

Public Document Pack



NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting	Corporate Parenting Board
Date and Time	Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 10.00am
Place	Chute Room, Ell Court South, Winchester
Enquiries to	members.services@hants.gov.uk

Carolyn Williamson FCPFA
Chief Executive
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UJ

FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION

This meeting may be recorded and broadcast live on the County Council's website and available for repeat viewing, it may also be recorded and filmed by the press and public. Filming or recording is only permitted in the meeting room whilst the meeting is taking place so must stop when the meeting is either adjourned or closed. Filming is not permitted elsewhere in the building at any time. Please see the Filming Protocol available on the County Council's website.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore all Members with a Personal Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting should consider, having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, consider whether it is appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 5 - 10)

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting.

4. DEPUTATIONS

To receive any deputations notified under Standing Order 12.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements the Chairman may wish to make.

6. BOARD MEMBERS FEEDBACK - ENGAGEMENT AND RECENT ACTIVITIES

An opportunity for Board members to provide a verbal update on their recent engagement activities.

7. CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ACTION LOG (Pages 11 - 22)

To receive an update from the Director of Children's Services on the Corporate Parenting Board's Action Log.

8. MODERNISING PLACEMENTS PROGRAMME (Pages 23 - 38)

To receive a presentation from the Director of Children's Services providing an update on the Modernising Placements Programme.

9. TRANSFORMATION OF FAMILY HELP (Pages 39 - 56)

To receive a report and presentation from the Director of Children's Services providing an overview of the transformation of Family Help.

10. VIRTUAL SCHOOL ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT AND IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES FOR HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER (Pages 57 - 74)

To receive a report and presentation from the Director of Children's Services providing an update on the Virtual School's activities to support and improve educational outcomes for Hampshire's Children Looked After.

11. UPDATE ON PARTICIPATION ACTION PLAN FOR 2023 (Pages 75 - 82)

To receive a report from the Director of Children's Services providing an update on the Participation Action Plan for 2023.

12. FAMILY CONNECTIONS SERVICE - POST SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP ORDER SUPPORT SERVICE (Pages 83 - 90)

To receive a presentation from the Director of Children's Services providing an overview of the Family Connections Service.

13. CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER HEALTH ASSESSMENT UPDATE (Pages 91 - 102)

To receive a presentation from the NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board providing an update on Children Looked After Health Assessments.

14. HAMPSHIRE'S READINESS TO MEET RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PHASE 2 REPORT: CHILD SAFEGUARDING REVIEW PANEL - SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND COMPLEX HEALTH NEEDS IN RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS (Pages 103 - 132)

To receive a report and presentation from the Director of Children's Services providing an overview of Hampshire's readiness to meet the recommendations from the Phase 2 report from the Child Safeguarding Review panel in relation to the safeguarding of Children with Disabilities and complex health needs in Residential settings.

ABOUT THIS AGENDA:

On request, this agenda can be provided in alternative versions (such as large print, Braille or audio) and in alternative languages.

ABOUT THIS MEETING:

The press and public are welcome to attend the public sessions of the meeting. If you have any particular requirements, for example if you require wheelchair access, please contact members.services@hants.gov.uk for assistance.

County Councillors attending as appointed members of this Committee or by virtue of Standing Order 18.5; or with the concurrence of the Chairman in connection with their duties as members of the Council or as a local County Councillor qualify for travelling expenses.

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 3

AT A MEETING of the Corporate Parenting Board of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY
COUNCIL held at the Castle, Winchester on Wednesday 5th July 2023

Chairman:
p Councillor Ann Briggs

a Councillor Phil North
p Councillor Pal Hayre
p Councillor Wayne Irish
p Councillor Arun Mummalaneni

p Councillor Fran Carpenter
p Councillor Juliet Henderson
p Councillor Alexis McEvoy
p Councillor Malcolm Wade

59. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr North. Cllr Davies was present as the Conservative Group Deputy.

Cllr Crawford and Cllr Heron, Executive Lead Member for Children's Services were also in attendance.

60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Personal interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

61. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record.

62. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received.

63. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman thanked those members who had attended the recent training and hoped they found it as useful as they had.

The Chairman noted that they had been in contact with Chairman from other Authority's Corporate Parenting Boards to share best practice.

64. **BOARD MEMBERS FEEDBACK - ENGAGEMENT AND RECENT ACTIVITIES**

The Board heard from recent visits and engagements with Children's Services Teams from Cllr Carpenter, Cllr Hayre and Cllr Wade.

65. **CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ACTION LOG**

The Director of Children's Services introduced the Corporate Parenting Board Action Log to Board Members. The purpose of the Log was to track actions to ensure they were followed up and reported back on. This could be actions arising from Board meetings or within the Directorate relating to Corporate Parenting.

It was hoped that this document would assist the Board on tracking the progress of issues and to engage with external partners such as the Police and Health professionals. It is also hoped that this document will help to record the 'voice of the child' and ensure feedback from young people is followed up on.

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Parenting Board note and adopt the proposed Action Log as a method for recording actions associated with the Corporate Parenting Board.

66. **REFUGEE TEAM/UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM SEEKING CHILDREN UPDATE**

The Corporate Parenting Board received a presentation from the Director of Children's Services with an update on Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) and the work of the Refugee Team, setting out its role and composition. Members also noted details of the UASC National Transfer Scheme which required local authorities to take 0.1% of their population 285 for Hampshire).

Officers noted the participation activities which were provided for UASC & refugee children and heard an overview of the challenges in this area and the Directorate's response to them. This included a shortage of Foster Carers, out of County placements and issues in relation to education and integration.

In response to questions members heard that:

- Language is not often an obstacle for Foster Carers.
- UASC received a trafficking assessment and safety plan which was regularly updated. Contact with family is not attempted until all the risks have been assessed and reduced when required.
- The percentage of UASC who enter the Criminal Justice System is the same as the general population.
- Placements are based on the young person's age and needs, rather than nationality.

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Parenting Board notes the update presented on the Refugee Team and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.

67. UPDATE ON CHILDREN IN CARE AND CARE EXPERIENCED ADULTS COUNCILS

The Corporate Parenting Board received a presentation from the Director of Children's Services providing an update on the actions taken to improve participation through the Children and Care and Care Experienced Adults Councils.

Members were reminded of the action plan to establish the new Councils alongside a participation network to capture feedback for the Corporate Parenting Board. Officers set out the positive progress made on each of these initiatives.

The Board noted the details and plan for the co-design workshop for the Corporate Parenting Board, which seeks to share ideas on ways to hear the voice of children, young people and families with the aim to work together to shape services. This session will set the focus for the Board for the next 12 months.

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Parenting Board notes the update presented on the Children in Care and Care Experienced Adults Councils.

68. HAMPSHIRE VIRTUAL SCHOOL HEADTEACHER ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

The Corporate Parenting Board received the 2021-22 annual report from the Director of Children's Services for Hampshire's Virtual School.

Members noted the overview of the Virtual School's work and focus during the academic year 2021-2022, along with the analysis of educational outcomes for Hampshire's cohort of children in care. Officers sets out the priorities for securing improved individual and cohort progress, educational experiences and outcomes for children in the care of Hampshire.

In response to questions members heard that:

- The team does not have the capacity to visit all Hampshire's schools so the team is working with colleagues to train Social Workers and Designated Looked After Children Teachers. It was noted that the team was also unable to attend all Personal Education Plan meetings. To assist with this the Team is looking to expand to better support schools and young people in the coming months.

RESOLVED:

That the Virtual School's priorities to secure further improvements to the educational outcomes of Hampshire's children in care are supported and that an update be provided in the Autumn.

69. **ANNUAL CHILDREN IN CARE REPORT 2022-23**

The Corporate Parenting Board received the annual report for 2022-23 for Children in Care from the Director of Children's Services.

The Board received an overview of the characteristics of Hampshire's children in care including their age, length of time in care, where children are currently living, the number of children in foster care, residential homes or other settings, the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and placement stability.

Officers set out details of social worker caseloads, noted that they were at a sufficient level for social workers to be able to dedicate sufficient time to children, regardless of their level of need. The report also provided information on children who go missing, evidencing how they are safeguarded from harm and risk of exploitation. This included UASC who are being looked after by Hampshire. Officers concluded by setting out the key areas of focus over the next twelve months.

In response to questions members found that:

- There is no set point during which a young person has been in foster care that adoption would be suggested, but visits are reduced when able and Foster Carers are kept aware of the options available to them.
- There is a Operational Missing Exploited and Trafficked (MET) meeting in each district which reviews high risk children. These panels are multi-agency and accompany return home interviews.
- The length of time that a child has been missing does not necessarily increase the likelihood of exploitation. High Risk Strategy meetings are held in response to these situations when necessary to review the risks.

RESOLVED:

The Corporate Parenting Board support the priority areas for Children's Services, in relation to our children in care as being:

- Strengthening the voice of the Looked After Child and impact on service delivery.
- Promoting the effectiveness and efficiency of the CLA Health Assessment process and service so that it meets the physical and mental health needs of Children in Care (including dental and immunisations).
- Improve the educational outcomes of Children in Care and effectiveness of the process and service, including the service provided by the Hampshire Virtual School.
- Improve placement stability and increase placement choice for Children in Care.
- Children in our care will be safeguarded from harm including, all aspects of exploitation.

- Increase opportunities for Children in Care to safely live outside of the care system through Special Guardianship (SGO) assessments and reunification to family where appropriate.
- Ensure the needs of all children seeking asylum in the UK are understood and met through new service delivery.
- Improve the training for all social workers for Children in Care resulting in measurable impact.

Chairman, Corporate Parenting Board

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Action no.	Date created	Action What have we heard from children and young people that you want to/want us to take action on?	Desired outcome/impact	Councillor/s linked to action/priority	Young person contact (use initials)	HCC Staff and service responsible for action	Partner Agency staff member and agency responsible for action	Due by	Updates	Date complete	Actual Impact
1	28/03/23	Councillors shadowing social workers and other staff in the branch (IWs/IROs), including visits to districts	To get a good indication of the day to day work of Children's Services	All members		DM/KM		05-Jul-23	See timetable. The proposal is we pause sending this timetable and align this with the revised proposal of CPB activity.	05 July - this is an ongoing action	
2	28/03/23	Children and young people to attend the Corporate Parenting Board - for us to arrange this as part of the CPB meeting	To hear the voice of the child so that decisions are meet the expressed needs of children and they are satisfied with the service they receive	AB	CICC Chair CEAC Chair	SP/DM		08-Nov-23	Training completed on 28 June and joint workshop booked for 16 September Motiv8 now recruiting young people for councils	16 Sept.	
3	28/03/23	Ensure that every child has a timely health assessment	Children remain healthy and any health needs identified are met in a timely way			DM/KM	VF/SA (Health - CLA Nurses)	08-Nov-23	Health assessment improvement work ongoing - recent update presented to branch management team		
4	28/03/23	Annual report to the CPB on Children with disabilities in care	Offer assurance to CPB members that we have a robust system in place and that children with disabilities who are in care are safe and well looked after.	AB		KL		Mar-24			

5	<u>28/03/23</u>	Develop metrics on children in care and care leavers who enter the criminal justice system - agree a new priority area and report on this in the next annual Care Leavers report (due March 2024)	Young people who leave care have specific support to prevent their entry into the criminal justice system			SP/KM/NS	Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire Probation Service, YJS	Mar-24	YJS HoS is working on developing this		
6	<u>28/03/23</u>	Report back on in touch data and what we are doing to improve this. Look to other LAs to see what good practice is around the region in the next Annual Care Leavers report (due March 2024)	Increase the number and percentage of young people and adults who we keep in touch with so that they have the support they need as and when they need it	Cllr TD		SP/KM		Mar-24			
7	<u>28/03/23</u>	Data/feedback in relation to impact of having council tax 100% discount to be gathered for next CPB so we can feedback and have some dialogue with borough and district councils	Further strengthening the offer to care leavers is a priority on the district and borough council agenda	Cllr PN		SP/KM		05-Jul-23	Update obtained and will be circulated to members	Complete 5 July 23	
8	<u>28/03/23</u>	Make a plan in relation to what we need from Borough Councils so we can make formal requests for example, leisure passes, access to apprenticeships etc, (can this be in the Chair's letter?)	Care leavers have access to opportunities that other young people have which will seek to address to some level the disadvantages they	Cllr AB, Cllr North		DM/KM		05-Jul-23	Pending to get views from CICC and CEAC		
9	<u>28/03/23</u>	CPB Chair writes to Leaders of Borough and District Councils to ask them how they see their corporate parenting responsibilities are being driven forward (can this be in the Chair's letter?)	Further strengthening the offer to care leavers is a priority on the district and borough council agenda	Cllr AB, SA		KM		05-Jul-23	Pending to get views from CICC and CEAC		

10	<u>28/03/23</u>	CPB Chair and officers to visit district and borough councils to raise awareness on corporate parenting responsibilities	Further strengthening the offer to care leavers is a priority on the district and borough council agenda	Cllr AB, SA		KM		05-Jul-23	Pending to get views from CICC and CEAC and for a care experienced adults to join visits where possible		
11	<u>28/03/23</u>	Bring back how we have progressed CLA Care Plan Audit actions	CPB can be assured that we are taking action as corporate	Cllr AB		SM IRS and SB		08-Nov-23	Deferred with agreement of DD so that a		
12	<u>28/03/23</u>	Add 'instigate change' to the slide on participation	We are fully sighted on impact of hearing the voice of the child	Cllr MW		SB/SP		05-Jul-23	Completed	5 July.	
13	<u>05/07/23</u>	Feedback to Cllr FC re PEP that she attended	You said, we did - response	Cllr FC		KM		08-Nov-23	Completed by email	12 Sept.	
14	<u>05/07/23</u>	Pack for Cllrs to give them some background on child/meeting they were observing - Create info pack on CSD processes and practice. In relation to individual children, Cllrs to speak to worker/manager before or after meeting.	Raised awareness of the core business of children's services and in specific relation to CIC/social worker	Cllr PH		KM/DM		08-Nov-23	19 October - pack being prepared for release in December 2023		
15	<u>05/07/23</u>	Follow up individual case that Cllr PH attended HRSM - Cllr PH to follow child's journey	Assurance is gained on child's plan	Cllr PH		DM		08-Nov-23	Query on Child level data and information sitting in the remit of the Board	8 Nov.	

