

## Members' Library Service Request Form

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Document Title	Children and Young People Services Plan - Annual Performance Report 2018/19

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**REPORT TO:** Members' Library Service

**MEETING DATE:** May 2020

**BY:** Chief Operating Officer – Children's Services

**SUBJECT:** Children and Young People Services Plan Annual Performance Report 2018/19

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**1 PURPOSE**

To note the content of the Children and Young People Services Plan Annual Performance Report 2018/19.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to note the key priorities within the Children's Services Plan 2018/19 and progress made with implementing improvements.

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 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. The annual report was published jointly by East Lothian Council and NHS Lothian.
- 3.3 The overarching priority in East Lothian is to reduce inequalities both within and between our communities. This places a 'prevention and early intervention' approach (along with the promotion of equality and respect for diversity) at the heart of our partnership working, to address both individual and "whole system" wider structural issues affecting the lives of children and families.

- 3.4 The Children's Strategic Partnership agreed a Partnership Vision that applies to all of our work affecting the lives of East Lothian's children and young people, particularly those who experience isolation because of disability, looked after status, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion.
- 3.5 The vision states that "We will work together with children, young people and their families, delivering well-integrated, seamless services which result in positive outcomes for children and young people; we will "get it right" for all of East Lothian's children and young people".
- 3.6 Following a self-evaluation of the children's social work service, consideration of practice, learning from elsewhere and messages from inspection, East Lothian Council decided in February 2019 to retain the governance of children's social work within the Council and create a new joint business area of Education and Children's Services. This new structure was implemented over the summer of 2019 with the Head of Education assuming responsibility of Education and Children's Services.
- 3.7 The following overarching commitments were made in our Children and Young People Services Plan 2017-20:
- Early years: East Lothian's children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.
  - East Lothian's young people achieve positive destinations.
  - Corporate parenting: the outcomes of our looked after children and young people match those of other children.
  - Ensuring our children are safe.
  - Improving young people's mental health and wellbeing.
  - Additional support needs and disability: children with a disability are enabled to make appropriate progress to the best of their abilities.
- 3.8 Cross cutting themes were recognised as being essential in underpinning our partnership work. These include:
- Engagement and participation
  - Reducing child poverty
  - GIRFEC
- 3.9 Between July and September 2018, agreement was reached to focus in on a smaller number of very specific areas for improvement for the next year that linked with the overarching areas set out in the published plan. The Children's Strategic Partnership identified three priority areas for the following 12-18 months based on evidence, trends and outcome data for East Lothian.

3.10 The three priority areas included:

- Improving outcomes for parents and babies pre-birth to perinatal.
- Improving outcomes for vulnerable children and young people aged P7-S2.
- Targeted places – putting Musselburgh Total Place into action.
- In addition, we identified two short-term scoping tasks to review our provision of family and parenting support, and services available for children and young people with a diagnosis of autism.

3.11 The Children's Service Plan Annual Report 2018-19 summarises initial progress made in relation to these priorities.

3.12 Getting it right for parents and babies pre-birth to perinatal.

- Some of the early practice changes include providing additional family support to make sure that vulnerable pregnant women receive help to promote resilience around welfare rights and income maximisation, housing issues, and support to attend ante-natal appointments etc. Family Support Workers are working with families looking at the emotional and physical needs of the baby with Video Interviewing work being undertaken from birth.

3.13 Getting it right for teens – improving outcomes for vulnerable children and young people aged P7-S2.

- The key factors of inclusion of all learners are presence, participation, support and achievement. Using this framework allows actions and informed decisions to be made to support attendance (presence) and inclusive learning environments (participation) to meet the needs of all (achievement). The group agreed the focus needed to be on attendance as a core pillar of inclusion and getting it right for teens. Analysis of data has shown a cohort of S2-S3 young people with low attendance. Attendance is a key performance indicator for the council and it is recognised that a multi-agency response is required to ensure families receive a coordinated and timely response to emerging patterns of disengagement from school.

3.14 Targeted Places - Putting Musselburgh Total Place into Action.

- Following review, it was agreed that the focus of project delivery should move 'upstream', not with those families already engaged in statutory service interventions. Partners also considered models of effective early intervention practice operating elsewhere, notably the approach of combining family support, income maximisation and employability to provide a holistic model aimed at achieving sustainable change within families. The development of the "Our

Families” work stream will be reported on in the 2019/20 annual report.

#### **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 2019-2020 will see the full implementation of the new integrated Education and Children’s Services department and the work to re-launch our approach to Getting it Right for Every Child in East Lothian. This has been informed by findings of work to review our approach and offer to children with additional support needs and a significant piece of work to review the drivers for the significant increase in demand for care placements in children’s services.
- 4.2 Developing a strategic partnership approach to family and parenting support and improving young people’s mental health and emotional wellbeing are strong themes that have emerged within 2019/20 and will be prioritised within the new children’s services plan 2020-23.

#### **5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 5.1 The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and no negative impacts have been identified.

#### **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Financial – None
- 6.2 Personnel – None
- 6.3 Other – None

#### **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

Appendix A: Children Services Plan Annual Report 2018-2019

<b>AUTHOR'S NAME</b>	Judith Tait
<b>DESIGNATION</b>	Chief Operating Officer
<b>CONTACT INFO</b>	01620 827633 Email: <a href="mailto:jtait@eastlothian.gov.uk">jtait@eastlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>DATE</b>	31 March 2020

# East Lothian Children's Services Plan Annual Report 2018-19

East Lothian Partnership

## Contents

1. Introduction and our Vision and Values
2. Our context in 2018/19
3. Overarching commitments of our 2017-20 plan and our areas of focus 2018/19
4. Cross-cutting themes: participation, poverty and GIRFEC
5. Our Partnership commitments and priorities – Progress updates
6. Conclusion, learning and next steps



# East Lothian Children's Services Plan Annual Report 2018-19

## 1. Introduction and our vision and values

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.

This is our second annual report and reports performance on the implementation of the plan for the year 2018/2019. 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 will be published jointly by East Lothian Council and NHS Lothian.

## Our Partnership Vision and Values

The East Lothian Children and Young People's Services Plan 2017 -2020 describes the vision for East Lothian, and the values and principles we work to as a partnership. East Lothian Partnership agreed that the overarching statement of intent for our work together (focussed on improving the lives of everyone in East Lothian) is:

*"We will work in partnership to build an East Lothian where everyone has the opportunity to lead a fulfilling life and which contributes to a fair and sustainable future."*

The East Lothian Partnership is committed to making sure that all services are accessible and work together to meet common goals and develop effective partnership working across all sectors – public sector, third sector (voluntary and charity) and private sector – and most importantly with the people and communities of East Lothian.

The East Lothian partnership is fully committed to securing and advancing the rights of all children and young people in East Lothian. The Children's Strategic Partnership and associated planning and delivery groups have signed up to progressing the following areas:

- *Promote and respect the rights of children and young people as laid out on the UNCRC*
- *Positive participation and consultation activity for children, young people and their families in the development, monitoring and review of plans*
- *Take account of wider participation activity that takes place across the local partnerships*
- *Keep language simple and accessible to all*
- *Record and report back to children, young people and their families what has changed.*

The overarching priority in East Lothian is to reduce inequalities both within and between our communities. This places a 'prevention and early intervention' approach (along with the promotion of equality and respect for diversity) at the heart of our partnership working, to address both individual and "whole system" wider structural issues affecting the lives of children and families.

