Glasgow Integrated Children and Young People’s Service Plan 2017-2020
Welcome to the **Glasgow Integrated Children and Young People’s Service Plan 2017-2020.** This Plan has been developed by the Children’s Services Executive Group to set out the strategic direction for the planning and delivery of services for children, young people and families in the City. The plan has been written in consultation with children, young people, parents, carers and staff from across partner agencies, to ensure everyone is working to and understands our vision, aims and priorities.

We recognise that parents, carers, and families have ultimate responsibility for ensuring that their children’s needs are met.

We are committed to working with children, young people and their families to ensure children get the best start in life.

The key drivers are:

- **Transforming Glasgow:** focus on transforming services to be more efficient and to make best use of our resources to resolve issues early, so that we can prevent crisis situations occurring.

- **Community Planning Partnership and Thriving Places:** local partnership working across agencies and stakeholders to agree a shared plan to target specific areas of Glasgow identified as having consistent levels of inequality, in terms of child poverty, health and employment, relative to other parts of the city.

- **The significant leadership and partnership working** that is demonstrated by Education Services, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, Community Planning, Police Scotland, Scottish Children Reporters’ Administration, the third sector organisations and the community itself. This integrated plan seeks to promote a new partnership with parents, carers, families, young people and children. We endeavour to strengthen the community assets and community capital and to shift the health and social care outcomes, for not only our most vulnerable citizens and communities but for all children and young people.

- Working within the national framework of *Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)* we have forged good partnership relationships and working practices that are proven to work for children, young people and families. Our purpose is to ensure that every intervention contributes strongly to breaking the cycle of poverty, deprivation, poor life chances and poor outcomes. Our mission is to get it right for every child and we aim to act with every child’s best interest at the heart of all that we do.

- The implementation of the *Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014,* including developing the early intervention and prevention model around the Named Person, the significant changes to Corporate Parenting, Continuing Care and After Care.

- Responding to the improvement recommendations as detailed in the *Care Inspectorate children services joint inspection report.*

- This change is being undertaken collaboratively to improve outcomes for children and families, despite the **significant financial challenges** being confronted by local authorities, the NHS and third sector organisations. However, through this austerity has come an opportunity to reflect and take stock of what we are doing to transform how we care and support children, young people and families in the City.
The Care Inspectorate undertook a Joint Inspection of Children and Young People Service in the City between November 2016 and February 2017. The Care Inspectorate produced a report of their findings in May 2017, this report highlighted the particular strengths of our services for children and young people and provides us with evidence that we are working towards achieving our strategic aims:

“We are confident that the lives of many children and young people growing up in Glasgow are improving as a result of services delivered by the community planning partnership. We found that the purposeful focus on nurture and active addressing of inequality was leading to improving outcomes for many vulnerable children and young people including those living in deprived areas, those who were looked after and care leavers. Children and young people in need of protection were being kept safe as a result of prompt multi-agency action in all but a very few cases. Children and young people were being ably assisted to be safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured,active, respected, responsible and included as a result of the help provided by committed and responsive staff.”

“Strong leadership was driving an ambitious vision to improve the life chances of all children and young people in Glasgow through earlier intervention and better prevention. Partners from all relevant services were meaningfully involved in children’s services planning.

“In the course of our inspection, we identified a number of particular strengths that were making a positive difference for children and young people in the Glasgow Community Partnership area. These were:

- valuable development of a nurturing ethos across services
- clarity of purpose in universal services towards successfully tackling the impact of deprivation on the lives of children, young people and their families
- constructive partnership with the third sector, which already played an important role in effective prevention and early intervention and promised to be a key part in the planned redesign of children’s services

- responsive approach to providing appropriate targeted services to meet a wide range of specialist need, for example, vulnerable young people procedures, homework clubs for kinship carers, work with unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people, and bespoke support to the Roma community.”

The Care Inspectorate report also stated the areas for improvement which were:

A lack of systematic quality assurance of professional practice led to inconsistency in the implementation of some key processes. Inconsistency in the quality of assessment of risk and need meant a few children did not receive help as quickly as they should have to ensure their safety and wellbeing. Appropriate planning was not always in place to manage risk, meet need and secure caring and stable environments for individual children and young people.

Although there was a vast amount of information available about communities across the city this had not yet been gathered into a strategic assessment of need. As a result, distribution of services in the different localities was a result of historic, rather than current, need.

We are confident that partners in Glasgow will be able to make the necessary improvements in the light of the inspection findings. In doing so, Glasgow Community Planning Partnership should ensure that:

- consistently high standards of work are delivered through improved quality assurance processes
- emerging risk and/or cumulative harm to children and young people is identified promptly through high-quality chronologies prepared and used across services
- stable and caring environments are secured for looked after children and young people through improved care planning
- Care planning is meaningfully informed by an appropriate assessment of risk and need and children's plans are regularly reviewed.

- A thorough dynamic assessment of need across the city is matched to the availability of services across the different localities.

An action plan has been developed by the Children's Service Executive Group to ensure children and young people services in the City target improvement in the above areas.
Section 2

Our Vision

We have an ambitious vision for children and young people which sits firmly within the vision for Glasgow as a thriving, inclusive and resilient city. Our vision can only be achieved through good partnership working, building relationships with children, young people and families in their communities, to improve children’s health, wellbeing and development and enabling the children and young people to be the best they can be.

Strategic Priorities

Our strategic priorities are based on the diverse needs of children and families in the City and underpinned by *Getting It Right for Every Child* and the *Curriculum for Excellence*. The priority areas are:

1. **Keep children safe** – Glasgow’s children and young people are safe, free from harm, physical and sexual emotional abuse.

2. **Healthy and resilient children** – Glasgow’s children and young people are healthy, nurtured and happy, have places to play and have fun and have an adult who they can trust to talk to.

3. **Family support and early intervention** – we will work with families and third sector organisations to build positive relationships, and to ensure the right measures are put in place to improve the families’ circumstances and the wellbeing and development of the child.

4. **Raise attainment and achievement for all** – Glasgow’s children and young people will leave school ready for further education or employment.

We want every child and young person to achieve their full potential and contribute positively to their communities, throughout their lives.

5. **Care experienced children and young people** – our care experienced children and young people will be given every opportunity to improve their life experiences and chances.
**Glasgow City**

Glasgow is the largest city in Scotland with a population of 606,340. In population terms it is the third largest city in the United Kingdom, after London and Birmingham.

The map details the three strategic localities of Glasgow City: North East, North West, and South. Each area has a range of distinct communities and a diverse population. The estimated population in each area is:

- **North East**: 181,902
- **North West**: 200,092
- **South**: 224,346

The most recent release of the SIMD rankings show 13 out of 20 most deprived data zones are in Glasgow City. More information about the three localities is available in the Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership’s Locality Plans.

