

## **ITEM No ...3.....**

**REPORT TO:** CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE– 27 OCTOBER 2025

**REPORT ON:** OUR PROMISE 2023-26 ANNUAL UPDATE

**REPORT BY:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE

**REPORT NO:** 313-2025

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report provides the Children and Families Committee with the second annual update on the implementation of Our Promise to Care Experienced Children, Young People and Care Leavers 2023-26 (Appendix 1). The report covers the last 12 months and follows Elected Member approval of Our Promise on 23 October 2023 (report number 295-2023) and the first annual update approved on 28 October 2024 (report number 298-2024). The report also includes an update on Whole Family Wellbeing Funding (WFWF) activities (Appendix 2) and Whole Family Support opportunities.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that committee:
- a Note continued progress made in the implementation of Our Promise 2023-26 and improve outcomes for care experienced children, young people and care leavers.
  - b Request the Executive Director to present the next 3-year report covering the period 2026-29 in 6 months.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The Children's Social Work Service is currently projecting a £750k overspend in 2025-26 related to staffing costs. Contingency measures include a review of the staffing structure regarding non-essential vacant posts and a review of a Third Sector commissioned service. The service also continues to work with partners to provide support which prevents children and young people from needing alternative care and shifts the balance towards family-based care. Gross expenditure on care provision for children and young people decreased by around £3.5m between 2022-23 and 2023-24, including £2.9m for residential based care.

### **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 requires Local Authorities to develop a 'Corporate Parenting Plan' to outline how it will meet the needs of 'Looked After Children'. The Independent Care Review published in February 2020 was critical of this stigmatising language and promoted a stronger collective ambition to achieve transformational improvements in the way we describe and provide support to vulnerable families. There is an emphasis on ensuring families can remain together and when not possible children live in family-based care settings. The review outlined 5 foundations relating to Family, Care, People, Voice and Scaffolding.

### **5.0 DEVELOPMENTS**

- 5.1 In response to the Independent Care Review, the Council developed Our Promise to mirror the 5 foundations. Out of the total of 29 initiatives outlined in the current plan, work has started on all of them, 19 have been completed and 10 are making good progress. As outlined in Appendix 2, the 16 initiatives allocated WFWF funding have also been active in building the capacity of 6 existing services to help maximise resources or delivering 10 new services to help address Council priorities. Some trends, benchmarking and further learning over the last 3 years now includes:

- **Number in care** - the total number of care experienced children and young people reduced from 374 in March 2023 to 335 in March 2024 and 309 in March 2025.

*This 14% reduction compares with an overall national reduction of 6% and Social Work teams continue to support families on a voluntary basis where alternatives are not required.*

*Over the period, there has also been an increase in Compulsory Supervision Orders (CSO) at home from 52 to 83, when children previously in care continue to receive support.*

- **Balance of care** - the balance of family based versus residential care has increased from 85.7% in March 2023 to 91% in June 2025.

*This also compares favourably to a national average of 90%, although it remains behind an exemplar Local Authority where the balance is 95%.*

*As this depends upon other care options being available, the service will continue to prioritise building the capacity of internal Kinship Care, Foster Care and Houses.*

- **Missing episodes from Children's Houses** - a marked reduction in 'missing episodes' from Children's Houses from 470 in 2020 to 185 in 2024 and a projected 140 in 2025.

*Whilst a 'missing episode' is very broadly defined and includes instances of being late to arrive home in the evening, this is indicative of greater stability in the houses.*

*All instances of more than 12 hours are escalated and the service is now routinely collating data on episodes to pro-actively address themes as they emerge.*

*In 2025, 8 (6%) of the 140 episodes were for more than 12 hours and the service adapted support to the young people concerned.*

- **School attendance** – the overall attendance rate for care experienced pupils is now 82.8%, higher than the LGBF Family Group average of 80.5%.

*The average figure is adversely affected by the significantly lower attendance levels of children and young people subject to a CSO or in Kinship Care, which is a key priority.*

- **Attainment** – the percentage of care experienced pupils achieving one or more awards at SCQF Level 4 or better has steadily increased from 73% in 2020-21 to 81% in 2024-25.

