



REPORT TO: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD – 24 JUNE 2026

REPORT ON: CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANNING PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2026–2029

REPORT BY: CHIEF OFFICER

REPORT NO: DIJB20-2026

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present to the Integration Joint Board's the Children's Services Planning Partnership (CSPP) Plan 2026–2029 (Appendix 1).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Integration Joint Board (IJB):

- 2.1 Note the statutory requirements relating to Children's Services Planning Partnership.
- 2.2 Note the Children's Services Planning Partnership Plan 2026–2029, which will be considered for approval by Dundee City Council on 22 June 2026.
- 2.3 Remits the Chief Officer to review the Strategic Risk Register with reference to the information contained within section 6 of this report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None

4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 places a statutory duty on local authorities and health boards to jointly prepare a Children's Services Plan for each three-year period.
- 4.2 The legislation requires partners to plan and deliver services in ways which safeguard, support and promote wellbeing; improve early intervention and prevention; improve joined-up support for children and families; and make best use of available resources.
- 4.3 Since 2017, Dundee, Angus and Perth and Kinross Councils, NHS Tayside and other partners have delivered Children's Services Planning through a regional model linked to the Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative (TRIC). Across three 3-year planning cycles, the regional model supported collaborative developments in early years, digital learning, emotional health and wellbeing, care experienced children and young people and child protection.
- 4.4 Over time, delivery and reporting activity has become increasingly localised, reflecting differing local governance arrangements and service structures across each local authority area. Alongside this, Scottish Government funding associated with Regional Improvement Collaboratives (RICs) was tapered before ending altogether and regional infrastructure arrangements are concluding. In response, partners agreed that future Children's Services Planning arrangements should move to a local partnership model from 2026–2029, whilst continuing regional collaboration where this adds value.

4.5 DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2026–2029

- 4.5.1 The Dundee Children's Services Partnership Plan 2026–2029 has been developed jointly by Dundee City Council, NHS Tayside, Police Scotland, Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership, Dundee Voluntary Action and wider statutory and third sector partners.
- 4.5.2 Development of the Plan included evaluation of previous plans, strategic assessment of local need, review of local and national data, engagement with children, young people and families and consultation with partners.
- 4.5.3 The Plan has also been informed by the Dundee Partnership City Plan, Council Plan, The Promise, Whole Family Wellbeing Funding developments, child poverty priorities and wider improvement activity.
- 4.5.4 The Plan sets out the shared vision that 'All children, young people and parents/carers receive the right support at the right time with kindness and respect.' It identifies five priority areas for 2026–2029:
- Place Based Whole Family Support;
 - Physical, Mental and Emotional Health;
 - Presence, Progress and Participation in Learning;
 - Children and Young People at Risk of Harm; and
 - Our Promise.
- 4.5.5 The plan builds on learning from existing positive initiatives such as What Matters to You, the Linlathen Pathfinder, leadership of improvement activity within Early Learning Centres and schools and targeted approaches to priority groups, such as care experienced children.
- 4.5.6 It places a strong focus on place-based whole family support informed by community engagement, prevention and early intervention, tackling poverty and inequality, trauma-informed practice and improving outcomes through partnership working.

4.6 INTERFACE WITH ADULT HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STRATEGIC PLANS

- 4.6.1 The Children's Services Planning Partnership Plan is highly relevant to the Integration Joint Board because many of the outcomes it seeks to improve depend on effective health and social care support for adults, families and carers. Although the statutory duty for children's services planning sits with the local authority and NHS Board, delivery of key priorities such as early intervention, whole family support, mental health and wellbeing and transitions to adult services requires active contribution from Dundee Health and Social Care Partnership services commissioned or overseen through the IJB.
- 4.6.2 There is a strong interface between this Plan and the Plan for Excellence in Health and Social Care in Dundee, which sets the long-term strategic direction for integrated adult and community health and social care services. Both plans share a preventative, person-centred and partnership-based approach, with common themes including reducing inequalities, improving mental health and wellbeing, supporting people in local communities, strengthening trauma-informed and whole family approaches, and making best use of collective resources. The Children's Services Plan therefore complements the IJB's wider strategic ambitions by focusing on earlier stages of life and by helping to improve longer-term outcomes across the life course.

