

FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Thursday, 19 April 2018 at 5.30 pm in the Whickham Room - Civic Centre

From the Chief Executive, Sheena Ramsey

Item	Business
1	Apologies for absence
2	Minutes of last meeting (Pages 3 - 8) The Committee is asked to approve as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 March 2018
3	Liaison with Gateshead Youth Assembly (Pages 9 - 14) Report of Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning
4	Monitoring - OSC Review of Oral Health (Pages 15 - 18) Report of Director of Public Health
5	Children and Young People's Commissioning (Pages 19 - 32) Report of Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning
6	NEET Care Leavers - Progress Update (Pages 33 - 46) Report of Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning
7	LSCB Emerging Priorities (Pages 47 - 54) Report of the Independent Chair of the LSCB
8	OSC Work Programme Review (Pages 55 - 64) Joint Report of the Chief Executive and Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance

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GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, 19 March 2018

PRESENT: Councillor B Oliphant (Chair)
Councillor(s): M Hall, L Caffrey, B Clelland, S Craig,
A Geddes, L Kirton, K McCartney, E McMaster, R Mullen,
S Ronchetti, D Bradford, P Craig and N Weatherley

CO-OPTED MEMBERS Cheryl Lain

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor(s): G Haley

F43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor McHugh, Sasha Ban and Jill Burrell.

F44 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2018 were agreed as a correct record.

F45 UPDATE ON HEALTHY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

The Committee received an update report on the work of the Healthy Schools Programme during the 2016/17 academic year.

It was reported that since September 2016 the programme has operated as a traded service and schools could choose whether or not to buy into the programme. In terms of engagement, 41 schools actively engaged with the healthy school programme and 43 chose not to engage. It was acknowledged that the decrease in participation is due to the programme no longer being fully funded. Other factors resulting in non-participation were also identified including; cost, no healthy schools co-ordinator in place, lack of time to devote to the programme and unsupportive leadership with pressures from other areas.

Each school that participated in the programme was offered up to five visits from the healthy schools co-ordinator during the year. The visits included initial consultation, action planning and supportive, moderation, quality assurance visits. As part of action planning schools had to identify their health priority, the JSNA, Child Health Profile and Health survey were used as a focus for schools. In 2016/17 the majority of participating schools chose to focus on healthy weight, a small number of schools

focused on emotional health and wellbeing. During 2016/17 19 schools receive healthy schools certificates.

It was reported that the current healthy schools programme is provided by a private company, Edutainment. However, from September 2018 schools can also choose to sign up to the offer from the Schools Sports Partnership in the services to schools brochure.

It was questioned whether there are alternative programmes available to schools. It was noted that there are, however, these would not receive the support of co-ordinators. It was confirmed that the price for the programme for primary schools is £500 and £750 for secondary schools.

RESOLVED - That the Committee noted the content of the report.

F46 ANNUAL CONVERSATION WITH HEAD TEACHERS OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Committee received a presentation from Michelle Richards, Executive Headteacher as Eslington Primary School and Furrowfield School.

Eslington Primary School provides support for children with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs, aged 5-11. The school operates over two sittings and has 64 pupils, the school has the capacity for 68 pupils including two permanent excluded emergency places. Furrowfield School has 73 pupils aged 11-16 with SEMH needs, the school is currently two over capacity. The school also has a residential unit with 14 beds for pupils who require 24 hour care and education.

It was noted that pupils with SEMH difficulties often have extremely challenging behaviour. In addition, approximately 98% of pupils have additional needs as well as SEMH, such as; ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, ASD, ODD, Muscular Dystrophy, Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. A lot of pupils have very complex mental health issues.

Across both schools there are 25 Looked After Children, four pupils adopted from care, 10 pupils on the Child Protection register and seven children in need. Early intervention work is ongoing with 20 pupils. At Eslington school, 43% of pupils are in receipt of free school meals and 41% at Furrowfield. Therefore the schools are dealing with the most deprived, challenging pupils. It was noted that many of the pupils who leave the school return to this specialist provision because their needs are not being met at mainstream schools.

The challenges faced by the schools and its pupils were identified, including the cuts to funding streams with vulnerable pupils in the North East being hit the hardest and access to support services becoming increasingly difficult. Levels of classroom support have been cut due to budget cuts, as well as the change to Universal Credit affecting families of pupils attending the school. There are also difficulties around accessing health services, in particular mental health services, for pupils and parents. The schools are also facing challenges in terms of social problems such as drugs, legal highs, alcohol abuse, smoking which affects pupils coming into school,

particularly Key Stage 4 pupils. Domestic violence and family breakdowns is also negatively impacting on pupils, it was reported that two pupils have slept rough recently due to a family breakdown and running from care. It was acknowledged that, despite the challenges, the schools are meeting targets and results while managing behaviour. Four Ofsted inspections have been carried out over the last year, Furrowfield was judged good and Eslington was outstanding.

In terms of successes it was reported that 44% of pupils attained age related expectations at the end of KS2, 100% of pupils who have the cognitive ability to attain made expected or exceeded levels of progress. Five pupils out of 13 attained at least one grade C or above GCSE, and 10 of the pupils out of 13 are in education, training or employment. It was also noted that three pupils made the successful transition into secondary mainstream schools in year 7. Committee was advised of one young person who lived at the residential provision due to his mother being a heroin addict, he was allowed home at weekends and, due to the positive progress made in all areas, his support was reduced from Child Protection to Child in Need. It was also reported that the school is the only special school to receive the Rights Respecting School Award.

Expertise are being shared across the region as well as outside the region in Lincolnshire, in order to raise funds. Discussions are also ongoing with Special Headteachers around mental health strategies and programmes for staff and pupils. It was noted that at Furrowfield a full time psychotherapist has been appointed to offer intense therapeutic work, there is also a licensed life coach who the school is selling out to other schools, the school is starting to promote a multi-agency team to promote mental health.

The point was made that previously Furrowfield focused on the discipline of its pupils but is now focused more on the education of the pupils, it was felt that this should be encouraged. It was acknowledged that if there is one protective factor in a child's life, for example their home life, the school and the child can succeed.

It was questioned whether there is a waiting list for the schools. It was confirmed that there continues to be demand for SEMH places and more provision is needed. The size of Eslington school has doubled over two sites, however, to increase numbers further would require a further site. It was also noted that a Child Protection Social Worker lead is needed in order to complete the multi-agency approach. Progress of each child is tracked through Connexions and links post 16.

It was queried how many permanently excluded pupils are transferred to Eslington and Furrowfield. It was confirmed that two permanent excluded places are held for pupils with no Education, Health, Care Plan (EHCP). The Behaviour Team are liaised with so the school knows what to expect. It was questioned what happens to those pupils who do not have anywhere to go. It was acknowledged that the High Needs budget is overspent and more young people are not fitting into mainstream schools, therefore mainstream schools are being encouraged to deal with these challenging pupils within their own provision. It was also confirmed that there are not many pupils with EHCP's in the Pupil Referral Unit as if they had a plan base on mental health needs they should be in Furrowfield not the PRU.

The re-inclusion rate was queried and it was confirmed that the number of pupils moving into mainstream school is low and is not necessarily used as a measure of success. It was noted that the schools still deliver mainstream education whilst addressing SEMH needs.

It was questioned who funds residential places. It was confirmed that these places are funded by the Council, per child money is based on where the child is funded, £10,000 plus top up funding. Residential place get more on top and although this is expensive it avoids the need for a child to go into care which would cost more if the provision was not there.

RESOLVED - That the Committee considered the successes of provision for SEMH pupils in the borough and current challenges to maintain high quality provision.

F47 RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF SOCIAL WORKERS - UPDATE

The Committee received a report on the recruitment and retention of Social Workers. Committee was reminded that in April 2017 16 Social Workers were lost to a neighbouring local authority, since then recruitment has been difficult and there has been a struggle to appoint experienced Social Workers. One neighbouring authority offered salary enhancement which Gateshead could not match. In order to resolve the issue Cabinet approved a recruitment and retention package for Children and Families Social Work, this came into force in May 2017 and will be reviewed in May 2018.

It was noted that the policy outlined six outcomes to mitigate the difficulties in retention and recruitment. The policy so far has achieved a reduction of 62.5% in the number of Social Workers leaving. Of the 29 vacancies over the last year, 21 were filled by people from outside the authority, all appointments were of a good quality.

It was reported however that Safeguarding and Care Planning social workers are leaving to go to other teams and services within the Council due to the nature of the work.

Specialist training programmes continue to be developed which can offers career paths and makes Gateshead an attractive place to work.

Caseloads were previously an issue, currently there is an average of 18.6 cases per social worker across all the service. There is no nationally agreed figure in terms of acceptable caseload.

It was noted that the overall package has enabled retention and accreditation as well as a succession plan.

It was questioned whether agency staff are still used. It was confirmed that agency staff are used to cover maternity leave etc, this covers any risk and ensures continued manageable caseloads.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) Committee agreed to continue to champion the work undertaken by the Council's Children's Social Workers.
 - (ii) That Committee noted the content of the report.
 - (iii) That Committee agreed to receive regular reports from the Children's Principal Social Worker regarding the progress of work against the six outcomes articulated in the report.

F48 PERMANENT EXCLUSION 14 POINT ACTION PLAN

The Committee received a report on the position with regards to permanent exclusions in Gateshead. A conference was held with a multi-agency group of professionals to look at how to tackle the number of permanent exclusions. It was noted that there has recently been a 15% drop in exclusions.

Following the conference an action plan was formulated, this was provided to the Committee. In accordance with the plan, a 'Team Around the School' has been established at Whickham School as a pilot. A group of professionals will meet on a monthly basis, this involves public health, education and early help to progress the model. The action plan also outlines plans to strengthen the links between school and GP Practices using GP leads in child health.

It was noted that the provision at Ravensworth Terrace has been completed and so far seems very positive. A number of permanently excluded pupils who are attending this provision are thriving.

It was reported that there are a number of actions underway outside of the plan, for example two new psychologists have been appointed and primary schools have requested further behaviour work. The multi-agency group continues to meet on a regular basis and early signs show a decrease in permanent exclusions and the group will continue to closely monitor the situation.

It was questioned whether all secondary schools are buying into the action plan. It was confirmed that all schools are buying in but that it is early days, in terms of primary schools permanent exclusions are rare and there is a decline in secondary school exclusions. Therefore it is hoped that this direction of travel continues, however a lot of points in the action plan are long term aspirations.

It was queried why exclusion figures vary so much across all schools. It was acknowledged that some schools would suggest that this is down to the intake.

It was questioned what the figures are for those pupils taken on by another school under a managed move. It was confirmed that all schools are part of the Fair Access Protocol with all schools taking their turn as many Headteachers would not look on a school favourably if it did not take its fair share.

It was queried whether there is a mechanism in place to support parents before the make the decision to home educate. It was confirmed that there is an officer in post who supports families in making such a decision.

The point was made that there is a culture of zero tolerance to bad behaviour which stems from the inspectorate, however once this changes it will start to make a difference to the number of pupils being permanently excluded.

It was agreed that this issue would be come back to Committee in the future.

RESOLVED - That Committee noted the report and agreed to receive a further report in the future.

F49 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received the work programme for the municipal year 2017/18, which is a standing item on the agenda.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the work programme be noted.
- (ii) That further reports on the work programme will be brought to the Committee to identify any additional policy issues, which the Committee may be asked to consider.

TITLE OF REPORT: Liaison with Gateshead Youth Assembly

REPORT OF: Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning

Summary

The Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to more pro-active links with Gateshead Youth Assembly. This report outlines activity undertaken following the 2017 GYA Elections and priorities set by Youth Assembly for 2018.

Introduction

1. Andrew Adams was appointed Chair and Josh Smith the Vice Chair following the Elections held in November 2017.

Currently Schools and Gateshead College are represented within GYA and the membership intend to promote awareness of GYA across all schools and hope to speak to school councils and head-teachers to promote the benefits being involved can have for young people.

2. GYA and Peace of Mind worked jointly and held a series of drop-in sessions for Refugee and Asylum seeking young people in the run up to Christmas. The program developed events and activities on issues that affect young people. GYA groups applied to "The Key" and were awarded a small grant to hold a "Community Christmas Party" that attracted over 120 Children and their families. This group of young people, now called Peace of GYA have delivered monthly sessions with young people and alongside this enabled English language lessons for parents.
3. GYA members continue to join forces with members from One Voice.
4. GYA continues to be called upon by Gateshead Strategic Partnership and Public Health to explore how young people can further support issues on Community Safety and Improving and promoting Good Health.
5. GYA work closely with Northumbria Police Central Engagement Team around independent scrutiny of Stop and Search initiatives, Organised Crime and Radicalisation. They are also part of a group who are currently developing a Youth Independent Advisory Group for Northumbria Force Area.

