

Notice of Meeting and Agenda Children & Young People Thematic Board

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 17 November 2015	13:00	Council Chambers (Renfrewshire), Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

KENNETH GRAHAM
Head of Corporate Governance

Membership

Councillors Henry, Bibby and McCartin (Renfrewshire Council); L O'Brien, Barnardos; F McBride, Children 1st; N Burns, Police Scotland; D Leese, F MacKay (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership); A Lowe, Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee; J Melrose, Renfrewshire Children's Panel; L King and N Harkness (both Scottish Children's Reporter Administration); P MacLeod, D Hawthorn, E McLean, G McKinlay, J Trainer, S Bell and S Glasgow (all Renfrewshire Council); P Nelis, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services; S Graham, Renfrewshire; S Graham, West College Scotland; and R Deucher, University of the West of Scotland.

Chair

Councillor Henry

Members of the Press and Public

Members of the press and public wishing to attend the meeting should report to the customer service centre where they will be met and directed to the meeting.

Further Information

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

A copy of the agenda and reports for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley and online at www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/agendas.

For further information, please either email democratic-services@renfrewshire.gov.uk or telephone 0141 618 7112.

Items of business

Apologies

Apologies from members.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare an interest in any item(s) on the agenda and to provide a brief explanation of the nature of the interest.

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|----------|---|----------------|
| 1 | Minute of Previous Meeting | 5 - 10 |
| | Minute of Meeting held on Monday 31 August, 2015. | |
| 2 | Rolling Action Log | 11 - 14 |
| | Report by Director of Finance & Resources, Renfrewshire Council. | |
| 3 | Children & Young People Engagement Event | 15 - 20 |
| | Report by Alastair Ewen, Youth Services Manager, Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council. | |
| 4 | Renfrewshire Carer's Strategy 2013-16 | 21 - 42 |
| | Report by Sharon Glasgow, Senior Officer (GIRFEC), Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council. | |
| 5 | Permanence and Care Excellence (PaCE) | 43 - 46 |
| | Report by Dorothy Hawthorn, Head of Service, Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council. | |
| 6 | Integrated Children's Services Improvement Plan - Outcome 2 | 47 - 56 |
| | Report by Director of Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council | |



Minute of Meeting Children & Young People Thematic Board

Date	Time	Venue
Monday, 31 August 2015	13:30	Staff Room, Gleniffer High School, Amochrie Road, Paisley, PA2 0AG,

PRESENT

Councillors Henry, Bibby and McCartin (Renfrewshire Council); L O'Brien, Director, Barnardos; R Ritchie, Service Manager, Children 1st; F MacKay, Head of Planning & Health Improvement, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership; A Lowe, Chair, Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee; J Melrose, Renfrewshire Children's Panel; L King, Authority Reporter, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration; P MacLeod, Director of Children's Services; D Hawthorn, Head of Child Care & Community Justice; G McKinlay, Head of Resource Services; and S Glasgow, Senior Officer (GIRFEC) (all Renfrewshire Council); P Nelis, Group Manager, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services; K Miller, Volunteer Development Officer, Engage Renfrewshire; M Gilligan, Area Manager West, Skills Development Scotland; S Graham, Vice Principal, Education & Leadership, West College Scotland; and R Deucher, Assistant Dean, School for Education, University of the West of Scotland.

CHAIR

Councillor J Henry presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

J Stott, S Flockhart, L McMinn, D Smiley, S McMeekin, J McKinnon, Z McKinnon, J Martin, S McCorrisken, K Allan, K Nesbitt, B Muir, J Gilmour, R McCormick, R Parnis, A Chalmers, R Urquhart, J Gunn, F Boyd, T Logan, E Barbour, and M Wilson (S6 Pupils from Gleniffer High School); L McAllister, Education Manager; Y Farquhar, Senior Policy Officer; R Cooper, Economent Development Manager; A Curruthers, Housing Advice & Homelessness Services Manager; A Conboy, Education Manager; and C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer (all Renfrewshire Council); DCI C Henderson, Police Scotland; E Finlay, Team Leader (Children & Families); and L Daniels, Service Manager (Childrens Services) (both Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership); and J Binning, Principal Policy Officer, SPT.

APOLOGIES

B Davidson (Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce); E McLean, J Trainer and S Bell (all Renfrewshire Council); N Burns, Police Scotland.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Children & Young People Thematic Board held on Tuesday 12 May, 2015.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 ROLLING ACTION LOG

The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.

C&YP.21.05.13(4) - Strategy for Engagement of Young People; **C&YP.26.11.13(4)** - GIRFEC Implementation; and **C&YP.24.02.15(6)** - Single Outcome Agreement - It was agreed that these actions were now complete and would be removed from the action log.

DECIDED: That the Action Log be approved.

3 UPDATE ON TACKLING POVERTY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

Annabelle Armstrong-Walter, Policy Lead (Tackling Poverty, Welfare Reform & Equalities) delivered a presentation setting out proposals to deliver the recommendations made by the Tackling Poverty Commission as set out in the Council's Action Plan. Renfrewshire Council had committed £6M towards the delivery of the Action Plan. Both the Scottish Government and national media were taking a keen interest in progress to deliver positive outcomes.

The presentation gave the background to the development of the strategy and the launch of the report; outlined the timeline that was being followed; highlighted the key messages of the strategy and the priorities; summarised the key principles; and outlined some of the projects that were being developed.

After discussion Councillor Henry thanked Annabelle for her presentation.

DECIDED: That the presentation be noted.

4 YOUTH VOICE - HAVING YOUR SAY

The S6 students gave a presentation relating to Youth Voice.

The following key points were made:

- Students felt that they were not listened to and this led them to be discouraged; students asked for a Board Member to come to the school to update them and feedback their views, comments and suggestions; and students intimated that they would be keen to engage with younger students in the school and to cascade information to them.

After questions and discussion both Councillor Henry and Peter MacLeod thanked the students for their presentation and intimated that they would look at the points raised and develop an action plan for the items discussed.

DECIDED:

(a) That the presentation be noted; and

(b) That the Board examine the points raised and develop an action plan to deliver improvements.

5 HEALTH & WELLBEING

The S6 pupils gave a presentation relating to Health & Wellbeing.

The following key points were made:

- Students felt too much pressure was being put on them to do well at school by staff and parents which led to unnecessary stress and had a negative impact on their performance; teachers and other people in authority did not understand how they felt and there was not enough information on how to deal with the situation; all the exams came at the one time and this caused them to feel overwhelmed. They asked for exams to be timetabled better and the workload spread out more evenly. F MacKay advised that a new counselling service would be developed as part of the Tackling Poverty Commission action plan and that this could be something the pupils could help to develop.
- Drugs were often considered socially acceptable within certain social groups; were easily accessible and low prices attracted young people; and not enough was being done by law enforcement to counter drug use in young people. Discussion took place with DCI Henderson relating to the stigma of talking to the Police. She advised that if any pupil had any concerns they could report incidents anonymously.
- Exam stress meant that students did not have any time to exercise; there was not enough emphasis to do exercise by parents and teachers; leisure facilities and clubs were too expensive and not accessible enough for certain people; and the cost of transport to get to these locations was too expensive as child fares stopped at 16 and they had to pay full fare. A Conboy advised that the Council was committed to making physical activity accessible to all young people and had lowered the cost of access to leisure facilities. J Binning intimated that deregulation of buses meant that local bus companies were responsible for their own fare prices however he advised that the Young Scot Card meant that the pupils could save on the cost of transport.

After questions and further discussion both Councillor Henry and Peter MacLeod thanked the students for their presentation and intimated that they would look at the points raised and develop an action plan for improvement.

DECIDED:

(a) That the presented be noted; and

(b) That the Board examine the points raised and develop an action plan to deliver improvements.

6 EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

The S6 students gave a presentation relating to Jobs and Employment.

The following key points were made:

- No support offered to 6th year students for work experience; would like additional information about workshops and new jobs; would like job shadowing opportunities; would like an opportunity talk to people in careers.
- Sanctions for employment benefits were too severe; they would like to see more communication relating to jobs through social media.
- Students wanted a better relationship with Career Advisors; they felt that the information they wanted was not always available; they would like an opportunity to speak to university students regarding courses. M Gilligan advised he would feedback the points raised in relation to Career Advisors. He indicated that he would ensure that the Career Management Service was promoted through the school and he was keen to hear suggestions from students at any time.
- Students wanted basic understanding of skills required for employment ie. working on tills or filling out tax forms would be a great benefit.

K Miller advised that a summer programme of volunteering opportunities had been circulated to the school however if any pupil was interested in volunteering they should contact her directly.

After questions and further discussion both Councillor Henry and Peter MacLeod thanked the students for their presentation and intimated that they would examine the points raised and develop an action plan for improvement.

DECIDED:

(a) That the presented be noted; and

(b) That the Board the points raised and develop an action plan to address these.