4.7 GOVERNANCE AND REPORTING

- 4.7.1 Implementation of the Children's Services Planning Partnership Plan 2026–2029 will be overseen through the Child Poverty and Inequalities Strategic Leadership Group, Chaired jointly by the Council and NHS Tayside and reporting to the Dundee Partnership.
- 4.7.2 Annual progress reports will be produced in line with statutory requirements and reported to relevant governance groups. Reporting will include outcome measures, service performance information, feedback from children, young people and families and evaluation against agreed actions.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been subject to the Pre-IIA Screening Tool and does not make any recommendations for change to strategy, policy, procedures, services or funding and so has not been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has reviewed and agreed with this assessment.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 The content of this report relates to the following risk from the IJB Strategic Risk Register:

Risk	11IJB – Whole System Collaboration – There is a risk of the co-ordination of whole system planning and commissioning being insufficient to enable integration of health and social care services and improve outcomes for people.
Risk Level	12 – High
Risk Appetite	Within appetite
The report demonstrates:	
	An increase in risk level
	A reduction in risk level
	The effectiveness of current controls
X	The identification and implementation of additional controls The agreement of the Children's Services Plan represents a significant additional control, given the shared priorities between this plan and the IJB's strategic commissioning framework.
	The presence of a new / emerging risk

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Finance Officer, Heads of Service Health and Community Care, and the Clerk were consulted in the preparation of this report.

8.0 DIRECTIONS

The Integration Joint Board requires a mechanism to action its strategic commissioning plans and this is provided for in sections 26 to 28 of the Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Act 2014. This mechanism takes the form of binding directions from the Integration Joint Board to one or both of Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside.

Direction Required to Dundee City Council, NHS Tayside or Both	Direction to:	
	1. No Direction Required	X
	2. Dundee City Council	
	3. NHS Tayside	
	4. Dundee City Council and NHS Tayside	

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 None

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Chief Officer

DATE: 26 May 2026

Glyn Lloyd
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Dundee Children's Services Partnership Plan 2026-29

**All children, young people
and parents/carers receive
the right support at the
right time with kindness
and respect**

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Foreword

This plan is all about you, the families and communities of Dundee. We've listened to what matters to you and understand the importance of building services based on what you tell us you need at every stage of family life, in ways that work for you.

In this plan, we describe how we will create chances for you, your family and your community to grow stronger. We show how we will ensure that where families require additional support, it's accessible, flexible and focused on you.

The plan includes an explanation of our approaches towards listening to and hearing your voice; involving you in making decisions; jointly allocating our resources in a consistent response; building on strengths; and targeting support to key groups.

It explains how we've jointly arrived at setting 5 key priorities, outlines our shared commitments to you and explains the services we intend to develop, coordinate, commission and deliver with and for you over the next 3 years.

This includes a description of key data on children, young people and families; views on what they need or what we can do better; current and anticipated legislative requirements; and links we make with other services providing important support.

Whilst we implement the plan, we'll continue to routinely engage with you, your family and community. We'll also jointly gather data to check whether we're being helpful and whether we need to change anything we're doing or plan to do.

We hope you enjoy reading the plan, that it focuses on what you currently think are the right commitments, priorities and support and that it explains how, going forward, you can continue to contribute towards developments.

Chief Executive, Dundee City Council Divisional Commander, Police Scotland

Chief Executive, NHS Tayside Chief Executive, Dundee Voluntary Action

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OUR CHILDREN'S SERVICES PARTNERSHIP PLAN

This plan builds on years of gathering data and listening to our communities, who say that **children, young people and families are their core priority** and that we ought to provide accessible, flexible and consistent support in ways which matter to them.

All our services, including Early Learning Centres, Schools, Health, Social Work, Housing, Community Learning and Development, Police Scotland, Health and Social Care and the Third Sector, have listened and contributed.