6. Josh Smith, Vice-Chair of GYA sits on the board of Governors for Gateshead Hospital Foundation Trust and this involvement helps shape and influence developments at the QE's Children Unit.
7. GYA have identified Emotional Wellbeing (Mental Health and Bullying), public transport, the environment and Tobacco as Priorities for 2018. This is alongside their long running priorities of self-esteem, poverty and inclusion. A copy of the GYA Plans and Priorities Document accompanies this report.
8. Members of Gateshead Youth Assembly meet every week either at Gateshead Youth Council or within the Council Chambers and plan to hold three Convivial Suppers. Members of OSC are invited to attend a Convivial Supper on May 29th 2018, to be held at Gladstone Terrace.
9. Members will deliver training to GYA on a monthly basis including Youth Work Core Skills, Confidence Building, Committee Skills and Community Volunteering and Activism.

Proposal

10. Members of the new Assembly attend future meetings and continue to discuss their activity in 2018 and confirm that their activities support the wider Gateshead agenda.

Recommendations

11. The Committee is requested to note the information presented in the report.
12. The Committee is asked to note the invite to the Convivial Supper on Tuesday 29th May 2018, which will provide an opportunity for Councillors to meet with and hear a presentation from representatives of the Youth Assembly.

Contact: Val Hall

ext: 2782



Our plans and priorities for 2017 - 2018

Welcome to GYA 2017 – 2018

This is my opportunity to welcome you all to the 2017-2018 Gateshead Youth Assembly. We had a great training weekend and managed to come up with loads of ideas and priorities for the year ahead. Whilst some of our priorities have changed, we will still be sticking with some of our previous projects, including Child Poverty. I expect that GYA will have another packed year, and it already looks like there are some brilliant projects.

We continue to be the voice for Young People in Gateshead and continue to work on issues identified by ourselves and our peers. I'm really looking forward to working with our Youth Assembly team this year and hopefully this newsletter gives you an insight into our ideas. If you want to get involved, have contacts you think we could try or indeed have some spare change down the back of the sofa, we would love to hear from you.

Watch this space!

Andrew Adams, Chair

Welcome to Gateshead Youth Assembly 2017 – 2018

Cardinal Hume Catholic School

Joshua Smith

Sophie Burns

Joseph Swan Academy

Georgina Pendleton

Sophie Cartwright

Heworth Grange School

Andrew Adams

Sophie Adams

Abbie McMullon

James McMullon

Daniel Chard

Sarah Keegan

St. Thomas More Catholic School

Jake Guthrie

Whickham Academy

Robert Barker

Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy

Sabah Ahmed

Ruby Audus

Benjamin Johnson

Martha Laws

Individual Members

Joe Waggitt

Hannah Douglass

Freya Ender

Ayaa Al-Kateeb

Mohammed Al-Kateeb

GYA 2017 – 2018 Executive Committee

Following campaigns, speech writing, hustings and elections at our recent training weekend, the following Executive Committee was elected by our delegates

Chair - Andrew Adams

Vice-Chair - Josh Smith

Member of UK YP - Hannah Douglass,

Secretary - Sophie Adams/Abbie McMullon

Project Leads - Joe Waggitt; Sabah Ahmed; Ruby Audus; Benjamin Johnson; Freya Ender/Sarah Keegan.

Each project lead will work with all GYA members to design and deliver their chosen projects.

Our priorities for 2017 – 2018

Emotional Wellbeing – We plan to carry on our existing work around emotional well-being as this issue hasn't gone away. We plan to ask the CYPs team to talk to us and discuss a way GYA can help support young people who suffer from emotional wellbeing issues. We also run an informal buddy system at GYA so that members who are struggling can access support from other members. We plan to produce a range of resources for parents, teachers and young people around emotional wellbeing, the signs and symptoms and where to get support.

Self - confidence/self – esteem – We plan to continue our series of self-confidence and self-esteem workshops throughout the year. Each year these sessions are delivered by young people who have been through GYA, and coming back to volunteer.

Tobacco & Alcohol– We will continue to work with Public Health around tobacco and alcohol related issues and how we can protect children and young people from the effects of smoking, e-cigs, alcohol and from being manipulated by the manufacturers of tobacco and alcohol related products.

Environment – We will continue to support WWF Earth Hour and make efforts to reduce our consumption of disposable products and encourage our members to use public transport where appropriate.

Bullying – Bullying, both cyber and real world continues to be a massive issue for young people, we plan to work on projects which enhance young people’s self-confidence, self-esteem and emotional resilience so they are better equipped to cope with bullying and stand up against it. We also plan to challenge bullying and body shaming whenever we see it online.

Child Poverty - We continue to work on issues around child poverty, we regularly hold collections for the Foodbank and 5p clothing bus etc. along with some extensive work supporting refugees and asylum seekers in Gateshead.

Peace of GYA – Working with Peace of Mind we have launched a series of drop in sessions for refugee and asylum seeking young people and GYA members to work together on projects, activities and events that affect young people. This project will focus on social action and essential life skills. Our first event is a community Christmas Party where, so far, 120 children and their families have signed up to attend.

LGBT+

Develop links with existing groups to highlight the available support, challenge inequality and discrimination and work to make sure that all Children and Young People in Gateshead are supported to be themselves, whatever that means to them.

Fair Trade – We will work with Gateshead Council to keep Gateshead a Fair Trade Town by encouraging our schools to be Fair Trade Schools and by using Fair Trade products at our meetings and events.

Position Statements

We have developed the statements below, we accept that unfortunately we cannot change the world or indeed legislation in one GYA year but we do have opinions, these statements have been agreed by GYA for 2017 - 2018

- We believe that everyone should be paid the living wage, regardless of age. The argument that young people don’t work hard enough is just fluff, any worker not working to the expected level is a management issue, and age is just an excuse.
- We believe that Emotional Well Being and Mental Health Services need improving, with our help.
- We believe that young people will be more ready to be properly contributing workers if they secured good quality work experience and careers advice.
- We believe that young people in Gateshead are entitled to and need a good quality Youth Service. We further believe that the Government should commit funds to a properly funded statutory Youth Service.

- We believe that organisations, whether public, voluntary or private need to engage young people in their decision making in real, not tokenistic, ways.
- We believe that young people should be able to access support to develop their self - confidence and self - esteem; this has been stated by Northumbria Police as the best protection from being exploited.
- We believe that it is everyone's job to try and limit the effects of poverty on children and young people. Whatever the cause of a family's poverty, the children never had any influence over decisions made. We must all work to ensure that these children and young people are protected and their dignity preserved.
- We believe that in order for young people to make informed decisions when it comes to voting, sound political education should be delivered efficiently within schools.
- We believe that young people aged 16 and 17 should be entitled to vote in all elections. Nothing happens between the ages of 16 and 18 which make people better qualified to vote, so why not?

If you want to get in touch with us to find out more, get involved or anything else please email Gateshead Youth Council at info@gatesheadyouthcouncil.org.uk You can also find us on Facebook by searching for Gateshead Youth Assembly.

If you are a young person who would like to get involved please contact our support worker Valerie at valerieender@gateshead.gov.uk or valerie@gatesheadyouthcouncil.org.uk

GYA meets weekly, usually at Gateshead Youth Council, 12 Gladstone Terrace, Gateshead, NE8 4DY but we do hold our monthly formal meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at Gateshead Civic Centre, Council Chamber. If you want to attend a meeting for any reason please contact Valerie Ender in the first instance as these are private meetings and guests are welcome by invitation. This is so that the GYA members retain control of their meeting.

Thanks for all the support



TITLE OF REPORT: Review of Children's Oral Health in Gateshead
- Twelve month update April 2018

REPORT OF: Alice Wiseman, Director of Public Health, Care
Wellbeing and Learning

SUMMARY

The Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2015 reinforced that ensuring that children have the best start in life is firmly established in public health thinking as the most important issue for improving health and tackling health inequalities.

The Annual Report 2015 and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment have highlighted how poor oral health impacts on children and families health and wellbeing and how oral health is an integral part of overall health in children and young people. Good oral health can also contribute to school readiness.

Background

Following consultation with Councillors the Committee agreed its annual work programme for 2016/2017 and it was decided that as part of this programme a review of children's oral health in Gateshead would be undertaken. The review was carried out over a six month period and the final report and recommendations were presented to the Committee in April 2017. The final report was also presented to Cabinet on 23 May 2017 by Councillor Oliphant.

Update on recommendations

1. The final report set out four recommendations which were agreed by the Committee. A six month update on progress was given to Committee in September 2017. The following paragraphs outline further progress to date against each recommendation.

Recommendation 1 – Work collaboratively with all commissioners of oral health services to ensure that services are meeting the needs of the population and addressing inequalities as detailed in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the findings from the school dental survey (June 2017):

2. The findings from the National Dental Epidemiology Programme Survey, which was completed at the end of July 2017, will not be available until summer 2018. Once the findings are published we will identify any particular areas of concern and work with relevant services and partners to decide how these can be addressed to improve the oral health of children and young people.

3. Work on this recommendation is ongoing and will be progressed further with the new 0-19 public health nursing service and all commissioners of oral health services. The priority in the last six months has been the mobilisation of the new service.

Recommendation 2 – Review oral health promotion work in line with the transfer of responsibility from NHS England (April 2018) as part of the 0-19 public health services review:

4. As previously advised oral health promotion work has been embedded in the new specification for the 0 to 19 public health nursing service. The Service has been awarded to Harrogate and District Foundation Trust and will commence on 1 July 2018. We are currently in the process of mobilising the service. Once service delivery commences they will deliver key oral health messages in line with Public Health England guidance. This includes “A Healthy Mouth Factsheet” and “Improving Oral Health for Children and Young People”. The service will also focus on encouraging dentist attendance at mandated health reviews for all children and young people.
5. The 0-19 public health nursing service will have an identified lead for infant feeding and nutrition who will work on policy and pathway development, in conjunction with key partners. This will include, but not be limited to, breastfeeding, oral health promotion, promotion of healthy family diet and nutrition.

Recommendation 3 – Embed oral health promotion across the early help strategy to ensure a life course approach to oral health improvement:

6. Discussions have taken place with the Manager of the early help service to decide how the new 0-19 public health nursing service will work with them to ensure that a life course approach is taken in relation to public health including oral health promotion. This will include equipping staff with oral health promotion knowledge to enable them to have conversations with families, children and young people and encourage attendance at the dentists.
7. The new 0-19 public health nursing service will work with the early help team to look at how health promotion questions can be incorporated into the routine enquiries/assessments they undertake with families.
8. The early help team will also adopt the “Making Every Contact Count” approach and this will also enable them to facilitate discussions with families, young people and children about oral health.
9. The 0-19 public health nursing service will also make links with other key agencies/services once service delivery commences to ensure that staff are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to enable them to have discussions with families, children and young people about oral health.

Recommendation 4 – Ensure Making Every Contact Count (MECC) approach incorporates Change 4 Life programme (e.g. sugar smart, food smart):

10. As previously advised the public health team has three MECC posts and a public health resource and information assistant who will work together to ensure that they incorporate appropriate Change 4 Life programme materials as part of the MECC training programme. In addition the resource assistant will promote the use of Change 4 Life apps and resources with partners and services and can support anyone who needs help in accessing the apps and resources.
11. The new 0-19 public health nursing service will reinforce long term, sustainable positive change using a MECC approach and providing ongoing advice and support to children, young people and their families around health promotion, including oral health.

Next steps

1. The committee is asked to note and comment on the update of the oral health review 12 month update.

Contact: Alice Wiseman

Ext 2777

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TITLE OF REPORT: Children's Commissioning Update March 2018

REPORT OF: Caroline O'Neill, Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to update Families Overview and Scrutiny of the key actions/ milestones and timelines for the Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team in Care Wellbeing and Learning. It sets out the actions delivered to date in 2017/18 and the work plan for the Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team for 2018 to 2020 focused on children's commissioning.

1. Background

1.1 The Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team in Care Wellbeing and Learning, commission services for children and young people aged 0-18 years and for children with statements of educational needs and/ or disabilities to the age of 25 years.