7 MISCELLANEOUS - OTHER ISSUES

The S6 Students gave a presentation on the topic of Other Issues Facing Young People.

The following key points were made:

- Lack of communication skills due to increased use of technology; lack of good shops, cafes and facilities for young people which led to a lack of opportunity to socialise safely causing anxiety/lack of confidence and had a negative emotional impact.
- If Paisley's facilities were to improve it would raise the issue of transport prices and frequency/lack of bus routes in more rural villages; teenagers over the age of 16 had to pay full fare even while they were still at school and the price difference was significant.
- Single parents did not receive enough support from the Council for grants (clothing, food etc) which led to single parents feeling stressed and anxious and it affected family life. Discussion took place on the cost of school uniforms (especially blazers); the price of branded items and peer pressure to wear these items; and the cost of school trips.

After questions and further discussion both Councillor Henry and Peter MacLeod thanked the students for their presentation and intimated that they would look at the points raised and develop an action plan for improvement.

DECIDED:

(a) That the presented be noted; and

(b) That the Board examine the points raised and develop an action plan to address these.

8 THANKS AND CLOSE

Peter MacLeod thanked everyone for their input and advised the students that the Board would look at the points raised; develop an action plan; and respond to the students within two weeks.




Councillor Henry thanked the students for their comprehensive and impressive presentations. She also thanked everyone who had been involved in organising the meeting, especially the Youth Workers, and the teaching staff for giving up their staff room for the meeting. She also thanked the Members of the Board and other Partners for their attendance and participation.

DECIDED:

(a) To note the thanks to everyone for their participation; and

(b) That it be agreed that within two weeks an action plan to deliver improvements be developed and shared with the students.

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE THEMATIC BOARD ROLLING ACTION LOG

	Actions on track
	Areas for concern that will impact on completion date if not fixed.
	Action required to bring up to satisfactory level
	Past deadline date and action required.

KEY

Action No.	Action	Action Owner	Status	Expected Date of Completion	Actual Date of Closure	Update & Comments
CAYP.05.09.13(5)	Update on STV/Hunter Partnership to next meeting Stronger Communities - Save The Children's Stronger Communities Programme	Lead Officer				<u>CAYP.04.02.14(2)</u> Awaiting formal proposal from STV/Hunter Partnership. Funding issues appear to be hampering progress. <u>CAYP.03.06.14(5)</u> Briefing note submitted and noted. <u>CAYP.24.02.15(4)</u> (a) Children's Services staff in conjunction with the Stronger Communities Programme to organise a meeting of the Glenburn and Muirton programmes at a later date; and (b) Relevant data and point of contact information be passed to the Project Manager.
CAYP.26.01.13(6)	NHS GG&C Healthy Children's Programme And Family Partnership Programme report to be submitted to a future meeting.	CHP- D Leese/ K Phillips		Future Meeting		This is an ongoing programme of work which is well progressed. NHSGGC and CHP will provide regular updates and will provide a detailed report for future meeting.
CAYP. 23.09.14(4)	PERMANENCE AND CARE EXCELLENCE (PACE) - progress on the PACE project be submitted to a future meeting			Future Meeting		February 2015 Evaluation to be carried out and a report will be brought to a future meeting.
CAYP. 24.02.15(8)	Joint Inspection of Services – a report on the findings of the inspection to be submitted to a future meeting of the Board	Lead Officer		Future Meeting		
CAYP. 24.02.15(9)	Education Outcomes and Destinations for Looked After Children – report to be submitted on an annual basis	Lead Officer		February 2016		
CAYP.11.06.14(4)	Corporate Parenting – Part 9 of Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2015 Report to be submitted to future meeting on reporting framework	S Glasgow		Future Meeting		

YOU SAID

WE PROPOSE

DISCUSSION TOPIC—YOUTH VOICE

Youth Voice - Having a Say

- Youth representation
- Better communication and being listened to
- Involving younger people

DISCUSSION TOPIC—YOUTH VOICE

Action 1 - Youth Representation

The Children and Young People Thematic Board will seek representation from school pupils.

Action 2 - Better Communication and being listened to & Involving Younger People

In order to increase dialogue between each of the High Schools and the Children and Young People Thematic Board, the Board will consider matching a member(s) of the Board to a High School. The member will be responsible for meeting a small group of S6 pupils who will act as advocates for all year groups within the school.

DISCUSSION TOPIC—HEALTH & WELLBEING

THE PRESSURE OF SUCCESS



- Too much pressure is often put on pupils to do well in school and is treated as the be all and end all of success in life
- This breeds unnecessary stress for some pupils and can negatively impact their performance
- Parents and teachers are often not understanding of the pressure and disregard the mental wellbeing of pupils
- Pupils are treated as a group in regards to workload and ability. They should be treated individually without teachers prioritising their own subjects

DRUGS & ALCOHOL

- Drugs are nowadays often somewhat socially acceptable within certain social groups
- They are often easily accessible and the low price attracts people
- Not enough is done by law enforcement to counter drug use in young people
- There is a lack of positive role models for young children, meaning people can be easily led astray in times of weakness



LACK OF MOTIVATION TO EXERCISE



- Exam stress often makes people feel as if they don't have the time to exercise
- There isn't enough emphasis on exercise and wellbeing by parents, teachers and other pupils
- Leisure facilities and clubs are too expensive and not accessible enough for certain people
- Locations not frequent enough and transport is expensive

YOU SAID

DISCUSSION TOPIC—JOBS & TRAINING

Work Experience

- Support for sixth years
- Additional info about workshops/new jobs
- Job shadowing
- Restricted opportunities
- Establishing relationships



Employment

- Sanctions for benefits are too severe
- Practical work training
- Social media
- Min. Wage



Careers Advisers



- Room for improvement - Information not always available
- Opportunity to speak to university students - past or present

Education



- Basic training in necessary skills
- Politics or training to prevent malpractice in the workplace

WE PROPOSE

DISCUSSION TOPIC—JOBS & TRAINING

Action 1 - Work Experience/Careers Advisers/ Employment/Education

Following the issues highlighted by the pupils in relation to work experience and careers service it was agreed that a focus group would be arranged between senior pupils and the appropriate community planning partners.

DISCUSSION TOPIC: OTHER ISSUES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE

- Lack of communication skills, increased use of technology
- In Paisley, there is a lack of good shops, cafés and facilities for young people
- Leading to lack of opportunity for young people to socialise safely, therefore can cause anxiety, lack of confidence and emotional impact on young people

Lack of socialising

Action 1 – Lack of Socialising

- Social isolation and social inclusion will be one of the themes at the forthcoming Youth Assembly
- Young people will be involved in developing the bid for the UK City of Culture 2021
- A calendar of youth engagement activity will be produced

YOU SAID

WE PROPOSE

DISCUSSION TOPIC: OTHER ISSUES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE cont/...



DISCUSSION TOPIC: OTHER ISSUES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE cont/...

Action 2 – Transport

- The Young Scot card will be rolled out across Renfrewshire in the coming months to ensure that young people can utilise the benefits and discounts available, particularly in relation to public transport.
- Representatives from the Thematic Board and Young People will meet with local transport companies.

Action 3 – Cost of Living/Single Parents

- The community planning partnership to share ideas with the young people about reducing the cost of the school day.
- A focus group on parenting to be established - this will consider links with the curriculum.



To: **Joint Meeting of Children and Young People Thematic Board & Jobs & the Economy Thematic Board**

On: **9th November 2015**

Report by:
Alastair Ewen, Youth Service Manager

Children and Young People Engagement Event

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to give feedback on the recent Children and Young People Board Youth Engagement Event on Monday 31st August 2015.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Board approves the action points that came out of the participation event (contained in Appendix 1) and notes the schedule of further consultation youth events (contained in appendix 2) in order to continue the process of engagement with children and young people.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Children and Young People's Thematic Board had identified the need to consult with young people. Youth Services facilitated a youth engagement event with young people from Gleniffer High School enabling them to meet Board members and share with them issues of concern for young people.
- 3.2 Youth Services supported twenty senior pupils from Gleniffer High School to identify issues of concern and prepare presentations to share with the Board at a meeting on the 31st of August 2015. Young people were supported to express their views and explore, in discussion with Board members, possible ideas and solutions to combat those concerns.
- 3.3 Key themes identified included youth voice, health and wellbeing, jobs and training, employment; access to community facilities, social isolation and impact of poverty. A summary of the issues identified and action points are set out in Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Feedback from young people who participated in this event was very positive and they recommended that similar opportunities be offered to young people across Renfrewshire in the future.