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1National Records of Scotland, Glasgow City Council, Demographic Factsheet (Updated 31/1/17)
Glasgow’s Children and Young People Population

Glasgow City’s children and young people population aged 0 to 25 is **193,768**, which is **9%** of the national population of the same age group. The number of children aged 0 to 4 (35,346) and is equivalent to **12%** of the national population of the same age group. Table 1 below provides a further breakdown of the population by gender and age range, and highlights Glasgow’s children and young people population as a percentage of the overall national population of the same age groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>18,036</td>
<td>17,310</td>
<td>35,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>15,209</td>
<td>14,672</td>
<td>29,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>8,143</td>
<td>7,768</td>
<td>15,911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>8,362</td>
<td>8,032</td>
<td>16,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>6,144</td>
<td>5,781</td>
<td>11,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20</td>
<td>12,013</td>
<td>12,419</td>
<td>24,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-25</td>
<td>29,012</td>
<td>30,867</td>
<td>59,879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>96,919</td>
<td>96,849</td>
<td>193,768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>Population of Scotland</th>
<th>Glasgow population as a percentage of the national population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>291,174</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>292,356</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>164,015</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>164,717</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>118,834</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20</td>
<td>196,990</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-25</td>
<td>936,912</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,164,998</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1
Ethnicity

The population of children and young people in the City is changing and the percentage of those whose first language is not English is continuing to increase. In 2015/16 Glasgow education establishments had approximately 12,700 school pupils with English as an additional language; this is an upward trend from 8,984 in 2009, which represents more than an 80% increase over five years. In addition, there are currently 1,600 nursery children with English as an additional language. There are approximately 140 different languages spoken among our children and young people in Glasgow schools.

The health and wellbeing survey showed the ethnic profile of young people differs significantly by locality: South area had the highest proportion of Asian pupils (14%) and North East had the highest proportion of White Scottish/British pupils (87%).

Poverty, inequality and health

We are committed to reducing inequalities and improving health outcomes for children and young people as reflected in the Single Outcome Agreement and the Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership’s strategic plan.

Glasgow has the highest rate of child poverty in Scotland with one in three children (approximately 36,000 children) living in poverty and this rises to half of the children2 in some neighbourhoods. Glasgow has a higher proportion of low birth weight babies than Scotland as a whole. The estimated percentage of children living in workless households in Glasgow has fallen considerably, from 38.5% in 2006 to 20.1% in 2014. However, Glasgow still has a higher rate of children living in workless households than found nationally. For further child poverty neighbourhood statistics please refer to Understanding Glasgow: The Glasgow Indicators Project.

We are seeing a gradual reduction in women smoking during pregnancy, both in the general population and in the most deprived neighbourhoods. There has been an upward trend in overall breastfeeding rates and there has been an increase (27.4%) in the period October 2015 to September 2016 across all localities in the City.

Young Carers

In the recent survey 1,341 pupils stated they were carers for someone in their household. A third of these pupils told us that no one knows that they are carers. 41% of the young carers told us they looked after their family member every day.

How I feel about being a carer

Almost all pupils (97%) had someone they found easy to talk to about their worries.

It makes me feel good to be able to help (51%)
It makes me feel stressed and anxious (21%)

We are able to monitor health, lifestyle and life choices data and trends of young people, through the biennial Glasgow City Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey. The most recent Glasgow City Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey 2014-2015 found a reduction in the numbers of young people who report they smoke, drink or take drugs.

Almost all pupils (97%) had someone they found easy to talk to about their worries.

2 Understanding Glasgow: The Glasgow Indicators Project.
http://understandingglasgow.com/indicators/children/poverty/overview
Educational Attainment and Achievements

We have embedded a nurturing approach in our schools and nurseries, which takes account of the GIRFEC principles as we move towards our aspiration to be the Nurturing City. This approach allows us to nurture and care for those children and young people who need support at an early stage to help them flourish. There are 23 early year nurture corners in nurseries, 68 nurture groups in primary schools and 10 secondary school nurture bases. We have three Enhanced Nurture programmes. More nurture provision in primary and secondary schools and more enhanced nurture provision is being planned in 2017/18.

Table 2: Glasgow Schools Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Numbers</th>
<th>2015/2016 Exclusions %</th>
<th>2015/2016 Attendance %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary School</td>
<td>40,681</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>94.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary School</td>
<td>25,025</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>91.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Support for Learning Primary and Secondary Schools</td>
<td>1,329</td>
<td>6.14</td>
<td>89.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exclusions continue to decrease and they are only used when there are no other options; wherever possible, restorative approaches are used to allow children to understand why exclusion is being considered. Attendance has remained relatively static for all schools since 2011 (refer to Table 2 above for current attendance percentages).

There are around 10,500 primary school pupils and 9,400 secondary school pupils recorded as having additional support needs across the City.

In the past ten years, the percentage of young people achieving one or more, three or more and five or more Highers by the end of S5 has more than doubled. Schools continue to promote activities, such as Duke of Edinburgh award and Young Ambassadors programme, to motivate children and young people to take part, improve their self-esteem, resilience and become leaders.

The MCR Mentoring Programme supports each young person to unlock their specific set of abilities and passions, to allow them to flourish in the arena that is right for them. In May 2016, the programme had 394 mentors either working with or being trained to support 347 young people in 10 secondary schools. 266 of these young people are care experienced. Further information on attainment and achievement in our schools and nurseries is available in the Education Standards and Quality Report.

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3 School Census, September 2016
Care Experienced Children and Young People

At a recent event, children and young people told us they don’t like to be called ‘looked after children’ and would prefer to be called ‘Care Experienced Children or Young People’.

Glasgow City has responsibility for 3,290 children and young people currently being looked after away from home or at home. This is approximately, 22% of all care experienced children and young people in Scotland.

Table 3 below provides further detail of the age range and gender of our care experienced children and young people. It shows that there are 1,403 who are looked after away from home and 1,887 looked after at home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age range and gender of children and young people</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>0-4</th>
<th>5-9</th>
<th>10-12</th>
<th>13-15</th>
<th>16-17</th>
<th>18-21</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children and Young People Looked After Away from Home</td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Females</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>1403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and Young People Looked After At Home</td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Females</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>526</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>1887</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are 1,284 children and young people in Kinship care (being looked after by relatives and friends).

A recent analysis of social work caseloads in children and families found that there are approximately 11,000 open cases. A review of South locality cases has shown that many of these families have a range of chronic and complex needs. Many of these children could be defined as ‘on the edge of care’.

