

**TITLE OF REPORT:** **Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives - End of Year Assessment of Performance and Delivery 2019/20**

**REPORT OF:** **Caroline O'Neill, Strategic Director, Children, Adults and Families**

---

### **SUMMARY**

This report provides the end of year update of performance and delivery for the period ending 31 March 2020 in relation to the Council's Thrive agenda for the indicators and activity linked to children and young people.

---

### **Background**

1. The report forms part of the Council's performance management framework and gives an overview of progress for the priorities appropriate to the remit of the Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
2. The Council's new strategic approach Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives, was approved by Cabinet in March 2018, to ensure the Council continues to get the best outcomes for local people and remains a viable and sustainable organisation into the future.
3. While the report follows the standard framework for the Year End 2019/20 performance, it also identifies the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on performance as well as potential future implications. The current strategic indicators are in the process of being reviewed and a new performance framework adopted for the Council. Therefore, it is anticipated this will be the last report of this format linked to these indicators.

### **Delivery and Performance**

4. This report sets out the performance overview linked to the 31 strategic outcome indicators, identified as providing a high-level picture of the strategic priorities for the Council and its partners in relation to children and young people.
5. All 31 indicators are listed in appendix 1 with performance data provided where this is available at the end of the period. There is also an update on key activities and achievements over the last 6 months, with key activities being undertaken in each service area in the upcoming 6-month period also identified.

### **Recommendation**

6. It is recommended that the Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
  - consider whether the activities undertaken during October to March 2020 are supporting delivery of the Thrive agenda;
  - to identify any areas, they feel they require more detail about or feel require further scrutiny; and
  - note that Cabinet will consider a composite performance report at their meeting on 20 October 2020.

## Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

### Children and Families – Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives - End of Year Assessment of Performance and Delivery March 2020

10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Portfolio:	Children and Young People
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Gary Hayley
OSC Chair:	Councillor Maria Hall
Lead Officer:	Caroline O'Neill, Strategic Director Children, Adults & Families
Support Officer:	Jon Gaines, Service Manager Quality Assurance

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 We know that over 43% of people and families in Gateshead are either managing or just coping and over 40% are in need or in vulnerable situations. We want to change those statistics and aim to make Gateshead a place where everyone thrives<sup>i</sup>. “*Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives*” is the new council approach aiming to narrow the gap of inequality across Gateshead resulting in more people living longer and leading healthier and happier lives.
- 1.2 Children, Adults and Families has a primary focus of direct work with and commissioning of services to support the residents of Gateshead. It is critically placed to support the Thrive agenda. Our work spans the 5 Thrive pledges, of:
  - 1 *Put people and families at the heart of everything we do*
  - 2 *Tackle inequality so people have a fair chance*
  - 3 *Support our communities to support themselves and each other*
  - 4 *Invest in our economy to provide sustainable opportunities for employment, innovation and growth across the borough*
  - 5 *Work together and fight for a better future for Gateshead*
- 1.3 For services covered by children and families, 32 overarching strategic indicators are currently identified and monitored to support the group in understanding its performance linked to achieving the council aim of narrowing the gap of inequality across Gateshead and supporting its residents to thrive. This report sets out the end of year update to March 2020 ‘assessment of delivery and performance’ in line with the current Performance Management Framework.
- 1.4 This report provides a performance overview linked to the 32 strategic indicators for children and families which currently fall under the five pledges of “*Put people and families at the heart of everything we do*”, “*Tackle inequality so people have a fair chance*”, “*Work together and fight for a better future for Gateshead*”, “*Invest in our Economy*” and “*Support our Communities*”.
- 1.5 Section A provides an overview of performance linked to the indicators identified as falling under each pledge, along with any achievements or challenges. The section summarises if performance has improved or declined since the same period in the previous year. Also included is an update of the actions identified in the previous periods report and actions identified for the next 6 months.

- 1.6 Section B provides a performance dashboard with individual performance details for the 32 indicators identified, grouped by the relevant pledge.

## 2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 Members are asked to receive this report for information and consider:

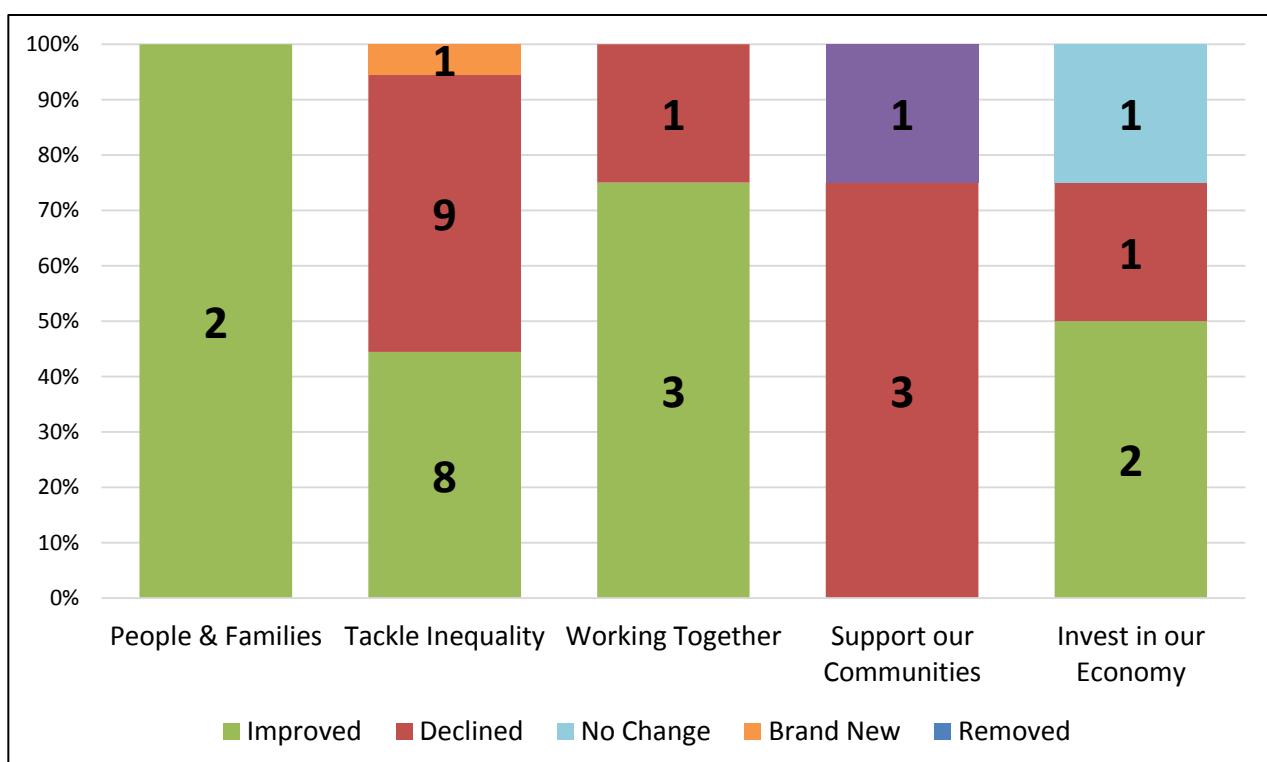
- (I) whether the activities undertaken during October 2019 to March 2020 are achieving the desired outcomes in Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives,
- (II) any areas they feel they require more detail about or feel require further scrutiny; and
- (III) note that Cabinet will consider a composite performance report at their meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

