

Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	28/11/18
Originator	East Lothian Children's Strategic Partnership
Originator's Ref (if any)	
Document Title	Children and Young People Services Plan 2017- 18 Annual Performance Report

Please indicate if access to the document is to be "unrestricted" or "restricted", with regard to the terms of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

Unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------	-------------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

If the document is "restricted", please state on what grounds (click on grey area for drop-down menu):

For Publication

Additional information:

As set out under section 13(1) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, a local authority and the relevant health board must publish an annual report on the extent that children's and related services have been provided.

Authorised By	Judith Tait
Designation	Chair of CSP
Date	28 November 2018

For Office Use Only:	
Library Reference	180/18
Date Received	04/12/18
Bulletin	Dec18

2018

East Lothian Children's Services Plan Annual Report 2017-18

East Lothian Partnership

East Lothian Children's Services Plan Annual Report 2017-18

Introduction

The East Lothian Children and Young People's Services Plan 2017 to 2020 is our partnership commitment to every child and young person in East Lothian. We want our children and young people to be safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected and responsible and included.

An annual report on the implementation of Children's Services Plans is required under the Scottish Government Statutory Guidance on Part 3 (Children's Services Planning) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. This annual report must be published jointly by each local authority and partner health service i.e. within East Lothian, by East Lothian Council and NHS Lothian.

This is our first annual report for East Lothian Children's Services Plan and reports performance for the year 2017/2018.

Our Vision for Children's Services

The East Lothian Children and Young People's Services Plan 2017 -2020 described the vision for East Lothian, and values and principles we would work to as a partnership.

Underpinning our vision and values are the eight indicators of wellbeing in children and young people: that they are safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, respected, responsible and included (sometimes referred to for short as 'Wellbeing Indicators'). The 2017-2020 plan was structured using the eight wellbeing areas, with key aims, performance indicators and actions.

In section 3 of our plan, we highlighted core aspects of services for all children and young people to prioritise in the years 2017 – 2020. These were:

- Early Years - East Lothian's children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
- East Lothian's Young Workforce – "Positive Destinations"- Scottish Government's 16+ Learning Choices initiative ensures that all young people leaving school, leave with an offer of a positive destination
- Corporate Parenting – the outcomes of looked after children and young people match the outcomes of other children
- Children are safe – we will work together to keep children and young people safe embedding the Signs of Safety approach in the assessment of risks and needs for vulnerable children and young people

- Children and young people's mental health – will be a focus for early intervention and prevention as young people tell us this is a priority for them, reducing pressure on CAMHS provision
- Additional Support Needs and Disability – children with a disability make appropriate progress taking into account their age, aptitude and abilities.

These priorities share a number of cross-cutting themes including:

- Participation and service-user involvement
- Transition
- Training and development
- Prevention and Early Intervention

In the following report we:

- Review our 2017-2018 performance against the eight wellbeing sections of our plan.
- We lay out our revised priorities for 2018/19 and the rationale for this.
- Describe how we have been involving children and young people in our work.
- Highlight next steps for our Children's Partnership.

What is the data and feedback telling us?

1. Safe

Signs of Safety

To ensure that children who have been identified as being at risk of harm are being kept safe, the Signs of Safety Action Plan 2014-19 committed working with families to ensure all child plans make a practical difference by being outcomes focused and specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-based (SMART). The action plan has been implemented early and a few outstanding tasks transferred to the East Lothian Child Protection (CP) Improvement Plan. Further development of multi-agency SMART plan training was taken on by Public Protection Office. In 2017/18, all East Lothian children on the Child Protection Register had a SMART plan. Auditing of CP files over the year has identified areas for improvement and training is in progress. This progress is monitored on a quarterly basis through the public protection performance framework. Multi-agency training was developed following the results of the audit of plans.

Child Protection Register

There were 62 children on the Child Protection Register as at 31 March 2018. Of these, 25 children (40%) were under two years old. Nine children were on the Register because of parental substance misuse (36%). The number of East Lothian children on the Register as a rate per 1,000 is high, for the first time in many years (where our average over the last 10 years has been 54), currently at 3.3 set against a national average of 3.0 but that total is expected to fall again in line with trend data. There are an unusually high number of large sibling groups on the register. Less than 9% of children had been on a register before and only one fifth of registrations last more than six months. All East Lothian children on the Child Protection Register had a SMART plan. Auditing of child protection files over the year has identified areas for improvement and training is in progress. This progress is monitored on a quarterly basis through the public protection performance framework.