We've jointly developed **5 shared commitments** which focus on empowering children, young people, families and communities in ways which prevent challenges from escalating; providing flexible support; and protecting families from harm:

- ✓ ***We will listen to children and families and make real changes in your local community where you live and/or work***
- ✓ ***We will help people stay physically and emotionally well by supporting healthy food and fun activities and offering specialist support where required***
- ✓ ***We will make learning a big part of growing up – from babies and nursery, through to primary and secondary school and into college***
- ✓ ***We will help keep children safe and if anyone is worried about a child, we will respond quickly and do the right thing to protect them from harm***
- ✓ ***We will make sure children who are in care feel loved and supported, can stay connected and get continued support when they leave care***

Our 5 Priorities

To meet our shared commitments, check whether we're being helpful and adapt services where necessary, we have **decided on the following five priorities** with corresponding aims. We've also given a flavour of some of the indicators we will use to help measure whether we're making a difference, with more detail later in the plan:

Priority	Aim	Examples of Measures
Local place based whole family support	Families can get the help they need within their communities	The voice of children, young people and families on access, quality and impact of support
Physical, mental and emotional health	Support starts early to prevent developmental concerns from early years	The number of children with developmental concerns at 27-30-month review
Presence, participation and progress in education	More children are included in learning and inequalities are reduced	The uptake of funded Early Learning and Childcare by eligible two-year-olds
Children and young people protected from harm	Children are noticed, listened to, supported and kept safe	The number of children on the Child Protection Register and de-registration timescales
Care experienced children and young people	Children in care are loved and supported, and can do well	The right balance between family based and residential care placements

4.8 Priorities in Practice

As some children, young people and families can experience challenges from the time they are born to the time they become parents themselves and then onwards for their own children over different generations, here's a fictional story of what each of these priorities would mean for them and how it will help to improve their lives:

The story starts with Emma and her two children Freya aged 2 and Luca aged 6, who are stuck at home because they don't have money to do anything. Emma's mood is low, she can't currently gain employment, her children are bored and they're often misbehaving. On some mornings, she struggles to get Luca to school.

Place-based support: Emma was told of free family activities in her community centre and after a nervous start they now attend regularly. It makes a huge difference as they have something to look forward to, made friends, get a weekly free healthy meal and receive benefits, employability and housing advice in one building.

Physical, mental and emotional health: Health Visitors found that Freya is not meeting her developmental milestones and Luca is at risk of becoming overweight. They got speech and language therapy involved and suggested joining a pram pushing group, where it helps to get advice from other parents.

Freya is now playing with other children and catching up in her development, whilst Luca has joined a football group. This also gives Emma a welcome break from the demands of single parenting. Their community group involves the family in cooking, so they have started to cook healthy meals from scratch.

Presence, participation and progress in education: One of the other mums let Emma know that Freya should be eligible for a free nursery place and attending nursery now helps Freya to make friends. It takes pressure off Emma and helps Luca to attend school because they all leave the house together in the morning.

Care experienced children and young people: Emma's sister is struggling with her mental health and finding it difficult to care for her son Callum, who has become withdrawn and is struggling at school. A Social Worker is therefore providing extra support and Emma offers to take Callum into kinship care until things get better.

After 4 months, Emma's sister is starting to feel much better, Callum has come off the Child Protection Register, he is settling in Emma's care and has regular contact with his Mum. He and Luca have started taking part in active school activities together after school and he will be returning home in another 2 months.

Over time, Emma carries out voluntary work before starting a part-time job; both children are supported with a smooth transition from ELC to Primary School and Primary School to Secondary School; Freya develops a strong interest in creative art; and Luca continues to progress both academically and in sport.

WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE

This fictional story hopefully illustrates how we will help families and communities grow stronger together. Often support goes to families when things have already reached crisis point. This plan is about **helping earlier, so fewer families reach crisis**—while still making sure the children and young people who need the most help get it.

We will do this by making it easier to get support in your local area. Where it makes sense, **different services will work together in the same place, as one team**, so you're not

having to repeat your story, and you receive consistent support over time. We know that you know your own life best and want to involve you in planning services.

We want you to have chances to use your skills and talents in ways that matter to you, your family and your community. This way, the support you get is **responsive, flexible and focused** on what you, your family and others in your local community need to be healthy and safe.

In terms of families who need the most help, research has shown that although any family can encounter challenges at any time, **some are more likely to experience inequalities than others**. As they may not be aware of services or unable to access them, they may benefit from targeted support. This includes:

- **Lone Parents**
- **Disabled children and parents**
- **Minority ethnic families**
- **Parents of babies**
- **Young parents**
- **Care experienced families**
- **Young carers**

We have included a targeted focus on these families in each of the 5 priorities and related actions. It doesn't mean that we're discriminating against these or other families but that we're offering **equitable and non-judgemental services** because some families are more likely to need more support than others.