## Section A

### 3.0 Performance Overview

- 3.1 The chart below summarises the overall position and trend in performance compared to the same period last year for the 32 indicators included in Section B, grouped under the relevant pledge. Following on from the previous report there has been the addition of 1 strategic indicator “*Measure the percentage uptake of free school meals at primary level*”. More specific detail for individual indicators is provided in Section B. Overall the performance has improved in 15 out of the 28 indicators (46.9%) we have an updated position for.

**Chart 1: Summary of direction of travel for indicators in section B**



## **Putting people and families at the heart of everything we do**

- 3.2 We know that we have residents who are struggling in real life and need more support than others, our role as a Council is to help people and to show empathy and understanding of the situations, they are in to find a means of lifting them out of their difficult situations. We have identified 2 strategic indicators linked to the pledge of "**Putting people and families at the heart of everything we do**". In the latest period we have demonstrated improvements for 2 indicators.

### **Performance**

- 3.3 The percentage of eligible 2-year olds accessing their free early learning place has improved on the same period last year however the overall numbers have fallen, due in part to a falling birth rate and to fewer families meeting the eligibility criteria (non-working/low income households).
- 3.4 The full Gateshead Families initiative target has been achieved with successful outcomes for 1,930 families in 2016-2020. This is 100% against a national average of 86%, with a total 2,706 families having engaged with the programme during this period.

### **Achievements, Challenges and Actions**

- 3.5 Strengthen the Voice of the Child - The SEND Involvement Worker has interviewed some SEND pupils to gain their views and aspirations, attended meetings with Councils at Grove House and Eslington School, attended market place events at Gateshead Leisure and the Elgin Centre, worked with Furrowfield students to look at the local offer, supported the implementation of Hear by Right.
- 3.6 Achieved 100% of the Gateshead Families Initiative target, recording claims for 1,930 families after demonstrating progress against our Gateshead Families Initiative Outcomes Plan. A total of 2,706 families were engaged with the programme between 2016-20.
- 3.7 Early Year and Childcare Service (EYCS) - Take-up of 2-year funded places at 91% of those eligible (March 2020). Last reported national take-up level 68%.
- 3.8 Implemented a widespread domestic abuse awareness raising campaign across Gateshead and via social media platforms.
- 3.9 Achieved an Outstanding Ofsted rating for Grove House.

## Update on Actions from Previous Report

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
We are about to take forward a new development (subject to planning and consultation) for Young Peoples supported accommodation in Dunston.	People & Families	Commissioning	The provider is working with the Council and Keepmoat homes to agree a price for the land. Should a price be agreed between all parties the scheme will submit a pre-planning proposal. Unfortunately, COVID-19 will have had an impact on timescales; these will be reworked once a decision has been made on the sale.
Explore adult mental health pathways and work with key health partners to explore how services recognise and respond to ACEs and trauma. Explore the possibility of developing a systemic family therapeutic model of intervention to address safeguarding concerns	People & Families	Assessment & Intervention	Preliminary discussions took place with adult mental health. Further discussions are now taking place to develop a children's mental health hub in collaboration with partners focussing on trauma informed practice and systemic interventions. Two children's AMHP's have been trained and systemic practice as a model of intervention has been rolled out across statutory Social work services
Between January 2020 & March 2020 there will be a detailed evaluation of the new approach to practice within A&I including feedback from families and partners.	People & Families	Assessment & Intervention	The evaluation has been suspended due to COVID-19 and lock down. The evaluation scope and TOR has been agreed, working groups identified and initial performance data established.
The Domestic Abuse Team will work in partnership with the PCC and Violence Reduction Unit to pilot a daytime extension (currently operates weekend evenings) to the Domestic Violence Car, so that experienced domestic abuse support workers respond with police to 999 calls maximising speedy support to victims.	People & Families	Early Help	Funding was not awarded to progress this and the Domestic Violence car no longer operates.
Improving the services and response to children with disabilities & their families	People & Families	Children & Families	Permanent team manager was appointed, and a full complement of permanent staff has now been achieved. Development plan on-going. Applications for Continuing Care funds from health have been made on behalf of eligible children.
Open a new 6 bed children's home in order to bring some young people that are placed at a distance back into Gateshead.	People & Families	Children & Families	Registered with Ofsted January 2020. All beds are filled. Some young people have been able to return to Gateshead.
We will be looking at and confirming what additional resources are required to meet the needs of our most complex Looked After Children.	People & Families	Children & Families	Business case presented for growth.