There are many reasons for children and young people being cared for by Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership. The most significant risk factors are:

- Lack of parental care 1,458
- Child Protection 509
- Parental Drug Misuse 431
- Parental Alcohol Misuse 210

Since 2014, Families for Children Service has recruited and approved 147 new foster carers and 127 adoptive parents to help provide essential support for the city’s vulnerable young people.

Glasgow has the highest numbers of unaccompanied children asylum seekers, in Scotland. The Unaccompanied Children Asylum Seekers Team is working with 164 young people. Over the period April 2016 to February 2017 there were 49 new referrals to the team.

\[^{a}\] Carefirst Report, January 2017
Child Protection

The number of children placed on the National Child Protection Register has shown a general upward trend from 2000-2015. Figures for Glasgow have reflected this trend: in 2016, there were 598 children on the register.

Over this period there has been a downward trend in the numbers of children on the child protection register due to neglect. We can attribute the downward trend of neglect to the significant work undertaken to improve the identification of, and response to, children living with neglect in the City.

Chart 1: Outlines the significant risk factors for children being placed on the Child Protection Register. (Please note that a child may be placed against one or more child protection risk factors.)

Addiction services are currently working with 6,118 service users who are known to have responsibility for children under the age of 16. There are approximately, 5,282 children and young people in the city affected by parental drug misuse.

There were 5,016 offences committed by under-18s in Glasgow last year, which is a fall of 12% on the previous year and a drop of 50% over a 9 year period. 96% of all under 18s in Glasgow did not offend at all in 2015/16. Of those that did offend, well over half committed only one offence.

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5 Carefirst Report as at 13 January 2017

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Chart 1: Main Child Protection risk factors

domestic abuse
emotional abuse
neglect
non-engaging family
parental alcohol
parental drug misuse
parental mental health
physical abuse
Section 5

Promoting the Participation and Engagement of Children and Young People

“Sometimes older people (adults) think they are listening, but they are not listening.”

Children’s Services are committed to listening to children to improve and transform how we plan and deliver services in the city. Over the last five years, as well as day to day engagement with children, Glasgow has arranged a range of participation groups, events, consultations and activities to get children and young people involved.

Services use a wide range of engagement tools to gain the views of children and young people, particularly younger children, and those with a disability or communication difficulties. We have many examples of involving children and young people, for example, in the recruitment process for staff and helping us to design features of the new children’s hospital and the new children’s residential houses. Social Workers make good use of Viewpoint, an electronic programme used by children and young people aged five and above, to allow them to state how they feel when they go into care, at review stage or when on the Child Protection register. Many third sector organisations provide advocacy and have excellent methods of engaging with children and young people.

“It will be too stressful for me (child’s views about attending a Children’s Hearing)”

The biennial Health and Wellbeing School Survey in secondary schools allows us to consider trends in young people’s approach to health issues. Glasgow Youth Council has produced a Youth Manifesto with the support of Glasgow Life to support the engagement and active contributions of a wide range of young people. We are developing a Children and Young People Champions’ Board approach in the city. This will provide a structure and network for care experienced children and young people to come together to discuss what matters to them and bring these concerns to decision makers in children’s services.

A multi-agency group is considering how we consult with children and young people on this plan. We are consulting with the Youth Council, school children, and young people known to services to help us develop questions to ask young people about the plan. We will report on our progress in the annual report.

In partnership with young people from LGBT Youth Scotland we delivered a conference in March 2017 on LGBT Education and Health Inequalities. Leaders from children and young people’s services who attended the conference were concerned by the finding that LGB young people are seven times more likely to experience mental health problems than other young people. LGBT young people shared their stories and experiences as well as their recommendations for how services and schools should work more positively to promote the inclusion of LGBT young people.

“Think Carer’ posters everywhere in hospital, but I am rarely asked if I am a young carer (aged 11)”

We have undertaken virtual city-wide consultations with approximately 2,500 children and young people aged between 5 and 21, to focus on their understanding of Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) and Know Your Rights based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
Section 6

Legislative Drivers

Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 has wide ranging powers and implementing the legislation is complex; as a result the Scottish Government have phased the implementation the Act. The Act applies not only to Children’s Services but also places duties on Adult Services and has implications for service providers from the public, third, private and independent sectors.

The Act:
- introduced the concept of wellbeing into legislation
- brought a duty to provide early learning and childcare
- introduced a Named Person service to all children under 18
- created a Child’s Plan which all services will work to when targeted intervention is required.
- introduced responsibilities for public bodies in their role as Corporate Parents
- includes support for Kinship Care
- increased the duty on local authorities to provide Aftercare support;
- introduced a right to Continuing Care for young people who have been looked after away from home
- instructed requirement to prepare a 3 year children’s service plan

Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm (Scotland) Act 2016 received Royal Assent on 28 April 2016. For the first time in legislation the Act addresses the issue of psychological harm as well as physical harm, with any intent to cause either or both as a form of aggravated assault. In addition to defining abuse and sexual harm the Act examines the disclosure of film and images of an explicit nature, looks at relationships and introduces a number of orders to protect the community and its members.

The orders include:
- Sexual Harm Prevention Orders,
- Sexual Risk Orders and
- non-Harassment Orders.

Other governing legislation related to this plan is listed in Appendix 1

Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 will come into force on 1 April 2018. The Act aims to promote the rights of adult and young carers; it includes provision to:
- create an Adult Carer’s Support Plan
- create Young Carer’s Statement
- provide support based on the carer’s identified needs based on local eligibility criteria
Planning Structure

The Children’s Services’ Executive Group is chaired by the Executive Director of Education Services and the membership includes senior management from a range of agencies, including third sector agencies. This group provides leadership and strategic direction for children’s services through the development and implementation of the Children and Young People Services’ Plan. The Children’s Services’ Executive Group regularly visits projects, teams and services to gain an understanding of the challenges staff face, discuss what works and what best practice looks like. Connections between the children’s services’ planning structure, community planning arrangements, the child protection committee, the Champions’ Board, the health and social care partnership and Glasgow City Council’s political process are well established.

There is a wide-range of national and local third sector organisations working with children and families in the City. To enhance the third sector’s participation in children’s services’ strategic planning, the ‘Children, Young People and Families City wide Forum’ has been established to provide a more coordinated response to developments across the City. This Forum complements the Everyone’s Children’s Project and local third sector networks.

The multi-agency Children’s Services’ Locality Groups, based in each of the three areas of the city, implement the children’s services’ plan and improve collaborative working with agencies, including third sector organisations, while tailoring services to meet the diverse needs of children and families in their localities.