Radicalisation

Some young people are particularly at risk of radicalisation. Both types of Child Protection 1 courses (face-to-face and e-learning sessions) incorporate a brief introduction to radicalisation prevention taking account of the new legislation and there is a separate stand-alone workshop (Raising Awareness of Prevent) being delivered, again, face-to-face and by e-learning. During 2017/18 87 Education staff attended face-to-face Prevent training workshops. Of this figure, 68 were newly qualified teachers. 117 staff completed the Prevent module via the e-learning module on LearnPro during the same period.

Pregnancy support

We wanted to improve the outcome that women are supported during pregnancy and during the postnatal period. To do that we needed to develop a better understanding of the reasons behind non-engagement during pregnancy. There is now an ongoing programme of work at an NHS Lothian level to look at barriers to early booking. As part of our Best Start

Maternity and Neonatal Care early adopter work, we are beginning pilots on continuity of carer. The Scottish 2015 Maternity Care Survey (2015) identifies high quality relationship-based care as one of the areas that improves patient engagement and satisfaction. This will allow women to be seen by the same midwife, or a small team of midwives, from the antenatal through the postnatal period and help build the relationship with the midwife and improve engagement.

The current Local Development Plan (LDP) target (formerly HEAT target) for antenatal booking is that at least 80 per cent of pregnant women in each SIMD (Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation) quintile will have booked for antenatal care by the 12th week of gestation. This suggests that the work that we have undertaken with signposting to and improving waiting times for our antenatal booking line has been effective.

Pregnant women with substance misuse issues

Pregnant women with substance misuse issues are referred to our partners in the third sector, Circle, in East Lothian. Circle work with a whole family approach including fathers as needed; that includes other children in the family as well. The service continues through six months postnatal. However, if further support is needed, they can be referred onto 'Families affected by Parental Substance Misuse' another whole family support service offered by Circle. They do practical things such as planning for baby's arrival, including grants for equipment, as well as working with midwifery to help them understand the effects of methadone on the baby. They focus on breaking down the barriers to get families to understand what the best thing is for family. Pregnancy is a good time to get in and help families make positive health changes. Circle also offer support for families to access housing and benefit support. Circle support the mother to make positive changes to keep the families together.

Low birthweight babies

The percentage of babies born at low birth weight in East Lothian are consistently higher than the Scottish average and are rising. The reason for this change warrants further investigation, but probably relates to differences in demographics (e.g. maternal age).

Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding at first visit and at 6-8 weeks has shown a small increasing trend since 2013 in East Lothian which coincides with work by NHS Lothian with UNICEF to meet Baby Friendly Standards. This was achieved at the start of this year.

Care experienced young people and housing

Care experienced young people were telling us of the critical importance of housing provision in their own lives. The Council, through the Corporate Parenting Plan, is committed to investing multi-agency resources to create more specialist housing provision and emergency housing provision for care leavers. Eighty-four per cent of young people aged 8-17 that are looked after and accommodated report they feel safe where they live. The remaining 16% of young people report that they feel "just about" safe.

Anti-bullying

The Anti-Bullying Working Group has finalised a new policy 'Respect for All; East Lothian Anti-Bullying Policy' which was approved by Education Committee on 13th June 2017. The group was advised by 'Respect me' Scotland's national anti-bullying service. Extensive consultation with parents, children/young people, teaching staff, school management and partner organisations has been ongoing throughout the development of the policy. The policy has been presented at the HT conference. This new policy supported by 'Respect me' Scotland's national anti-bullying service will be embedded through a series training presentations and cascaded within Education and Early Learning and Childcare Settings to staff, pupils, parents and parent councils during 2017/18. Partnership agencies will also be informed of the implementation of the Policy.

Car exclusion zones

We wanted to explore widening the extension of car exclusion zones at/near schools to reduce road traffic accidents involving children and young people. This is called the 'school streets' programme and involves traffic restrictions in certain streets near a school. The school streets programme was piloted in two locations in East Lothian in Haddington and Dunbar and these are now permanent. A five-year road safety plan has been developed and was being implemented and monitored by the Road Safety Working Group incorporating delivery of Active School Travel at all schools with the support of the ELC Road Services including close collaboration between school communities and Road Services to address school gate congestion and SaferRoutes to School issues. Cycle training (Bikeability, Cycling Scotland) has been delivered in primary schools, including:

- Emphasis on on-road training where appropriate
- Training to leaders /teachers leading Levels 1 and 2 training to primary school pupils. Deliver road safety at nurseries and schools as promoted in 'RoadSafety within Curriculum for Excellence'
- "Ziggy" -an early years resource
Streetsense2" ," Junior Road Safety Officer" , "Theatre in Education" schemes in Primary Schools
- "Your Call", "Crash Magnets" and "2MOROsDriver" in Secondary Education.