## Actions for the next 6 months

- i. Strengthen the Voice of Parent/ Carers - further support the work of Gateshead Parent Carer Forum and ensure that they are included in all areas of strategic development for SEND children and young people to ensure co-production. This will include a review of the Gateshead Local Offer website information.

- ii. The Gateshead Families Initiative has been extended into 2020/21 with a claims target of 323 families (to achieve positive outcomes).
- iii. EYCS - Support parents/ carers to have the confidence to use childcare provision (post COVID-19), both to allow them to work/ access training and to improve outcomes for children.
- iv. Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) - Further consider and develop the potential for online platforms and mechanisms to engage with clients and partners on their terms and possibly more accessible means.
- v. Implement a further domestic abuse campaign aimed specifically at children and young people.
- vi. Generate plan to implement the *Safe and Together* approach to domestic abuse across the workforce.
- vii. Implement a process for Respect Young People Programme (RYPP) Coordination across children's services to address child to parent/carer violence and abuse.
- viii. Implement the AIM 3 (Assessment, Intervention, Moving-on) model across children's services for assessment and intervention with children who display sexually harmful behaviour.
- ix. Open an additional 3 bedded children's home.
- x. Take forward discussions to develop a children's mental health hub in collaboration with partners focussing on trauma informed practice and systemic interventions.
- xi. Continue the detailed evaluation of the new approach to practice within A&I including feedback from families and partners currently on hold due to the COVID-19 situation.

### **Tackle inequality so people have a fair chance**

- 3.10 As a council we must focus help on those families who are vulnerable and just coping, in order to support them to manage and Thrive. We have identified 18 strategic indicators linked to the pledge of "**Tackling inequality, so people have a fair chance**". In the latest period we have demonstrated improvements for 8 indicators in this pledge, performance has declined in 9 and we have 1 brand new indicator.

### **Performance**

- 3.11 The percentage of Gateshead schools rated as Outstanding by Ofsted has reduced to 32%. Some schools that were 'Outstanding' have been re-inspected and downgraded. This is partly due to the fact they were graded as 'Outstanding' under an old framework and the standard has changed considerably. Overall, there have been few inspections in Gateshead in the last year.

- 3.12 There has been a small increase in the number of children offered a place at their preferred primary school, however, the numbers offered their preferred place at a secondary school has declined.
- 3.13 Improvements have been noted in the educational attainment of children and those achieving a good level of development by the age of 5, with current performance the third highest figure amongst North East region local authorities. However, we have seen a decrease in the attainment of expected standards for Reading, Writing and Mathematics for Key Stage 1 and a decrease the percentage of children reaching the expected standard at Key Stage 2.
- 3.14 The Attainment 8 scores have improved and are above the England average. Progress 8 scores have also risen since last year however it is still below zero, despite Attainment 8 being higher than the national figure, because starting points from the end of KS2 were high.
- 3.15 We have seen improvements in performance with the gap between progress 8 and Attainment 8 scores for disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers at KS4 reducing. However, the progress 8 scores for Looked after children at the end of KS4 have declined. The progress 8 scores for vulnerable children who are SEN support have improved and is better than the national figure. However, progress 8 scores for those with a Statement or Care plan have dropped and are lower than the national equivalent. The Progress 8 scores for children receiving free school meals has improved, although remains below the national average for this group of students.
- 3.16 The number of children subject to a child protection plan (CPP) has increased on the previous period.
- 3.17 Average uptake of free school meals at primary level has decreased and was in part impacted by COVID-19 in the final week of March in which most pupils were absent from school.

### **Achievements, Challenges and Actions**

- 3.18 IAG - Designed and delivered a collaborative initiative with Gateshead Leisure Service and Adult Learning and skills to incentivise and engage NEET young people in health activity and accessing the world of training and employment.
- 3.19 Co-ordinated a Christmas hamper campaign across Gateshead to ensure all vulnerable families had everything they needed to provide a Christmas dinner as well as a Christmas gift campaign to ensure all vulnerable children and young people received Christmas gifts. A Christmas party was also hosted for families currently subject to supervised family time and held a celebration event for our looked after children.
- 3.20 An event was hosted in the Civic Centre to support International Women's Day on 8th March 2020 and received hundreds of pledges from staff and members of the public in the Pledge for Parity Campaign.

