

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPORT ON: EXTERNAL INSPECTION REPORT FOR FAIRBAIRN STREET CHILDREN'S HOUSE

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

REPORT NO: 236-2020

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide a summary of recent external inspection report carried out by the Care Inspectorate on Fairbairn Street on 11 November 2019, which does not require in-depth scrutiny. Over 2 categories of inspection, Fairbairn House received grades of Good. Fairbairn House was inspected in relation to supporting children and young people's wellbeing and care and support planning.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that members:
- i. note the attached summary of the inspection report on Fairbairn Street Young Person's Home which received grades of Good in all areas covered by the inspections;
 - ii. remit the Executive Director of Children and Families to ensure that the areas for improvement are acted upon.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 The remit of the Scrutiny Committee states that, where the grades awarded in external inspection reports are all good or better and the reports would not benefit from in-depth scrutiny, summary scores from the inspections will be reported, together with examples of best practice and areas for improvement. The summary of the recent inspection report which falls into this category is attached.

4.2 Copies of the inspection report have been passed to the Lord Provost, Group Leaders and Councillor Murray.

4.3 Although there were no Areas for Improvement or Recommendations noted during this Inspection, the Inspector still noted some things the team could do better and as such we have since introduced a system for recording and reviewing searches of young people. We have identified an individual staff member to become the Designated Child Protection Officer for the house who will complete Child Protection training and ensure this is implemented across all staff learning and training. We continue to offer support, mentoring and training through Keyworker-support meetings to ensure that the young person's views are sought and documented and they are fully involved in their care arrangements. The House Manager now holds incident de-brief sessions with all staff and young people to analyse and interpret better any areas of concerning behaviour. The Manager has daily oversight of care planning arrangements and audits the minutes of care planning meetings.

Aligned with staff rota arrangements, the team have recently re-implemented a template for staff planning and movements ensuring it is in line with the young people's needs and diary appointments. The team have liaised with the LAC nurse team re smoking cessation input for our young people and will continue to discourage smoking where possible and explore alternatives such as Vapes.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This Report has been subject to an assessment of any impact on equality and diversity, fairness, poverty, environment and corporate risk. There are no major issues.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Council Management Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Care Inspectorate Report

Paul Clancy
Executive Director

Mark MacAulay
Senior Manager

June 2020

Previous Grades Awarded from Inspections

| Quality Theme: | Grading History | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Feb 2019 | Nov 2017 | Nov 2016 |
| Quality of care and support | 4 Good | 4 Good | 5 Very Good |
| Quality of environment | Not Assessed | Not Assessed | Not Assessed |
| Quality of staffing | Not Assessed | 5 Very Good | Not Assessed |
| Quality of management and leadership | 5 Very Good | Not Assessed | 5 Very Good |

Latest Grades Awarded from this Inspection based on new Revised Inspection Framework Quality Themes

| Theme | Grades: |
|---|--------------|
| How well do we support children and young people's wellbeing? | 4 - Good |
| How good is our leadership? | Not assessed |
| How good is our staffing? | Not assessed |
| How good is our setting? | Not assessed |
| How well is our care and support planned? | 4 - Good |

Summary

The Inspector obtained the views of five young people, two in the form of a questionnaire and three from discussions. The inspector also spoke to one parent face to face. The comments overall were positive about most aspects of the service.

Young people felt that staff knew them well and treated them with respect. One young person said that his keyworkers knew him 100% and showed that they cared about him. He also said that the food was good and he felt safe. One young person commented on the limited space and work needing done on the house.

What The Service Does Well

The staff work hard to build positive, sustainable relationships with young people characterised by affection, compassion and humour and this supports progress during more difficult times. The team is fairly stable and this has provided young people with the opportunity to have continuity in relationships. Staff know the young people very well and can confidently describe their preferences, strengths and challenges. Young people are encouraged and supported to express their views and use advocacy services

The Inspector noted that staff knew young people well and used this knowledge to ensure that young people were given opportunities for group outings and 1-1 activities. All young people are encouraged and supported to develop and maintain positive friendships outwith the house and with family members.

Education and work placement attendance is promoted in the house and some young people have very good attendance. Young people are encouraged and supported to keep active and most have gym memberships.

The inspector noted that child protection concerns were managed effectively and staff showed

compassion when helping young people to regulate their behaviours. The team have worked closely with the Educational Psychologist and received trauma training, which has contributed to developing an understanding of the impact of trauma and enabled them to use strategies to enhance positive outcomes for young people.

The staff team were noted to encourage young people to have good sleep routines, sensible use of social media and provide a balanced and varied diet.

The inspector noted that Risk Assessments were robust and there were improvements from previous inspection in young people's plans which now clearly identified intended outcomes and how these were achieved.

What the Service Could do Better

Staff need to ensure that they maintain records of any searches of young people that they undertake. Staff would benefit from additional learning in specific, more specialised areas to enable them to provide fully informed care.

The corporate recording of incident systems requires improvement to incorporate management oversight.

Young people's views need to be more evident in their plans.

The service needs to develop a more robust approach to support young people to stop smoking.

The service should continue to improve on care planning via ensuring that planning and review documents including evaluations are completed promptly and consistently and follow up any delays in receiving minutes from care planning meetings.

The service needs to develop the system used for assessing staffing levels to meet needs and reduce risk.

Within this Inspection Report there were no recommendations or areas for improvement, however action has already been taken by the Manager to ensure the above points noted in 'What the Service Could do Better' are implemented.