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Next, we share what we know about children, young people and families. Some of the information is tough to read, like figures about poverty, health and the problems some families face. But there are also positive changes happening. **We want to learn from what is improving**, do more of it and help make Dundee a great place for everyone.

What we know about children, young people and families in Dundee

148,000 population of Dundee



 Challenges for children and young people in Dundee	 Signs of hope and change for the better
Abc One in 5 (18%) of two-year-olds don't meet their developmental milestones, with speech and language development being the key concern – an estimated 60% do not meet speech and language milestones by the time they enter school	By attending school and with the right supports most children catch up - 88% (same as national average) achieve good listening and speaking levels by P7 
 Poverty 43% Poverty - 43% of children in Dundee live in 20% most deprived households in Scotland, significantly more in some neighbourhoods	Benefits advice is accessible in many local communities - over £17 million pounds were raised for Dundee families through income maximisation in 2024/25 

 Challenges for children and young people in Dundee	 Signs of hope and change for the better
 Dundee continues to have high rates of substance misuse and this can result in exploitation and abuse (“the real issue is drugs” (voice of young adult)	Planet Youth is trying to break this cycle by involving pupils from an earlier age to learn to say no under peer pressure [image alcohol, drugs, no] 
 1 in 10 children Only one in ten children does enough physical exercise (according to national guidance)	7163 (38% of the school roll) took part in Active Schools activities in 2024/25 improving physical and mental health and social integration 
 Central funding for key services and many supports has been decreasing year on year, which has reduced some supports and opportunities	There has been increase in grassroots community groups who reach people in their neighbourhoods – 115 small groups were funded through the Make It Happen Fund in 2025/26 reaching around 
 When looking at average statistics, some areas in Dundee seem “stuck” with generations affected by huge inequalities that seem hard to overcome	Time and again we find exceptions – children and adults who break the cycle and reach out to make Dundee a better place – it is these success stories we want to learn from, so we can support more of them and make Dundee unstuck 
 89% At 89.6% attendance (academic year 2024/25) at Dundee schools continues to be below Scottish average	However, attendance rates at all schools have improved over the past two academic years and attendance at Dundee Primary Schools was at 92.7% (academic year 2024/25) 



Challenges for children and young people in Dundee



Dundee pupils on average leave school with fewer qualifications (as measured by average tariff score – 769 points in 2024/25 compared to Scottish average of 922 and the attainment gap between the poorest and the least deprived areas in Dundee has increased)



There are still around 400 children and young people each year who are “looked after” because their parents struggle – this includes social work support for children still at home with their parent(s), children in kinship or foster care, and children in residential units or supported accommodation.



Signs of hope and change for the better

However, there are positive signs of improvement, in particular in literacy levels in primary schools. While fewer than Scottish average achieve expected literacy levels by end of P1, more than average reach expected levels by end of P7 (overall 73.9% of pupils reach expected CFE literacy levels, which are close to the Scottish average of 74.5%)



88.4% of looked after children are in community settings (home, kinship, foster care or supported accommodation); this is close to Scottish average (88.3) and a stable balance where only one in ten looked after children is in a residential unit. And of those who are, over half are in Dundee’s Houses.



WHAT HAS GUIDED OUR PRIORITIES

As we believe it's vital to hear and respond to what children, young people and families say they need, we commissioned a Social Action Research Project to find out more. We then also consulted with various groups on the content of a proposed plan. They highlighted and reinforced some key themes which have strongly influenced the plan:

- **Community based provision** – access to local services where the first contact matters to prevent disengagement
- **Social connection** – having access to networks, services and support to promote a sense of belonging, reduce isolation and improve emotional health
- **Family finance** – whether in work or out of work, help with the cost of living and access to affordable activities
- **Employment** – addressing multiple barriers to further education, training and employment, such as childcare responsibilities and mental health
- **Children and young people with additional support needs** – early assessment and timeous support at home, in school and in the community
- **Housing** – including family access to suitable stable housing and assistance with costs
- **Health and wellbeing** – support with all the above helps to reduce stress and strain and makes it easier to live more confidently and comfortably as a family

Whilst there are national and local financial restrictions which dictate that we need to make the most of what we have, we believe that **focusing on the right priorities in this way** and working with communities and families to jointly apply these principles is much more likely to be helpful.