16	05/07/23	Tell the good news story on the work of Children's Services - liaise with Corporate Comms	There is a positive understanding of the work of Children's Services in the public arena.	Cllr AB, all members		KM		08-Nov-23	12 Sep 23 - In train with corporate comms and SW identified to provide good news story 19 October - ideas in train to pull together stories where impact of work is evident. A 'Day in the life of' type activity is proposed.		
17	05/07/23	Follow up contact with Cllr AC who met with Cllr is from Gurkha community for fostering recruitment	The fostering recruitment message is publicised which leads to a rise in enquiries/assessments	Cllr FC		SS		08-Nov-23	Cllr AC's feedback was passed on to the Marketing Officer and followed up.	8 Nov.	
18	05/07/23	Letter from Chair to partners re their Corporate Parenting responsibilities	Partners are fully engaged and contribute to the plans and service provision for the child.	Cllr AB		SA/KM		08-Nov-23	Will be drafted following co-design workshop on 16 Sep so it incorporates the views of CIC and CE adults.		
19	05/07/23	Briefing on strategic issues to Board so they can understand landscape	Members are aware of current social care landscape and engage with and support the strategic direction of the service.	Cllr EH		SA/KM		08-Nov-23	Presenting to Board on 8 Nov 23		

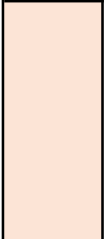
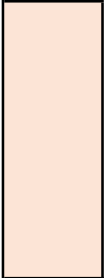
	05/07/23	Train Cllrs to elicit the voice of children	Cllrs feel able and confident in engaging with children and young people to elicit their views. They are then able to feed back to young people on improvements made in relation to the feedback they received.	Cllr AC		SP		08-Nov-23	Will be considered as part of the development work of the Board and being presented on 8 Nov 23		
20	05/07/23	Briefing report at the next CPB on the development of FAMILY Help and the role of partners within this	Members are fully sighted on the strategic direction of the service on Family Help	Cllr FC		SN		08-Nov-23	Presenting to Board on 8 Nov 23		
21	05/07/23	Facilitate 'roadshows' and a range of cllrs who can support with events and messaging re fostering recruitment via Fostering marketing officer	The fostering recruitment message is publicised which leads to a rise in enquiries/assessments	Cllr H, Cllr C		Fostering Marketing Officer		08-Nov-23	This was explored back in Nov 22. It was agreed at the time that this was not a route we wished to pursue as a blanket approach due to a variety of reasons - consistent availability of Cllrs, budget and resource to back this and the strategic justification as the county wide campaign had achieved success. We are reviewing this and seeing how we can be more targeted with 2 or 3 Cllrs linked in.	8 Nov.	

22	05/07/23	Stats for comparator LAs for attainment and progress for CLA	Members are aware of the key indicators on attainment and progress and the actions taken to address this	Cllr W		MN		08-Nov-23	Actions 22, 23 and 24 are rolled into one action and being presented to the Board on 8 November		
23	05/07/23	Comparable table for attainment and progress to be presented to members for 2023	Members are aware of the key indicators on attainment and progress and the actions taken to address this	Cllr TD		MN		08-Nov-23	Actions 22, 23 and 24 are rolled into one action and being presented to the Board on 8 November		
24	05/07/23	Interim report on educational outcomes for this academic year and actions we are taking to address these.	Members are aware of the key indicators on attainment and progress and the actions taken to address this	Cllr AB				08-Nov-23	Actions 22, 23 and 24 are rolled into one action and being presented to the Board on 8 November		
25	05/07/23	Post SGO support update to CPB in November 2023	Members are aware of the good work of the Family Connections Service in supporting SGO carers	Cllr AB		DM		08-Nov-23	Presenting to Board on 8 Nov 23		

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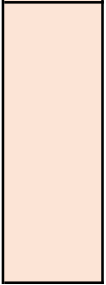
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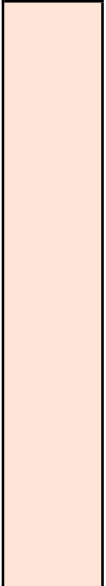


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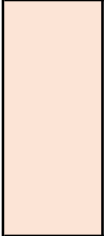
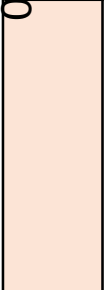
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Corporate Parenting Board

Modernising Placements Programme

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Lucy Marett and Kavitha Maxy
8th November 2023

**TRANSFORMING
SOCIAL CARE**
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



**MODERNISING
PLACEMENTS
PROGRAMME**



Agenda Item 8

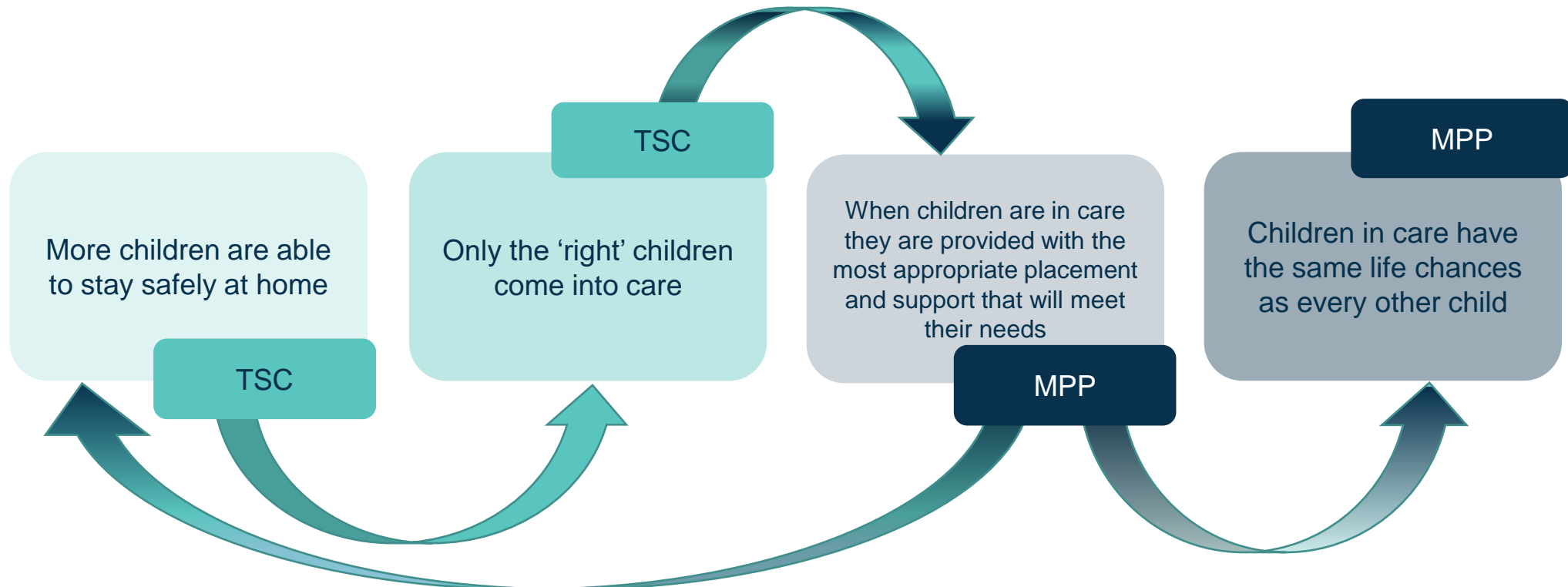


Our Transformation Journey

TSC and MPP - working together to help make Hampshire County Council's vision for children and young people a reality.

HCC is a transformational Local Authority with an Outstanding Children's Service Department. Over the past 8 years the Children's Service Department has made a significant difference to the social care landscape in the county and the sector in general.

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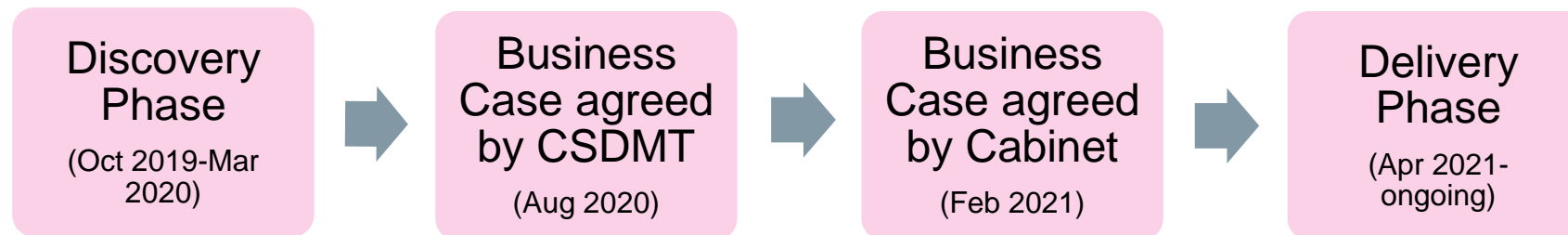


Modernising Placements Programme: A reminder...

MPP is a transformational programme within Children's Services, which started in October 2019. It builds on the foundations achieved by the TSC programme and serves as a reminder that although, as a Local Authority, we've made significant in-roads, we continue to face many challenges.

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Timeline:



The aim of MPP is to develop a continuum of care which can provide the right accommodation and support at the right time for our children in care in Hampshire.



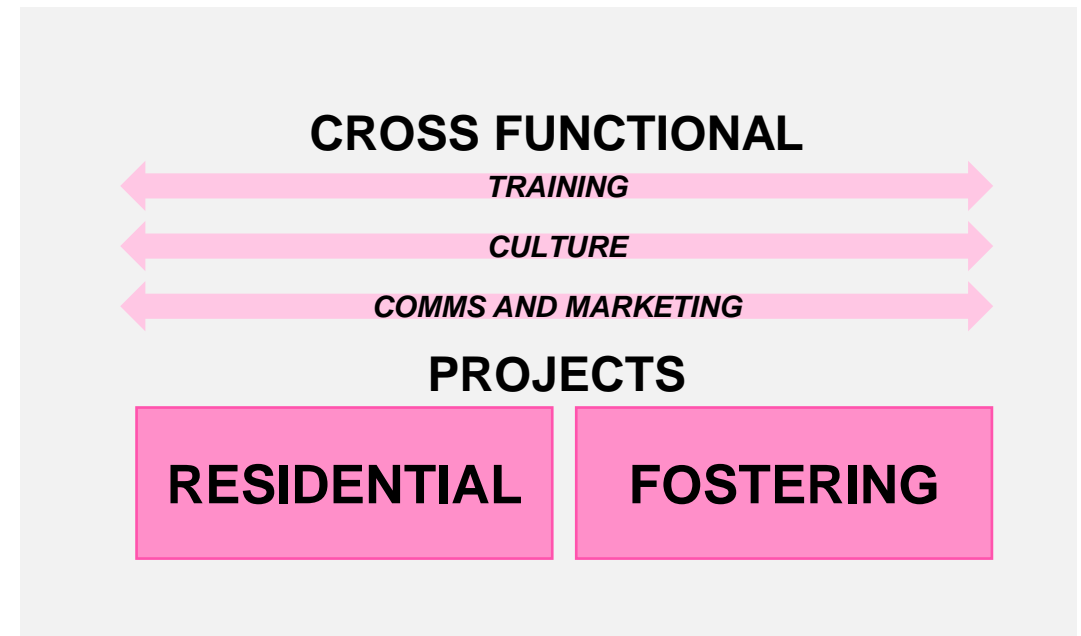
The 10 issues that MPP has been designed to address:

1. Increased number of children with complex needs who we are struggling to support
2. A lack of growth in the number of Hampshire County Council foster carers
3. Increased use of IFAs
4. Low bed occupancy in our residential homes
5. Low staff recruitment and retention and high staff sickness absence in our residential homes
6. Increased use of NCPs
7. Increased placement instability
8. A reduction in life chances for children
9. Children in need of urgent placements who we struggle to accommodate
10. A lack of equivalency across our placement types

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Projects designed to address these:

The programme has been split into two core workstreams, both of which can be broken down further into project areas. We have Training and Communications & Engagement functions supporting all workstreams, and a consistent focus on our culture helps provide a clear foundation for engaging our staff and achieving our vision.





Fostering



Fostering Summary

Fostering Operations

Our vision is for **every child in foster care, and every foster carer, to be given the right support at the most appropriate time**. Our team of staff and **foster carers is skilled, resilient and flexible**. They're motivated and share the values needed to give children and young people the best possible start, and they're working together **to make Fostering Hampshire Children synonymous with foster care in the South**.

We'll continue to recruit high-calibre foster carers and we're committed to ensuring our fostering community is one they're proud **to become a part of, and to stay a part of**.



Drive Recruitment

Improve Retention

Increase Utilisation

Out of Hours

In **September 2022** we launched a support line to better support our foster carers during evenings and at weekends.

In June 2023, we reviewed the initiative and found it provided crucial support to carers.

"We had a difficult and unusual situation. It was great to speak to a SW that we could share our concerns with and help make a decision that would safeguard our YP and the other three that we have in placement"

Skills Fees

A review took place of our skills fee model and found that it supported the recruitment of new carers and we had more Level 3 carers available to care for vulnerable children.

It was agreed that the model would be retained.

Retention

Our retention activities continue and earlier this year over 60 carers who have been fostering for more than 5 years joined us for afternoon tea



Fostering Recruitment and Assessment Team

Key aim: To increase enquiries, and conversion from enquiry to approval

The FRAT team have continued to drive interest and enquiries in Fostering for Hampshire, despite increased competition and a challenging external environment.

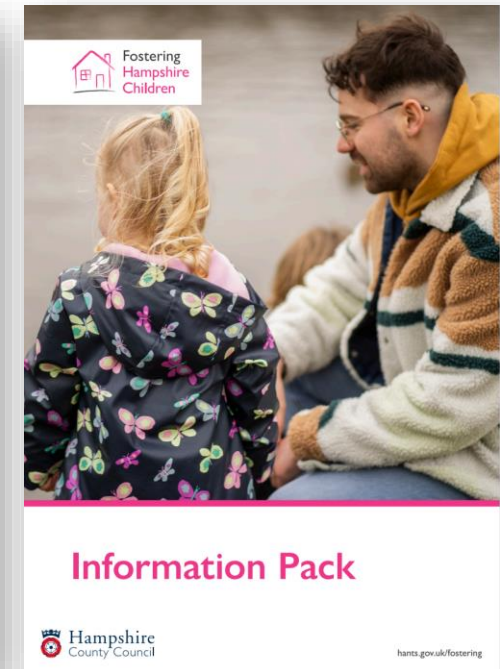
The team have continued to:

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- Improve the prospective foster carers' journey and experience
- Enhance training and support for prospective carers
- Build internal and external partnerships
- Grow brand awareness and delivering new campaigns
 - Refresh internal processes
 - Support personal and team development as professionals

HCC are also part of an exciting DfE funded Recruitment and Retention Hub pathfinder, to launch in April 2024. The pathfinder will provide more advertising and should generate even more enquiries from prospective foster carers

Results to date: Our team recruited 49 new carers in 22/23, when most other local authorities and independent providers struggled.