2. Healthy

Weight/obesity

The percentage of children in Primary 1 who are overweight or obese has remained relatively stable over the last 10 years and is reflective of the national average. Scottish Government has pledged to reduce childhood obesity by 50% by 2030. This year they are rolling out the Healthier Future Delivery Plan which aims to support the nation achieving this ambitious target.

Dental care

The percentage of children registered with a dentist at 0-2 years stands at 48.7%. Work has been progressing to increase this figure but further approaches are required. East Lothian

figure is above the Scottish average of 47.6% for 0 – 2 year olds. Health is working with Childsmile to identify children not registered with a dentist.

Teenage pregnancy

At present teenage pregnancy rates in East Lothian continue to decrease from 65/1000 in 2007 to 36.6 in 2018 but is above the Scottish average and the highest teenage pregnancy rate in NHS Lothian. However, as East Lothian has a relatively small population there is a low precision around this estimate.

Smoking

The smoking rate in pregnant women in East Lothian has consistently declined since 2011 (19%). Smoking is discussed and carbon monoxide testing carried out – where levels are raised mothers are offered referral to smoking cessation and additional growth scans.

Children affected by domestic violence

Women's Aid East & Midlothian (WAEML) offers access to safe housing for women and children affected by domestic violence. Whilst a family lives in the refuge accommodation they are offered support from a named key worker, this key worker will support their transition from refuge into new accommodation for a period of up to six months.

- Between 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018 there were 16 women and 14 children and young people provided safe accommodation in East Lothian.
- During 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018 there were 6 flats available for families - during this period:
 - 16 women and 14 stayed in refuge accommodation
 - 92% occupancy rate was observed during the reporting period
 - The average length of stay in refuge accommodation (East Lothian) is 221 days

WAEML took responsibility for an additional four flats in East Lothian from 1 July 2018; this now ensures that up to 10 families at any one time can be offered refuge accommodation within East Lothian.

What we have achieved

Reducing maternal stress/harm to children

As part of our plan to reduce maternal stress and resulting harm to unborn child, all women are asked about gender-based violence at antenatal booking and throughout pregnancy by the use of Routine Inquiry. There has been success in boosting uptake in Healthy Start vouchers in the past, but this has become ever more challenging with introduction of Universal Credit in East Lothian. We are exploring capacity for welfare rights advice in East Lothian, for referrals from midwife or health visitor, but that work is at an early stage and would require additional resource.

Improving infant feeding

The East Lothian Infant Feeding Adviser and their team are progressing work towards UNICEF accreditation in the community. They achieved the second stage in November,

receiving excellent feedback, and they are on target with training, audit and wider support of staff both in Health Visiting Teams and beyond for full accreditation in November of the coming year.

In addition to this work the IFA and their team support breastfeeding in the wider communities within East Lothian by:

- administration and monitoring of a Breastfeeding Friendly award for health, council, third sector and business premises
- providing training to council & private nurseries as well as GP practices
- leading the development and support of breastfeeding support groups across East Lothian localities
- managing the breast pump loan service
- planned reinstatement of the peer support service as well as raising awareness through talks and events and supporting community based information sessions.

Healthy Start vitamins and vouchers: vitamin receipt for children has increased very substantially since a local change in rules since early 2016, where vitamins are offered to all eligible families from birth. Voucher receipt increased during 2014 and 2015 but has fallen very dramatically during 2016 and 2017 since the introduction of Universal Credit. We are exploring options with the community midwife team and welfare rights advisers.

Extra support to families and looked-after children

East Lothian midwives do not have access to the specialist Prepare team in Edinburgh but, via Support from the Start, have access to Family Support Workers who can offer extra support to families who are vulnerable and need help and advice with accessing services.

All women are asked about substance use, including alcohol and smoking, at antenatal booking and are provided with advice and support depending on individual circumstances.