*For the past four years the average achieving one or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better has been 53% and they still lag their peers in educational attainment overall.*

- 5.2 The key objectives of keeping vulnerable families together, supporting children and young people in family-based settings and improving outcomes are therefore being increasingly realised. However, as reported in last year's Annual Report, children and young people on CSOs at home or in Kinship Care continue to experience poorer outcomes; the recruitment of Foster Carers remains a challenge to sustain the drive towards family-based care; and educational outcomes need to continue to improve. These remain key priorities and further details on more recent and planned activity are outlined in this report.

## 6.0 PEOPLE

- 6.1 In relation to the workforce, the service is implementing a Social Work/School cluster model to promote consistent support to families. In response to the identified needs of some families during evenings and weekends, the WFWF funded Total Mobile project involves a review of the working hours of Children's Social Work teams. It has included full consultation with the workforce and Unions and will make recommendations in November 2025, with a test for change to focus on one or more of the Social Work/School clusters providing support to vulnerable families at home, in schools and in the community.

- 6.2 The 5 other WFWF projects intended to re-design the delivery of services and maximise support are the Dundee Voluntary Action (DVA) development of a Volunteer Strategy; the Dundee Independent Advocacy (DIAS) development of an Advocacy Strategy; the Advice Infrastructure Fast Online Referral Tracking (FORT) system; the Mental Health Foundation coordination of Together to Thrive; and the Council development of a multi-disciplinary hub for adolescents. Four of these projects will be finalised this year and Together to Thrive will be scaled to further enhance the capacity of teams to respond to neuro-developmental concerns.
- 6.3 To evaluate and help further improve Children's Social Work practice, audits of assessments, plans, chronologies and engagement continue to be carried out 3 times a year. When this programme started in May 2021, 58% were graded as Good or better overall. This rose to 93% in June 2023 and 94% in December 2023. In an audit carried out in May 2024 focused specifically on support to adolescents, 83% were graded as Good or better. In the most recent audit in June 2025 focused on children and young people on CSOs at home, 93% were rated as Good or better and the activity described in paragraph 9.1 will extend support to this group.
- 6.4 The Children's Social Work teams continue to operate with an average caseload of 12 families per Social Worker, which is below the indicative optimum of 15 suggested by the Setting the Bar Report published in May 2022. To reduce the burden of administrative tasks and enable teams to increase direct support to families, the service is extending Magic Notes which utilises AI to transcribe reports. In a pilot carried out in the Community Justice Service, the system reduced the time spent on administrative tasks by an average 7 hours a week per worker. The case file audits include a focus on supervision and indicate teams receive close support.
- 6.5 In both the Children and Families Service and Health and Social Care Partnership, teams also continue to operate a national Newly Qualified Social Worker (NQSW) scheme, which places restrictions on the number of families they work with during the first 12 months of their career and provides protected learning time to enhance professional development and retention. A new Supervision Framework which promotes a focus on support, development, accountability and mediation has been developed in consultation with teams and will be launched in November 2025.

## **7.0 FAMILY**

- 7.1 The details in Appendix 2 provide an overview of progress with the other WFWF projects. As Scottish Government has extended funding to March 2027, the Council is currently exploring opportunities to coalesce the range of services into a Whole Family Support project and utilise remaining funding to further build capacity. Discussions with key partners are at an early stage but there is a shared commitment to learn from wider initiatives such as the Linlathen Pathfinder and develop a data-driven place-based focus on addressing child poverty, including with families in the 6 Child Poverty Priority Groups and families with children aged 0-5 years.
- 7.2 The Children and Families Service is also about to finalise a review of Third Sector commissioned services, which currently involves £2.3m annual funding to 14 organisations. They deliver a range of services, from supported accommodation to substance use, parenting, mediation, one parent families, advocacy and disability. The review is informed by the 10 principles of flexible family support outlined in the Independent Care Review and is designed to meet varying overlapping needs in more integrated, accessible and responsive ways, with a similar focus on the 6 Child Poverty priority groups and families with children aged 0-5 years.
- 7.3 In relation to Early Years, as infants aged 0-5 years remain disproportionately represented on the Child Protection Register or provided with alternative care and in recognition of the importance of the first 1,000 days of a child's life, the service has continued to provide or coordinate a range of support to vulnerable families. Currently, 26% of care experienced children are aged 0-5 years compared with a national average of 17%. The New Beginnings Team is being supported by NHS Tayside Lead Clinicians for Infant Mental Health to implement the Infant Pledge and help encourage positive attachment between parent and baby.
- 7.4 This continues to strengthen the support provided by the New Beginnings Team and will be scaled to other Social Work teams supporting parents or carers with babies and infants. Over the