It is within this context that the Resilient People Partnership and the Children's Strategic Partnership agreed a Partnership Vision that applies to all of our work affecting the lives of East Lothian's children and young people, particularly those who experience isolation because of disability, looked after status, sexual orientation, cultural background or religion etc.:

*"We will work together with children, young people and their families, delivering well-integrated, seamless services which result in positive outcomes for children and young people; we will "get it right" for all of East Lothian's children and young people."*

## Our values

In working together to achieve improved outcomes for East Lothian's children and young people, it is important everyone providing support and services for our children and young people share a common set of values, irrespective of which service or partner agency they work within.

The Children's Strategic Partnership have agreed the following values in the principles of practice and the approach taken in our partnership working with children and young people:

- we are committed to securing and advancing the rights of all children and young people as laid out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- we will focus our thinking and our actions on the needs of the child or young person
- we will intervene early to make sure children and young people get the help they need when they need it
- we will respond to each child or young person's needs in a personalised, proportionate, appropriate and timely way
- we will work together to assess the needs of individual children and young people and to meet needs in a co-ordinated and integrated way
- we will provide targeted support to children and young people in greatest need
- we will develop services to meet the needs of children and young people at the earliest/lowest level of need to prevent higher levels of need developing
- we will work together to help and strengthen the abilities of children, young people, families and communities to achieve improved outcomes for themselves
- we will fully consider the ethnic, cultural, religious and language needs of children and young people when we work with them
- we will support children, young people and families to be involved in planning the services they need
- we will ask children, young people and families how effective our supports and services have been for them and make service improvements based on their feedback
- we will emphasise a relationships-based approach in our work with children, young people and families.

## 2. Understanding the East Lothian context

East Lothian's children experience relatively less poverty than other local authority areas across Scotland. However, there are a number of aspects which present a challenge to local services to ask if they are doing enough or will be doing enough to prevent, reduce or mitigate against child poverty. East Lothian is the second fastest growing Scottish local authority with over 10,000 new homes to be built over the next decade. This will mean a growing number of children and young people who will need to access good quality public services. As new family homes are built across the county and the population rises, we need to ensure that we continue to monitor the number of children living in poverty (as percentages are likely to decrease). Whilst East Lothian appears through benchmarking to have fewer areas of concern for its childcare population, relying on statistical averages risks masking problematic areas for East Lothian as indicated below:

- Relative poverty levels are low – but there are deprived areas containing very vulnerable families. East Lothian Child Poverty Action Report states that 1 in 5 children in East Lothian are living in poverty after housing costs are taken into account, in some areas this rises to 1 in 4.
- Attendance levels at school are around the average – but there are a notable number of children whose attendance is poor.
- Numbers of children and young people involved in anti-social behaviour have been falling – but the tariff of some of those young people involved in offending behaviour has been rising.
- Children and young people identified as having Additional Support Needs (ASN) come disproportionately from lower-income families and areas of deprivation, with ASN more than twice as likely to be identified in pupils living in the most deprived neighbourhoods. (East Lothian Pupil Census 2018)
- Demand for children's (social work) services increased by 8% in 2018/2019. As resources are continually stretched, we need to continue our focus on prevention and early intervention for families and seek to reduce the demand for targeted services.
- Under Universal Credit, we need to better understand what national and local data is telling us about poverty.
- East Lothian's private rented sector remains in short supply with rent levels above the average.
- Skills Development Scotland predict an increase in the number of jobs at lower pay levels increasing the possibility of in work poverty throughout Scotland.

### Key service changes during 2018/19

It is important to note that 2018/19 brought a number of key changes in leadership, management and decisions about service structures within East Lothian Council and the

Health and Social Care Partnership. In terms of integration and the role of services for children and other key stakeholder services, the table below sets out the structure that had been in place since 2016 and remained throughout this reporting period.

East Lothian Council (as separate business areas)	IJB delegated function	NHS Lothian
Education service	Health visiting	CAMHS
Children's social work service (managed through H&SCP)	School nursing	Midwifery
	Primary care	Family Nurse Partnership
Communities and partnerships	Justice social work	LAC nursing service
	Adult social work	
East Lothian Works (part of Economic Development)	Substance misuse	
Sport and leisure	Adult mental health	
	Community learning disability services	
Housing and homelessness		

In April 2018, a new head of service (joint with services for younger adults) was seconded to East Lothian Council. Later in the year, two highly experienced social work managers retired. There was also significant change within education with services moved from other council departments and leadership structure change. Alongside this there were changes and interim arrangements in the leadership of the health and social care partnership during 2018. A decision was required about the position of children's services within the integration agenda and to establish whether the strategic and operational effectiveness of the service could best be maximised with it remaining solely in the Council or becoming a delegated function within the Integrated Joint Board (IJB). Demand for social work as a targeted service was increasing and staff and managers in the social work service were feeling increasingly disconnected from their key partners within the council, most notably with their colleagues in education (and vice versa).

There was a variety of options for children's social work. Children require universal health services from pre-birth and these play a major supporting role until they reach school age. Children live in families with adults, many of whom are involved with mental health, substance misuse and justice services. Children with complex needs will transition into adult health and social care services. Whilst access to mental health services are essential, these were non-delegated functions to East Lothian IJB. However, children spend the majority of their childhoods engaged with education services. The success or otherwise of children in

school often sets the pathway for their futures and plays a large part in determining when we recognise concerns, how effectively we intervene to address these at different and challenging developmental stages. Children live in communities and need those services to help them and their families to overcome barriers to inclusion. Care leavers need stable housing options to enable them to sustain positive destinations and move successfully into adulthood.

Following a self-evaluation of the children's social work service, consideration of practice, learning from elsewhere<sup>1</sup> and messages from inspection, East Lothian Council decided in February 2019 to retain the governance of children's social work within the Council and create a new joint business area of Education and Children's Services. This new structure was implemented over the summer of 2019 with the Head of Education assuming responsibility of Education and Children's Services and two Chief Operating Officer posts created in Education and Children's Services respectively. The acting Director of the Health and Social Care Partnership was confirmed in post as the new Director in April 2019. At that time, the corporate management team recognised the importance of retaining close strategic and operational relationships with adult services and ensuring that health visiting and school nursing services were key partners in children's services planning.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://socialworkscotland.org/.../2018/06/Integrated-Childrens-Services-Report.pdf>

### 3. Overarching commitments in our Children and Young People Services plan 2017-20

- Early years: East Lothian's children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
- East Lothian's young people achieve positive destinations
- Corporate parenting: the outcomes of our looked after children and young people match those of other children
- Ensuring our children are safe
- Improving young people's mental health and wellbeing
- Additional support needs and disability: children with a disability are enabled to make appropriate progress to the best of their abilities

Cross cutting themes were recognised as being essential in underpinning our partnership work:

- Engagement and participation
- Reducing child poverty
- GIRFEC

#### Our areas of focus in 2018/19

- Over the course of the life of our plan, the Children's Services Partnership has taken stock of shifting priorities, emerging themes and information about service demand and reflected on what we need to do to work better together. 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 partnership working that ultimately improved outcomes. Between July and September 2018, agreement was reached to focus in on a smaller number of very specific areas for improvement for the next year that linked with the overarching areas set out in the published plan. The Children's Strategic Partnership identified

three priority areas for the following 12-18 months based on evidence, trends and outcome data for East Lothian.