The Family Nurse Partnership, for first time mothers-to-be aged 20 and under, was rolled out in East Lothian during 2016. We have implemented the Health Visiting programme of review; collect and analyse review data to shape pre-school service. The review has been implemented and the additional 13-15 month reviews have recently started. Data from the 27-30 month reviews shows that currently 82% are being carried out. We wanted to ensure that Looked After children's health is similar to that of all children by ensuring that all Looked After Children have an up to date physical and mental health assessment by the LAC Nursing Team within 4 weeks of the team receiving notification of a young person in placement.

The Nursing Team for children and young people that are looked after is notified by the local authority that child /young is looked after. The LAC Nursing team contact social worker for background information and then arrange to see the child/young person. All children/young people are offered an assessment within four weeks from receiving notification. Eighty-nine per cent of referrals are seen within four weeks.

ASD diagnosis and support

We were aware that we needed to improve the timeliness of diagnosis and support for autism. Progress was made in providing support to families at the diagnosis and post diagnostic stage. An Autism Post Diagnosis worker is now in post and provides families with Consultancy support and runs Post Diagnosis Family Information sessions. These sessions have been well received by parents. Many parents report that it has helped them find out what services and support are available in East Lothian.

Mental Health First Aid

All Educational Psychology Service staff have completed their training in Mental Health First Aid. The strategies and information learned is being used in casework and consultations with parents, children and young people and staff across all East Lothian Schools.

CAHMS

There is currently a pressure on the mental health system in East Lothian due to the number of referrals to CAMHS and the inconsistency across the locality for community based supports. This means that children and young people are not given parity of support depending on location. This also means that there is concern about how long young people are waiting for services and the levels of support being asked of by universal or community based staff. The East Lothian CAMHS developed information for referrers which lists these supports. Resilience training is being introduced to front line staff, corporate parents and others in daily contact with young people.

3. Achieving

Children with developmental/wellbeing concerns

We wanted to reduce the percentage of children with a developmental or wellbeing concern at 27-30 month assessment. The figure for East Lothian is 15% compared with a national figure of 17.7%, making East Lothian the second lowest authority in Scotland with developmental concerns. The Scottish Universal Health Visiting Pathway is being implemented along with increased numbers of trained Health Visitors within the locality. There is ongoing improvement work across NHS Lothian via the Children and Young People's Improvement Collaborative.

Early education

An estimated 99% of the 3 to 4 year old population in East Lothian attended funded early learning and childcare provision in 2017/18. Of those, 80.5% attended a local authority provision.

154 applications were received of which 135 met the qualifying criteria. This equates to 62% of the SG predicated 217 two year olds in East Lothian eligible for a place.

Children's University

Our flagship primary schools engagement project, Queen Margaret University's Children's University, continues to grow each year. With over 3,500 local pupils from 30 partner

schools now taking part throughout East Lothian and Midlothian, the project was embedded into the University Widening Participation programme as well as the over-arching strategy of the University.

Play policy

A play policy for East Lothian has been developed following a wide consultation with children and parents. The policy was launched at Elphinstone primary in 2017 and an action plan is being developed.

Children's play is dependent on the quality of space and places available. East Lothian Council has a Play Champion who is a senior manager with the additional responsibility to champion children's right to play. The Early Learning and Childcare Team is developing additional facilities in preparation for 1,140 hours Early Learning and Childcare - this includes outdoor classrooms and better use of outdoor space at nurseries and schools.

Consultation showed that children and young people want more challenging play opportunities. Challenging and good quality play fosters resilience. East Lothian Play Association and the Early Learning and Childcare Team are working with the Amenities department and communities to upgrade parks to provide more interesting and challenging play experiences which include more natural areas. Better play amenities are valued assets and can foster opportunities to enhance a sense of community.

School-leaver positive destinations

School leaver positive destinations peaked at 94% (increase of 0.5% on last year high). We were the second most improved Authority in Scotland for participation measure an increase of 2.5% to 93.1% (2% above national average). Looked After positive destinations increased from 66.25% to 83.3% (National 76.4%) and ASN increase from 85.9% to 90.6% (National 89.4%).

4. Nurtured

Kinship care (kincare)

The number of children and young people in Formal kincare has fallen over the last three years and is under half the national average rate. At the same time, the number of children and young people in Informal kin care has increased. A shift in the way kin carers are paid is a big factor in this position as there are currently 113 children and young people in formal and informal care. The target for looked after children in formal kincare is 30% of all looked after children. The target appears unrealistic in the light of the new payment system which is going to mean that we have more and more children in Informal kin care arrangements at the expense of looked after children in Formal kin care.