Each locality holds four multi-agency, child protection and looked after children Local Management Reviews per year, to discuss findings from research, audits and performance data, in order to improve care and protection for children. They develop practice and protocols, using learning from significant case reviews and an overview of current performance and in this way have helped to ensure that children are safe.

Glasgow Children’s Service Planning Structure shows clear links between strategy direction and operational input a locality level.
Children’s Services Citywide Planning Structure

KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Care Experienced Children and Young People
- Family Support and Early Intervention
- Healthy and Resilient Children and Young People
- Raising Attainment and Achievement
- Youth Justice
- Participation and Engagement of Children and Young People

Glasgow City Children and Young People Integrated Service Plan 2017-2020
Section 8

Key Challenges and Opportunities

In this plan we have set out how we propose to improve outcomes both for all children and some of the most vulnerable children and young people. We continue to use self-evaluation, audits and inspection recommendations to inform how we improve our services. These improvements have to be set in the wider context of the challenges and opportunities which we face:

Challenges

- Transforming children and family services in the city to focus on early intervention and support families to become resilient and self dependent.

- The impact of austerity and of welfare reform on families living in the city and the increasing demand for services, especially as many neighbourhoods in Glasgow have very high rates of child poverty and multiple disadvantage.

- A substantial body of national policy and legislative changes that children’s service partners must implement at a time when resources are tight; for example the Government’s consultation proposals on changes to the governance of education services, the review of child protection and the review of the care system.

- Meeting the challenge of reduced funding and resources for the public and voluntary sector at a time of increasing demand for services, such as children moving into care and remaining in care longer.

- Improving the educational attainment and achievement of all care experienced children, including those cared for at home, away from home and those in placements living outside Glasgow.

- Defining how we will measure success in achieving better outcomes for children and young people, as opposed to measuring outputs.

- Developing more innovative strategies to engage with children, young people and their families when we are planning service developments.

- Ensuring that our care experienced children and young people who are placed outwith the city receive the same quality of experience, educational attainment support and specialist health support as they would if they are placed in the City.
Key Challenges and Opportunities, continued

Opportunities

- Children’s services planning partners are fully committed to do their best for all children and young people in Glasgow.

- There is a strong culture in children’s services of placing the child at the centre of solution focused multi-agency working.

- Development of the third sector city-wide forum provides opportunities to improve partnership working on planning, commissioning, design and delivery of services.

- The breadth and depth of information we have on the needs and aspirations of children and young people and our growing knowledge of the evidence of what works to improve outcomes.

- We are now able to evidence some of the work we have been doing to improve outcomes for children and young people, such as: the reductions in school exclusions, improvement in educational attainment, reductions in young people smoking, misusing drugs and alcohol, the reduction in young people offending and the reduction in the teenage pregnancy rate.
Section 9

How we safeguard, support and promote the wellbeing of Children and Young People in Glasgow

Children’s strategic planning in Glasgow is based on the key risks affecting children, on-going assessments of children’s needs, the findings from recent audits, evaluations and external inspections. Our planning process enhances partnership working through involving partners in regular development sessions and working groups, thereby promoting a shared understanding and consensus on current trends and a collaborative approach to how we progress future priorities. This activity is underpinned by guidance on legislation and national approaches to improve the delivery of children’s services.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, Part 3: Planning Guidance, asks the partner agencies to “tell a story” of how services work together and with families to safeguard, support and promote the wellbeing of children and young people in Glasgow. The guidance asks us to focus on early intervention and prevention to identify families most in need of assistance and support, to ensure they get a streamlined, coordinated response which is focused on improving outcomes. In the following sections we will tell the ‘Glasgow story’ by describing what we are doing against each of our identified key priorities; through how we are implementing early intervention and prevention, delivering a joint coordinated response and how we will improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

At the end of each strategic priority we have stated what we will do and placed these against the Wellbeing Indicators, (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included - sometimes referred to SHANARRI) and the relevant UNCRC articles. While solid foundations have been developed, further whole system change is necessary to respond to the reduction in public and third sector funding and the need for public sector reform. This work underpins our approach to ‘shifting the balance of care’, where we will look to redesign processes, services and create flexibility where there are gaps in provision. We are working with CELCIS to look afresh at our current practice to identify how we can improve care for the children who we consider to be on the ‘edge of care’ and, wherever possible, to intervene as early as possible to prevent them from moving into the care system.

Our aim is to significantly redirect funding from the higher cost placements that deliver poorer outcomes for young people, to invest in early intervention and family support services which prevent crisis situations arising. To achieve this we are working closely with third sector partners to provide long-term sustainable family support interventions.
In Glasgow, a key risk factor that often results in children being placed on the Child Protection Register is neglect. Neglect is predominantly characterised by domestic abuse, alcohol or drug misuse, mental health problems and poor parenting. Research has found that neglect can have a damaging impact on a child’s life, even into adulthood, as it can affect their health, wellbeing and development. To identify children early the “Working with Neglect: Practice Toolkit” has been developed to aid staff in the assessment and early identification of children living with neglect. Training is being rolled out for all staff, including third sector organisations, to ensure the tool is now widely used across children’s services. A Neglect Summit was held in March 2017 to raise awareness of child neglect with our adult services colleagues as they are often able to spot the early signs of child neglect when they are supporting the parent or carer.

The Glasgow Child Protection Committee (CPC) is well respected as a significant contributor to child protection practice. The Child Protection Committee is there to challenge partners, to improve how they early identify and prevent children from living with abuse. The CPC continues to work with Police Scotland on child sexual exploitation investigations as each successive investigation provides valuable learning, which has resulted in the development of the ‘Glasgow Vulnerable Young Persons’ Procedures’. The procedures were produced to ensure staff from across agencies are aware of vulnerability and keeping children safe from sexual exploitation.

Police Scotland and the Health and Social Care Partnership have piloted a new process around Initial Referral Discussions to help protect children from harm. All Initial Referral Discussions are undertaken using teleconferencing to ensure agencies are fully engaged in information sharing, assessing risk and agreeing what actions are necessary to protect the child. All concerns to Police Scotland, and subsequent assessments and information sharing between agencies, are routed through Police Scotland’s ‘Risk and Concern Hub’. Glasgow is one of the national ‘test of change’ sites for ‘Stop to Listen’, which aims to establish a model of multi-agency working that supports, protects and responds to the needs of children and young people who are living with or who have lived with sexual abuse. The Child Protection Committee is working with Children 1st to develop the pilot that will commence summer 2017.

Further information is available in the Child Protection Committee Annual Report 2015/2016.