- 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.

In addition, we identified two short-term scoping tasks

- family and parenting support,  
and
- services available for children and young people with a diagnosis of autism.

These short-term tasks were to provide the partnership with information about services currently available and unmet need / gaps in provision that would be used to inform future priorities.

This annual report provides a summary of the progress against our overarching commitments, what the data tells us, how this links with the wellbeing domains and the learning from the first six months of the work streams.

## Cross cutting themes

- a) Our Partnership approach to **participation and consultation** with children, young people and their families

## Included, Respected and Responsible



How children, young people and their families were consulted and participated in 2018/19 helped us realise our commitment to ensuring children and young people are included, respected and responsible.

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. The Children's Strategic Partnership signed up to the 'Golden Rules for Participation' developed by the Scotland Commissioner for Children and Young Children 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. Some examples of the ways that we engage with our children and young people are noted below.

## East Lothian Champions Board

The East Lothian Champions Board 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 up of young people with care experience. 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 representing Housing, Education, Police, Finance, Aftercare, Health & Well-being, Keeping Loved Ones Together and Employment.

The Champs Board was established with funding from the Life Changes Trust and relies on this to operate and deliver its functions. During 2018/19, a further period of funding was awarded, although at a reduced level, and will cease entirely in 2021. Members of the Corporate Parenting Board, on behalf of all East Lothian corporate parents will be tasked with identifying a sustainable solution during the next 18 months to ensure the continuation of this essential service<sup>2</sup>.

East Lothian Champions Board is now in its third year and members are rightly proud of its achievements. Members come from a range of care backgrounds, with the majority living in foster care or care leavers. The ages range from 14 up to 26 years of age and reaches out to all care experienced young people. The champs meet weekly and are supported by a paid participation assistant, herself a care experienced young person.

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<sup>2</sup> <sup>2</sup> Housing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjBEMIV9BVg>

Education

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BrHi85IyeQ>

<sup>2</sup> [Top Tips for Corporate Parents](#); [Top Tips for Social Workers](#)

During 2018, the Champs supported the Head of Children and Adult Services to pilot a Care Inspectorate questionnaire with looked after children and young people as part of a self-evaluation of the service. Towards the end of 2018/19, the Champs supported the induction of the new independent reviewing team. They also shared their views on what makes a good plan, an effective review meeting and things to remember when making decisions about contact between young people and their brothers and sisters and parents. All external recruitment to management posts within children's services include an interview with a panel of care experienced young people. Their views on how well candidates engage, understand and value the voices of care -experienced young people are integral to the process. In 2018, the Champs built on the Top Tips for Social Workers and created Top Tips for Corporate Parents<sup>3</sup>. This information is shared at training and awareness raising events.

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

### The Year of Young People

2018 marked the 'Year of Young People'. East Lothian children and young people were supported to participate in a number of activities all aimed at promoting participation and celebrating their achievements<sup>4</sup>.

### Your Voice Your Choice

The Musselburgh Area Partnership agreed to fund £20,000 to this project as it was viewed as a positive way of engaging our young people in the community and giving them a voice in identifying projects that would make a difference. The overall aim of "Your Voice Your Choice" was to facilitate a Participatory Budgeting Process whereby the young people (aged 8 – 18) from the Musselburgh, Old Craighall, Wallyford and Whitecraig catchment areas could determine how best to distribute £20,000 for projects which will enhance their experience of living in their community. to them.



<sup>3</sup> [Top Tips for Corporate Parents; Top Tips for Social Workers](#)

<sup>4</sup> Insert link to YoYP film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Kpkrc80IFY>

### Children as Human Rights Defenders project 2018.

Twelve young people (P7-S3) took part in a project based in Tranent that had impact locally, nationally and internationally. The premise for the project was to engage children and young people across Scotland on the United Nations Rights of a Child (UNCRC). We partnered with Children's Parliament, Children and Young People's Commissioner for Scotland, Recharge and Fa'side Area Partnership to create a project which raises awareness of the UNCRC and gathers views of children, locally and nationally.



### 'We are the Champions'

The 2018 Year of young people was also marked with the 'We are the Champions' event at Queen Margaret University. The event was planned and delivered by the East Lothian Champions Board<sup>5</sup>. The event was well received by Corporate Parents from all partner agencies and care experienced young people. The Champions Board launched their two short films on the topics of education and housing. Marie Todd (Minister for children and young people) attended and the Children's Rights Commission described the champions as 'human rights defenders'.



During 2018/19 there were a range of mechanisms in place to support engagement and participation of children and young people and their families. Many of the forums listed below enabled children and young people the opportunity to participate in strategic policy practice and review. These included:

- **Pupil Councils** are established in all East Lothian primary and secondary schools. These councils aim to give our children and young people a voice and consider aspects of school life, learning and teaching, and how the school engages with its community.

<sup>5</sup> Insert links to Champs Board films

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BrHi85IyeQ>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjBEMIV9BVg>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GK14jxhnjAM>

- **Youth Councils** representing the six secondary schools, feed into local and national 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. Who Cares? Participation Workers support the involvement of care experienced young people in a range of local and national groups and events.
- **Viewpoint** – Children's Services 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. Viewpoint was also introduced as a tool to support the identification of young carers.
- **Student Evaluation of Experience Survey.** The Education Department undertakes a pupil evaluation survey on an annual basis. The survey asks children and 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 inform service planning and school improvement planning.
- **Family Led Information Point (FLIP)** is a forum for parents and carers who have a child/relative with additional support needs. Parents and carers share their views on a wide range of services including education, health, sports and leisure.
- **Parent Councils.** Parents and carers have been actively involved in the life of the 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. East Lothian Council has developed its own Parental Engagement Strategy, designed by parents for parents. The strategy was launched in 2017 and evaluated in June 2018.  
[https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210557/schools\\_and\\_learning/12100/parental\\_involvement/2](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210557/schools_and_learning/12100/parental_involvement/2)
- **Recruitment and selection.** East Lothian Council has a commitment to involve young people in the recruitment and selection of staff including senior manager posts within Education and Children's Services



## What are children young people and their families telling us?

The following section outlines some of the main outcomes following our consultation activity.

### Champions Board Priorities

For 2018/19, the Champs Board identified 7 priority areas for action in order for care-experienced children and young people to have better outcomes in life. The priority areas included:

- Better outcomes in education
- Improved Housing support and housing options
- Improved mental health
- Keeping loved ones together- improved contact arrangements with family and friend and keeping families together
- Improved aftercare support
- Better relationships with police
- Better understanding of benefits and support to manage money

### Family Led Information Point priorities

Parents and carers of children and young people with additional support needs, particularly those with a diagnosis of autism meet on a monthly basis in Musselburgh. Parents and carers have identified three priority areas that they would like to see improvements in, these include:

- better consistency in the implementation of GIRFEC and Getting it Right for children with additional support needs in schools.
- the need for more inclusive sports and leisure activities on offer during term time and holidays.
- the importance of schools and communities becoming more autism aware.