last 12 months, 70% of referred babies were able to remain either at home in the care of their parent or with a Kinship Carer. The 2 WFWF initiatives focused on early years, delivered by Alternatives Counselling and Tayside Council on Alcohol, have similarly provided support to other vulnerable women with emotional health concerns and/or who have previously experienced children removed from their care.

## **8.0 VOICE**

- 8.1 For younger children, the New Beginnings Team has also been trained in using a Mental Health Observational Indicator Set to make observations of children with their main care giver and inform support. To help drive measurable improvements, the service has started to gather data on the proportion of 0-5's who either attend or, more frequently, have their views represented at key decision-making meetings in their absence. The first audit completed in June 2025 established a 50% baseline for this age group compared with 65% overall and this informs an action plan, which includes the development of resources to enable their views to be heard.
- 8.2 For older children, Mind of My Own (MOMO) forms one of several ways of obtaining children and young people's views to inform support. It provides an alternative option to 1:1 methods and Champions Boards have commented positively this year on its use. Where they need additional support to be heard, a Who Cares? advocacy service engaged with 83 children and young people. It retains a strong presence in all Children's Houses and advocated for 31 young people in external Foster Care and residential care. The audit of views provided at key meetings showed that 81% of children over 6 years attended or had their views represented.
- 8.3 The WFWF also contributes towards the delivery and evaluation of What Matters to You, which the Council continues to coordinate with the Hunter Foundation, BBC Children in Need and local communities. Increasingly, the approach involves the use of Cafe Conversations to pro-actively listen and respond to the needs of local communities, including how they might lead or contribute towards developments. Communities play a central role in the allocation of a Make it Happen Fund to enhance support. A full report on the initiative and next steps will be provided to the Children and Families Committee on 1 December 2025.

## **9.0 CARE**

- 9.1 A similar range of developments continue to strengthen support to children, young people and care leavers in different care settings. In response to the lower school attendance and attainment levels of children and young people on CSOs at home or in Kinship Care, the range of existing supports are being extended and systems tightened. In addition to welfare rights assessments, a Place2B online parenting programme, school holiday activity camps, targeted leisure and sports activities, engagement with What Matters to You and trauma informed support from 2 Clinical Psychologists:
  - Education and Social Work leads are ensuring that all pupils on CSOs or in Kinship Care have a Coordinated Support Plan, including support from Pupil Support Workers
  - Mentoring providers in MCR Pathways, Volunteering Matters and Tayside Council on Alcohol will work as a collaborative to target available capacity at this cohort
  - The WFWF funded Total Mobile flexible working project will involve targeted out-of-hours and weekend engagement at home and in the community to this cohort as a priority
- 9.2 In relation to Foster Carers, key developments over the last 12 months include a Care Inspectorate inspection of the Fostering, Adoption and Continuing Care Service published in January 2025. In 2 out of 3 inspection categories, the Fostering and Continuing Care Teams improved from Adequate to Very Good and the Adoption Team improved from Adequate to Good. In the other category, they all improved from Weak to Adequate. In respect of the latter, the key cross-cutting area for improvement related to the oversight of panel functioning and membership. This related to a recruitment challenge and was addressed by March 2025.
- 9.3 However, both nationally and locally Children's Social Work services and Third Sector providers continue to experience challenges in the recruitment of new Foster Carers. The response to recruitment campaigns has been limited and the number of internal Foster Carers has gradually

declined from 109 in 2022 to 95 in 2023, 83 in 2024 and 74 in 2025. Similarly, external Foster Carers recruited by Third Sector organisations and commissioned by the service have also declined over the same period from 95 to 75. It reduces opportunities to support children and young people in family-based settings and remains a key priority.