## Update on Actions from Previous Report

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
A strategic piece of work is being undertaken to map out children's services across the system. A walk the wall has been created with the aim of identifying duplication issues and gap and potential solutions to bring our children closer to home; using that information to determine next steps to promote systems working to better meet the needs of children and their families	Tackle Inequality	Commissioning	This work is still going to be taken forward but has slowed down due to COVID-19. SEND commissioning is one area that has started back up, as has the development of support, accommodation and education solutions to bring/keep more of our children in borough – a more comprehensive update of the 2 areas to follow in the next round of reporting, as well as an update on progression in other areas identified on completion of the wall.
We will host a Head Teachers conference to focus on reducing permanent exclusions.	Tackle Inequality	Education Support	Conference took place in October 2019 with secondary school Head Teachers.
We will be introducing the AV1 Avatar into schools to engage with some of the most anxious pupils who are unable to attend school.	Tackle Inequality	Education Support	We have introduced two avatars into schools (1 primary and 1 special) before the Lockdown. We are currently considering how we will use the remaining 8 AVATARS to support pupils during the current situation.
Continue to embed the Elective Home Education Multi-agency group to monitor and support EHE pupils and their families.	Tackle Inequality	Education Support	This group continues to meet on a monthly basis. The EHE strategy has been updated in line with most recent government guidance and following wider consultation, we are currently seeking ratification from the Gateshead Children Safeguarding Board.
Embed the Education Inclusion Panel- who decide the educational placement of permanently excluded pupils.	Tackle Inequality	Education Support	This panel continues to meet on a monthly basis. Permanent exclusions have reduced over the past year (even before lockdown occurred).
Work to embed the complex pupils meeting which monitors and supports the educational placement of our most vulnerable complex pupils	Tackle Inequality	Education Support	The complex pupils mtg continues to meet every 1/2 term with representation from local authority services. This meeting is chaired by the DCS with membership at director and/or service manager level.
Early Help will deliver 'ROAR' training to primary school staff to help them identify and respond to emotional wellbeing issues among children. ROAR approach has been developed by Liverpool CAMHS. First training will be delivered in Gateshead on 20/11/19.	Tackle Inequality	Early Help	Training to the primary school family support workforce was delivered in November 2019.
We will look to implement a Trauma Recovery Model into working practices across the Domestic Abuse Team and Youth Justice Service. The Trauma Recovery Model is a road map to help professionals care for and guide troubled people towards recovery. It's a composite model; combining theories of child development, attachment and neuroscience with hands on practitioner skills.	Tackle Inequality	Early Help	Mandatory Trauma Recovery Model training took place over 3 days in February 2020 and is now intrinsic in the work of the Domestic Abuse Team and Youth Justice Service.

We will be ensuring the families of disabled children are given the support they need to continue to care.	Tackle Inequality	Children & Families	All support packages are being reviewed on a regular basis to ensure families are receiving the support they need. Resource panel and High Needs Panel functioning effectively.
Promote further educational and social opportunities for disabled children.	Tackle Inequality	Children & Families	Support and funding given so children can access clubs/holiday playschemes.

### Actions for the next 6 months

- xii. Implement a Behaviour Change Framework to work directly with those displaying abusive behaviours and provide bespoke interventions to break the cycle of domestic abuse providing bespoke, holistic and triangulated services to victims of DA, children affected by DA and perpetrators of DA.
- xiii. Expand the Family Group Conferencing Service and develop practice around prevention and reunification of families.
- xiv. Generate additional capacity in the Supporting Children & Families Team to offer intensive family support interventions to promote LAC prevention and reunification.
- xv. Promote further educational and social opportunities for children with a disability.
- xvi. A strategic piece of work is being undertaken to map out children's services across the system. Next steps following a walk the wall to determine next steps to promote systems working to better meet the needs of children and their families.

### Work together and fight for a better future for Gateshead

- 3.26 To improve the lives of the residents of Gateshead we must work together as a council and our partners to do so. We have identified 4 strategic indicators linked to the pledge of "**Work together to fight for a better Gateshead**". In the latest period we have demonstrated improvements for 3 indicators and performance has declined in 1.

### Performance

- 3.27 We have seen a decrease in the number of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice system aged 10-17 compared to the same period last year. However, performance for the use of custody has declined over the same period.
- 3.28 Work with Public Health colleagues is also seeing an improvement (reduction) in the number of hospital admissions for self-harm for 10 to 24-year olds. We are now at our lowest rate since the data was first published in 2011/12. For the first time in a single period. Gateshead is lower than both the England and North East rates.

- 3.29 The proportion of mothers smoking at the time of delivery (13.4%) has improved compared to the same period last year (15.1%) and we are significantly lower than the North East rate. However, it should be noted that this data is aggregated at Newcastle Gateshead CCG level and is not reliably pure Gateshead data.

## Achievements, Challenges and Actions

- 3.30 IAG have commissioned an alternative Management Information System (MIS) system that improves collaboration with our in-house departments, saves £33k per annum and increases recognition and impact of the team with inhouse partners and local collaborators
- 3.31 Developed the membership and active engagement of the Gateshead Youth Justice Board.

## Update on Actions from Previous Report

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
CAF will provide training to education professionals working in the Jewish community about safeguarding thresholds and the CAF/CIN/CP assessment process on 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2019.	Working Together	Early Help	Training completed and this has led to a proposal to develop a network of volunteer Family Advocates drawn from the school workforce within the Jewish community. A role specification has been agreed with the JCCG and implementation was planned for June 2020; this has been deferred due to the COVID pandemic.
An enhanced parenting pathway for vulnerable new parents to be/parents who need additional support will be launched on 4 November. This pathway, which will be delivered using an integrated approach by Health Visitors, Early Years Practitioners, the Early Help service and Maternity services, will offer co-ordinated packages of care from pregnancy until the child is two.	Working Together	Public Health	The Gateshead Growing Healthy enhanced parenting pathway was launched in December 2019 and is an early intervention service where practitioners from the 0-19 service, maternity services and Early Help service work collaboratively with families in a strength-based way to support them in their parenting. It aims to enhance parents understanding of their children needs and support them to become responsive and sensitive care givers. Due to COVID-19 restrictions some of the joint home visiting has not been possible but practitioners have maintained good communication with each other and the families to provide them with a good level of support.
Early Help will update their (Gateshead Council) webpages to set out a broad offer of support across services and to promote on-line tools and resources for use by a wide range of practitioners working with families.	Working Together	Early Help	The Early Help webpages were re-launched in December 2019 and offer a comprehensive range of information for families and practitioners, including new content for families managing children and young people during COVID.
A partnership review of MARAC processes will be undertaken to safeguard victims of domestic abuse and their families, manage perpetrators' behaviour, safeguard professionals and make links with all other safeguarding processes.	Working Together	Early Help	A multi-agency review of MARAC processes took place and as a result, MARAC conferences are now held weekly instead of fortnightly resulting in a significant reduction in the delay between incidents and conferences.

