

**EAST AYRSHIRE HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE PARTNERSHIP  
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

**CORPORATE PARENTING ACTION PLAN: 2016 - 2018**

**FIRST YEAR PROGRESS REPORT**

**Report by Jim Lyon, Senior Manager**

**1. PURPOSE**

2. To report on progress of the first year of the multi-agency Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2016 – 2018.

**3. BACKGROUND**

4. Prior to the introduction of the Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2016 – 2018 there had been an ambitious Corporate Parenting Strategy (which included a Care Leaver's Strategy) covering the period 1 April 2012 to 31 December 2015. The strategy had a total of 42 specific actions (14 multi-agency Corporate Parenting actions and 28 multi-agency Care Leaver actions) and sat within the East Ayrshire framework of the Children & Young People Service Plan 2012-15; and the Child Protection Committee Business Plan 2012-15.
5. The Strategy was comprehensive and wide reaching in its ambitions for Looked After children and young people and by December 2015 all actions had been achieved or had progressed significantly. The actions were delivered by a multi-agency Corporate Parenting Strategy Group led by the Senior Manager, Authority Wide Services, Children's Health, Care, & Justice Services.
6. In recognition of the extensive work undertaken in developing the Strategy and the significant achievements made, the Multi-Agency Corporate Parenting Strategy Group (now Corporate Parenting Action Plan Group) concluded that we then required a more focussed, single *Action Plan*, with key themes over the next two years: 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2018.

**7. STRATEGIC DIRECTION**

8. The Group also concluded that the new Action Plan should be set in the context of current national policy as laid out in the "Getting It Right For Looked After Children & Young People – Early Engagement, Early Permanence and Improving the Quality of Care" strategy, Scottish Government, 2015 (the National Strategy). This National Strategy was developed with input from key partners across the statutory and voluntary sectors, Looked After children and young people, and seeks to ensure:

*“Scotland is the best place for all our children and young people to grow up and get the best possible start in life”.*

9. The current Action Plan includes our values, principles, standards and outcomes as per the previous Strategy 2012-15, which remain firm and continue to apply. In summary, Looked After children and care leavers have the right to expect that we will provide them with everything a good parent would provide in order to ensure they reach their full potential. The Action Plan also includes those areas which needed carried over (for further improvement work or completion) from the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2012 – 2015 as follows:
  - Educational attainment for Looked After children and young people;
  - Further reduction of the time taken for placing children in alternative life-long permanent or adoptive families;
  - Further development of suitable provisions for children and young people who require to be accommodated; and
  - Further support for care leavers to provide a range of suitable options including supported accommodation when they are ready to leave care.
  
10. All of these areas are encompassed in the National Strategy 2015 which includes three priority areas of work:
  - Early Engagement;
  - Early Permanence; and
  - Improving the Quality of Care.
  
11. As with the previous Strategy, the East Ayrshire Action Plan sits within the framework of:
  - East Ayrshire Children & Young People’s Services Plan 2015 – 2018; and
  - East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee Plan 2015 – 2018.
  
12. An overarching but also distinct theme in the Action Plan, is the need to ensure the views of children and young people are continually taken into account and that we place *relationships* at the heart of our approach. Coupled with this is the need to ensure we effectively address the emotional health and wellbeing needs of our Looked After children and young people, recognising that many of them have experienced trauma in their early lives and have chaotic backgrounds.
  
13. As of 3 April 2017, 417 children and young people were Looked After by East Ayrshire Health & Social Care Partnership:
  - 236 were Looked After at home, or with their relatives/friends/extended family (Kinship), in the community; and
  - 181 were Looked After and Accommodated in foster care, children’s houses or residential schools (1 in Secure Care)

