
To: Education and Children Policy Board

On: 20 August 2015

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Heading: Implementing Evidence Based Programmes in Renfrewshire

1. Summary

- 1.1 Renfrewshire Children's Services is ambitious for our children and young people. The service with partners delivers a range of services which are aimed at supporting children, young people and their families to improve outcomes. The development of our strategic approach over the past five years has been seen as innovative across Scotland.
- 1.2 Renfrewshire Children's Services Partnership reviewed and changed the way it approached the planning, delivery and evaluation of children's services in June 2010. Through the Achieving Step Change approach partners set out to deliver significant changes to the way in which children's services are provided in Renfrewshire, with the high level objective of improving outcomes for children.
- 1.3 Senior managers working in children's services in Renfrewshire worked with the Social Research Unit to develop a deeper understanding of the needs of our children and young people. The development of our strategic approach was informed by the information gathered from the largest study of need across the child and young people population in any local authority in Scotland. The epidemiological study was conducted in late 2011 involved over 12,500 children and young people aged 9 to 17 completing an online questionnaire.
- 1.4 The responses from the young people coupled with other data on local need informed the development of a strategic approach which looked at shifting service provision from a reactive to a preventative and early intervention approach. One aspect of the new approach was agreement to implement a range of evidence based programmes aimed at improving outcomes for children and young people in key developmental areas: behaviour; emotional well being; social relationships; educational skills and attainment; and physical health.

- 1.5 Partners agreed that to improve outcomes for children and young people that a number of evidence based programmes would be investigated and where appropriate implemented. The following evidence based programmes were identified as part of the new strategic approach:
- Positive Parenting Programme (Triple P);
 - Family Nurse Partnership;
 - Incredible Years;
 - Functional Family Therapy;
 - Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care;
 - Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS); and
 - Life Skills Training.
- 1.6 Two additional evidence based programmes which were not part of the original list were added and are now available in Renfrewshire:
- Families and Schools Together
 - CEDAR.
- 1.7 All of the evidence based programmes in Renfrewshire are provided in the wider context of the statutory requirements of the services. A number of the programmes are delivered in partnership with the 3rd Sector. The use of programmes is embedded within the Early Years Strategy and in the context of supporting the Families First approach..
- 1.8 This report provides an update on the outcome of the investigation of appropriateness of the programme for implementation in Renfrewshire. It also contains information on the progress being made on the delivery of those programmes which are now available in Renfrewshire. In line with the work of the Tackling Poverty Commission a further study of need will be conducted in partnership with the Social Research Unit in the early part of 2016.
- 1.9 Renfrewshire was the first authority in Scotland to make use of the epidemiological study to inform the development of a children's services strategic approach across all of the partner agencies working to support children, young people and their families. Carrying out the second study of need will continue to have Renfrewshire at the forefront of innovation. We will be the first authority in the United Kingdom to have undertaken a second study of need. In addition the second area of innovation will be an exploration of how poverty impacts on children's outcomes.
- 1.10 The second study will show the distance we have travelled in terms of improving children's outcomes and also assist in prioritising our support to children, young people and families over the next three years as we develop our next integrated children's services plan. As part of the second phase of work Renfrewshire Children's Services is exploring an innovative approach to reducing child neglect with the Wave Trust
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2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the education and children policy board note :

- i. the progress on the implementation of Triple P, Incredible Years, Functional Family Therapy, Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies, Families and Schools Together, CEDAR and Family Nurse Partnership in Renfrewshire;
 - ii. that there was insufficient need for Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care in Renfrewshire and therefore this approach is not being pursued at this time;
 - iii. that further work is being undertaken to conclude the investigation of funding to allow the introduction of Life Skills Training;
 - iv. a negotiated contract is being concluded with the Social Research Unit at Dartington to allow the second epidemiological study of need to be carried out in the early part of 2016; and
 - v. that exploratory work is being undertaken with the Wave Trust to explore an innovative approach to reducing child neglect.
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3. Background

- 3.1 Renfrewshire is one of the first areas in the United Kingdom to commit to a strategic approach in children's services which promotes a prevention and early intervention approach. We define prevention as 'stopping a problem before it develops' and early intervention as 'getting in at the first sign of a problem with the right service'.
- 3.2 The approach was developed following a comprehensive review of policy and legislative responsibilities, a review of the effectiveness of a range of services and approaches and using information gathered directly from over 12,500 children and young people who participated in an epidemiological study of need. This study was carried out by the Social Research Unit at Dartington, an internationally renowned charity established to promote improvements in children's lives.
- 3.3 Central to the policy approach was a commitment to introduce a range of evidence based programmes, some aimed at supporting parents, some aimed at all children and families and some aimed at a targeted population. Across Renfrewshire there are now a range of evidence based programmes which are making a positive impact on outcomes for children, young people and their families. This report provides an update on the impact of the different programmes are making. It is important to note that the evidence based programmes are delivered in the context of complimenting universal services, the Early Years Strategy, the Families First approach and are based on developing respectful relationships with children, young people and their families.

