

ITEM No ...4.....

REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES COMMITTEE – 8 MARCH 2021

REPORT ON: OUR PROMISE TO CARE EXPERIENCED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE 2021/23

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE

REPORT NO: 93-2021

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report requests Elected Members to approve the Council response to the findings of the Independent Care Review published in February 2020. The response has been developed with a range of national and local partners and care experienced children and young people to extend and improve developments progressed over the last 3 years through our Corporate Parenting Plan 2017/20, reference is made to Article III of the Minute of the Children and Families Services Committee of 29 October 2018 (report no 340-2018 refers), Article II of the Minute of the Children and Families Services Committee of 28 October 2019 (359-2019 refers) and Article V of the Minute of the Children and Families Services Committee of 26 October 2020 (report no 271-2020 refers). It outlines a new range of actions organised under the 5 foundations of the Independent Care Review's The Promise, in the form of Our Promise to Care Experienced Children and Young People 2021/23. Collectively, these actions are designed to substantially improve engagement with, support to and outcomes for children and young people on the edges of care and with current alternative care arrangements.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended the Committee:

- i. Note the content of the report;
- ii. approve Our Promise to Care Experienced Children and Young People 2021/23 (attached as Appendix A); and
- iii. instruct the Executive Director to provide an update on progress in 12 months.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no immediate financial implications for the Council but both previous reports to Elected Members and the findings of the Independent Care Review noted significant and avoidable costs involved in current approaches towards care experienced children and young people which can persist into adulthood. These costs are associated with overall numbers of care experienced children; the balance of different placement types; and what the review describes as the personal, social and economic impact of current care system failures (Independent Care Review: Follow the Money). As outlined in previous reports, local costs have reduced and outcomes have improved markedly over the last 3 years and Our Promise outlines how this will be accelerated in 2021-23.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 requires all Local Authorities to implement a Corporate Parenting Plan for Looked After Children and Care Leavers. This statutory requirement was introduced to strengthen support to care experienced children and young people and informed the development of our first Corporate Parenting Plan 2017-20. The progress made through a range of measures carried out over the last 3 years has been outlined in previous reports and includes a shift away from external residential care and external foster care towards more stable local family-based living arrangements; markedly reduced school exclusions; improved attainment levels; more young people in Continuing Care; and increases in positive destinations.

4.2 In 2017, the Independent Care Review, led by Fiona Duncan, also commenced ‘a root and branch review of care, driven by those with experience of care’. Whilst the review was informed by work carried out with partners in 4 stages of Orientation, Discovery, Journey and Destination, it therefore placed the experiences and views of care experienced children and young people at the centre. It concludes that an overly complex system of care must be de-cluttered; that family engagement and support must improve; and that stigmatising language such as ‘unit’, ‘placement’ and ‘looked after child’ must change. The review culminated in 7 reports in *The Promise*, a *Pinky Promise* for younger readers, *The Money, Follow the Money*, *The Rules* and *Thank you*. *The Promise* outlines 5 key foundations of change:

- **Voice** – children must be listened to and meaningfully and appropriately involved in decision-making about their care, with all those involved properly listening and responding
- **Family** – where children are safe in their families and feel loved they must stay and families must be given support to nurture that love and overcome difficulties which get in the way
- **Care** – where living with their family is not possible, children must stay with their brothers and sisters where safe to do so and belong to a loving home, staying for as long as needed
- **People** – children must be actively supported to develop relationships with people in the workforce and wider community, who in turn must be supported to listen
- **Scaffolding** – children, families and the workforce must be supported by a system that is there when it is needed. Support must be ready and responsive when it is required

4.3 *The Promise* places a particular emphasis on developing accessible, nurturing approaches which help families to realise their strengths, overcome barriers, stay together and avoid children and young people entering care. Within this, the review acknowledges the fundamental importance of addressing the inter-generational impact of poverty. It notes that because some children will still need to be cared for away from their parents because nurturing relationships are not possible and risks to a child remain significant, kinship carers, foster carers, residential carers and adopters must then also be supported to develop caring relationships. A loving, stable and permanent home must be found as quickly as possible. The workforce must be caring, engaging, avoid stigmatising language and respect children’s rights.