## 14. REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

15. As with the previous Corporate Parenting Strategy, the Action Plan is being monitored by East Ayrshire Council Corporate Parenting Group which comprises of 4 cross party Elected Members, members of Connecting to Change (CtC), Officers of the Council, and Officers of the Health & Social Care Partnership. The group is chaired by an Elected Member and meets quarterly under the heading of “Pizza & Coke” to be more inclusive of the needs of the young people in helping to create a more relaxed and informal atmosphere for maximum participation.
16. The Draft Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2016/18 was presented to the Group on 25 August 2016 for comments noting that it will be subject to approval by East Ayrshire Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership, reporting to the East Ayrshire Community Planning Board. The Corporate Parenting Group, particularly CtC members, commented that whilst the Plan focussed on educational attainment it lacked a focus on employment opportunities, and members noted the need for a guaranteed interview scheme both of which were subsequently included. Otherwise the Corporate Parenting Group:
- Noted the multi-agency work which had taken place and the six key themes;
  - Sought reflection of the above comments within the Plan;
  - Noted the reporting arrangements; and
  - Otherwise noted the contents of the Plan.

## 17. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

18. The Corporate Parenting partnership work and performance for 2016/17 is attached in Appendix 1. Below is a summary of some of the key achievements and outputs in year 1, where we have:

### **Support in the Community**

- Stabilised the number of children and young people being newly accommodated as a continuation of the process started in the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2012/15. In 2010/11 the number of children and young people being newly accommodated was 40, reducing to 25 during each of the last 2 years of the Strategy. The trend unexpectedly changed in the first year of the Corporate Parenting Action Plan, due to a higher than average number of large sibling groups having to be accommodated, increasing the number to 40 for the year. However, the number of children discharged during 2016/17 was 37, the highest number discharged during the overall time frame (including 13 young children placed for adoption also the highest number during the overall time frame) and the indicative trend from 2010/11 has been downward as per Table 1:

**Table 1: New Looked After & Accommodated Children & Young People 2010/11 to 2016/17.**



**Source: SWIFT**

- Continued to increase the number of Kinship Carers building on the Strategy: from the baseline as at 4 December 2015, when we had 124 approved Kinship Carers caring for 167 children and young people, and 34 Linked Carers (the scheme which existed prior to the introduction of the Kinship Care scheme which is now closed), caring for 52 children and young people (total of 219 children and young people). We currently have 237 children and young people being cared for in Kinship care arrangements. A number of these children and young people would otherwise have been accommodated. We have also exceeded the target number (10) of Foster Carers recruited (11) in the first year of the Action Plan.

#### **“Getting it Right” Framework**

- A direct connection between AYRshare and SWIFT has now been achieved and this has resulted in easier access and use for social work practitioners. There is an increasing trend of use, with key documents such as the child’s assessment and plan, chronology items, child protection investigation reports (CP1s) and minutes, as well as looked after and accommodated children reports and minutes, being uploaded. Administration Support staff have been trained on how to use AYRshare in order to upload documents. All children who have been subject to Child Protection or are Looked After and Accommodated have an open AYRshare folder.

## **Health and Wellbeing**

- Continued to take forward the implementation of nurture-informed practice, across all educational sectors, Children's Houses and with our Corporate Parenting team and Foster Carers. Educational Psychological Services have worked with staff through nurture networks to support a coaching framework to help sustain learning into practice, and provide an opportunity for ongoing consultation and problem solving. Training provided by Psychological Services has continued with staff across all educational sectors, with increased numbers of foster carers and corporate parenting team members trained. Ongoing support, training and development continued with Children's House staff through a service level agreement approach.
- All looked after children and young people away from home who are of pre-school age have a named Health Visitor and those who are Looked After at home and of school age, have a School Nurse. A specialist Looked After Children's Nurse has this role for Looked After and Accommodated children and young people of school age. All LAC at home will have a health assessment carried out within the family home by the school nurse. The LAAC nurse carries out health assessments for school aged children and young people in Foster Care and accommodated children and young people. Staff nurses carry out annual health reviews and feedback to the school nurse or LAAC nurse.

