices and perpetrator programmes.

County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust

This update provides an overview of the activity and developments which has been undertaken within the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) around safeguarding children during the 12 month period April 2014 to March 2015.

Safeguarding Children Training – During 2014/15 the Safeguarding Training Team undertook a review training needs analysis is in line with the Safeguarding Children and Young People: roles and competences for health staff, Intercollegiate Document 2014 and refreshed the Safeguarding Children Training Strategy to reflect the changes identified.

Central Referral Unit (CRU) Durham – All domestic abuse cases are reviewed by the Police within the CRU and cases screened as medium and high are circulated to Health Visitors, School Nurses, Family Nurse Partnership and Midwives by the safeguarding teams.

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Durham – A bid has been drafted to increase the health resources within the MASH.

SystemOne – This is being developed as an information management system for the safeguarding team. This will increase efficiency within the team allowing enhanced information exchange at an operational level. Systems and policies have been developed and it is planned for implementation by September 2015.

Policies and Procedures – A full review of Safeguarding Children Policies and Procedures has been undertaken in line with the publication of Working Together 2015.

Safeguarding audits – A supervision audit has been completed which has informed the policy development and provides assurances around quality of supervision. In addition a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) audit was completed which identified the level of compliance with regard to Safeguarding KPI's. The audit also allowed staff to comment and provide feedback on the various safeguarding services. The feedback from staff was generally positive and complimentary towards the staff and services involved.

Safeguarding model - Safeguarding team and Family Nurse Partnership – The FNP safeguarding model is now well embedded into practice and follows guidance in the FNP manual.

Acute Senior Nurse Safeguarding role – The team currently has 1 WTE Acute Senior Nurse Safeguarding Children (SNSC) who provides safeguarding advice, support, training and supervision to both Durham and Darlington Acute sites and allied health professionals, including the Sexual Health Team. Several audits are on-going as part of this role. Task forces have been established for Emergency Departments on both hospital sites. A safeguarding link group has been implemented and meets bi monthly to promote good communication between Neonatal Unit, Maternity, Paediatrics and Specialist Nurses. Acute SNSC ensures staff awareness/ updates are provided regarding policy and practice by delivering regular briefings. Acute SNSC works very closely with Consultant Paediatricians and is the key link between Acute sites and community.

Female Genital Mutilation – A time limited task and finish group including the Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator, Named Nurses and Specialist Midwife are leading the development of Trust wide protocols and pathways regarding Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

CP-IS (Child Protection Information Sharing) – CP-IS focuses on improving the protection of children who have previously been identified as vulnerable by Children's Services when they visit the following NHS unscheduled care settings:

- Emergency Departments

• Walk-in Centres

- Out of Hours GPs
- Minor Injuries Units
- Paediatric Wards
- Maternity Units
- Ambulance Services

The project will link the IT systems of NHS unscheduled care to those used by child protection teams, to enable minimal information on a restricted set of children to be shared.

- Those with a Child Protection Plan
- Those classed as Looked After (i.e. children with full and interim care orders or voluntary care agreements)
- Any pregnant woman whose unborn child has a pre-birth protection plan.

A project team has been established to take CP-IS forward for the Trust and a project plan is being prepared.

Looked After Children (LAC) – There are a number of updates under this subject as follows:

- **Initial Health Assessments:** The number of IHA's being completed within the statutory 20 working day timescale, has increased from 7.6% to 72.2%. Improvements to date have been influenced by multi-agency implementation of the Initial Health Assessment Escalation policy this is on-going
- **Review Health Assessments:** Performance for RHA's 2014-15 has been reported by Local Authority at Durham 92.3% which is much higher than the 86% target
- **Teenage Initial Health Assessments** flow charts have been developed and implemented to ensure all young people are offered an Initial Health Assessments with a Paediatrician and if declined this is followed up
- **On-going LAC audit:** health care plans are audited to ensure standards are maintained following briefing sessions being provided to staff to ensure a high quality of assessments
- **Policy update:** The Adoption Policy has been updated and is awaiting ratification

- **Joint LAC and Safeguarding Supervision Policy** This has been updated to include recommendations from School Nurse and Health Visitor Service Specification awaiting ratification
- **Reorganisation:** Following reorganisation the LAC processes and practices have been standardised across Durham and Darlington to ensure equity of care across the County. The LAC administrators are now to be co-located for Durham and Darlington to ensure continuity and provision is maintained for working week
- **Working Relationships:** Close working relationships have been developed with the Local Authority and CCGs joint working a number of work streams for example gap analysis of the new promoting the health and wellbeing of looked after children (2015)
- **Fostering and Adoption Panels** have representation from the LAC nurses in Durham and Darlington. There is also representation on the Placement Resource Panel.

National Probation Services and Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company

The Ministry of Justice 'Transforming Rehabilitation' programme of Probation reforms split probation services into two new organisations during 2014/15. These are:

- A new public sector National Probation Service (NPS) dealing with all those who pose the highest risk of serious harm to the public.
- Twenty one regional private sector Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) managing all other offenders
- Extending statutory supervision and rehabilitation to those offenders sentenced to less than 12 months in custody
- Reorganising the prison estate to provide 'resettlement' prisons and a nationwide 'through the gate' resettlement service

Offenders managed by the new National Probation Service include all those who pose the highest risk of serious harm to the public – this group will include those subject to Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements. The new National Probation Service will continue to carry out assessments of the risk of serious harm posed by each offender and advise the courts and Parole Board accordingly.

All other offenders are managed and supervised by Community Rehabilitation Companies.

In response to these reforms partners have been working together to mitigate identified risks and issues including; migration and splitting of local probation services and systems; working arrangements for statutory and non-statutory responsibilities, timely agency access to offenders in resettlement prisons and 'through the gate' provision.

Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust contract with the Ministry of Justice ended 31 May 2014. Probation staff were identified and aligned to either the National Probation Service or the Community Rehabilitation Company with the migration and splitting of probation services and systems taking place 1 June 2014.

The public sector Community Rehabilitation Company provided probation services until the end of January 2015 before a mobilisation phase transferring over to ARRC (Achieving Real Change in Communities). ARRC is a local mutual with members including Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust, Local Authorities, Housing Association and Private Investors. The Contract Packaged Area for our local area covers the existing Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust boundaries (Durham and Cleveland).

Our focus now turns to the implementation of the CRC Service Delivery Model. As this becomes available partners within the County Durham Partnership will continue to be updated as we adapt delivery of services to improve the management of offenders

Below is a simple explanation of 'Who does what':

Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company Limited (CRC): The CRC delivers contracted offender management rehabilitation services in the community and will be the main point of day to day contact for partners, organisations and service users.

ARRC (Achieving Real Change in Communities): The ARCC are small group of investors who own shares in Durham Tees Valley CRC. They won the Ministry of Justice contract for offender management rehabilitation services in the Durham Tees Valley area and direct the CRC to deliver the contract.

National Probation Service (NPS): The NPS is a statutory criminal justice service that supervises high-risk offenders released into the community. The local NPS Durham Area is co-terminus with the Durham Constabulary area and will be the main point of contact for partners, organisations and service users.

National Offender Management Service (NOMS): The NOMS Contract Management Team work on behalf of the Ministry of Justice to monitor / review compliance of the contract. The Ministry of Justice are the commissioners of the contract.


Durham LSCB Annual Report 2014 / 2015 - Safeguarding Children in County Durham

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

Over the last year we have reviewed and updated our vision to ***'Every child and young person in County Durham feels safe and grows up safe from harm'***.

This Annual Report gives an account of the Board's work over the past year to improve the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. The report reflects the activity of the LSCB and its sub-groups against its priorities for 2014/15. It covers the major changes and improvements of our partners' service delivery, where they link with the Board's overall strategies and the impact we have had. It also reports on the Serious Case Reviews and Child Death Reviews undertaken and identifies the priorities we will take forward into 2015/16.