Place Based Whole Family Support

The concept of place based whole family support is central to our approach and stems from a belief that to be **meaningful**, services need to be informed by local views; to be **accessible**, they need to be available locally; to be **effective**, they need to be holistic; and to be **sustainable**, they need to build assets. We will therefore:

- **Pool our resources and use them flexibly with an emphasis on whole families**
- **Help children, young people and families to help one another**
- **Apply a no wrong door approach where you get the right help when you ask**
- **Respond to you with kindness, respect, empathy and understanding**
- **Use digital technology for some tasks so teams can spend more time with you**
- **Enhance support during evenings/weekends when pupils are home from school**

LINKS WITH OTHER POLICIES, PARTNERSHIPS AND PLANS

Effective children, young people and family services depend on strong partnership working, with both statutory and third sector organisations playing an important role. This plan therefore does not stand alone but **sits alongside and compliments other approaches**, such as:

- ✓ **Community Planning Partnership Dundee City Plan 2022-2032** - our overarching strategic plan encompassing all partnership priorities
- ✓ **Local Community Planning Partnership Local Community Plans** - our arrangements for cascading support across all 8 wards
- ✓ **Fairness Commission** – our approach towards engaging with communities to inform and deliver plans to address poverty
- ✓ **Protecting People Committees** <https://www.dundeeprotects.co.uk/> - our approach to keeping children, young people and adults safe from harm
- ✓ **Local Housing Strategy 2026-2030** - our approach towards providing safe, secure and suitable housing as a key foundation for families
- ✓ **Plan for Excellence in Health and Social Care in Dundee** - our plan to support adults with additional needs, such as disability and mental health
- ✓ **Discover Work Strategy & Action Plan 2022-2027** - our approach towards improving employment opportunities for everyone
- ✓ **A Step Change in Positive Destinations for Young Dundonians** - our targeted youth participation programme on further education, training and employment
- ✓ **Whole Family Support** – our place-based approach towards multi-disciplinary, accessible and flexible support informed by what communities say they need
- ✓ **Community Wealth Building Strategy** – our approach towards empowering communities to build and maximise local assets
- ✓ **Bringing Hope, Building Futures: Tackling Child Poverty 2026-31** – the national plan for system reform, prevention and coordinated support
- ✓ **Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Commissioning Framework 2023-2033** – the HSCP strategic priorities and plan
- ✓ **Prevention - NHS Scotland operational improvement plan** – focuses on prevention, digital technologies and collaboration
- ✓ **Police Scotland Strategic Plan 2026-29** – includes a focus on trauma informed responses and whole system preventative approaches
- ✓ **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)** – outlines 54 Articles to promote children and young people's rights

Our **Child Poverty and Inequalities Strategic Leadership Group**, which consists of all the services involved in this plan and community representatives, will ensure that we continue to align with and support the work of these other policies, partnerships and plans. This includes collaboration with and learning from partners across Tayside.

OUR PRIORITIES, DELIVERY PLAN AND MEASURES

The tables on the **next few pages lay out our key priorities**, how we plan to achieve them and how we know whether we're making progress. Additional performance indicators are collected and reported regularly. It means we can routinely reflect on, learn from and adapt what we're doing or plan to do.



Thematic Priority 1

Place Based Whole Family Support

We will listen to children and families and make real changes in your local community where you live and/or work

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
Local communities can meet the needs of the families who live there	Implement UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) through engagement with children and families to find out what matters to them	Demonstrate positive progress through annual self-assessment including the views of communities on whether we're making a difference
	Co-produce actions specific to localities on the basis of results of family engagement and service data. Use data to support understanding, learning and opportunities related to the whole family approach Provide targeted support to priority groups such as lone parents, disabled children and parents, minority ethnic groups and young carers	Families report that the actions make a positive difference to their lives
Families receive financial management support	Provide help in the local community by offering: - Income maximisation assessments - Money/Debt Advice and support - Energy Efficiency Services - Referral pathways to employability	Number of families with children and young people: - with debt situations stabilised - raised out of fuel poverty - participating in employability - with income fully maximised
Families live in affordable, suitable and sustainable housing	Ensure housing and homelessness needs are included in Child's Plans and whole family support plans¹ Provide accessible local housing and homelessness advice	Reduced homelessness presentations from families with children.
Families and communities have access to information to identify the right support at the right time	No wrong door - identify community spaces where people can go to get consistent support, information, advice from services and to take part in community life	Children and families report that they know where they can get support in their community and feel they get help from the right person at the right time