We will explore working relations with community safety, parks recreations and transport, with the aim of developing a contextual safeguarding framework in Gateshead to safeguard our teenagers.	Working Together	Assessment & Intervention	We routinely map out groups of young people's resulting in complex abuse strategies - but we haven't progressed the wider development of contextual safeguarding.
A shared audit tool has been developed to gain assurance around safeguarding arrangements as set out in section 3 of WT2019. The S.11 audits are being sent out to partner agencies across the region at the same time, and will be co-ordinated by Gateshead, who are leading on it. Agencies who cover more than one area (i.e. Northumbria Police, CNTW) can submit one audit for the region, but will need to make explicit any local differences.	Working Together	Quality Assurance	21 audits were returned using the regional self-assessment tool, 10 of those agencies cover Gateshead. 4 agencies submitted audits using a different audit tool. If they scored 1 (Not met) or 2 (Partly met) against a statement, agencies were asked to include proposed plans and actions to meet the required standard. The theme with most actions identified (across the region) was for section 3 (Embedding Policy), 'The organisation has a service user participation / involvement policy. The wishes and feelings of children, young people and families are routinely sought and form part of service and strategic development.' Although most agencies met the standard, there was some recognition that engaging with families and evidencing how this has informed service development could be improved. Primary care audits were sent out, Gateshead had a 96% response rate from GPs (there is a summary report available).
Consultation work has started with the Gateshead Young People's Assembly and Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust. The work is focused on the lived experiences of young people and the impact of the food environment on the food choices linked to health inequalities. The findings will help to shape some of the food environment work happening in Gateshead.	Working Together	Public Health	Work is still ongoing with Gateshead Young People's Assembly and Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust, focused on the lived experiences of young people and the impact of the food environment. The young people have captured images of the food environment in and around Gateshead which were presented back re: the impacts that the food environment has upon personal food choices etc. The images captured and stories by the young people highlighted the vast availability of food choices in terms of advertising and promotion they captured and food available to purchase. The young people described a clear distinction between food available in different areas of the borough.
We will also establish closer working relations with community policing and community safety, parks recreations and transport, with the aim of developing the contextual safeguarding framework in Gateshead.	Working Together	Assessment & Intervention	We routinely map out groups of young people's resulting in complex abuse strategies - but to date we have not progressed the wider development of contextual safeguarding.

## Actions for the next 6 Months

- xvii. Develop a prevention offer within the Youth Justice Service to identify children at risk of and intervene early to prevent the need for statutory involvement. Children will be identified through the existing daily multi agency triage meeting with police, health, domestic abuse and children's services.

- xviii. We are carrying out a review of our multi-agency Missing, Slavery, Exploitation, Trafficking (MSET) process, including reviewing exploitation framework and risk assessment/disruption documentation. We are currently consulting with social workers and members of MSET panel to evaluate how the process is working, identify any areas for improvement/good practice. This review is being carried out across the region as we all work to the same framework and processes are aligned, Gateshead, Newcastle, Northumberland, South Tyneside & Sunderland (North Tyneside have only recently moved to MSET process so felt it was too early for a review). Business Managers (SCP) are leading on this piece of work, with the Police. Gateshead are collating and analysing responses from the consolation.
- xix. Partners are being asked to note the findings of the Safeguarding Children's self-assessment audits and consider how this information can inform priority areas of work. Agencies will update their action plans and send notes around progress to the Safeguarding Children Business Manager, so the combined action plan can be updated. Safeguarding Children's Partnerships will consider if any further scrutiny or challenge is required and how to take this forward in their own areas
- xx. Review Gateshead Growing Healthy enhanced parenting pathway to ensure that through early intervention early in the first 1000 days of a child's life, from conception to 2 years of age; improvements in health; development and life chances can be achieved.
- xi. Working with the Gateshead Young People's Assembly and Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust to capture young people's journeys in a visual representation in and around Gateshead and how the food environment differed on their journeys.

## **Invest in Our Economy**

- 3.32 As a Council we must focus on a range of activities to stimulate economic growth in Gateshead, attracting more and better paid jobs and improving the skills of the workforce in order to support them to manage and Thrive. We have identified 4 strategic indicators linked to the pledge of "**Invest in our economy to provide sustainable opportunities for employment, innovation and growth across the borough**". In the latest period we have demonstrated improvements for 2 indicators in this pledge, and a decline in performance for 1 indicator with no change in performance for 1 indicator.

## **Performance**

- 3.33 Support for young carers through the young carer's assessment service has increased compared to the numbers reported for the same period in the previous end of year report.
- 3.34 Of the 115 care leavers at the end of the period (31<sup>st</sup> March 2020), 98% were in suitable accommodation with only 2 identified as in unsuitable accommodation (in custody). This is no change on the position as of March 2019, where there were also 2 care leavers in unsuitable accommodation.
- 3.35 For the 71 care leavers a provisional figure of 61.7% were in some form of Employment, Education and Training in the current period.

- 3.36 For the period up to March 2020, there was 1 young person leaving care who was given an apprenticeship with the Council.

## Achievements, Challenges and Actions

- 3.37 Undertook a review of the Youth Justice Service to identify gaps in provision resulting in plans to develop prevention services offer.

## Update on Actions from Previous Report

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
Increase the apprenticeship offer across the Council for Care Leavers.	Invest in Our Economy	Children & Families	New apprenticeships co-ordinator appointed, which should drive this forward

## Actions for the next 6 Months

- xxii. EYCS - Work with the private, voluntary and independent (PVI) childcare sector to develop sustainable business models, post COVID-19, in order to ensure the Council continues to be able to meet its statutory childcare sufficiency duties.
- xxiii. IAG - Link to the Local Enterprise Partnership and colleagues with economic development to better understand and access the emerging jobs market in the area and region.
- xxiv. Funding bids:
  - a. PCC Children Affected by Domestic Abuse Fund for resources and equipment to work directly with children during COVID-19 pandemic.
  - b. PCC Coronavirus Response Fund for emergency resources for victims of domestic abuse.
  - c. PCC Violence Reduction Unit to support development of domestic abuse behaviour change framework and youth justice prevention offer.
- xxv. Increase the apprenticeship offer across the Council for care leavers.