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**Children and Young People's
Overview and Scrutiny Committee****11 January 2016****Quarter 2 2015/16****Performance Management Report**

Report of Corporate Management Team**Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive****Councillor Simon Henig, Leader**

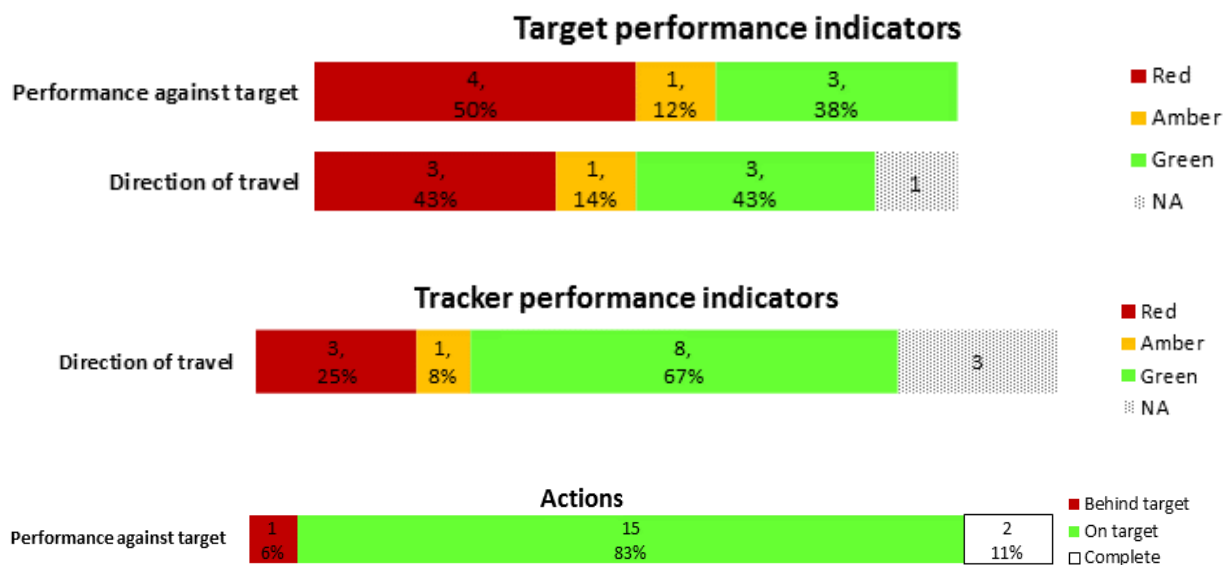
Purpose of the Report

1. To present progress against the council's corporate basket of performance indicators (PIs), Council Plan and service plan actions and report other performance issues for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People theme for the second quarter of the 2015/16 financial year, covering the period July to September 2015.

Background

2. The report sets out an overview of performance and progress for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People theme. Key performance indicator progress is reported against two indicator types which comprise of:
 - a. Key target indicators – targets are set for indicators where improvements can be measured regularly and where improvement can be actively influenced by the council and its partners (see Appendix 3, table 1); and
 - b. Key tracker indicators – performance will be tracked but no targets are set for indicators which are long-term and/or which the council and its partners only partially influence (see Appendix 3, table 2).
3. The report continues to incorporate a stronger focus on volume measures in our performance framework. This allows us to better quantify productivity and to monitor the effects of reductions in resources and changes in volume of activity. Charts detailing some of the key volume measures which form part of the council's corporate set of performance indicators are presented in Appendix 4.
4. The corporate performance indicator guide provides full details of indicator definitions and data sources for the 2015/16 corporate indicator set. This is available to view either internally from the intranet (at Councillors useful links) or can be requested from the Corporate Planning and Performance Team at performance@durham.gov.uk.

Altogether Better for Children and Young People: Overview



Council Performance

5. Key achievements this quarter include:

- a. Provisional data for the 2014/15 academic year indicate that 63.6% of County Durham pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage achieved a good level of development, which is an improvement from 56.7% last year and exceeds the target of 60%. However, performance is worse than the provisional national average of 66%.
- b. In terms of A levels, provisional data for the 2014/15 academic year indicate that 98.3% of pupils achieved two A levels at grade A*-E (level three) or equivalent. This is slightly lower than the target of 98.9% and is worse than the regional average (98.4%) but higher than national average (98%).
- c. Provisional data for April to September 2015 indicate that there were 69 (19 aged 10 to 14, 50 aged 15 to 17) first time entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system in County Durham. This is well within the locally agreed target of 140 FTEs and is a reduction from 110 FTEs during the same period last year. This equates to a rate of 160 per 100,000 10 to 17 year old population against a target rate of 324. There has been an 82.9% reduction in FTEs; from 1,129 in 2007/08 to 193 in 2014/15.
- d. Tracker indicators show:
 - i. At 30 September 2015 there were 340 children subject to a child protection plan, which equates to a rate of 33.9 per 10,000 under 18 population and is a reduction from 38.4 at the same point last year. Performance has been improving since the first quarter of last year. The rate remains better than the March 2015 rates in England (42.9) and the North East (59.5).
 - ii. Between April and September 2015, 788 of 964 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services patients attended an appointment within nine weeks of their external referral date. This equates to 81.7%, which is an improvement on quarter one performance of 70.7%.

- iii. Data for April to June 2015 show that 384 of 1,259 mothers were breastfeeding at six to eight weeks from birth. This equates to 30.5%, which is an increase from last year's equivalent period (28.9%) and is better than the Durham, Darlington and Tees Area Team average of 28.4%. However, performance is worse than the England average of 45.2%.
 - iv. Between July 2013 and June 2014 there were 29 conceptions per 1,000 15 to 17 year old females in County Durham. This is better than the regional average (29.8) but worse than the national average (23.4) for the same period. The North East has the highest rate of under-18 conceptions of all English regions.
6. The Stronger Families Programme aims to assist individuals in a family to achieve reductions in crime/anti-social behaviour, improve school attendance or move back into employment as set out in the Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG) Troubled Families Programme Financial Framework (March 2012). Phase two of the programme is more challenging than phase one and has a broader range of outcomes to consider when claiming that a family has had a successful intervention. It runs from April 2015 to March 2020 with a target of 4,330 families. The focus during the first year of the programme is on identifying and engaging families. At 30 September 2015, there were 1,438 families engaged on the programme. For the first claim period (up to 30 September 2015) Durham identified 23 families against the new Family Outcomes Framework that have had a successful intervention. Feedback regionally and nationally indicates that this is similar to other local authorities.
7. The key performance improvement issues for this theme are:
- a. Provisional data for the 2014/15 academic year identify that 54.5% (2,784 of 5,107) of County Durham pupils (in state funded schools including academies) achieved five or more A*-C GCSE's or equivalent including English and maths. This is below the final outturn target of 58.8%. Durham's performance is slightly worse than the provisional national (56.1%) and statistical neighbour average (55.1%) and is equivalent to the North East (54.4%) average. Durham is ranked sixth out of the 12 Local Authorities in the North East. This is in contrast to previous years when performance was better than nationally and regionally. The School Improvement Team has both targeted schools for additional support and is reviewing its own strategic response to the analysis of results, looking at outcomes at pupil-level per subject to refine advice to schools and enable them to anticipate future shortfalls. A senior Secondary Standards Advisor has been recruited this term to lead on this work.
 - b. Provisional data for the 2014/15 academic year indicate that 64.6% of Durham pupils not eligible for Pupil Premium (PP) funding achieved five A*-C GCSE's including English and maths at Key Stage 4 compared to 34.6% of pupils eligible for PP funding, which results in an achievement gap of 30 percentage points. This is a wider gap than for the 2013/14 academic year, which was 29.2 percentage points. National comparative data is not yet

released, although a widening achievement gap is generally accepted to be a national issue.

- c. The provisional Key Stage 2 results for the 2014/15 academic year show that 71.1% of those eligible for PP and 88.2% of those not eligible achieved level four in reading, writing and maths (RWM), resulting in an achievement gap of 17.1 percentage points. Achievement has improved significantly at Level four in RWM at Key Stage 2, both for pupils eligible for PP and all pupils. For those eligible for PP it has increased from 69% to 71.1% and for those not eligible from 84.9% to 88.2%. As the level of achievement has increased at a higher rate for those not eligible, the gap has widened. Narrowing the gap by working in partnership with schools remains a priority for the local authority.
- d. Data for April to September 2015 show that 715 of 3,282 children in need referrals occurred within 12 months of the previous referral, which equates to 21.8%. Performance is slightly worse than the target of 21% but is significantly better than the corresponding period of last year (26.3%). It is also better than 2014/15 rates for England (24%), the North East (22.3%) and statistical neighbours (30.5%) (Appendix 4, Chart 2). Reducing re-referral rates and working with families to achieve sustained change are a key element of the new Families First Service which went live in July 2015. Work with the voluntary and community sector is developing, to offer long-term support to families once more intensive support is no longer required, which is also designed to support a reduction in re-referrals.
- e. Between April and June 2015, 18.1% of mothers were smoking at the time of delivery. This has achieved the target of 18.2% but is slightly worse than 17.9% last year. This is significantly worse than the national average (10.7%) and worse than the average for all North East Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) (16.3%). Nationally more than 70,000 pregnancies are affected by smoking and there are big differences in regions, with rates much higher in poorer areas (the national range is from 2.1% to 27.2%). The range in County Durham is from 15.3% in Durham CCG to 20.4% in Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG.
- f. Tracker indicators show:
 - i. The most recent annual child poverty data show that 19,815 children were living in low income families in County Durham in 2013, which is equivalent to 22.5% of all 0 to 15 year-olds in the county. This is 1.1% reduction from the previous year when there were 20,040 children (22.6%). Although this has been showing improvement since 2009, the national figure has been decreasing faster. As a result, the gap between Durham and the national figure has been widening since 2007, when Durham was 22.8% and 0.4 point percentage higher than the national figure. In 2013, Durham is 3.9 percentage points higher than the equivalent figure for England (18.6%).
 - ii. At 30 September 2015, there were 661 looked after children in County Durham, which equates to a rate of 65.9 per 10,000 population. This is an increase from 661 (61 per 10,000) at the same point last year. March 2015 benchmarking data show that County Durham's rate is