¹ according to "Ask and Act Duty" part of the Housing Scotland Act 2025

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
Children and families receive easily accessible and meaningful support at the first opportunity and those who are most vulnerable will be prioritised	Provide practitioners with guidance clarifying roles and responsibilities regarding information sharing and referral pathways to enable them to provide the best support at the earliest opportunity	Staff feedback and audit Referral pathways/FORT data about referrals used and unmet need Evidence of joint planning
	Provide support and resources to staff to help them to actively listen and respond to children and families and to coproduce smart action plans whenever possible	Percentage of child plans that are produced with meaningful achievable (SMART) actions; children and parents report back that they feel listened to and involved in plans about their lives
	We will develop opportunities and networks for teams to reflect and learn together, even and especially when they are disagreeing	Evidence of multi-agency professional reflection and staff utilising opportunities for joint supervision
	We will agree a joint operating model for priority families to ensure they receive consistent support	We have agreed criteria for priority families and they have support plans which meet their needs
	Enhance targeted CLD support through improved information sharing	More children and young people in priority groups supported by CLD
Children with disabilities experience better transitions throughout childhood and into adulthood	Improve provision and transition arrangements between different services through an assessment, support and pathways framework	Framework in place Clear information in place so families know of their entitlements Families report that they feel listened to and that their needs are met through all ages and stages
Families have access to advocacy	Jointly implement an Advocacy Strategy	Number of families accessing advocacy services and their views on support received

Thematic Priority 2

Physical, Mental and Emotional Health

We will help people stay physically and emotionally well by supporting healthy food and fun activities and offering specialist support where required

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
More children have a healthy weight	Implement the Tayside Child Healthy Weight Strategy, which includes the actions below: • Improve access to advice and support for parents and carers about feeding infants and young children • Provide more spaces that are part of the Breastfeeding Friendly Scotland scheme • Provide opportunities for families to cook and eat together in their communities, • Provide practitioners with confidence to raise the subject of healthy weight with parents and support onward referrals to appropriate pathways	Increase in the proportion of children with healthy weight – measured as reduction in the proportion of children in P1 who are at risk of being overweight/obesity (baseline 2024/25: 25.5%) Reduction in drop-off rate of breastfeeding from birth to 6-8 weeks Stories about impact and numbers attending relevant activities (e.g. Best First Steps, Best Foot Forwards, Healthy Eating Active Lifestyles)
	Provide affordable and accessible physical activities through Active Schools, including targeted support for children and young people who may struggle to attend otherwise	An increase in the number of children participating in Active Schools activities Increase in retention rates from target groups
Children and young people are protected from preventable illnesses through immunisations from birth to adulthood	Work in partnership across health, early years and education to improve access to routine childhood immunisation services, strengthen follow-up where children do not attend appointments and promote immunisation at every appropriate contact with families.	Increase rates of childhood immunisation, maintaining high uptake of the 6-in-1 vaccine at 24 months, and improving MMR uptake at 24 months to at least the Scottish average, with continued progress thereafter, by 2029
Children have the best start in life (the first 1,000 days)	Actively engage in the public health messages from the National Early Years Communication Team and locally held public health information	Reduction in the proportion of children with a developmental concern at 27-30 months review (target: 13.5% or below by 2030)
	Targeted support to families in the 6 priority groups outlined in the Child Poverty Strategy	Decrease in the proportion of children starting school with speech and language delays Number and type of professionals completing training