There is a small group of young people who present to services with a multi-faceted risk of harm to both themselves and others. This population is the most challenging and complex. The Intensive Support and Monitoring Service (ISMS) developed a multi-agency assessment that enables a structured level of assessment, risk management and intervention. The process incorporates forensic child and adolescent mental health service, Education and Social Work Services. The young people have benefited from this joint approach in accessing specialist health services, improved school attendance and educational attainment. As a consequence, secure care admissions continue to fall year on year. We have continued to advance our evidence based services over the past couple of years and this has enabled us to ensure these young people receive the right help at the right time. This work makes a valuable contribution to improving outcomes for children and communities.

Further information is available in the Youth Justice Annual Report.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>What we will do</th>
<th>Wellbeing Indicators/UNCRC Article</th>
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</table>
| Early identification and freeing children and young people from Neglect | - Continue to work across all services and partners to improve our approaches to early identification of neglect.  
- Ensure the Working with Neglect Practice Toolkit is used by all partners when there is a child at risk in the home.  
- Continue to work with colleagues in adult services to raise awareness of children living with neglect. | - SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NUTrURED.  
- (3), (6), (12), (19), (27), (28), (29), (31), (39). |
| Safe from Child Sexual Exploitation | - Continue to work with Police Scotland to improve responses to child sexual exploitation.  
- Increase children and young people’s awareness of internet based abuse. | - SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NUTrURED.  
- (3), (6), (12), (19), (27), (28), (29), (31), (34), (39). |
| Safe from harm to themselves and others | - Continue to improve the multi-agency evidence based support to meet the complex needs of those young people affected by harm. | - SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NUTrURED.  
- (3), (6), (12), (19), (27), (28), (29), (31), (39). |
| Improve the quality and recording of chronologies | - Continue to provide training for staff on the effective use of chronologies.  
- Support staff to feel confident using chronologies to identify otherwise invisible patterns of behaviour. | - SAFE/(not applicable). |
Healthy and Resilient Children: we will work with families to promote healthy lifestyle choices and help them better cope with life’s uncertainties and problems.

Healthy and Resilient Outcome: Glasgow’s children and young people are healthy, nurtured and happy, have places to play and have fun and have an adult they can trust to talk to.

Glasgow continues to develop open spaces and access to play space for children. As part of the legacy of hosting the Commonwealth Games in 2014, sports facilities and opportunities for children to take part are widely available across the city. Glasgow Life is the lead agency for the delivery of the city’s Play Strategy, which was developed in collaboration with third sector agencies. We will continue to support and grow the ‘Play Get Together Network’, deliver play sessions and support capacity building in the sector to ensure that all children have the opportunity to play. All children and young people are entitled to their Kidz Card and Glasgow Young Scot card, giving them free and discounted access to a range of activities and opportunities.

As well as access to play and sport we want children and young people to have positive relationships within their families, in school and in their communities and neighbourhoods as this is crucial to a child’s overall wellbeing and development of resilience. Glasgow Life’s Family Learning Team, Education Services and third sector organisations work well together to engage with families to support learning in the home and to encourage ongoing participation in cultural and sporting activities that will help children to achieve in and out of school, and to participate fully in community and cultural life.

We know there are many children living in poverty and we want to break the cycle of poverty and poor outcomes for these children and young people. The Poverty Leadership Panel is working on reducing the number of families experiencing poverty. The Child Poverty Group have worked on the Cost of the School Day and the Cost of the School Holiday that have had a significant impact on changing mind-sets and raising awareness of poverty and its impact on children. The Healthier, Wealthier Children approach undertaken by maternity and community child health services, is another good example of helping families to maximise their income, resolve housing tenancy issues, refer to employment services, obtain childcare, manage debt repayments and overcome fuel poverty. However, we are mindful that the full impact of welfare reform on families has still to be fully realised.
It is important that we identify children and young people, who may need assistance with their health, development or wellbeing as early as possible. We have developed a number of universal pathways to assist in the early identification of children in need of assistance:

- We have embedded the Ready to Learn (30 month) assessment undertaken by Health Visitors which focuses on the child’s social, emotional, behavioural functions and communication skills.

- Health Visitors have an important role to play in the Early Years Joint Support Team approach which is explained in more detail in the Family Support and Early Intervention section of this plan.

- Our nurturing approach is well established in our schools and nurseries support children at an early stage to help them learn and become resilient individuals. The Raising Educational Attainment and Achievement section provides more detailed information on the nurturing approach.

- Third sector organisations are working with partners to deliver family support services, providing local support to keep families together and remain in their community.

Nurseries, schools and third sector organisations make good use of a wide range of health and wellbeing curricular materials to teach children about adopting healthy lifestyles now and in the future. The Glasgow City Schools Health and Wellbeing Survey 2014-2015 found that there have been reductions in the numbers of young people who report they smoke, drink or take drugs.

We know that as children and young people make transitions in their lives (between primary, secondary schools and into adulthood) it is helpful to have someone to talk to, to de-escalate any anxieties they may have. In partnership with education, specialist children’s health services and third sector organisations, such as Life Link and Place2Be we have initiatives that deliver classroom and family support, as well as one to one school based counselling support.

We are using the One Good Adult approach in Glasgow, as research has found that despite adversity in a child or young person's life, they can do well and be resilient, if they have a stable committed relationship with a supportive parent, carer or other significant adult in their life. This approach is being promoted in our parenting support framework, by Glasgow’s Young Talent (MCR Mentoring Programme) and by community mental health services.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services provide mental health support for children with moderate to severe mental health difficulties. The teams are based in localities which enables them to be involved in the ‘Learning Community Joint Support Team’ for children who require additional support for learning and provide timely, effective interventions that positively impacts on children and young people’s mental health.
### Healthy and Resilient Children

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<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>What we will do</th>
<th>Wellbeing Indicators/UNCRC Article</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Promote healthy lifestyle choices</strong></td>
<td>Health Improvement, Education Services and third sector organisations providing family support will ensure children and families are well informed about healthy lifestyle choices in nurseries, schools and other settings.</td>
<td><strong>HEALTHY, ACTIVE, RESPECTED</strong>&lt;br&gt;(3), (6), (12), (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Promote play, fun and sport</strong></td>
<td>Glasgow Life and third sector organisations will ensure care experienced children and young people have access to local facilities and clubs.</td>
<td><strong>HEALTHY, ACTIVE, INCLUDED</strong>&lt;br&gt;(3), (31), (27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reduce the number of families living in poverty</strong></td>
<td>Continue the multi-agency approach to helping families with housing, debt to access employability support and employment and with income maximisation.</td>
<td><strong>HEALTHY, RESPECTED, INCLUDED</strong>&lt;br&gt;(3), (6), (18), (26), (27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Improve access to emotional and mental health services</strong></td>
<td>Help young people access counselling and mental health services when they need it.</td>
<td><strong>HEALTHY, RESPECTED</strong>&lt;br&gt;(2), (3), (6), (13)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Family Support and Early Intervention: we will work with children and their families to build on the family strengths and improve the wellbeing and development of the child

Family Support and Early Intervention Outcome: we will work with families to build positive relationships, ensure right measures are put in place to improve the family’s circumstances and the wellbeing and development of the child.