### Viewpoint Aggregate Data

Viewpoint presents the views given by children and young people for their Looked After and Accommodated children and young people consultations. The aggregate data report for 2018/19 presents the responses according to GIRFEC outcomes: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included. Below are some key areas that professionals could explore further:

- Explore bullying issues.
- Explore sleep issues, health issues and feelings of anger.
- Explore worries about school and support needs for school.
- Explore personal care items and life story information in detail.
- Explore access to hobbies / sports and the role played by carer support.
- Explore contact with social workers and how to help young people feel they are listened to

- Explore friendships and contact arrangements
- Explore information needs of children and young people and child's plan arrangements in detail.

### Student Evaluation of Experience data

The Student Evaluation of Experience Survey (SEE survey) gathers the views of all P6, S2 and S4 children and young people in East Lothian. The survey is administered in schools and the responses are reported on using the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators. During session 2018/19, there were 2130 completed surveys from a possible number of **2353** combined P6 and S2 pupils, which is a **90.5%** response rate. This was an increase of 4.8% on last year's 2017-18 response rate. All schools receive their own data and consult with their pupil council and pupils to address areas for improvement.

The tables below detail highlights of significant changes (3% change) between the results of 2018-19 v the 2017-18 results:

P6					
SHANARRI Indicator	Q. No.	Pupil Survey Measure	2018-19	2017-18	P6 % Difference
HEALTHY		I am able to get information about my health in East Lothian	90.3	87.3	3.0
ACHIEVING		My lessons are interesting	85.4	78.7	6.7
ACHIEVING		I use my school weblog/website/learning log to help me in my learning	66.4	59.5	6.9
ACHIEVING		My school recognises my achievements out of school	72.0	64.5	7.5
ACTIVE		My school offers plenty of opportunities for extra-curricular activities	90.5	84.8	5.7
RESPECTED		I feel young people's views are listened to in my local neighbourhood	74.4	71.4	3.0
RESPECTED		I have learned about my rights and responsibilities listed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child	93.7	90.0	3.7
RESPONSIBLE		Most pupils behave well in this school	75.6	72.4	3.2
RESPONSIBLE		Pupils in this school take account of other people's feelings and viewpoints	81.9	77.0	4.9
INCLUDED		I can access regular public transport, bus or train where I live	81.5	76.8	4.7

S2					
SHANARRI Indicator	Q. No.	Pupil Survey Measure	2018-19	2017-18	S2 % Difference
SAFE	1	I feel safe in school	87.0	90.7	-3.7



SAFE		I know who to go to in school if I am not happy about how someone is treating me	88.8	92.2	-3.4
HEALTHY		People at school help me to make healthy choices	75.3	83.6	-8.3
HEALTHY		In school, I can learn about healthy lifestyles, including thinking about my feelings and relationships	88.8	94.8	-6.0
ACHIEVING		Teachers tell me how I can improve my learning	84.8	88.4	-3.6
ACHIEVING		My lessons are interesting	65.3	68.5	-3.2
ACHIEVING		Pupils in this school are successful learners	78.3	85.6	-7.3
ACHIEVING		I use my school weblog/website/learning log to help me in my learning	43.1	48.3	-5.2
ACHIEVING		My school recognises my achievements in school	67.3	71.1	-3.8
ACHIEVING		My school recognises my achievements out of school	36.4	41.3	-4.9
ACTIVE		I can plan my learning and make choices about how I learn in school	74.0	81.1	-7.1
ACTIVE		I have the opportunities to get involved with environmental issues in my local neighbourhood	47.3	53.0	-5.7
RESPECTED		I am treated fairly in this school	69.5	75.6	-6.1
RESPECTED		I feel young people's views are listened to in my local neighbourhood	52.1	55.3	-3.2
RESPECTED		I have heard of the "Wellbeing Indicators" (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included)	74.3	68.9	5.4
RESPONSIBLE		I am able to contribute to decisions made in our school	61.7	67.2	-5.5
RESPONSIBLE		Most pupils behave well in this school	50.2	53.9	-3.7
RESPONSIBLE		Pupils in this school take account of other people's feelings and viewpoints	49.2	53.7	-4.5
INCLUDED		I have a bank account	69.3	66.3	3.0
INCLUDED		I feel I belong in my class/school/community	78.6	83.8	-5.2

## What did we achieve as a result of what children and young people said?

There is emerging evidence to support the impact of the Champions Board activities. Below are a list of areas that demonstrate a greater awareness of corporate parenting and changes that have happened:

- Employment of two care- experienced young people in paid roles as participation assistants and a third care- experienced young person will be recruited to work on the home and belonging project. This demonstrated our commitment to provide paid employment opportunities to care experienced young people.

- £10,000 has been allocated to 20 care leavers. Young people have used this grant to help achieve aspirations in their life. During 2018/19, three young people used it to pay for driving lessons and passed their driving test.
- All active schools activities are free to care-experienced young people. Sports Dis working with schools to improve take up and participation rates.
- An additional three supported flats have been made available by the council.
- A mental health taskforce is to be set up to implement East Lothian's mental health improvement plan.
- Positive relationships between staff, with children and young people at the hearing centre. There is a commitment to making hearings more child and young person friendly.
- Council tax exemption has been very well received by care experienced young people. Workers have been supporting young people to access the exemption.
- A new Independent reviewing team has been set up and care-experienced young people have shared their views on important areas that should be discussed during the young person's review meetings including contact with friends and family.
- The Home and belonging project has received three years funding from the Life Changes Trust. This project is innovative and will test out a new approach to housing and support where young people will have an opportunity to live together.
- Corporate parenting training was delivered to over 100 housing staff and 60 police staff. All reported a better understanding of corporate parenting and relationship based practice as a result of the training.

## **b) Reducing child poverty and the gap in outcomes between the most deprived and least deprived children and young people in East Lothian**

### **Included, Respected, Responsible**

In 2016 the East Lothian Poverty Commission was set up and produced a comprehensive report and recommendations to tackle poverty in East Lothian. As a result of this report the East Lothian (Community Planning) Partnership Plan 2017-2027 has actions on poverty threaded throughout focussed on drivers of poverty: employability, housing, income maximisation and supporting our residents to take control of their lives. The plan also acknowledges the significant challenge of reducing child poverty<sup>6</sup>. The key areas for improvement are around:

- Support for initiatives such as holiday play scheme provision and lunch clubs
- Initiatives to promote healthy diet and lifestyle
- Working with East Lothian Food Bank to distribute Red Boxes including sanitary products to local secondary schools

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<sup>6</sup> Child Poverty Action Report



- Developing East Lothian Council's new Financial Inclusion Service.

### Working in Partnership to Reduce Poverty: working examples

**Your voice your choice** - Musselburgh Area Partnership distributed £65,000 to a total of fourteen projects through a digital participatory budgeting programme in early 2019. The PB exercise invited projects which aim to reduce poverty and inequality to take part in the exercise. The following are some examples of the projects which will make a difference to children and families living in poverty.

**Summer Holiday Play scheme Provision for Wallyford & Whitecraig** – a free programme of extracurricular summer activities including lunch for primary school aged children. To engage families through stimulating activities, directly addressing the importance of play and attachment. Run in local community centres.