- 9.4 As outlined in the report to the Scrutiny Committee on 25 June 2025 (report number 205-2025), in the last 12 months the Care Inspectorate also carried out annual inspections of 3 Children's Houses. The inspections focused on 2 Quality Indicators of children and young people being safe, feeling loved and getting the most out of life; and leaders and staff having the capacity and resources to meet and champion their needs. In both categories, Forrester House improved from Good to Very Good; Gillburn Cottage maintained a grading of Good; and The Junction declined from Very Good to Adequate. The grade at The Junction mirrored very specific circumstances and all requirements and areas for improvement have been addressed.

## 10.0 SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS

- 10.1 This report describes how Our Promise continues to have a positive impact in supporting vulnerable families. The number of children and young people in care have continued to reduce; the balance of family-based care has increased; foundational Social Work practice is improving; children, young people, parents/carers and communities are increasingly listened to; Care Inspectorate inspections of regulated services are getting better overall; missing episodes from Children's Houses are reducing; costs are reducing; and WFWF initiatives are either contributing towards enhanced support or show promise.
- 10.2 However, there still remains a disproportionate number of babies and infants subject to formal Child Protection processes and ultimately in care; children and young people on CSOs at home and in Kinship Care are less likely to progress well at school; there are significant challenges in the recruitment of Foster Carers; and the care experienced population still lags their peers in educational attainment by some margin. These concerns are informing Council and partnership priorities, including the development of a data-driven place-based Whole Family Support initiative. In relation to the 10 actions not yet completed but making good progress:
- ✓ **Review of Advocacy Services** – WFWF funding has been allocated to a DIAS led collaborative and new Advocacy Strategy and Delivery Plan will be finalised in late 2025
  - ✓ **Scale What Matters to You** – Cafe Conversations and a Make it Happen Fund are operating in 3 localities and will be scaled to the other 5 over the next 12 months
  - ✓ **Edge of care offer** – the review of commissioned services in the context of Whole Family Support priority groups including early years is due to make proposals in November 2025
  - ✓ **Review of working arrangements to provide support in times of need** – WFWF funding was allocated to Total Mobile and proposals will be presented in November 2025
  - ✓ **Contextual Safeguarding** – delayed due to other priorities but will be progressed using co-located multi-disciplinary services at Crichton Street as a platform from March 2026
  - ✓ **Secure Care self-evaluation** – key provisions of the Care and Justice (Scotland) Act 2024 have been implemented, and a multi-agency group will evaluate practice in March 2026
  - ✓ **Implement Getting it Right for Every Child Practice Profile** – guidance has been developed, Team Around the Child data gathered and qualitative evaluation in March 2026
  - ✓ **Revise Children's Social Work procedures to be compatible with Our Promise** – several procedures have been updated and 12-month rolling schedule was finalised in October 2025
  - ✓ **Explore and apply models of best practice in family support** – review of commissioned services informed by principles of Flexible Family Support in the Independent Care Review
  - ✓ **Develop and implement Foster Carer support strategy** – Care Inspectorate inspection showed marked improvements and recruitment/retention remains a key priority

## 11.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The content of this report was previously considered in report (93-2021) and remains valid. The original report was not subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has checked and agreed with this assessment. For follow-ups relating to initial reports agreed prior to 22/8/22 a copy of the Integrated Impact Assessment is available (where applicable) on the Council's website at [www.dundee.gov.uk/iia](http://www.dundee.gov.uk/iia)