4.4 In *The Plan*, the review outlines a similar approach towards the development of national and local actions, involving continued co-design with shared ownership with care experienced children and young people at the centre. Clearly, developments since publication have been interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic but the Scottish Government has resourced and established a national independent Oversight Group and Implementation Team to maintain engagement and drive momentum. In addition to a focus on the 5 foundations, the plan will include a focus on budgets, with a view to prioritising investment towards early intervention and quantifying both savings and improved outcomes over time.

4.5 Going forwards, the new national Implementation Team has started to engage with partners to inform where it might provide targeted support and help build on existing or planned local developments in areas gathering momentum. The Scottish Government is also making nationally available £3m, involving £50k to successful individual organisations, to help create capacity and act as a catalyst for change. Understandably, given the findings of the review, there is an emphasis on promoting collaborative whole system transformational change, involving all partners across the system alongside vulnerable families and care experienced children and young people.

5.0 LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS

5.1 Whilst many of the findings of the review mirror local developments under the *Getting it Right for Every Child* Improvement Plan (Committee Report Number 273-2020) and *Corporate Parenting Plan*, it has provided a clear framework within which these need to be extended

and accelerated. The flexible partnership response to vulnerable children, young people and families during Covid-19, as outlined in the annual updates on Corporate Parenting and the Child Protection Committee, has also been consistent with the findings and further demonstrated a capacity for change. In this context, Our Promise 2021-23 has been developed collaboratively with partners and care experienced children and young people. It organises sets of actions in accordance with the 5 foundations, within which initial priorities and actions include:

- **Scaffolding** – implement revised arrangements for Named Person's to identify, assess, engage and support vulnerable children, young people and families; scale the What Matters 2 U initiative with communities across the city; and develop flexible family support accessible via the Fast-Online Referral Tracking (FORT) system or 365 schools
- **Family** – explore the implementation of Safe Families to provide extra support to vulnerable families on the edges of care; coordinate, target and maximise Third Sector volunteer support; provide targeted family-focused Social Work support; target parenting programmes to vulnerable families; and deliver trauma informed training
- **People** – ensure all care experienced children and young people have an up-to-date assessment and plan informed by their views; change references to 'Looked After Child Reviews' to 'Child or Young Person's Meeting'; and change the preparation and facilitation of these meetings to promote a core focus on the child or young person
- **Care** – scale a Centre of Excellence for Looked After Children initiative to ensure care experienced children and young people progress to permanent living arrangements with their forever family as quickly and appropriately as possible; implement Functional Family Therapy; embed and extend approaches towards employability
- **Voice** – develop a new multi-disciplinary Care Experienced Children and Young People's Voice team and implement a plan which ensures all children and young people are given opportunities to comment on support, including in Child Protection Case Conferences, Looked After Child reviews and their Child's Plans.

5.2 A central part of Our Promise therefore involves Named Person's having the capacity and confidence to identify and assess problems early, alongside the availability to them of Universal and/or Third Sector resources to quickly introduce or intensify support. It will involve all partners understanding and responding to the needs of families timeously and holistically, enabling them to access support in ways which reflect their views, maximise their strengths and help them to address the barriers which matter to them. Where, following assessment and any targeted intervention, it is not considered safe for children to remain at home, support will continue in alternative, ideally family-based arrangements and become permanent as soon as appropriate. At all times, the workforce will provide trauma informed support and actively listen.

6.0 SUMMARY

6.1 The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 led to the local development of a Corporate Parenting Plan in accordance with statutory requirements. As a result of the range of measures implemented through the plan, local outcomes for care experienced children and young people have improved significantly over the last 3 years. The GIRFEC Improvement Plan has also strengthened Named Person arrangements and involved the introduction of key initiatives for children and young people on the edges of care, such as the CELCIS Addressing Neglect and Enhancing Wellbeing programme, What Matters 2 U, FORT and 365 schools. This work has continued to be progressed over the last 11 months during Covid-19, which has also promoted a concerted focus on vulnerable groups.