1.2 The areas this report will cover are: -

- Commissioning Plan on a Page focusing on the "children's element" (please see Appendix 1)
- Work to date carried out by the Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team to commission services for children and young people
- Future commissioning plans for 2018/19 and 2019/20 and gaps in service
- Commissioning Conference update from November 2017

2. Policy Context

2.1 The Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team work within the policy context of Vision 2030, and aligns with the Children's and Families Act 2014. The Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team are working on the current plans identified in the "plan on a page" (please see separate attachment).

2.2 The plan on a page sets out for the service area key work streams over the next two years and sets out to internal partners (for example legal and procurement) the work plan for the next two years allowing them to plan how they will support by allocating resources appropriately. Key areas of focus for the next two years include:

- Developing a Commissioned Service – Outcomes Framework
- SEN/D Joint Commissioning arrangements
- Family Support Service Review
- Review of Post 16 education placements
- Develop market alternatives Post 16 Alternate Education
- Collaborative Procurement (NE12)
- 0-19 commissioning of services – school nursing/ health visiting and family nurse partnership
- CAMHS service redesign
- LD and Autism services for Children – Transforming care

2.3 The following areas have been identified as pressures or gaps in service;

- Local residential and emergency residential children’s home beds
- Services for young people aged 13-17 years with CSE/SEMH needs both male and female
- Support services – challenging behaviour / substance misuse/ self-harm/ sexualised behaviour
- Early help – Local Assessment Residential – to review parents and child interaction on the “edge of care”
- Alternate Education Offer – SEN/D and Post 16
- Supported accommodation/ Bespoke or single occupancy units

The future work plan for the Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team in 2018 - 2020 is to review and commission new services to help address the gaps that have been identified for children and young people in Gateshead. Section 3 and 4 will highlight work to be undertaken to help address the gaps identified.

2.4 The Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team have identified gaps, by speaking to each service lead and operational staff and completing reviews of existing services. An example of this has been an understanding that we need to look at alternate funding sources, and this has resulted in a successful bid to the Life Chances Fund of £24.5k to complete development work, to look at feasibility of a social investment into Edge of Care services

3. Update on progress

3.1 NE12 Phase 2:

In 2014 the 12 North East local authorities identified the needed to address about the way they commissioned placements in residential schools. These ‘low-volume, high-cost’ placements were being commissioned in a variety of ways from a range of Providers. There were inconsistencies in relation to understanding of, and monitoring of the quality of provision and outcomes for Children and Young People. There was no consistency regarding price and contracting arrangements.

3.2 On 15 May 2014 Newcastle City Council convened a meeting of representatives of the 12 North East local authorities and their Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) through the North East Commissioning Service (NECS). The meeting determined that there was benefit in having a joint approach to the

commissioning of these placements. Following a formal commitment to participate process across the region the NE12+ Collaborative was established.

3.3 Scoping sessions were held in April 2016 with NE12+ Participating Organisations to consider the potential scope of NE12+ Phase Two. NE12 phase 2 has 3 LOTS which are:

- Children's Residential Homes
- Independent Residential Schools and Colleges (day, weekly, termly and 52 week residential schools placements)
- Residential Short Breaks

3.4 The new arrangements under NE12 Phase 2, have been evaluated and award letters were issued for the new framework to the new providers in early December. This will merge current NE6 and NE12 phase 1 arrangements. For 2018-19 the new framework will be kept open for 12 months, to encourage new providers to join and therefore more providers will be evaluated and added to the list above. As a result there have been 34 providers with 101 settings allocated across a number of lots and bandings.

3.5 Supported accommodation for Care Leavers and LAC children:

The ITT was published 4th January 2018. The new service model has 4 component parts: a direct access/assessment service which includes outreach, a 24 hour shared living service for high needs with psychological interventions, a semi-independent non-24 hour service with floating support in dispersed property and floating support and brief intervention services in taster flats provided by the Housing Company. The projected start date for the new services is summer 2018.

3.6 Young carers service re procurement

Gateshead Council and Newcastle Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group are working together to review and commission all age carers services in Gateshead. Young Carers are included within the review and the tender going forward. A tender process started in January 2018 with new services commencing with effect from July 2018.

3.7 0-19 FNP/ School nursing and Health Visiting

The 0-19 service review was completed in 2017 and the contract was put out to tender. A successful award has been made to Harrogate and Richmond Foundation Trust and the contract will go live from 1st July 2018. Public Health commission the service with the Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team undertaking the contract monitoring on behalf of Public Health for this service.

3.8 LD DPS Framework – 2 Lots under 18's Disabled Children – Outreach and Community

A new Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) was established from 01/10/2017 in Gateshead and replaced the previous short breaks framework, two lots for Community Outreach and Home Care and Support for under and over 18's were added. As a result the DPS now has 14 providers (previously 2) under the two new lots and is helping Gateshead address outreach and community support to disabled children by extending choice for families.

- 3.9 The DPS is a procedure available for contracts for works, services and goods commonly available on the market. As a procurement tool, it has some aspects that are similar to an electronic framework agreement, but where new suppliers can join at any time. The DPS is a two-stage process. First, in the initial setup stage, all suppliers who meet the selection criteria and are not excluded must be admitted to the DPS. Contracting authorities must not impose any limit on the number of suppliers that may join a DPS.
- 3.10 Unlike framework agreements, suppliers can also apply to join the DPS at any point during its lifetime. Individual contracts are awarded during the second stage. In this stage, the authority invites all suppliers on the DPS (or the relevant category within the DPS) to bid for the specific contract. The DPS can streamline procurement for both suppliers and authorities; suppliers don't have to demonstrate suitability and capability every time they wish to compete for a public sector contract and the award of individual tenders can be quicker than under some other procedures. The DPS is more flexible in some respects than frameworks, particularly as suppliers may join it at any time during its period of validity, meaning that suppliers are not locked out for the duration as they are with traditional frameworks.

4. Future work for the Commissioning & Quality Assurance Team

4.1 Family Support service review

The current 4 contracts end either the 31st March 2018 or 30th September 2018, three have been extended twice (for a further 1.5 years) to dovetail with the Early Help service reorganisation. The review will look at current provision and make recommendations with potential options moving forward.

4.2 Life Chances Fund – Development Grant award and development of a 4.3 full bid for Social Investment by April 2018

Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team successfully bid for Development Funding from the Life Chances Fund in November 2017. The Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team now have until the end of April 2018 to investigate whether we want to add a multi systemic therapy (MST) service. This would work alongside the menu of existing children's services for Gateshead families and children on the edge of care. The proposal is to raise initial finance through the use of social investors and a Social Investment Bond (SIB). Once we have undertaken the technical analysis we will be clearer whether we will submit a full bid to the Life Chances Fund which would provide 20% of the funding for the project to cover the enhanced repayment to investors and be seeking Invest to Save funds to cover the costs of delivering MST.

4.3 Alternative Education Offer – SEN/D and Post 16

The Local Authority has a statutory obligation to provide alternative education to those children not able to access main stream education or excluded from school, the same obligation is applicable for post 16 young people. Currently there is a mix of arrangements, the Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team will review this area and look to formalise the contractual arrangements and encourage new providers to the local market.

4.4 NE6 specialist residential short breaks – children with complex health and life limiting conditions

South Tyneside local authority is completing an options appraisal document in relation to NE6 specialist residential short breaks as lead commissioner. In February 2018 an agreement / view from each LA on the options appraisal document will be required to agree next steps and key areas to progress. Pending the completion of the options appraisal it is anticipated that a short term contract with the current provider will be put in place until 31st March 2019. A service specification and tender documents will go out to tender for a new contract from 1st April 2019. A procurement timeline is currently being completed by South Tyneside Council

4.5 NE7 Independent Foster Agencies (IFA's)

NE7 IFA Options Appraisal paper has been drafted by Newcastle and Redcar and Cleveland Council and will be shared at meetings i.e. Collaboration North East, DCS January/February 2018. Local Authorities are to then complete a "commitment to participate in procurement process". Scoping exercise if South of Tees IFA framework and NE7 framework to merge together from April 2019. A new procurement solution to be in place by April 2019.

- Options Appraisal - November 2017 – February 2018
- Engagement for Commissioning and Procurement Process - March 2018 – February 2019
- Preparation for Implementation Phase - March 2019

4.6 Independent Advocacy for Young People

The current contract is a regional contract involving 10 Local Authorities and is in place until August 2018. Currently a scoping exercise taking place to explore one contract solution to also include Advocacy, IO/IP, secure accommodation reviews and stage 3 complaints panel members. Discussion of the new contract solution to be in place by April 2019 and NE10 to be extended from August 2018 to April 2019 until the new contract is in place.

5. Commissioning Conference Update Nov 2017

5.1 Working with providers more closely can help find new ways to deliver improved quality for the residents of Gateshead. Commissioning and Quality Assurance. The Commissioning and Quality Assurance Team engaged the market recently on the 9th November at the Baltic, with a 150 providers in attendance.

5.2 "Working Together to Increase Choice and Improve Quality Conference" was an inaugural conference with the full market including currently commissioned providers and potentially new providers. The conference will give an opportunity for the market to:

- Get an overview of the key commissioning areas that Gateshead Council will focus on over the next two years.
- Share expertise and information to develop forward thinking, innovative solutions where we might achieve better outcomes for our residents.
- Develop a shared understanding of supply, demand and market direction in Gateshead.
- Allow the council to better understand the issues and challenges the market face and to identify solutions to these challenges and opportunities to develop quality services

- 5.3 A number of workshops were held with providers across the day, the workshop with Children's providers focused on 3 questions:
- What do you see the barriers to working with Gateshead?
 - Is there anything in commissioning we can do better?
 - With our new proposals – how best is it to engage with you?
- 5.4 Feedback from providers attending on the day included:
- Welcome a facilitated session organised by Gateshead LA to do a show and tell for Local providers, so that they are aware of the offers and options for collaborative working across the market.
 - They found the session useful for identifying future market opportunities, identification of contacts and building relationships
 - They struggle with the NEPO portal with resources required to respond to “call off or procurement alerts”
 - They would welcome Social Work teams becoming aware of wider offers – what's available
 - Welcome a series of subject based provider events
 - The Council's pre-tender consultations were viewed as being good
 - Health missing from the conference (perhaps a joint event moving forward)?
 - Need forums 1:1 meetings with providers to discuss creative ideas, especially pre-tender
 - Collate/ circulate list of opportunities
 - Liked the Gateshead approach – market engagement
- 5.5 As a result of the conference and workshops held on the 9th November 2017, a follow up session is now being planned with providers for March 2018 at the Dryden Centre to continue engagement and start to address / discuss some of the issues highlighted by providers on the day.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:
- Give their views on the Commissioning and Quality Assurance work plan for 2018/19 and comment on progress to date
 - Receive further updates on specific pieces of commissioning as work progresses as set out in the report