## **12.0 CONSULTATIONS**

12.1 The Council Leadership Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are in agreement with its content.

## **13.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

13.1 None.

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Chief Social Work Officer

September 2025

## APPENDIX 1

Our Promise to Care Experienced Children, Young People and Families 2023-26 Action Plan				
Foundation	Actions	Leads	Measuring Impact	Timescales
Voice	<b>Implement Infant Pledge for babies and toddlers in care</b> - 'Hello in There Wee One' has been developed jointly with NHS Tayside and Dundee University. It is being implemented in the New Beginnings Team to strengthen mother/baby attachments.	Service Manager	Audit of practice in test sites	¼ audits
	<b>Coordinate Champions Boards</b> – now operate in all Secondary Schools and are attended by the Chief Executive, Executive Director and Heads of Service. They have included support to attend and feedback on Columba 1400 and use Mind of My Own.	Education Officer	Survey Champions Boards	¼ meetings
	<b>Review advocacy to improve access and impact</b> – WFWF funding was allocated to a DIAS led collaborative to develop an Advocacy Strategy and Delivery Plan by late 2025. In the interim, the service continues to commission Who Cares? Scotland.  Last year, Who Cares? advocated for 83 children and young people, including 31 living outside the city. Typically, this occurs at key decision-making meetings, where audits show that 50% of under 6's and 81% of older 6's had their voices heard.  This has informed the development of an action plan to widen the range of resources available to teams to enable them to ensure that children and young people's voices are heard in meetings. The wider review of advocacy is designed to enhance capacity.	Service Manager	% offered and accessing	March 2024
	<b>Implement findings of survey on brother/sister care</b> – a Staying Connected Procedure has been implemented; teams have received training; and data monitoring has been enhanced. Overall, 47.2% of children live with at least one sibling and this varies as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At home with parents – 80%</li> <li>Kinship Care – 55%</li> <li>Foster Care – 31.3%</li> <li>Children's Houses – 11%</li> </ul>	Service Manager	Implementation of plan	March 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>External residential care – 0%</li> </ul> <p>This is a key reason why the service prioritises local family-based care, where children are more likely to live with or near their brothers/sisters. It also reinforces the importance of building local Foster Care capacity so they can be together or remain close.</p> <p>Some children and young people with more complex needs are cared for in care external residential settings, where it is not appropriate and/or possible for their brother or sister to stay. In these circumstances, regular contact is supported</p> <p>It should also be noted that ‘having a sibling’ includes half-siblings living with the other birth parent and adult brothers and sisters, where it is often not appropriate and/or possible for a care experienced child to stay.</p> <p><b>Implement and scale What Matters to You in locality areas</b> – Cafe Conversations and a Make it Happen Fund are now operating in some locality areas, with plans in place to scale the approach via Local Community Planning Partnerships over the next 12 months.</p> <p><b>Include a focus on voice in audits of practice</b> – audits provide data on children and young people attending or being represented at decision-making meetings. The initial audit showed that 65.5% overall had their voices heard and has informed an action plan.</p>	Head of Service	Formal evaluation	March 2026
		Service Manager	% where voice informed plans	¼ audits
Family	<p><b>Coordinate targeted deployment of Whole Family Wellbeing Funding</b> – all WFWF funding was allocated by November 2023 and the Children’s Services Planning Partnership is exploring options for the SG extension and increase of funds to March 2027.</p>	Head of Service	Develop specific measures	Nov 2023
	<p><b>Develop a clear edge of care offer to all families</b> – this relates to a review of commissioned services and an options appraisal was delayed due to competing priorities but is now to be finalised and make proposals in November 2025.</p>	Senior Manager	Numbers in care	June 2024
	<p><b>Review working arrangements to provide support at time of need</b> – WFWF funding was allocated to Total Mobile in early 2024 and they will make final proposals for additional evening/weekend working to the Senior Leadership Team in November 2025.</p>	Senior Manager	Family stability/disruption	June 2024



	<b>Conduct Welfare Rights assessments with all families at risk</b> – families with Kinship Care arrangements all receive a Welfare Rights assessment. Others not in formal Kinship Care have also and will continue to receive support to help maximise income.	Practice Manager	Income maximisation	June 2024
	<b>Implement Contextual Safeguarding for adolescents at risk</b> – this has been delayed pending the developments with the co-located multi-disciplinary team at Crichton Street due to be launched in February 2026.	Senior Manager	Audits of Child's Plans	March 2024
	<b>Explore and apply models of best practice in family support</b> – this relates to the review of commissioned services and options appraisal which has been delayed due to other priorities but will be finalised in November 2025.	Senior Manager	Measures to be developed	March 2025