6.2 In this context, the Independent Care Review was published when the Council and partners were already engaged in a programme of transformational change, further incentivised by the pandemic. It clearly reinforces the importance of sustaining this progress and the 5 foundations provide the framework within which Our Promise to Care Experienced Children and Young People has now been organised. Going forwards, implementation of the plan will be overseen by the Children and Families Executive Board; the Independent Care Review Implementation Team has expressed an interest in providing additional support; and the

Council will work with partners to maximise the availability of the additional Scottish Government £50k to organisations to build capacity and help sustain change.

7.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

7.1. 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.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

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

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 None.

Paul Clancy
Executive Director

February 2021

Glyn Lloyd
Head of Service
Children's and Community Justice Services

The Dundee Partnership Promise to our Care Experienced Children and Young People

2021-2023



Our Promise

This Promise outlines the Dundee Partnership intention to ensure that Care Experienced Children and Young People have the very best support, life chances and opportunities possible so they can lead loving, settled and fulfilled lives well into adulthood.

As a partnership, we are committed to promoting the wellbeing and rights of all vulnerable and looked after children, young people and care leavers as one of our most important responsibilities. In doing so, we will provide the highest quality care, support and protection which:

- ✓ Helps all vulnerable children, young people and parents/carers to flourish
- ✓ Enables care experienced children and young people to thrive at home
- ✓ Improves educational attainment levels and all transitions into adulthood
- ✓ Listens to family voices and continually adapts and improves our support

We know that although care experienced children and young people can have particular needs associated with their health and wellbeing, they also have enormous strengths which can grow even more with the right support. We intend to work with and for them to overcome any barriers to them realising their full potential.

This Promise outlines our commitment to a range of actions which build on and accelerate how we have developed this support over the last 3 years. We believe that, in doing so, we will continue to transform our approach to engaging with and improving outcomes for care experienced children and young people in our city.



Our Journey

Over the last 3 years, our Corporate Parenting Partnership has led on the development and implementation of a Corporate Parenting Plan 2017-2020. The partnership has coordinated or contributed towards an extensive range of initiatives with and for children, young people and young adults at risk of entering care or already in care:

- ✓ An Addressing Neglect Enhancing Wellbeing programme
- ✓ A What Matters 2 U programme
- ✓ A Fast-Online Referral Tracking (FORT) system
- ✓ Trauma informed and nurturing practice in all residential and school settings
- ✓ Parity of financial support for kinship carers and foster carers
- ✓ An initiative designed to accelerate moves to permanence in care
- ✓ A Children and Families Service Charter with 19 principles for change
- ✓ An Engagement and Participation Strategy
- ✓ A Breakthrough Mentoring Programme in all 8 secondary schools and Offsite
- ✓ Additional Pupil Support Workers in all cluster areas
- ✓ A Champions Board, Young People Participation Group and 4 Change Group
- ✓ Signing up to the Scottish Care Leavers Covenant
- ✓ Implementation of Continuing Care for young people aged 16-21 years
- ✓ A Housing Protocol for care leavers
- ✓ A guaranteed interview scheme with the Council for all care leavers
- ✓ Improved use of data to inform wider improvement
- ✓ Development and implementation of the Better Hearings Agenda

We believe these developments are jointly helping to improve outcomes for vulnerable children and young people. From reductions in the number entering care; increases in the number of local family-based living arrangements; improved stability; better educational attainment; and positive destinations, our data shows real progress:

Number of Looked After Children	Reduced from 585 in 2015 to 517 in July 2020
Family based living	The number living with kinship carers increased from 99 to 147 in 2019-20 The number living with internal foster carers increased from 147 to 162
Stability	The stability of all living arrangements has increased
School exclusions 2016-17 to 2018-19	Reduced from 202 per 1,000 to 110 per 1,000
Attainment 2017-18 to 2018-19	SCQF 5 in literacy and numeracy increased from 19.5% to 27%
Positive destinations	Increased slightly from 86.7% to 87.5% in 12 months
Continuing Care	The number in Continuing Care increased from 18 to 23
Justice	Reduced the number of all young people entering secure care or prison

However, our city still has a very high rate of care experienced children and young people; fewer live at home with their parents; higher proportions have more than 1 placement move when compared with the national average; more could benefit from entering Continuing Care; and positive destinations are not always sustained.

Equally, although we have made progress in engaging with care experienced children and young people and their parents/carers to inform some developments, we believe there is much more we can do to extend approaches and use them to routinely inform how we continually adapt and improve support.