better than the North East average (82) but slightly worse than the England rate of 60 (Appendix 4, chart 1).

- iii. There has been an increase in re-offending by young people and levels are worse than nationally. Latest data show 190 of the 448 young people who offended between October 2012 and September 2013 re-offended within 12 months, which equals 42.4%, compared to 39.1% in the same period in the previous year. The rate in Durham is also higher than the national rate of 37.4%. It should be noted that the number of offenders has reduced by 75% since 2007/08; from 1,797 to 448 young people in October 2012 to September 2013. Current offenders include young people who have multiple needs and entrenched behaviours which makes the group highly complex and challenging and more likely to re-offend. A peer review of County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) took place between 20 and 22 October 2015. The focus of the review was to examine how CDYOS, with its partners, is delivering youth justice services. The review had a particular focus on those with a high risk of re-offending. The findings of the review are being considered and any areas for consideration will be progressed as part of the CDYOS Service Improvement Plan.

 - g. There is one Council Plan action which has not achieved target in this theme. The action, to implement the Youth Support Strategy by reviewing youth support services and working with the voluntary and community sector to provide a targeted offer of positive activities to young people in County Durham, due March 2016 has been delayed to November 2016.
8. There are no key risks which require any mitigating action in delivering the objectives of this theme.

Recommendation and Reasons

9. That the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive the report and consider any performance issues arising there from.

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Appendix 1: Implications

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

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

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

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - Corporate health PIs are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Accommodation - Not applicable

Crime and Disorder - A number of PIs and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

Human Rights - Not applicable

Consultation - Not applicable

Procurement - Not applicable

Disability Issues - Employees with a disability are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Legal Implications - Not applicable

Appendix 2: Key to symbols used within the report

Where icons appear in this report, they have been applied to the most recently available information.

Performance Indicators:

Direction of travel

Performance against target

Latest reported data have improved from comparable period

GREEN

Performance better than target

Latest reported data remain in line with comparable period

AMBER

Getting there - performance approaching target (within 2%)

Latest reported data have deteriorated from comparable period

RED

Performance >2% behind target

Actions:

WHITE

Complete (Action achieved by deadline/achieved ahead of deadline)

GREEN

Action on track to be achieved by the deadline

RED

Action not achieved by the deadline/unlikely to be achieved by the deadline

Benchmarking:

GREEN

Performance better than other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available

AMBER

Performance in line with other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available

RED

Performance worse than other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available

Appendix 3: Summary of Key Performance Indicators

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Table 1: Key Target Indicators

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
Altogether Better for Children and Young People											
15	CASCYP 15	Percentage of children in the early years foundation stage achieving a good level of development	63.6	2014/15 ac yr (provisional)	60.0	GREEN	56.7	GREEN	66.0		2014/15 ac yr (provisional)
16	CASCYP4	Percentage of pupils achieving five or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths	54.5	2014/15 ac yr (provisional)	58.8	RED	57.6	NA [1]	56.1	54.4*	2014/15 ac yr (provisional)
17	CASCYP7	Achievement gap (percentage points) between Durham pupils eligible/not eligible for pupil premium funding achieving five A*-C GCSE's including English and maths at key stage 4	30.0	2014/15 ac yr (provisional)	28.0	RED	29.2	RED	27.5		2013/14 ac yr (state funded)
18	CASCYP6	Achievement gap (percentage points) between Durham pupils eligible/not eligible for pupil premium funding achieving level 4 in reading, writing and maths at key stage 2	17.1	2014/15 ac yr (provisional)	13	RED	15.9	RED	16.0		2013/14 ac yr

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
19	CASCYP5	Percentage of pupils on level 3 programmes in community secondary schools achieving two A levels at grade A*-E or equivalent	98.3	2014/15 ac yr (provisional)	98.9	AMBER	98.7	AMBER	98.0 GREEN	98.4* RED	2014/15 ac yr (provisional)
20	CASAS5	First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 to 17 (per 100,000 population of 10 to 17 year olds)	160	Apr - Sep 2015	324	GREEN	251	GREEN			
21	CASCYP9	Percentage of children in need referrals occurring within 12 months of previous referral	21.8	Apr - Sep 2015	21.0	RED	26.3	GREEN	24 GREEN	22.3* GREEN	2014/15
22	CASCYP8	Percentage of mothers smoking at time of delivery	18.1	Apr - Jun 2015	18.2	GREEN	17.9	RED	10.7 RED	16.3* RED	Apr - Jun 2015

[1] [Due to changes to the definition data are not comparable/available](#)

Table 2: Key Tracker Indicators

Page 94	Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
Altogether Better for Children and Young People												
	121	CASCYP 16	Percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	7.7	Jul – Sep 2015	6.3	N/A [2]	14.2	GREEN			
	122	ACE016	Percentage of children in poverty (quarterly proxy measure)	22.5	As at May 2015	22.7	AMBER	23.3	GREEN	16.3	23.0*	As at May 2015
	123	ACE017	Percentage of children in poverty (national annual measure)	22.5	2013	22.6	GREEN	22.6	GREEN	18.6	23.3*	2013
	124	CASCYP 18	Percentage of children aged 4 to 5 years classified as overweight or obese	23.8	2013/14 ac yr	21.9	RED	21.9	RED	22.5	24.4*	2013/14 ac yr
	125	CASCYP 19	Percentage of children aged 10 to 11 years classified as overweight or obese	36.1	2013/14 ac yr	35.9	AMBER	35.9	AMBER	33.5	36.1*	2013/14 ac yr

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
126	CASCYP 29	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period (%)	42.4	Oct 12 - Sep 13	40.9	RED	37.1	RED	37.4	39.7*	England - Oct 2012 - Sep 2013 NE - 2012/13
127	CASCYP 20	Under 18 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 17	29.0	Jul 2013 - Jun 2014	30.9	GREEN	NA [3]	NA	23.4	29.8*	Jul 2013 - Jun 2014
128	CASCYP 21	Under 16 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 13 to 15	7.9	2013	8.9	GREEN	8.9	GREEN	4.8	7.4*	2013
129	CASCYP 23	Emotional and behavioural health of children looked after continuously for 12 months or more (scored between 0 to 40)	15.1	2014/15	15.5	GREEN	15.5	GREEN	13.9	13.9*	2013/14
130	CASCYP 30	Percentage of Community and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) patients who have attended a first appointment within nine weeks of their external referral date	81.7	Apr - Sep 2015	70.7	GREEN	New indicator	NA			
Page 95	CASCYP	Young people aged 10 to		2011/12 -					367.3	532.2*	England 2011/12-2013/14

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
		hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000 population aged 10 to 24 years)							RED	GREEN	NE 2010/11-2012/13
132	CASCYP 28	Rate of children with a child protection plan per 10,000 population	33.9	As at Sep 2015	35.1	GREEN	38.4	GREEN	42.9 GREEN	59.5* GREEN	As at Mar 2015
133	CASCYP 14	Number of successful interventions (families turned around) via the Stronger Families Programme	23.0	Sep 14 - Sep 15	NA	NA	NA	Not comparable [4]			
134	CASCYP 24	Rate of looked after children per 10,000 population aged under 18	65.9	As at Sep 2015	63.9	RED	61.0	RED	60.0 RED	82* GREEN	As at Mar 2015
135	CASCYP 25	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 to 8 weeks from birth	30.5	Apr - Jun 2015	28.8	GREEN	28.9	GREEN	45.2 RED	28.4* GREEN	Apr - Jun 2015 (NE - Durham, Darlington and Tees area team)