Children looked after away from home

In 2017/18, 72% of young people looked after away from home aged 8-17 reported that they feel settled where they live all the time whilst 28% of care experienced young people aged 8-17 reported that they “feel settled where they live” most of the time.

East Lothian has two six bedded residential units and a specialist facility called Hope House which is single occupancy. There were 12 young people in external placements at March 2018. Since 2015 the position has worsened and is drifting away from the 30% target for 2020. There has been considerable scrutiny on external placements but the rise is a consequence of an overall increase in looked after children and a fixed internal resource in East Lothian.

What we have achieved

Parity payments for foster carers

As part of the aim to ensure that children, including looked after children are cared for in their local communities, schools and families, the Kinship Care Steering Group concentrated on developing a new Policy following the COSLA / Scottish Government agreement on parity of payments with Foster Carers and the new statutory obligations. This Policy is on the East Lothian Council website.

Fostering recruitment

There is also a recruitment campaign to target the recruitment of foster carers for older young people and younger sibling groups. These are groups for which East Lothian were having difficulty finding suitable placements from within existing foster carers. Five families were recruited from that recruitment campaign.

Children's Fostering Respite Support Panel

The Children's Respite Support Panel process evidences good practice example of multidisciplinary working around Self Directed Support. All members of the Panel are committed to retaining involvement and we have adjusted frequency of meetings from monthly to bimonthly to achieve this.

Transitions

East Lothian Transitions Group and spreadsheet work is an example of positive multi-agency working and will enable better prediction of future need for children with a learning disability or severe and complex disability.

Parent Pathway

A 'parent pathway' for East Lothian provides key information on services for parents and early years children from birth to nursery. The document provides web links to follow up on detailed information.

In addition to universal services each cluster provides, on a rolling basis, access to Baby massage, Peep groups, Stay & Play and Raising Children with Confidence courses for parents.

Solihull approach

East Lothian health visiting services have trained two members of staff to deliver Solihull training. The training was funded by Support from the Start after a gap became evident with CAMHS staff no longer being able to provide staff to deliver the training. The two staff members are being released to deliver two course per year.

5. ACTIVE

PE Target

All our primary schools are meeting the PE target for primary pupils which equates to at least 2 hours per week of physical education. Our secondary schools are also meeting the PE target for S1-S4 pupils which is two periods of physical education per week.

Universal Credit

The introduction of Universal Credit has had an impact on a few Access to Leisure (ATL) categories which accounts for residents from specific target groups accessing local sport and leisure facilities at reduced rates (families on low income, single parents, unemployed persons 18+, adults with disabilities and long term sick). However, 3,427 residents from specific target groups accessed local sport and leisure facilities at reduced rates during the year.

Physical activity

To ensure our children are more physically confident and competent from the earliest age, and have more improve opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport and Physical Activity and improve the skill profile of the population, we have been working directly with schools and the community to plan and/or provide programmes of regular and frequent outdoor learning. The programmes are inclusive, sustainable, high quality and progressive with direct links to the relevant experiences and outcomes in Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) both at primary and secondary levels.

Raising attainment

Programmes have specific reference to raising attainment through physical literacy; using the active outdoors to help schools deliver numeracy; literacy; health and wellbeing.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Plan continues to be implemented by the Sports Development, Active Schools and Community Recreation teams. The focus of the plan remains to identify key actions to increase the number of children and young people from target groups accessing opportunities.

Disability

The Primary Disability Activity Programme (DAP) is offered to pupils in mainstream primary schools and the rollout of the Sports for All programme within secondary schools continues to develop and grow.

Partnership work with Scottish Disability Sport (SDS), Lothian Disability Sport (LDS) and third sector organisations (Team United) is providing further disability activities.

Girl-specific opportunities

We want to make sure that opportunities exist for girls to participate so we are measuring and reporting on participation in Active Schools programmes on a tri-annual basis. Sports Development offer girls specific opportunities within some programmes.

Poverty

Sport, Countryside and Leisure as a result of the Poverty Commission report aims to offer FREE access to Active Schools and Sports Development programmes for children and young people's from Low Income Families - who are in receipt of free schools meals and/or clothing grant.

The Support from the Start bursary scheme supported through the Community Sport Hubs also offers free places within local community sport clubs.

The School Sport Competition framework has been implemented to increase the number of pupils regularly taking part in competition at school and improve the pathway to regional and national level.

6. RESPECTED

Seven Golden Rules for Participation

The Children's Strategic Partnership signed up to the Scottish Children's Commissioner's for the Rights of Children and Young People's 'Seven Golden Rules for Participation'. These rules now inform East Lothian's approach to engaging children, young people and their families in service planning and delivery. Each school has received a copy of the Rules for Participation.