### Prestonpans Holiday Lunch Club



1 The Wee Pans Lunch Club

*“We know that ‘The Wee Pans Lunch Club’ initiative has been a life saver for some of Prestonpans young families. The children really enjoyed coming together and having proper meals in a fun social environment. They also liked getting involved in food preparation and trying new things. It’s been a great success and the parents are pleased that the children were gaining both nutritionally and socially, and also had structure to their days during the holiday period*”

### Employability and further education

During 2018 /19, East Lothian Works (East Lothian Council's Employability Hub for young people and adults) transferred from Economic Development to the Education Service. East Lothian Works is working with key employability partners to develop local opportunities for young people and adults to return to education or training or find suitable employment. There is also a focus on developing

new routes into early learning and childcare and adult care as a valued career choice. The Council is working closely with Edinburgh College to develop new and flexible routes to Early Learning and Childcare, including modern apprenticeships, local training centres and work experience opportunities.

**Putting Money in Your Pocket** – to help people to maximise their household income through benefit uptake, accessing affordable credit and switching to cheaper contracts.

**Campie Cares** – to help families reduce the cost of the school day and learn without worrying about money. To give children financial help towards attending one school trip and P7 camp. Help run free family events to offer help to protect against poverty.

**Summer Community Cafe at First Step** – First Step is a community project for families with young children which is based in the Musselburgh East housing estate. It is an independent Voluntary Organisation funded by East Lothian Council and other funding bodies. It was by a group of local parents who wanted somewhere safe and comfortable where they could meet and their children could play. The cafe will provide a breakfast and warm lunch to people through the summer holidays and will be a chance for people of all ages to socialise and eat healthily.

**Musselburgh Community Kitchen** – to provide a sociable environment to learn new cooking skills which are affordable and healthy, for all ages and abilities.

**Play on Pedals & Big Read Project** – highlighting that reading to young children sets them up to succeed and riding a bike improves physical fitness, a child's learning development and mental health.

**Musselburgh Kindness Fund** – to provide social workers, family workers, health workers and community staff with access to small amounts of funds to support families in crisis with items like power cards, telephone credits, essential items such as nappies and vouchers for public transport.

**Fa'side Fridge** - The Fa'side Fridge project provides a friendly, safe and non-judgemental social space where parents, carers and families can meet for tea and a chat whilst accessing healthy food and advice relevant to their needs. The project offers the opportunity to try new foods and to obtain advice on healthy food choices, cookery skills and nutrition, in order to encourage healthy affordable eating for the whole family. The project is being delivered in an innovative partnership between East Lothian Foodbank, Home Start East Lothian, Fundamental Foods, Roots and Fruits, The Fa'side Area Partnership and Sanderson's Wynd Primary School.

### **Red Boxes in Secondary Schools**

Developed by the East Lothian Food Bank and funded through our local Area Partnership's schools across East Lothian received 'Red Boxes' filled with a variety of sanitary products and related items such as clean underwear, shower gels and fresh tights. The products were free to those who needed them in the schools.

### **Prestonpans Holiday Lunch Club**

*"We know that 'The Wee Pans Lunch Club' initiative has been a life saver for some of Prestonpans young families. The children really enjoyed coming together and having proper meals in a fun social environment. They also liked getting involved in food preparation and trying new things. It's been a*

*great success and the parents are pleased that the children were gaining both nutritionally and socially, and also had structure to their days during the holiday period."*

### Young carers

We said we would:

- Decrease the percentage pupils who regularly help to take care of someone in their family who is physically or mentally ill or has problems with drugs or alcohol. 28%. The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils agreeing in 2018/19 shows a drop of 1.6% on the previous year.

### Direct payments

We said we would:

- Increase take up of direct payments in children's services - 45 children. Almost £200,000 was paid out during 2018/19.

### Enjoying school

We said we would:

- Increase the numbers % of pupils agreeing they enjoy being at school. 77.8%. The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils agreeing in 2018/19 shows a drop of 1.1% on the previous year and an overall drop in trend over the last 5 years

### Access to home internet

We said we would:

- Increase the number % of pupils who can use the internet in their home. 98.4% The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils agreeing in 2018/19 shows a slight increase of 0.3% on the previous year and a relatively static trend over the last 5 years

### Including disabled children and young people

We said we would:

- Increase the number % of pupils who can access regular public transport where they live. The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils agreeing in 2018/19 shows an increase of 2.8% on the previous year and a relatively static trend over the last 5 years

## Musselburgh Total Place / Our Families

### Why did we identify this as a priority?

The supporting groundwork for Musselburgh Total Place was developed through East Lothian Community Planning Partnership (CPP) in response to Christie Commission findings, and the desire to explore Total Place solutions to early interventions with families, with increasingly complex needs. Resourcing constraints prevented the full implementation of the model in 2016. The children's strategic partnership was keen not to lose the learning gathered and agreed to test the option of a "small start" approach, using the principles of Total Place but resourcing this from within existing staffing resources.

**Summary of progress**

Initial work comprised of gathering partners together to redefine the project scope and objectives, identify new families to work with, and establish project management arrangements to deliver the project. 'Musselburgh Total Place' partners were faced with the challenge of how to prioritise an early intervention approach against a growing level of demand from families with a high level of need. As discussions progressed, it became clear that the four families had growing complex needs, with child protection risks increasingly prevalent, and it was agreed amongst partners that the MTPP scope should be re visited again. Following review, it was agreed that the focus of project delivery should be far more 'upstream', not with those families already engaged in statutory service interventions. Partners also reviewed models of effective early intervention practice operating elsewhere, notably the approach of combining family support, income maximisation and employability to provide a holistic model aimed at achieving sustainable change within families.

**Next steps for 2019/20**

Potential sources of funding emerged and wider strategic discussions regarding GIRFEC, the extent and scale and impact of family support services in East Lothian, pupil support group arrangements in schools, and evidence based approaches to early intervention and prevention with families and children and young people, were taking place. Partners have developed a renewed remit for the **Our Families** work stream that aligns with the strategic direction of developing preventive services and builds on existing resources and approaches. Progress will be reported on in the 2019/20 annual report.

**c) Getting It Right For Every Child in East Lothian**

Getting it Right for Every Child is our national policy framework, and East Lothian has a history of strong engagement with the principles of identifying wellbeing needs, coordinating plans and planning for children and young people using a staged process of intervention to respond to emerging needs. Our workforce remains committed to the practice model. Our constituent agencies and departments have continued to adjust and refine their approaches to implementation. However, as a partnership, we have reflected on the challenge of maintaining a joint and shared approach, supported by routine self-evaluation and quality assurance that would enable us to have confidence in our progress and the consistency of our collective practice. Despite our best efforts, the uncertainties around the role of the Named Person has impacted on the confidence of frontline staff around information sharing and some of our key operational processes.

The 2019/20 annual report will detail the steps taken to review our progress, strengthen our collective leadership and commitment to GIRFEC and refresh our decision making framework.

## 4. Our over-arching commitments

### CSP Commitment 1.

#### Early years: East Lothian's children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed

#### Healthy, Achieving, Safe, Nurtured and Active

Data from ISD Visualization Dashboard.

The Information Services Division (ISD) is a division of National Services Scotland, part of NHS Scotland. ISD provides health information, health intelligence, statistical services and advice that support the NHS in progressing quality improvement in health and care and facilitates robust planning and decision making. Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world. Few other countries have information which combines high quality data, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

#### Pregnancy support

Proportion of women in most deprived SIMD quintile booked for ante-natal care by 12th week of gestation.

(April 2018 – March 2019)

- East Lothian SIMD 1 – 93.6%
- Scotland – 84.9%

The data evidences that the national target is achieved in East Lothian. There is ongoing work to encourage women to book early with their midwife. The local stretch target of 90% has been 90%.