## Support our Communities

- 3.38 Inequalities exist between people but also between communities, with some having much more deprivation, anti-social behaviour and poverty. As a council and group, we must be looking to help the most vulnerable neighbourhoods/residents, to address poverty, build social capital and help and enable volunteering to support them to manage and Thrive. We have identified 4 strategic indicators linked to the pledge of "**Support our communities to support themselves and each other**". In the latest period performance has declined in 3 indicators and 1 indicator has been removed.

## **Performance**

- 3.39 We have seen an increase of those Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET). The number of 'Not Known' has reduced – down from 0.4% of the cohort to just 0.2% of the cohort – however the NEET figure has increased from 4.6% to 4.8%. As a result, the overall indicator has declined from 4.9% to 5.0%. However, we must bear in mind that the 2019 activity survey cohort of year 12 & 13 (16-18 years) was approximately 200 persons less than the previous year. Making impacting upon statistics more challenging in relation to converting individuals into positive outcomes.
- 3.40 There were increases for both excess weight in 4-5-year olds and 10-11-year olds compared to the same period last year. The increase in 4-5-year old excess weight was significant at around 12.4% (the largest single year increase seen so far). For 10-11-year olds the increase has continued the developing trend of a year on year increase. Public health will be submitting what data they have under the acknowledgement that no measurements will have taken place since March when external visitors were banned from the schools. there will be an NCMP data set released in Nov/Dec 2020, it just may not be as complete as previous years
- 3.41 The child poverty indicator has now been removed by Public Health England pending the introduction of a brand-new indicator related to this area. At this time this new indictor is not available, and this will be updated once data is published.

## **Achievements, Challenges and Actions**

- 3.42 Escorted vulnerable children to and from school during COVID-19 lockdown.

### **Update on Actions from Previous Report**

Action	Thrive Pledge	Service Area	Update
Develop links with community voluntary groups in collaboration with the Councils 'prevention through support' initiative.	Support our Communities	Assessment & Intervention	Working with the Beacon Lough project – this is on-going

## **Actions for the next 6 Months**

- xxvi. A Youth Endowment Fund bid submitted to fund support for families experiencing violence from a child. This will develop t a remote version of the Respect Young Peoples Programme (RYPP) to support up to 60 families in 12 months. This funding bid was unsuccessful.
- xxvii. Develop volunteer opportunities within the Domestic Abuse Team.

## Section B: Performance Overview *(Performance is measured against the position at same time last year)*

Indicator	Thrive pledge	Service Director Lead	Target 2020      18/19		Most Recent Performance	Direction of Travel	Comments and Actions
<b>TI45 - Increase the % of Gateshead schools rated Outstanding</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	40%	-	32%	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This figure has dropped.</li> <li>The change in Ofsted framework has meant that many outstanding schools nationally are downgraded when they are re-inspected. There have been few inspections in Gateshead this year. There were only 4 primary schools- 2 remained good, one remained requires improvement and one was good (previously outstanding)</li> </ul>
<b>TI46 - Maximise the % of children offered a place at their preferred primary school</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	97%	-	97%	Improved	
<b>TI47 - Maximise the % of children offered a place at their preferred secondary school</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	95%	-	86%	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The figure relates to the 2020-21 academic year.</li> <li>The lack of secondary places in Gateshead following the closure of Thomas Hepburn school by DfE is well documented.</li> </ul>
<b>TI48 - Educational Attainment: Increase the % of children achieving a good level of development at age 5</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	Awaiting Government guidance on future of this indicator		73.4%	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is an increase of 3.3% over last year and is the third highest figure amongst local authorities in the North East region.</li> </ul>
<b>TI49 - Reading - Increase the % of children attaining expected standard at the end of KS1</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	90%	-	75%	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional figures have not been updated. (This is common DfE practice when changes would be very small.)</li> <li>This is down on last year's figure by 3%. It is equal 5th when compared with the 12 North East LAs.</li> </ul>
<b>TI50 - Writing - Increase the % of children attaining expected standard at the end of KS1</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	84%	-	70%	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional figures have not been updated. (This is common DfE practice when changes would be very small.)</li> <li>This is down on last year's figure by 3%. It is equal 6th when compared with the 12 North East LAs.</li> </ul>
<b>TI51 - Maths - Increase the % of children attaining expected standard at the end of KS1</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	90%	-	75%	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional figures have not been updated. (This is common DfE practice when changes would be very small.)</li> <li>This is down on last year's figure by 3%. It is equal 9th when compared with the 12 North East LAs.</li> </ul>
<b>TI52 - Increase the % of children attaining the "expected standard" at the end of KS2</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	85%	-	68%	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This figure is 3% lower than the previous year, but is 3% higher than the national average and is equal 3rd when compared with the 12 North East LAs.</li> </ul>