Our Promise therefore expands our approach across the whole partnership and to all communities of our city so we improve all services at pace, with an emphasis on engagement and participation with all vulnerable families, including care experienced children and young people

Some Key Policies and Legislation

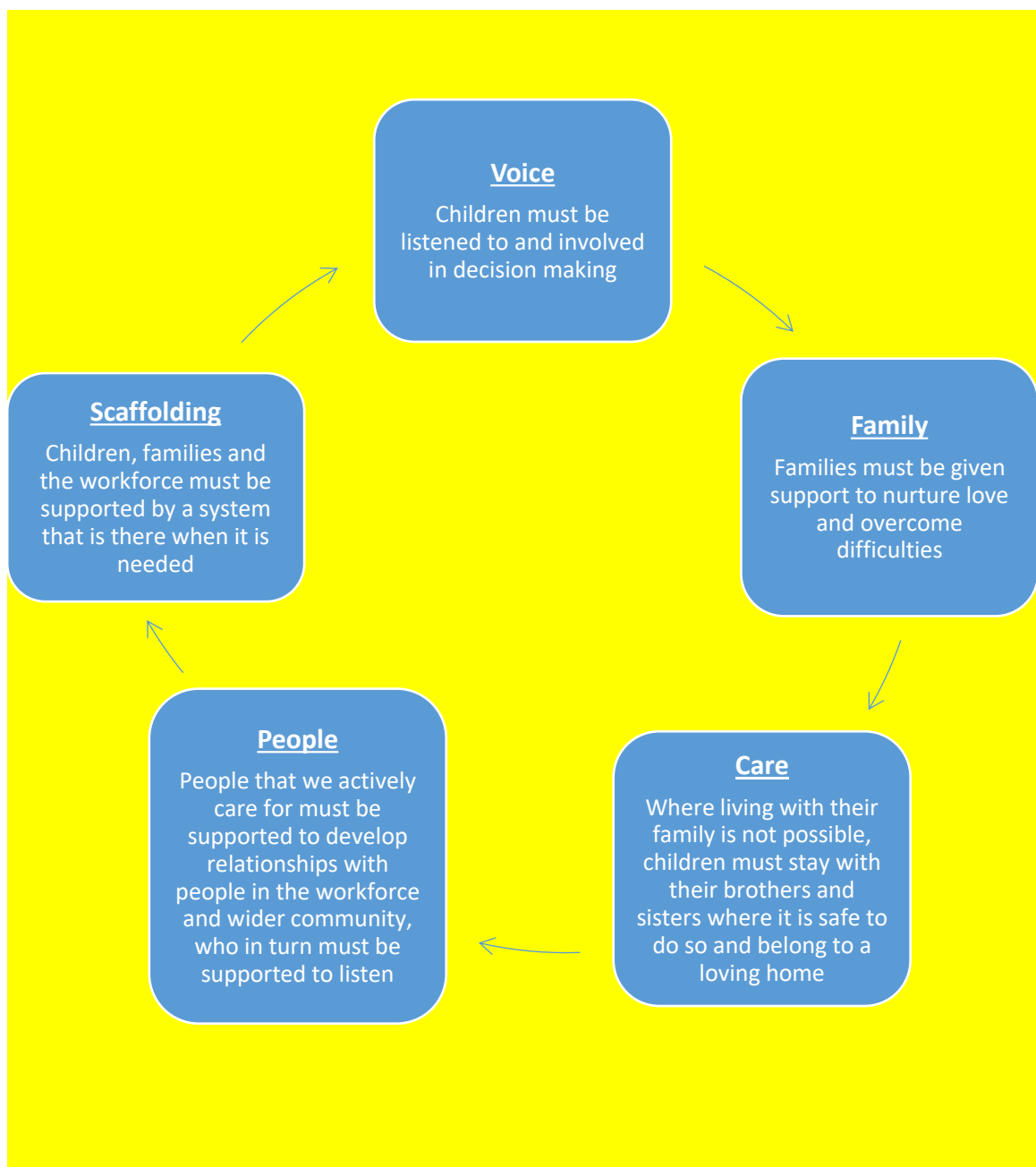
As a partnership, our work is strongly informed by policies, legislation and research. This includes the Children and Young Person’s (Scotland) Act 2014; Getting it Right for Every Child; the Scottish Attainment Challenge; United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; and research on child development. Some key themes include:

Children and Young Person Act 2014	Sets out the key responsibilities and duties for relevant public bodies requiring them to be systematic and proactive in their efforts to meet the needs of looked after children and care leavers (Appendix 1).
Getting it Right for Every Child	A framework to place families at the centre of decision making and ensure services consistently provide integrated support to children, young people and families as part of their wider community.
Children Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011	Embeds the rights of children in the Children’s Hearing system, including the recently enacted right to advocacy. This Act also enshrines the duties of the Local authority to ensure children’s rights are upheld in the system.
Scottish Attainment Challenge	Aims to raise the attainment of children and young people living in deprived areas, in order to ensure that every child can succeed in school, gain the skills for life and close the equity gap. It recognises that holistic support is essential.
UNCRC	Outlines 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child’s life and explain how Governments and adults must work together to make sure all children can enjoy their rights. It has been incorporated into Scottish domestic law.
Research on child development	Includes the importance of recognising the pivotal first 1,000 days; stages of development from birth to adolescence; stable, positive attachments with nurturing carers; and the impact of adverse childhood experiences.

In addition, there is also strong evidence that social and economic inequalities increase the stressors in families and make parenting more difficult. Our Promise therefore recognises the impact poverty has on families and complements our Fairness Commission Action Plan. Some key themes include:

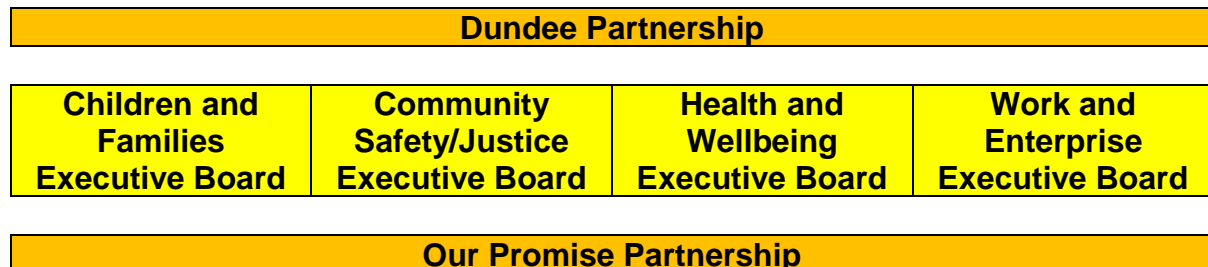
- ✓ Ensuring timely and easy access to support
- ✓ Developing flexible and responsive support
- ✓ Targeted and adapting support to meet specific needs
- ✓ Support in key transitions of early years/primary/secondary school/employment

Crucially, the findings of the Independent Care Review have also informed how we have arrived at Our Promise. This hugely important review sets 'a higher collective ambition that enables loving, supportive and nurturing relationships as a basis on which to thrive'. It includes 5 foundations which we have used to shape our plan:



Governance and Partnership Arrangements

In this context, over the next 3 years our Corporate Parenting Partnership, which has been re-named as 'Our Promise Partnership' and includes a care experienced young person, will work collaboratively with other partnerships and report to our Children and Families Executive Board, along with other Boards or Committees where relevant.



Developing joint approaches with Protecting People partnerships is a key priority, because they coordinate services to vulnerable adults and children and young people who can present a risk to others and/or themselves. For instance, as a result of physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect. This relationship is outlined below:



When these issues are so significant and/or persistent they can result in children and young people being at risk of harm if they remain in the family home, requiring alternative care arrangements and becoming Looked After. Our approach therefore includes a key focus on supporting parents and carers.

Consultation

In order to inform the content of Our Promise, all partner services and care experienced children and young people have been consulted. This has ensured that partners have every opportunity to outline their contributions to our Delivery Plan. Comments from children and young people included:

- They like the title, style and content of Our Promise
- They believe the plan is ambitious but we make no apologies for that
- They offered helpful advice on language and the use of acronyms
- They suggested some of the actions could be more specific and clear
- They were particularly interested in being involved in developing their own plans

This feedback has informed the content of the plan, including in relation to the consistent use of the term care experienced instead of looked after children and young people; changing the term respite which has negative connotations to short-breaks; and describing all current and planned methods of engagement and participation.