4. Community Involvement/Engagement

- 4.1 An integral part of the Youth Services Service Plan is supporting the development and delivery of Youth Voice initiatives, and is recognised nationally as sector leading.
- 4.2 Youth Services supports young people in taking action to bring about changes in their communities. Young people are supported to express their views, take part in decision making bodies and campaign on issues that affect them through on-going initiatives; community based youth forums, pupil council/youth leadership training in schools, Renfrewshire Youth Voice, Scottish Youth Parliament,
- 4.3 Youth Services has been committed to support young people to attend and participate in community planning conferences in recent years, and will continue to work in partnership with Community Planning to break down barriers to help young people access decision-making structures and in working towards addressing raised issues and concerns and identified need in their communities.
- 4.4 Youth Services will continue to support the Board to engage with young people, and view this youth participation model as part of a wider strategy that Youth Services has in planning and developing the forthcoming Renfrewshire wide Youth Assembly. (Appendix 2)

Appendix 1: Children & Young People Board Youth Engagement Event – Monday 31st August 2015

Key Themes presented by young people:

YOUTH VOICE

- Young people raised the issue of lack of youth representation and called for greater opportunities and access to decision-making structures.
- Young people asked for better communication and in particular being listened to when asked for their opinions, and receiving feedback after consultation.
- Young people felt there is a need to consult with younger people as well.
- Young people suggested the Thematic Board could ask young people to be part of the Board by giving young people more information about it.

Actions

- The Children & Young People Thematic Board will seek representation from school pupils.
- In order to increase the dialogue between each of the High Schools and the Children and Young People Thematic Board, the Board will consider matching a member(s) of the Board to a High School. The members will be responsible for meeting a small group of S6 pupils who will act as advocates for all year groups within the school.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

- Young people are feeling the effects of pressure to achieve and this is having a negative impact on their mental health and wellbeing.
- Young people recognised that drugs and alcohol use is becoming more acceptable in some circles and increased ease of access is causing concern.
- Young people are sometimes affected by the lack of motivation to exercise; barriers to healthy lifestyle include pressurised time, access to facilities including costs and location of facilities.

Actions:

- Following agreement of the Tackling Poverty Commission funding for the school counselling service, pupils from Gleniffer High School will be involved in the design of the new service.
- The Alcohol and Drugs Partnership will arrange an informal event with S6 pupils to discuss their issues and concerns.
- The Thematic Board will consider a paper on possible solutions to the issues raised.

JOBS & TRAINING

- Young people expressed concern about the lack of support and access to appropriate work experience, practical work training, and the need for improved careers advice and skills for entering the workplace.
- Young people would welcome more contact from real students from courses they intend to study, to get some insight into their personal experiences.
- Young people asked for more work experience opportunities, not just at S4 but later on in senior phase in S5 and S6 when more mature and focussed on life beyond school.

Actions:

- Following the issues highlighted by the pupils in relation to work experience and careers service, it was agreed that a focus group would be arranged between senior pupils and the appropriate community planning partners.

SOCIAL ISOLATION

- Young people feel there is the need to promote face to face communication skills, especially with the increased use of technology.
- Young people expressed the view that there was a lack of good shops and cafes and places for socialising in Paisley.
- This lack of opportunity for young people to socialise safely can impact on young people, resulting in anxiety, lack of confidence and emotional stress.

Actions:

- Social Isolation and social inclusion will be one of the themes at the forthcoming Youth Assembly.
- Young people will be involved in developing the bid for the UK City of Culture 2021.
- A calendar of youth engagement activity will be produced.

TRANSPORT

- Young people shared their experiences of public transport in Renfrewshire, and raised questions about the cost for young adults, the availability of discounts and limited routes and access in the evenings.
- Young people raised the issue of pricing for young people when they become young adults, and raised questions around discounted fares

Actions:

- The Young Scot card will be rolled out across Renfrewshire in the coming months to ensure that young people can utilise the benefits and discounts available, particularly in relation to public transport.
- Representatives from the Thematic Board and young people will meet with local transport companies.

COST OF LIVING

- Young people highlighted concern relating to poverty and how it impacts on children and families; how it can cause conflict and stress.
- Young people felt that single parents don't receive enough support from the council; school clothing grants are not enough to cover the costs of uniforms.

Actions:

- The community planning partnership to share ideas with young people about reducing the cost of the school day.
- A focus group on parenting to be established that will consider links with the curriculum

Appendix 2: Youth Services and the Wider Strategy of Youth Consultation in Renfrewshire

There are a number of youth work initiatives that Youth Services is planning that offer other opportunities to engage with young people.

- Youth Services staff will be supporting the young people from Gleniffer High School to give a presentation at the forthcoming **Children's Services Conference** in November 2015. This will provide young people an opportunity to discuss with front-line staff the practical impact on service delivery across council departments.
- Youth Services support a number of community based youth forums that are active in their communities. These forums will be encouraged to participate in a Renfrewshire wide **Youth Assembly** in February 2016, promoting youth representation on a local level and devising a strategic response to identified youth issues. The Assembly will seek to bring together young people involved in youth forums, pupil councils, MSYPs and other representative groups to share what they feel are issues of concern and to propose action.
- Youth Services will support MSYPs to undertake consultation with young people as part of the process of developing a **Scottish Youth Parliament manifesto**. Led by the Scottish Parliament the manifesto is intended to highlight the most important issues affecting young people in Scotland. It is to be published in the run up to the Scottish parliament elections in May 2016. Youth Services will support MSYPs to draw out the issues raised by young people from Renfrewshire.
- In partnership with Legal and Democratic Services and the Joint Valuation Board, Youth Services will run **Voter registration workshops** for 16 year olds in schools across Renfrewshire. These workshops will support young people to become registered to vote in the readiness for the Scottish Parliament Elections in May 2016. The workshops will also highlight the importance of expressing your views and participating in democratic elections.



To: Children and Young Person's Thematic Board

On: 17th November 2015

Report by:

Sharon Glasgow, Senior Officer (GIRFEC) Renfrewshire
Council, Children's Services

RENFREWSHIRE CARER'S STRATEGY 2013-16

1. Summary

1.1 The Social Work, Health & Well-being Policy Board approved the Renfrewshire Carers' Strategy 2013-16 in May 2013. The Carers' Strategy details the priorities and outcomes identified by local unpaid carers, and the actions for Renfrewshire Council, Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and Renfrewshire Carers Centre which will support carers to continue in their caring role. The Strategy acknowledges the significant role adult, young adult and young carers play in supporting people and recognises carers as partners in the delivery of care.

1.2 Both the Local and National Strategies recognised that caring for someone can be a good experience for a child or young person; it can make them feel more valued and included; give them more responsibility and greater self-esteem; and help them feel more mature, confident and able to deal with problems. Caring can give young people skills in managing money, looking after the home and dealing with health and social care services. However, caring can potentially have a significant impact on the wellbeing of children and young people. These issues can include:

- poor attendance at school/college
- Lack of time to do homework, and poor concentration
- physical and mental health issues
- difficulty in finding free time for friends
- a greater risk to young carers of neglect and abuse, e.g. where there are drug and alcohol issues
- financial pressures for families

1.3 Locally, the young carers strategy group was established to focus on the implementation of the actions from the Carers Strategy (see attached appendix 1) . This group reports to Renfrewshire Carers Joint Planning, Performance and Implementation Group (Carers JPPIG) and the Children's Services Partnership (RCSP)



1.4 In 2014 a local young carers and young adults carers forum was established as part of the work of the Carers Centre and supported by Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership. The forum has :

- Developed their own action plan based on their experiences as carers
- Met with senior managers in education and social work services.
- Met with Councillor Henry to raise issues that impact on them.
- Requested a 'Young Carers Champion' in the Council.
- Arranged a meeting with a local MSP
- Developed a DVD to be used as a training tool
- Established representation on the young carers strategy group

1.5 The carers centre and forum members will deliver a presentation to the Thematic Board meeting.

1.4 In October 2013 the Scottish Government announced plans to bring forward legislation intended to enhance the level of care and support available to carers and young carers in Scotland, through the publication of a Statement of Intent. Consultation on proposals for carer's legislation was published by the Government in early 2014 and a joint Social Work and Community Health Partnership response was homologated by the Social Work, Health and Well Being Policy Board on 6th May 2014. The Carers (Scotland) Bill which was introduced in Parliament on 9th March 2015. The Bill covers a range of areas relating to supporting carers including a number of new duties and requirements.

2. Recommendations

The Board are asked to:

- Note the progress in the young carers action plan
- Note the information related to the Carers (Scotland) Bill
- Note the issues raised in the presentation by the carers Centre and the Young carers Forum

3. Background

3.1 The Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach ensures that services focus on the wellbeing of children and young people including the particular needs for young carers.