Care	<b>Develop and implement brothers/sisters practice guidance</b> – Staying Together procedures have been developed and implemented across teams, which continue to navigate complexities in sibling relationships and care arrangements.	Senior Manager	Measures inform by survey	June 2025
	<b>Implement therapeutic and other supports to Kinship Carers</b> – Corra funded Clinical Psychologists provide routine trauma informed advice and support to both Kinship Care Team and Kinship Carers. Funding sustained to March 2027	Service Manager	Numbers in Kinship Care	June 2025
	<b>Target school attendance support to pupils in Kinship Care</b> – after additional supports were provided, they are now being further extended and systems tightened to more effectively address the needs of this cohort of young people in secondary schools	Education Officer	Educational outcomes	March 2024
	<b>Develop and implement new Foster Carer support strategy</b> – a strategy has been developed and implemented. A Care Inspectorate inspection showed substantial improvement from Weak/Adequate to mostly Good/Very Good. There are still recruitment challenges	Service Manager	Recruitment and satisfaction	Nov 2023
	<b>Complete secure care self-evaluation and implement improvements</b> – key provisions of Care and Justice (Scotland) Act 2024 implemented and a multi-agency group will evaluate practice before, during and after Secure Care in March 2025-26.	Senior Manager	Compliance with standards	June 2024
		Senior Manager	Compliance with standards	June 2024

	<p><b>Develop and implement new Continuing Care practice guidance</b> – developed and implemented so the Aftercare Team now receives advance notification and transfer of young people aged 16 years, then continues to offer support up to age 26 years.</p> <p><b>Review Aftercare support to care leavers aged up to 26 years</b> – reviewed and 98% of care leavers eligible for compulsory support receive support from the Aftercare Team, including Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC).</p> <p><b>Enhance supportive post-care housing support</b> - new provision has been developed at Reid Square and Fairbairn Street. A Third Sector commissioned service is being reviewed by November 2025. Policy of no 16–17-year-olds in adult homeless accommodation</p> <p><b>Implement Youth Participation action plan</b> – being implemented with Youth Participation Group including additional capacity from WFWF, pro-active identification and support to STARS in secondary school and extension of mentoring support</p>	Senior Manager	% supported and outcomes	June 2024
		Senior Manager	Homelessness	June 2024
		Senior Manager	Positive destinations	June 2024
<b>People</b>	<p><b>Implement risk assessment and defensible decision-making training</b> – training modules developed with Educational Psychology with initial focus on Children’s Homes and now delivered to all front-line Social Work teams</p> <p><b>Implement Welfare Rights training</b> – Welfare Rights senior manager is a member of Our Promise Partnership; routine assessments are carried out for Kinship Carers; and advice/guidance available for other families</p> <p><b>Implement an annual foster carer training plan</b> – developed and implemented and now also extends to Kinship and Foster Panels to promote consistency of approach. Attendance and satisfaction data for both carers and panels is being gathered by February 2026</p> <p><b>Ensure high quality Child’s Plans for all care experienced children</b> – audits show marked improvements in the % of Children’s Social Work assessments, chronologies and plans graded as Good or better</p> <p><b>Scale parenting programme training across teams</b> – Place2B is used by the Kinship Team and the review of commissioned services</p>	Service Manager	Audits of practice	¼ audits
		Service Manager	Audits of practice	¼ audits
		Service Manager	Attendance and satisfaction	Annual
		Service Manager	Audits of practice	¼ audits
		Service Manager	Audits of practice	¼ audits

	will include a focus on parenting as part of a general whole family approach			
<b>Scaffolding</b>	<p><b>Fully implement GIRFEC Practice Profile in all sites</b> – guidance has been developed for all sites and data is gathered on Team Around the Child Meetings. Audit of quality to take place in late 2025-26.</p> <p><b>Implement new Social Work Practice Standards</b> – implemented across teams and support is being provided to prioritise support in accordance with assessed levels of risk and need, including children on the Child Protection Register</p> <p><b>Revise all Social Work procedures to be Our Promise compatible</b> – some procedures have been reviewed and an update report outlining next steps was approved by the management team in October 2025</p>	Education Officer	Audits of practice	Bi-annual audits
		Senior Manager	Audits of practice	January 2024
		Service Manager	Audits and staff survey	March 2024