[2] Data not comparable due to the high number of school leavers whose status is 'not known' which impacts significantly on this indicator

[3] Now reported as a rolling 12 months and published data unavailable for this period

[4] New definition. This has been amended to track the number for 2015/16 and will be reported as a % target PI again 2016/17

Appendix 4: Volume Measures

Chart 1 - Number of looked after children cases

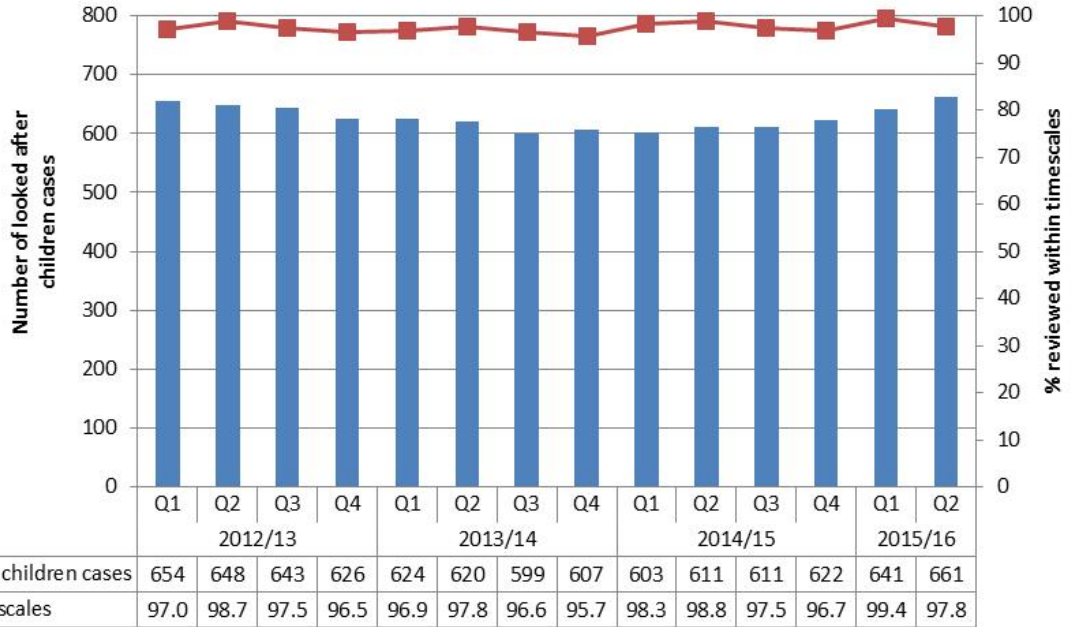
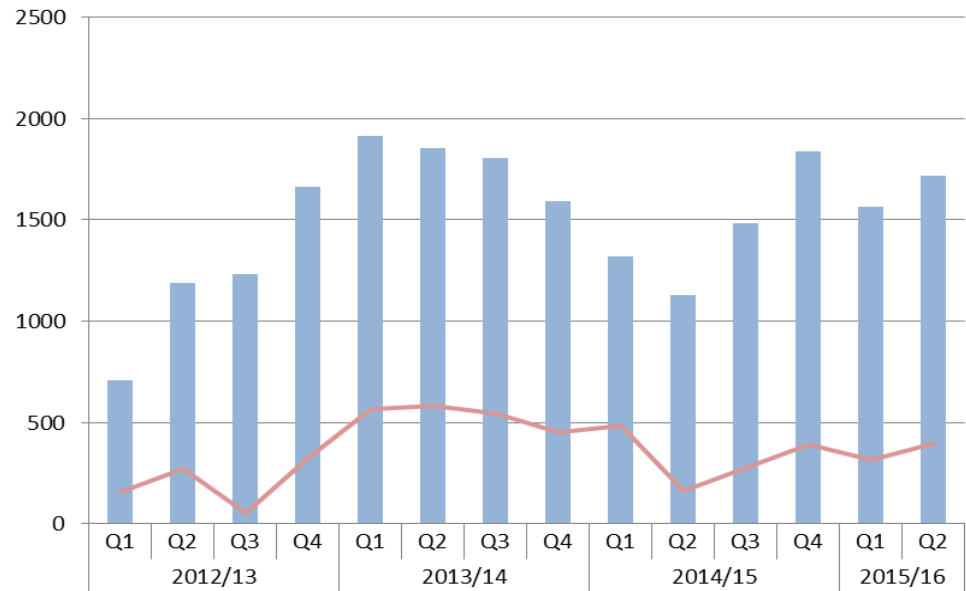


Chart 2 - Children in need referrals within 12 months of previous referral



Number of children in need referrals (quarterly)	710	1187	1232	1663	1911	1855	1807	1,590	1318	1130	1481	1835	1566	1716
Number of Children in Need (CIN) referrals occurring within 12 months of previous referral (quarterly)	155	269	55	326	567	585	543	450	482	161	279	390	317	398

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee



11 January 2016

Review of the Council Plan and Service Plans

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Scrutiny with progress on the development of the Altogether Better for Children and Young People section of the Council Plan 2016-2019 including the draft aims and objectives contained within the Plan and the proposed performance indicator set to measure our success.

Background

2. The Council Plan details Durham County Council's contribution towards achieving the objectives set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), together with its own improvement agenda. The Council Plan covers a three year timeframe in line with the council's Medium Term Financial Plan and sets out how we will deliver our corporate priorities and the key actions we will take to support the longer term goals set out in the SCS.
3. This year it is proposed that the existing three year Council Plan is updated and rolled forward a year, with a more fundamental review to take place next year, in line with a refresh of the Sustainable Community Strategy. This year it is proposed to produce a more visual and interactive version of the council plan, in addition to the word version. Early ideas are that it will be a shorter, more impactful plan with a greater use of visual material such as charts, infographics, diagrams and photographs.
4. The priorities set out in the current Council Plan reflect the results of an extensive consultation exercise carried out in 2013/14 on spending priorities and include an ongoing focus on protecting frontline services.

Draft Objectives and Outcomes

5. Overall it is proposed that the five key altogether better themes remain unchanged in line with the review of the Altogether Better Durham vision by the County Durham Partnership. It is also proposed that the altogether better council theme is retained giving six key themes.
 - I. Altogether Wealthier
 - II. Altogether better for children and young people
 - III. Altogether healthier
 - IV. Altogether safer
 - V. Altogether greener
 - VI. Altogether better council
6. Sitting beneath each of these six themes are a series of objectives setting out the key goal(s) being pursued over the medium-term. The objectives layer is shared across the SCS and Council Plan. These were agreed by Council last year and are proposed to be retained as unchanged. The Altogether Better for Children and Young People objectives are shown below:
 - I. Children and young people realise and maximise their potential
 - II. Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life
 - III. A Think Family approach is embedded in our support for families
7. Whilst the SCS is a long-term plan, the Council Plan having a medium-term time horizon of three years is more detailed in nature. The Council Plan therefore contains an additional layer which is the council's outcomes. These are defined as the impacts on, or consequences for the community of the activities of the council. Outcomes reflect the intended results from our actions and provide the rationale for our interventions. These are subject to more frequent change than objectives.
8. The draft objectives and outcomes for the 2016-2019 Council Plan for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People theme are set out in full in **Appendix 2**.
9. Services are currently reviewing the performance indicator set which is used to measure progress against the Plan, performance manage our services and report to Members quarterly. The council also has responsibility for performance managing the County Durham Partnership so the indicator set serves the dual purpose of being used to monitor the council and the partnership. An early draft of the corporate indicator set for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People theme is contained in **Appendix 3**, for detailed consideration by Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
10. There are no changes currently proposed for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People basket of indicators, however there will be changes to the set as outlined below.
11. Outcomes C4 (children with additional needs are supported to achieve and attain) and C7 (a range of positive activities are available for children, young people and families) have no indicators proposed and Children and Adult

Services (CAS) are looking into whether any measures are available that would be appropriate for the corporate set.