Early intervention and collaborative working to improve outcomes for children, young people and families is not a new concept in Glasgow. The One Glasgow approach was established in 2011 with the aim to re-design services through joint, streamlined working, reducing duplication and redirecting of resources to deliver improved outcomes. Our focus has been on families who are ‘just coping’. ‘Just coping’ families could be described as those who are often invisible to statutory services; however, this invisibility makes it difficult to quantify exactly how many families in Glasgow may be experiencing difficulties.

Our approach is underpinned with the philosophy that we work in partnership with families to build on their strengths and to find local solutions to issues that have an effect on the family and child’s wellbeing.

Children’s services agencies are working together and with families, to build the capacity of families to be more resilient and self-reliable. It is our ambition that all nurseries become family learning centres: places where families feel they belong and can access support from community based services including local third sector family support. We are working in partnership with Glasgow Clyde College to support parents into employment, by accessing and gaining child care qualifications to assist them in a future career. Almost all the parents who participated either continued on to college, university or employment.

We have further developed our screening mechanisms and good practices to support the implementation of those parts of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 related to the Named Person role and Child’s Plan, as we already had a well-established staged intervention process for school aged children. These are the ‘Learning Community Joint Support teams’ that are used when schools have exhausted all in-house approaches and require a collaborative discussion with other services to meet the needs of the child or assist a family. In the Learning Community Joint Support teams Education Services, Health and Social Care Partnership, and third sector agencies work together to find local solutions to assist or support the needs of the child or young person.

As part of the One Glasgow approach we decided to create a similar joint discussion process for early years, pre-school age children. A pilot ‘Early Years Joint Support
Team’ was established in the North West of the city during 2012/13. There are now 9 Early Years Joint Support Teams in the city aligned to the Community Planning Partnership’s ‘Thriving Places’ neighbourhoods.

Universal services, including maternity services, health visitors, family learning centres (nurseries), third sector organisations and schools are instrumental in the early identification of children and families in need of assistance.

The Early Years Joint Support Team is the multi-agency meeting to discuss the needs of a family and child. The main partners in this approach are early years’ education services, health visitors, third sector organisations, housing and, when required, addiction and other community services. Third sector organisations are crucial to this approach, as they are able to offer a wide range of assistance, such as parenting programmes tailored to meet the needs of families, family support, child minding and pathways into financial, housing and employment advice and support. Through this work we aim to secure positive outcomes for children by increasing the self-efficacy and resilience of families.

We have a rolling programme of validated self-evaluation to evidence the impact of the Early Years’ Joint Support Team model. Initial findings have shown that professional relationships have been enriched by the model resulting in improved information sharing by services, reduced duplication, more effective referrals and improved access for families into services. In 2012, we reviewed and made changes to our systems, practice and culture in order to fully comply with the requirements of Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). We enhanced our “Integrated Assessment Framework” and staff from education, social work and health were provided with Joint GIRFEC practice guidance and training. Today this joint assessment is called the “GIRFEC Assessment” and includes wellbeing indicators, the national practice model, chronologies, and frameworks for risk management and child’s plan. The core information collated within the assessment is based on the minimum national core data set that is collected by each agency and some third sector agencies when completing single agency assessments. This enables quicker referrals to appropriate services, reduced duplication of effort, especially during transitions when the child may move between schools and/or to a different area in the City.

We continue to update and refine our current care pathways and multi-agency arrangements to ensure children receive the right support at the right time from the right agency. For more information on our approach please refer to the GIRFEC Practice Guidance, January 2017. A training framework has been developed, which will be delivered in localities for all agencies in 2017.

Early identification of children’s wellbeing needs is not only undertaken in the early years. We have already mentioned the Learning Community Joint Support teams, here are some examples of early intervention and good practice:

- The Addiction Recovery team working with third sector organisations to support parents to address addiction issues and to promote recovery, with the needs of children at the centre of the approach. They undertake an Impact of Parental Substance Use Assessment, based on the GIRFEC wellbeing indicators, to enable staff to consider the full extent of the parent’s substance use and lifestyle, and how this negatively impacts on the child’s wellbeing.

- The Young Carer’s Service offers targeted support for the whole family. The support is personalised, integrated and holistic and is tackling the underlying causes of inappropriate caring roles by young carers. A single point of access for young carers from schools into young carer services, delivered by third sector partners, has been developed alongside awareness-raising through schools.

- The Roma Team is a Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership initiative to assessing and supporting Roma children and their families at an early stage. Roma families can be suspicious of authorities and also have language barriers. Additionally the poor literacy of many of the adults has been a huge challenge and the team has worked hard to engage with families. The Roma team work in partnership with schools and third sector organisations.
## Family Support and Early Intervention

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<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
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<th>Wellbeing Indicators/UNCRC Article</th>
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| **Fully implement the Named Person and Child’s Plan Approach across the City** | - Undertake the locality based joint Named Person and Child’s Plan training for all staff, including third sector partners.  
- Take into account national guidance, when it becomes available, in information sharing procedures.  
- Improve the quality of planning for vulnerable children.  
   
   **SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NURTURED, ACTIVE, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED**  
   - (2), (3), (6), (12), (14), (16), (18), (24), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31)  
   - (not applicable)                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| **Develop a Family Support Strategy**                                    | - Continue to work with third sector agencies to improve the range of family support services that are sustainable for the long-term benefit of local children and families.  
- Work with the Centre for Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland (CELCIS) and the Robertson’s trust to improve our approach to supporting children and young people on the ‘edge of care’  
   
   **SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NURTURED, ACTIVE, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED**  
   - (2), (3), (6), (12), (14), (16), (18), (24), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31)  
   - (not applicable)                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| **Improve the function and process of Early Year Joint Support Team**    | - Improve the functioning of the EYJSTs to reflect the findings from the validated self-evaluations.  
   
   **SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NURTURED, ACTIVE, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED**  
   - (not applicable)                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| **Review the use of Joint Support Teams in Primary and Secondary schools** | - Using the learning from the EYJSTs, review and improve the use of JSTs to improve outcomes for children and families.  
   