CONTACT: Julie Young, Lead Commissioner Early Years EXTENSION 2395

	Challenges	Vision 2030	Adult Social Care Vision	Early Help Vision	Health & Wellbeing	Public Health Domains	How	Commissioning Activity 2017- 2019	Outcomes	
System Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural acceptance of lifestyle risk behaviours Financial pressures across the health and social care system Integration of services across health, housing and social care 	Local People realising their full potential, enjoying the best quality of life in a healthy, equal, safe, prosperous and sustainable Gateshead'	Adult Social Care will maximise independence and wellbeing through early help and prevention, creating stronger partnerships to deliver the right support, in the right place at the right time.	All children and young people are empowered and supported to develop to their full potential and have the life skills and opportunities to play an active part in society'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure children have the best start in life and lead active, happy and healthy lives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the wider determinants of health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a clear, shared understanding of local health and social care need e.g. JSNA, Market Position Statement Continue to embed social value into commissioning and procurement practice 	Overall activity for Commissioning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop further integration of health and social care linked to the STP Work with Newcastle and Gateshead CCG and other key stakeholders to look at workforce development across health and social care agenda Develop a robust performance framework / data dashboards for commissioned providers Develop a performance management system to risk assess provider's performance e.g. purchase of the PMMS system Implement and embed Serious Provider Concerns process and look to develop a similar process for Children's Commissioned Services Implement and embed the Risk Based Contract Management Process Development of Gateshead Council Commissioning Demand Analysts Continue to develop Provider forums Work with in house and commissioned providers to explore and implement the use of technology e.g. Support in house provider services around the procurement of an ECM system, PMMS system Explore the use of Social Impact Bonds in Gateshead 	Overall Outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support Increased overall satisfaction of carers with social services Increased proportion of carers who report that they have been included or consulted in discussions about the person they care for Increased proportion of people who use services and carers who find it easy to find information about services 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention and Early Intervention Emotional Health and Wellbeing for C&YP High Levels of LAC and Care Leavers 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackle the major causes of ill health and early death, ensuring a focus on prevention and high quality treatment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals are encouraged and supported to take responsibility for their wellbeing e.g. Development of the Brokerage Team 			Children's Best Start <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a children's outcomes framework for commissioned services Identify and migrate children's contracts over to the commissioning team Family Support Services Review going to the market Influence and be involved in CAMHS service redesign through Expanding Minds Improving Lives Influence and be involved in the development of the new Early Help model for Gateshead Review Accommodation for care leavers and LAC and link into supported housing review Deliver the SEND Joint Commissioning Arrangements: Review and develop commissioning arrangements for post 16 education placements Develop the market for alternatives to full time education post 16. NE12 Phase 1 and Phase 2 – collaborative commissioning CYP NE12 Phase 2 – opportunity to develop the market for residential children's homes and residential short break facilities in Gateshead and across the North East region September 2017 Develop the market linked to alternative education provision linked to high numbers of permanent exclusions in Gateshead 0-19 commission going to the market in July 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personalisation, choice and control Emotional Health & Wellbeing Supporting Independence 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote choice & empower local people to have more control over their health and social care and remain independent for as long as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health care, public health and preventing premature mortality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible contracting encouraging providers to innovate and be more responsive 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in people with Dementia Long Term Conditions and End of Life Care Growing elderly population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve mental health and well-being for all members of our community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-production as standard practice in Gateshead e.g. working with service users and providers to inform commissioning Safeguarding vulnerable people and protecting them from avoidable harm e.g. Serious Provider Concern Process 	Living Well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an all age brokerage function Go to the market with a new model for Supported Housing Model from January 2018. Continue to attract new providers to Dynamic Purchasing System / LD Framework Review of learning disabilities under 65's in residential care which adheres to the principles of Transforming Care Influence and be involved in the Transforming Care agenda in Gateshead A review of Information & Advice and Non Stat Advocacy Services with the aim to go to the market with a new model in April 2018 	Living Well - living well for longer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements in social care-related quality of life Increased proportion of people who use services who have control over their daily life Increased proportion of people using social care who receive self-directed support, and those receiving direct payments Improved carer-reported quality of life Increased proportion of adults with learning disabilities in paid employment Increased proportion of adults in contact with secondary mental health services in paid employment Increased proportion of adults with learning disabilities who live in their own home or with their family Increased proportion of adults in contact with secondary mental health services living independently, with or without support 					

UNDERPINNED BY THE COMMISSIONING STANDARDS AND PRINCIPLES

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Workshop Feedback

1. What do you see as the barriers to working with Gateshead?

- NEPO Portal.
- Knowing who to contact since staff changes.
- How do we bring relevant parties together?
- Knowing who to contact/talk to, particularly when the service relates to children and adults.
- Budgets being set - notice on contracts/serving notice to staff.
- Accessibility of service/info for families before crisis point.
- Having to employ staff on zero hour contracts due to level of work.
- Lack of joined up approach within council/NHS/Voluntary service.
- Time it takes to achieve change - transformation and culture shift.
- Central pot for funding rather than loads of separate pots.
- MH 4 Kids – Issues about right place, right time (doe child) referrals.
- Not diagnosis driven but other agencies want diagnosis. Should be needs led not medical.
- Re Paul – Assess at north Tyneside, lost outreach workers in Gateshead. Funding - more bed spaces per night.
- Not enough referrals – More awareness raising.
- Consistent point of contact.
- Could work more in partnership with Newcastle to save money.
- Lack of opportunity of structure for early dialogue for service design
- Barriers - Established infrastructure for feeding in/making suggestions.

2. Is there anything else we could do better?

- Early dialogue – Clarity about what you are looking for and an invitation to help.
- Try out different approaches through grant rather than contract.
- More and continued engagement with 3rd/vol sector. Make aware of opportunities at earliest stage.
- Children's provider meetings on a regular basis.
- Realistic cost weighting on tenders so we can realistically address the pay gap.
- War and Peace – reporting back to council
- More outcome based contracts
- (MH & 18+) RECOCO type services for under 18's
- Desperate for alternative provision to education – Life Skills.
- Young person's outreach project different approach more of this.
- Not all C&YP need tier 3 MH services. Need more at preventative level especially for young people approaching adult services within a much higher eligibility.
- Sharing & learning exercise – build links forum – Facilitate LA services.
- Leaving care 'v' on own - unregistered care leavers – leaving Care. More transitions - real life. (selling tv's on, SW role)
- Roadshow by Providers stands.
- Two way tenancy solutions. Tenancy failure 16-25 Tenancy Skills training, Training flat.
- Tenancy – long term transitions double running.
- Integrated commissioning to work around the needs of individuals and families historically.
- Improve relationships/communications between existing services – people falling through gaps.
- Social workers informed what services are available.
- Need more/better detailed referral information.

3. With our new proposals – how is best to engage you?

- Provider events and encouraging new provider and existing ones.
- Series of workshops but focused or subject based not everything in one day.
- NEPO works well
- Collate and circulate lists of opportunities – Lots of commissioning calls – use website.
- More events like today
- More focused i.e. Children's and young people.
- Service user consultations
- You are good at holding per-tender consultations
- 16-25yrs night stop
- Peer to peer support – Smaller age range i.e. not 8-18yrs
- NE+Y Cambian group 8-18 Res complex needs in and out through service – single OCC homes, care leavers, 2 bed homes.
- Engage with front line staff not just the managers & senior officers.
- Health weren't at the table today – CCG and NTW were missing.
- Let us know if a tender is going to be delayed or a contract extended in good time.
- Forums but more 1-1 meetings with providers to discuss creative ideas, what we might be able to do especially before tenders.
- Ask us how your plans/needs connect to what we have to offer. More days like today but more focused.

4. Have you developed/delivered similar services elsewhere?

What might these be? How do they operate? Learning you can share?

- Alternate education provision post 16 – Supported housing.
- Offer alternative provisions for secondary school (New lead ASP)
- Supported accommodation pathways YP+ C
 - Stage 1 – high needs
 - State 2 – focus on life skills/independence
 - Stage 3 – low needs training flats.
- We work with a lot of 16-18's including many who are parents. Sometimes they are lost between departments/public services (OAH)
- Emil – Maintain the profile, keep the right people at the table & change them when needed.
- Developing links and awareness of services and thresholds.
- Safer family – short term overnight, family friends.
- Gem Arts – Working with CYP to provide alternative education (arts/cultural provision music) work with SEND PRU Schools, community settings prevention - progression.
- Action for Children residential short break/emergency. MST
- Lesley Hutchinson Children North East
 - Parent infant partnership
 - Psychotherapy services from pregnancy to 2 yrs.
 - Parent infant relationships.

- Cambian Dilston College based in Northumberland
 - Residential & day service for LD Autism and Complex needs.
 - Deliver a partnership programme
 - Higher education needs provision at Gateshead collage – provider the specialist staff
- Alternative education for young women & young fathers already providing young women’s outreach project. Already providing support for Y. Women involved or need support in behavior around CSE.
- Mental health issues in crisis and young women project.
- Where do young carer’s fit into this? To the overall plan for children
- Advocacy Reg 44 issues SGO
- Alphabetic Autistic – CIC
 - Counseling
 - Family support
 - Grandparents/Carers
- The voice of CYP
 - Peer Support
 - Mental Health
 - Evaluation f Services
 - CAMHS
 - LAC
 - Education
- Grace House – Staff not being used, not just in Sunderland.
- Referring out does not work – one stop shop.
- Too many professionals
- CAMHS still need support.

- 
- Foster care per skills training and Independent living skills.
 - Tenancy perp with specialist Mental Health.
 - Transitions
 - NEPO support training
 - Gateway N.E.
 - Holiday schemes
 - Independent skills
 - Peer to peer
 - Paid work
 - Support for parents – support work for parents losing benefits.
 - LAG Increased – 15 cannot access holiday provision
 - Gateshead approach – lives in Durham foster Gateshead.

TITLE OF REPORT: Case Study on Support to Care Leavers
REPORT OF: Strategic Director, Care Wellbeing and Learning

Summary

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the OSC's views on the provision on the support offered to care leavers and forward these views to the Looked After Children's Team

Background

2. Performance reports have been presented to OSC to demonstrate how we are meeting our performance targets and how we compare both regionally and nationally in relation to Looked After Children. Following the last report presented to OSC they requested further information on the support to Care Leavers, particularly focusing on Education, Employment and Training as there were concerns about the cohort of young people in education, employment and training being lower than the national and regional average.

Care Leavers Offer

3. An increasing focus is being placed on care leavers and every local authority has a statutory duty under the Children Leaving care Act 2000 to offer care leavers support, advice and guidance. Gateshead publishes their current offer on the Council website, which outlines the services and support we offer our care leavers
4. Under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, the Government introduced the requirement for local authorities to publish a 'Local Care Leaver Offer', which outlines the services for care leavers available within the local authority area. This offer is a combination of statutory entitlements as well as how Gateshead and its partners can give over and above their statutory duty. The Local Offer will be published in April 2018 and it will include:
 - Council tax exemption for care leavers up to the age of 25
 - Peer mentoring
 - Housing pathway with a range of options for young people
 - An improved employment, education and training offer from both within the council and from partners
 - Support from our partners and local businesses to support our care leavers both practically, emotionally and culturally

The Role of the Corporate Parent

5. Gateshead have always been very clear about their role as Corporate Parents for Looked After Children and Care Leavers and have always had high aspirations for a child in care or care leaver as any good parent would have for their own child. It means providing them with the stability and support they need to make progress; helping them to access new opportunities and experiences that inspire them to set ambitious goals for themselves. It means celebrating their successes, but also recognising that they will sometimes make mistakes and need help to get back on track. It also means supporting them to gain the skills and confidence to live independent lives, while letting them know that they have someone to call on for help if the going gets tough.
6. The Government has introduced a set of Corporate Parenting principles that require all departments within a local authority to recognise their role as corporate parents, and encourage them to look at the support and services they provide. The principles require corporate parents:
 - To act in the best interests, and promote the physical and mental health and well-being, of those children and young people
 - To encourage those children and young people to express their views, wishes and feelings
 - To take into account the views, wishes and feelings of those children and young people
 - To help those children and young people gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners
 - To promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for those children and young people
 - For those children and young people to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work; and
 - To prepare those children and young people for adulthood and independent living.
7. These principles are being shared with Councilors, directors and managers across services to ensure we can give our Looked After young people and care leavers the best possible opportunities

The Role of the Personal Advisor

8. Prior to the young person's sixteenth birthday a needs assessment will be carried out by the young person's social worker and a Personal Advisor will be allocated. The personal advisor will initially work alongside the young person's social worker attending Looked After Reviews and obtaining the views of the young person about their plan for the future and who will be responsible in supporting the young person. They produce a pathway plan for the young person and are responsible for reviewing and updating this.
9. Independent living skills will be promoted by the personal advisor with the young person making their way through the Independent Living Skills Booklet.

This booklet not only educates and promotes, it allows the professionals working with the young person to assess their skills for adulthood.

10. When the young person turns 18 the personal advisor continues to work with them, ensuring they have the right support in place, coordinating their pathway plan and having contact with them every 8 weeks (as a minimum). This support used to end when a young person reached 21, however this now remains in place until the young person is 25 years old.
11. The personal advisor, alongside the work around accommodation, education, employment and training, will also work closely around the young person's health; both their physical and emotional wellbeing. If the young person has any outstanding needs with respect to their health they will support the young person to visit their GP or support them to attend the monthly health drop-in, which is co facilitated by the LAC Health Team. If the young person wishes to speak to someone around their emotional wellbeing, again the same route can be taken. The personal advisor can also refer the young person (with their permission) to North East Counselling Service for additional support for the young person.