- 3.4 The policy developed agreed that a further study of need using the epidemiological approach developed by the Social Research Unit would be carried out on a regular basis. Funding for the next study of population need using this approach has been agreed via the Tackling Poverty Commission. The second study will include an innovation on looking at the impact of poverty on outcomes for young people. The preparatory work for the next study is being progressed and it is expected that all children and young people aged 9 to 17 will be invited to participate by completing an online questionnaire in late 2015/early 2016.
- 3.5 As part of the second stage of work services in Renfrewshire are exploring work to reduce the number of children exposed to neglect. Initial discussions have taken place with the Wave Trust to investigate possible external funding to develop an innovative approach to reducing child neglect through the delivery of evidence based programmes.
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4 Triple P Update

- 4.1 Triple P is a multi-level public health approach which supports parents develop the skills they require to meet the needs of their children as they grow up. The evidence of research into the effectiveness of Triple P shows the following positive outcomes for parents and children:
- an increase in parental confidence and efficacy;
 - an increase in the use of positive parenting practices;
 - a decrease in parental stress, depression and anger;
 - a decrease in parental conflict over raising children;
 - a decrease in parents using coercive, harmful or ineffective parenting practices; and
 - a reduction in the prevalence of early onset behavioural and emotional problems in children and teenagers in the birth to 16 range.
- 4.2 Effective delivery of Triple P relies heavily on a well trained workforce. In Renfrewshire 140 members of staff from education, health, social work and the voluntary sector were trained in one or more levels of Triple P.
- 4.3 Triple P was launched in Renfrewshire in April 2011 and since that time around 2000 parents have benefited from an intervention. Implementation of Triple P at a population level requires ongoing change in practice and culture and as such is challenging. The aim is to make the programme available to all parents who want or require this support. This programme approach is significantly different to that which was previously used by many individual practitioners and therefore required not only practice change but change in terms of culture within and across services.
- 4.4 Parents who participate in Triple P report high levels of satisfaction, a change to using positive parenting practices, increased confidence as parents, decrease in stress levels and a positive impact on children's behaviour. Parents who have participated at Level 4 are reporting much higher levels of positive change than parents who participate in the lower level programme elements.

4.5 In terms of good practice the following is noted:

- staff locally have developed a parent toolkit which is presented to parents completing Level 4 interventions;
 - the toolkit has been recognised as a positive development and other areas in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have requested access and this is being arranged;
 - local leaflets in relation to Triple P have been developed and are more appropriate than the generic Triple P leaflets and other areas in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have requested access and this is being arranged;
 - resources for Triple P (tip sheets and workbooks) are held in locality areas and few restrictions are placed on access;
 - a Triage Group operates in the Johnstone, Paisley and Renfrew localities to ensure a speedy provision of service to parents; and
 - one of our local practitioners was recognised as one of the top 4 practitioners across the various countries delivering Triple P at the International Triple P conference in 2014.
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5 Incredible Years

5.1 The Incredible Years BASIC pre-school parenting programme part of a suite of parent, child and teacher programmes developed by Prof Webster Stratton at the University of Washington, Seattle, USA that target disruptive behaviour problems and healthy social emotional development. The Incredible Years programme has been identified as a “blueprint programme” meaning that it meets the highest standard of evidence in terms of research, impact and replication.

5.2 The general aims of the Incredible Years Programme are:

- treatment of child aggression and behaviour problems;
- prevention of conduct problems, delinquency, violence and drug abuse;
- promotion of child social competence, emotional regulation, positive parental attributions, academic readiness and problem-solving;
- improved parent-child interactions;
- improved parental functioning;
- less harsh and more nurturing parenting; and
- increased parental social support and problem-solving.

5.3 The Incredible Years Programme is delivered to groups of parents with a maximum of 12 parents attending. The programme is facilitated by 2 members of staff trained as incredible Years workers and is delivered over a period of 18 weeks. Each session last for around two and a half hours.