   **(not applicable)**                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
Raise attainment and achievement for all: we will improve outcomes for all children and young people to ensure that all are able to achieve their potential

Raise attainment and achievement Outcome: increasing proportions of Glasgow’s children and young people will achieve high quality qualifications to enable to achieve a sustained positive destination when they leave school.

For several years we have focused on the same six priorities and we have reported on our progress in our annual standards and quality report improving outcomes for our children and young people:

- Improved attendance
- Reduced exclusions
- More young people than ever before achieving Highers by the end of S5
- More young people staying on at school for S5 and S6
- Improved positive destinations, particularly the percentage of young people going to higher education

Attainment continues to be linked to deprivation with the young people living in the most deprived communities performing less well than those living in the least deprived communities. Importantly, however, attainment continues to increase which proves that we are continuing to raise the bar for all.

For several years Glasgow has been nationally recognised as a centre of good practice in relation to our work with nurture groups. It is our expectation for Glasgow to become a Nurturing City with staff in nurseries, primary and secondary schools trained to identify those children who would benefit from additional targeted support at an early stage. Research has evidenced that children who receive this nurturing support have good longer term outcomes. We will further develop the nurture approach across education establishments by increasing the numbers of staff trained in the nurturing principles and continue to work with third sector partners.

The Glasgow Improvement Challenge strategy 2015 to 2020 is a holistic approach to raising attainment and achievement for all children and young people. Originally, 119 primary schools were selected with over 31,000 children in the selected schools, of which
nearly 21,000 live in most deprived postcodes. However, training and support have been provided to all schools who continue to be focused on closing the attainment gap. With the introduction of the Pupil Equity Fund in 2017-18, all schools in the city have developed individual improvement plans and training has been designed and delivered to allow us to build staff capacity to focus on raising attainment in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing to deliver positive outcomes for the children.

A wide range of third sector organisations work in partnership with local primary and secondary schools to help to close the attainment gap through family support and learning, play and peer mentoring schemes.

Although we are committed to providing the free-standing Additional Support for Learning provision, in recent years we have increased the range of specialist provision located in our mainstream primary and secondary schools. This approach offers flexibility and more choices for parents and provides more opportunities for children and young people to receive support and to learn alongside their peers as appropriate to their needs. As the quote below indicates, we can never be complacent and we need to listen to children to get it right for every child:

“I am a special needs child and agencies who take decisions for me should make an effort to get me involved by explaining to me what is happening to me through the language I understand like sign/makaton and be patient with me because it might take time for me to understand and involve me in the decision making.”

Parents and families of children with additional support needs or disabilities are supported by the well-established Additional Support for Learning Parents’ Forum, where parents and officers meet to discuss aspects of education and support for families.

The Enhanced Vocational Improvement Programme provides valuable qualifications and learning pathways for young people who are at risk of disengagement with education. In partnership with colleges, we offer a wide range of options for S4 pupils which better suits their learning styles and aspirations; these include National 4 qualifications in mathematics and English.

‘Glasgow’s Young Talent’ is a school based mentoring programme which provides young people with tailored one-to-one support from a carefully matched and trained volunteer adult for an hour each week for a minimum of a year but, ideally, two years. Secondly it provides a high quality process and structure that connects committed individuals and link organisations to provide pathways experiences and opportunities for the young people.

Since 2010 the “Young Parent’s Support Base” has supported young people up to the age of 19 who are in school and older teenage parents who have left school. Since the service was established the base has worked with over 269 young parents. During 2015-16 52 young people were supported to remain or return to mainstream education, with some transferring to further education. This service is delivered in partnership with Education Services, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership and third sector organisations. The ‘Transitions to Learning and Work Programme’ at Glasgow Kelvin College supports vulnerable young people, almost all with a care experience, to be included in college, to attain qualifications, achieve and to make a positive transition to adult life by providing youth work programmes, which develop their confidence and independence in tandem with tailored vocational training. It is expected that up to 80 young people per annum will benefit from this provision.
## Raise attainment and achievement

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| **Implementing Towards a Nurturing City** | - Further develop our nurture support in education establishments across the City.  
- Continue to increase awareness and understanding of nurture across services. | - HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NUPTERED, RESPECTED, INCLUDED  
- (3), (5), (6), (12), (18), (27), (28), (29), (30) |
| **Improve educational attainment and achievement of care experienced children and young people** | - Narrow the gap between the educational achievements of care experienced young people and their peers. | - ACHIEVING, NUPTERED, ACTIVE, RESPECTED, INCLUDED  
- (3), (6), (12), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31) |
| **Extend MCR Pathways** | - Extend to 30 secondary schools over the next two years. | - (not applicable) |
| **Implementing Glasgow Improvement Challenge** | - Continue to raise attainment and achievement of all children and young people.  
- Close the attainment gap for those children whose lives are affected by poverty by focusing on improving the literacy and numeracy of children and young people. | - HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NUPTERED, RESPECTED, INCLUDED  
- (3), (5), (6), (12), (18), (27), (28), (29), (30) |
Care experienced children and young people: we will care and support our care experienced children and young people to enable them to flourish

Glasgow has the largest number of care experienced children and young people in Scotland. As Corporate Parents we have responsibilities for all care experienced children and young people; this includes children and young people who are living with foster carers, in residential care, in secure care, with kinship carers or who are looked after at home and disabled children and young people who are looked after for short periods of time.

Many of our children and young people have experienced abuse, trauma, violence, bereavement and loneliness. These experiences significantly impact on their health, education, social and emotional needs. Services need to work through these complex needs to ensure our care experience children and young people get the right type of support they need when they need it. In caring for our young people we must remember that they are individuals with their own personalities, likes and dislikes. We must ensure that we offer each of them a range of positive experiences to allow them to make individual decisions and choices to enable them to reach their potential and flourish.

Over recent years we have made major investments in moving our provision of accommodation away from large residential children’s units to smaller, more ‘home-like’ houses. In developing this approach children and young people met with designers to inform the refurbishment. We have changes to the type of care to promote more community based care settings, such as foster and kinship care.

We have developed robust permanency planning processes to improve the child’s wellbeing, development and to secure positive outcomes. Key to this permanency work is having the right types of foster carers to change the child’s life. Our award winning foster care recruitment campaigns have been very successful in recruiting those incredible individuals who undertake the important job of nurturing children and helping them to flourish. The current recruitment campaign is ‘The Grow Your Family Tree: Let Glasgow Children Flourish’.