Champions Board

The East Lothian Champions Board is fully established and is into year three of its Life Changes Trust funding. The Champions Board has employed two care experienced young people into posts as Participation assistants and also has a development worker supporting its work. The Champions Board is working through eight priorities for change identified by young people. There are eight ambassadors at Head of Service/Senior Management level responsible for driving these priorities for change. Champions Board team of staff now have a participation plan that involves outreach work and using viewpoint as a way of getting wider representation from care experienced young people.

Viewpoint

During 2017/18, a total of 50 young people that are looked after completed a Viewpoint questionnaire. Viewpoint continues to be used as a tool to get the views of young people with care experience to inform their planning and review meeting. Take up of viewpoint continues to improve and 60 young people completed viewpoint in the last year. The aggregate data is reported on six monthly to social work teams, Children's Services Management Team and on an annual basis to the Children's Strategic Partnership. Viewpoint was also tested as a tool to get the views of young carers to help inform their young carer's statement. This test was received positively by young people.

In the School Experience of Education (SEE) survey, 80.8% of pupils feel they are treated fairly in school - a 1% drop on the previous year and an overall drop in trend over the last 5 years.

What we have achieved

UNCRC

The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils reporting they are aware of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) at 87.6% shows a 1.7% increase on the previous year and a relatively static trend over the last 5 years.

We wanted to ensure that all children understand their rights under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. East Lothian has in place a service level agreement in relation to Rights Respecting Schools promoted by UNICEF UK. This covers the costs for schools participating in the programme as well as access to curricular support. Those schools not specifically participating in this programme still include children's rights within the context of the curriculum. 34 out of 41 (83%) of East Lothian Schools are now registered with the Rights Respecting Schools Award programme. A number of schools are actively working on the first stage of the three tiered award system.

GIRFEC

The Education Service worked closely with Education Scotland to support staff to know and understand "Getting it right for every child" (GIRFEC), the Wellbeing Indicators and the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child. A new Education post was created which has children's rights within its remit.

To widen out the use of accessible communication tools for children and young people with additional support needs. We have agreement now from the Library Service and their IT department to install Boardmaker on computers in four libraries across East Lothian (Musselburgh, Tranent, Haddington and Dunbar).

Next Steps:

- Training on Boardmaker for library staff
- A 'Launch' to advertise the resource to families across East Lothian

- Audit of the use of the resource and a measure of the impact for families, CYP and also on the libraries. If there is a positive impact we will look for further funding to rollout the resource to other libraries in East Lothian.

7. RESPONSIBLE

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Three hundred and forty-nine people started a Duke of Edinburgh award and were taking part in volunteering as part of the award. During that period, 142 people achieved an award. Often, these awards take longer than a year to complete.

The value of Duke of Edinburgh Leaders' contributions to their community is £419,110. The value of East Lothian's young people participants' contributions to their community through the volunteering section is £25,815.

Saltire Awards

Saltire Awards is the Scottish Government's national youth volunteer awards. They celebrate, recognise and reward the commitment, contribution and achievements of young volunteers in Scotland, aged between 12 and 25.

Young people gain nationally recognised certificates, signed by Scottish Government Ministers, for the different amounts of volunteering they do. 258 East Lothian young people registered to the Saltire Awards - 541 Saltire Awards were achieved and 27,085 volunteering hours were contributed by young people (12 – 25 years).

- Ten Young people obtained Summit Awards (for outstanding achievement).
- Eight School Saltire Award Ceremonies were held.
- Ten Young people were appointed as Saltire Ambassadors and were actively involved in the delivery of the Awards including the Summit Award Panel and the promotion of the Awards to other young people.
- Four 'Ambassador' training sessions were held including a session on Podcasts and another on Participatory budgeting. They also had a team building day Coasteering!

Personal Bank Accounts

The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils who had a personal bank account in 2017/18 decreased by 3.9% points on the previous year and shows an overall drop in trend over the last 5 years.

Community involvement

The percentage of pupils agreeing that they have opportunities to get involved with local environmental issues increased slightly this year but is has remained relatively static around 62% over the last five years.

Behaviour at school

The percentage of pupils agreeing that most pupils behave well in school. The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils agreeing in 2017/18 decreased by 8.2% points on the previous year and shows an overall drop in trend over the last 5 years.