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Article 12

Governments “shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.”

For every child
Health, Education, Equality, Protection
ADVANCE HUMANITY



Delivery Plan

Foundations	Priority	Actions	Lead	Timescales	Some key indicators
Scaffolding Providing support when it is needed	Building the capacity of universal services	We will implement revised arrangements for Named Person's to identify, assess, engage and support	Chief Education Officer, Dundee City Council	January 2022	Number of Health Visitors and Primary Schools delivering ANEW Quality of Child's Plans prepared by universal services
	Listening to families to inform service design/delivery	We will scale a What Matters 2 U initiative to all 8 wards across the city and align it with other initiatives	Head of Children's Service, DCC	January 2022	Number of parents/carers consulted and supported
	Providing accessible and flexible family support	We will develop clear and flexible family support services able to meet all needs with the Third Sector We will ensure support is accessible via the Fast-Online Referral Tracking (FORT) system	Assistant Director of Barnardo's Assistant Director of Barnardo's	March 2021 March 2021	Number of families supported and qualitative data on outcomes
	Supporting vulnerable children in school	We will implement a counselling service in schools We will implement our Care Experienced Charter in all schools	Education Manager, DCC Education Manager, DCC	March 2021 March 2021 March 2021	Exclusions, attendance, attainment and destinations

	We will ensure high quality Post School Transition and Employability Support	We will implement revised Team Around the Child arrangements	Education Manager, DCC	March 2021	Improved outcomes and positive destinations for care leavers
		We will provide targeted support to children at risk of exclusion	Education Manager, DCC	March 2021	
		We will provide targeted support to children not attending school	Education Manager, DCC	March 2021	
		We will explore the delivery of the Youth in Iceland model	Education Manager, DCC	March 2021	
		Re-establish a monthly multi-agency Employability Support drop-in service for young people and care leavers under the age of 26 alongside Youth Employability.	Senior Manager DCC	May 2021	
		Establish a quarterly multi-agency employability support forum. This will track young people and care leavers who are supported by the Throughcare and Aftercare Team who are not currently in education, employment or training. Contributing partners will identify the most appropriate employability support opportunities to offer individual young people.	Senior Manager DCC	April 2021	
		Re-establish a weekly support and guidance drop-in session at Dundee and Angus College in partnership with	Senior Manager DCC	April 2021	

	<p>Student Services for young people and care leavers under the age of 26.</p> <p>Continue to facilitate bi-monthly review meetings in partnership with Dundee and Angus College student services in order to identify any barriers, support needs and progression routes for young people and care leavers who are supported by the Throughcare and Aftercare Team.</p> <p>We will Work with Care Leavers to understand their transition and employability needs and develop appropriate and targeted pathways</p> <p>We will Implement enhanced transition process for care leavers who are leaving school</p> <p>We will ensure targeted outreach and engagement work with Care Leavers aged 16-19 identified through the national Participation Database as not in a positive learning experience</p>	<p>Senior Manager DCC</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>Number and % of care experienced children and young people with a completed employability action plan</p>
		<p>Youth Employability Service</p>	<p>September 21</p>	<p>Increased number of young people leaving school with a transition plan</p> <p>Increase in number of CEYP young people in positive and sustained destinations</p>
		<p>Youth Employability Service</p>	<p>September 21</p>	<p>Number and % of care experienced young people in vocational opportunities</p>
		<p>Youth Employability Service</p>	<p>September 21</p> <p>March 2022</p>	<p>Number and % of care experienced young people in opportunities matched by brokerage service</p>