We have invested in developing the capacity and resilience of our kinship carers. Our support for kinship carers is based on the principle that they are equal partners with us. The Chief Social Work Officer meets with the chairs of the six kinship care groups on a monthly basis; in each locality a Service Manager has responsibility for kinship care issues. Education Services, Social Work and Family Addiction Support Services have undertaken consultation surveys and events with kinship carers to build relationships between third sector organisations and the kinship care groups.
We are proud of our commitment to unaccompanied asylum seeking children in Glasgow. We have the highest number of unaccompanied young people than anywhere else in Scotland. A specialist Social Work team has been in place for over ten years and over this time they have developed an expertise that other local authorities are keen to learn from. This team works in partnership with the Refugee Council and Freedom from Torture, to ensure that young people receive the highest quality support. This partnership was instrumental in developing the current national guidance on ‘Age Assessment Practice’. We also developed a bespoke residential unit in partnership with the third sector for 18 unaccompanied young people, based on feedback from the young people.

Over a number of years the Champions’ Board, chaired by an elected member, has made a pledge to use its position to improve the outcomes for children and young people. The Champions’ Board members have visited children and invited them along to the Board meetings to listen to their views and have use this to shape how we improve support. The Champions’ Board initiated a corporate parent event in 2015 to listen to children and young people speak about their experiences, to promote collaborative working amongst the corporate parents and to ask how they would fulfil their duty to pro-actively inform, assist, support and provide opportunities to care experienced children and young people.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 brought in a number of new duties, which includes ‘Continuing Care’, which enables an eligible young person who cease to be looked after on or after the 16th birthday entitlement, to request Continuing Care. Aftercare refers to the advice, guidance and assistance provided to care leavers up to their 26th Birthday. We wholeheartedly agree with these changes for young people and our challenge in Glasgow will be how we respond to effectively to the large number of young people this applies to and the possible impact this could have on our existing accommodation and support capacity. To respond to the likely increase in demand we are reviewing our accommodation for vulnerable young people and will hold an event with providers in 2017 to identify what changes we will need to make to our current services.

The Social Work Services, Leaving Care Services and Glasgow Housing Association Protocol has been in operation for the past ten years and is fully established as the agreed and successful route for obtaining tenancies for those care leavers who are ready to take on their own tenancy. In February 2016 a revised Statement of Best Practice was produced and circulated to all 63 Registered Social Landlords in Glasgow, requesting that they adopt the Care Leavers’ Protocol by formally recognising care leavers as a priority for permanent housing in their allocation policies.

We know from research that there is a direct correlation between the number of families in Glasgow affected by poverty and deprivation and the high number of care experienced children. We are mindful that the impact of welfare reform on families has still to be fully realised and we have an ongoing monitoring process which identifies potential impacts and considers the additional support which may be needed.
## Care Experience Children and Young People

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| Ensure that accommodation is able to respond to the increasing demand from implementation of Continuing and Aftercare requirements of the CYP Act 2014 |  ■ Review accommodation and support requirements  
  ■ Work with providers to ensure we have the type of accommodation and support that meets the needs of some of our most vulnerable care leavers.                                                                 |  ■ SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NURTURED, ACTIVE, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED  
  ■ (2), (3), (6), (12), (14), (16), (21), (24), (25), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31)                                                                                                                                                  |
| Improve housing choices for young care leavers                           |  ■ Continue to work with housing providers and registered social landlords to offer choice and support to care leavers to help them sustain housing tenancy.                                                                 |  ■ HEALTHY, NURTURED, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED  
  ■ (3), (6), (12), (13), (16), (18), (27)                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Improve opportunities for children and young people looked after at home and those placed out with the City |  ■ Widen engagement with Corporate Parents to discuss collaborative working and engagement with care experienced young people.                                                                                     |  ■ SAFE, HEALTHY, ACHIEVING, NURTURED, ACTIVE, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED  
  ■ (2), (3), (6), (12), (14), (16), (21), (24), (25), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31)                                                                                                                                                  |
| Improve the participation and engagement of young people                 |  ■ Work with care experienced young people to develop a Champions’ Board for young people.                                                                                                                           |  ■ RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED  
  ■ (3), (12), (13), (16)                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| More young people receiving continuing care have positive destinations on leaving school |  ■ Increase the number of care experienced young people achieving a sustained positive destination.                                                                                                             |  ■ ACHIEVING, RESPECTED, RESPONSIBLE, INCLUDED  
  ■ (3), (12), (13), (16), (27), (28), (29), (30)                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Improve the experience of children and young people who are involved in the Children’s Hearing |  ■ Implement the Better Hearing’s Standard and the Blueprint                                                                                                                                                    |  ■ (not applicable)                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
Section 10

This Plan has been consulted on with a wide range of partners from the initial draft framework stage through to this final version. Overall, people were happy with the vision, priorities and proposed outcomes for children and young people in the plan. Many of the issues raised have been included in the plan and we will work to address these over the life of the plan.

Guidance on the development of this Children’s Services’ Plan was issued by the Scottish Government in December 2016 and legislation places a duty on us to produce the Plan by April 2017. This is a very tight timeline, therefore, rather than completing a tokenistic consultation with children and young people, a decision was made to undertake a substantial consultation with children and young people during 2017 that will influence future reviews of the plan. However, we have included in the plan some of the views of children and young people that have been gathered from a range of recent engagement and participation undertakings. The Listening to Children and Young People Group, a multi-agency working group, is developing a participation process in collaboration with children and young people across the City.

A number of events have been undertaken with the third sector in relation to children’s service planning, including a large scale consultation event in February, supported by the Everyone’s Children project and the new city wide Forum. The delegates welcomed the proposed priorities for the Children’s Services’ Plan and the Health and Social Care Partnership’s emphasis on transforming the balance of care from crisis care to investment in prevention, and the commitment to a new approach to involve the third sector, along with families and communities.
Appendix 1

National Legislation, Strategies and Policies

Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm (Scotland) Act 2016
Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007
Allegations against Residential Workers: Interim Guidance on How Agencies should respond March 2011
Carers and Young Carers Strategy for Scotland 2010-15
Children (Scotland) Act 1995
Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
Children’s Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011
Curriculum for Excellence
Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2011
Early Years Framework, 2009
Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004
Education (Scotland) Act 1980
Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) (Scotland) Act 2011
Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 2005
National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014
Residential Establishments - Child Care (Scotland) Regulations 1996
Secure Accommodation (Scotland) Regulations 2013
Social Care (Self Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013
Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968
Standards in Scotland’s Schools, etc. Act (2000)

Local Strategies and Policies

Glasgow City Council Strategic Plan 2012-2017
Glasgow’s Community Learning and Development plan 2015-2018
Corporate Parenting Policy 2007
Glasgow Housing Strategy 2017-2020
Glasgow Tobacco Strategy 2015-2017
Glasgow Community Planning Single Outcome Agreement
Glasgow Single Outcome Agreement 2013