Substance misuse

Our focus for this wellbeing indicator was that children and young people would choose not to take illegal drugs, fewer of them would smoke, fewer teenagers would get pregnant and instead children and young people would engage positively with their communities.

8. INCLUDED

Young carers

The percentage of pupils who reported that they regularly helped to take care of someone in their family who is physically or mentally ill or has problems with drugs or alcohol was 30%. This level of caring from P6 and S2 pupils had been reported consistently over the previous last 5 years. It is important we take on board this high level of reported caring by children and young people. The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 will take effect from 1 April 2018 and is designed to support carers' health and wellbeing and help make caring more sustainable.

A young carers' multi-agency working group has been set up to support the implementation of the new Carers Act (Scotland) 2016 which places specific duties on the Local Authority in relation to Young Carers. For example the Local authority must prepare a 'Young Carers Statement' which identifies personal outcomes and needs and support to be provided to meet those needs. The group consists of SW (Children's Services & Adult), Education, Health, MELDAP, Community Learning and Development and the local Young Carers organisations (East Lothian Young Carers & Bridges Project). An awareness-raising event took place in March 2018 'Making the Hidden Visible' and was an opportunity for statutory and voluntary agencies to gain an understanding of what it means to be a young carer, hear from other Local Authorities as well as explore what else they can do to support young carers.

Direct payments

The number of children with a disability accessing direct payments has been increasing slowly over the last five years. We currently have 40 children who receive financial support to purchase their own care.

Enjoying school

79% of pupils agree that they enjoy being at school which is a 6% drop on last year's figure and part of a decline over the last five years.

Access to home internet

Ninety-eight per cent of pupils are able to use the internet in their home. The intention is to increase this high percentage still further those this level has remained relatively stable for the last 5 years.

Including disabled children and young people

We wanted to address the problems of inclusion for disabled children and young people and those with additional support needs (including looked after children and young people) both in relation to activities and sports and in relation to independent living provision. The 'Get Connected East Lothian' web page on the council and get connected Facebook page has been set up and provides families with information about activities in their local area that are inclusive to children and young people with additional support needs.

Our Priorities for 2018/19

Our three priority areas

The Children's Strategic Partnership has identified three priority areas for 2018/19 based on evidence, trends and outcome data for East Lothian. On review of the first year of the 2017 – 2020 plan and self-evaluating the effectiveness of the partnership and supporting delivery groups, the Children's Services partnership recognised that the broad scope of the 2017 - 2020 plan was not enabling partners and service delivery to focus sufficiently and drive forward fully integrated approaches to working and agreement was made to focus in on a smaller number of very specific areas for improvement for the next year that link with the overarching areas set out in the published plan:

- Getting it right for parents and babies pre-birth to perinatal
- Getting it right for teens – improving outcomes for vulnerable children and young people aged P7-S2
- Targeted places – putting Musselburgh Total Place into action.

Governance

We have strengthened the governance of the work of the CSP by re-focussing membership on senior leaders across key agencies who can make and take decisions and assigned a CSP sponsor for each of the work streams. We have also committed to developing our approach to joint strategic service commissioning in order to maximise opportunities to consider the totality of our resources and target our spend where it is needed most.

There are a further five cross cutting themes which will be considered by each of the new priority work streams and reported to the CSP:

- **GIRFEC**
The statutory guidance on children's services planning states that services should be provided in a way that promotes prevention and early intervention. GIRFEC will be the overarching context for the new priority work streams. Universal services in east Lothian have developed processes and systems to support the GIRFEC approach and staff are familiar and confident with the wellbeing indicators. However, there was agreement that services are likely to be at different places in terms of operational and strategic implementation and we need to assure ourselves that the systems and processes are working effectively. The Partnership will identify the factors which feature a strong leadership of GIRFEC.. As leaders we need to collectively set out / re-state the vision for GIRFEC and move to include broader partners. Joint training across partner agencies is a priority.
- **Improving mental health**
We set up a short life working group has been established to develop strategy, practice, ethos and wellbeing.

- **Corporate parenting**
Given the statutory obligation to report annually to the Scottish Government, we have a corporate parenting planning and delivery group.
- **Reducing child poverty**
We have produced our first Child Poverty annual report.
- **Engagement and participation**
with people who experience services should underpin all of the work of the Children's Strategic Partnership. The previous multi agency strategy will be audited and brought up to date.

How children and young people participated in 2017/18

Community planning

The East Lothian Community Planning Partnership values the engagement and participation of children, young people and their families in the planning and delivery of all services to Children and young people.