3.2 The partnership supports a number of initiatives managed by Renfrewshire Carers Centre which seek to identify and support young carers and young adult carers, including:

- A forum where young carers and young adult carers are consulted on local issues and service developments
- 1 to 1 one and group support for young carers and young adult carers
- An Education worker who raises awareness of young carers in schools to promote identification and support
- Support to complete Duke of Edinburgh Award

3.3 While young carers face unique challenges, they have the same rights as all other children and young people, as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The demands made on young carers as a consequence of their caring responsibilities can often result in them being denied some of their rights as set out in the UNCRC. The actions set out in the Young Carers section of the Renfrewshire Strategy seeks to promote and protect these rights.

3.4 This strategy and action plan aim to ensure that young carers receive the support that they need to develop into successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. It recognises that young carers should have their wellbeing needs identified and met. Young carers should receive the support they need to allow them to be children and young people, first and foremost.

3.5 Young adult carers (aged between 18 and 25 years) can face particular challenges. At a time when others their age are leaving school and making plans for employment, training and education, young adult carers often have to deal with demands, responsibilities and emotions that limit their future opportunities.

3.6 Young adult carers may, for example:

- be committed to continue to provide care, but may not be able to tell others, including careers advisors and jobcentre staff, that this is why they are not making other plans;
- feel that they have to continue to care, or professionals may assume they are going to;
- be anxious about leaving home because of worries about the person they care for or fear that a younger brother or sister may have to take on caring responsibilities; and
- be desperate to leave home at the earliest opportunity, but not have the knowledge and skills to deal with the challenges this brings.

3.7 Many young adult carers can face these difficulties when supports are no longer in place as they move away from services for children. Young adult carers can also feel



they don't 'fit' in to the services provided for adult carers. Ensuring that young adult carers are supported through this transition is vital.

Young Carers in Renfrewshire

3.8 The 2011 Census found that Renfrewshire had a population of 174,900¹. Estimates suggest that 13% of the population is providing care to someone. However there was variation in the percentage of carers by age band from 6% of 0-18 year olds caring for someone to 18% of those aged 70 and over.

3.9 As part of the 'Achieving Step Change in Children's Outcomes' programme, Renfrewshire's Children's Services Partnership undertook a wide ranging survey of 9 to 18 years school based young people and the results below are taken from the 'young carers' part of the survey:

- 23 % reported that they care for someone
- 35% reported that the person they care for lives with them

➤ Those who care for someone reported that they cared for a:

Brother	9%		Grandparent	39%
Sister	5%		Other family member	14%
Parent	18%		Other person	16%

➤ Those who care for someone indicated how often they cared or looked after the person:

Several times a day	16%		Once a week	17%
Every day	29%		Once a month	7%
Twice a week	22%		Less than once a month	9%

➤ Those who care for someone indicated why the person needs extra help:

Long term physical illness	11%		Drug dependence	2%
Mental ill health	8%		Alcohol dependence	4%
Physical disability	16%		Old age	31%
Learning disability	6%		Other	21%



3.10 A health and wellbeing survey was conducted in Renfrewshire's secondary schools in 2008. Of the pupils who responded to the question, 14% indicated they had caring responsibilities. Of those who had caring responsibilities, 54% spent between 1 and 4 hours per week caring for their relative; whereas, a further 37% spent 5 to 20 hours and 9% spent 21 or more hours caring for their relative.

3.11 Young carers appeared to suffer negative consequences as a result of their responsibilities and reported feeling stressed 24%; tired 23% and anxious 12%. In addition to their caring responsibilities, young carers were more likely to have additional demands on their time. 30% of young carers had a job compared to 25% without caring responsibilities.

3.12 A further survey in 2013 was able to gain a snapshot of the local situation from the Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey of Young People in Renfrewshire undertaken with S1 – S4 pupils.

- 27.8% of pupils live with someone who has at least one condition from disability, long term illness, drug/alcohol problem, mental health issue.
- 71% of these pupils provide care – 19% of pupil population surveyed.
- Time spent caring reported Mean of 2.68 hours per day and Mean 8.4 hours per week.
- Impact of caring - Highest scores on impact were in relation to stress (28%), tiredness (26%), unable to do homework (23%) and anxiety (16%). 8.8% reported it helped them organise their time.
- Of the 19% who help family members some key wellbeing issues were identified in relation to smoking, drinking, healthy eating, physical activity, sleep and bullying.

Young Carers/ Young Adult Carers' forum

3.13 As part of the implementation of the Carers Strategy, the involvement and meaningful engagement of young carers was central to the improvement plan. The forum was established in late 2014. Over a relatively short period of time the Forum has taken forward and informed the local planning for young carers in a significant way. The forum has:

- Developed their own action plan based on their experiences as carers
- Met with senior managers in education and social work services.
- Met with Councillor Henry to raise issues that impact on them.
- Requested a 'Young Carers Champion' in the Council.
- Arranged a meeting with a local MSP
- Developed a DVD to be used as a training tool
- Established representation on the young carers strategy group



- Identified the young carers authorisation card as area to explore further
- Identified transport cost as a barrier

Carers (Scotland) Bill (see Appendix 2)

3.14 The Carers (Scotland) Bill was introduced in the Scottish Parliament on 9th March 2015. The Bill covers a range of areas relating to supporting carers including a number of new duties and requirements in relation to young carers:

- Broader definition of carer and young carer (A **carer** is an individual who provides or intends to provide care for another individual. A **young carer** is a carer under 18 years old or who has reached 18 years while a pupil at school and remains a pupil at that or another school)
- Introduction of Young Carer Statement for young carers
- Involvement in decisions regarding support for themselves and, as appropriate, with regard to the cared-for person
- Local authority requirement to set and publish local eligibility criteria
- Introduction of duty to support carers (including respite)
- Local authority requirement to prepare a Carers Strategy
- Involvement in the planning, shaping, delivery and review of services
local authority requirement to establish and maintain an information and advice service
- Local authority requirement to prepare and publish a short breaks services statement

3.15 The alignment of the carers assessment and statement with the child's plan as part of the Children and Young Person (Scotland) Act 2014 duties will be important . We are awaiting Guidance from Scottish Government in relation to this.

Proposed Actions	Lead organisation and group	Wellbeing Indicator(s)	Milestones	Other relevant Community Plan Outcomes	Progress
1. Map number of young carers in Renfrewshire	Community Link Team, Carers Centre	Safe	<p>Initial milestone: Develop additional mapping if needed, match current resources and support to potential young carers Link up mapping across agencies</p> <p>Milestone level to achieve outcome: Develop ongoing mapping through systems and identify potential need and resources needed to support young carers in Renfrewshire as part of planning processes across agencies</p>	<p>Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Have the best start in life; being ready to learn, supported to achieve and ambitious throughout and beyond their school lives.</p>	<p>Correlation of various surveys that include information about young carers has begun to produce an up to date estimation of number of young carers in Renfrewshire(e.g. 2008 wellbeing survey; 2011 census; 2010 Achieving Step Change epidemiology study; 2013 wellbeing survey)</p> <p>Wellbeing survey 2013 has provided information on numbers of carers (self reported by young people)</p> <p>Request will be made for further questions to be included in 2016 epidemiology study.</p> <p>Pupil support coordinators in all secondary schools have been provided with information on numbers based on the wellbeing survey</p>