## **Educational Attainment and Achievement**

- National figures on Local Authority statistics relating to education for Looked After Children (who have been looked after from home for at least one full year) are published by the Scottish Government each June for the previous academic session. Local figures include all Looked After Children educated within East Ayrshire, part year or full year. The Looked After Children balance within East Ayrshire Education is currently 73% looked after by East Ayrshire and 27% looked after by other local authorities. Education targets included within this action plan are within the Economy and Skills Education Service Improvement Plan 2016-18.
- Improved attendance is a key aspect of East Ayrshire's vision for looked after children and young people for them to share the expectations and aspirations incumbent on all young people and this includes fundamental expectations such as attendance at school. Both of these areas continue to improve for Looked After pupils and remain an improvement target. Education policy (Standard Circular 76a) supporting attendance is currently under review including wider consultation. Within the draft policy there are sections which focus on directly supporting the attendance of Looked After Children. It is anticipated that the policy (Standard Circular) will be launched during academic session 2017/18.

- The Included, Engaged and Involved, Part 2, update which is due to be launched by the Scottish Government in May 2017. In preparation the policy on exclusion (Standard Circular 8) is currently under review and consultation. Within the draft policy there are sections which focus directly on supporting the inclusion of Looked After Children. It is anticipated that this will impact positively on the exclusion figures for our Looked After Children.
- Third sector partnership projects established:
  - Partnership with CELCIS established to find ways of improving attainment and the phase 1 report has been completed. The overall work is towards an improvement science initiative to improve the educational experience of our looked after children.
  - Partnership with Centrestage’s “Connect” initiative to undertake a pilot to reduce exclusions and improve attendance for our most vulnerable learners. This pilot focused on the Kilmarnock area and included children who were looked after. Learners supported during the pilot phase had their exclusions reduced by 50% year on year.
- Improving attainment for all continuing to be a focus. East Ayrshire Council has been identified by the Scottish Government as an attainment challenge authority since June 2016. Since 2015 attainment targets have been set for each looked after learner across the authority. This has provided schools with senior phase learners in an average attainment progression framework to benchmark looked after children across the authority.
- Used the ‘Opportunities for All’ budget allocated within the senior phase has been used to provide additional supports. Each looked after learner was allocated financial support from the budget equivalent to ten supported study sessions with additional funding for subject resources including text books and past papers. This is now a much more effective process in that the plan for each pupil reflects their need for additional support and this is proving to be successful.

### **Looked After and Accommodated Children**

- Introduced a “Catch Up” approach (personalised system for hearing the views of looked after & accommodated children about their care plans in ways best suited to their individual needs) in November 2015 for children and young people in permanent placements who prefer not to attend formal meetings. This method involves the young person and the team around them providing a short written update based on evaluating the previous action plan. The Review Officer then collates the information and updates the action plan accordingly. In the first year of the Action Plan 14 Catch Up Reviews have been undertaken. The young people who have participated in this method of Reviewing their Care Plan have also participated in providing feed back to the team which has been positive.

- Reduced unplanned placement moves from baseline of 1 April 2015 until 9 December 2015 where 171 (91%) had no unplanned placement moves and 17 (9%) had one or more unplanned placement moves. In 2016, there were 177 looked after and accommodated children of whom 169 (95.5%) had no unplanned placement moves and 8 (4.5%) had one or more unplanned placement moves.
- 20 Looked After and Accommodated Children who undertook an assessment with the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in 2016/17 with 9 being discharged requiring no further input or disengaged and 11 proceeded to treatment. CAMHS treatment pathways recorded included Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and Autistic Spectrum Disorder.
- Established the Connecting to Change (CtC) Forum which plays an important role towards local partnership planning developments. In 2016 the young people of CtC became full members of the Corporate Parenting Group along with our Elected Members. They participate in these quarterly meetings by way of presentations, debate and informal activities to generate discussions about specific subjects. At the last meeting in February 2017, CtC shared their views and ideas about implementing Continuing Care.
- Celebrated National Care Leavers week in October 2016 involving a range of multi-agency partners. This recognises and values care experienced young people but the activities are inclusive to all children, families and young people. This year a tea party was held in the Johnnie Walker Bond, Kilmarnock where lots of home baking and cooking was enjoyed as well as party games. A Halloween party was held in Catrine, a sports event at Ayrshire Athletics Arena and a buffet, award ceremony and opportunity to try out the activities in the new Kilmarnock campus of Ayrshire College. This year four young people participated in a weekend residential trip to Aberfeldy where they enjoyed outdoor activities.
- Continued involvement and participation in events with Staf (previously Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum). This included taking part in consultation and a learning event with the Voices Project, a care leavers group established within Staf. The Voices team contacted young people across Scotland to inform them about the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and how it impacts on care leavers. Voices published a report in October 2016 and the Project ended in December 2016.
- Worked with Staf who were awarded a grant from the Big Lottery for two years funding to establish a local “Voices” project in a Local Authority area. Staf approached East Ayrshire to work in partnership with them on this venture and to facilitate the further development of CtC. A Youth Development Worker was recruited by Staf and started employment on 27 March 2017. They will be based in