#### Low birthweight babies

Babies who are both preterm and small for their gestational age are at particular risk of short and long term health problems. We said we would aim to reduce the percentage of babies born at low birth weight (below 2.5 kg). The actual numbers seem to be more or less static around the 5% for the last number of years.

(April 2018 – March 2019)

- East Lothian 5.2%
- Scotland 5.6%

#### Breastfeeding and Improving Infant Feeding

There has been a downturn in East Lothian breastfeeding figures this financial year which is disappointing after five years of continued improvement corresponding to the journey to achieving UNICEF accreditation. When reviewing the drop-off figures for breastfeeding

(focusing on the number of families who begin breastfeeding but switch to formula by 10 days or 6-8 weeks) the downturn is less marked although still present at first visit. It is this drop-off figure that the Scottish Government are targeting with the aim of reducing by 10% by 2025.

During this period there was a period of limited service due to a vacancy in the infant feeding post that East Lothian shares with Midlothian. This post co-ordinates training and support for Health Visitors and community services, manages peer supporters and support groups and provides a point of escalation for clinical issues. Whilst it is supplementary to the expert infant feeding care provided by midwifery, FNP, and Health Visiting services, it is still crucial in ensuring infants and their families receive the standards of care they should be able to expect. This post is now filled and improvement in the following financial year 19/20 is expected.

Percentage of children exclusively breastfed at first visit:

- Lothian – 47.3%
- Scotland – 36.4%
- East Lothian – 41.8%

Percentage of children exclusively breastfed at 6-8 weeks:

- Lothian – 40.4%
- Scotland – 30.3%
- East Lothian – 36.4%

### Weight/obesity

Percentage of children in Primary 1 who are overweight or obese (using epidemiological thresholds and clinical BMI).

School year 2017/18:	At risk of becoming overweight	At risk of obesity
Scotland	12.3%	10.1%
Lothian	11.7%	10.2%
East Lothian	12.2%	9.7%

There is continued concern over the levels of overweight and obese children in Scotland. Obesity during childhood is a health concern in itself, but can also lead to physical and mental health problems in later life, such as heart disease, diabetes, osteoarthritis, and back pain, increased risk of certain cancers, low self-esteem and depression.

The numbers of children who are at risk of becoming overweight or obese have remained relatively stable in East Lothian and Scotland since 2012. What is notable across Scotland is a widening inequalities gap over time – children living in areas of deprivation are increasingly at risk of becoming overweight and/ or obese whilst those living in the least deprived communities have a decreasing risk.

To address this widening gap, a focus is required to tackle inequalities, focus on further engagement with families to support maternal and infant nutrition and on improving breastfeeding rates which can support children to achieve a healthy weight.

## Dental care

East Lothian currently sits above the national average for dental registration for children aged 5 and under. However, there remains areas where further improvement can be made, namely in building better information sharing processes between education and health which will improve uptake of national programmes such as Child Smile.

*Annual dental registrations for pre-school children (0-2yrs; 3-5yrs) 2018, published January 2019 by ISD;*

### 0-5yrs

- East Lothian – 47.5%
- Scotland – 46.9%

### 0-2yrs

- East Lothian – 47.5% Increased from 41.8% in 2008
- Scotland - 46.9%

### 3-5yrs

- East Lothian – 88.9% Increased from 85% in 2008
- Scotland – 89.2%

## Teenage pregnancy

Overall numbers of teenage pregnancies continue to decrease across all age groups in East Lothian (<16yrs; <18yrs; <20yrs) – latest numbers available 2017, (ISD).

There has been a continuing decline of pregnancies in those aged under 18 years of age, both in actual numbers, as well as in rates per 1,000 women. The rate in 2013/15 was 27.4 per 1000 women and has now reduced to 23.9 per 1000. The rate is still above the national rate (20.4 per 1000 women), however, there is no statistically significant difference compared to the national rate anymore. This evidences a clear trend of reduced rates of pregnancy in those aged under 18 years of age.

The rates of teenage pregnancies for under 16s have been continually declining in East Lothian. The rate in 2013/15 was 5.6 per 1000 women, which had also been a reduction from 6.5 per 1000 women in 2012/14.

The rate is still above the national rate for Scotland (3.5 per 1,000 women), however this is not a statistically significant difference, and rates in East Lothian are similar to those nationally.

## Smoking in Pregnancy

The data shows that for East Lothian, the percentage of women reported as smoking during pregnancy has reduced. Care should be taken with these percentages as the number of women is very low so a small change in numbers identifying as smokers has a



disproportionate effect on reportable data, therefore it is expected that more up-to-date data will bring East Lothian in line with other areas.

- Lothian – 13.3%;
- Scotland 14.9%.
- East Lothian – 18.7%

### Reducing maternal stress/harm to children

As part of our plan to reduce maternal stress and resulting harm to unborn children, 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.

### Children with developmental/wellbeing concerns<sup>7</sup>

Babies born from May 2017 in East Lothian are offered the Universal Pathway which includes:

- All home visits conducted by Health Visitors
- 12 home visit core contacts Birth to school entry, plus 1 x AN visit
- CHS visits and forms: new birth, 6-8 wks, 13-15 months, 27-30 months, 4-5 years
- For additional need families increased contacts above core contacts
- Increased opportunities for prevention, early detection and early intervention
- Total continuity of care which is relationship-based

NHS Lothian received funding for 61 new Health Visitors from Scottish Government funding and is currently in the process of increasing Health Visitor numbers through an extensive training programme. With the Health Visitor numbers increasing as newly qualified staff come into post, the following performance indicators are expected to increase over the coming years.

Percentage of East Lothian children receiving their developmental and wellbeing assessment at 13-15 months by year of birth:

- 2016 - 55.8%
- 2017 - 82.2%
- Lothian – 71%

Percentage of East Lothian children with a developmental or wellbeing concern at 13-15 month assessment by year of birth:

- East Lothian Concerns – 18.9%

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<sup>7</sup> Note there are 585 children in Lothian with unmatched postcodes – assessments cannot be allocated to a particular LA area.

- Lothian Concerns – 21.9%

East Lothian is performing above the Lothian level with fewer concerns seen at assessment.

Percentage of children receiving their developmental and wellbeing assessment at 27-30 months:

- East Lothian – 86.7%
- Scotland – 88.5%

Percentage of East Lothian children (in any developmental domain) with an identified developmental or wellbeing concern at their 27-30 month assessment:

- East Lothian – 16.2%
- Scotland – 14.9%<sup>8</sup>

### **Priority 1: Getting it right for parents and babies from pre-birth to perinatal**

#### **Why did we choose this as a priority?**

Between April 17 and April 18, there were 31 children aged 0 to 1 years old whose names were placed on the child protection register with a neglect, domestic violence, substance misuse and/or parental mental health issues as the main primary and secondary registration reasons. A multi-agency planning group was set up to look at this priority area to ensure our GIRFEC response was effective and that we were providing effective early support and that fewer babies / unborn babies would be at risk of significant harm, and fewer would require statutory intervention.

#### **Summary of progress**

Staff held a connecting services “meet and greet” breakfast meeting for practitioners both statutory and from third sector who work with families in pregnancy and with babies. It was a very positive event, enabled staff to make and strengthen networks and share information. Three immediate gaps were identified:

1. Lack of support for parents with a learning disability
2. Lack of support for Dads, especially where there is a maternal mental health concern
3. Concern that some families struggle once the gold standard of FNP leaves when the child is 2 years old

<sup>8</sup> Source data: ISD Discovery– latest data available: Jan-September 2018.