<p>2. Identify young carers through Planning Processes</p>	<p>RCSP/GIRFEC Team, Community Link Team</p>	<p>Safe</p>	<p>Initial milestone: Include question about young carers in single and interagency assessments Milestone level to achieve outcome: Multi agency, universal identification questions are embedded as part of the child's plan process.</p>	<p>By 2023, the partners aim to see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members of our community, in particular our most vulnerable children, young people and adults, living in a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment where they are respected and free from abuse and neglect. <p>ICS Plan 2.3</p>	<p>Questions based on caring role will be incorporated into a revised Child's Plan (Integrated Assessment)</p> <p>Consultation with young people has taken place and questions with follow up questions have been devised which can be added to the Integrated Assessment</p> <p>The Carers Bill outlines the duty to identify needs of young carers via the Carers Statement. This will be aligned with GIRFEC implementation in 2016.</p>
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<p>3.Highlight issues faced by young carers and identify types of support they may need</p>	<p>Community Link Team/Carers Centre</p>	<p>Nurtured Safe Respected</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: Clarify and identify key issues through work with young carers carers centre/other voluntary agencies and research nationally Look at current support available, identify gaps and training/information needs Milestone level to achieve outcome: Issues have been identified, training has been developed to highlight these to relevant adults, identified gaps in understanding or support services are being addressed on an ongoing basis A system of consulting with young people and young carers is in place</p>	<p>Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Have the best start in life; being ready to learn, supported to achieve and ambitious throughout and beyond their school lives.</p>	<p>An awareness raising training plan for secondary schools has been developed.</p> <p>Inputs arranged for pupil support coordinators meeting for primary and pre5 establishments</p> <p>Following workshops and consultation, a Young Carers/Young Adults Carers Forum has been developed, the group had its first meeting in November 2014 and meet monthly to work on Actions in the Young Carers Strategy as well as identify issues they want raised through the CPP.</p> <p>Young adult carers and the Young Carers Education Worker have attended the Social Work senior management team to highlight issue of support</p> <p>Managers from adult and children's services will identify improvement actions</p> <p>Senior managers from education and social work attended the young carers group to discuss areas for additional support</p> <p>Young carers forum will attend a meeting of the Children and Young People Board to raise awareness across the Community Planning Partnership in November 2015.</p> <p>The forum has written to the Council to explore the possibility of a Young Carers Champion. Cllr Henry has attended to forum to discuss this (May 15)</p> <p>The Carers Centre and the Forum has developed a DVD to be used for awareness raising across services , launched in October 15 to be used as a resource in training.</p>
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<p>4. Continue to work with secondary schools/maintain established links and develop ongoing work.</p>	<p>GIRFEC Team/ Renfrewshire Carers centre</p>	<p>Nurtured Included, Achieving</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: Work in schools is coordinated through Children's Services Support Officers. (CSOs). All schools are aware of support Carers Centre can offer and have sessions in schools. In the same way links are developed with primary schools. Milestone level to achieve outcome: Ongoing funding is identified to continue work in all schools; a rolling programme has been developed and is linked into other training programmes, signposting to other support services for young carers. Young carers are being identified through schools. A local event for young carers is developed. Assessment of, numbers of young carers is reported into the planning process.</p>	<p>Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Feel confident and be responsible ; able to participate fully in learning and in their wider community. They can take part in opportunities which meet their needs, interests and aspirations. Live in a safe, stable nurturing environment at home and in the community – where their rights are respected, they are free from poverty and neglect and supported to be resilient and to thrive Integrated Children's Services Plan 2.1</p>	<p>Links are now well established between education and the Carers Centre A presentation by The Carers Centre with input from Adult Young Carer to all secondary heads and principal teachers has taken place. An awareness raising training plan for secondary schools has been developed and plans are in place to deliver training in all secondary schools, with an overview maintained via the Young Carers Strategy Group.</p>
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<p>5. Work with Primary Schools</p>	<p>Community Link Team/ Renfrewshire Carers Centre</p>	<p>Nurtured Responsible</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: A development plan is drawn up with primary schools and the Carers Centre of the best way to develop support in school and an action plan is put in place Milestone level to achieve outcome The input into primary schools is rolled out and with a coordinated approach through CSSOs linked into the secondary school work and training programs. The need for support and advice for parents is looked at along with developing appropriate way to inform and enable parents/children/ to self identify and to ask for support if needed</p>	<p>Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Feel confident and be responsible ; able to participate fully in learning and in their wider community. They can take part in opportunities which meet their needs, interests and aspirations. Live in a safe, stable nurturing environment at home and in the community – where their rights are respected, they are free from poverty and neglect and supported to be resilient and to thrive ICS Plan 2.2</p>	<p>Link established with CSO team Input arranged for pupil support coordinators meeting for primary and pre-5 establishments Plan being developed to roll out to primary schools A DVD produced by the Young Carers has been completed as a resource</p>
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<p>6. Additional needs of Young Carers are considered when carrying out single and interagency assessments</p>	<p>GIRFEC Team</p>	<p>Safe Respected</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: Work with Integrate Assessment Framework (IAF) team and young carers to develop a specific question to be added to the IAF with follow up questions Look at who would support in the case of a clear identification as needs linked to caring responsibilities being the main need of the young person. Milestone level to achieve outcome Development of a standard question and set of follow up questions to be used across agencies for the Childs Plan Clear referral pathways have been established, any gaps are identified and measures taken to address these. Training is developed to be included in all agencies assessments training in relation to identifying YC.</p>	<p>By 2023, the partners aim to see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members of our community, in particular our most vulnerable children, young people and adults, living in a safe, inclusive and nurturing environment where they are respected and free from abuse and neglect. 	<p>Work with young carers from the Carers Centre established the type of questions that need to be asked.</p> <p>Consultation with young people has taken place and Questions have been finalised</p> <p>Questions and prompts based on caring role will be incorporated into a revised Child's Plan (IA)</p> <p>Following Social Work senior management team meeting, adult services agreed to review assessment to consider further any improvements needed to focus on the impact of caring role for young people</p> <p>The Carers Bill outlines the duty to identify needs of young carers via the Carers Statement. We are awaiting outcome of the consultation (April 2015) with a view to aligning this with GIRFEC implementation</p>
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<p>7. Develop and implement a Renfrewshire Young Carers Self Assessment and Inform Young Carers of their right to an assessment which considers the challenges they face</p>	<p>GIRFEC Team/ Carers Centre</p>	<p>Respected</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: Work with young carers to develop a child-friendly version of the leaflet. CSO and the PSE program establish them at all secondary schools. Include awareness raising with staff/training if necessary Explore other formats for the leaflet e.g. on line, social media. Establish pathway for self assessments and referrals Milestone level to achieve outcome All agencies and services for young people are aware of the self assessment and have copies of it available for young people Training programmes are in place to support any child who needs help to complete the leaflet There is a clear pathway to Carers Centre/support and to a child's plan if needed</p>	<p>Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Feel confident and be responsible ; able to participate fully in learning and in their wider community. They can take part in opportunities which meet their needs, interests and aspirations.</p>	<p>The need for a young carers assessment will be progressed in consultation with the young carers group A DVD project has allowed young people to identify issues that carers may face and the DVD will be used as a resource to raise awareness in schools and with other audiences. Further discussion will take place with young people as we fully implement duties in the Children and Young People Act and the Carers Bill in 2016 ie the young carers statement and the Child's plan</p>
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<p>8. Provide Young Carers with relevant information and advice</p>	<p>Carers Centre</p>	<p>Respected Active Included</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: Review current services and identify any gaps, match need to current information and advice available Talk to young carers about the sort of information they find helpful and any barriers they have experienced in accessing information. Develop a forum for young carers. Milestone level to achieve outcome Relevant information in a range of formats along with information services are available across Renfrewshire, Young people and young carers are involved in monitoring what and how information is available and key staff have been trained as needed and know where to signpost young people.</p>	<p>By 2023, communities in Renfrewshire will be thriving, resilient and with a clear sense of place. They will: Be confident, fully engaged with and regularly consulted by public services. By 2023 our residents will: Be supported to live independently as long as possible in their own homes and communities.</p>	<p>Work with Renfrewshire Young Carers Forum (RYCF) and the Carers Centre to look at types and content of information The Carers Centre is now an established member of the Voluntary Sector Forum. Needs of young carers have a greater profile across services following training and awareness raising sessions Health services are working with acute services to identify areas of development for staff assessing needs of cared for patients.</p>
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<p>9. Raise awareness about the role of young carers and the pressures they face. Look at positive aspects of being a young carer in Renfrewshire</p>	<p>Carers Centre/ GIRFEC Team</p>	<p>Respected Responsible Included Healthy</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: Young carers are involved in developing promotional material and planning stigma challenging sessions in schools Young carers are part of the Positive About Youth campaign and RCSP promotion and delivery of GIRFEC The positives are included as part of any training packages for professionals. Milestone level to achieve outcome Renfrewshire has integrated issues faced by young carers positive and negative within GIRFEC approach. Issues about young carers are raised as part of education program for young people in schools for example PSE with resources from Carers Centre, with staff given some training on how to use these resources, Young carers issues are included in Health and sports program, YC are able to get forms of accreditation for their</p>	<p>Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Feel confident and be responsible ; able to participate fully in learning and in their wider community. They can take part in opportunities which meet their needs, interests and aspirations. By 2023 our residents will: Be valued and respected irrespective of their age, physical disability or other needs. By 2023, communities in Renfrewshire will be thriving, resilient and with a clear sense of place. They will: Value and promote equality and diversity and the role of charitable and voluntary work.</p>	<p>Ways of raising awareness are being looked at by young carers via the Forum Young Carers issues were included in inter-agency staff magazine in November 2014 Development of DVD by carers centre and Young Carers Forum Positive About Youth awards now includes category for young carers Awareness raising taking place across all secondary schools Young carers have attended Social Work senior management team meeting Input planned for Children and Young People thematic board to raise awareness across services. Young carers and carers centre attended the youth participation event where a number of young people identified themselves as carers and have now linked to supports at the centre</p>
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			<p>caring roles, YC agenda is included when planning YP participation events</p>		
<p>10. Deliver a training package for significant adults services and agencies working with young people that covers welfare and wellbeing issues in relation to young carers and other young people in the household</p>	<p>Carers Centre/ GIRFEC Team</p>	<p>Safe Included Respected Responsible</p>	<p>Initial Milestone: Look at current training and identify how to add in key information about Young carers. Research other young carers training being used and look to the voluntary sector for evidence. Identify where further training may be needed and who would best benefit from this training, link across partners to identify where young carers training could be added to other basic training. Training for IAF to include section on young carers and effects on young people and families. Milestone level to achieve outcome Young Carers training is fully integrated in general training for staff Additional training has been developed to support relevant staff General training in young carers' issues and effect on young people is available for all partners.</p>	<p>Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Feel confident and be responsible ; able to participate fully in learning and in their wider community. They can take part in opportunities which meet their needs, interests and aspirations. Have good physical, emotional and mental health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Links with other voluntary agencies need has been established through Voluntary Sector Forum/Engage Renfrewshire</p> <p>The process of Adult Services assessing care needs and questions relating to the age of those caring for a person are being looked at with the view to including young carers issues and linking to a referral pathway into children's services</p> <p>CP and GIRFEC training incorporates issues relating to young carers.</p>