East Ayrshire three days per week and our local young people will have a key role in shaping the project.

- Opened the Supported Accommodation provision in Whattriggs Road, Kilmarnock in August 2016. This is a joint Housing and Social Work development and is operated by Blue Triangle Housing Association (BTHA). This provides three tenancies with two people sharing each tenancy and a support base in the same building. There is secure door entry and twenty four hour support from the BTHA team. BTHA have implemented a Psychologically Informed Approach (PIE) which is a strengths based and relationship approach to supporting and caring for young people. This model fully compliments the social pedagogy model in the Children’s Houses.
- Stabilized the age at which young people cease to be looked after and accommodated (LAAC) as per Table 2 below which shows a slight overall increase, for the average age of leaving accommodation, from 17 years and 5 months in 2010/11 to 17 years and 11 months, in 2016/17 as at 01.02.17:

**Table 2: LAAC Care Leavers Aged 16yrs+ from 2010/11 to 2016/17 as at 01.02.17.**

	2010/ 11	2011/ 12	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17
<b>Number of (LAAC) Care Leavers 16yrs+</b>	17	28	19	13	24	22	14
<b>Average Age (in years &amp; months) of LAAC Care Leavers 16yrs+</b>	17yrs 5mths	17yrs 6mths	18yrs	17yrs 3mths	17yrs 9mths	17yrs 6mths	17yrs 11mths

**Source: SWIFT**

- Developed a Local Housing Options Protocol for care leavers which is currently under review and will be re-launched in the coming months. Multi-agency training will be arranged to ensure all partners work together to support young people to help them make successful transitions.

## **19. CONTINUED ACTION**

20. There have been challenges in relation to those specific areas of work outlined in section 9 above and in respect of the uncertainty of the future trend of the numbers of children and young people who need to be Accommodated as per section 18, bullet point 1. For example, regarding further support for care leavers we have not been able to identify funding for the revenue costs of Wellington Street which, when operational, will contribute to increased internal supported accommodation for care leavers and reduce external placements at the same time.

21. These are areas which need further action over the remaining year of the Action Plan and continued work on, for example, the stand alone CELCIS Action Plan to help improve educational attainment and achievement for Looked After children, and also work to further reduce the time taken to progress children through the permanence process.

## **21. RECOMMENDATIONS**

22. It is recommended that the Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership:

- (i) Note the work undertaken in the first year of the Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2016 – 2018 including the continued actions from the previous Corporate Parenting Strategy 2012/15;
- (ii) Note the key achievements including the opening of Whattriggs Road Supported Accommodation; the recruitment of additional Foster Carers; the development of CtC; the continued increase in children and young people being cared for in Kinship care; and the stabilization of the age at which young people are ceasing to be Accommodated as per Table 2 above;
- (iii) Note the areas requiring specific attention as per section 9, bullet points 1 to 4, and section 20 above, as well as the challenges with the trend in the number of children being accommodated as per section 18, bullet point 1 above;
- (iv) Note the reporting arrangements for the Corporate Parenting Action Plan 2016 - 2018; and
- (v) Otherwise note the content of this report.

**Jim Lyon,**  
**Senior Manager, Authority Wide Services, East Ayrshire Children's Health, Care & Justice Services.**

**21 April 2017**

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- East Ayrshire Children & Young People's Services Plan 2015 – 2018.
- East Ayrshire Child Protection Committee Plan 2015 – 2018.