		<p>We will develop an integrated vocational training and progression pathway for care leavers.</p> <p>We will work with employers to develop an employment brokering facility to match job ready care leavers with career and apprenticeship opportunities</p> <p>We will develop Supported Pathways for Care Leavers with Employers</p>	<p>Youth Employability Service</p> <p>Youth Employability Service</p> <p>Youth Employability Service</p>	<p>March 2021</p> <p>March 2021</p>	<p>Number and % of care experienced young people in supported pathways such as kickstart or Youth Guarantee provision</p>
	Supporting vulnerable women and families	<p>We will sustain a Pause Programme for women at risk of pregnancy and repeat admissions into care</p> <p>We will report on the impact of targeted support to pregnant women whose children are at risk</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p> <p>Senior Manager, DCC</p>	<p>May 2021</p> <p>May 2021</p>	<p>Number of women supported by Pause; impact on repeat pregnancy; and positive feedback</p> <p>Number of pregnant women supported; % children who become care experienced; and positive feedback</p>

		<p>We will report on targeted gender-informed support to women in the criminal justice system</p> <p>We will report on the impact of Safe and Together to enhance support to victims of domestic abuse</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p> <p>Protecting People Team, DCC</p>	<p>May 2021</p> <p>May 2021</p>	<p>Number of men attending the Caledonian Programme; compliance/successful completion; and feedback from victims</p> <p>Report on Safe and Together</p>
	Consistent and defensible decisions on placements	We will review the terms of reference and resources of a Kinship Panel and Resource Management Group	Senior Manager, DCC	March 2021	Number of families referred to the Kinship Panel and RMG and % remaining in local family-based placements

Foundations	Priority	Actions	Lead	Timescales	Some Key Indicators
Family Support to nurture love and overcome difficulties	Promoting the stability of families	We will explore implementation of Safe Families to provide targeted respite support to vulnerable families	Senior Manager, DCC	March 2021	Number of families receiving respite support and % reporting a positive impact
		We will provide and measure the impact of voluntary support provided by Social Work teams	Senior Manager, DCC	March 2021	Number of families supported by SW teams where the children do not become care experienced
		We will implement a Kinship Hub providing holistic one-stop-shop support to kinship carers	Senior Manager, DCC	March 2021	Number of kinship carers accessing support and % reporting a positive impact
		We will report on the impact of targeted support to parents/carers with substance use problems	Senior Manager, DCC	May 2021	Number of parents/carers receiving support and % reporting a positive impact
		We will increase the capacity of foster carers through recruitment, training and development	Senior Manager, DCC	May 2021	Number of newly registered foster carers and annual training and development plan
		We will deliver trauma informed training to all professionals and families supporting care experienced children	Senior Manager, DCC	May 2021	Number and % of staff/parents/kinship carers receiving training
		We will deliver targeted parenting programmes to vulnerable families, with a focus on early years	Education Manager, DCC	May 2021	Number of parents/carers of care experienced 0-5 year-olds receiving training

		We will progress a test of change with a focus on best practice in supporting families where domestic abuse is problematic. This will draw on the knowledge and experience of a range of staff across the service and partners and will focus on improved outcomes for the whole family.	Service Manager DCC	May 2021	Reduce the number of children on Child Protection Register and becoming accommodated due to domestic abuse
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Foundations	Priority	Actions	Lead	Timescales	Some Key Indicators
People Support to develop relationships with people in the wider community	Developing a trauma informed workforce	We will roll out trauma informed training for all staff and carers	Protecting People Team, DCC	May 2021	Number of staff trained in trauma informed practice and feedback
	Improving assessment and engagement	We will deliver bespoke training and enhance staff support	Senior Manager, DCC	May 2021	Number trained in assessment and engagement and feedback
		We will ensure all care experienced children and young people have an up-to-date assessment and plan	Senior Manager, DCC	May 2021	
	Developing a culture of reflective practice	We will carry out an annual multi-agency self-evaluation of practice			Monthly and quarterly
We will carry out small monthly and larger quarterly single service self-evaluation					% of cases where practice is rated as Good or better

Foundations	Priority	Actions	Lead	Timescales	Some Key Indicators
Care Children must stay with their brothers and sisters where it is safe to do so and belong to a loving home	Supporting children to attend early learning and childcare	We will ensure all eligible care experienced 2-5 year-olds are offered a nursery place	Education Manager, DCC	May 2021	Number and % of care experienced 2-5 year olds attending nursery
	Building capacity to allow siblings to remain together	We will scale a PACE initiative to ensure children and young people progress to permanence appropriately	Improvement Manager, DCC	August 2021	Reduced timescales for decisions on permanence % of care experienced children and young people living with siblings
		We will support family, kinship and foster carers to have sufficient house space to care for sibling groups	Head of Service, Neighbourhood Services, DCC	May 2021	Reduced % of families unable to care for sibling groups due to limited space
		We will remind siblings about their right to family life noting the “ABC” case (2019) and the findings of the court that siblings have rights within the children’s hearing system		April 2021	
Ensuring care experienced teenagers remain in family homes	We will implement Functional Family Therapy	Senior Manager, DCC	May 2021		