5.4 The Incredible Years workers facilitate a collaborative non-expert approach which helps parents identify their own goals and to discover and adopt positive parenting principles and practices that strengthen their relationship with their child and reduce behavioural problems through:

- child-directed play;
 - social emotional and academic persistence coaching;
 - praise and rewards;
 - predictable routines;
 - effective limit setting; and
 - non-punitive consequences.
- 5.5 The methods utilised in the Incredible Years Programme include video-guided group discussion, modelling, visual learning aids, hand-outs and written materials, home activities and role-play. All parents participating in the Incredible Years programme are provided with a high quality book and locally we have ensured that a “spoken book” is available for parents who have literacy challenges.
- 5.6 The research on the best outcomes from the Incredible Years programme is in relation to children who are already demonstrating difficult and complex behaviours and parents who are finding managing these a challenge. To date 15 Incredible Years groups have run in 10 of the 12 centres. Almost 300 parents have engaged with the programme with over 60% completing the 18 week course.
- 5.7 The reports from parents who have participated report the following:
- lower levels of aggression and problematic behaviour by their children;
 - higher levels of emotional regulation;
 - better child to child as well as parent to child relationships;
 - improved positive parenting approaches and increased problem-solving capacity; and
 - less harsh and more nurturing parenting.
- 5.8 At present work is being taken forward to consider how to extend delivery of the Incredible Years programme across other sectors in Renfrewshire. Further negotiations are being taken forward with NHS National Education Scotland to provide additional support around increased scrutiny around programme fidelity, an ongoing commitment from centres to maximise impact of delivery as well as gathering and sharing statistical returns, additional training supervision and support feeding into a National picture of ‘what works’. In addition there is potential for this partnership being extended to allow the implementation of the Incredible Years Primary School programme.
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6 Functional Family Therapy

- 6.1 FFT is an evidence based programme aimed at improving outcomes for young people aged 11 – 18 years. FFT, developed in the USA in 1977 is a family based intensive intervention programme. The programme aims to work with young people who are demonstrating significant behavioural difficulties including involvement in offending, aggression, violence and substance misuse. FFT has been identified as a “blueprint programme” meaning that it

meets the highest standard of evidence in terms of research, impact and replication

- 6.2 Renfrewshire is the first local authority in Scotland to provide FFT. FFT was piloted in Brighton and Hove as the first UK test site where results have been positive resulting in the local authority agreeing to extend their initial three year funding arrangement for a further three years. In the past two years FFT has been introduced to a number of other areas including Glasgow City, Manchester and the Northern Health and Social Care Trust area in Northern Ireland.
- 6.3 FFT has been shown to be effective in addressing young people's anti-social behaviour, involvement in offending, use of alcohol, use of illicit drugs and levels of violent and aggressive behaviour. The programme has been evaluated as having a positive impact on outcomes for individual young people, their parents and their siblings. The programme has been shown to be effective in reducing the number of young people entering care and also on reducing the number of young people who enter the criminal justice system.
- 6.4 Each family working with the FFT service will have an individual programme devised with between 8 and 30 sessions over a three month period. FFT has four phases:
- i. introduction and engagement;
 - ii. motivation and therapy;
 - iii. behaviour change and
 - iv. generalisation (increasing family's capacity to prevent relapse).
- 6.5 FFT has been evaluated via a number of randomised control trials in the USA over the last 40 years. 13 studies have been conducted and presented in referenced journals which show significant positive impact on outcomes for the young people who participate as well as positive outcomes for their siblings and parents. The randomised control trials suggest the following outcomes:
- reduced levels of antisocial behaviour;
 - reduced levels of alcohol consumption;
 - reduced levels of drug misuse;
 - reduced levels of violence;
 - reduced levels of aggression;
 - improved problem solving capacity; and
 - reduced levels of family stress and breakdown.
- 6.6 The FFT team in Renfrewshire was initially funded by the Big Lottery and is provided under a negotiated contract by Action for Children. The FFT team operates from an office base in St. Fergus' Primary School and has been operational since early 2013.
- 6.7 To date over 100 families have engaged with the service and are reporting positive impact on changing behaviours to improve the family situation. FFT is evaluated by the Programme developers and the Renfrewshire service has been evaluated as the best performing FFT team in Europe.