12. We will also be adding a new indicator which focusses on Child Sexual Exploitation.
13. There will also be changes to the education indicators at GCSE where new national attainment measures will be specified which are referred to as Attainment 8.
14. A report by the National Children's Bureau looks at four key measures of young children's health and well-being (obesity, tooth decay, injury and school readiness). Child obesity and school readiness are already part of the corporate set. If relevant, the other measures will be considered once the draft Children and Families Partnership actions have been received.
15. The target setting process for the proposed indicator set will begin at the end of the year once performance data is available for the full year. Targets for the current year and forthcoming two years are presented to Members in **Appendix 3** for comment. Baseline performance data will need to be established for the proposed new indicators before targets can be set.

Next steps

16. Next steps in the corporate timetable for production of the Council Plan and service plans are:

Cabinet considers Council Plan and service plans for 2016 - 2019	16 March 2016	Assistant Chief Executive
OSMB considers Cabinet report on Council Plan	22 March 2016	Assistant Chief Executive
Council approves Council Plan 2016- 2019	13 April 2016	Assistant Chief Executive

Recommendations and reasons

17. Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:
 - I. Note the updated position on the development of the Council Plan and the corporate performance indicator set.
 - II. Note the draft objectives and outcomes framework set out in **Appendix 2**.
 - III. Comment on the draft performance indicators proposed for 2016/17 for the Altogether Better for Children and Young People priority theme contained within **Appendix 3**.
 - IV. Comment on the current targets in **Appendix 3** and provide input into target setting for 2016/17 onwards.

Contact: Jenny Haworth, Head of Planning and Performance, 03000 268071

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

The Council Plan sets out the corporate priorities of the Council for the next 3 years. The Medium Term Financial Plan aligns revenue and capital investment to priorities within the Council Plan.

Staffing

The Council's strategies are aligned to achievement of the corporate priorities contained within the Council Plan.

Risk

Consideration of risk is a key element in the corporate and service planning framework with the Council Plan containing a section on risk.

Equality and diversity/Public Sector Equality Duty

Individual equality impact assessments are prepared for all savings proposals within the Council Plan. The cumulative impact of all savings proposals will be presented to Council and will be updated as savings proposals are further developed. In addition a full impact assessment has previously been undertaken for the Council Plan. One of the outcomes within the proposed framework is that people are treated fairly and differences are respected. Actions contained within the Council Plan include specific issues relating to equality.

Accommodation

The Council's Corporate Asset Management Plan is aligned to the corporate priorities contained within the Council Plan.

Crime and disorder

The Altogether Safer section of the SCS and Council Plan sets out the Council's and partner's contributions to tackling crime and disorder.

Human rights

None

Consultation

Council priorities are influenced by our resource base and have been developed following extensive consultation on the council's budget. Results have been taken into account in developing our spending decisions.

Procurement

None

Disability Issues

None

Legal Implications

None

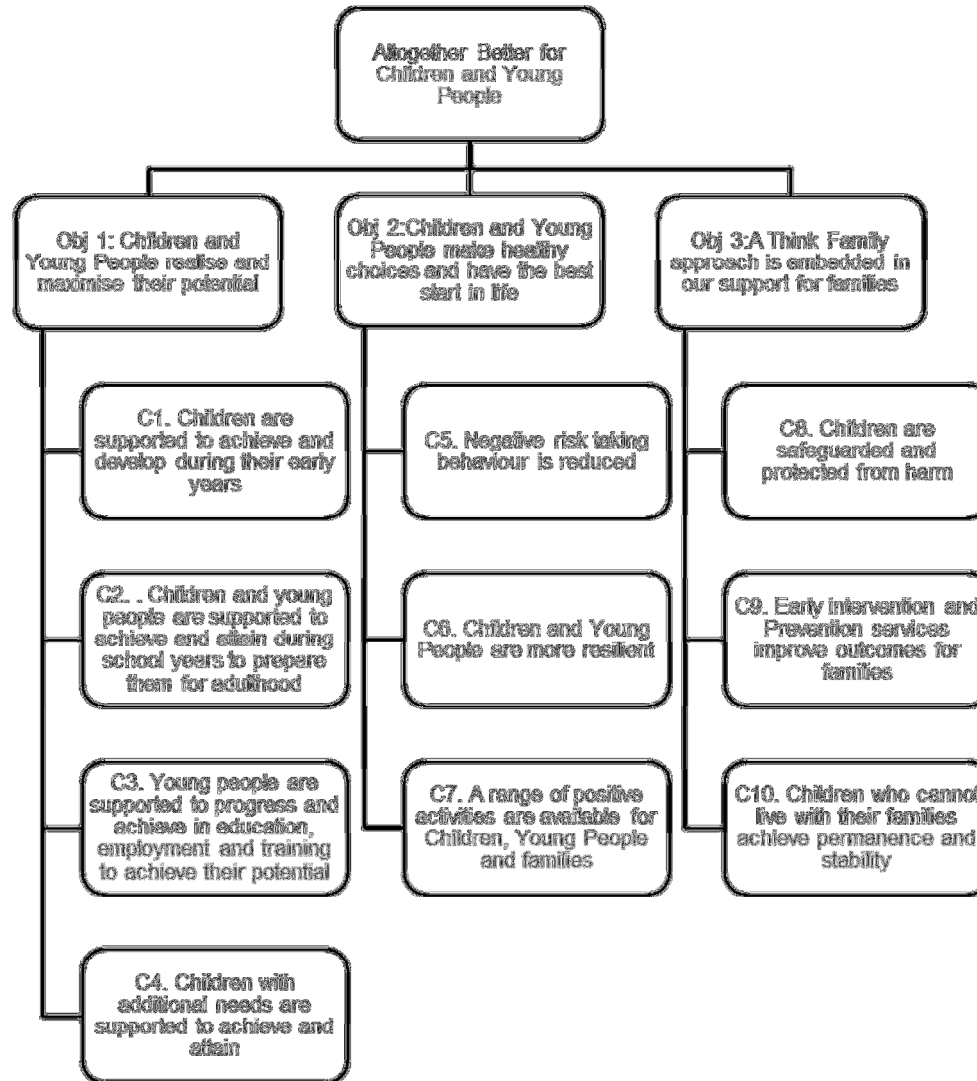
KEY

No Change

Amended

New

Appendix 2: Partnership and Council Draft Objectives and Outcomes Framework



Appendix 3: Proposed Corporate Performance Indicator Set 2016/17

Indicator	Description	Current targets		
		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Altogether Better for Children & Young People				
ACE016	Percentage of children in poverty (quarterly proxy measure)	Tracker indicator		
ACE017	Percentage of children in poverty (national annual measure)	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP4	Percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths	58.8	59.5	Not set
CAS CYP5	Percentage of pupils on Level 3 programmes in community secondary schools achieving 2 A levels at Grade A*-E or equivalent	98.9	99.1	99.3
CAS CYP6	Achievement gap between Durham pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and Durham pupils not eligible for Pupil Premium funding achieving Level 4 in reading, writing and maths at Key Stage 2	13	Not set	Not set
CAS CYP7	Achievement gap between Durham pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and Durham pupils not eligible for Pupil Premium funding achieving 5 A*-C GCSE's including English and maths at Key Stage 4	28	26.5	Not set
CAS CYP8	Percentage of mothers smoking at time of delivery	18.2	17.2	16.6
CAS CYP9	Percentage of Children In Need (CIN) referrals occurring within 12 months of previous referral	21	Not set	Not set
CAS CYP14	Percentage of successful interventions (families 'turned around') via the Stronger Families Programme	Tracker indicator	NA ¹	NA ¹
CAS CYP15	Percentage of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) achieving a good level of development	60	62	Not set
CAS CYP16	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP18	Percentage of children aged 4-5 classified as overweight or obese	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP19	Percentage of children aged 10-11 classified as overweight or obese	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP20	Under 18 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 15 to 17	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP21	Under 16 conception rate per 1,000 girls aged 13 to 15	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP23	Emotional and behavioural health of children looked after continuously for 12	Tracker indicator		

¹ Due to the change to a tracker indicator for 2015/16 targets for subsequent years are not applicable

Appendix 3: Proposed Corporate Performance Indicator Set 2016/17

Indicator	Description	Current targets		
		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	months or more (scored 0 - 40)			
CAS CYP24	Rate of looked after children per 10,000 population	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP25	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP26	Young people aged 10-24 years admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000 population aged 10-24 years)	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP28	Rate of children with a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP29	Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period	Tracker indicator		
CAS CYP30	Percentage of Community and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) patients who have attended a first appointment within 9 weeks of their external referral date	Tracker indicator		
CAS AS5	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 - 17 (per 100,000 population of 10-17 year olds)	648 (280 FTEs)	648 (280 FTEs)	Not set

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

11 January 2016



**Quarter 2: Forecast of Revenue and
Capital Outturn 2015/16 – Children and
Adult Services**

Report of Paul Darby, Head of Finance (Financial Services)

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide the committee with details of the forecast outturn budget position for Children and Adult Services (CAS), highlighting major variances in comparison with the budget for the year, based on the position to the end of September 2015, as reported to Cabinet in November 2015. The report focuses on the Children and Young People’s services included in CAS.