Some of the early practice changes include providing additional family support to make sure that vulnerable pregnant women receive help to promote resilience around welfare rights and income maximisation, housing issues, and support to attend ante-natal appointments etc. Family Support Workers are working with families looking at the emotional and physical needs of the baby with Video Interviewing work being undertaken from birth. Our Community Learning Disability Team is working with the children's social work service to look at how we work together to offer the best support to parents with a learning difficulty so this work is still in the planning stage. We are rolling out Dad's 2 Be as a support group for new Dad's to help them understand the needs of baby and their partners at this time.

#### **Summary of next steps for 2019/20**

We are building on the midwifery pathway to support early and effective identification of risk and need at the early stages of pregnancy. We are piloting the provision of targeted family support alongside the 16 week referral to health visitors for families who have been identified as requiring additional support. We hope to develop clearer referral and step-down pathways of support once statutory services have ceased to be involved. Home start is working with us to look at how they could have a volunteer available to take over from the point of case closure. This would allow parents to keep support in place and have the reduction of support over a longer period. This is also something being considered for vulnerable 2 year olds where the family nurse partnership would be stopping contact.

#### **Scoping task - Parenting and family support**

The purpose of the high level review was to look at parenting supports and interventions currently available within and across East Lothian, how these are resourced, identify gaps and opportunities for evaluating the impact and moving forward. This work involved gathering information and data from council services about activities undertaken to support parents and improve parenting skills and included one-to-one work with families, parenting programme delivery and group work. Our third sector partners were also included in the original fact-finding project with further information gathered on their funding arrangements and sources.

Although the evidence gathered indicated that we have a strong base of universal provision across the county, evaluation of impact was difficult to measure. There was a lot of activity at both an additional and a targeted level, however in that without clear strategic direction it was impossible to determine the impact of where services were being delivered and with whom. Family support resources within the social work service were often unable to be fully utilised due to the pressures to allocate cases and service supervised contact arrangements.

The Children's Services Partnership acknowledged that a greater understanding was required of our current provision across the county and how partners can work together to re-direct and target scarce resources to areas of greatest need. A successful application to the council's cost recovery fund in August 2019 led to the creation of a 12 month secondment to develop the find initial findings into a model of service delivery drawing on best practice from across the country, examine the data available to us about the needs of our children and families and make recommendations as to how we can better support our parents particularly those of our most vulnerable children. We will report on this in the 2019/20 annual report.

## **CSP commitment 2.**

### **East Lothian's young people achieve well and move into positive destinations**

#### **Achieving, Included, Active and Responsible**

##### **School-leaver positive destinations**

- Percentage of pupils with Additional Support Needs (ASN) entering positive post school destinations- 92%.
- East Lothian school leavers with ASN showed a further 1.4% increase on the previous year in 2017/18, above the national average (90.3%) and the Virtual Comparator (90.4%). The East Lothian percentage shows a fluctuating but overall improved trend, increasing by 6.2 percentage points overall since 2013/14.
- The average total tariff score for the lowest attaining 20% of school leavers – 129 - East Lothian's performance in 2017/18 shows a drop on the previous year's performance and is lower than the Virtual Comparator (151).
- Percentage of school leavers entering positive destinations -95.4%. Positive Destinations show a further increase of 1.3% on the previous year in 2017/18, above the national average (94.4%) and the Virtual Comparator (93.9%). The East Lothian percentage shows an improved trend, increasing by 3 percentage points overall since 2013/14.

##### **PE Target**

- Percentage of primary school pupils benefitting from at least 2 hours per week of physical education. 100% All our primary schools are meeting the PE target for primary pupils.
- Percentage of secondary school pupils (S1 to S4) benefitting from two periods of physical education per week. 100% All our secondary schools are meeting the PE target for S1-S4 pupils.

##### **Physical activity**

- Number of residents from specific target groups accessing local sport and leisure facilities at reduced rates was 3,337. The Access to Leisure (ATL) form / application

has been redesigned and further direct and universal advertisement / promotion to increase awareness to stakeholders and partners has been carried out. ATL information can also now be found out with leisure facilities in key establishments such as ELC Area Offices, Benefits Team and Children Services etc.

- There is still reason to believe that due to ATL operating a peak / off-peak system this deters some groups from registering and / or accessing facilities on a more regular basis. In addition the off-peak charge went up from £1 to £1.50 for all ATL users. Average number of visits per person from specific target groups accessing local sport and leisure facilities at reduced rates was 13.

### Duke of Edinburgh Award

We said we would:

- Increase the number of young people that engage in volunteering: there were 427 awards started and 205 awards achieved.
- The 2019 data shows another increase in the number of young people starting the Duke of Edinburgh's award. The number of awards achieved was over 30% up on the previous year's total. East Lothian has had another very positive year in the delivery of the Award.

### Saltire Awards

We said we would:

- Increase the number of young people that engage in volunteering - Saltire Award  
Number of Saltire certificates – 639 Number of hours - 21,541, 11 young people were awarded the Summit Award for Outstanding Contribution which were presented by Iain Gray at the Inspiring Volunteering Awards in November 2018.
- The total number of hours are lower than the previous year whilst the number of certificates have increased. This is down to a three month gap between the development worker leaving her post and a new development worker starting, therefore promotion of the awards started later in the academic year meaning young people were achieving fewer hours in the period measured.

### Personal Bank Accounts

- The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils agreeing they had a personal bank account in 2018/19 increased by 3% points on the previous year and shows a relatively static trend over the last 5 years

### Community involvement

- % of pupils agreeing that they have opportunities to get involved with local environmental issues is 58%. The proportion of P6 & S2 pupils agreeing in 2018/19 decreased by 3.6% points on the previous year and shows a slight drop in trend over the last 5 years

Whilst the 2017-20 report focused on improving outcomes for older young people, emerging data indicated we needed to look more closely at how well vulnerable children were achieving at school and how well their needs were being met.

## **Priority 2 - Getting it right for Teens**

Why did we identify this as a priority?

This area of improvement was identified as a result of data indicating poor outcomes for vulnerable children and young people aged P7-S2. Work was required to design and implement a multi-agency work plan for this area and increase engagement with relevant staff across the workforce and lead new approaches to joint working. The group were asked to identify service gaps and barriers to integrated joint working at an operational level and feedback to CSP. The group was asked to identify the reasons for children and young people's disengagement from education and focus on one cluster area and group to identify potential early intervention strategies and actions.

Summary of progress

The key factors of inclusion of all learners are presence, participation, supported and achievement. Using this framework allows actions and informed decisions to be made to support attendance (presence) and inclusive learning environments (participation) to meet the needs of all (achievement). The group agreed the focus needed to be on attendance as a core pillar of inclusion and getting it right for teens. Analysis of data has shown a cohort of S2-S3 young people with low attendance. Attendance is a key performance indicator for the council and it is recognised that a multi-agency response is required. Partners have shared their available data and intelligence; analysis has informed targeted next steps and future actions.

Summary of key strengths

The GIRFT group has focussed on gathering evidence from a variety of sources regarding the attendance of young people in S2-3. This work has highlighted a lack of multi-agency sharing of data and a lack of available interventions for children and young people with low attendance. In addition, the group identified a lack of understanding of agency roles and capacity across the Local Authority.