Indicator	Thrive pledge	Service Director Lead	Target		Most Recent Performance	Direction of Travel	Comments and Actions
			2020	18/19			
<b>TI53 - Raise Attainment 8 – scores of pupils at the end of KS4</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	50	-	46.9	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This figure has been revised by the DfE and is 0.7 higher than last year's.</li> <li>It is above the national state-school figure of 46.7.</li> </ul>
<b>TI20 - Raise progress 8 – scores of pupils at the end of KS4</b>	Tackle Inequality	Steve Horne	-0.03	-	-0.17	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is an improvement of 0.08 on last year's figure.</li> </ul>
<b>TI01 - Attainment Gap:</b> Reduce the gap between Attainment 8 and Progress 8 scores of disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers at KS4	Tackle inequality	Steve Horne	To be reviewed following 1st publication of data		-14.0	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This gap has reduced since last year.</li> <li>It is slightly larger than the national gap of -13.6. However, Gateshead's disadvantaged students attained on average 37.4 compared to the national state school average of 36.7. (The average for disadvantaged students in all schools in England was 35.4.)</li> </ul>
<b>TI02 - Progress 8 Gap:</b> Reduce the gap between Attainment 8 and Progress 8 scores of disadvantaged pupils and their non-disadvantaged peers at KS4	Tackle inequality	Steve Horne	To be reviewed following 1st publication of data		-0.6	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This gap has reduced slightly (by +0.06).</li> <li>The average progress score of disadvantaged students in Gateshead is lower than that of disadvantaged students nationally, despite average outcomes being higher.</li> </ul>
<b>TI03 - Attainment of vulnerable children. Raise progress 8 scores of Looked after Children at the end of KS4</b>	Tackle inequality	Steve Horne	0	-	-1.5	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This figure is 0.14 lower than last years. However, as the cohort considered was 36 students it is prone to variance.</li> <li>The average Attainment 8 score for this group was 19.3, which is higher than the national figure of 17.9 (national progress score -1.47)</li> </ul>
<b>TI04 - Raise the Progress 8 scores of vulnerable children - children on Free School Meals</b>	Tackle inequality	Steve Horne	0	-	-0.73	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This figure has risen by 0.14 from last year. It is lower than the National average for this group of students (-0.63) but the Attainment 8 score is higher than the National equivalent (35.2 cf 33.7).</li> </ul>
<b>TI05 - Raise the Progress 8 scores of vulnerable children - children with Special Educational Needs (SEN)</b>	Tackle inequality	Steve Horne	0	-	-0.09 <b>(SEN)</b> (Summer 2019 Outcomes)  -1.69 <b>(Statement or Care plan)</b> (Summer 2019 Outcomes)	Improved  Declined	<p><b>SEN:</b> Young people with SEN Support made much better progress last year than the year before and performed relatively well when compared with their peers Nationally, also on SEN Support. Attainment 8 scores average at 37.4 cf 30.4 and the progress score for the National cohort is -0.65.</p> <p><b>Statement or Care Plan:</b> Outcomes for the 91 young people with an EHCP were not as good as those of their peers Nationally. The Progress 8 score Of -1.69 is 0.13 lower than last year's and both Attainment 8 and Progress 8 scores for this group were lower than those for the National group.</p>

Indicator	Thrive pledge	Service Director Lead	Target		Most Recent Performance	Direction of Travel	Comments and Actions
			2020	18/19			
<b>TI06 - Reduce NEET rate (% not in education, training or employment as a proportion of 16-18 year olds)</b>	Tackle inequality	Andrea Houlahan	4.8%	-	NEET 4.8% Not Known 0.2% Overall 5.0%	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The not known data for August 2019 was within the context of recent school leavers yet to enrol and engage in new Education, Employment and Training (EET) outcomes.</li> <li>The 2019 activity survey Sept-Dec tracked these individuals down, recorded their outcomes and where required supported their access and engagement into EET outcomes.</li> <li>The 2019 activity survey cohort of year 12 &amp; 13 (16-18 years) was approximately 200 persons less than the previous year. Making impacting upon statistics more challenging in relation to converting individuals into positive outcomes.</li> <li>Gateshead is within Quintile 3 which is the middle 20% of performing authorities with 1 being the top performing and being the worst.</li> </ul>
<b>PF13 - The number of eligible 2-year olds accessing their free early learning place)</b>	People and families	Andrea Houlahan	To be agreed	85%	91.0% (760 children March 2020)	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of 2-year olds eligible for a funded place has continued to fall over the course of this year. This is due to a falling birth rate, and to fewer families meeting the eligibility criteria (non-working/ low income households).</li> <li>It is anticipated that this number will increase in 2020/21 as a result of COVID-19, with more families experiencing economic hardship.</li> <li>There is a concern that some childcare providers may cease to operate, due to sustainability as demand for childcare is currently significantly lower than usual, and even if demand increases, restrictions on the number of children they can safely care for will reduce their income.</li> </ul>
<b>PF20 - Work with families– National Troubled Families Programme - Number of families engaged by Families Gateshead</b>	People and families	Andrea Houlahan	1,930 families		1,930 families achieved positive outcomes. Total of 2,706 families engaged.	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full programme target achieved with successful outcomes for 1,930 families in 2016-20 - 100% of target against a national average of 86%.</li> <li>A total of 2,706 families engaged with the programme during this period.</li> <li>Gateshead will demonstrate/present evidence to show positive outcomes for a new target of 323 families during 2020-21.</li> </ul>
<b>IE17 - Support for young carers</b>	Invest in our Economy	Andrea Houlahan	85	-	105 Referrals (01 Oct 19 - 31 Mar 20)	Improved	