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
	Develop resources for use by professionals and parents to support child development Provide immediate access to information and advice to parents on gross and fine motor development, play and communication, including developmental language disorder awareness and strategy training and Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Service via the Advice Line Address the impacts of poor housing and homelessness on children's physical and mental health through early intervention	Increase in the number of professionals, parents and carers who have accessed information and advice Parents and professionals report improved confidence in identifying early developmental concerns Prompt housing solutions for families with children who put in rehousing applications with medical priority
Young people feel confident to ask for help and receive the support they need (this may refer to mental health, substance misuse, sexual health, eating disorders, neurodiversity)	Train and support key staff so they feel more confident in identifying and talking to CYP/Families and are aware of support available or equipped to answer questions and provide support	Evidence of staff reporting back that they feel confident following training and from children and young people saying that they have received helpful support and advice from professionals
	Encourage and support neuro-affirming practice and environments within statutory and 3rd sector organisations	Satisfaction of families provided with support through triage system
	Scale good examples and learning from partnership working to improve health and wellbeing	Narrative/ case study of good example of collaborative working and how the learning is applied to form new partnerships/ avoid pitfalls of what didn't work well
	Act upon the voice of children and young people with lived experience of mental health, including co-production of materials	Narrative/case study of good example of acting upon hearing from CYP Examples of coproduced processes and materials and how they have influenced change
Fewer teenagers become pregnant	Pilot a model to support life course prevention and improved sexual and reproductive wellbeing by	Reduction in teenage pregnancies (baseline Dundee 26.5% of first-time mothers under the age of 25)
	Supporting teachers, workers and parents/carers to confidently discuss sex and relationships	Reduction in teenage pregnancies in target communities
	Improving access to sexual and reproductive health interventions in communities and via specialist sexual health clinical services	

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
Fewer children and young people misuse substances	Implement lessons from Planet Youth (these may be different in different schools)	Annual report by Planet Youth and annual survey
	Learn from 3 rd sector MAT standards to support voice of young person and lived experience	Narrative/ qualitative evidence of lessons learned Reduction in young people drinking alcohol and/or taking drugs

Thematic Priority 3

Presence, Progress and Participation in Learning

We will make learning a big part of growing up – from babies and nursery, through to primary and secondary school and into college

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
Children attend and remain engaged in learning	Align education, housing and place based whole family support so risks to attendance and continuity of learning are identified early and addressed through joint planning. Target extra support at pupils less likely to have satisfactory school attendance levels, such as children and young people in Kinship Care	School attendance
	Use GIRFEC-aligned planning to maintain continuity of learning, relationships and routines for children in temporary or insecure accommodation.	Number of school and nursery moves linked to homelessness
Children's needs are identified and supported early	Use existing information-sharing between health and education to inform early planning and support prior to nursery entry.	Children entering nursery with needs identified in advance
Children participate in early learning	Work with health visiting and early years partners to increase uptake of funded ELC for eligible two-year-olds.	Uptake of funded ELC by eligible two-year-olds
All children can access early learning before school	Provide clear information and practical support to families to access nursery provision through locality-based support.	Children accessing a nursery place prior to school entry
Children make a positive start at school	Use early learning and education transition arrangements to support readiness for school.	School readiness at P1 entry
	Support deferred entry where this is in the child's best interests.	Appropriate use of deferred entry
Children participate and remain engaged in primary education	Use GIRFEC-aligned planning and locality supports to improve attendance, engagement and inclusion.	Primary school attendance and engagement
Young people participate and progress through	Strengthen partnership working to reduce disengagement and sustain participation in learning.	Secondary school attendance and engagement

secondary education		
Care experienced children and young people participate and progress in learning	Coordinate planning to support progression to sustained post-school destinations, with a particular focus on kinship care.	Care experienced young people in positive destinations
Young people move on successfully from school	Align education, employability and CLD activity to support progression to positive and sustained destinations	School leavers entering and sustaining positive destinations

Thematic Priority 4

Children and Young People at Risk of Harm

We will help keep children safe and if anyone is worried about a child, we will respond quickly and do the right thing to protect them from harm

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
Children and young people are safe from harm	Fully Implement Bairns Hoose across Tayside Strengthen joint working between housing and child protection services to prevent repeat homelessness for high-risk families; this includes housing being invited to and present at key decision-making meetings.	Audit of practice at the Multi Agency Screening Hub in the context of Justice, Health, Recovery and Child Protection Fewer children entering crisis or emergency accommodation due to homelessness.