- 6.8 One of the aims of FFT in Renfrewshire was to target young people at risk of being accommodated by the local authority and through direct intervention prevent the need to accommodate the young person. Since the FFT service commenced 25 young people deemed to be at high risk of being accommodated have been supported to remain at home. Preventing the accommodation of these young people has avoided an additional budget pressure on accommodated children's services in the region of £1.5million over the past two years.
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7 Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies

- 7.1 The identification of Evidence based programmes has been a core activity of the Achieving Step Change Programmes in Renfrewshire. As part of this process, the PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) Programme has been one which has been viewed as having great potential to have a positive impact on our children and families. As a result of the reputation Renfrewshire has developed for innovation and forward thinking, Barnardo's approached the project with the opportunity to implement the programme in up to 10 schools with full training, resource and support at no cost.
- 7.2 Barnardo's was successful in applying for funding from the Big Lottery Fund's Realising Ambition strand of support. The Realising Ambition programme is providing support to voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations from across the UK and their partners to:
- prevent young people aged 8 to 14-years-old from taking pathways into offending
 - build the evidence base of 'what works'
 - replicate what works in new geographic areas.
- 7.3 Through Realising Ambition they were able to secure support to replicate an approach called PATHS Plus, a combination of two programmes, PATHS® and Friendship Groups. They are replicating this in up to 40 schools across the UK, (10 in Renfrewshire) and providing support until July 2016. The local schools who are implementing the programme over the next two years are:
- Cochrane Castle
 - St David's
 - Auchenlodment
 - St Anthony's
 - Lochwinnoch
 - West
 - St Charles'
 - Gallowhill
 - Williamsburgh
 - Brediland

- 7.4 PATHS® is a universal social and emotional learning programme for primary school children that promotes emotional recognition, understanding and development, social problem-solving, mutual respect and understanding, communication and empathy. Friendship Groups is a targeted social and emotional learning programme that supports similar outcomes as PATHS® but is aimed at primary school pupils that have a level of emotional and/or behavioural difficulties.
- 7.5 PATHS® is supported by Barnardo's through employing a Specialist Social and Emotional Learning Coach who works with each school, their teachers and entire staff team to ensure that PATHS® is implemented consistently on a whole-school basis and embedded throughout the curriculum. Friendship Groups are co-delivered by a Support Worker in conjunction with another worker.
- 7.7 Across both PATHS® and Friendship Groups we will be looking to show evidence for:
- better cooperation and sharing skills;
 - reduced aggression and misbehaviour;
 - improved mental health and reduced impact of mental health problems;
 - reduced anxiety and depression;;
 - improved emotional regulation;
 - improved peer relationships; and
 - reduced bullying.
- 7.8 The gathering of evidence of improved outcomes and impact of the programme is key to the successful implementation in Renfrewshire. Robust, validated assessment tools will be used pre and post involvement and there will be ongoing monitoring and evaluation throughout the school year. Barnardo's are committed to fully reporting all findings under the terms of the Realising Ambition funding and it would make sense to use these finding to make decisions regarding the ongoing delivery and possible expansion of the programme at a local level beyond Barnardo's direct involvement.
- 7.9 The initial feedback on the data from Barnardo's is that PATHS is having a positive impact on young people in the schools where the programme is available.
- 7.10 In the last few months Barnardo's working with the Programme developer reviewed the PATHS delivery across the United Kingdom. An award of model school was made to 8 schools across the UK. Three of these schools are in Renfrewshire:
- St. Anthony's
 - St. Charles and
 - Williamsburgh.
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8 Multi Dimensional Treatment Foster Care

- 8.1 MTFC is a targeted intervention, which aims to provide troubled young people with challenging behaviour (aged 12-18 years) with a foster placement with the ultimate aim of reuniting them with their own families. The intervention can be a direct alternative to a residential placement and is often provided to young people when a residential placement has been unsuccessful. Young people with challenging behaviours are a small group but can result in significant costs for the local authority.
 - 8.2 Following a review of need and demand in partnership with three neighbouring authorities it was agreed that there was insufficient need for this service. As such a decision was made not to pursue the development of this programme further at this time
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9 Family Nurse Partnerships

