

**2018/19 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES  
SERVICES PLAN 2017 – 20**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Children and Young People's Service Plan 2017-2020 was approved by Community Services Committee in September 2017 <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/cyspsm.pdf>.
- 1.2 There is a requirement in Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 to review the report annually and report on the performance and progress to date in delivering the outcomes set out in the plan.
- 1.3 The review considers updates on 2018/19 progress, provides information on developments that have taken place since the plan was published and sets out key plans in the year ahead.
- 1.4 It is recommended that the Community Services Committee
- a) Note that both NHS Highland and Argyll and Bute Council are jointly and equally responsible for children's services planning;
  - b) Approves Argyll and Bute's Children and Young People's Services Plan 2017-2020 Year 1 review for the period 2018/19;
  - c) Once approved by Community Services Committee and approved by Integration Joint Board approve the submission of the Children and Young People's Services Plan Year 2 review to Scottish Government as per the legislative requirement.

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**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This is the second annual review of the Children and Young People's Service Plan 2017-2020 <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/sites/default/files/cyspsm.pdf>. In this review we will report on our performance and progress to date in delivering the outcomes we set out to achieve.
- 2.2 The review will consider:
- Updates on 2018/19 progress and areas for development
  - Provide information on developments that have taken place since the plan was published
  - Set out key plans in the year ahead

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Community Services Committee

- a) Note that both NHS Highland and Argyll and Bute Council are jointly and equally responsible for children's services planning;
- b) Approves Argyll and Bute's Children and Young People's Services Plan 2017-2020 Year 2 review for the period 2018/19;
- c) Once approved by Community Services Committee and approved by Integration Joint Board approve the submission of the Children and Young People's Services Plan Year 2 review to Scottish Government as per the legislative requirement.

**4.0 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY**

- 4.1 The Children and Young People's Service Plan (CYPSP) approved in November 2017 by Council and the Integrated Joint Board is set within the context of seven strategic priorities of early intervention and support, mental health and well-being, child protection, corporate parenting, children and young people's voice, substance misuse and leadership and communication, the priorities are aligned to the eight well-being indicators (SHANARRI).

- 4.2 Overall we have made good progress in achieving a number of outcomes which have supported the delivery of the plan. The following successes are highlighted.

### **Early Intervention and Support**

Implementation of the 3-18 Numeracy and Mathematics strategy and Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning (SEAL) approach are progressing well. Schools trained in SEAL have recorded a notable increase in attainment in National Improvement Framework (NIF) data compared with last year.

Implementation of the 3-18 Literacy strategy and P1 guidance and training has developed confidence and increased understanding in practitioners ability to approach early literacy in a way that has a positive impact of pupils' achievement and wellbeing.

Breastfeeding rates at 6-8 weeks are continuing to improve with the percentage of children exclusively breastfed at 6-8 weeks sitting at 36.9%, this shows a 5% increase from year 1 and exceeds the expected target of 32%.

Argyll and Bute were also successful in obtaining the UNICEF Gold baby friendly award - Achieving Sustainability. This award recognises and celebrates excellent and sustained practice in the support of infant feeding and parent-infant relationships.

### **Mental health and well-being**

We continue to see an increase in the percentage of new mothers breastfeeding at birth. This has been achieved by embedding the 'conversation' tools which support mothers with skin to skin contact immediately following the birth of the baby, this promotes a better understanding of the importance of early attachment.

### **Children and Young People's Voice**

Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA) is an initiative run by [UNICEF UK](#), which encourages schools to place the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child \(CRC\)](#) at the heart of its ethos and [curriculum](#). A Rights Respecting School not only teaches about [children's rights](#); it also models rights and respect in all its relationships, whether between children or between children and adults.

Argyll and Bute Education Service have eight schools at Bronze and two at Silver in the RRSA programme. A further seven schools have registered to take part in the RRSA journey and all are supported by an established network group of school leads

### **Child Protection**

Work to reduce maternal stress and resulting harm to unborn children through early intervention and targeted support for parents is progressing well following the pre-birth pathway and GIRFEC principles, both of which are fully embedded in practice. The Named Midwife co-ordinates a care plan throughout pregnancy with families and involvement of wider team if necessary. The pathway supports the timely completion of assessments and early convening of Antenatal Planning meetings or Child Protection Case Conferences and since its introduction between 20% and 30% of children on the Child Protection Register have been identified pre-birth.

### **Corporate Parenting**

There have been a number of positive initiatives with partners to enhance the schools vocational programmes. These include Scottish Fire and Rescue and Youth Services Fire Skills (Fire Reach) courses and Foundation Apprenticeships in Childcare and Engineering.