Our public recruitment campaign continues with the powerful message - 'When every door is closing on a child...can you open yours?'.
A new campaign launched over the summer to focus on fostering allowances and the team are preparing for a busy winter campaign.



Hampshire Hives

As a reminder...

- Each Hive has 15-20 fostering families and is led by a Hive Carer Support Worker.
- Children feel part of a wider family, can develop relationships with other children in care and foster carers' birth children as well as other foster carers in their Hive.
- Foster carers' resilience is improved through the flexibility of support from their Hive.
- New carers are being attracted to Fostering Hampshire Children due to the appeal of the Hives.

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This project started with a one-year pilot in 2021, and in 2022 we agreed to **organically grow our Hives** to keep up with demand. The team continue to launch new Hives based on demand.

Hives in numbers

60% of our carers are in a Hive (308 carers)

23 Hives across the county and growing!

1 new Hive launching in Havant and Hayling Island shortly.

Don't underestimate what you do for us [HCSW]. You have built a little community where we all support each other
(Andover Hive)

I don't know what we would have done without the support of our HCSW (Gosport Hive)

Andover Hive Camping Trip



Basingstoke, Aldershot and Andover fire station visit





Residential



Residential Summary

SUMMARY

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- Residential services are an area where we face significant challenges with recruitment and retention (an issue which is being faced nationally)
- A large part of our focus has been to improve recruitment and retention within our homes to ensure that we have the capacity and capability to:
 - Increase utilisation of the homes
 - Ensure our homes are set up and resourced to provide support that meets the individual needs of our children
 - Ensure we have the capacity to support wider service transformation initiatives
 - Ensure that our service can support our most complex children where needed and support their time in care either within residential or by providing respite while they step across into a placement that better suits their needs

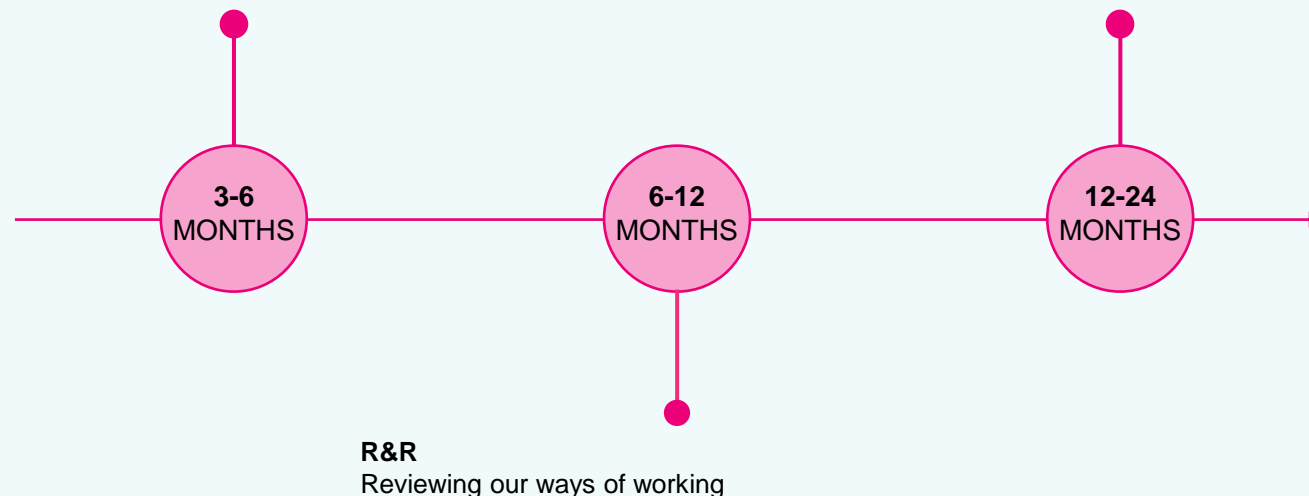
ACHIEVEMENTS

- ✓ Refreshed our induction process for all new staff
- ✓ Updated training pathways for all staff with role specific training
- ✓ Improved our supervision process considering staff needs
- ✓ Carried out a staff-wide survey to guide prioritisation of work
- ✓ Have created “culture” as an area of focus for all workstreams

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE INDUCTION
Embedding Change

(OUR) PEOPLE, SKILLS AND ORGANISATION
Reviewing structure, value and resilience





Residential Workstreams Overview

R&R

Summary

This seeks to review our overall ways of working, including our flexible working offer to staff and how this can support a positive work life balance.

Areas of focus



Consistency of care for children



Improving Staff Wellbeing



Reviewing our flexible working offer



Reducing the administrative burden

(Our) People, Skills and Organisation

Summary

This seeks to review our service, ensuring we remain resilient to changing demand and that our role profiles meet the requirements of Children in Care.

Areas of focus



Aligning roles to our principles and vision



Ensuring structure is resilient to changing demand



Ensure skills meet requirements of children



Training



Training and People summary

Key aim: To ensure every individual caring for a Hampshire child has the training, knowledge and support they need.

Training and Pathways

New training developed:

- Page 35
- Self-harm, suicide and ligature training
 - More in-depth training around Trauma responses, reflective practice and compassion fatigue using virtual reality headsets
 - Courses exploring Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and practical approaches of how to appropriately care for a variety of children and young people
 - A deeper dive into a therapeutic approach through 'The Great Behaviour Breakdown'

Review of existing training to:

- Equip those with caring responsibilities with a 'toolkit' to respond to behaviours that challenge
- Provide a deeper understanding of Trauma and its effects the body, brain development and emotional wellbeing
- Bring training for foster carers and residential care workers together
- Improve the quality of delivery and level of interaction within courses

Management Pathways

Role specific management pathways are currently being created to ensure clarity, compliance and completion of essential training in the Residential Service.





Our focus for the next year

- Our transformation is continuous as it is this work that has enabled us to not only maintain but deliver an Outstanding service to our Children and Families in Hampshire.
- The programme approach enables us to provide the rigour to constantly deliver, measure, test, learn and adjust to keep up with an ever-changing environment
- The creation and establishment of an evidence base and/or KPIs across all deliverables supports our ability to continue on our transformation journey





Questions



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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Panel:	Corporate Parenting Board
Date:	8 November 2023
Title:	Transformation of Family Help
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Alice Bentley, Transforming Social Care, Consultant

Tel: 03707 791685

Email: Alice.bentley@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Corporate Parenting Board with an overview of the Family Help project. Family Help is a significant, transformative piece of work within the Children & Families branch and is directly aligned to the recommendations from the Independent Review of Children and Social Care and Government response, Stable Homes Built on Love.

Recommendation

2. That the work undertaken in relation to the Transformation of Family Help are noted by the Corporate Parenting Board.

Executive Summary

3. This report seeks to provide information in relation to the context and drivers behind this transformative piece of work within the Children & Families branch; Family Help. This report will explain the Family Help delivery model, and will reference, at a high level the changes that are being planned for implementation.
4. Driven by the Independent Review of Children's Social Care, Family Help seeks to enable families to access support and services within their local communities. This premise centres on receiving the right support, from the right professional at the right time; ideally as early as possible, thus reducing the likelihood of an issue or need arising. Family Help will seek to engage with families, reducing the potential for stigmatisation from accessing services.
5. Family Help will seek to reduce transition points for families who require additional support and intervention. Developing and implementing Family Help is a major piece of transformative work, however, it is anticipated that

getting it right will improve outcomes for families, reduce demand for statutory services and provide a blueprint for the future that can be developed and built upon as the concept evolves, and responds to internal and external factors.

6. The intended impact of the changes planned for Family Help are based around putting the child at the centre of their network; wrapping support and services around them to improve their outcomes, whilst ensuring their safety. Services will continue to be based on the existing foundation of the Hampshire Approach and its strength based, relational approach to working with families.

Contextual information

7. The report from the Independent Review of Children's Social Care published in May 2022, led by Josh MacAlister marked a significant and important point for Children's Social Care by setting the direction for the future foundations of a new service delivery model. The report looked to ignite a 'revolution' in Family Help. A key recommendation was the development of a new, Family Help model, whereby teams that include a mix of multi-agency practitioners and roles, deliver services to families at both Levels 3 and 4 (statutory and non-statutory services).
8. At the heart of this model, is recognition of the positive impact that engagement and outcomes for families can have when relationships with professionals are consistent, timely and strengths based. The report focused on the importance of local, accessible services that seek to reduce stigma and encourage families themselves to seek the help and support they need within their local communities. The model will seek to reduce transition points for families when they are engaged, even if their circumstances, needs and risk levels change.
9. In February 2023, the Government published Stable Homes Built on Love, a formal response to the Independent Review of Children's Social Care report. Within this report, Family Help was specifically mentioned noting that families would "receive the right help at the right time". Acknowledgement was given that families can have too many workers involved, or struggle to get help; reference was made to making a change enabling families to access help. Of importance, Stable Homes Built on love referenced that more adults should be employed, that do not have to be qualified social workers, to support families within this new Family Help concept.
10. In January 2023, phase 1.1 of Family help; the development and recruitment/ implementation of Family Practitioners went live with great success. Phase 1.2 is the next stage and seeks to consolidate the aforementioned recommendations and bring them to life. Phase 1.2 of this model will combine the delivery of services across the Family Support Service (FSS) and Children Assessment Safeguarding Teams (CAST). The aim of Family Help in Hampshire to meet the following objectives:

- Improving outcomes for families by enabling and facilitating access to services and support at a very local, community-based level
- Reducing the risk of escalation of needs, risks and, where there is escalation to reduce transition points for families to maximise engagement
- Reducing demand upon statutory services as needs will be met at an earlier point of intervention
- Developing teams of multi-agency roles and professionals to ensure the right worker with the right skills provides the right support, at the right time
- Increasing recruitment and retention of social workers through reduced caseloads and more creative ways of working across a mixed caseload.

Relevant Background and Information

11. Implementing a new Family Help model across Hampshire is a significant project to undertake. Therefore, given the scale and longer-term vision of Family Help, the approach taken to implementation will be both phased and iterative. Support of the project delivery has involved Transformation Consultants, alongside a project group which includes District Managers, Team Managers, Workforce Development staff and HR.
12. Family Help 1.2 builds upon phase 1.1 which was the introduction of the Family Practitioner post. These posts were developed per the recognition that differently qualified staff can provide integral support to families. Staff started filling these posts in January 2023, and the number of Family Practitioners employed by Hampshire Children's Services has steadily increased over recent months. As this is a new case holding role, there is a requirement for consistent, robust management oversight. This will ensure monitoring of changes to risk and appropriate action and response where required.
13. It should be noted that OFSTED have been clear around their expectations of social worker oversight when families are allocated to a differently qualified worker. In response, Hampshire have enhanced existing reporting procedures, alongside introducing new expectations and management oversight processes.
14. Phase 1.2 of Family Help further builds upon phase 1.1, transitioning Family Support Workers, currently working within the Family Support Service, into these new Family Practitioner posts, based within the Family Help team. It is recognised these staff have a wealth of experience and will be integral to the approach of supporting families with the right person, at the right time.
15. Within Hampshire there are 32 Children's Assessment and Safeguarding Teams (CAST) and 8 Family Support Service (FSS) teams. Phase 1.2 of the Family Help project looks at merging these services to deliver Level 2, 3 and 4 work under the Family Help umbrella.
16. The Independent Review of Children's Social Care referenced drives for teams to reduce their catchment down to child populations of 30-50,000. Part of the project to date has been centred around forming local, teams which will

serve smaller areas in districts. In total, there will be 34 Family Help teams, and dependent on size, caseload averages and staffing numbers there will be between 3-5 teams within a district. The concept is that these small, geographically mapped Family Help teams will be based in the local communities, and following the recommendations from the Independent Review of Children's Services and Stable Homes Build on Love, they will be best placed to support, serve, and safeguard children.

17. In addition to the above merger of CAST and FSS teams and the development of geographically aligned teams, phase 1.2 of Family Help has built upon the concept of a Child Protection Lead Practitioner (as referenced in both reports) and created a new post, which will be launching for both internal and external candidates soon. As per the Independent Review of Children's Social Care and the Government response, these positions will be filled by experienced practitioners who have five years post-qualifying experience. They will have the necessary skills to chair meetings and hold complex child protection cases, whilst supporting staff and joint working with families where appropriate.
18. A central concept of a new Family Help model is that teams will be multi-agency in nature. Whilst social care teams work in partnership with a range of partners, both statutory and third sector, there is work to do in order to bring them into any future Family Help structure. As part of an earlier phase of Hampshire's transformation, Specialist Intensive Worker Hubs were developed to deliver services and interventions in order to keep more children safely at home through both prevention and reunification. Within these teams there are Specialist CAMHS and Parental Substance Misuse Workers co-located and jointly working with families. The development of local Family Help teams which involve the presence of local agencies will be part of Hampshire's long-term plan. However, this will be placed within a later phase, when the foundations and structures of Family Help teams have been established and are strong enough to be built upon.
19. In terms of next steps and timescales the Independent Review of Children's Social Care report does lay out an expected timeline over a period of years allowing time for scoping and planning through to full implementation and business as usual. Ultimately there will need to be amendments to core legislation to implement several changes put forward within the report. However, in the interim local authorities are expected to start working on developing their Family Help model and other elements as best as possible within current legislation.
20. As evidenced by this report, Hampshire is clearly further along the path with the developments already introduced and implemented. It is hoped that implementation of phase 1.2 will take place in 2024 with the merger of CAST & FSS into Family Help teams, the geographical alignment of those teams, alongside the introduction of the Child Protection Lead Practitioner and Family Practitioner roles.

Finance

18. A prior business case has been signed off which enabled each district to fund five CAST; an increase of one team per district.
19. Given the above budget decisions, Family Help phase 1.2 has based costings within this financial envelope. Close work with finance around our business case and affordability has taken place and remains ongoing. It is not anticipated that the implementation of Family Help will incur any additional financial cost at this time.

Performance

20. Given phase 1.2 has not yet launched, it is difficult to quantify performance and impact. However, KPIs and embedding change measures are currently being developed which in due course will measure: the impact on social worker recruitment and retention, caseload numbers, staff satisfaction and sickness levels and the family journey through social care to evidence a reduction in the number of transitions for them, thus strengthening working relationships.

Consultation and Equalities

21. N/A

Climate Change Impact Assessment

22. N/A

Conclusions

23. Whilst the Independent Review of Children's Social Care and the Government response, Stable Homes Built on Love sets a clear direction for change it is for Hampshire Children's Services to develop and implement new ways of working that complement the local environment and services. It is not yet precisely known the level of central prescription that will come from the DfE (Department for Education), however, with all this change and transformation comes a future of possibilities. The potential for going even further, bringing more, or all, social care teams and services into the Family Help model and structure.
24. Changes on this considerable scale have and will continue to bring challenges; both practically and practice based. Hence staff engagement with the process and helping to shape the future is imperative. For families, the outcomes will be positive, when Family Help is established, they will be able to access locally based services, ideally all in one place, much earlier in their time of need.