Pathway Plans

12. All Care Leavers have a Pathway plan, which considers the young person's need for support and assistance, based on previous assessments and LAC plans. The pathway plan sets out what they need and who will support them. This plan is reviewed every six months to ensure the care leaver is being supported in their transition from care. The pathway plan outlines
 - Accommodation
 - Practical life skills including money management
 - Education and training
 - Employment
 - Financial support
 - Specific support needs
 - Contingency plans for support if independent living breaks down
13. These elements are intended to provide a full package of support o the young person to enable them to make the transition from care to living independently. The young person's voice is key to the success of the pathway plan and they will be actively encouraged to attend the pathway plan review or have their views represented by a person of their choice or via MOMO.

Education, employment and training

14. We have high aspirations and ambition for our young people therefore it is important that we support all of our young people in Employment, Education and Training. We work closely with REALAC whilst our young people are looked after. The Virtual School team promotes and supports the educational achievement of looked after children across all services and at every level of the authority, particularly with social workers, designated teachers and foster

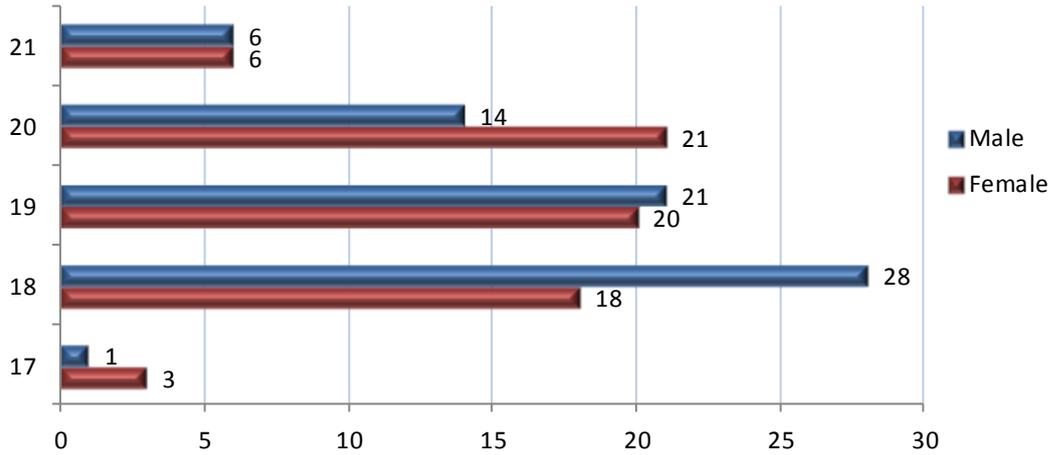
carers, to ensure that it is treated as a high priority. REALAC provides direct support to children, carers, social workers and schools in the following areas:

- Before going into the world of work the young person can access the Pathways to Work programme facilitated by REALAC which offers young people the opportunity to experience work for a couple of weeks before committing to their long term plan.
- Between the age of 16yrs – 18yrs, the young person will be supported into employment, education or training. The personal advisor and social worker assess the needs of the young person in an effort to work towards a clear pathway for them which is documented within the pathway plan.
- Up to and beyond the age of 18yrs the young person can be referred to Learning & Skills who offer career information sessions, CV Design and Mock Interview Skills. The young person will also be assessed and the result of the assessment will determine whether they will be offered a Study Programme, Traineeship or Apprenticeship:
 - Study Programme;
 - A 1 year programme covering English, Maths, ICT Vocational Skills, Employability Skills
 - Traineeship;
 - A 5 month programme for young people who are not apprenticeship ready
 - Apprenticeships;
 - 12-18 month paid employment for 30hrs a week, where the young person receives a qualification as well as experience of working.

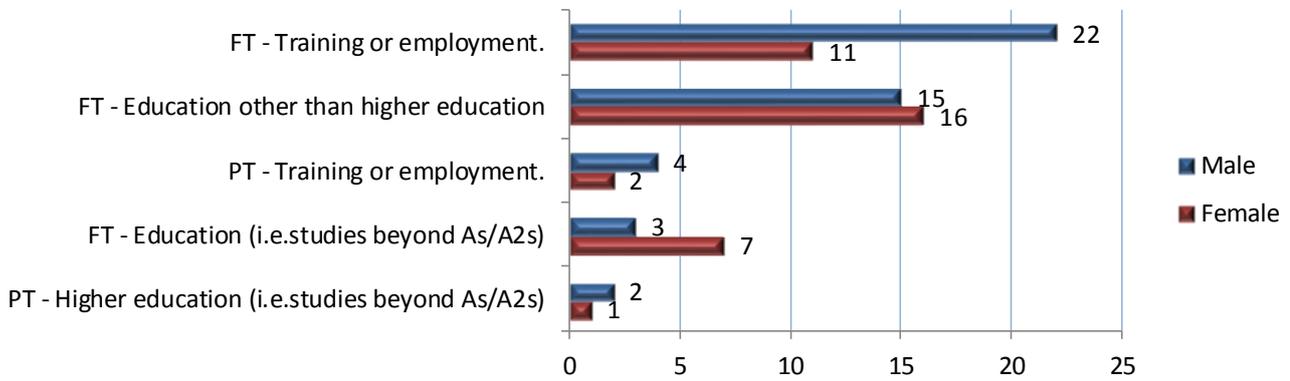
15. We also work in partnership with Gateshead College who deliver a comprehensive range of industry related workshops alongside a Certificate in Occupational Studies for the Workplace. Young people will receive guidance and support which will enhance their opportunity to move into employment.

16. If the young person is not ready for work and needs additional support, the personal advisor can refer to Building Better Opportunities – Wise Steps where young people will receive one to one support from a job coach for up to 18 months. Together the job coach and the young people will focus on removing any barriers to work through social inclusion activities, life skills, confidence building and skills development. Activities will also include ICT training and personal money management. This equips the young person with the skills to move on to employment or training.

EET by age and gender

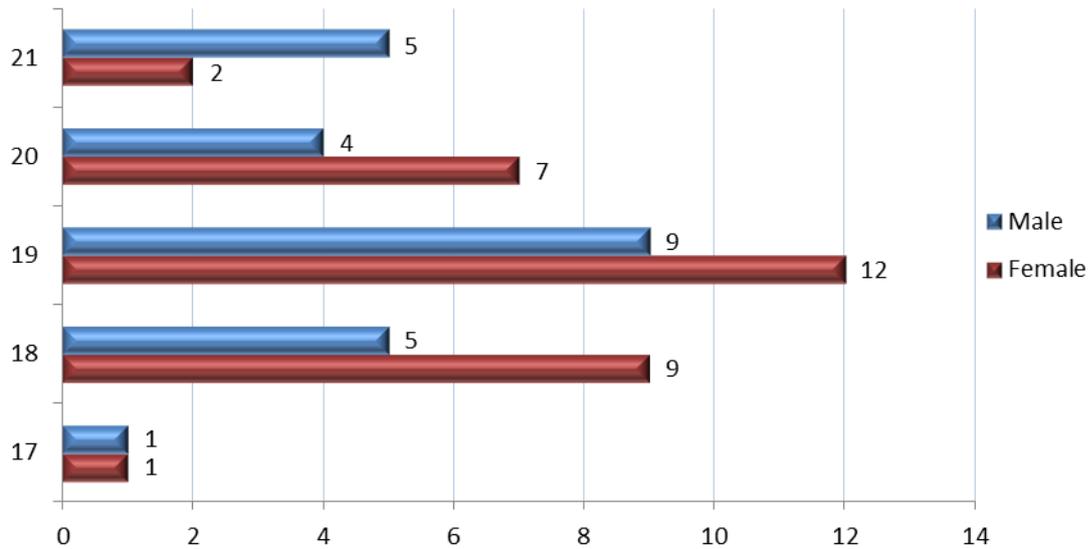


EET by Type and Gender



17. There are 138 young people who are included in the statistics for 2017-18, 68 (49%) are female and 70 (51%) are male. There is a higher number of males (44) in EET compared to females (37)

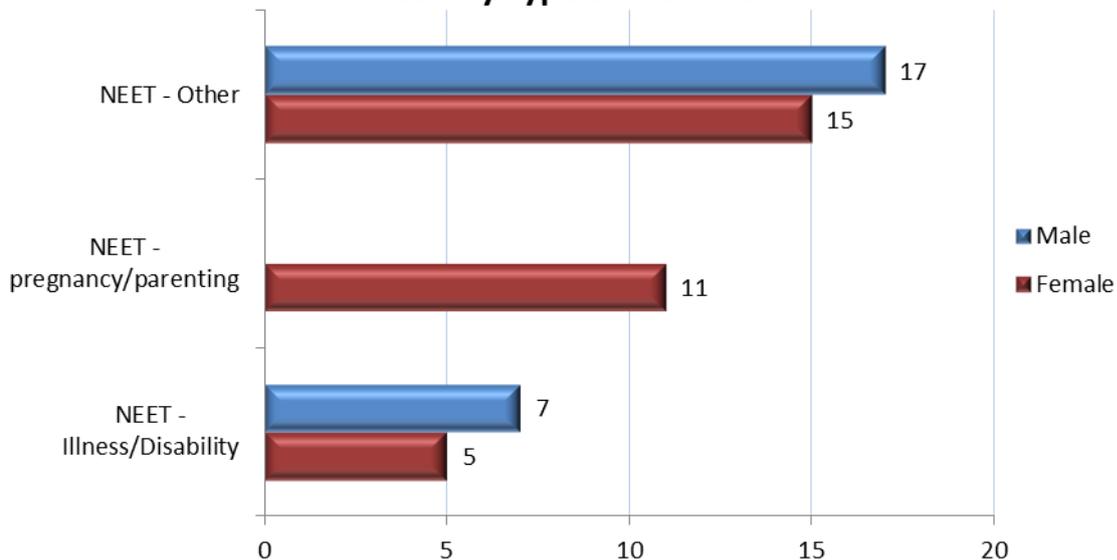
NEET by Age and Gender



18. Of our 138 care leavers not in any form of Employment, Education or Training (NEET), the majority are categorised as NEET – other (32). 14 of these young people refuse to engage with services, despite the best efforts of their personal advisors and the other 18 are actively seeking employment or training.

19. There are 12 NEET due to an illness or disability which is preventing them working, of which 7 have had historical special educational needs (SEN) and there are 11 females who are categorised as NEET due to pregnancy or parenting commitments. In addition to this there is 1 young person who is an asylum seeker and has no leave to remain as yet.

NEET by Type and Gender



20. If we were to exclude this cohort of 24 who aren't available to work, i.e. those whom we have judged are currently unable to be in EET, our EET figure would be 72.8% (83/114).
21. These figures are an improvement on last year and demonstrate the progress the service is making in supporting young people in education, employment and training

Identifying young people needing additional support

22. The service acknowledges that there has been an issue with young people leaving care refusing to engage in employment, education and training and have taken proactive steps to try and improve the statistics and outcomes for care leavers.
23. Delivering courses and training specific to care leavers enabling them to access EET is a challenge that the service is striving to meet. Progress is being made in this area as REALAC have tailored training or offered specific work experience in a supportive environment for young people who have found it challenging to sustain mainstream courses. External training providers such as Talent Match, and Generation North East optimises the support available to our young people and reduces the risk of NEET.
24. Learning and Skills are also working proactively with us to determine the skills and abilities of our young people and are developing appropriate pathways into both council and external apprenticeship providers, with the acceptance and understanding that some of our young people will need additional support to succeed in their chosen apprenticeship
25. There are also regular meetings being held with partners looking at apprenticeships for Looked After children and care leavers, discussing the need for increased apprenticeship provision within the Council and the support these young people will require. This work has enabled 4 LAC and Care Leavers to recently take up apprenticeships within the Council and a further 13 apprenticeships have been pledged across the council for LAC and care leavers.

Accommodation

26. To enable young people to feel safe and acquire the skills needed for independence they need a stable base. Most of looked after young people are placed within our own resources and within a 20 mile radius of Gateshead.
27. In 2016/17, Gateshead was ranked 1st in the country for placement stability. 88% of our looked after children, who had been looked after for at least 2.5 years, had been in the same placement for at least 2 years. Considerably higher than the England average of 70%. Over the same period, Gateshead was ranked 4th in the country for our low percentage of children placed at a

distance. This gives our care leavers a positive start to move into independence.