Members requiring further information should contact: Susan Taylor, Head of Children's Health, Care & Justice Services on 01563 576107.

**IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER: JIM LYON, SENIOR MANAGER TEL: 01563 503354.**



**Appendix 1**

**EAST AYRSHIRE CORPORATE PARENTING ACTION PLAN 2016-2018**

**Lead Officer:**

**Jim Lyon, Senior Manager, Authority Wide Services**

	CORPORATE PARENTING PRIORITY THEMES & AIMS 2016-18	ACTIONS (TO BE ACHIEVED BY 31 MARCH 2018)	CORPORATE PARENTS/ PRIORITY OWNERS	PROGRESS AT 31.3.17 (INCLUDING CONTINUED ACTIONS FROM STRATEGY)
1	<p><b>PERMANENCE</b></p> <p><b>National Outcome:</b> <i>“Every Looked After child should have a stable home, as quickly as possible, which offers them nurturing relationships to support their wellbeing”.</i></p> <p><b>Local Priorities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ensure all children who require statutory intervention are identified early and a permanence plan is in place with the birth family or an alternative permanent home;</li> <li>✓ Increase effectiveness of the TAC (social worker, corporate parenting social worker, legal and review officer) to achieve the 12 week timescale from decision to Permanence Panel;</li> <li>✓ Whole systems approach with a focus on the experience and personal outcomes for children;</li> <li>✓ An effective legal process that supports permanency planning;</li> <li>✓ Increased permanent family care, wherever possible and</li> <li>✓ Improved data, information, progress monitoring and tracking arrangements.</li> </ul>	<p>Achieve the service standard of 12 weeks from the date of Permanency Review for 100% of new permanency plans at Adoption and Permanency Panel.</p> <p>Recruit 10 foster carers (or 15 placements) and 10 adopters each year to provide family care for East Ayrshire children.</p>	<p><b>WORK-STREAMS</b></p> <p>Localities Permanence Improvement Group chaired by Marion MacAulay, Senior Manager.</p> <p>Footprints in the Snow (Learning and Development Programme) led by Jim Lyon, Senior Manager.</p> <p>Foster Care Recruitment Plan led by Sharon Laing, Service Manager.</p> <p>Permanence Legal Schedule Group chaired by Jim Lyon, Senior Manager and Craig Young, Litigation Team Leader.</p> <p>Re-focus of Advocacy services provided by Who Cares? Scotland to give voice to very young children who cannot</p>	<p>Of the 26 children/ young people who went to the Fostering and Adoption Panel in 2016, 1 (4%) achieved the 12 week service standard.</p> <p>11 new foster carers recruited. 16 new placements plus 2 additional within existing resources</p> <p>6 new adoptions approvals.</p> <p>Significant improvement in timescales evidenced in Court/Legal processes as plotted in timescales from Panel.</p> <p>Who Cares? Scotland Worker has been attending LAC Reviews and East Ayrshire Permanence Panel.</p>