25. It is anticipated within Hampshire that the first phase of Family Help 1.2, which involves the merger of both Children Assessment and Safeguarding Teams (CAST) and the Family Support Service (FSS) will take place in early 2024.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:

This report is provided to the Corporate Parenting Board only in response to its request for information about Family Help.

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

Equalities Impact Assessment:

Family Help

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Corporate Parenting Board

8th November 2023

**TRANSFORMING
SOCIAL CARE**
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



**MODERNISING
PLACEMENTS**
PROGRAMME





Context

The publication of the Independent **Review of Children's Social Care** report in May 2022 marks a significant and landmark point in time as it seeks to create generational change across children's social care.

A key set of recommendations act as a catalyst for a '*revolution in family help*' which are endorsed by the government's response paper '**Stable Homes, Built on Love**'. A number of associated consultations are being undertaken and there will be a requirement for changes to legislation and statutory guidance such as Working Together to support full implementation.

In the meantime, local authorities are charged with commencing the work to develop and implement a new model of Family Help.

In Hampshire this means combining the staff and functions currently within our Family Support Service (FSS) and Childrens Assessment and Safeguarding teams (CAST). Consequently, changes need to be made and as individual's impacted by these changes we are formally engaging and consulting with you.





What is Family Help?

The IRCSC defines Family Help as:

- 'support that aims to improve children's lives through supporting the family unit and strengthening family relationships, **to enable children to thrive and keep families together**, helping them to provide the safe, nurturing environments that children need'
- Being built in **partnership** with the families and communities it serves
- Is **high quality and evidence led**. It should be delivered by **skilled professionals from a range of disciplines** who have the time and capability to build trusting and supportive relationships
- Being available to any family facing significant challenges that could pose a threat to providing their child with a loving, stable, safe family life. This ranges from families who currently receive **targeted early help to those who are on a child in need or child protection plan**
- Seeking to understand and respond to **the whole range of challenges** that children and families face, bringing in and coordinating wider services and partners to support families and avoid them falling between services
- Support offered at the level a family needs in order for them to function well with the aim, where possible, of avoiding ongoing service involvement. It should build on a **wider offer of support and early intervention in communities** that is available to all families.



Our vision for Family Help



Outcomes

Improving outcome for children and families

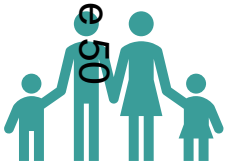
Keep more children safely at home (with needs met)

Reducing demand for level 4 services

Increase recruitment and retention

Locally based FH teams aligned to local resources (hubs)

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Children & Families will ...

Be able to access support easily in their local community

They will be pro active and empowered to seek support

Have an improved experience with less transition points

Build trusting and supportive relationships with a range of agencies

Have their needs met at the lowest level to reduce escalation



We will ...

Reduce transition points

Improve community links

Foster Multi Agency working

Be responsive to the dynamic nature of families

We will use local resources to facilitate positive outcomes



We need to be good at ...

Aligning workers skills to meet the needs of the family eg: IW workers

Using skills set of differently qualified staff

Linking and building relationships with local community resources

Establishing a flexible workforce

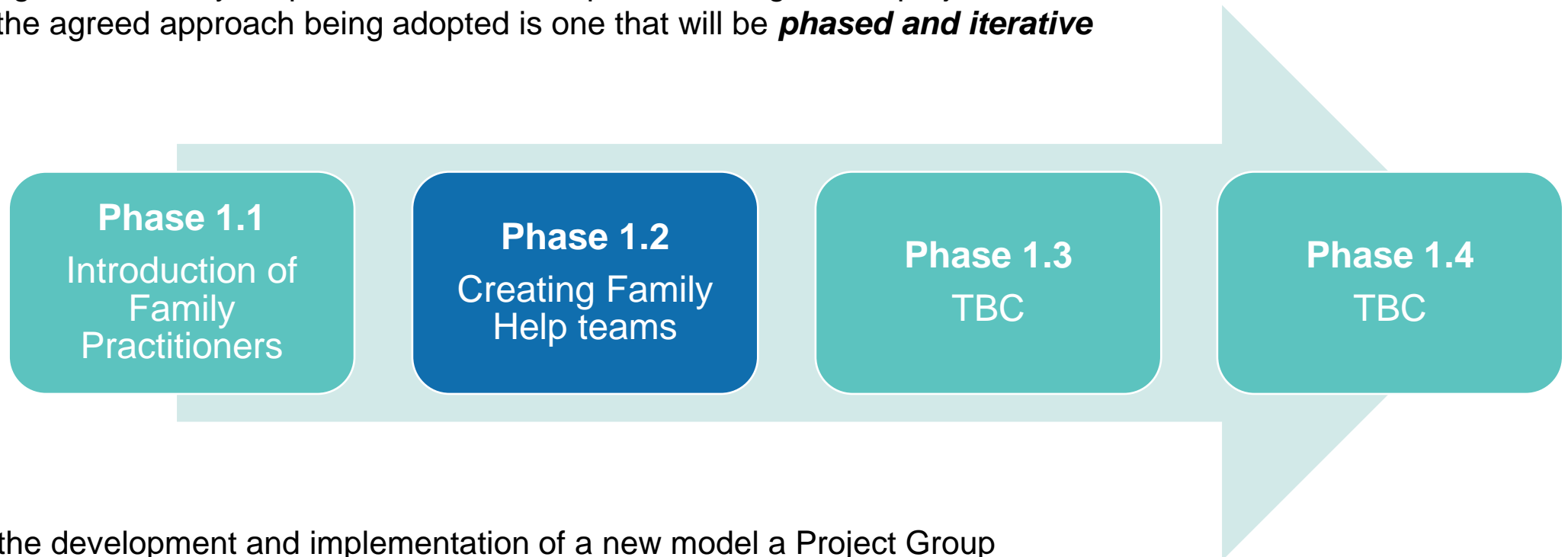
Adopting and implementing a whole family approach



Hampshire's approach

Implementing a new Family Help model across Hampshire is a significant project to undertake. Therefore, the agreed approach being adopted is one that will be ***phased and iterative***

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To support the development and implementation of a new model a Project Group has been established with representation from the teams impacted.



Progress to date

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Phase 1.1: COMPLETE

- ✓ Developed new differently qualified role of **Family Practitioners**
- ✓ Staff started in post in January 2023. Placed in CAST and will transfer to new Family Help teams in early 2024
- ✓ A case holding role of lower level, specific CIN case types with robust management oversight

Phase 1.2: CURRENT

- Planning to implement model with **34** new locality-based FH teams across county
- Data analysis reviewed caseloads, geographical localities and staffing profiles
- Staff consultation completed
- Skills Scan reviewed training needs of existing workforce & is being used to develop robust training package before full and final implementation

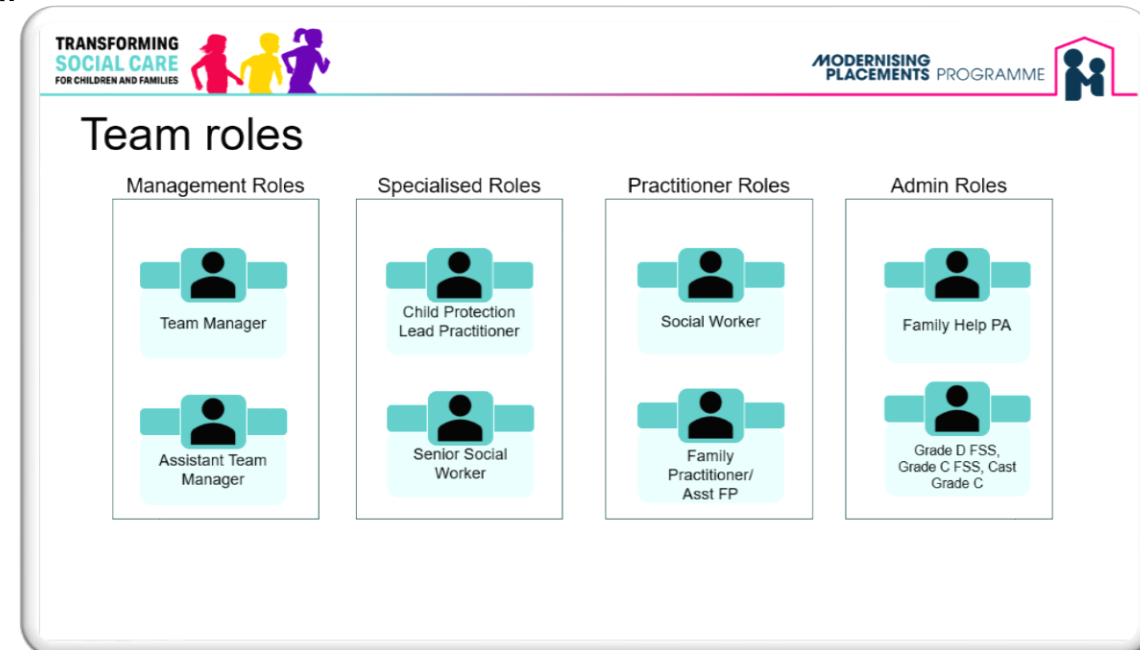


Overview of Family Help Teams

- Each of the 34 Family Help teams will cover a **smaller geographical area** which will promote closer links with local partner agencies and make teams more accessible to families

Page 53
Early Help and children in need support and services will be delivered by each Family Help team enabling both Social Workers and Family Practitioners to have a **mixed caseload** of families

- Within the Care review a new **Child Protection Lead Practitioner** role has been created. In Hampshire, the aspiration is to recruit one role to each of the 34 Family Help teams, their role being to case hold complex child protection cases, jointly work families with differently qualified colleagues, chair child protection conferences and support managers in their child protection decision making

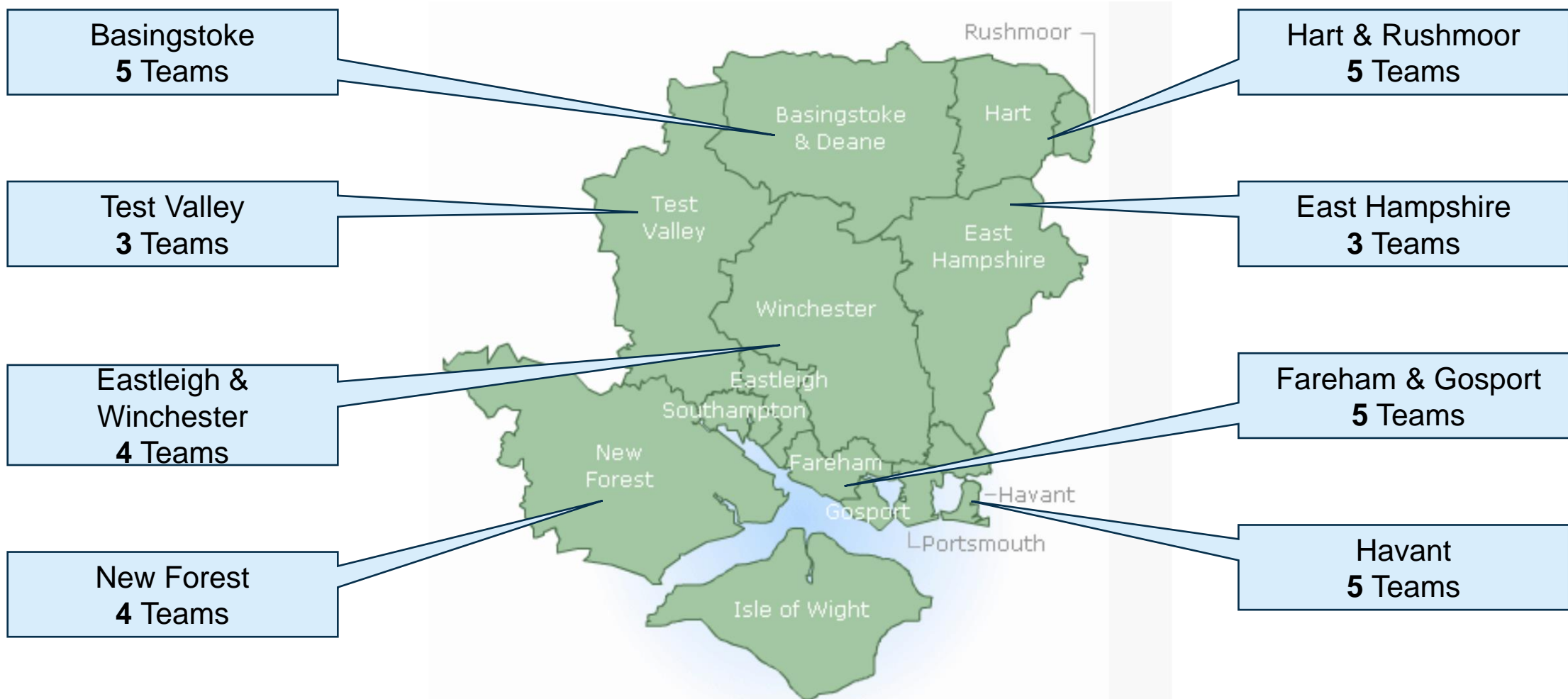




Proposed number of teams

For reference, the geographical alignment, and number of Family Help teams per district was based on thorough analysis of caseload, and referral data.