28. The Children Leaving Care Act 2000 imposes duties on Local Authorities to support care leavers to obtain suitable accommodation which should:

- Avoid moving and disrupting young people who are settled
- Assess young people's needs and prepare them for any move
- Offer a choice of accommodation (where practicable)
- Provide a support package to go with the accommodation
- Have a contingency plan in case accommodation arrangements break down

29. Accommodation choices currently available to the care leavers are:

- Staying Put
- Supported Lodgings
- Supported accommodation
- Semi-supported accommodation
- Taster flats
- Own tenancy

30. To ensure the right type of provision is available to all care leavers a new accommodation strategy has been developed between Children's Services, Commissioning and Housing. This has been out to tender and the new model commences on 1st July 2018 providing;

- Emergency supported accommodation
- A short term assessment unit
- Medium term 24 hour supported accommodation with step down shared living and dispersed houses
- Supported lodgings
- Taster flats

31. There will be a multidisciplinary panel that will monitor all placements and coordinate planned moves. They will also evaluate the progress of this strategy.

32. All young people leaving care receive support from their personal advisor when moving onto their preferred accommodation and they will get a visit 7 days after moving in to ensure things are going to plan.

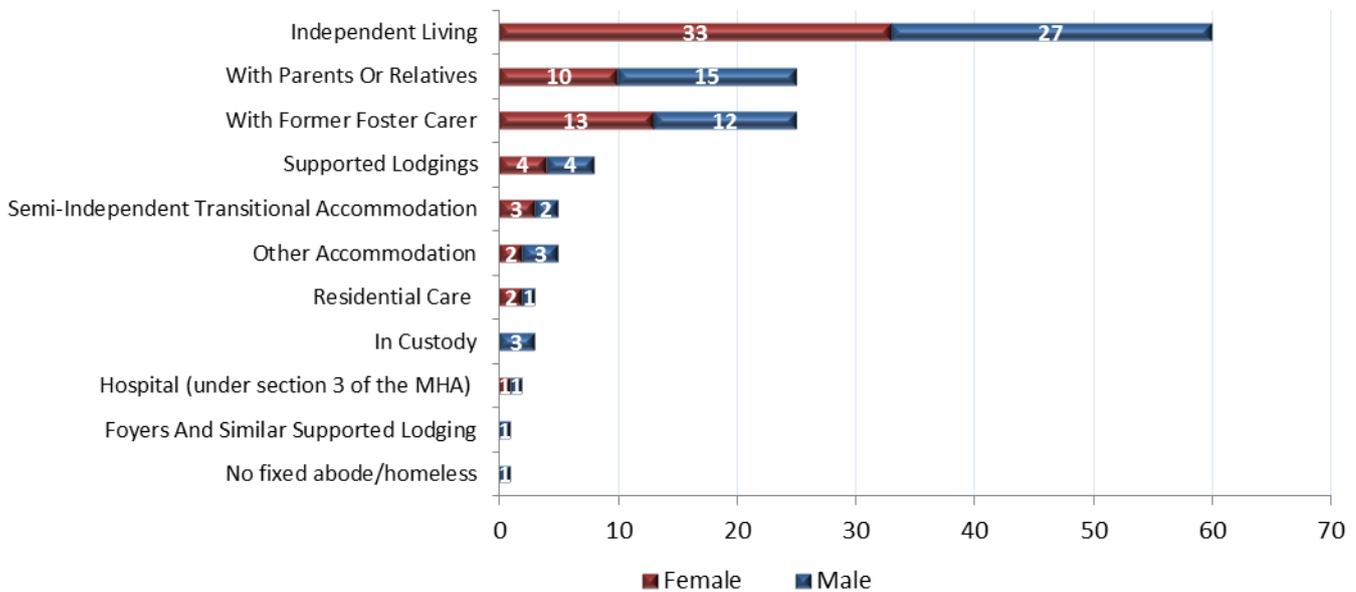
Current Situation

33. 96% of our care leavers are in suitable accommodation, with 60% in independent living and 36% living with parents/relatives or their former foster carers.

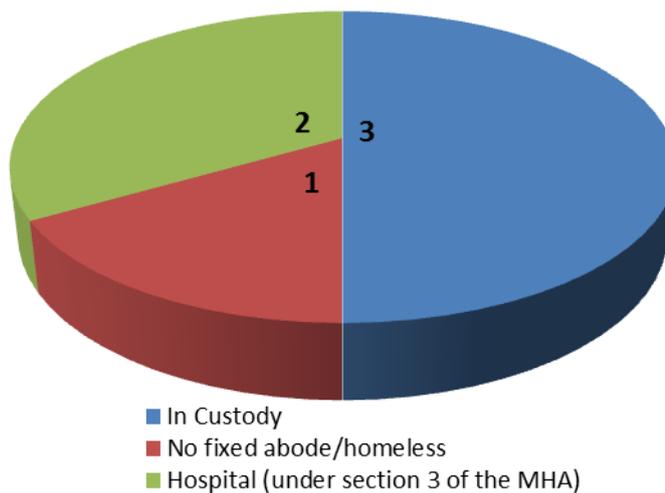
34. 4% of our care leavers are in unsuitable accommodation. There are 3 males who are in custody, 1 male and 1 female who are in hospital, under section 3 of the Mental Health Act and there is 1 male who has no fixed

abode/considered homeless. He is currently out of touch and refuses to leave contact details with the service

Accommodation type



Types of unsuitable accommodation



35. Prior to the young person moving onto their preferred accommodation, they are offered a course facilitated by Learning & Skills; named Financial Education. This course consists of:

- Budgeting
- Managing income and expenditure
- Banking, saving and borrowing
- Financial future employment
- Debt Management

36. If a young person is going into supported accommodation or a taster flat they are referred through to 2 Way Tenancy Solutions who run a training programme which consists of:
- Managing a Tenancy
 - Living on your own
 - Keeping a Tenancy
 - Repairs
 - Budgeting
37. On completion of this course the young people will receive a microwave, toaster and kettle to assist them in setting up home. If the young person takes a taster flat or their own tenancy, they will also receive additional support from Housing, via a tenancy support worker. The young person will also be entitled to financial support up to £2,000 to set up their own home.

Financial support

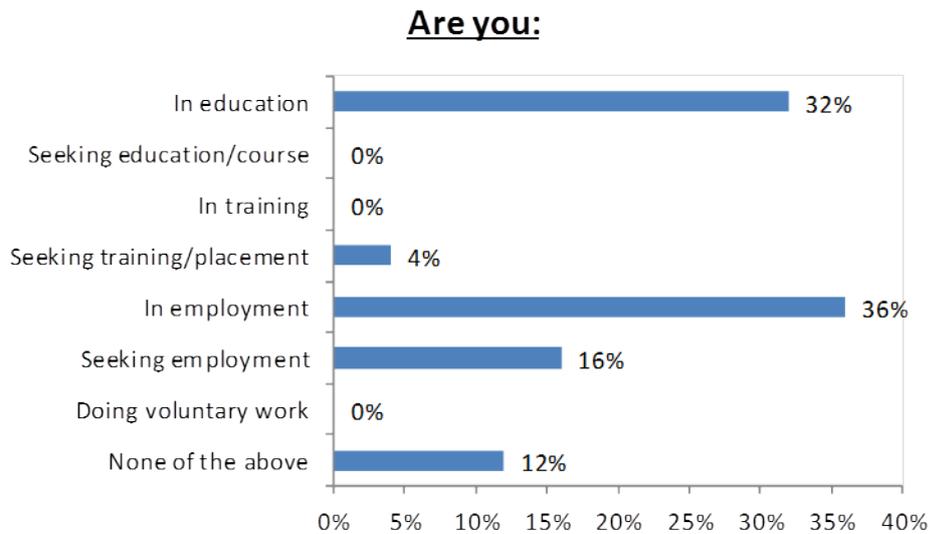
38. Gateshead Leaving Care Service has comprehensive financial procedures in place to support care leavers in EET. The focal point of the financial support is to assist care leavers who are combining having to live independently with either being employed or in training. For example care leavers receive monthly incentives for attending education, employment or training and the services ensures that they are not financially disadvantaged or penalized in relation to housing benefit or other entitlements. Support with utility bills during the winter months is also offered in recognition of the challenges some of our young people face.
39. Young people who are attending Higher Education receive financial assistance and support which is managed and administered appropriately by the Leaving Care Service. Young people in higher education are provided with accommodation during the holiday period whether this is via Staying Put arrangements or additional weeks within their accommodation at University.
40. The Leaving Care Service will support a young person continuing in a pathway of education and training until their 25th birthday, which complies with the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000.

What our care leavers say

41. The 'Tell Us What You Think' care leavers' survey was conducted in March 2018 with care leavers aged 18 – 22, with a total of 25 questionnaires being completed. The highest numbers of respondents were aged 18 (58%), (8 female and 10 male). Overall, the gender split of the cohort completing the survey was 64% female and 36% male. This is in line with previous surveys, where we have tended to see a higher response from females than males.

Survey Results

- Education, employment and training

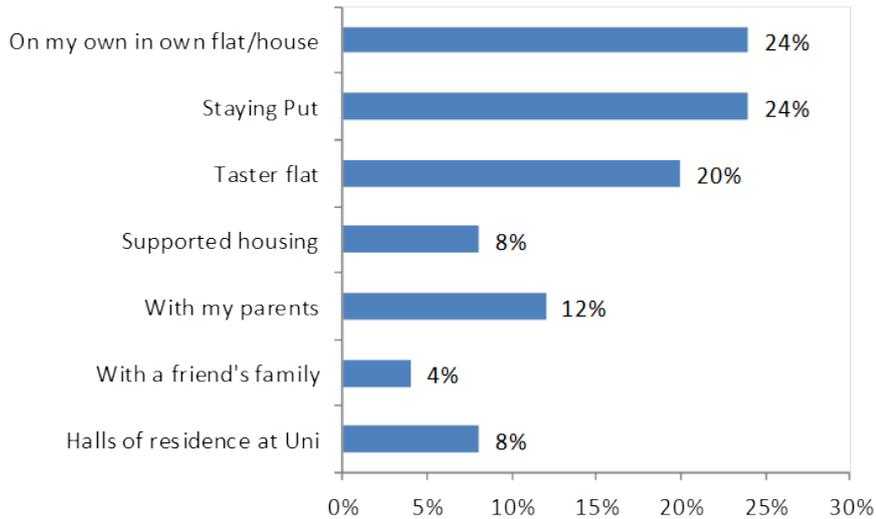


42. Of the young people who completed the survey 68% were in education, employment or training, with 20% seeking employment or training. The 12% who responded as none of the above are the young people identified earlier in the report as either being young parents or unable to work through illness or disability.

- Accommodation

43. 24% of respondents reported that they were living in their own flat/house, 24% were in staying put placements, 20% were in taster flats, 12% living with their parents, 8 were in supported housing, 8% were in university halls of residence and 4% living with a friend's family.

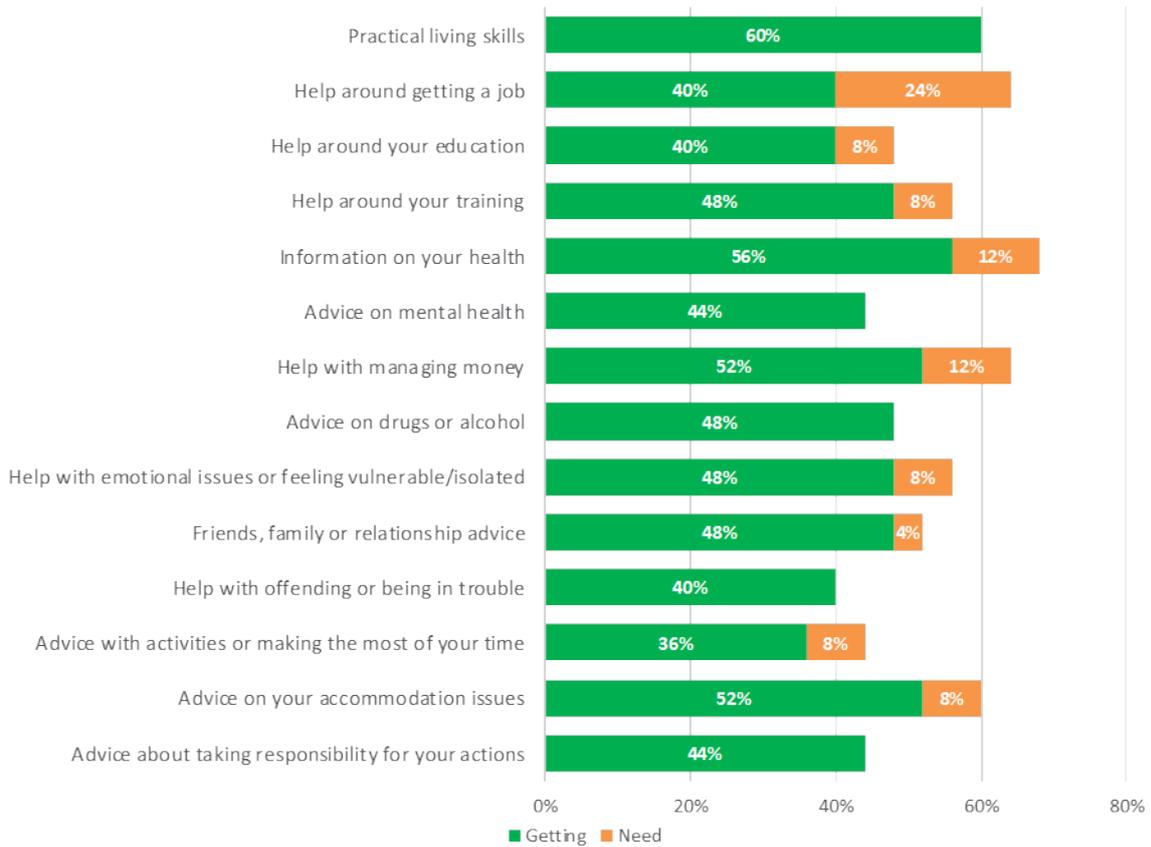
What type of accommodation do you currently live in?