			represent themselves led by Sharon Laing, Service Manager.	
2	<p><b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT &amp; EMPLOYMENT</b></p> <p><b>National Outcome:</b> <i>All looked After children and young people should have the extra support they need to get the most out of their education and achieve their full potential.</i></p> <p><b>Local Priorities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Improve educational attainment and achievements;</li> <li>✓ Continue to improve attendance and time keeping;</li> <li>✓ Continued support through alternative curriculum activities through community awards programmes etc.;</li> <li>✓ Continue to improve volunteering and work experience opportunities for young people;</li> <li>✓ Continue effective implementation of nurture principles in practice through training and coaching model across educational establishments, and with foster carers, children's house staff and Corporate Parenting Team.</li> <li>✓ Positive destination on leaving school</li> <li>✓ Guaranteed interviews for Modern Apprenticeships where other entry criteria met</li> </ul>	<p>Ensure that 80% of all looked after school leavers achieve one or more qualifications at SCQF level 4 by the time they leave full time education.</p> <p>Reduce exclusions of Looked After children to achieve a target of 29.2 per 1000 pupils, by 2018.</p> <p>Continued improved attendance and time keeping to achieve a target of 95% by 2018.</p> <p>Continued improved Positive Destinations on leaving school on baseline of 2015.</p> <p>90% LAC and LAAC will have a child's plan with an identified educational outcome.</p> <p>Established pathways into employment opportunities within CPP for all LAC.</p>	<p>Alternative Care &amp; Education Board, chaired by Susan Taylor, Head of Children's Health, Care &amp; Justice.</p> <p>CELCIS Looked After Child Educational Attainment Research Group joint chaired by Elaine Hetherington, Senior Manager, and Jim Lyon, Senior Manager.</p> <p>Shelagh Halliday and Scott Campbell</p> <p>Care Leavers Group chaired by Grace Fletcher, Service Manager.</p> <p>Vibrant Communities - Kevin Wells/ Tammy Devlin/ Ian Burgoyne.</p> <p>CPP Lead – Jim Lyon</p>	<p>71% of East Ayrshire looked after school leavers (2014/15 - published June 2016 [Looked After full year]) achieved one or more SCQF level 4. <i>Local figures (Insight) Feb 2017, 62% LAC school leavers 2016 achieved one or more SCQF level 4.</i></p> <p>Scottish Government published figures (2014/15 - published June 2016 [Looked After full year]) show 194 exclusions per 1,000 pupils. <i>Local figures show 65 per 1,000 of LAC were excluded in session 2015/16 (full &amp; part year) compared with 22 per 1,000 for all children. Local data (SEEMiS) LAC Exclusions session 2016/17 at March 17 239 per 1,000 pupils.</i></p>