A successful recruitment drive by the Fostering Team has resulted in a proposed increase in foster families in Argyll and Bute.

### **Substance Misuse**

Argyll and Bute Integrated Joint Board signed up to Scotland's Charter for *A Tobacco Free Generation* by recognising the harmful effect smoking has on the health of our population and being personal advocates for a smoke-free generation.

### **Leadership and Communication**

The well-being survey has been carried out in conjunction with the SALSUS survey in Year 2 (Spring 2019); more detail on this is provided in 2.3. The survey results will help inform the priorities for the new CYPSP 2020-23

The Year 2 review highlighted some areas where performance results were not as anticipated and consequently areas where further testing and improvements are required.

### **Early Intervention and Support**

The percentage of staff trained on the 'good to go' healthy eating programme. Budget cuts have resulted in a lack of dedicated time available to support training education staff to consistently deliver 'good to go'. This has also had an impact on the number of schools delivering the 'good to go' programme.

Plans are currently in place to progress school staff training in academic year 2019/20. In addition the resources housed on the Food Standard Agency

website have been reviewed and will replace the paper copies currently recommended in the current 'good to go' programme. It is anticipated this work will support an improvement in the Year 3 report.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

The percentage of young carers with a Child's Plan identifying the need for support. It has proved difficult to obtain information on this measure as further exploration has recognised that Young Carers do not routinely meet the criteria for opening a Child's Plan. This measure will be reviewed for the 2020-23 CYPSP.

The percentage of eligible families accessing Healthy Start. A test of change is in progress to support an increase in uptake of Healthy Start. The Best Start voucher scheme replaces the Healthy Start scheme from Summer 2019. Best Start involves a single administrative process and it is anticipated combining these schemes and will help increase uptake and reduce duplication.

### **Children and Young People's Voice**

The percentage of children and young people's views expressed in the GIRFEC child's planning process. Tools have been developed involving tests of change to support an improvement across the different age ranges of children and young people. Improvement activity will be reported in Year 3

The percentage of children and young people involved in Children's Hearings process that are supported to express their views. Children and Young People do not complete and return the notification about hearings 'All about me forms'. This measure will be reviewed for the 2020-23 CYPSP.

### **Child Protection**

The percentage of Initial Tripartite Investigations (IRTIDs) evaluated as good or above. Due to the Joint Inspection of Children's Services it was necessary to suspend the IRTID audit group. Inspection feedback highlighted that responding to initial concerns about the safety of children as a strength in Argyll and Bute. The audit group has resumed and data will be available in the Year 3 report.

### **Leadership and Communication**

The percentage of children and young people with access to the CYP executive summary. It has been anticipated the executive summary would include the findings from the well-being survey, however analyses of this are not expected until early 202

- 4.3 The full report and update of performance indicators and reporting templates is recorded in PYRAMID and appended on to this report, appendix 1.

- 4.4 To help us to understand the strengths, needs and possible concerns in the local secondary population, pupils aged 13 and 15 years across Argyll and Bute have been asked to take part in a survey on health and wellbeing. The Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey (SALSUS) is conducted on a biennial basis and is part of an important and long established series of national surveys on smoking, drinking and drug use in this cohort of young people.

To help improve survey completion rates and expand the range and richness of data, the health and wellbeing and SALSUS surveys in Argyll and Bute were combined.

The well-being and SALSUS survey was carried out in the spring of year 2 (2018-19) of the CYPSP. The results of the survey will be used to inform the priorities for the new Plan (2020 – 23), ensuring children and young people are consistently able to express their views regarding services across Argyll and Bute.

- 4.5 A Scotland-wide programme of engagement by Scottish Government, Children and Families Directorate on Children's Service Plans took place over 2018/19. The rationale for the visits was to hear what has worked well, where further support may be needed, and whether there are consistent themes and priorities emerging at national level.

Argyll and Bute Scottish Government CYPSP engagement visit took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019. The delegation included the Director of Children and Families, the Chief Social Worker Adviser and the Children's Services Strategic Engagement Lead. The visit also involved a review of the Argyll and Bute CYPSP 2017-20 using criteria based around Children's Services Policy and Statutory Guidance

- 4.6 The CYPSP is firmly rooted in the Getting It Right for Every Child framework using well-being Indicators to ensure linkage in outcomes with the Argyll and Bute Improvement Plan and the relevant National Performance Framework

## **5.0 WHAT HAS CHANGED SINCE WE DEVELOPED THE CYPSP?**

- 5.1 When we developed the plan we identified information about the needs of children and young people in Argyll and Bute. The plan contained key actions for all agencies across the community planning partnership. Progress on the completion of these actions is detailed in Appendix 2.