			Young people's training and peer education program has been developed. Training is linked to GIRFEC Approach and children's Rights..		
11. Review existing inter-agency CP & GIRFEC training in relation to YC needs	GIRFEC Team	Safe Included	<p>Initial Milestone: Review current training available across agencies and identify how to add into this with key information about young carers. Research other young carers training being used and look to the voluntary sector for evidence. Identify where further training may be needed and who would best benefit from this training. Training for IAF to include section on young carers and effects on young people and families. Milestone level to achieve outcome Young Carers section has been added and training is being undertaken.</p>	Children and young people in Renfrewshire will: Have good physical, emotional and mental health and wellbeing	Inclusion of young carers issues in all GIRFEC and Child Protection Training has been established

12. Increase the percentage of local carers who feel supported to continue their caring role	JPIG		Develop monitoring a and evaluation plan	Our residents will be supported to live independently as long as possible in their own homes and communities	Link to Adult Services assessing care needs and questions relating to the age of those caring for a person are being looked at with a view to including young carers issues and linking to a referral pathway into children's services
13. Early Identification of Young Carers to ensure necessary support from all partners	RCSP, GIRFEC Team	Safe Included, Nurtured Achieving		Live in a safe, stable nurturing environment at home & in the community – where their rights are respected, they are free from poverty & neglect & supported to be resilient & to thrive ICS Plan 2.3	Develop Young carers statement and plan Discussions about including questions as part of nursery enrolment if the child has a family member living in the home who has an illness Health focus on identification in acute and GP services Further consideration of the Young Carers statement needed as outlined in the Carers Bill.

Appendix 2

Carers (Scotland) Bill

Part 1 – Key Definitions

Meanings of “carer”, “young carer” and “adult carer”

A **carer** is an individual who provides or intends to provide care for another individual.

‘Carer’ does not apply

- in the case of a cared-for person under 18 years old, to the extent to that the care is or would be provided by virtue of the person’s age;
- if the care is provided by virtue of a contract;
- or as voluntary work.

A **young carer** is a carer under 18 years old or who has reached 18 years while a pupil at school and remains a pupil at that or another school.

An **adult carer** as a carer who is at least 18 years old but who is not a young carer.

Meaning of responsible authority: young carers

Where the young carer is a pre-school child, the responsible authority will be the health board for the area in which the child resides. In any other case, the responsible authority will be the local authority for the area in which the young carer resides.

Part 2 – Adult Carer Support Plans and Young Carer Statements

Duty to prepare Adult Carer Support Plan

An Adult Carer Support Plan is a plan prepared by a responsible local authority that sets out an adult carer’s identified personal outcomes, identified needs and any support to be provided by the responsible local authority to meet those needs.

The responsible local authority is required to prepare an Adult Carer Support Plan for a person if the responsible local authority itself identifies the person as an adult carer, if an adult self-identifies as a carer and the responsible local authority agrees.

The responsible local authority is the local authority for the area in which the carer lives. This will still be the case where the adult carer lives in a different local authority area to one in which the cared-for person lives.

Content and review of Adult Carer Support Plan

An Adult Carer Support Plan must contain:

- the adult carer’s personal circumstances;
- the extent to which the adult carer is able and willing to provide care;
- the adult carer’s personal outcomes;
- the adult carer’s needs for support;
- the support generally available;
- the support that the responsible local authority provides or intends to provide;
- whether support provided should take the form of a short break; and
- the circumstances for review.

The second and subsequent Adult Carer Support Plan prepared for a carer must contain information on the extent to which any support provided under a previous plan has assisted in achieving the carer’s identified personal outcomes.

Provision of information about plan

The responsible local authority should provide the information contained in the Adult Carer Support Plan to the adult carer to whom the plan relates and where appropriate, to any other person(s) at the carer's request, as soon as practicable after the revised plan is prepared.

Duty to prepare Young Carer Statement

A Young Carer Statement is a statement prepared by the responsible authority that sets out a young carer's identified personal outcomes (with reference to the safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, included [SHANARRI] well-being indicators), identified needs and any support to be provided by the responsible local authority to the young carer to meet those needs. This will apply whether or not the young carer also requires a child's plan.

Content and review of young carer statement

A Young Carer Statement must contain:

- the young carer's personal circumstances, including the impact of caring;
- the extent to which the young carer is able and willing to provide support;
- the extent to which the care provided by the young carer is appropriate;
- the young carer's personal outcomes;
- the young carer's needs for support;
- the support generally available;
- the support which the responsible local authority provides or intends to provide;
- whether support should be provided in the form of a break from caring for the cared-for person;
- the circumstances for review.

Provision of information about statement

The responsible authority must provide the information contained in the Young Carer Statement to:

- the young carer to whom the young carer statement relates,
- the young carer's named person, and
- where appropriate, any other person the young carer requests.

Where the responsible authority, in relation to a young carer, is not the responsible local authority, the responsible authority must not provide the young carer statement to the young carer without the approval of the responsible local authority.

Part 3 – Provision of Support to Carers

Local eligibility criteria

The local authority is required to set the local eligibility criteria which it is to apply for its area. The local authority should consult with persons and bodies representative of carers and the eligibility criteria should be published. Scottish Ministers have the power to make regulations setting out national eligibility criteria.

Duty to provide support to carers

The responsible local authority has a duty to provide support to the carer to meet identified eligible needs.

The local authority should consider whether support should include support which provides a break from caring.

Scottish Ministers have the power to make regulations about the forms of support that would constitute a break from caring. Such regulations may make specific provision to deal with

cases where the support is delivered through the provision of replacement care or other services or assistance to the cared-for person. This includes provision about the role of the cared-for person in relation to how that care or those services or assistance are provided and whether that care or those services or assistance are to be regarded as support to the carer or to the cared-for person.

A local authority can make appropriate charges when providing services which support carers.

Part 4 – Carer Involvement

Local authority and health boards should involve carers and such persons and bodies representatives of carers in carer services.

The carer must have as much involvement as he or she wishes in relation to the preparation of the adult carer support plan or young carer statement.

The authority preparing care assessments should take into account the care which is provided, or to be provided by any carer.

Part 5 – Local Carer Strategies

Each local authority must prepare a local carer strategy, including information relating to the particular needs and circumstances of young carers in its area.

The strategy must include:

- the local authority plans for identifying carers in its area and how it will obtain information about the care they provide or intend to provide;
- the authority's assessment of the demand for support to carers in its area;
- the support which is available to carers in the authority's area, whether from the authority itself, the relevant health board or any other persons or bodies that the local authority deems appropriate;
- the authority's assessment of the extent of unmet need for support in the area;
- the authority's plans for supporting carers in its area;
- the authority's intended timescales for preparing adult carer support plans and young carers statements; and
- any other information that the authority considers to be appropriate.

Part 6 – Information and Advice for Carers

Information and advice service

Each local authority must establish and maintain an information and advice service for carers in its area.

Short breaks services statements

Each local authority to prepare and publish a short breaks services statement relevant to the persons who live in that area.

Part 7 – General Provision

Allows grants and loans to be made to voluntary organisations in connection with things they do which assist local authority in exercising their functions under this Bill.

Parts 2 to 6 of this Bill should be considered as part of provisions relating to the performance of functions by local authority for the purposes of that section. This will then allow local authority to make arrangements with voluntary organisations so that such organisations can provide assistance to local authority exercising functions under the Bill.

Financial Memorandum

The financial memorandum accompanying the Bill sets out the estimated costs associated with implementation of the Bill, including the duties on local authority. The costs are predicated on the Government's stated expectation that should the Bill pass, it might commence in April 2017.

The Government estimates that total funding of between a minimum £11 million in 2017-18 to £72 million in 2021-22 and a maximum of £12 million to £84 million in the same period will support carers, and includes funding for the Adult Carer Support Plan and Young Carer Statement, information and advice service (including a short breaks service statement), the duty to support carers, additional short breaks component and local carer strategies. However the Government does not give an indication of funding levels for individual Councils.