	<p>✓ Development of the Family Firm approach in the Community Planning Partnership.</p>			<p>Scottish Government published figures (2014/15 - published June 2016 [Looked After full year]) 91%.  Attendance. <i>Local data (SEEMiS) session 2016/17 at March 17</i> 89%.</p> <p>Ayrshire College had 104 care experienced young people enrolled in Kilmarnock, 57 in Ayr and 50 in Kilwinning.</p> <p>Rathbone had 100% of young people move on to positive destinations and 72% stayed for longer than 6 months.</p> <p>Attendance LAC 91% (2014/15 - published June 16' [Looked After full year])</p> <p>Scottish Government Report published June 2016 [Looked After full year] Session 2014/15. LAC initial positive destination 86%, Follow</p>
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				<p>up 71%. <i>Local figures (Insight) Feb 2017, 62% LAC school leavers 2016 in a positive destination.</i></p> <p>Multi-agency file audit sample demonstrated 25% of LAC have their child's plan reviewed by the TAC. (May 2016).</p> <p>Guaranteed interviews for LAC for Modern Apprenticeships (provided entry criteria met) now in place.</p> <p>Youth Employment Improvement Group established. Two presentations to Council Service Departments on 10 March 2017 to raise profile and consideration of taking on MA or providing work experience.</p> <p>Youth Employment Action Plan established. March 2017.</p>
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<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>QUALITY OF CARE</b></p> <p><b>National Outcome:</b> <i>Good corporate parenting is the key to improving outcomes for looked after children in all aspects of their lives. It is about listening to their needs, fears, and wishes and being determined to meet them together.</i></p> <p><b>Local Priorities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Continue to build our approach to relationship based care;</li> <li>✓ Ensure accommodated young people leave care at a time and pace which suits their individual needs;</li> <li>✓ Establish new planning assumption young people will remain in care till 18 (or longer where required) and have the option of remaining in care until 21; and</li> <li>✓ Prepare all our carers with the necessary skills, experience and support to meet the increasingly complex needs of our accommodated children and young people.</li> </ul>	<p>Reduce the number of placement moves for accommodated children and young people.</p> <p>Continue to fully implement EA-SNAP by ensuring 100% of appropriate staff complete training for all pillars of the model.</p> <p>Continue to provide training, consultation and advice with care staff in Children's Houses, to support embedding of nurture and trauma-informed practice via partnership with Educational Psychological Service.</p> <p>80% of East Ayrshire's foster carers have had access to training and development in nurture principles and are supported to use them routinely by March 2018</p> <p>100% of primary foster carers who care for children over 7 years trained in TCI by March 2018.</p>	<p>Children's House Development Board chaired by Jim Lyon, Senior Manager.</p> <p>Looked After &amp; Accommodated Children Group chaired by Sharon Laing, Service Manager.</p> <p>Alternative Care &amp; Education Board, chaired by Alan Ward, Head of Schools.</p>	<p>There have been 4 unplanned placement moves internally and 4 externally (4.5% of all LAAC).</p> <p>In 2016/17, 148 care leavers had an average of 2 placements.</p> <p>65% of all appropriate staff have completed training for all pillars of the EA-SNAP model.</p> <p>Nurture Training: 65% of Foster Carers trained, next course running in August 2017 which will meet target of 80%.</p> <p>TCI Training: 40% of Foster carers trained approved for children over 7 years of age.</p>
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<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>SUPPORTING CARE LEAVERS</b></p> <p><b>National Outcome:</b> <i>All corporate parents should positively encourage young people to exercise their right to remain in care and access aftercare or continuing care when the timing suits their needs.</i></p> <p><b>Local Priorities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Complete Whattriggs Road supported accommodation option;</li> <li>✓ Work towards Wellington Street Supported Accommodation as being the main route for accommodated young people to work towards independence;</li> <li>✓ Ensure young people remain in the most appropriate care setting until they are ready to move on;</li> <li>✓ Adhere to new planning assumption young people will remain in care till 18 (or longer where required).</li> <li>✓ Continue to support care leavers after they have left care till they no longer require it; and</li> <li>✓ Launch and follow the change agenda in the Care Leaver's Covenant.</li> </ul>	<p>Achieve target for recruitment of 6 direct recruit (as opposed to conversions) Supported Carers each year.</p> <p>Operational in 2018.</p> <p>By 2018 it is the norm for young people to remain in an appropriate care setting until at least 18 years of age.</p>	<p>Whattriggs Road Steering Group chaired by Katie Kelly, Head of Housing &amp; Communities.</p> <p>Care Leavers Group chaired by Grace Fletcher, Service Manager.</p> <p>TAC and LAC Review Officers, Scott Campbell &amp; Shelagh Halliday.</p> <p>Care Leaver's Covenant led by Grace Fletcher, Service Manager.</p>	<p>Whattriggs Road opened August 2016.</p> <p>Wellington Street properties now owned by EAC. No funding identified for revenue.</p> <p>10 Supported Carers recruited in 2015 (4 direct recruits and 6 conversions from foster care). The Supported Carer's Scheme now supports 11 young people.</p> <p>Whattriggs Road expected to open August 2016.</p> <p>We have steadily increased the average age of young people leaving care from 17 years 5 months, in 2010/11 to 17 years 11 months, in 2016/17.</p> <p>Launch planned for June 2017.</p>
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				<p>Vibrant communities Befriender for Care Experienced young people linked to Children's Houses and Whatriggs Road.</p> <p>Youth Development Worker from Staf started on 27 March 2017. YDW will develop Connecting to Change (CtC) to facilitate the voice of Looked After young people.</p>
5	<p><b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING</b></p> <p><b>National Outcome:</b> <i>All Looked after children and young people should enjoy the highest attainable standard of health and wellbeing.</i></p> <p><b>Local Priorities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Continue to support young people to maintain community contacts through engagement in physical activity;</li> <li>✓ Ensure each Children's House has a Health Improving Care Establishments (HICE) champion;</li> <li>✓ Complete an initial comprehensive health assessment (including mental health) for each looked after child;</li> <li>✓ Ensure health information from above assessment is embedded in all relevant</li> </ul>	<p>100% of Health and mental health Assessments will be initiated within 4 weeks of notification for Looked after Children.</p>	<p>Vibrant Communities – Tammy Devlin.</p> <p>Looked After &amp; Accommodated Children Group chaired by Sharon Laing, Service Manager.</p> <p>Children's Health Services - Dorothy Gair</p> <p>Elaine Hetherington, Senior Manager, GIRFEC</p>	<p>Each Children's House has a HICE champion.</p> <p>Unable to pull LAC Health assessment data and associated timescales from the Carepartner system. Seek to undertake audit in 2017/18.</p>