- **Support**

44. 16 (76%) of respondents said they felt the support they were receiving at the moment was either good or very good. The below chart shows the percentage of support received/needed as indicated in the survey.

Support received and support needed



80% (20) of respondents reported that their accommodation was good or very good, with 96% reporting that they felt safe or very safe in the building they lived in.

Issues the OSC might want to consider

45. In light of the information provided the OSC might wish to consider whether it is satisfied with the level of support being offered to Care Leavers. When addressing this question the OSC might wish to take into account the following

- Are we working proactively as corporate parents for Care Leavers?
- Have we got the right involvement from our partners?
- Are we promoting positive outcomes for Care leavers?
- Are we offering the right support to the NEET cohort?

Recommendations

46. The views of the OSC are sought on:-

- Whether it is satisfied with the level of support Care leavers are receiving in Gateshead

Contact: Jill Little	ext 3420
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TITLE OF REPORT: Local Safeguarding Children Board – Emerging Priorities

REPORT OF: Independent Chair, LSCB

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 OSC Members will recall that it was agreed that we would bring our emerging priorities to the April meeting of the OSC, in order for LSCB's priorities to influence the priorities that OSC sets itself for the coming year. Our roles are of course complementary and compatible; the LSCB scrutinises the activity of all agencies to keep children safe, and encourages multi-agency working, whilst OSC properly focuses mainly on the council's services.
- 1.2 LSCB will also bring the annual report to OSC in the autumn.
- 1.3 The report attached as [appendix 1](#) will be discussed at the LSCB on 11th April, when the proposals from the Board Manager will be considered by the Board. Following this board meeting, the paper can be updated in the light of board decisions, so that OSC on 19th April can consider a firmer set of priorities. The report also includes as an attachment an initial RAG-rated progress report on the delivery of the business plan for 2017-18.
- 1.4 The report proposes that the LSCB retains the priorities of **Leadership, Challenge** and **Learning** from the 2017-2018 Business Plan. It also proposes that the new Business Plan focuses only on 2018-2019, given that the LSCB will be undergoing significant changes this year and will not exist in the current format in 2019.

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that the Families OSC note and endorse the proposed priorities. It is also recommended that Families OSC agree to receive updates in relation to changes to strategic arrangements once new statutory guidance is finalised.

CONTACT: Saira Park

Extension: 8010

REPORT TO GATESHEAD LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

REPORT TITLE: Initial discussion – LSCB Business Plan 2018-2019

DATE: 11 April 2018

FROM: Saira Park, LSCB Business Manager

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.5 The report sets out areas considered at the LSCB Development Session as possible themes for the 2018-2019 LSCB Business Plan and invites discussion about this.

1.6 It is proposed that the LSCB retains the priorities of **Leadership, Challenge and Learning** from the 2017-2018 Business Plan. It is also proposed that the new Business Plan focuses only on 2018-2019, given that the LSCB will be undergoing significant changes this year and will not exist in the current format in 2019.

4. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to invite discussion from Board members on the content of the business plan so that the final plan can be approved at the July Board meeting.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members are asked to:

- a) Note the progress in delivering the Business plan during 2017-18
- b) Agree to retain the priorities of **Leadership, Challenge and Learning**
- c) Agree the outline priorities for the LSCB for 2018-2019 – suggestions based on the opinion of the LSCB Business Manager are set out in this report but Board members may wish to agree to alternative priorities
- d) Commit to help deliver the action plan

6. BACKGROUND

4.1 LSCB Business Plan 2018-2019

4.1.1 Due to the expected changes to statutory guidance, the LSCB agreed that the business plan for 2017-2018 should cover only one year, unlike the previous three year plan. Board members will be aware there have been considerable delays in finalising the new statutory guidance. This is now expected June/July, with transitional arrangements to be complete in 2019. Therefore it is proposed that the 2017-2018 plan should be reviewed and updated for 2018-2019. [Appendix 1](#) shows the progress against actions for 2017-2018.

- 4.1.2 It is proposed that the LSCB should continue with the approach for 2017-2018 and retain the three strategic business priorities of **Leadership, Challenge** and **Learning** as they are well embedded in the work of the Board and emphasis the role and remit of the Board in leading the safeguarding agenda and challenging the work of partner agencies.
- 4.1.3 The Business Plan sets out our vision – *our vision is that every child should grow up feeling safe and in a loving, secure environment, free from abuse, neglect and crime, enabling them to enjoy a happy and healthy childhood in which they can fulfil their social and economic potential.*
- 4.1.4 The role of the Business Plan is to emphasis the role of the LSCB in **leading** the safeguarding agenda, in **challenging** the work of partner agencies, and in committing to an approach which **learns** lessons, embeds good practice and which is continually influenced by the views of children and young people.
- 4.1.5 Based on a review of the current five thematic priorities, and areas highlighted through the Learning & Improvement framework, it is the opinion of the LSCB Business Manager that key business plan priority areas for 2018-2019 should be:
- Voice of the child
 - Communication & engagement with the frontline (including schools)
 - Early Help
 - Mental health & Emotional Wellbeing
 - Child Sexual Exploitation & Missing
- 4.1.6 Board members should discuss whether these are the most appropriate priorities and then agree who should be the lead for each area and what specific actions are required. If Board members feel that there are any other priority areas then specific pieces of work should be identified for the action plan.
- 4.1.7 The LSCB Business Plan will continue to be monitored at each meeting of the LSCB Executive and key headlines will be shared with the full Board.

Strategic Business Priorities

Action	Lead Officer	Target date	Comments	Outcome
Leadership				
Work to ensure that future arrangements are fit for purpose and enable the Gateshead Safeguarding Children Board to build on the work of the LSCB and strengthen the position further	LSCB Independent Chair and Business Manager	March 2018	Task & finish work ongoing. Response to consultation submitted. Awaiting final guidance – expected May/June 2018	Ongoing – to be carried over
Challenge				
Build on links with other partnerships (e.g. the SAB, HWB and CSB)	LSCB Independent Chair and Business Manager	March 2018	Memorandum of understanding agreed with OSC. Consider joint protocol between LSCB/SAB and HWBB. In 2018/19 we need to further strengthen joint working between boards. In particular re those areas of work that cross over, such as domestic abuse, mental health and PREVENT.	Ongoing – to be carried over
Learning				
Review cases where there are lessons to be learned and ensure lessons are disseminated and actioned as appropriate	Chair of Learning & Improvement Sub Group (currently Detective Chief Inspector, Safeguarding) and LSCB Business Manager	Ongoing, as and when required	Number of cases reviewed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMR in April 2017 • Ruby – case review using systems methodology (similar to SILP). Learning shared via workshops • Polly – case review using systems methodology. Workshops being 	Ongoing – this is part of core business for LSCB

Action	Lead Officer	Target date	Comments	Outcome
			<p>held up to autumn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cases are also brought to L&I sub group for discussion, this may lead to a deep dive or other review. Possible SCR in 2018 	
Implement and embed the findings of any Board or partner agency inspections and cascade the learning as appropriate	Relevant LSCB Executive members and LSCB Business Manager	Ongoing, as and when required	<p>Regional learning event to look at themes and learning from SCRs and also SARs planned for June/July.</p> <p>This needs to continue in 2018/19</p>	Ongoing – this is part of core business for LSCB

Thematic Priorities

Action	Lead Officer	Target date	Comments	Outcome
Voice of the child				
<p>Receive reports throughout the year regarding partner engagement with young people including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoMO 	LSCB Business Manager to coordinate work plan, all Board members to contribute	March 2018	<p>Work plan established. MoMO report received. LSCB members asked to submit examples of how 'voice of the child' have influenced service delivery, or improve practice.</p>	Achieved
Refresh our engagement strategy to ensure that the Voice of the Child is captured at Board level and not just by partner agencies	LSCB Business Manager to coordinate work plan, all Board members to contribute	March 2018	<p>Communication & Engagement strategy to be developed, with focus on capturing voice of the child.</p> <p>Task group has been set up, including children's rights officer and new</p>	Ongoing – to be carried over

Action	Lead Officer	Target date	Comments	Outcome
			apprentice within participation team.	
Host an engagement event with Board members and young people with the agenda set lead by young people themselves	LSCB Business Manager to coordinate work plan, all Board members to contribute	March 2018	Discussions taking place with Lead Officer for children's participation. CYP consultation session planned for end April/early May – with members of the youth assembly and One Voice (CiCC) Business Manager linked into plans re YP residential (youth assembly) in the summer which will focus on emotional wellbeing/self esteem (tbc). This will give us an opportunity to consult on some of our priority areas (EH and MHEW)	Ongoing – to be carried over
Ensure that consideration is given to capturing the Voice of the Child when establishing the new arrangements in Gateshead	Independent Chair and LSCB Business Manager	January 2018	Ensure that consideration is given to capturing the Voice of the Child when establishing the new arrangements in Gateshead.	Achieved
Improving relationships and interface with schools				
Establish a Reference Group with schools to ensure a two-way dialogue between Education and other Board partners	Service Director Children & Families and Service Director Education & Schools	October 2017	This has now been set up and terms of reference agreed. LSCB Business Manager agreed to attend and organise reference group and ensure admin support.	Achieved
Support schools in relation to Permanent Exclusions by undertaking deep dive work as part of the Early Help re-model	Service Director Early Years and Service Manager Education Gateshead	March 2018	Task & finish group agreed – ongoing Action plan developed and is being monitored monthly, with regular report to LSCB.	Achieved

Action	Lead Officer	Target date	Comments	Outcome
Early help				
Receive a progress report on the development and implementation of the new Early Help Strategy for Gateshead and participate in the consultation process.	Service Director Early Help	July 2017	Initial discussion at July LSCB and further consultation at August Executive. Has been discussed in more detail at LSCB in October.	Achieved
Monitor the impact of the new Early Help Strategy and re-model of services and receive assurances on the impact on safeguarding children	Service Director Early Help	March 2018	Regular updates to LSCB. P&QA sub group have included data re EH in the dataset and will report any changes that may be cause for concern.	Ongoing – to be carried over
Mental health				
Challenge the development and implementation of a new model for CAMHS (the EMIL model) and ensure that the learning from the task & finish work on self-harm in 2016-2017 is incorporated	Executive Director, Patient Safety and Designated Nurse, CCG	July 2017	Report and discussion at July LSCB.	Achieved
Receive assurances that mental health services commissioned for children in Gateshead are adequate in terms of safeguarding	Executive Director, Patient Safety and Designated Nurse, CCG	January 2018	Discussions ongoing. Update report re Phase 1 of new model expected at LSCB in April. Still in early stages, need to continue to seek assurances.	Ongoing – to be carried over
Receive assurances that mental health services for adults operate with a “think family” approach and maintain a focus on safeguarding children	NTW representative	March 2018	Need to check if this was achieved..	tbc
Safeguarding disabled children				
Receive assurances that learning from the recent SEND inspection has been embedded	Service Director Children and Families Support (for Gateshead Council actions)	October 2017	Initial report on SEND inspection presented to July Board meeting. Event took place in Autumn re action plan.	Achieved

Action	Lead Officer	Target date	Comments	Outcome
	and Designated Nurse (for health actions)			
Receive assurances that relevant actions from the report from National Working Group on Safeguarding Disabled Children have been taken forward.	LSCB Business Manager to coordinate work plan with relevant partner agencies	February 2018		Achieved

TITLE OF REPORT: Annual Work Programme Review and Forward Plan

REPORT OF: Sheena Ramsey, Chief Executive
Mike Barker, Strategic Director, Corporate Services
& Governance

Summary

This report is set out in two parts. The first part highlights how this Committee has influenced / shaped the development of policy /decision making during 2017-18 and the second part details proposals for the development of the work programme for Overview and Scrutiny Committees (OSCs) and sets out the provisional work programme for the Families OSC for the municipal year 2018-19.