- 9.1 Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) is an intensive prenatal and infancy nurse home visiting programme for young first time mothers (under the age of 19). It is targeted at women pregnant for the first time prior to the 26th week of pregnancy. FNP benefits children and families who have the poorest outcomes i.e. mothers with low resources (low educational achievement, low income, limited family support and poor mental health). FNP aims to improve antenatal health, promote child health and development and to foster economic self-sufficiency.
 - 9.2 FNP involves intensive home visitation by nurses during pregnancy and two years following the birth of a woman's first child. The nurses will meet with each first-time mom in 64 planned home visits over a two and a half year period. The visits last between 75 and 90 minutes.
 - 9.3 The programme content includes activities that help link families with needed health and social services, promote good decision-making about personal development, assist families in making healthy choices during pregnancy and providing proper care to their children, and help women build supportive relationships with families and friends.
 - 9.4 FNP is a blueprints programme and meets the highest standard of research, impact, evaluation and replication. The Scottish Government has agreed to fund the previous Renfrewshire Community Health Partnership and now the Health and Social Care Partnership for an initial two year programme. FNP was launched in Renfrewshire in mid 2014 and the team also delivers a service in East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde.
 - 9.5 The FNP service is in the early stages in Renfrewshire however there are already signs of positive impact. 72 young women from Renfrewshire are engaged with the FNP service. Those young women engaged in FNP are showing positive approaches to being a parent, increased likelihood of breast feeding and a reduction in the number who are smoking.
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10 Life Skills Training

- 10.1 Life Skills Training (LST) is a school-based substance abuse prevention programme evidenced by over 25 years of peer review, random control trials and Evaluation. The Programme is targeted at S1-S3 and aims to:
- (i) teach students social and self-management skills, including skills in resisting peer and media pressure to smoke, drink, or use drugs; and
 - (ii) inform students of the immediate consequences of substance abuse.
- 10.2 LST is delivered by classroom teachers who have received training from the LifeSkills Training organisation. The teachers deliver the program to students in 15 classroom sessions, each approximately 40-45 minutes in length, during the students' first year of secondary education. Over the next two years, the teachers provide students with a total of 5-15 review sessions to reinforce what they have learned.
- 10.3 In studies*, the LST has been shown to:
- cut tobacco use by 87%
 - cut alcohol use by 60%
 - cut marijuana use by 75%
 - cut methamphetamine use by 68%
 - cut polydrug use by 66%
 - reduce Pack-a-Day Smoking by 25%
 - decrease Use of Inhalants, Narcotics and Hallucinogens
 - reduce Violence
 - reduce risky driving behaviour.
- 10.4 Further updates will be provided to the Education and Children Policy Board on the investigation of LST as a programme for delivering in Renfrewshire.
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11 Families and Schools Together

- 11.1 Families and Schools Together (FAST) is an evidence based programme designed to build protective factors around a child and thereby enhance their resilience. The programme makes use of supportive relationships between and within families, the child's school and the local community. The FAST programme is delivered on a group basis for a number of families in a Primary School and then moves onto the FASTWORKS approach which is parent led over the following 22 months.
- 11.2 FAST was developed in 1988 by Dr. Lynn McDonald, presently Professor of Social Work Research at Middlesex University. The initial FAST programme was delivered and evaluated in Wisconsin. Over the period since then the FAST programme has been delivered in over 2500 schools in 18 different countries. Since 2001 FAST has been the subject of four randomised control trials which confirmed the positive impact the programme has on improving outcomes for children. The learning from the randomised control trials alongside evaluations from participants resulted in minor amendments to the programme to enhance its effectiveness.

11.3 FAST is a community strength building programme which is delivered in a holistic manner. The programme is delivered to groups of families and involves the school as well as partners in the local community. FAST aims to build resilience in children through reducing stress. In addition the programme aims to enhance the well-being and ability to learn for children participating as part of the family system. FAST is based on social ecological theory of child development, family systems theory, family stress theory, attachment theory, social learning theory, community development strategies and theories of adult education. Prior to delivering FAST the local Implementation Team is trained under the leadership of Dr. McDonald.

11.4 FAST has 4 high level goals as follows:

1. *Enhance family functioning through i) strengthening the parent-child relationship in specific and focused ways, ii) empowering the parents to become the primary prevention agents for their own children and iii) improving child behaviour at home.*
2. *Prevent the target child from experiencing school failure by i) improving the FAST child's behaviour and performance in school, both over the short-term and long term, ii) empowering the parents in their role as partners in the educational process, iii) increasing the child and family's feelings of affiliation toward the school and iv) improving child behaviour at school.*
3. *Reduce the stress that families experience from daily life through i) offering on-going opportunities for building social support among parents, ii) linking the family to appropriate community resources and services as needed and iii) empowering parents to establish relationships and increase their effectiveness in dealing with everyday life.*
4. *Prevent substance abuse by the child and family by i) building protective factors against children becoming involved in substance abuse in the future by strengthening the parent-child and family relationships and improving child behaviour at home and at school and ii) reducing parent substance misuse.*

11.5 The first FAST programme in Renfrewshire was delivered in Glencoats Primary School between October and December 2012. The programme in Glencoats was funded by Save the Children as part of their programme to improve outcomes for children and young people living in poverty.