Background

2. County Council approved the Revenue and Capital budgets for 2015/16 at its meeting on 25 February 2015. These budgets have subsequently been revised to take account of transfers to and from reserves, grant additions/reductions, budget transfers between service groupings and budget reprofiling between years. This report covers the financial position for:
 - CAS Revenue Budget - £253.011m (original £251.450m)
 - CAS Capital Programme – £48.769m (original £45.453m)
3. The original CAS revenue budget has been revised to incorporate a number of budget adjustments as summarised in the table below:

Reason For Adjustment	£m
Original Budget	251.450
Transfers to other services (Financial Services / Assessments to Resources)	(1.459)
Energy Efficiency Reduction	(0.147)
Transfer From Contingency - Soulsbury Pay award	0.111
Transfer From Contingency - Cost Associated with Closed School Buildings	0.091
Transfer From Contingency - Reversal Of Car Mileage Deduction	0.076
Transfer to Capital (Aycliffe Secure Services)	(1.002)
Use of (+) / (contribution) to CAS reserves	0.735
Use of (+) / (contribution) to Corporate Reserves (ERVR Costs)	3.156
Revised Budget	253.011

4. The in service use of / (contribution) to CAS reserves consists of:

Reserve	£'000
Social Care Reserve	202
Cash Limit	1,908
Innovations and YEI Redundancy Reserve	(1,000)
Secure Services Capital Reserve	1,202
Tackling Troubled Families Reserve	188
Transformation Reserve	(1,596)
Accumulated fund CPD Reserve	256
Durham Learning Resources Reserve	(8)
EBP Reserve	120
Emotional Wellbeing Reserve	(20)
Mental Health Counselling Reserve	18
Movement Difficulties Service Reserve	(13)
Re-Profiling Activity Reserve	(175)
SEND reform Grant Reserve	98
Swimming Reserve	(67)
School Condition Survey Reserve	(450)
Public Health Reserves	72
Total In service use by CAS	735
External Contribution to Schools Condition Survey Reserve	(450)
Net Use of Reserve	285

5. The summary financial statements contained in this report cover the financial year 2015/16 and show: -
- The approved annual budget;
 - The actual income and expenditure as recorded in the Council's financial management system;
 - The variance between the annual budget and the forecast outturn;
 - For the CAS revenue budget, adjustments for items outside of the cash limit to take into account such items as redundancies met from the strategic reserve, capital charges not controlled by services and use of / or contributions to earmarked reserves.

Revenue Outturn – Updated Forecast Q2 2015/16

6. The CAS service is now reporting a cash limit underspend of £7.181m against a revised budget of £253.011m, which represents a 2.8% underspend. This compares with a previously reported underspend position of £7.613m at quarter 1.
7. The tables below show the revised annual budget, actual expenditure to 30 September 2015 and the updated forecast of outturn to the year end, including the variance forecast at year end. The first table is analysed by Subjective Analysis (i.e. type of expense) and shows the combined position for CAS, and the second is by Head of Service.

Subjective Analysis (Type of Expenditure)

	Revised Annual Budget £000	YTD Actual £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Cash Limit Variance QTR2 £000	MEMO – Variance at QTR1 £000
Employees	116,073	57,713	111,656	(4,416)	(3,427)
Premises	7,087	2,191	7,289	202	93
Transport	17,398	6,239	17,479	81	(442)
Supplies & Services	19,004	7,090	17,572	(1,432)	(831)
Third Party Payments	239,312	101,067	231,601	(7,711)	(6,205)
Transfer Payments	13,069	4,664	12,797	(272)	(280)
Central Support & Capital	64,289	19,881	64,986	697	629
Income	(223,221)	(126,977)	(217,550)	5,671	2,850
Total	253,011	71,868	245,829	(7,181)	(7,613)

Analysis by Head of Service Area

	Revised Annual Budget £000	YTD Actual £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Cash Limit Variance £000	MEMO – Variance at QTR1 £000
Head of Adults	124,882	53,668	120,006	(4,876)	(4,581)
Central/Other	8,847	142	8,654	(193)	(204)
Commissioning inc Supporting People	8,981	(16,836)	7,250	(1,731)	(1,728)
Planning & Service Strategy	11,639	5,510	10,954	(685)	(491)
Central Charges (CYPS)	4,360	(1,649)	4,360	-	-
Childrens Services	53,277	21,045	53,812	535	210
Education	39,952	3,414	39,721	(231)	(819)
Public Health	1,073	6,573	1,073	-	-
Total	253,011	71,867	245,830	(7,181)	(7,613)

8. The table below provides a brief commentary of the forecast cash limit variances against the revised budget, analysed by Head of Service for those areas which relate to the Children's area of the service, which is of specific interest to the Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The table identifies variances in the core budget only and excludes items outside of the cash limit (e.g. central repairs and maintenance) and technical accounting adjustments (e.g. capital charges):

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
Childrens Services		
Aycliffe Conference Centre & Site Wide Costs	Energy and water costs are £18K above budget on the Aycliffe site. A projected shortfall in income of £30K from lower than anticipated rechargeable usage of the Conference Centre together with the planned early closure of this facility at the end of December are offset by savings on supplies and services in the last quarter.	44
Child Protection & Disability Services	Employees are forecast to be over budget by a total of £357K mainly in the Child Protection Teams including expenditure on agency staff employed to cover vacancies and increased workloads. Costs associated with children placed under Special Guardianship Orders are forecast to be over budget by £526K. The forecast overspend is being offset by savings on Legal expenses (£96K) and additional income from the CCGs (£210K) towards the cost of joint funded placements.	550
Childrens Services Reform	Overspend on employees resulting from an additional resource to support Project officer.	39
External Agency Placements Central Recharges & SLAs	Primarily related to the costs of hired transport and volunteer drivers is forecast to be under budget by (£98k) combined with a forecast savings (£116k) following a reduction in the number of remand beds nights.	(221)
First Contact & Intervention	Expenditure on agency staff in the Assessment & Information (A&I) teams covering vacancies and maternity leave etc. is forecast to be £604k over budget offset by savings on vacant posts of (£291K). £145k of the agency staff costs specifically relate to the backfilling of posts of staff employed in A&I Teams that are to be included in Families First Phase 2 scheduled for January/ February 2016.	412
Head of Service	Investing in Children SLA is forecast to be under budget.	(46)
Looked After & Permanence	Savings on employees of (£713K) from the early closure of 5 Brough Close and the planned closure of 12 Brough Close Increasing number of LAC placements in IFA's and In house fostering is leading to a forecast overspend of £191K and £1.012m respectively. The Adoption Invest to Save Project is forecast to cost £136K in 2015-16.	610
One Point Service	Income from County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust in relation to occupancy of council buildings will exceed budget by £200k in 2015/16 (this is identified as an MTFP saving for 2016/17). Recharge to Public Health - £628k re Wider Determinants of Health.	(815)
Secure Services	Secure Services operates as a Trading Account, with a planned balanced budget. In the first half of 15-16 welfare bed average occupancy was 6.18 against a budgeted activity of 7.2. The shortfall in income for this period is £147K. At Quarter 2 welfare bed income is forecast to breakeven in 2015-16 with an anticipated increase in the sale of welfare beds expected following	-