Background

1. On 18 July 2017 Cabinet agreed to pilot a number of changes to Overview and Scrutiny in Gateshead aimed at ensuring that Overview and Scrutiny in Gateshead:-
 - is first and foremost member led.
 - enhances the leadership role of OSC Chairs and Vice Chairs in driving forward, directing and shaping individual OSC work.
 - enhances engagement and involvement with OSC members in shaping the focus of the work of specific OSCs.
 - creates stronger relationships/linkages with the Executive.
 - enables Overview and Scrutiny to better understand and track how it is influencing Cabinet Policy / Decision making going forwards.

Annual Review

2. The pilot changes to Overview and Scrutiny commenced in September 2017 and this is the first review of the work programme following those changes.
3. During 2017-18 the OSC has sought to influence and shape policy development / decision making via a number of routes.
4. During this period the OSC's recommendations relating to the OSC's Review of Oral Health have been approved by Cabinet and implemented. The OSC has monitored progress on the implementation of these recommendations at its meeting on 7 September 2017. At that stage, following initial discussions with commissioners it had been agreed that oral health promotion work would be embedded in the new specification for 0-19 public health nursing service. Plans were also in place for the Public Health Team to work with the Service Director Early Help to embed oral health promotion across the early help strategy and ensure a life course approach to oral health improvement. Further work with NHS England was identified to ensure clarity around the role and remit of the public health nursing service. New appointments in the Public Health Team would also

progress making the every contact count approach incorporate the Change for Life Programme (eg sugar smart, food smart). The OSC indicated at that time that it was satisfied with the level of progress made. The OSC will consider a further report in relation to progress against its recommendations at its meeting today.

5. The OSC has also carried out a Review of Children on the Edge of Care and the OSC findings and recommendations have been approved by Cabinet. The OSC will now monitor the implementation of these recommendations during its 2018-19 work programme.
6. The OSC has monitored Council performance generally, in those areas falling within its remit, at its meetings on 15 June 2017 and 30 November 2017, and Cabinet has had regard to the OSC's views when considering Council performance overall.
7. The OSC has also monitored progress in relation to the following specific areas of performance and the OSC's comments have been fed into the improvement work progressed by relevant service areas and fed back to relevant partners.
 - CAMHS
 - Care Pathway for Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
 - Early Help Strategy
 - Children Presenting at Hospital as a result of Self-Harm
 - Ofsted Inspections/ School Data
 - SEND Inspection Outcomes
 - Annual Report on Complaints and Representations
 - Recruitment and Retention of Social Workers
 - Permanent Exclusions and 14 Point Action Plan
8. The OSC is due to monitor specific progress on NEET Care Leavers at the OSC meeting today.
9. In addition, the OSC has also been made aware of the LSCB's Annual Report and Plans and will be invited to give its views on the Board's emerging priorities at the OSC meeting today.

Development of 2018-19 Work Programme

10. Every year each Overview and Scrutiny Committee draws up a work programme based on the Council's policy framework which is then agreed by the Council as part of the policy planning process.
11. The Committee's work programme is a rolling programme which sets the agenda for its six weekly meetings. It is the means by which it can address the interests of the local community, focus on improving services and seek to reduce inequalities in service provision and access to services.
12. Under the Council's constitution the issues which will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees come from a number of sources:
 - During the year the Committee may choose to scrutinise decisions made by the Cabinet to ensure decisions are taken properly;
 - The Committee may be requested by the Cabinet to carry out reviews of particular issues in accordance with the Council's policy priorities;

- The Committee will receive six-monthly reports on performance for comment to Cabinet;
 - The Committee will receive reports on relevant service improvement reviews at key stages of development to confirm to Cabinet that reviews are progressing appropriately;
 - Section 119 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and Section 126 of the Police and Criminal Justice Act 2006 enable any member of the Council to refer to a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee any local government matter and any crime and disorder matter which affects their ward or constituents
 - Members of the Committee may identify particular issues for consideration;
 - Members may also examine issues in the Council's Forward Plan; and
 - In addition, where the Committee has reasonable concerns about a particular executive decision the call-in mechanism is available.
13. This year the changes piloted included enhanced engagement and involvement with OSC members in shaping the focus of the work of specific OSCs via a specific work programme event held on 9 February 2018. At that event councillors had regard to the key issues/challenges/legislative changes affecting the work of the Council within the forthcoming twelve months which fall within the specific remits of each OSC and the 5 pledges under the Thrive agenda:-
- Put people and families at the heart of everything that we do
 - Tackle inequality so people have a fair chance
 - Support our communities to support themselves and each other
 - Invest in our economy to provide sustainable opportunities for employment, innovation and growth across the borough.
 - Work together and fight for a better future for Gateshead
14. Subsequently, the Council has consulted partner organisations on the emerging themes for each OSC for 2018-19.
15. Details of the emerging issues / areas for potential review and the feedback from partners are set out at Appendix 2.
16. The attached provisional work programme (Appendix 1) has therefore taken account of the following:-
- Six-monthly performance reporting
 - The Thrive agenda and the Council Plan and partnership work generally
 - Current issues referred to Committees
 - Details of potential review topics/case studies
 - Legislative provisions and guidance on the Councillor Call for Action
17. The work programme remains provisional as:-
- Cabinet has not had the opportunity to fully review its work programme and it may wish to refer further issues to Overview and Scrutiny Committees for further consideration;
 - It does not take account of new policy issues which may be identified during the year, which Cabinet may refer to Overview and Scrutiny; and
 - It does not include issues identified by members of committees on an ongoing basis during the year as a result of scrutiny of decisions, call – in and councillor call for action.

Next Steps

The OSC Co - ordinator will carry out further work with OSC lead officers across all of the OSCs to consider what future improvements can be made to the process of tracking how OSCs are influencing policy development and decision making with a view to strengthening the annual review process going forwards.

Recommendations

18. The Committee is asked to:-

- a) Note the information contained in the annual review and provide any comments.
- b) Agree the emerging issues for 2018-19, having considered the proposals outlined at Appendix 2.
- c) Endorse the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's provisional work programme for 2018 -19 attached at Appendix 1, and refer it to Council on 24 May 2018 for agreement.
- d) Note that further reports will be brought to the Committee to identify any additional issues which the Committee may be asked to consider.

Contact: Angela Frisby

Ext: 2138

APPENDIX 1

Draft Families OSC 2018-19	
14 June 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution (to note) • Role and remit (to note) • The Council Plan – Year End Assessment and Performance Delivery 2017-18 • Review of Obesity (across the life course) - Scoping report • How Adult and Children’s Services are working Together – Progress Update. • CAMHS – Progress Update • Work Programme
13 Sept 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review of Obesity (across the life course) - Evidence Gathering • Annual Report on Complaints and Representations – Children • Ofsted Inspections/School Data – Progress Update • Monitoring – OSC Review of Children on the Edge of Care • School Exclusions – Performance Update • Work Programme
18 Oct 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review of Obesity (across the life course) - Evidence Gathering • Early Help – Progress Update • Tackling the Toxic Trio (domestic abuse/substance misuse and neglect) – Case Study • Safeguarding Children - LSCB Annual Report and Plans • Work Programme.
6 Dec 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review of Obesity (across the life course) – Evidence Gathering • The Council Plan – Six Monthly Assessment and Performance Delivery 2018-19 • Provision of School Meals (with a particular focus on provision of meals to children of families transitioning to Universal Credit/ families struggling to meet the cost of school meals). • CAMHS- Progress Update • Work Programme
31 Jan 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted – Annual Report • Home to School Transport – Progress Update • SEN Progression – Progress Update • How the Council is meeting the needs of children and young people with learning disabilities – Progress Update • Work Programme
7 March 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review of Obesity (across the life course) – Interim Report • Annual Conversation with Head Teachers of Special Schools • School Exclusions – Performance Update • Work Programme
4 April 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSC Review of Obesity (across the life course) – Final Report • Liaison with Gateshead Youth Assembly • Monitoring - OSC Review of Children on the Edge of Care • Early Help – Progress Update • LSCB Emerging Priorities

- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OSC Work Programme Review |
|--|---|

Issues to slot in:

- Secondary Academies Performance – Progress Update (s)
- Recruitment and Retention of Social Workers – Progress Update
- Best Start in Life – Outcome of Pilot Self- Assessment (highlighted in 2017-18 and deferred to 2018-19 work programme)
- Progress update – Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Care, Health and Wellbeing OSC

Review Topic – Helping People Stay at Home Safely (to focus on how assistive technology can help people stay at home safely longer, impact of re-ablement services, the development of housing options to promote independent living etc)

Links to

**Thrive Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives
Council Plan 2015-20**

Health and Social Care Integration – OSC views to be sought on policy direction and performance on six monthly basis

Partner Feedback

Newcastle Gateshead CCG – supportive of emerging themes
Job Centre Plus – supportive of emerging themes

Corporate Resources OSC

- **Helping to increase support / capacity of Voluntary Sector/ explore how organisations link with each other and specific services within council**

- **Tackling Social Exclusion**

**Links to Thrive Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives
Council Plan 2015-20
DPH Report on Inequalities**

Partner Feedback

The Gateshead Voluntary Sector Leaders Group and Newcastle CVS would wish to be actively involved in the items under review by the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Clearly voluntary and community organisations are separate, independent entities, but it is in all our interests to make Gateshead a thriving place to live and reduce inequalities. The Gateshead Voluntary Sector Leaders Group has met to discuss the issues raised by the Council in relation to making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives and they are putting together an offer for consideration.

Tackling social exclusion, in whatever form, is a priority for many voluntary and community organisations.

Newcastle Gateshead CCG – supportive of emerging themes
Job Centre Plus – supportive of emerging themes

Families OSC

Review Topic – Obesity (across the life course) – to involve joint sessions with CHW OSC and Communities & Place OSC.

**Links to:- Thrive Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives
Council Plan 2015-20**

Case Study -Tackling the Toxic Trio (domestic abuse, substance abuse and neglect)

**Links to:- Thrive Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives
Council Plan 2015-20**

Progress updates on :-

- CAMHS
- School Exclusions
- Secondary Schools Performance
- Early Help
- SEN Progression
- Foetal Alcohol Syndrome
- How the Council is meeting the needs of children and young people with learning disabilities.

One off report – Issues relating to Provision of School Meals

Partner Feedback

Newcastle Gateshead CCG – supportive of emerging themes
Job Centre Plus – supportive of emerging themes

Communities and Place OSC

Review Topic - Work to Raise Community Aspirations beyond school /address skill shortages and increase employment

**Links to:- Thrive Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives
Council Plan 2015-20**

Progress Updates on:-

- Managing the Environment – waste/litter/dog fouling
- Management of Highways – potholes /traffic lights/street lights
- Support for Business
- Postal Provision
-

Partner Feedback

Newcastle Gateshead CCG – supportive of emerging themes
Job Centre Plus – supportive of emerging themes

Community Safety Sub OSC

- **Approach to encouraging the reporting of discrimination/hate crimes**
- **Approach to educating communities / raising awareness of differences amongst individuals / race/cultures**

Links to:- Thrive Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives

Council Plan 2015-20

Partner Feedback

Newcastle Gateshead CCG – supportive of emerging themes

Job Centre Plus – supportive of emerging themes

Corporate Parenting Sub OSC

Permanence Planning (Adoption) – Case Study 1

Links to:- Thriving Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives

Council Plan 2015-20

Care Leavers Offer – Case Study 2

Links to:- Thriving Agenda – Making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives

Council Plan 2015-20

Care Leavers Offer – Quality and Impact – Six Monthly Progress Updates

Partner Feedback

Newcastle Gateshead CCG – supportive of emerging themes

Job Centre Plus – supportive of emerging themes

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