11.6 Recruitment to the FAST programme in Glencoats was organised via the school and initially 43 families were invited to participate. 37 families agreed to consider attending. At the start of the FAST groupwork programme 23 families attended with 20 of them attending at least 6 sessions. The retention rate amongst the Glencoats families was 87% which is above the target retention rate of 80%.

11.7 During the FAST programme in Glencoats the parents and teachers completed a range of questionnaires which were used to evaluate the impact of the programme and provide demographic information on the participants and their families. The evaluation of the families participating in the FAST programme in Glencoats showed the following:

- increase in family cohesion;
- decrease in family conflict;
- improvement in parent-child relationships;
- improvement in community social relationships;
- an increase in mutual support from and to other parents;
- increase in emotional support; and
- increase in the parent's self-efficacy.

11.8 The teachers in Glencoats reported that:

- an increase in child's academic competence
- an increase in a positive way with parents
- a decrease in the display of hyperactivity by children and
- a reduction in the impact of child difficulties.

11.9 Overall the evaluation of the FAST programme in Glencoats found a positive impact for the children, their parents, the school and the wider community. A number of the parents who graduated from the FAST programme are now embarked on the FASTWORKS programme which is a 22 month parent led monthly support sessions.

11.10 Following the successful evaluation of FAST in Glencoats the school has embarked on their second programme. 10 other schools in Renfrewshire are now involved in the delivery of FAST or are planning to launch a FAST programme in their school in the next few months. Save the Children are continuing to support the roll out of FAST in Renfrewshire

12 CEDAR

12.1 CEDAR is a group-based programme delivered as one element of the Renfrewshire Reconnection Service. Renfrewshire Reconnection is a Big Lottery funded project that delivers group-based and one to one therapeutic services for women and children affected by domestic abuse. The project aims to improve emotional resilience, confidence and self esteem as well as improving relationships between mother and child. The Project sits within the services provided by Women and Children First (Children and Families) Renfrewshire Social Work. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation reports are provided to the Renfrewshire Gender Based Strategy Group.

12.2 Women and children living in Renfrewshire who have indirectly or directly experienced domestic abuse can access this service. Entry to the project is based on thorough assessment using clear criteria. The support from the Lottery has allowed children with trauma symptoms and /or multiple needs can also be offered individual support by a specialist children's practitioner employed by Children 1st.

12.3 Cedar is a group-based programme delivered by Renfrewshire Reconnection. Cedar (Children Experiencing Domestic Abuse Recovery) is a 12 week programme for children aged 4-16 years old affected by domestic abuse. It is based on a successful Canadian Model. Children attend 12 group sessions and a concurrent mothers group operates just ahead of the children and young person's group. Mothers will be supported as they assist their children to begin to heal from the impact of exposure to domestic abuse.

- 12.4 30 members of staff from a range of agencies working to support children have been trained to deliver the CEDAR programme. 6 CEDAR groups have been delivered since the service was launched. The impact of the CEDAR programme is making a positive change for almost all of the participants. In all areas of evaluation over 80% of participants are reporting positive changes with 94% of children reporting they now know how to keep safe and talk to their mother about their feelings.
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Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The costs of delivering the range of programmes is contained within service budgets.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None..
3. **Community Planning** –
 - Children and Young People** – Improving outcomes for children is central to the aims of the Community Plan. Evidence based programmes and the Families First approach are both key in helping drive the changes required to improve children's lives.
 - Community Care, Health & – Well-being** The range of evidence based programmes available in Renfrewshire are making a positive contribution to improved health outcomes for some of Renfrewshire's most vulnerable children.
 - Safer and Stronger** – The evidence based programmes are contributing to the improved safety of children in Renfrewshire and to reducing anti-social behaviour.
4. **Legal** – None.
5. **Property/Assets** – None.
6. **Information Technology** – None.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report.
8. **Health & Safety** – None.
9. **Procurement** – A contract for the continuation of the Functional Family Therapy service is being negotiated with Action for Children and meets fully the procurement requirements.

10. **Risk** – None.
11. **Privacy Impact** – None.

List of Background Papers

(a) **None**

The foregoing background papers will be retained within children's services for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting. The contact officer within the service is John Trainer, transition manger, 0141 618 7241.

Children's Services

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7 August 2015

Author: John Trainer, Transition Manager
Telephone: 0141 618 6860