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
	remedial works due to be completed in November.	
Think Family Service	Stronger Families plans will be funded from earmarked reserves	-
Youth Offending Service	Expenditure against staffing and mileage budgets are forecast to be below budget and should more than offset a forecast in-year reduction in the YJB grant of £80k.	(36)
Youth Service	-	(2)
		535
Commissioning		
Commissioning Management / Other	Under budget mainly in respect of future MTFP savings, particularly agency and contracted services budgets held.	(1,731)
		(1,731)
Planning & Service Strategy		
Performance & Information Mgmt	£62k under budget on employees re future MTFP savings. £32k under budget on supplies and services budgets re future MTFP savings. £9k under achievement of income	(85)
Policy Planning & Partnerships	£94k under budget on employees re future MTFP savings. £19k under budget on transport/supplies and services/other budgets. £37k under achievement of income.	(76)
Service Quality & Development	Future MTFP savings linked in the main to employees (£112k) and supplies and services (£227k). £67k under budget on other areas.	(406)
Service Support	£43k under budget on employees re future MTFP savings. £74k under budget on transport/supplies and services/other budgets.	(117)
		(684)
Education		
Progression and Learning	Durham Education Business Partnership is forecast to overspend by £120k as income levels are anticipated to fall below budget, however this will be funded from an earmarked reserve. The Adult Learning service is funded from grant that is allocated on an academic year basis and funds not used by the end of March 2016 will be rolled forward. At present the Improving Progression for Young People team are forecasting to be in line with budget including use of £37k from the Special Projects reserve to fund the YEI Development Manager post.	-
School Places and Admissions	A review of the Home to School Transport budget by the Sustainable Transport Team has identified an over budget forecast of £680k. This is materialising in two separate areas; transport of pre-16 SEN pupils (£440k), and transport of pre-16 mainstream pupils. Further analysis is underway to further understand this position.	548

Service Area	Description	Cash limit Variance £000
	<p>It is anticipated that there will be an under budget position of £32k on staffing in the School Places and Admissions team due to vacancies held in advance of delivering 16/17 MTFP savings.</p> <p>There is also anticipated to be an under spend of £100k in relation to pension liabilities.</p> <p>The liability re the tribunal legal case has now been finalised and an additional £0.385m is to be funded from the CAS Cash Limit.</p>	
SEN and Disability and Inclusion	<p>The forecast outturn position in this area relates mainly to additional SLA income in Education Psychology (£240k) and vacancies in the same area (£77k).</p> <p>Additionally in the SEN Placement and Provision team there is a saving of £42k relating to staffing.</p>	(359)
Support and Development	<p>Curriculum and Professional Development (Use of reserve £456k) The forecast anticipates use of £589k from reserves against original proposals of £674k, this is offset by savings in staffing and additional SLA income totalling £133k.</p> <p>Education Development Service £151k Under There is anticipated to be a contribution to the Primary Swimming Reserve of £67k.</p> <p>An under budget position of £151k across the rest of EDS relates to employee budgets in the Inspection Team and a vacant Sports Development post (MTFP 16/17), as well as a forecast under spend on school health budget and outdoor activities (MTFP 16/17).</p> <p>Early Years Team £136k under The main factor in the Early Years Team contributing to the forecast is an under budget position on employee budgets due to a vacant Operational Lead post (MTFP 16/17). In addition the in-house nursery provision is expected to be £77k under budget.</p> <p>Music Service £99k under The under budget position is a combination of reduced staffing costs and increased income levels.</p> <p>School and Governor Support Service £35k under The forecast under budget position relates mainly to a pension augmentation budget which is earmarked for MTFP savings in 16/17.</p>	(421)
		(232)

9. In summary, the service is on track to maintain spending within its cash limit. The outturn position incorporates the MTFP savings built into the 2015/16 budgets, which for CAS in total amount to £8.590m.

Schools

10. The current schools forecasts are summarised below:

Schools forecasting a surplus above 2.5% of funding						
	Nursery	PRU	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Number	12	-	187	7	9	215
Forecast	(£660,083)	-	(£16,082,016)	(£1,599,082)	(£1,772,679)	(£20,113,860)
Schools forecasting a surplus of less than 2.5% of funding						
	Nursery	PRU	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Number	-	-	18	6	-	24
Forecast	-	-	(£217,043)	(£308,875)	-	(£525,918)
Schools forecasting a deficit						
	Nursery	PRU	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Number	-	1	3	3	-	7
Forecast	-	£449,744	£21,535	£2,895,362	-	£3,366,641
Total						
	Nursery	PRU	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Number	12	1	208	16	9	246
Forecast	(£660,083)	£449,744	(£16,277,524)	£987,405	(£1,772,679)	(£17,273,137)

11. Compared to Quarter 1 there are three fewer primary schools reported above, because three have converted to academies.
12. After excluding the academy conversions, the overall change from Quarter 1 to Quarter 2 is a £381,000 (£470,000 including the previously included balances for the schools converting) reduction in the forecast net balances held by schools at 31 March 2016, when the retained balances were forecast to be £17,743,475.
13. One more school is forecasting a deficit at the end of 2015-16 than previously forecast and the total forecast deficit forecast has increased by £32,000, mainly because of an increase in the forecast deficit of the Pupil Referral Unit.
14. Of the remaining schools in deficit, the three primary schools are beginning re-structuring processes to address their financial position. The three secondary schools are closely monitoring their budgets, but the Council is mindful of the need to provide places for their pupils and these schools cannot address their deficits in the short-term without unacceptable impacts on the standard of education that they are able to offer to their pupils.
15. The School Funding Team are visiting all schools this term for autumn budget reviews and some schools will be facing significant financial pressures next year, including the effects of changes to employers' contributions for National Insurance and pensions. It is likely that there

will be a significant drawdown on school surpluses next year, in order to balance budgets, which will create a greater challenge for 2017-18.

16. The Schools will also be affected by planned changes to formula funding; subject to Council approval and any changes to statutory regulation, the primary lump sum will reduce from £175,000 to £167,500 in 2016-17 and then to £160,000 in 2017-18. A planned transfer of £1.5m from primary and secondary school funding to SEN provision in 2016-17 has been deferred and may need to be implemented in 2017-18.
17. Officers from CAS and Finance have met to discuss our approach to identifying schools causing concern, and how we address their issues in a strategic way. Consultation with the Schools Forum and schools about the reduction in the primary lump sum has highlighted the number of small schools in the County and the cost to formula funding in respect of the lump sum, which is paid to every school, regardless of size. The Council and schools will work more closely together to look at ways of re-organising schools to reduce the number of small schools and thus release more money for pupil-led funding.

Capital Programme

18. The CAS capital programme has been revised earlier in the year to take into account budget reprofiled from 2014/15 following the final accounts for that year. This increased the 2015/16 original budget.
19. Further reports to MOWG in May, July and October have detailed further revisions to the CAS capital programme, adjusting the base for grant additions/ reductions, budget transfers and budget reprofiling into later years. The revised capital budget currently totals **£48.769m**.
20. Summary financial performance to the end of September is shown below.

CAS	Original Annual (MAY MOWG) Budget 2015/16 £000	Revised Annual Budget 2015/16 £000	Actual Spend 30/09/15 £000	Remaining Budget £000
Adult Care	841	60	-	60
Childrens Care	-	58	5	53
Early Intervention and Involvement	-	-	2	(2)
Early Years	-	408	(7)	415
Free School Meals Support	53	333	171	162

CAS	Original Annual (MAY MOWG) Budget 2015/16 £000	Revised Annual Budget 2015/16 £000	Actual Spend 30/09/15 £000	Remaining Budget £000
Secure Services	-	1,002	417	585
Planning & Service Strategy	105	132	94	38
Public Health	2,160	236	36	200
School Devolved Capital	1,424	4,574	1,576	2,998
School Related	22,762	24,642	10,521	14,121
SCP - LEP	18,108	17,324	9,022	8,302
Total	45,453	48,769	21,837	26,932

21. **Appendix 2** provides a more detailed breakdown of spend across the major projects contained within the CAS Children's capital programme.

Recommendations:

22. It is recommended that Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Members note the financial forecasts included in the report, which are summarised in the Quarter 2 forecast of outturn report to Cabinet in November.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

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

Staffing

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

Risk

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

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

There are no implications associated with this report.

Accommodation

There are no implications associated with this report.

Crime and Disorder

There are no implications associated with this report.

Human Rights

There are no implications associated with this report.

Consultation

There are no implications associated with this report.

Procurement

There are no implications associated with this report.

Disability Issues

There are no implications associated with this report.

Legal Implications

There are no implications associated with this report.