		for vulnerable families with teenagers, including siblings		March 2021	Number of families supported with FFT and % reporting greater stability as a result
	Supporting families with children with a disability	We will implement the Tayside Parenting Strategy with a particular focus on supporting vulnerable families	Education Manager, DCC	March 2021	Number of families receiving recognised parenting support and % reporting benefits
		We will implement new assessment, planning and respite arrangements for families with children with a disability	Senior Manager, DCC	March 2021	Number of families receiving respite and % reporting benefits
	Preventing unnecessary escalation or criminalisation	We will report on Whole Systems Approach for young people in order to support them with their families in the local community	Senior Manager, DCC	March 2021	Number/% of young people subject to Early and Effective Intervention, Diversion, Community Payback Orders and custody
		We will carry out a self-evaluation of practice in relation to new Secure Care Standards	Senior Manager, DCC	October 2021	Completed self-evaluation and improvement plan
			March 2021		

	<p>Providing high quality residential care to young people</p>	<p>We will hold regular multi-agency meetings on identified high risk young people</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p>	<p>March 2021</p>	<p>Multi-agency plans to support young people in their local community</p> <p>Number and % of care leavers entering Continuing Care</p> <p>Number and % of Children's Houses graded Good or better</p> <p>Number and % of care experienced children and young people with a health needs assessment</p> <p>Number and % of care leavers aged 17-21 in further education, training or employment</p>
		<p>We will pro-actively support all young people to remain in Continuing Care</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p>	<p>March 2021</p>	
		<p>We will ensure all Children's Houses are graded as at least Good in inspections</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p>	<p>March 2021</p>	
	<p>Meeting all health needs of Looked After Children</p>	<p>We will ensure all care experienced children and young people have a full health needs assessment</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p>	<p>March 2021</p>	
		<p>We will provide physical and mental healthcare support to care leavers</p>	<p>Senior Manager, NHST</p>	<p>March 2021</p>	
	<p>Ensuring supported transitions into adulthood</p>	<p>We will develop and implement a new Transitions Pathway</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p>	<p>March 2021</p>	

	Supporting care leavers well into adulthood	<p>We will ensure all care leavers are exempt from Council Tax until aged 26</p> <p>We will ensure care leavers are an outright priority for housing options</p>	<p>Senior Manager, DCC</p> <p>Senior Manager, DCC</p>		<p>Number and % of care leavers not paying Council Tax up to age 26 years</p> <p>Number of care leavers reporting as homeless</p>
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		<p>Young People are offered an advocate</p> <p>We will ensure Care Experienced Young People are involved in recruitment to key posts</p> <p>We will ensure all care experienced children and young people are involved in and have an understanding of their Care Plan</p>	Senior Manager, DCC	May 2021	<p>Number and % of care experienced children offered and accepting an advocate</p> <p>Number of posts where care experienced children participated in recruitment</p> <p>Surveys of care experienced children and young people</p>
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Appendix 1

Children and Young Person's (Scotland) Act 2014 Corporate Parents

- The Scottish Ministers
- A Local Authority
- The National Convener of Children's Hearings Scotland
- Children's Hearings Scotland
- The Principal Reporter
- The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
- A Health Board
- A Board constituted under section 2(1)(b) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978
- Healthcare Improvement Scotland
- The Scottish Qualifications Authority
- Skills Development Scotland Co. Ltd SC 202659
- Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (the Care Inspectorate)
- The Scottish Social Services Council
- The Scottish Sports Council
- The Chief Constable of the Police Service of Scotland
- The Scottish Police Authority
- The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- The Scottish Legal Aid Board
- The Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland
- The Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland
- The Scottish Housing Regulator
- Bord na Gaidhlig
- Creative Scotland
- A body which is a "post 16 education body" for the purposes of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 2005