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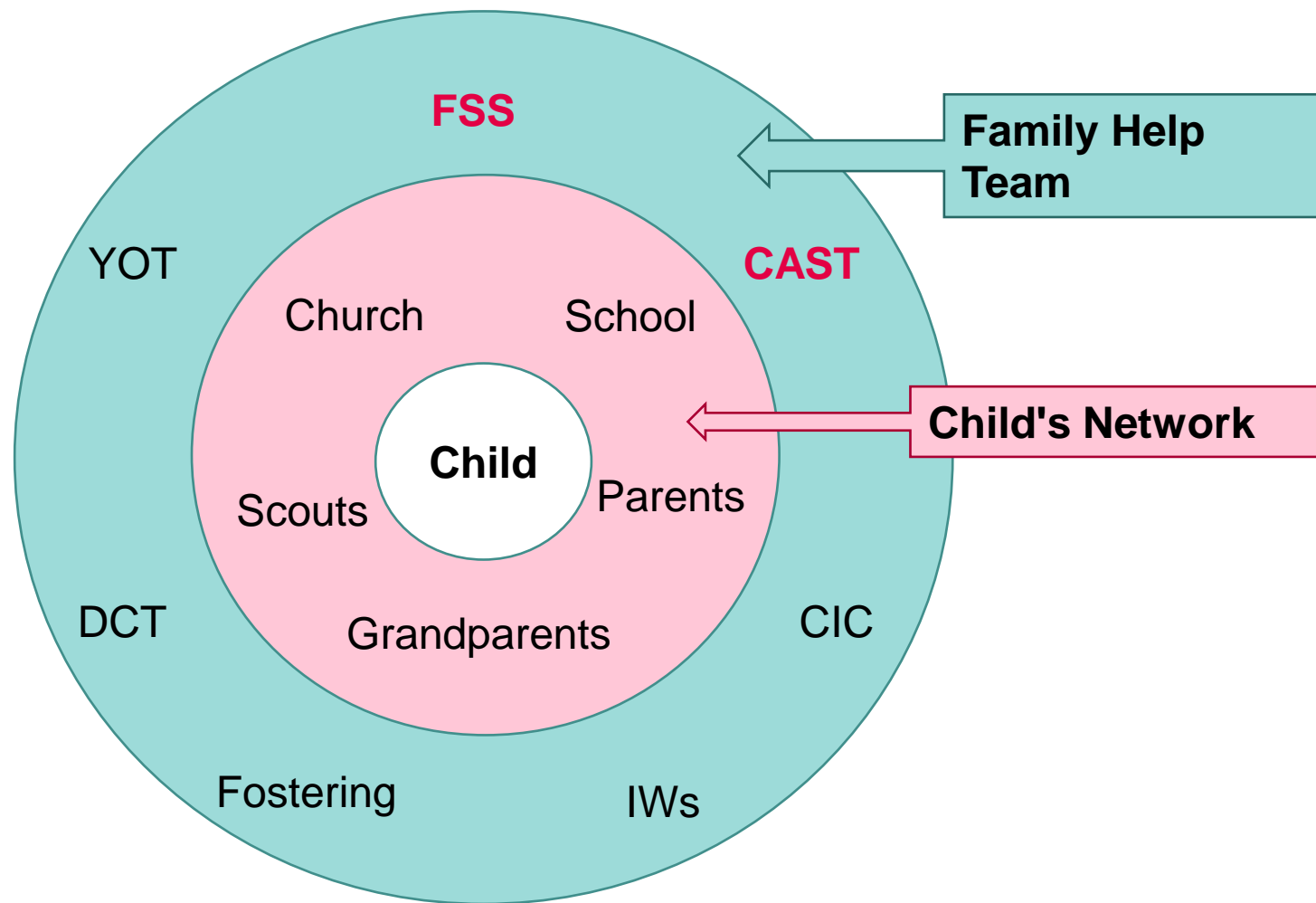




Longer term vision

- Professionals 'stepping in and stepping out' of a child's network as required in response to needs and risks
- Move away from linear transitioning through social care
- Aligned with Community Hubs in local areas to de-stigmatise accessing services
- Working with partners will continue to be central to these teams
- More social care teams and services will move into family Help teams over time as the model evolves.

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Next Steps

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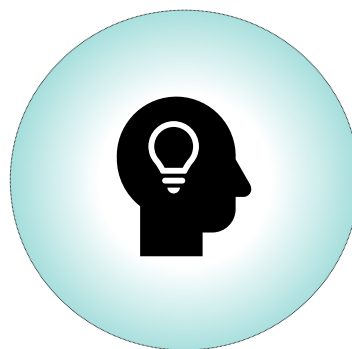
FH Teams

Confirm to staff final Family Help team membership



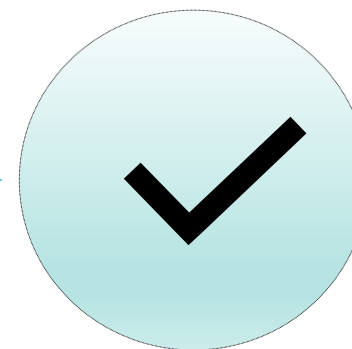
Recruitment

CPLP vacancies go live for both internal and external candidates



Training

Ensure that robust and supportive package is available for all staff/ delivered before go live (& beyond)



Go live

2024: Launch and implement new FH teams

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Panel:	Corporate Parenting Board
Date:	8 November 2023
Title:	Virtual School Activities to Support and Improve Educational Outcomes for Hampshire Children Looked After
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Michelle Nye, Virtual School Head

Tel: 01962 835227

Email: michelle.nye@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an interim report on educational outcomes for Hampshire CLA with actions for improvement as requested by Corporate Parent Board 5 July 2023.

Recommendation(s)

2. That the Corporate Parenting Board note the Virtual School activities to support and improve educational outcomes for Hampshire's Children Looked After.

Executive Summary

3. This report seeks to provide an interim report on educational outcomes for Hampshire CLA with actions for improvement. As final published data is not released until at least January 2024 all data is summarised within this report based on provisional figures obtained from schools; actual figures are not reported.
4. Analysis of reports shows a variety of factors impact on the educational outcomes of children in care in addition to quality education provision. Consequently, these factors also need to be considered and addressed if education outcomes are to improve.

Contextual information

5. The following analysis refers to children in care in the 'OC2' or published cohort during 2021-22 academic year. That is children who have been in care for a year or more as of 31st March 2023.

6. The data referred to in this report for children in care has been drawn from schools, rather than published data sets, and is provisional at this stage. Schools are not obliged to shared data with us and only do so on the proviso that we only use it internally to guide our improvement planning.
7. Destination data for our post 16 is gathered from the Hampshire Futures team.

Finance

Pupil Premium Plus

8. The Virtual School is grant funded by Pupil Premium Plus. This grant covers Virtual School staffing, the electronic Personal Education Plan (PEP), attendance monitoring, training, service level agreements, projects and any interventions.
9. In line with the Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance, the Virtual School publish a policy document which makes clear the expectations and arrangements in place around pupil premium plus for children looked after. [Pupil Premium Plus and funding | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/pupil-premium-plus-and-funding)

Performance

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

10. Since the changes to statutory guidance and assessments for EYFS it should be noted that the weighting of this assessment has changed and this data is now seen as an indicator / measure for whether a child is ready for the Key Stage 1 (KS1) curriculum rather than a predictor of end of key stage success.

The main purpose of the profile assessment at the end of the EYFS is to support a successful transition to Key Stage 1 (KS1) by informing the professional dialogue between EYFS and year 1 teachers. The EYFS profile is not an accountability measure for schools and the DfE does not publish school level results for the EYFS profile p5 EYFSP handbook 2023 [Early years foundation stage profile handbook 2023 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/115444/early-years-foundation-stage-profile-handbook-2023.pdf)

11. Early indications of EYFS data, filtered to OC2 and matched indicated that Hampshire children in care performed better than last year.
12. Discussions with Year R practitioners indicate that although not all children received a Good Level of Development (GLD) this summer, the progress their children made is strong and in some cases exponential. This is in comparison to where they started at the beginning of the year. The number of children with EHCPs in 2023 has increased and those with SEN support has declined slightly.

13. Due to our Personal Education Plan (PEP) system not being suitably informative regarding ongoing attainment, we have not been able to target our work with schools to improve outcomes for specific children as we would have liked. However, with the new electronic system launched in September 2023, our visits, support and monitoring will be more accurate and tailored to meet needs during the academic year 2023-24.
14. GLD is broken down into the three prime areas of Communication and Language, Personal Social Emotional Development (PSED) and Physical Development. The decrease in PSED outcomes follows the national trend and we are focusing Virtual School resource in this area during 2023-24. Our transition packs support both communication and language and PSED, although we will be enhancing the PSED area of this resource.
15. Virtual School are aware that early years professionals need continued support in understanding the difference between an attachment and trauma response and age and stage appropriate behaviours, therefore for the academic year 2023-24 we have increased our support offer from our Hampshire and Isle of Wight Educational Psychologists (HIEP) team. We have increased our attachment training offer to two sessions and will work to increase last year's attendance by advertising the sessions at Designated Teacher (DT) networks across the county. We have also added individual consultations to the Private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector to discuss LAC cases.
16. In schools during our Spring term PEP visits, we will focus on PSED outcomes and moderating these assessments.
17. The Virtual School will offer specific DT training on understanding attachment and trauma in relation to PSED assessments so that DTs are able to moderate judgements themselves and challenge whether teachers are assessing using age and stage expectations, as this makes a difference to this assessment outcome.

Key Stage One (KS1)

18. There is a slight improvement in KS1 attainment compared to the previous year. There were 38 children in OC2 cohort, compared to 54 children last year. In individual subjects, reading, writing and maths have all improved, with reading and writing being more in line with 2019 figures.
19. Within this cohort of 38, two children had EHCPs, four less than in 2022 and sixteen children (42.1%) were on SEN support (2 not assessed, 9 SEMH, 2 SLCN, 2 moderate and 1 specific needs). This is three more children on SEN support than last year. Combined with the two children that have an EHCP, 47.2% have SEND.
20. Out of 38 children, 26 children had Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) scores listed. Those with SDQ scores, 11 children had a score of 17

or over. A score of 17 and above is considered to within the 'abnormal' band' of behaviours. This is not a judgement of the young person's mental health, rather it refers to the fact that the SDQ score falls considerably outside the range of expected responses. This may impact a child's readiness to learn.

21. For this cohort of pupils, mandatory reporting of EYFS data in 2021 was cancelled (due to Covid) so it is not possible to compare progress expectations from Year R to the end of Year 2. This is also a cohort whose pre-school experience was extremely disrupted by the pandemic and schools report (informally) that children's 'readiness to learn' was not at expected levels when entering Year R, with foundations in learning needing strengthened before building core learning skills to move forward. In particular, speaking & listening skills (a pre-requisite for all core learning, but no formal data recorded) have been reportedly poorer in this cohort, with additional focus needed within EYFS and KS1 to develop and strengthen these skills. Moving forward, the Virtual School where appropriate may support language screening for all Year R / Year 1 pupils to support staff in identifying need and appropriate interventions at an earlier stage.

Key Stage Two (KS2)

22. The Government's preferred performance measure for KS2 is the proportion of children that have reached age-related expectations (ARE) in each of reading, writing and mathematics (RWM) combined.
23. Provisional data shows a significant increase compared to last year.
24. One impact of the current curriculum and assessment methods in place is that there are parts of the curriculum that many children in care, due to the turbulence in their lives, have simply not had time to learn securely by the end of the key stage. This implies that their final scores may reflect the lack of time they have had to learn the content rather than their capabilities.
25. Within the OC2 cohort, 27 children had an EHCP (30.3%), 15 of these children have SEMH as a designation. 27 children (30.3%) were on SEN support. This is a combined total of 60.6% of children with SEND. This is 1% more than the previous year.
26. Out of 89 OC2 children, 58 children had SDQ scores recorded. Those with SDQ scores, 21 children (36.2%) had a score of 17 or over. A score of 17 and above is considered to within the 'abnormal' band' of behaviours and may impact a child's readiness to learn.
27. The VS are running two pilot projects this year, with a focus on KS2 pupils. It is estimated that approx. 65% of CLA pupils have an undiagnosed speech and language difficulty, which impacts on their ability to understand, process and communicate information across the curriculum, presenting a significant barrier to learning in all subjects. The Virtual School are working with the

Specialist Teacher Advisory Service (STAS) Communication and Interaction team to train schools to identify and support these needs in KS2 pupils (without an EHCP) more effectively, which in turn should support greater access and understanding for children to the curriculum as a whole.

28. Much of children's learning is literacy heavy and reading skills are key. The virtual school are running a two-year project with a focus to improve reading outcome for pupils (current Year 5) with the hypothesis that this will also support access to learning in a wider sense and improved outcomes on other subject areas.

Key Stage Four (KS4)

29. Early indications of provisional results are that results are similar to last year. There are 157 young people in the OC2 cohort, within this cohort, 40 children had an EHCP (25.5%) and 41 children (26.1%) were on SEN support. This is a combined total of 51.6% of children with SEND. This is 22.8% more than the previous year, so nearly a quarter more of our children have SEND, which will impact on results.
30. 21 (13.3%) of the cohort children came into care in KS4. Eight of these children experienced a change in school. The Virtual School works closely with social work colleagues and managers to ensure that, where placement moves are essential, school moves are avoided especially in the final years of schooling to maintain school stability.
31. The 'Strength and Difficulties' questionnaire (SDQ) is used with every looked after child as an indicator of need, with an 'abnormal' score indicating a significant level of need. 28 of the 157 children (17.8%) had 'abnormal' scores.
32. Within this cohort 11 young people (7%) are Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers. Virtual School work very closely with our Refugee Teams to ensure young people have education provision.
33. The VS are undertaking a project focussing on improving outcomes for GCSE English Language. This will involve working with DTs and schools, to target support for LAC in the key skills required to access the GCSE exam. As part of this project, the VS have commissioned a package with 'Schools Online' which will be available to all CLA in the current Year 10 cohort (Year 11 2025 CYP Cohort) to support acquisition of the key skills. The aim of the project will be to ensure Hampshire CLA are in line with or close to national outcomes for GCSE English Language.
34. The Virtual School has a Service Level Agreement with the Future You service and has been able to refer several complex cases to support CLA in engaging back in education or to provide functional skills tuition/mentoring in cases where the child had been out of education for some time. This is in

addition to targeted tuition through external agencies, such as Prospero, which is aimed at boosting LAC GCSE outcomes at KS4.

Post 16

35. As part of the Children's Services post 16 Careers and Participation team, the Education and Participation Team who support the post 16 young people within the Virtual School is fully integrated into the wider RPA (Raising Participation Age) statutory functions supporting all young people to participate successfully in formal education and training in year 12 and 13.
36. All young people in England are required to participate in formal education or training until their 18th birthday, under Raising of the Participation Age (RPA) legislation. Hampshire County Council has a statutory duty to support young people aged 16 and 17 (and up to 25 for those with Special Educational Needs).
37. The Council is held to account by the Department for Education (DfE) for its performance against this duty, including the proportion of young people in education, employment and training (EET) or not (NEET); and the proportion of young people whose activity is unknown.
38. The Hampshire Futures model uses a robust and wide-ranging dataset to target resources effectively and provides a dedicated 'Education Participation Advisers' to young people in Hampshire, to support and enable effective transition from year 11, monitor and track their progress and to ensure they sustain a positive post-16 destination.
39. Intended destinations for care experienced young people in year 11 are identified earlier and college applications are submitted ahead of the overall cohort (by the end of February each year). The September Guarantee (statutory duty on Local Authorities to ensure a guaranteed place in education Year 12-13) is also secured earlier for care experienced young people being supported by the Education Participation Advisers.
40. September Guarantee performance for the overall cohort in Hampshire (97.1%) for 2022 continued to be above National (94.6%) and Regional (92.8%) average.
41. Additionally, participation of looked-after young people in post 16 education and training is increasing in Hampshire. All measures are above national averages and NEET/Unknown is comparatively low.