	<p>statutory plans;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Provide ready and responsive access to a GP, dentist, LAC nurse, mental, and sexual health services as required;</li> <li>✓ Provide regular continual one to one reviews of health assessed needs and ensure information recorded in plans is up to date;</li> <li>✓ Ensure future health needs are recorded on the relevant plan and relevant interventions to address these needs are undertaken;</li> <li>✓ Follow requirements laid out in Scottish Government Guidance on Health Assessments for Looked After children;</li> <li>✓ Establish new process for named person in education to notify Health of school age Looked after Children; and</li> <li>✓ Improve communication to named person for pre 5 Looked after Children.</li> </ul>	<p>100% of LAC and LAAC will have an active Ayrshare folder.</p>	<p>Martin Egan, Service Manager</p>	<p>100% of LAC and LAAC have an Ayrshare folder. Additional administrative support is in place to ensure that Ayrshare folders have up-to-date minutes and assessments included. Work is being progressed to ensure all key documents are sent to Ayrshare.</p>
<p><b>6 THE VOICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE</b></p> <p><b>National Outcome:</b> <i>The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) sets out children's rights to care and protection where they are Looked After or adopted, and their right to have their views heard.</i></p> <p><b>Local Priorities:</b></p>	<p>Ensure 100% of under 5's who are within the permanency process have their voice/opinion recognised.</p>	<p>Re-focus of Advocacy services provided by Who Cares? Scotland to give voice to very young children who cannot represent themselves led by Sharon Laing, Service Manager.</p>	<p>Who Cares? Scotland (East Ayrshire) is currently supporting 2 children (10%) under 5 within the permanency process.</p> <p>Rathbone hold a monthly Forum for their young people to express their views.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Listen to the views of Looked After children, young people and care leavers;</li> <li>✓ Improve the record of how we have involved children and young people in planning for permanence; Evaluate success of the pilot to implement advocacy process for under 5's;</li> <li>✓ Work collaboratively with local care groups and Looked after Children;</li> <li>✓ Establish the "Catch up" LAC Review method;</li> <li>✓ Evaluate our person centred care planning approach to establish baseline from which to improve;</li> <li>✓ Encourage young people through creative and meaningful engagement to attend annual youth conference; and</li> <li>✓ Support and encourage young people to become involved in voter registration processes.</li> </ul>	<p>Ensure 100% of children and young people have a completed Wellbeing Web.</p> <p>100% of East Ayrshire Learning Communities participating in annual Youth Conference as well as % representation from East Ayrshire Children's Houses, foster care and Ayrshire College.</p> <p>100% of child's plans will reflect each child's unique circumstances.</p>	<p>Support Connecting to Change (CtC) local care leaver's group led by Grace Fletcher, Service Manager.</p> <p>Lead Professionals, TACs and LAC Review Officers, Scott Campbell &amp; Shelagh Halliday.</p>	<p>Of the 279 Looked After Reviews that have taken place between 1/04/16 and 31/03/17 the child or young person's views were recorded on a Wellbeing Web or similar format in 49 or 18% of meetings. Review of Wellbeing Web being undertaken in May/ June 2017 to consider improved recording approaches.</p> <p>100% of our Learning Communities attended this year's Annual Youth Conferences alongside representation from our Children's Houses and Ayrshire College.</p> <p>Multi-agency case file audit activity undertaken in November 2016. 86% of files audited adequately assessed the child's unique needs.</p>
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		Ensure 95% of eligible young people become involved in voter registration processes.	Vibrant communities - Kevin Wells and Elaine Hetherington, GIRFEC	87.1% of EAC School Pupils eligible to register being registered following a series of Ready2Vote programmes with a further 9% contacted by text message encouraging registration prior to the 17 <sup>th</sup> April deadline.
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