Appendix 2 - CAS 2015-16 Capital Programme

Childrens Services	Revised Annual Budget 2015/16 £000	Profiled Budget 2015/16 £000	Actual Spend 30/09/15 £000	Remaining Budget £000
Support For Childs Homes	54	21	3	51
CAS AAP Scheme	4	3	2	2
Childrens Care Total	58	24	5	53
PCT Co-Location	-	-	2	(2)
Early Intervention and Involvement Total	-	-	2	(2)
Increased Provision for Two Year Olds	408	199	(7)	415
Early Years Total	408	199	(7)	415
Free School Meals Support	333	159	171	162
Free School Meals Support Total	333	159	171	162
Secure Services	1,002	200	417	585
Secure Services Total	1,002	200	417	585
School Devolved Capital	4,574	1,888	1,576	2,998
School Devolved Capital Total	4,574	1,888	1,576	2,998
Childrens Access/Safeguarding	3	1	(2)	5
DFE School Capital Inc Basic Need	23,588	11,108	10,765	12,823
DSG Structural Maintenance	392	168	313	79
Prior Year Projects	-	-	(334)	334
School Modernisation	659	303	(221)	880
School Related Total	24,642	11,580	10,521	14,121
BSF	17,267	8,613	8,974	8,293
PFI	57	28	48	9
SCP - LEP Total	17,324	8,641	9,022	8,302
TOTAL	48,341	22,691	21,707	26,634

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

11 January 2016

**Summary of Minutes from Children
and Families Partnership**

21 September 2015



**County Durham Children
and Families Partnership**

Self-Harm Amongst Young People

Children and Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee presented the key messages and recommendations of a recent review of self-harm amongst young people, which was undertaken as a snapshot between September 2014 to December 2014 to address concerns about the number of young people in County Durham who self-harm, especially those who do not come into contact with any support services.

The objective of the review was to raise awareness and understanding of self-harm by young people, to the young people and adults involved in their lives, and to investigate how early intervention and support services can be increased.

A working group was established to lead the work. The review followed five key lines of inquiry, and gathered evidence from key parties, which included Public Health, Children and Adult Services, and Clinical Commissioning Groups. The review summarises the conclusions, and makes seven recommendations which include internet safety, information for parents/carers, and updating school policies.

The Children and Families Partnership identified that the relevant recommendations from the report have fed into the Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience, which also considers self-harm.

Business and Education Board

The Children and Families Partnership received an update on 'Get the Buzz' week, following the soft launch in July 2015. 'Get the Buzz' is the brand name adopted by the Business and Education Board to promote business and education linked activities in County Durham. The event focused on career aspirations with a series of promotional events, roadshows PR campaigns, sponsorship and work with schools. A total of 3363 pupils were engaged in the activities, and over 15 employers were involved. The Business and Education Board is sourcing future activity funding to continue this work.

It was agreed that the Business Education Board will become a regular feature on the Children and Families Partnership agenda, to provide updates on employability and skills and to ensure the work dovetails with young people's issues.

Children and Young People Survey (Student Voice) 2015

The Children and Families Partnership received the key findings from the Student Voice survey. Of the 32 Secondary Schools in County Durham, 25 participated in the survey with responses received from 8148 students.

The Partnership will develop an action plan to look at how this valuable information can be shared wider with relevant partners, to ensure the findings are fed into strategies and service reviews where appropriate, ensuring young people's voices are included.

Care Leavers Strategy 2015-18 - Consultation

The National Care Leavers Strategy was launched in October 2013, with a one year on progress update launched in October 2014, setting clear expectations for Local Authorities' treatment of care leavers.

In order to meet these expectations a three year Care Leavers Strategy has been produced, along with an action plan which outlines how the priorities in the strategy will be delivered.

The strategy reflects a whole system integrated approach to support care leavers, providing a framework for the council, elected members, officers and partners to fulfil their duties and responsibilities as corporate parents.

The vision of the strategy is that '*All care leavers are in appropriate accommodation, feel supported and are able to maximise their potential*'.

The Partnership will consider the draft strategy and provide any feedback and comments within the timescales.

Suicide and Self-harm update

The Director of Public Health County Durham updated the Partnership on the services being provided and the actions being progressed by partners and Clinical Commissioning Groups against the outcome in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to reduce self-harm and suicide. These include:

- Talking Changes, which is a self-help and talking therapies service designed to help people deal with common mental health problems.
- Mindfulness programmes
- Urgent access to bereavement support services
- Adopting the principles within the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat, ensuring timely and supportive crisis care.
- Ensuring there are effective care pathways for those with dual needs from police custody suites and courts.

The actions being progressed in County Durham to prevent suicide and self-harm have been agreed through the Mental Health Partnership Board, which is a sub group of the Health and Wellbeing board.

Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Plan 2015/18 Consultation

The Children and Families Partnership received the County Durham Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Plan as part of the formal consultation process.

The Department of Health and NHS England published the 'Future in Mind Promoting, protecting and improving our children and young people's mental health and wellbeing' which makes a number of proposals the government wishes to see by 2020. These include: tackling stigma and improving attitudes to mental illness; introducing more access and waiting time standards for services; establishing 'one stop shop' support services in the community and improving access for children and young people who are particularly vulnerable. The County Durham Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience will incorporate the requirements of Future in Mind.

The final County Durham Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board for agreement on 3rd November 2015, following the consultation period. The Plan will then be presented to the Children and Families Partnership in December 2015 for endorsement.

Transfer of 0-5 Commissioning responsibilities for Health Visitors and Family Nurse Partnership

The Director of Public Health County Durham provided an update on the transfer of 0-5 commissioning responsibilities for Health Visitors and Family Nurse Partnership. From October 2015 local authorities will be responsible for commissioning the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme, service specifications are in place ready for the transfer.

Notable changes for the Children and Families Partnership are:

- The transition from the Family Nurse Partnership programme to a vulnerable parent pathway, which will be available to pregnant teenagers should they require intensive intervention.
- The inclusion of primary mental health nurses embedded within the 5 -19 public health school nurse specification as part of integrated working
- That the public health grant is to be subject to in-year cuts

This report will also be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting in September 2015.

County Durham Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The Partnership received an update on progress made since the introduction of the MASH in March 2015, which includes a specialist Child Sexual Exploitation team (ERASE) being located within MASH.

The MASH is co-located with the First Contact Service and the Police Central Referral Unit and is managed by the manager of First Contact. Any call to First Contact is assessed and if deemed necessary, is referred to MASH. The MASH is developing well with clear plans in place to continue its development.

Stronger Families

The Head of Children's Services provided an update as at the end of May 2015, highlighting that the Stronger Families Programme was successful in 'turning around' the lives of 1320 families in County Durham, equating to 100% of the target by March 2015.

For Phase 2 of the programme there is a very clear need to shift focus onto ensuring families can achieve significant and sustained change.

Phase 2 will mainstream the Stronger Families programme into services. The programme will be delivered over a 5 year time period and Durham will have 4,330 families to work with within this period. As part of being an 'early starter' programme, Durham identified and started work with an additional 650 families before March 2015. The Children and Families Partnership support the planned actions to be taken forward in Phase 2 of the programme.

County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) Youth Justice Plan 2015/2017

The Children and Families Partnership received the Youth Justice Plan 2015-17 for information.

It is the statutory duty of each Local Authority to formulate and implement a plan, key requirements of the plan are prescribed by the Youth Justice Board. The plan outlines how CDYOS will:

- Reduce first time entrants to the youth justice system
- Reduce re-offending by young people
- Reduce the use of custody for both sentenced and remanded young people

The plan was approved by CDYOS Management Board in June 2015, and Cabinet and full Council in July 2015, before being submitted to the Youth Justice Board at the end of July 2015. The plan will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation and a copy will be placed in the House of Commons library.

Children Young People and Families Plan 2016-19

The Children and Families Partnership reaffirmed the following three objectives in the Children, Young People and Families Plan 2016-19, as those which will remain a priority for the 2016-17 refresh:

1. Children and young people realise and maximise their potential
2. Children and young people make health choices and have the best start in life
3. A Think Family approach is embedded in our support for families.

Partners are mindful that changes may need to be made to the outcomes, or additional outcomes may need to be added following the range of planned engagement activities as part of the refresh process of the Children, Young People and Families Plan.

Children and Families Area Action Partnership links

The Children and Families Partnership received a six-month update on the work of AAP's, outlining how the AAPs are progressing priorities related to children, young people and families.

The update focused on areas of good practice which have gone on to be rolled out in other AAP areas, including HAGGRID which is an alternative education programme with a focus on horticulture, agriculture, conservation and the environment.

The next AAP six-month update will be presented to the Children and Families Partnership in March 2016.

Young People's Issues

Young People, supported by Investing in Children attended the meeting to provide an update on the StreetGames Volunteering Programme for which Investing in Children is a host organisation.

StreetGames is a national charity aimed at bringing sports to the doorsteps of young people in disadvantaged communities. The programme is delivered in partnership with County Durham Sports.

Discussions took place around the need to join similar projects up across County Durham with Public Health and Neighbourhood Services.

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