Table 1: Looked-after participation in education, employment and training (Source: NCCIS June 2022 LA Tables)						
	HCC					
Destination	June 20	June 21	June 22		England	SE Region
EET Total	83.4%	84.4%	90.8%		80.1%	80.3%
NEET	15.0%	14.4%	6.7%		17%	17.5%
Not Known	1.6%	1.2%	2.5%		2.9%	2.2%
Combined NEET and Unknown	16.6%	15.6%	9.2%		19.7%	19.7%

42. There has been a 50% increase in care experienced young people progressing onto Higher Education in AY2022-23 compared to the previous year, courses include nursing, social science, law, criminology, psychology, conservation, sports and exercise science and art.

Other Key Issues

43. The implementation of the new electronic PEP system (Asset) which was launched 1 September 2023 means that the Virtual School will be able to monitor, and quality assure children and young people's outcomes in a timely fashion. This will enable subsequent follow up with Designated Teachers around progress to ensure that interventions and support are implemented to improve outcomes.
44. The Virtual School has recently expanded, and eight new caseworkers are now in place. The role of the caseworker is largely to have an oversight of the area cohort and undertake regular monitoring of this cohort. Their role has enabled early intervention of attendance and suspensions, for example, so that schools are supported to avoid further escalation of these issues. This collaborative approach between schools, social workers, foster carers and the Virtual School aims to improve school outcomes and attainment, by adopting a holistic approach around the child.

Conclusion

45. The Virtual School remains committed to removing the inequality in educational outcomes between children in care and the wider population of children. This means working in partnership with the whole system for children across schools, education and inclusion and social care, returning constantly to the question for us as corporate parents – *'Would this be good enough for my child?'*

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

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Virtual School Update Date

Michelle Nye - Executive Headteacher
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Virtual School for Children in
Care

michelle.nye@hants.gov.uk



Performance EYFS

- Early indication that Hampshire Children in Care performed better than last year.
- Not all children reached a Good Level of Development (GLD) but progress strong.
- Personal Social Emotional Development, area of focus and will be supported through transition packs, visits, moderation and training.

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Performance Key Stage 1

- Slight improvement compared to last year in combined measure.
- In reading, writing and maths all areas have improved, reading and writing more in line with 2019.
- 47.2% of OC2 Cohort have a Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND).
- This cohort were extremely disrupted by the pandemic.
- VS focus on language screening where appropriate.



Performance Key Stage 2

- Provisional data for reading, writing and mathematics shows (RWM) significant increase.
- Combined total of 60.6% with SEND.
- VS pilot projects
 - Training schools to identify and support communication and interaction needs as approximately 65% of CLA have undiagnosed speech and language difficulty.
 - Two-year project to improve reading outcomes, with hypothesis that this will support wider access to learning.



Performance Key Stage 4

- Similar results to last year.
- 157 children in OC2 cohort. 51.6% children within cohort have SEND, 22.8% more than last year.
- 21 children (13.3%) came into care in KS4. 8 experienced change of school.
- 11 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children.
- VS Projects
 - improving outcomes for GCSE English Language, focusing on key skills
 - targeted tuition
 - Future You tuition and mentoring



Performance Post 16

- Dedicated Education and Participation Advisers support and enable effective transition from year 11, monitor and track progress to ensure they sustain positive post 16 destinations.
- September Guarantee 97.1% continue above National (94.6%) and (92.8%).
- Participation increasing and all measures above National averages and NEET/Unknown comparatively low.
- 50% increase in care experienced young people progressing onto higher education.

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Other key issues

- New electronic PEP launched 1 September 2023
- Eight new caseworkers in place



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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Panel:	Corporate Parenting Board
Date:	8 November 2023
Title:	Update on Participation Action Plan for 2023
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Sarah Plummer, Service Manager (Service Improvement and IRS)

Tel: 03707 793391

Email: Sarah.plummer@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

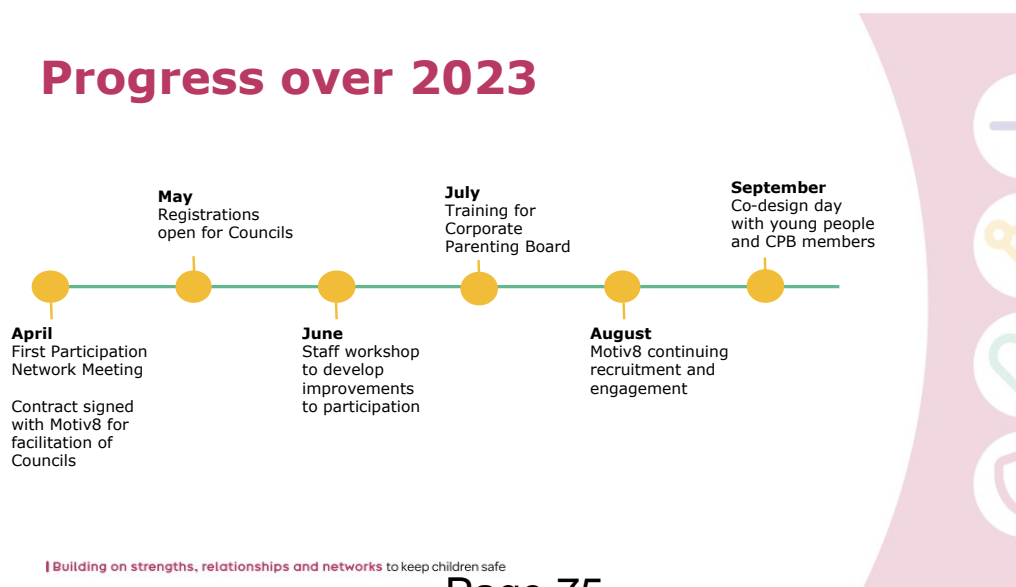
1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Participation Action Plan for 2023, including the development of the Children in Care and Care Experienced Adults Councils.
2. This report also outlines a series of recommendations for the next phase of development.

Recommendation

3. That the Corporate Parenting Board note the update on the Participation Action Plan for 2023.

Part 1: Progress against Participation Action Plan

4. The Participation Action Plan continues to be delivered as scheduled throughout 2023. The Corporate Parenting Board are well briefed in the elements of the plan and the following slide highlights the key milestones over the past six months:



Development of the Children in Care and Care Experienced Adults Councils

5. We continue to work closely with Motiv8 during the mobilisation period to ensure they are linked with operational teams and that we are developing the Councils in an agile way. To date 17 Care Experienced Adults and 13 Children in Care have volunteered to be part of the Councils, but a larger cohort have registered their interest and are engaging in a more informal way.
6. Our learning from the initial stages of the project is that it is helpful to view the Councils as an 'umbrella' for all our children in and leaving care. Young people are telling us that they want to contribute in a flexible way, for example through the social media pages set up for this purpose, via the dedicated Youth Worker for the programme, or via events and activities.
7. It may be that we move away from the term 'Councils' in time, and as the participants develop their own model and ways of working.
8. The contract manager for the contact meets fortnightly with Motiv8 to ensure the development of the Councils remain on track.

Co-design day, 16 September

9. The co-design day at Winchester Arc Library in September was a great success. 9 young people were able to join us, and they must be credited by their enthusiasm and desire to make a difference for other children in care. Thank you to those Councillors who were able to join us, as together we covered a wide range of topics and the conversation contributed towards the recommendations contained in the second section of this report.

Participation Network

10. The new Participation Network, comprising of staff from across Children Services who play a role in running events and activities, continues to grow. This group meets 6 weekly and provides an opportunity to showcase our work, learn and share resources and promote our focus on 'you said, we did'.
11. The Corporate Parenting Board should also note that an informal network of those involved in Participation has just been set up for Local Authorities in the South East. The first meeting has taken place, and it was interesting to learn of the similar challenges and opportunities shared by our peers in neighbouring authorities. We will continue to play a role in this network to share learning and potentially work towards some joint initiatives.

Part 2: Recommendations for the continuous improvement of Participation in Hampshire

12. The work that has taken place over the course of the year has contributed towards the following recommendations, this includes
 - a. Feedback from children and young people, collated via the Councils
 - b. Staff feedback during a cross-branch workshop
 - c. Contributions from Participation Network Members
 - d. Research and learning from other Local Authorities

- e. Training and advice from Total Respect who are experts in child advocacy
- f. Feedback from the Corporate Parenting Board

Priority areas identified by young people

13. The following priority areas were identified by young people as areas of focus for the Corporate Parenting Board and the Directorate. It is important to note that there will be a range of priorities that the Board and the Directorate will focus on, not just those identified by young people.
14. The table includes a range of example activities which could be taken forward with young people and Corporate Parenting Board Members. These examples are indicative at this point, to illustrate how we convert feedback into action. We are developing a detailed programme plan together with Motiv8 and our operational teams to ensure that young people are part of the solutions we create.
15. During the Corporate Parenting Board discussion it will be useful to understand from Members which areas of work they would like to contribute to.

Area	Types of activities which could be delivered
Reduce stigma for children in care and care leavers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources and training for schools on life in care • Further consideration of how we use language and labels
Develop a transparent and accountable way of communicating and responding to children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of Challenge Cards • More flexible communication with Care Leavers recognising they are adults • A policy for how and when we'll respond to young people
Recognise and support individuals and their aspirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer and/or specialist mentoring • Development of support and activity networks based on areas of interest
Review and improve housing options for 16 plus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further work internally and with Housing Partners to enhance our offering.

A more systematic approach to collating and responding to feedback

16. There are currently many points at which we gather feedback from children, young people and families. Understanding the views and wishes of those we work with is fundamental to good social work practice, and it is woven into all we do. In addition to 'individual' feedback we gather, we also request 'service' feedback – either through feedback forms, audits, surveys or participation events.
17. However, there is an opportunity to streamline how we do this, and in doing so introduce a more robust baseline of data which can be used to track how our families experience our service over time. Our suggestion is that 'less is more' when it comes to service feedback, and that by being smarter and more coordinated we hope to improve both the quality and quantity of responses.

18. We are also seeking to coordinate the events that are run across the service. The Corporate Parenting Board are aware of our strategy that 'participation is everyone's business', hence activities being devolved to local teams. We are now seeking to introduce some service wide initiatives which will provide a 'hook' for local activity, again ensuring better coordination and impact.
19. As the Corporate Parenting Board are aware, a key priority for us is the 'feedback loop' and that gathering feedback is only the first step in meaningful participation. It is essential we action the feedback we receive (ideally together with young people and families) and that we respond to it.

Feedback fortnight 2x year

Introduce a feedback fortnight, potentially straddling a half term. This would include:

- Simple feedback form with 3 questions, potentially adapted for team but aim to keep as generic as possible i.e. 'I felt heard'
- Feedback requested at all meetings, conferences, reviews during the fortnight (anonymous)
- Feedback request link included in all staff signatures (anonymous)
- Meet the manager sessions with senior managers and Corporate Parenting Board Members
- Participation events delivered by local teams, with opportunities to develop service improvements
- A response at the end of the month with what we've heard, and what we're doing next (could be video, animation for example)

My Life My Future Month

A month of focus on children in care and care leavers. Activities would include:

- A survey exploring what life is like for CIC / CL (replacing Bright Spots)
- Associated participation events and CIC/CEA Council activities
- Involvement of Corporate Parenting Board and Senior Managers
- A response at the end of the month with what we've heard, and what we're doing next (could be video, animation for example)

My Life My Future Awards

- Introduce an annual awards ceremony for our children in and leaving care
- Could form part of the month above.

Challenge Cards

- Introduce a challenge card, for example 'START, STOP, CHANGE'. When the idea has enough support (i.e. 4 votes for example) that 'challenge' is sent to the Corporate Parenting Board who will respond directly to the young person.

20. In introducing these activities and events (alongside the work happening locally and within the new Councils) we will 'supercharge' our participation and provide far more opportunities for young people to meaningfully contribute towards the development of their service.

The evolution of the Corporate Parenting Board

21. During the co-design event, participants discussed the make-up of the Corporate Parenting Board and the way in which it hears and responds to children and young people.
22. Members already have an opportunity to observe practice and attend events and we recommend continuing this and also providing more opportunities including visiting residential homes. This is in addition to the recommendations in the previous section, where we envisage Members contributing towards 'feedback fortnight' and 'My Life My Future' Month.
23. We would also like to explore with Members how they can best contribute towards developing solutions. For example, forming part of a working group with Officers and young people. Another alternative may be taking actions to progress areas of priority where they are best placed to do so, whether that be collaborating with District Councils or other partners.
24. Motiv8 will be providing the Board with a feedback summary at each meeting, and as the Councils become more established we would seek to introduce a regular opportunity for Members to attend Council meetings and events.
25. The Corporate Parenting Board may also want to consider producing a 'newsletter' or other summary of the discussion following each meeting which can be shared with the Councils, closing the feedback loop and evidencing that their voices have been heard and responded to.

Conclusions

26. There has been positive progress under the Action Plan this year, and we are excited by the momentum that is building as we grow our approach to participation. However, we are not complacent as there is a significant amount of work we need to deliver over the coming year and beyond. However, we will continue to focus on building strong foundations for gathering and responding to feedback as by doing so the structures will be in place to ensure meaningful opportunities for all our young people.
27. We ask the Corporate Parenting Board to approve the recommendations outlined in this report, and we welcome the opportunity for discussion about the contents during the Board meeting in November.

Consultation and Equalities

28. The Participation Action Plan is designed to provide further opportunities for consultation with children, families and staff. Equality impact was considered as part of the procurement of the CIC and CEA Councils and is an ongoing consideration in the development of our recommendations.

Climate Change Impact Assessment

29. There are no climate change implications to this report.

CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes
OR	
This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because: This report is for information only	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

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- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

-

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:


An updated EIA will be produced as part of the recommendations from this project.

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**Family Connections Service (FCS)
Post SGO Support Service
November 2023**

Background

- The Family Connections Service was formed in August 2021.
 - The service was created to ensure that a sole team manager had consistent oversight and to drive the expansion of the service to not only assess connected carers, but to provide post Special Guardianship Order support.
 - The Post SGO Support Service was created in January 2023 following successful recruitment of an Assistant Team Manager, Social Worker and two Children and Families Support Workers.
- 

How many Special Guardians do we have in Hampshire?