- 5.2 Argyll and Bute's Children Strategic group self evaluation and mapping exercise planned for Year 2 has taken place. This work also formed the basis of the Leadership section of the self-evaluation for the Joint Inspection of Children's Services. The exercise provided clarity on Children's Services groups and plans and will feed in to the development of the 2020- 23 CYPSP.

- 5.3 The Joint Inspection of Services for Children and Young People in Need of Care and Protection took place between August and November 2018. The Care Inspectorate and its scrutiny partners Healthcare Improvement Scotland, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary for Scotland and Education Scotland, looked at the differences the Community Planning Partnership is making to the lives of children and young people in need of care and protection and the lives of the children and young people for whom the Community Planning Partnership has corporate parenting responsibilities.

The inspectors evaluated the quality and effectiveness of services in Argyll and Bute provided by the partnership to the quality indicators in their newly published quality framework for children and young people in need of care and protection.

Preparation for the inspection commenced in June 2018 and covered a 26 week foot print. Consequently timescales for other activities and actions required to be reviewed until the inspection period was complete, this resulted in a delay in progress with some performance and actions detailed in the CYPSP 2017-20

The Joint Inspection of Children's Services Improvement Action Plan aligns improvement activity with the CYPSP and the Getting it Right for Every Child framework.

- 5.4 Children's Service Locality Executive Groups are multi-agency planning groups that ensure consistency in delivery of the CYPSP across the localities. Executive Groups also support locality Practitioner Forums in sharing learning and best practice across Argyll and Bute.

The Executive Groups and Practitioner Forums meet in each locality and the Chairs of the Executive Groups are members of the of the PQA group which meets quarterly and is a subsidiary of Argyll and Bute's Children Strategic Group. Staff have been informed an updated of the structures and work is on-going to promote attendance at Practitioner Forums

- 5.5 Children's Rights are a specific focus of the Strategic Priority – 'Children and Young People's Voices' within the Plan and work is in progress to ensure Children and young people understand their rights as laid out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

- 5.6 Argyll and Bute have been successful in being selected for the GIRFEC Collective Leadership Programme. The Collective Leadership framework will build confidence for practitioners and managers to deliver a shared

understanding to the leadership and delivery of services for children and families.

## **6.0 NEXT STEPS**

- 6.1 Preparation and planning for the 2020- 2023 Children and Young People's Service Plan is currently under development.

## **7.0 CONCLUSION**

- 7.1 The year 2 review of the CYPSP has highlighted some good practice and areas where improvement is still required. Multi agency working is well embedded in Argyll and Bute and work is underway to progress the quality improvement methodology to ensure long term sustainable changes are central to practice.

Developing the Strategic Joint Needs assessment will strengthen and build on the existing good work in conjunction with the Children and Young People survey, this work is currently being developed.

- 7.2 Appendices 1 and 2 detail performance against the indicators and actions identified in the plan and work is already underway to ensure we meet the targets in year 3.

## **8.0 IMPLICATIONS**

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| 8.1 | Policy    | The Children and Young People's Services Plan is framed within the Getting It Right for Every Child framework and the well-being indicators.  |
| 8.2 | Financial | There are no additional resource implications with the delivery of the plan.  |
| 8.3 | Legal     | The Council and NHS Highland are required to report on the progress of the Children and Young People's Services plan as directed within the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, set out within the supporting Statutory Guidance published in December 2016. |
| 8.4 | HR        | None at this time.  |

Fairer Scotland Duty:

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| 8.5 | Equalities | The Children and Young People's Services Plan |
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identifies how health and social care services contribute to reducing inequalities, including health and education inequality.

- 8.6 Socio-economic Duty The Children and Young Peoples Service Plan 2017 – 2020 sits within this framework and seeks to address inequalities for children and young people.
- 8.7 Islands Delivery of services in more remote communities is being explored as part of the inspection improvement action plan and will inform the 2020 -23 Children and Young Peoples Service Plan.
- 8.8 Risk There are potential reputational risks for the Council should they fail to deliver the legislative requirements set out within the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, Statutory Guidance of December 2016.
- 8.9 Customer Service The Children and Young People’s Services Plan informs our young people, parents, carers, volunteers and practitioners of the outcomes and actions that all partner agencies have committed to deliver in order to ensure that children and young people living in Argyll and Bute get the possible start in life.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Children and Young Peoples Services Plan Year 2 Performance Report

Appendix 2: Children and Young Peoples Services Plan Year 2 Actions Progress Report

**Joanna MacDonald**  
**Chief Officer Health and Social Care Partnership**

For further information contact:  
Patricia Renfrew  
Consultant Nurse Children and Families  
Email: [patricia.renfrew@nhs.net](mailto:patricia.renfrew@nhs.net)

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