Waiving of charges for support to carers

The Government recently published regulations on the charging for support for carers which required local authority to waive charges for certain types of support, the regulations were published to clarify the position in respect of Self Directed Support. The regulations however are proving challenging for local authorities in relation to 'replacement care' as, "it is not always clear if replacement care is provided to the carer following a carer's assessment in order to meet the needs of the carer (where charges would be waived) or provided to the cared-for person in order to meet their assessed needs (and, therefore, chargeable)"¹. The Government expects to publish new regulations regarding this matter alongside a financial memorandum if there are cost implications.

¹ <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/86987.aspx>



To: **Children and Young People Thematic Board**

On: **17 November 2015**

Report by:
Dorothy Hawthorn, Head of Service
Children's Services

Permanence and Care Excellence (PaCE)

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Permanence and Care Excellence (PaCE) programme launched in Renfrewshire in March 2014. Permanence and Care Excellence is a whole systems approach to improving performance in relation to permanence planning for looked after children.
- 1.2 PACE uses the Scottish Government definition of permanence as:
... providing children with a stable, secure, nurturing home and relationship, where possible within a family setting, that continues into adulthood.
- 1.3 The programme employs Quality Improvement methodology to the area of permanence practice, with the aim of improving outcomes for children locally.
- 1.4 Significant progress has been made with changes to the local permanence system in order to improve outcomes for children and their families, and there is a high level of motivation and energy from staff supporting the programme to sustain this level of positive change.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Children and Young People Thematic Board is asked to note the progress of the PaCE programme in Renfrewshire.

3. Background

- 3.1 In 2011, the Scottish Children's Reporters Administration published national research which suggested that, across Scotland, children were experiencing various sources of drift and delay in their journey to permanence. The PACE programme represents part of the Scottish Government and CELCIS's response to evidence which suggests that looked after children and young people in Scotland experience lengthy periods of uncertainty and insecurity which impact negatively on their life

experiences and outcomes. It is recognised that the best outcomes for children are achieved when decisions are made about accommodated children returning home or requiring permanence at the earliest possible stage in their care journey.

- 3.2 Renfrewshire was chosen to be one of the two inaugural sites for the PaCE programme; the other was Aberdeen City. The PaCE programme is now being rolled out nationally. Prior to being selected as a pilot site for PaCE, Renfrewshire had introduced new approaches to reduce drift in permanency planning and the overall performance had improved with a significant increase in Adoption and Permanence work being achieved. Of particular note are the statistics in relation to Adoption for the past 5 year.

Year	Number of Children
2014/15	24
2013/14	17
2012/13	11
2011/12	18
2010/11	16
Total	86

- 3.3 Notwithstanding our improved performance, we were keen to get involved with the PaCE programme given it is a whole systems approach to improving performance in relation to permanence planning for looked after children A 'whole system' approach ensures the 'blocks' within the system are identified early and steps taken to resolve this by all partners. The programme brings together practitioners from the local authority (social work, education and legal team), health, CHS and SCRA on a regular basis to followed a structured approach to achieve whole-system improvement in permanence outcomes for looked after children in Renfrewshire.
- 3.4 PaCE employs Quality Improvement methodology (also used in the Early Years Collaborative initiative) to improve local permanence systems and practice by bringing together all partners to agree specific improvement aims, based on workers' understanding of local challenges in delivering the best outcomes for children. The analysis of what is causing drift and delay for children is underpinned by looking at the journey of children through the system (through tracking of key permanence milestones), which provides evidence of where blockages occur and, in time, an indication of whether the changes being tested are leading to improvements for children.
- 3.5 Champions' meetings take place on a six weekly basis and the five sub-groups (permanence milestones, assessment, legal processes, health and education), made up of senior managers, team managers and frontline practitioners, meet on a three weekly basis to review their progress.
- 3.6 The key aim of the Renfrewshire PACE programme is to make 95% of decisions on a child's destination within six months of the child being accommodated by 31 December 2015. A second aim has been developed to reduce the timescale for completion of permanence reports, and it is anticipated that a third aim will be developed to improve the process from the point of the Fostering and Adoption panel to the child's placement being legally secured.

- 3.7 The PACE programme has required a significant commitment of time from local authority staff and colleagues in partner organisations to develop and test changes, as well as from other staff members (including Planning and Performance team) who have worked with the delivery team to assist in the collation of data and delivery of the 'measurement for improvement' plans.

To date, the following changes have been tested:

- Use of templates for recording and evidencing recommendations in reports being prepared for Children's Hearings
- Awareness raising sessions for Panel Members and Reporters on contact, child development and attachments, and decision-making
- Introduction of permanence planning meetings
- Referral of children to SCRA on, or within a few days of, the date of accommodation
- Tracking process for Permanence Order reports
- Tracking of key permanence milestones
- Involvement of health colleagues in the permanence assessment
- Integration of parenting assessment in IA

- 3.8 Feedback about the early referral of children to SCRA around the date of accommodation was overwhelmingly positive, and led to the decision to implement this for children aged three and under. It is anticipated that more of the changes being tested will be implemented (and incorporated in the Revised Looked After Children procedures) if there is evidence that these changes are leading to improvements for children.

The following tests of change are due to commence in the next couple of weeks:

- Involvement of education colleagues in the permanence assessment
- Allocation of the same Health Visitor to foster carers and birth mothers to provide continuity of care to babies, regardless of their address

4. Resources

- 4.1 In addition to the staff time committed to resourcing the programme of champions' and sub-group meetings, resource has been provided by the delivery team from Celcis and the Scottish Government although it is anticipated that this will be scaled down due to the national roll out of the programme.

5. Prevention

- 5.1 The improvement plan framework allows the Children and Young People Board to plan resources and direct investment towards prevention and early intervention.

6. Community Involvement/Engagement

- 6.1 The improvement plan has been developed through the Children and Young People Board and sub groups whereby the third sector is widely represented.



To: Children and Young People Board

On: 17 November 2015

Report by:

Director of Children's Services

Integrated Children's Services Improvement Plan – Outcome 2 Progress Report

1. Summary

- 1.1 In order to achieve our vision and our associated outcomes and targets, the Children and Young People Board developed an Integrated Children's Services improvement plan. Following agreement of the improvement plan, the Board requested that a progress report for Outcome 2 'Our children and young people live in a safe and secure, stable and nurturing environment at home and in the community – where their rights are respected, they are free from poverty and neglect and supported to be resilient and to thrive' is produced in order for the Board to fulfil its monitoring and scrutiny role.
- 1.2 The progress against each individual action is detailed in Appendix 1 however Section 4 below highlights some of the key areas of progress.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board

- a) Scrutinise each of the actions detailed in appendix 1
- b) Notes the key areas of progress highlighted in Section 4

3. Background

- 3.1 The Children and Young People Board has responsibility for coordinating and driving multi-agency activity to ensure that we achieve our long term vision that:

'By 2023 we will get it right for every child and young person by ensuring that they live in a positive and inclusive environment, have the best start in life, are confident, healthy and free from disadvantage'.
- 3.2 In order to achieve this vision and our associated outcomes and targets, the Children and Young People Board developed an Integrated Children's Services improvement plan. Following agreement of the plan, the Board agreed a reporting schedule for monitoring and scrutinising the progress being made against each of the Children and Young People Outcomes and this report herewith details the progress being made against Outcome 2 'Our children and young

people live in a safe and secure, stable and nurturing environment at home and in the community – where their rights are respected, they are free from poverty and neglect and supported to be resilient and to thrive’.

4. Key Areas of Progress

The progress being made against each individual action is detailed in Appendix 1, however some key areas of progress are as follows:

- 4.1 Almost 400 families have benefitted from the Healthier Wealthier Children project from April 2014 to February 2015. This has resulted in financial gains for this period: £715,574 with debt being managed totalling £581,76. Since the project began the total gain for families has been £3,047,375.

The initiative has also received 23 referrals from the Family Nurse Partnership.

Funding for Healthier Wealthier Children post has been secured until March 2017 with additional resource being made available until March 2016 for work with the BME community.

- 4.2 Police Scotland will facilitate work experience for one week commencing 26th October 2015. All Secondary Schools within Renfrewshire have been notified and nominations received. Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV) is now established within Renfrewshire. 24 Young People are fully trained having been recruited from Castlehead and St Andrews secondary schools, 33% of whom reside in our most deprived communities. The aims of PSYV are:-

- Promote a practical understanding of policing amongst all young people
- Encourage a spirit of adventure and good citizenship
- Support local policing priorities through volunteering and give young people a chance to be heard
- Inspire young people to participate positively in their communities

- 4.3 Renfrewshire’s Tackling Poverty Commission, the first of its kind to be established in Scotland, was set up in February 2014. The Commission was tasked to examine the nature, causes and impact of Renfrewshire.

The Commission publish its report in March 2015 and identified 24 recommendations grouped under 5 priority areas. These include:

- Increase the number of households who can access employment that provides an acceptable standard of living.
- Prevent financial crisis and support low income families to make the most of their money.
- Improve levels of physical and mental health of children in low income families.
- Close the education gap between children from low income families and their better off peers.
- Create neighbourhoods where people want to live and can afford to live.