Seven Golden Rules for Participation

The Children's Strategic Partnership signed up to the 'Golden Rules for Participation'. These golden rules have been developed by the Scotland Commissioner for Children and Young Children and Young people through consultation with children and young people across Scotland. Every golden rule has a list of things to consider about children and young people's participation.

Champions Board

Representatives from user groups including the Champion's Board and Family Led Information Point (FLIP) sit on a number of multi-agency planning groups.

Champion's Board Priorities have been incorporated into the Corporate Parenting /Looked After Children action Plan. Reports from surveys including viewpoint and the student evaluation of experience survey are reported back to relevant planning groups and the Children's Strategic Partnership for further action.

Informing planning

The views of children, young people and their families informed the evidence base behind improvement actions within the Children's and Young People's Plan 2017 - 2018. There is a commitment shared by all partners to involve children, young people and their families in ongoing self-evaluation, monitoring and review of the plan.

How children, young people, parents and carers participated

During 2017/18 there was a range of mechanisms that support engagement and participation of children and young people and their families. These include:

- **Pupil Councils** are established in all Secondary Schools. These councils consider aspects of how the school is run and how it engages with its community and with a number of similar forums and consultation processes in primary schools.
- **Youth Councils** representing the six secondary schools, feed into consultations.
- **Who Cares? Scotland** provide independent advocacy and children's rights support to children and young people that are looked after and represent their views at an individual and strategic level. The Who Cares? Participation Workers support the involvement of care experienced young people in a range of local and national groups and events.
- The **East Lothian Champions Board** was launched in May 2015. It provides young people with care experience with a platform to have their voice heard. The Board is made up of three groups. The participation group is made of young people. The support group is made up of staff that support the young people in every way they can. The ambassador's group is made up of Heads of Services and Elected Members. These are Housing, Education, Police, Finance, Aftercare, Health & Well-being, Keeping Loved Ones Together and Employment.
- **Viewpoint** – Children's Wellbeing uses Viewpoint (Computer Assisted Interviewing Technology) as a tool to gain the views of children and young people. Results are used to inform their individual plans and reviews as well as multi agency service planning.
- **Student Evaluation of Experience Survey.** The Education Department undertakes a pupil evaluation survey on an annual basis. The survey asks young people in Primary 6 and Secondary 2 and 4 for their views on a wide range of subjects, including community safety, participation, child protection and environmental issues. The findings are presented to Education Committee, and then to all elected members and policy-makers across the East Lothian Partnership and informs service planning.
- **Family Led Information Point (FLIP)** is a forum for parents and carers who have a child/relative with additional support needs. FLIP meets once a month and has an active Face book page where parents can access current information about support services both locally and nationally. Parents also share their views on a wide range of services including education, health, sports and leisure. Family Led Information Point members fed in three priority areas of improvement for children and young people with additional support needs in to the additional support needs/disability planning and delivery group.
- **Parent Councils.** Parents and carers have been actively involved in the lives of their school, particularly since the implementation of the Parental Involvement Act in 2008. The council has been proactive in working with parents to empower them, and parent councils have a key role to play in many school decision-making processes

- **Recruitment and selection.** East Lothian Council has a commitment to involve young people in the recruitment and selection of senior staff in East Lothian, (ELC recruitment good practice guide).
- **Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS).** The CAMHS Team in East Lothian uses user feedback questionnaires and our Lothian wide “tier 4” service users are supported both by individual and collective advocacy services. Focus groups of service users are used as part of service review and development and as part of our quality improvement work.
- **Social Media.** East Lothian is making better use of social media as a tool to engage with children, young people and their families. Facebook and twitter are the popular forums where young people can access news and information and share their views.

What's ahead for Children's Services in 2018/19

2018 has been designated the Year of Young People in Scotland. It will be an opportunity to celebrate all that is wonderful about young people (ages 8 to 26), providing a platform for showcasing their ideas and talents. In East Lothian, we are showcasing the many achievements of our young people throughout 2018. Whether it's in sport, the arts, education or the workplace, young people in East Lothian are renowned for success and innovation.

Appendix 1 – useful documents and links

- East Lothian Poverty Commission Report - [Challenging perceptions. Overcoming poverty](#)
- Link to East Lothian LOIP
- [The East Lothian Plan 2017-27](#)
- Link to Children and Young People Services Plan 2017-2020
- [Children's Services Plan 2017-2020](#)