- There are currently 884 children on a Special Guardianship Order in Hampshire.
 - This only includes the children that we had involvement with either through care proceedings or assessing private SGO applicants.
 - This does not include children from other LAs but resident in Hampshire that are eligible for Post Order support.
 - In 2022, there were 69 SGOs granted.
 - As of September, there have been 54 SGOs granted in 2023.
- 

Post SGO support

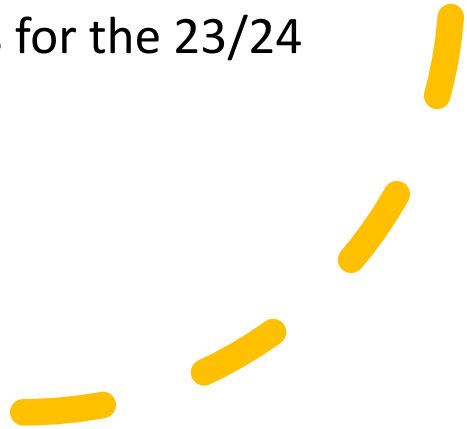
Under the Special Guardianship Regulations 2005, Local Authorities are required to make arrangements for the provision of special guardianship support services in their area to meet the needs of those affected by special guardianship. These services are defined as:

- Financial support
- Support groups for Special Guardians, parents and children under SGOs or being considered for an SGO.
- Support with managing contact including mediation services.
- Therapeutic services for the child under SGO.
- Support to build and maintain the relationship between the child and Special Guardian including training for the Special Guardian to meet the particular needs of the child.
- Counselling, advice and information.

What we have implemented

- Special Guardians microsite in development, similar to: Guardians' Guide (buckinghamshire.gov.uk)
 - Special Guardian communications
 - SGO support groups: There are now 5 face to face groups and two virtual groups that run every month
 - Drop in virtual clinics for Special Guardians and colleagues to receive individual advice/guidance
 - Monthly Lite Bite sessions; topics include contact, life story work, trauma, therapeutic parenting, attachment and ACES
 - Support with Education Planning Meetings
 - Mediation/support in relation to contact issues
 - Management of the Adoption Support Fund
 - Training to colleagues across the Local Authority
- 

Adoption Support Fund

- Department for Education through the Adoption Support Fund, provides funds to local authorities and regional adoption agencies (RAAs) to pay for essential therapeutic services for eligible adoptive and special guardianship order (SGO) families.
 - Children must have been previously looked after immediately prior to the SGO being granted to be eligible for ASF funding.
 - In the financial year 2022/2023 there were 13 ASF applications for SGO families.
 - The Post SGO Support Service has had responsibility for ASF applications for SGO families since January 2023.
 - We have worked to raise awareness of the ASF for SGO families.
 - To date, we have processed 40 applications for the 23/24 financial year.
- 

What's next?

- We are reviewing our staffing needs to ensure that we are able to meet all of our statutory responsibilities for Special Guardians in the future; we believe there will continue to be an increased need as the number of SGOs continues to grow.
- We will be working to develop earlier support for prospective Special Guardians, working alongside families and professionals in the early stages of PLO/Proceedings where an SGO may be a possible outcome, to ensure that robust support plans are enacted.
- We also want to continue to grow the service and expand the reach to more Special Guardians. We want to establish links with our colleagues in Education and Health to ensure that they are signposting Special Guardians to our service to access our support.

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Looked After Children Health Update to the Corporate Parenting Board

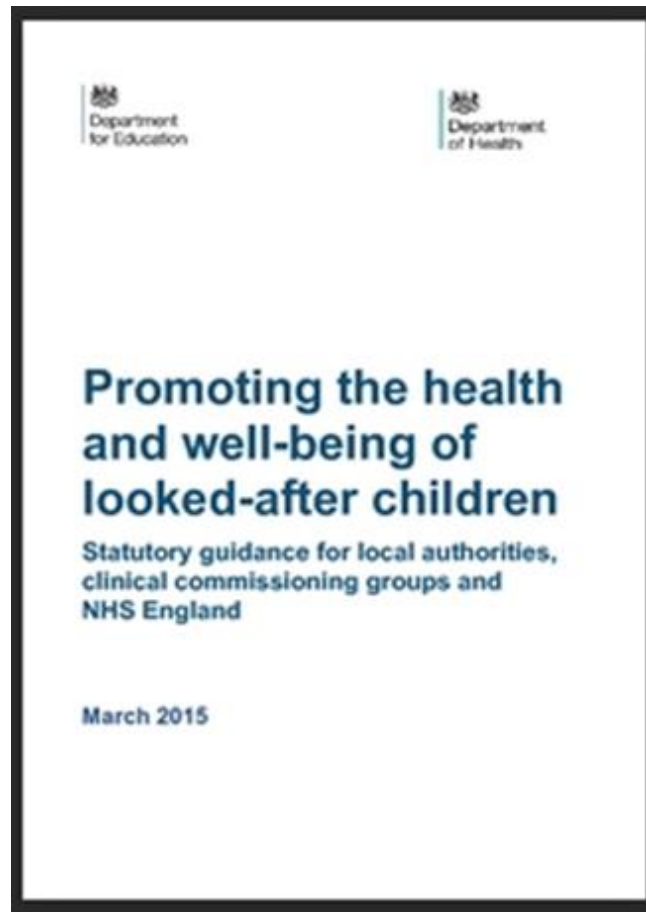
8th November 2023

Melissa Phillips Designated Doctor for Looked after Children

Vicky Fraser- Senior Designated Nurses for Looked After Children



Promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked After Children



What is a looked after children's health assessment?

The statutory health assessment should address the areas specified in section 1 of Schedule 1 of the care planning regulations. These areas are:

- the child's state of health, including physical, emotional and mental health
- the child's health history including, as far as practicable, his or her family's health history
- the effect of the child's health history on his or her development
- existing arrangements for the child's health and dental care appropriate to their needs, which must include
 - routine checks of the child's general state of health, including dental health
 - treatment and monitoring for identified health (including physical, emotional and mental health) or dental care needs
 - preventive measures such as vaccination and immunisation
 - screening for defects of vision or hearing
 - advice and guidance on promoting health and effective personal care
 - any planned changes to the arrangements
 - the role of the appropriate person, such as a foster carer, residential social worker, school nurse or teacher, and of any other person who cares for the child in promoting his or her health.



What do we know about the health of looked after children? Why do they need additional health support?

- 70% more likely to die prematurely.
- Seven times more likely to die before aged 25.
- Improvements in childhood mortality in last 40-50 years not mirrored in children in care.
- 50% children in care suffer from mental illness.
- Increase in Developmental Delay and need for behavioural support.
- Increase in physical health problems that extends into adulthood.

41% of UASC have an Infectious Disease needing treatment UCL 2022

- 25% Latent TB
- 13% Schistosomiasis
- 10% gut parasites
- 6% Hepatitis B
- 20% Sexually assaulted
- 40% of girls are suspected victims of trafficking
- 50% scars associated with torture/abuse
- Suicide rate 51.2 per 100 000 (host population 6.1 per 100 000)



Current data (at end of Quarter 2- June 2023)

- 1847 Hampshire looked after children
- This is an increase of 108 from June 2022 (1739)
- Increase due to UASC from 134 to 231 (June 22 – June 23)
- 730 living out of area – approx. 40%.
- 132 looked after children placed in Hampshire from other LAs (Q2)
- 10-15 IHAs needed each week



Health Assessments

- LA Performance Indicator = timeliness of health assessments being held where a child was looked after for 12 months or more. Target is 85%.
- Hampshire currently at 76% completion (end August 2023). There was a positive small progress from Jan / Feb 2023 up to 79%, but due to the impact of GP leave during August this has again dropped to 76%.
- Additional funding to address the backlog of RHAs was given to HHFT and all backlog now cleared. This resource has now been allocated to complete out of county overdue RHAs.
- CSD have embedded a thorough process for RHAs ensuring that paperwork is completed and sent to Health colleagues in a timely way. This has resulted in improved performance for RHAs
- CSD now have additional admin to support the same process being embedded for IHAs (from Sept 2023).
- As of 20/9/23 there were 210 appointments waiting with GP Hub, Southern Health, HHFT and out of area for completion and a further 83 that have been booked.
- The volume of IHAs is predicted to increase with the new process being embedded in CSD. 3 additional GPs have been recruited to the IHA Hub who will be offering a regular a slot (x10 additional appointments each week)



Dental Checks

- Performance Indicator = timeliness of dental checks being held where the child is looked after for 12 months or more. Target is 85%.
- Hampshire currently at 57.9% completion (end August 2023).
- All IHAs and RHAs must include the date of the last dental appointment and identify any gaps. Actions to address gaps are included in the health plans.
- CSD Administrators will record date on the child's electronic record
- Additional dental resource across the South East Region – limited in Hampshire
- To be explored with new Dental Lead in the ICB (previously at region but now delegated to ICB)



Immunisations

- Performance Indicator = timeliness of immunisations being completed where the child is looked after for 12 months or more. Target is 85%.
- Hampshire currently at 81.80% (excluding flu and UASC) completion, but 50.5% (including flu) (end August 2023).
- Health assessments must include the immunisation details and identify any gaps. Actions to address gaps are included in the health plans.
- Hampshire records each immunisation, and the date it was administered, for each child it is responsible for in our Social Care system. It allows us to report immunisations at a more granular level, allowing the possibility for in-depth analysis. This goes beyond the statutory requirement of providing a yes/no response for each child being up to date with immunisations. However, it does mean we are introducing additional steps in the recording process, which may have an impact on performance reporting.
- This is how we know that it is the low numbers of flu vaccinations that brings our performance down.



Progress

- **December 2022** - ICB gave one year of funding to HHFT for a specialist nurse and administrative support to work closely with CSD to address the RHA backlog. Backlog now cleared to date for children living in Hampshire.
- **January 2023** – Improved joint working. Bi-weekly ‘Keeping in Touch’ meetings, Looked after Children Multi Agency Service Improvement Forum established.
- **January 2023** - Ofsted Focused Visit. Timeliness of initial and review health assessments needs to improve. Joint Action Plan in progress and reviewed regularly. CSD daily status report created.
- **May 2023** – Hub GP Training Day.
- **July 2023** - ICB Deputy Director for Children's Care appointed.
- **July 2023** - 'Lite Bite' training led by Designated Doctor attended by 43 social workers and foster carers.
- **July 2023** – use of LA venues for health assessments.
- **August 2023** – SHFT Specialist Nurses supporting Foster Carer Training.
- **September 2023** – Senior Transformation Manager will hold health offer for looked after children and those who are care experienced in portfolio for the ICB. Plan to review commissioned services for Looked after Children across the ICB footprint.
- **September 2023** - CSD now have centralised admin to support the IHA referral process.
- **September 2023** - Andover Health Hub used as a venue for health assessments.
- **October 2023** - SHFT have recruited 2 additional Looked after Children Specialist Nurses.



Training Available and Contact Details

E learning for Health- free training (hyperlinks)

In these sessions, you will explore the evidence for the statement that looked after children 'have a higher level of health, mental health and health promotion needs than others of the same age' and look at how the Healthy Child Programme can meet these needs.

[Looked After Children Part 1 Challenges and Principles](#)

[Looked After Children Part 2: Influencing Factors and Outcomes of Care Journeys](#)

Designated Professionals Training Offer



Contact Us

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HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report

Committee:	Corporate Parenting Board
Date:	8 November 2023
Title:	Hampshire's Readiness to meet Recommendations from Phase 2 Report: Child Safeguarding Review Panel – Safeguarding Children with Disabilities and Complex Health Needs in Residential Settings
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Hampshire's readiness and current compliance in respect to the nine recommendations and eight supplementary recommendations contained within the phase two report from the Child Safeguarding Review Panel – [Safeguarding Children with Disabilities and Complex Health Needs in Residential Settings](#).

Recommendation

2. That the Corporate Parenting Board notes the report and is further assured by the work being undertaken locally by Hampshire partners in response to the national reports from the Child Safeguarding Review Panel.

Executive Summary

3. The Child Safeguarding Review Panel has undertaken a national review of children with disabilities and complex health needs in residential settings. This was in response to the experiences of children and young adults with this high level of need who had been placed at three residential settings run by the Hesley Group in Doncaster, where they experienced significant neglect, abuse and harm.
4. The review has been undertaken in two parts and this report is in response to the publication of phase two. The Corporate Parenting Board has previously been presented with a paper in response to phase one that provided assurance to the Board on the assurance framework in place for Hampshire children in such settings. The phase two report from the National Panel included nine recommendations and eight supplementary recommendations and this report is effectively a position statement of where

Hampshire is currently situated in response to those recommendations. It is worth noting that many of the recommendations are national in scope, and therefore beyond the control of Hampshire to deliver. Many will require further detail or guidance from national bodies before we can fully explore their implications.

5. This report demonstrates that Hampshire Children's Services and partners are in a strong position to fulfil what is currently known about both the nine national recommendations and eight supplementary recommendations. Whilst many of the recommendations require further detail and guidance from national bodies before we can be confident in what they mean, we can be confident about some of them. Specifically, the recommendations about having an advocacy process in place, whether our SENDIASS contract is well established, that the role of our Quality Outcome Contract Monitoring (QOCM) is strong and being further developed and there are both established and further emerging joint processes of assurance with our health colleagues.
6. Possible areas of development following further guidance and clarity may indicate an expansion of the current advocacy service, while Hampshire Childrens Services are currently able to meet demand, a significant increase in demand as a result of the recommendations would require an increase in commissioning of services. SENDIASS are currently reviewing their processes, it is important they consider the detail of the recommendations in their review to ensure compliance. Where statutory guidance is recommended, for example recommendation 3, when it is forthcoming Hampshire partners will need to ensure they are ready to respond to any consultations and latterly implement resulting guidance.

Contextual information

Introduction

7. On 23 August 2022, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel wrote to all Directors of Children's Services (DCS's) asking them to undertake two urgent actions arising from phase one of their national review into safeguarding children with disabilities and complex health needs in residential settings.
8. On 28 March 2023 a report was submitted to the Corporate Parenting Board, having reviewed the above request, the actions required were undertaken and evidenced within the report. The Corporate Parenting Board were assured that all Hampshire children in such settings were safe and adequately safeguarded and that Hampshire had sufficient processes in place to maintain this assurance or respond quickly and appropriately if issues were identified.

9. In April 2023 the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel Phase 2 report was released. This report contained nine national recommendations and nine supplementary recommendations.
10. This report reviews how Hampshire partners are situated in regard to the nine national recommendations and nine supplementary recommendations, and what further actions are required in order either be compliant or prepare to be compliant following a further national response.
11. There has been consultation with a wide variety of partners, including various Children's Services and health colleagues.

Recommendations & Response

12. The phase two report contained the following recommendations, below each is how Hampshire partners are either currently meeting the recommendation or what is in place to meet the recommendation:
13. Recommendation 1: All children with disabilities and complex health needs should have access to independently commissioned, non-instructed advocacy from advocates with specialist training to actively safeguard children and respond to their communication and other needs.
14. Hampshire Children's Services currently has commissioning arrangements in place for an advocacy service, these arrangements are jointly commissioned with Adults, Care and Health. The Authority are currently able to meet the demand for advocacy however, this is being reviewed due to the contract currently being refreshed and this process is undertaken every three years providing a helpful review point to ensure sufficiency.
15. Recommendation 2: Where an admission to a residential placement for 38 weeks or more is being considered, children, young people and their parents should have access to advice and support through their jointly commissioned and suitably resourced local Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service, with allocation of a 'navigator' to work with the family where this is identified as being necessary.
16. Hampshire has a Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) contract. The service uses caseworkers rather than navigators but the function is essentially the same. However, currently children would only be allocated a caseworker if they met their eligibility criteria and a 38-week placement or more does not currently provide standalone eligibility for a caseworker.
17. SENDIASS at the behest of our commissioners are currently reviewing their criteria, they are considering including placements over 38 weeks as a trigger to consider if more support is needed to navigate the process.