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
		Reduction in the number of homelessness application of households with children Increase in housing represented at key decision-making meetings to ensure families with children at risk to health due to housing will be prioritised
Pregnant women are supported, protected and kept safe from harm, including with their babies and infants	Ensure families fleeing domestic abuse or other violence can access safe, secure accommodation without delay. Where we identify pregnant women at risk, we will use established pathways of support and protection to mobilise the right supports for them and their unborn child	Improved housing outcomes for families subject to child protection or child in need plans Fewer babies entering care and when babies do have to be provided with alternative care, mothers report they feel better supported
Children and young people will be safe from harm at home and in their own communities	We pro-actively target and respond to physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect in local communities	Audits of practice focused on identification, assessment and support
Families at risk of harm receive the support they need when they need it, including during evenings and weekends and school holidays	Implement multi-agency whole family support at all times including evenings and weekends	Number of families accessing support out with traditional office hours
Children and young people at risk of child sexual and criminal exploitation, trafficking, organised crime, radicalisation and gender-based violence are identified and responded to effectively both at an individual and group level	Establish a Contextual Safeguarding Panel to ensure multi-agency identification, analysis and risk management planning for group based exploitation and risk across the city	Evolving and progressive dataset to capture contextual safeguarding
	Support development of multi-agency guidance for all forms of risk outside the home and ensure relevant training is available and accessed by our staff. Strengthen the connection between all activity and information gathering, informed by what young people are telling us	Reporting and audit Guidance and training in place and reflected in children's plans

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
Young people who present a risk to others will be supported through child centred and meaningful interventions which will manage and reduce risk within the community	Implement all the requirements of the Care and Justice (Scotland) Act 2024 Implement the Care and Risk Management (CARM) Protocol	Data reporting to the Children at Risk Committee

Thematic Priority 5

Our Promise

We will make sure children who are in care feel loved and supported, can stay connected and get continued support when they leave care

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
Families are supported where children and young people could require temporary or permanent alternative care arrangements	Work with Third Sector partners to develop and deliver services in accordance with flexible family support Expand support to Kinship Carers and children and young people in their care at home, in school and in the community	Fewer children and young people requiring alternative care arrangements A greater proportion of care experienced children and young people are looked after at home or in Kinship Care Referrals to FORT including access to services, outcomes and analysis of any unmet need
Where children and young people do require alternative care, they live in nurturing and stable settings with child-centred decisions made on their longer-term care (including	We will recruit a range of foster carers to meet different kinds of children's needs, including for respite and short breaks, including from minority ethnic groups Ask and listen to children and families capturing what matters to them	Recruitment and retention of Foster Carers Balance of family-based and residential care Children and young people with more than 1 placement in the last 12 months

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
the continuation of their family's culture)	regarding contact with siblings and parents	A greater proportion of care experienced children and young people are living with their siblings Children and young people report good levels and quality of parent contact Children and young people report good levels of brother and sister contact
Where family-based care is not currently possible or appropriate, children and young people live in appropriately matched local residential care wherever possible with child-centred Decisions on their longer-term care	Implement a Children's House Improvement Plan and capacity building programme Create the "City around the child": People working together across the partnership to improve access to opportunities / future Give care experienced young people opportunities to remain in Continuing Care	Care experienced children and young people have Child's Plans and supports rated at least as Good Dundee's Children's Houses receive Care Inspectorate inspection grades of at least Good Number of young people remaining in Continuing Care
Care experienced children and young people live fulfilled lives in suitable and stable accommodation after leaving care	Deliver planned housing pathways for care experienced young people, focused on homelessness prevention and stable transitions from care. Provide tenancy sustainment support for care leavers up to age 26, aligned with continuing care and aftercare. Provide a new multi-agency team to meet the needs of young people in care or who have left care in one easily accessible central location	Reduction in the number of care experienced young people in temporary accommodation or presenting as homeless Implementation of Crichton Street Hub, including a dataset measuring outcomes and collating feedback from young people
Care experienced children and young people have access to all the support they need to thrive educationally, physically, emotionally and on their transition to adulthood	Schools and social workers will work together to support care experienced pupils who struggle with school, with a focus on children and young people in Kinship Care or on a CSO at home	Care experienced children and young people have school attendance rates at least equivalent to others Care experienced young people improve overall educational qualifications on leaving school Care experienced young people enter and sustain positive destinations after leaving school
Care experienced children of all ages have their voices	We will offer a range of means by which young people can have their say, and train staff to offer all of these options	Care experienced children and young people have opportunities to say what they feel and report that they feel listened to and that actions have been taken

We will work together to ensure	What we will do together	How we will measure our progress
heard and feel understood	Create a range of means for care experienced children and young people to create accessible feedback for improvement based on their voice that support independence, stability and wellbeing. In line with statutory duties, the UNCRC and The Promise, independent advocacy will support children and young people to be heard and involved in decisions that affect their lives	Proportion of child's plans where care experienced children and young people meaningfully contributed

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