In March 2015, Council endorsed the Commission’s recommendations and committed £6m of investment.

5. Areas for Improvement

At the present time there are no areas for improvement.

6. Resources

The Children and Young People improvement plan identifies the resources requirements for each individual action.

7. Prevention

The improvement plan framework allows the Children and Young People Board to plan resources and direct investment towards prevention and early intervention.

8. Community Involvement/Engagement

The Action Plan has been developed through the Children and Young People Board and sub groups whereby the third sector is widely represented.

For more information about the report, please contact Yvonne Farquhar, Senior Policy Officer, Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership Team 0141 618 7409 or Nicola Davidson, Development Officer (GIRFEC), 0141 618 6816.

Renfrewshire's Integrated Children's Services Plan – Outcome 2 Progress Report

Our children and young people live in a safe, stable nurturing environment at home and in the community – where their rights are respected, they are free from poverty and neglect and supported to be resilient and to thrive

Proposed Improvement Actions	Lead organisation and group	Resource requirements	Milestones	Progress
2.1 Increase the perception score of not being bullied amongst secondary school pupils to 96				
2.2 Increase the perception score of not being bullied amongst primary school pupils to 96				
Ensure that the Promoting Positive Relationships policy is adopted by all schools and community planning partners	Children's Services – Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership	Within current resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy agreed by EPB in August 2014 • Policy issued for implementation • Appropriate support identified and provided by December 2014 	<p>All education establishments have adopted this policy and action points for developed have been incorporated into school improvement plans. As part of developments around the nurture strategy we are scoping out the use of approaches which sit under this policy such as Restorative Practice; Motivated Schools; Emotional Resilience</p> <p>A range of evidence based programmes are available in Renfrewshire. The evaluation for each of the programmes is at a different stage.</p> <p>A comprehensive report on the implementation and impact of evidence based programmes will be presented to the Children and Young People Thematic Board.</p> <p>The following programmes are showing positive impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incredible Years • Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS) • Functional Family Therapy • Families and Schools Together • Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse Recovery (CEDAR) • Families Nurse Partnerships
Evaluate existing evidence based programmes	Children's Services - Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership	Within current resources		

Proposed Improvement Actions	Lead organisation and group	Resource requirements	Milestones	Progress
Agree a programme of engagement with Police Scotland and our schools to support young people to develop positive relationships	Police Scotland – Community Safety and Public Protection Steering Group	Within existing resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School liaison officers appointed for every school in Renfrewshire Work experience within the Police Service Knowledge Days to be held 	<p>Police Scotland will facilitate Work experience for one week commencing 26th October 2015. All Secondary Schools within Renfrewshire / Inverclyde were notified and nominations received.</p> <p>PSYV is now established within Renfrewshire. 24 Young People are fully trained having been recruited from Castlehead and St Andrews secondary schools. 33% of the group reside in identified Socially deprived areas.</p> <p>The Aims of PSYV are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote a practical understanding of policing amongst all young people Encourage a spirit of adventure and good citizenship Support local policing priorities through volunteering and give young people a chance to be heard Inspire young people to participate positively in their communities <p>I Am Me is an award winning community project which works in partnership with Police Scotland to raise awareness of Disability Hate Crime. The project aims to raise awareness with local young people through the power of drama production and have worked with Pace Theatre to design a hard hitting drama aimed at challenging attitudes and behaviours towards disabled people. Since the launch in September 2013, the hard hitting performance has been delivered to all High schools in Renfrewshire. A softer version, designed for primary school children has been delivered to around 8000 children.</p>

Proposed Improvement Actions	Lead organisation and group	Resource requirements	Milestones	Progress
Explore opportunities to develop young people's resilience and self esteem	Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership – Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership	£400k over 2 years, identified through Tackling Poverty programme. £200k for peer mentoring and £200k for school counselling.	Specification for school counselling to be agreed by mid September 2015. Commissioning process to take place over the following 6 months. Service to start in Summer term 2016. Similar timescales for peer mentoring, though may not need to go through full procurement process, as some will be delivered by offering extra time to teachers in schools.	Process agreed for both the peer mentoring and school counselling initiatives. Draft specification written for school counselling and meeting organised early September with stakeholders to finalise. Options for peer mentoring is being developed. Both initiatives will be implemented in summer term.

Proposed Improvement Actions	Lead organisation and group	Resource requirements	Milestones	Progress
2.3	No more than 15% of children to be living in poverty in any area			
Support the work of the Tackling Poverty Commission	Finance and Resources – Tackling Poverty Commission	Within existing resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission to meet 6 times by end of December 2014 Commission to report back by March 2015 	<p>Renfrewshire's Tackling Poverty Commission, the first of its kind to be established in Scotland, was set up by the Council in February 2014. The Commission was tasked to examine the nature, causes and impact of Renfrewshire.</p> <p>The Commission publish its report in March 2015 and identified 24 recommendations grouped under 5 priority areas. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of households who can access employment that provides an acceptable standard of living. • Prevent financial crisis and support low income families to make the most of their money. • Improve levels of physical and mental health of children in low income families. • Close the education gap between children from low income families and their better off peers. • Create neighbourhoods where people want to live and can afford to live. <p>In March 2015, Council endorsed the Commission's recommendations and committed £6m of investment</p>

Proposed Improvement Actions	Lead organisation and group	Resource requirements	Milestones	Progress
Implement the agreed actions arising from the recommendations of the Tackling Poverty Commission on conclusion of its findings, as directed by the Community Planning Partnership Board.	Finance and Resources – Children and Young People Board	Within existing resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be agreed based on the recommendations of the Tackling Poverty Commission, as directed by the CPP Board 	<p>Following the Commission's report a Tackling Poverty Strategy and Action Plan was developed. This will be presented to Council and Community Planning partners in late September 2015.</p> <p>The aim of the Strategy and Action Plan is to provide a formal response to the work of the Tackling Poverty Commission.</p> <p>The governance arrangements to support delivery of the Strategy and Action Plan are currently being developed.</p> <p>It is anticipated that some actions will start to deliver on the ground in late September.</p>
Support the Healthier, Wealthier Children Initiative and explore opportunities to expand to include early years and new families	Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership – Healthier Wealthier Children Local Implementation Group			<p>Referrals to Healthier Wealthier from April 2014 to Feb 2015 were 399.</p> <p>Financial gains for this period: £715573.82 Debt Managed: £58175.82 Total gain from inception: £3047375</p> <p>23 of these referrals have been made from the Family Nurse partnership.</p> <p>Funding for HWC post has been secured to March 2017 with additional resource being made available until March 2016 for work with the BME community.</p> <p>Some referrals are now directed to Families First and not to HWC project.</p> <p>Income Advisors in the Families First teams in Linwood and Ferguslie figures since November 2013 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income generated £1,008,772.49 Debt Managed £80,496.23

Proposed Improvement Actions	Lead organisation and group	Resource requirements	Milestones	Progress
Early identification of young carers to ensure necessary support from all partners	Children's Services – Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership	Within existing resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include as part of the establishment improvement planning process • Ensure young carers are supported to inform decisions and identify key issues/solutions • Develop a strategic approach to awareness raising across education establishments • Engage with young carers to develop information and assessment framework • Develop assessment tool to add to integrated assessment • Fully implement actions for young carers as part of the Carers strategy 	<p>Correlation of various surveys that include information about young carers has begun to produce an up to date estimation of the number of young carers in Renfrewshire.</p> <p>A plan to raise awareness across all secondary schools has been established and the partnership is currently developing a plan for primary / pre-five.</p> <p>Following consultation with young people, prompts based on the caring role will be incorporate into the revised child's plan.</p> <p>The Carers Bill outlines the duty to identify needs of young carers via the carers statement. We await the publication of the outcomes of the consultation with a view to aligning this with implementation of GIRFEC.</p> <p>The Young Carers Strategy Group has been established and oversees the implementation of the action plan from the carers strategy.</p>
2.4 15% reduction in the number of children and young people placed on the Child Protection Register affected by parental substance misuse				
Support and implement the integrated assessment process for early intervention for children, young people and families affected by problematic alcohol and drugs misuse	Children's Services - GIRFEC Steering Group	Within existing resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full implementation of the integrated assessment • Review effectiveness of the parental substance misuse module of the integrated assessment • Effective links between SNIPS and social work early years teams 	<p>The Children Affected by Parental Alcohol and Drug Use (CAPADU) steering group continues to monitor the development of the work to support children and young people affected by problematic alcohol and drugs misuse. The GIRFEC governance arrangements have changed to reflect the need to prepare for forthcoming legislation and the streamlining of integrated assessments into the Child's Plan format is now being progressed by the Child's Plan workstream.</p>