## APPENDIX 2

<b>Appendix 2</b> <b>Whole Family Wellbeing Fund</b>			
Organisation	Funding	Description of service provided	Service Delivery Update
<b>Alternatives</b>	Yr1 - 20,110 Yr2 - £34,159 Yr3 - £34,267 <b><u>£89k</u></b>	Early intervention support to expectant or new parents with emotional health and wellbeing concerns, including group therapy. <b><u>Reflects the Early Years priority</u></b>	2024 – 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referral redirected to Adult Psychological Services: 1</li> <li>Women engaged in counselling: 13</li> <li>Total perinatal sessions delivered: 177</li> <li>Sessions for miscarriage/termination support: 52</li> <li>Assessment/pregnancy choice sessions: 55</li> </ul>
<b>Tayside Council on Alcohol</b>	Yr1 - £148k Yr2 - £249k Yr3 - £263k <b><u>£662k</u></b>	For The Birch Programme providing support to women who have had children removed from their care, remain vulnerable and are at risk of further pregnancy. <b><u>Reflects the Early Years priority</u></b>	2024-25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referrals - 34</li> <li>Group Sessions: 66</li> <li>1:1 Appointments Offered: 908 (attended 651)</li> <li>Peer Support Appointments: 63 (attended 55)</li> </ul>
<b>Mental Health Foundation – Together to Thrive</b>	Yr1 – £0 Yr2 – £157k Yr3 – £157k <b><u>£314k</u></b>	For Together to Thrive, a model which enhances the skills of teams providing support to parents of primary aged children with neuro-developmental concerns. <b><u>Reflects the Mental Health priority</u></b>	2024-25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Referrals - 168</li> <li>Accepted – 132; not accepted 22; waiting allocation 14</li> <li>1:1 support: 92 children/families</li> <li>Group support: 40 children/families</li> <li>Training cohorts: 6</li> <li>Practitioners trained: 88</li> <li>Coaching sessions: 100</li> </ul>
<b>Read Dundee</b>	Yr1 – £44k Yr2 – £45k Yr3 – £46k <b><u>£135k</u></b>	For Talk and Play Together, a service which supports whole families to improve literacy skills whilst enhancing relationships and addressing barriers to learning. <b><u>Reflects the Inequalities priority</u></b>	2024-25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total Sessions: 30</li> <li>Total Families: 63</li> <li>Total Children: 71</li> <li>Books and Resource Packs Gifted During Delivery: 775</li> </ul>
<b>The Yard (1)</b>	Yr1 – £22k Yr2 – £54k Yr3 – £57k <b><u>£133k</u></b>	For Family Support and Summer Play activities for families with children and young people with a disability, including play sessions for 5 days a week. <b><u>Reflects the Child Poverty priority</u></b>	2024 – 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of school holiday sessions run - 20</li> <li>Number of weekend play sessions run - 50</li> <li>Number of children/young people supported- 213</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of families supported - 100</li> </ul>
<b>The Yard (2)</b>	Yr1 – £8k Yr2 – £41k Yr3 – £50k <b><u>£98k</u></b>	For additional support provided to pupils with ASN transitioning from Primary to Secondary school.  <b><u>Reflects the Inequalities priority</u></b>	2024 – 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of transitions sessions run - 17</li> <li>Number of school pupils attending sessions - 63</li> <li>Number of schools worked with - 10</li> <li>Number of families taking up wider support - 2</li> </ul>
<b>Advocacy (DIAS)*</b>	Yr1 – £29k Yr2 – £99k Yr3 – £92k <b><u>£219,227</u></b>	For the coordination and maximisation of multiple advocacy services across the city.  <b><u>Reflects the Inequalities priority</u></b>	Additional partnership working with Reach Advocacy to assist with the completion of the strategy document, with Action Plan now complete and due to be submitted to Strategic Leadership Group for approval in early 2026.