Indicator	Thrive pledge	Service Director Lead	Target		Most Recent Performance	Direction of Travel	Comments and Actions
			2020	18/19			
<b>WT4 - First Time Entrants into youth justice system aged 10-17 (12-month lag PNC Rate per 100,000 of Population 10-17 yr. olds Rolling 12 Month)</b>	Working together	Andrea Houlahan	398 per 100k (70 FTE)	-	235 Per 100k (40 FTE) (April 19 - Mar 20) (19/20 EoY Report)	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were 40 First Time Entrants (FTEs) during the period April 2019 to March 2020.</li> <li>The latest YJB published data for the periods January 2019 - December 2019 and April 2019 - March 2020 are not included in the most recent publication (May 2020). This is due to the Ministry of Justice prioritising data needed during the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> </ul>
<b>WT5 - Custody – Use of custody rate per 1000 of 10-17 years population</b>	Working together	Andrea Houlahan	Maintain low number of young people		0.18 per 1k (3 custodial sentences between April 2019 & March 2020) (19/20 EoY Report)	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were 3 custodial sentences during the period April 2019 to March 2020.</li> <li>The latest YJB published data for April 19 to March 2020 shows the 12-month rate of Custody for Gateshead at 0.18, this confirms the 3 custodial sentences in the 12-month period. This is level with the Northumbria PCC regional average for this period (0.18) but below the National average (0.23).</li> </ul>
<b>WT16 - % of mothers smoking at the time of delivery (Rate of smoking at time of delivery)</b>	Working together	Alice Wiseman	9.9%	-	13.4% (2018/19)	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance has improved on the previous end of year report</li> <li>Despite this Gateshead is significantly higher than the England rate (10.6%).</li> <li>However, we are significantly lower than the North East rate (15.7%).</li> <li>Gateshead has the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest rate of the 12 North East LA's and the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest rate of its 16 comparable CIPFA LA's.</li> </ul>
<b>SC9 - Reduce Excess weight 4-5-year olds excess weight =obese/ overweight</b>	Support our Communities	Alice Wiseman	18.1%	-	25.3% (2018/19)	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gateshead is now significantly higher than the England rate of 22.6% for the first time since 2013/14 and we are higher but not significantly higher than the North East rate (24.3%) for the first time since 2013/14.</li> <li>This is Gateshead's highest prevalence of excess weight at 4-5-year olds since 2009/10 and our joint 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the published 12 years of data.</li> <li>The increase for 2018/19 is the highest % point and the highest overall percentage increase since 2013/14.</li> <li>When compared to the national picture Gateshead has the 23<sup>rd</sup> highest level of excess weight amongst reception age children out of the 150 English LA's with a recorded level.</li> </ul>
<b>SC10 - Reduce excess weight 10-11-year olds (excess weight = Obese/ overweight</b>	Support our Communities	Alice Wiseman	25%	-	37.8% (2018/19)	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gateshead is higher but not significantly higher than the North East rate of 37.5% and is still considered significantly higher than the England rate of 34.3%.</li> <li>As a result of this latest increase Gateshead has now seen its Excess weight levels decrease by only 1.3% since 2007/08 (38.3%) this is despite an almost continually decrease in the levels up to 2014/15.</li> <li>When looking at the national picture Gateshead has the 42<sup>nd</sup></li> </ul>

Indicator	Thrive pledge	Service Director Lead	Target		Most Recent Performance	Direction of Travel	Comments and Actions
			2020	18/19			
							highest level of excess weight amongst year 6 age children out of the 150 English LA's with a recorded level.
<b>WT14</b> - Hospital admissions for self-harm rate per 100,000 (aged 10-24 years)	Working together	Alice Wiseman	Reduce	Reduce	380.8 per 100,000 (2018/19)	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is Gateshead's lowest rate per 100,000 since the data was first published in 2011/12 by a significant margin.</li> <li>Gateshead is significantly lower than the North East (536.5) and is lower but not significantly lower than the England value (444.0).</li> <li>As a result of the decrease Gateshead has met the stated 5-year (19/20) target of reducing the rate per 100,000 (no specific target was set).</li> <li>Gateshead has the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest rate of the 12 North East LA's, the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest rate of its 16 comparable CIPFA neighbours.</li> <li>Compared to the other 152 English UTLA's Gateshead has the 89th highest rate in England.</li> </ul>
<b>SC8</b> - Reduce the % of children in low income families (children in poverty)	Support our Communities	Alice Wiseman	19.0%	-	Indicator Removed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a result of the government consultation on the Public Health outcomes framework tool this indicator will be replaced by a new version.</li> <li>The outcome of this is that the data source is no longer available in a reliable format to be used.</li> <li>Currently there is no timeframe for the replacement definition and data.</li> </ul>
<b>TI54</b> - Numbers of children subject to a child protection plan	Tackle inequality	Andrea Houlahan	54 per 10k	-	69.2 per 10k	Declined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the end of March 2020 there were 274 children subject to a child protection plan (a rate of 69.2 per 10,000).</li> <li>This represents a 4.6% increase compared to March 2019, when 262 children were subject to a child protection plan (a rate of 66.2 per 10,000). Throughout the year, 316 children were placed on a child protection plan and 304 ceased to be subject to a child protection plan.</li> <li>Please note, these figures were prior to lockdown and do not reflect the impact of COVID-19.</li> </ul>
<b>IE18</b> - Ensure young people leaving care and homeless are supported to have a safe place to live, appropriate and sustainable accommodation	Invest in our Economy	Andrea Houlahan	100%	100%	98%	No Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are currently 115 care leavers open to the leaving care team.</li> <li>2 young people have been identified as being in unsuitable accommodation (both in custody).</li> </ul>
<b>IE19</b> - Ensure young people leaving care are supported to be in education, employment, apprenticeships, and training	Invest in our Economy	Andrea Houlahan	71%	71%	62%	Improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>71 care leavers have been identified as being in some form of EET, which at 61.7% is in line with the 2017/18 England average of 60.2%, higher than the North East average of 58.1% and slightly lower than the statistical neighbour average of 62.2%.</li> </ul>

Indicator	Thrive pledge	Service Director Lead	Target		Most Recent Performance	Direction of Travel	Comments and Actions
			2020	18/19			
<b>IE20</b> - Equality Target: Ensure young people leaving care are supported to have an opportunity in the Council for an apprenticeship	Invest in our Economy	Andrea Houlahan	-	-	1 Apprenticeship	N/A	
<b>TI44</b> Measure the percentage uptake of free school meals at primary level	Tackling Inequality	Sandra Watson	-	-	81.4% Average uptake	Brand new	Uptake in March was impacted by COVID-19 as most pupils were absent for the final week, which has brought our uptake down significantly - this is not a true reflection of the operation under normal circumstances.

---