18. Recommendation 3: Local authorities and ICBs should be required in statutory guidance developed by the Department for Education and NHS England to jointly commission safe, sufficient, and appropriate provision for children with disabilities and complex health needs aligned with local inclusion plans and planning for care through Regional Care Cooperatives.
19. This is not currently in statutory guidance and the detail is as yet unknown. However, Hampshire Children's Services and the ICB pursue joint commissioning opportunities under the umbrella of the Joint Commissioning Board (JCB) and are also currently further integrating their commissioning arrangements to include services for this cohort of children. As further information emerges from the national stage, the JCB will ensure that we are best placed to respond quickly and appropriately.
20. Recommendation 4: The DfE, DHSC and NHS England should co-ordinate a support programme for commissioners in local authorities and ICBs, focusing on improvements in forecasting, procurement, and market shaping.

Hampshire Children's Services have recently completed a sufficiency strategy that covers the next five years up to 2027 (based on last full year data available 2021/22). There is a senior manager who has the strategic lead for this work and the forecasting used for the strategy was developed by using a tool developed specifically for the purpose. There is lots of confidence in this tool and the data it provides, using national modelling and local knowledge. The strategy will be revised and refreshed annually and is reported on regularly to the directorate Management Team. If and when a national support programme is developed, we will engage with that programme.

21. Recommendation 5: Local and sub-regional initiatives to improve the quality and range of provision in the community and in schools for children with disabilities and complex health needs should be priorities for inclusion in the government's pathfinder programmes in children's social care and SEND.
22. Commissioning related to support services, respite and domiciliary care is led by Hampshire Children's Services. Contracts and frameworks are currently in place and there is a quality assurance framework applied to these services. The contracts and frameworks are reviewed regularly and discussions with the market take place where sufficiency issues arise fed by feedback from our operational teams. Hampshire Children's Services and the ICB are currently developing a more joined up approach to commissioning some of these services.
23. Recommendation 6: The government should commission the development of an integrated strategy for the children's workforce in residential settings, to include leadership development, workforce standards and training.
24. Hampshire Children's Services has a robust programme of workforce development for our in-house residential settings, though we have no in-

house provision for this cohort of children. Any support from a national integrated strategy will be welcome and engaged with. We are awaiting the details and are in a position to contribute to consultations.

25. Recommendation 7: National leadership and investment by providers are urgently required to address the longstanding challenges in recruiting, retaining, and developing a skilled workforce in residential settings.
26. As described above Hampshire Childrens Services has a programme of work to tackle these issues locally and will welcome the opportunity to participate in consultations and engage with a national response.
27. Recommendation 8: Systems for the early identification of safeguarding risks in residential settings should be strengthened through an enhanced role for host local authorities and ICBs in the oversight of residential settings in their area.
28. Hampshire partners have a developed a Quality outcome contract monitoring (QOCM) process. We are able to identify and respond to any issues where Hampshire children are placed and respond to those providers offering services within the Hampshire boundaries whether Hampshire children are involved or not. Whilst this process continues to be developed under a continuous improvement programme, we are confident that Hampshire partners are ahead of the game in this regard compared to our neighbours.
29. Recommendation 9: The DfE and DHSC should (a) review and revise the regulatory framework for residential settings to reduce complexity and improve the impact of the current arrangements for monitoring, quality assurance and oversight; (b) take immediate steps to establish arrangements for joint inspection by Ofsted and CQC of residential settings for children with disabilities and complex health needs.
30. Hampshire partners will take a view on the proposals when they have been developed and published.

Supplementary Recommendations & Response

31. Supplementary recommendations These are recommendations to be taken forward through national implementation plans or local partnerships.
32. Supplementary Recommendation 1: To ensure that practitioners understand the requirements for legally compliant practice in relation to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards local authorities, health services and residential settings should review their current systems, procedures, and practice to determine their readiness for meeting the requirements under this framework.
33. Hampshire Children's Services primarily take the lead in most DOLs applications at the current time. A training offer is in place and has been

delivered widely. In-house legal support is also available and accessed regularly. Preliminary discussions have been held at the JCB in advance of the replacement for DOLs, the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) but implementation of these have now been delayed nationally. The JCB will gather the information required and consider how such a review might be undertaken before the end of the year.

34. Supplementary Recommendation 2: The specification for the Regional Care Cooperative pathfinders should include measures to improve commissioning for children with disabilities and complex health needs.
35. Hampshire Children's Services and partners will contribute to the development of Regional Care Cooperatives and the associated frameworks when those opportunities arise, however, it is still very early days and currently, we are only beginning to be involved in the preliminary work.
36. Supplementary Recommendation 3: The Families First for Children pathfinders should include programmes focused specifically on the development of integrated provision in the community and in schools for children with disabilities and complex health needs.
37. The FFC pathfinder was announced in February 2023 as part of the government's children's social care implementation strategy, Stable homes, built on love. It responds to recommendations from the Independent review of children's social care, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel report on child protection in England and the Competitions and Market Authority's market study of children's social care provision. The pathfinder will test delivery of key strategy commitments. Whilst Hampshire Children's Services are not pathfinders, we are in the process of developing and rolling out a Family Help model, this will result in a more integrated service, removing the division between Tier 3 and Tier 4 services and developing a more community hub-based model of delivery.
38. Supplementary Recommendation 4: All children with disabilities and complex health needs who are on a pathway for admission to residential placement longer than 38 weeks per year should be part of a Care, Education and Treatment Review process. No decision should be made without multi-agency agreement and commitment.
39. Hampshire partners utilise the Care Education and Treatment Review (CETR) process. Hampshire Children's Services and ICB colleagues have recently agreed to review the integration of the CETR process with assessment planning and review processes required for all children with a social worker. The intent is to improve multi-agency decision making and remove duplication. This recommendation has been included in that work to ensure that multi-agency agreement and commitment is in place for all children in this cohort.

40. Supplementary Recommendation 5: To assist the understanding of all staff, statutory guidance about the inherent risks from 'closed cultures' should be included in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'.
41. Hampshire partners welcome any measure that improves understanding of the risks that can arise in some residential settings and care provision. Hampshire partners fully engage in the QOCM process described above which provides assurance and scrutiny to placements. In addition, Hampshire Children's Services have taken learning from some of the audit and scrutiny work undertaken for the phase one report and have revised our tools and processes as a result. It is important that visits to young people in residential establishments include checks of the young persons records, ensuring the care plan is followed and incident reports are reviewed and questioned where appropriate.
42. Supplementary Recommendation 6: Practice leadership should form the basis for a national programme of leadership development for leaders and senior managers in residential settings for children and young people.
43. Hampshire partners support a programme of development for leaders and senior managers in residential settings and will contribute to the development as and when the opportunity arises.
44. Supplementary Recommendation 7: A SEND practice guide for practitioners working with children with disabilities and complex health needs should be one of the first three SEND practice guides produced under the SEND/AP Improvement Plan.
45. Hampshire partners recognise the benefits of a SEND practice guide for practitioners working with children with disabilities and complex health needs and will contribute to the development of this as and when the opportunity arises.
46. Supplementary Recommendation 8: The process for developing national SEND standards should be aligned with the work already underway relating to standards in children's social care so that they are completed in a timely way for residential special schools as well as children's homes.
47. Hampshire partners will contribute to the development of such standards as and when the opportunity arises.

Finance

48. N/A

Performance

49. N/A

Consultation and Equalities

50. N/A

Climate Change Impact Assessment

51. N/A

Findings and Conclusions

52. Hampshire partners are well positioned to meet the recommendations that we can meet, through both already established processes and ongoing work within the Authority. There is an advocacy process in place, our SENDIASS contract is well established and already considering using placements over 38 weeks as a trigger to consider if additional support is required.
53. Hampshire partners are already working to further integrate our commissioning arrangements, including for this cohort of children. Hampshire Children's Services have developed a sufficiency strategy using reliable forecasting tools and is able to ensure decision making is informed and evidence based.
54. The JCB provides an effective vehicle for the development of further integration of commissioning and associated arrangements between local partners.
55. Hampshire partners have developed the QOCM process and continue to refine it to ensure we are well placed to identify and manage safeguarding concerns in local establishments or wherever Hampshire children are placed.
56. Where there are nationally led standards and frameworks being considered, Hampshire partners are in a good position to contribute to the discussions and help shape the future arrangements.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	No
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy, and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	No
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

None

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation).
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic.
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it.
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

**Hampshire's Readiness to meet
Recommendations from Phase 2 Report:
Child Safeguarding Review Panel –
Safeguarding Children with Disabilities and
Complex Health Needs in Residential Settings**

Introduction

Phase 2 of National Panel Report in to CYP with disabilities & complex needs in residential settings

Phase 1 reports were completed and were presented to the Corporate Parenting Board in March 2023

Phase 2 Report included:

- 9 recommendations
- 8 supplementary recommendations

Current position statement of Hampshire partners

*Many recommendations relate to national activity and we await further information / development

Recommendation 1

All children with disabilities and complex health needs should have access to independently commissioned, non-instructed advocacy from advocates with specialist training to actively safeguard children and respond to their communication and other needs.

- Hampshire Children's Services have commissioning arrangements in place
- Sufficient to meet current demand
- Able to expand if demand increases
- Note Advocacy can be offered but does not have to be taken up

Recommendation 2

- Where an admission to a residential placement for 38 weeks or more is being considered, children, young people and their parents should have access to advice and support through their jointly commissioned and suitably resourced local Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service, with allocation of a ‘navigator’ to work with the family where this is identified as being necessary.
 - SENDIASS contract in place
 - Caseworkers instead of navigators
 - Contract being reviewed in light of 38-week criteria – not a standalone trigger yet
 - There remains a question about whether all family’s need/want this

Recommendation 3

Local authorities and ICBs should be required in statutory guidance developed by the Department for Education and NHS England to jointly commission safe, sufficient, and appropriate provision for children with disabilities and complex health needs aligned with local inclusion plans and planning for care through Regional Care Cooperatives.

- No guidance has emerged yet
- Joint Commissioning arrangements in place (JCB)
- Current work is further integrating these arrangements

Recommendation 4

The DfE, DHSC and NHS England should co-ordinate a support programme for commissioners in local authorities and ICBs, focusing on improvements in forecasting, procurement, and market shaping.

- No programme emerged yet
- Hampshire partners in a good place
- Forecast data modelling in place
- Market shaping activity underway
- Sufficiency strategies in place or close to sign off

Recommendation 5

Local and sub-regional initiatives to improve the quality and range of provision in the community and in schools for children with disabilities and complex health needs should be priorities for inclusion in the government's pathfinder programmes in children's social care and SEND.

- Joint commissioning arrangements in place
- Awaiting further guidance and Pathfinder information
- Will consider compliance with future guidance as it emerges

Recommendation 6

The government should commission the development of an integrated strategy for the children's workforce in residential settings, to include leadership development, workforce standards and training.

- No guidance emerged yet
- Hampshire Children's Services doing lots of work in this area under MPP and BAU – though no in-house settings for this cohort

Recommendation 7

National leadership and investment by providers are urgently required to address the longstanding challenges in recruiting, retaining, and developing a skilled workforce in residential settings.

- As above
- No guidance emerged yet
- Hampshire Children's Services doing lots of work in this area under MPP and BAU – though no in-house settings for this cohort

Recommendation 8

Systems for the early identification of safeguarding risks in residential settings should be strengthened through an enhanced role for host local authorities and ICBs in the oversight of residential settings in their area.

- Local Systems and Processes in place
- QOCM – Quality Oversight and Contract Monitoring meeting
- Current review underway
- Clarity of roles and remits required – emerging area

Recommendation 9

The DfE and DHSC should (a) review and revise the regulatory framework for residential settings to reduce complexity and improve the impact of the current arrangements for monitoring, quality assurance and oversight; (b) take immediate steps to establish arrangements for joint inspection by Ofsted and CQC of residential settings for children with disabilities and complex health needs

- Hampshire partners will take a view on the proposals when they have been developed and published.

Supplementary recommendation 2

The specification for the Regional Care Cooperative pathfinders should include measures to improve commissioning for children with disabilities and complex health needs.

- Exploring local engagement with Pathfinder
- Further guidance to be developed
- Will consider further when produced

Supplementary recommendation 1

To ensure that practitioners understand the requirements for legally compliant practice in relation to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards local authorities, health services and residential settings should review their current systems, procedures, and practice to determine their readiness for meeting the requirements under this framework

- LA has arrangements in place
- Planned to be discussed at JCB
- LPS (Liberty Protection Safeguards) delayed

Supplementary recommendation 3

The Families First for Children pathfinders should include programmes focused specifically on the development of integrated provision in the community and in schools for children with disabilities and complex health needs.

- Hampshire not a pathfinder
- Already locally planning for Family Help
- Will consider guidance and progress of pathfinders as it emerges

Supplementary recommendation 4

All children with disabilities and complex health needs who are on a pathway for admission to residential placement longer than 38 weeks per year should be part of a Care, Education and Treatment Review process. No decision should be made without multi-agency agreement and commitment.

- Multi-agency decision making already in place for most children
- CETR processes currently under review to integrate better with social care regulatory requirements – assessment, planning and review

Supplementary recommendation 5

To assist the understanding of all staff, statutory guidance about the inherent risks from 'closed cultures' should be included in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'.

- More guidance welcome
- QOCM and associated processes in place
- Learning from phase 1 audit already implemented
- Social work visiting guidance already revised

Supplementary recommendation 6

Practice leadership should form the basis for a national programme of leadership development for leaders and senior managers in residential settings for children and young people.

- As above
- Will look forward to the development of a national programme

Supplementary recommendation 7

A SEND practice guide for practitioners working with children with disabilities and complex health needs should be one of the first three SEND practice guides produced under the SEND/AP Improvement Plan.

- Included in SEND Plan
- Further guidance also anticipated

Supplementary recommendation 8

The process for developing national SEND standards should be aligned with the work already underway relating to standards in children's social care so that they are completed in a timely way for residential special schools as well as children's homes.

- Guidance not yet published for consultation
- Will consider when it arrives and provide local response

Conclusion

- Hampshire in a good place
- Some work to do
- Lots more guidance / information to come