<b>Dundee Bairns</b>	Yr1 – £48k Yr2 – £93k Yr3 – £98k <b><u>£238,201</u></b>	For a capacity building approach towards child healthy weight, involving volunteer coaching in budgeting and nutrition and an expansion of tea clubs. <b><u>Reflects the Child Poverty priority</u></b>	Tea clubs run in 23 schools and serving approx. 750 meals per week. The Healthy Eating Coordinator worked in 19 schools and engaged with 154 pupils with an average feedback score of 4.38 out of 5 for delivery and quality of food.
<b>DVVA *</b>	Yr1 – £35k Yr2 – £73k Yr3 – £77k <b><u>£186k</u></b>	For the coordination and maximisation of multiple volunteer services across the city, with a view to consistent volunteer development, pathways and targeting. <b><u>Reflects the Inequalities priority</u></b>	Partnership working and research to gain clearer understanding of volunteering challenges, which has led to the design and introduction of the Volunteer Passport. Launch of the passport scheduled for late 2025.
<b>Advice Infrastructure FORT *</b>	Yr1 – £0 Yr2 – £54k Yr3 – £54k <b><u>£108,000</u></b>	Reinstate the Fast Online Referral Tracking (FORT) triage function for a coordinated partnership system and to accelerate access to services. <b><u>Reflects all priorities</u></b>	2024 – 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>123 whole family referrals</li> <li>191 referrals to wider support services</li> </ul>
<b>Dundee REP</b>	Yr1 – £0 Yr2 – £77k Yr3 – £80k <b><u>£157k</u></b>	A Creative Family Wellbeing Service that offers 1:1 and group dramatherapy sessions and psychoeducational support.  <b><u>Reflects the Child Poverty priority</u></b>	September 2024 – March 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 referrals from various sources</li> <li>8 clinical sessions being held weekly supporting 13 clients</li> <li>Waiting list of 11 referrals (21 clients)</li> </ul>
<b>Total Mobile*</b>	Yr1 – £0 Yr2 – £85k Yr3 – £0 <b><u>£85k</u></b>	Commissioned Consultancy Service to explore options to extend Children's Social Work out-of-hours support.  <b><u>Reflects all priorities</u></b>	Consultation and proposals will be completed in November 2025.
<b>What Matters To You*</b>	Yr1 – £44k Yr2 – £0 Yr3 – £0 <b><u>£44k</u></b>	Data collation, analysis and learning in 2 pilot sites, feeding into both LCPPs.  <b><u>Reflects the Child Poverty priority</u></b>	1 year allocation to support evaluation of WM2U.
<b>DCC Holiday Programme Partnership</b>	Yr1 – £31k Yr2 – £123k Yr3 – £127k <b><u>£281,661</u></b>	School holiday, including Summer Play, activity for priority children, young people and families, including low income, disabilities and in kinship care. <b><u>Reflects the Child Poverty priority</u></b>	April, Summer & October 2024 holidays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7,720 pupils attended</li> <li>Schools reporting increase in attendance of children</li> <li>Reduction in crisis intervention</li> </ul>

<b>DCC Discover Work</b>	Yr1 – £0 Yr2 – £101k Yr3 – £105k <b><u>£205k</u></b>	Implementation and delivery of the Improvement Framework for Positive Destinations.  <b><u>Reflects the Child Poverty priority</u></b>	From Aug 2025 all schools will have a Positive Destinations Core Implementation Group operating in accordance with the framework.
<b>DCC Social Work Crichton Street Hub*</b>	Yr1 – £260k Yr2 – £91k Yr3 – £91k <b><u>£442,000</u></b>	Renovation costs for the co-location of a multi-disciplinary team at Crichton Street.  <b><u>Reflects all priorities</u></b>	Building work to renovate the property will begin in October 2025, with scheduled completion and opening in February 2026.