Summary of next steps for our Children's Strategic Partnership.

At the end of July the group agreed that attendance data indicates greatest area of need in terms of further thematic analysis. From Aug – Dec 19 it was agreed that the group would complete a case file audit of 30 children and young people with the lowest levels of attendance in the Tranent cluster. This work would include a focus group of children, young people and parents to explore barriers, challenges and solutions to improving attendance. It is hoped this activity would allow key areas to be identified so interventions and redeployment of resources can be discussed. Education and Children's Services staff have visited other local authorities to discuss and learn about approaches to early intervention and prevention in place and impact on improving outcomes for

disengaged learners. The outcome of these visits is supporting the development of East Lothian's strategy.

### **CSP 3. Corporate parenting: the outcomes of our looked after children and young people match those of other children** **Healthy, Achieving, Respected and Nurtured**

#### **Looked After Children's (LAC) Nursing Service 01.04.2018 – 31.03.2019**

Total Number of Referrals to the LAC Nursing Service	No. of School Age Referrals	No. of Pre-school Referrals
72	48	24

#### Initial Health Assessments (IHA) undertaken by LAC Nursing Service

No. completed by LAC Nurse	No. completed within 4 weeks	No. completed within 6 weeks	No. completed within 8 weeks	No. completed > 8 weeks	No. of completed Care Plans
22	16	4	1	1	22

#### Rationale for IHA not being undertaken

Ceased LAC/No consent/Non engagement/Moved out of area.
19

- Of the 72 referrals received 2018, 24 were pre-school. These assessments are completed by the child's own health visitor rather than the LAC nursing service.
- Eighteen Initial Health Assessments were not completed either due to the young person declining /moving out of area/ceased to be looked after. For those children and young people who have been placed out with Lothian, the LAC Nursing Service liaises with the appropriate Health Service in the area of placement to ensure health needs are assessed and monitored as required. For families and young people who do not consent or engage with the service, the case remains open and they are encouraged to make contact with the service at any time should they require support with their health needs.

- All 22 children and young people who had an assessment had health needs identified within their care plan. These were monitored and reviewed by the LAC Nursing Service while the child remains looked after. Once a child ceases to be looked after the care is handed over to the relevant school nursing service for ongoing input.

### Kinship care

We said we would:

- Increase the proportion of Looked after children and young people in Kinship care. However, the number of looked after children in Kinship care as a proportion of all looked after children has fallen again in East Lothian to 16.7%. This will be an area for development in 2019/20.
- The rate per 1,000 is 1.8 compared to a national rate of 4.0 and does not mirror what is happening nationally. However, the number of young people who are being supported in informal kinship care relationships remains strong at around 75. We are planning to add more support to all of our kinship carers to develop further resilience.

### Children looked after away from home

We said we would:

- Increase the percentage of Looked After Children who feel settled where they live. Using the Viewpoint survey data, 92% of young people looked after away from home reported positively on this outcome. There is a strong link between feeling safe and being settled.
- Reduce the proportion of Looked After Children in external residential placements. However, over 2018/19 there was a considerable increase in the number of external residential placements meaning the target of 30% which was set in 2017 is unlikely to be reached. From a position of 25 young people in residential care (including our own residential house) in March 2018 the total rose to 38 at March 2019.

### Corporate parenting - Ensure children and young people who are looked after or are care leavers are cared for and supported to improve their life experiences and life chances

The Corporate Parenting Planning and Delivery Group was meeting every two months and was made up of representation of Corporate Parents from health, education, community learning and development, third sector, children's services and East Lothian Works. The group was supported by CELCIS to create a multi-agency Corporate Parenting Plan 2017-2020 based on feedback and the views of care-experienced young people. The plan incorporated the





Champions Board priorities for change<sup>9</sup>. During 2018/19 the corporate parenting group became the East Lothian Corporate Parenting Board and at the end of the reporting period the Council's Chief Executive agreed to become the chair of the Board. This was an important message of support for our looked after and care experienced children and young people.

### **'My Place' project**

My place is a joint initiative between East Lothian Council Housing Strategy and Children Services Team, 'My Place' was awarded £307,000 funding from The Life Changes Trust. Working alongside the Champions Board, the 'My Place' housing model was created. 'My Place' will progress over the following three years, bringing 10 properties from the open market into council stock for care experienced young people. Each property will house two care experienced young people and a peer flatmate, all provided with housing support by the Rock Trust. The project is underpinned by trauma informed principles, an elastic tolerance approach and a commitment to ongoing service user involvement. The role is being supported by Who Cares? Scotland.

The Life Changes Trust also funded a Research and Link Worker who will work alongside Housing Strategy and Children's Services to produce East Lothian Council's first Home and Belonging Strategy for Care Experienced Young People. This will explore CEYP's associations of home and belonging taking accounts of transitions within care and from care, income and options available for care experienced young people in East Lothian, reducing the need for B&B use.

## **CSP commitment 4.**

### **Ensuring our children are safe**

#### **Safe, Nurtured, Respected, Responsible**

As our sister partnership, the East Lothian and Midlothian Public Protection Committee brings together responsibility for our inter-agency approach to child protection, adult support and protection, Violence Against Women and Girls and offender management. The Public Protection team is collocated with the Police Scotland 'J' Division Domestic Abuse Investigation Unit, other Police Public Protection Unit personnel and the Midlothian and East Lothian Drug and Alcohol Partnership (MELDAP). There is a close interface with members of the NHS Lothian Public Protection Team and other NHS Lothian staff with a broader Public Protection remit. This approach allows us to see the dynamic relationship across adult and children's services of the factors that put children at risk of harm.

*Youth offending referrals from the Vulnerable Person Database (VPD) – East Lothian*

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<sup>9</sup>

[http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/2546/east\\_lothian\\_corporate\\_parenting\\_plan\\_2017-20](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/2546/east_lothian_corporate_parenting_plan_2017-20).

Year	Referrals
2016-2017	245
2017-2018	154
2018-2019	236

#### Yearly ASB Incidents by area

Area	Yearly ASB Incidents 2017-2018	Yearly ASB Incidents 2018-2019
Musselburgh	1,359	1,272
Prestonpans	649	612
Tranent	906	758
Haddington	651	571
North Berwick	213	179
Dunbar	456	509
Total	<b>4,234</b>	<b>3,901</b>

Key themes and priorities in 2018/19 included<sup>10</sup>:

- Young people missing from local authority care
- Child sexual exploitation
- The very significant rise in levels of domestic violence
- The Prevent agenda

There has been a continued increase in the number of domestic abuse incidents recorded by the Police in East Lothian. In the 2018/19 reporting period 1145 incidents were recorded, against 932 during the previous year. 103 victims of domestic abuse (with a total of 137 children) were referred to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) during the 2018/19 year, against 78 victims (with a total of 110 children) during the previous year. The test for MARAC is risk of homicide or serious harm.

In 2019/20, the chief officers group agreed to take a closer look at this area in terms of how we resource and support victims, but also what we are doing to create the conditions in communities and families that prevent and reduce the incidence of domestic abuse.

The children's strategic partnership works with and supports the work of EMPPC in implementing two multi-agency practice frameworks aimed at strengthening our work with families to help them reduce the risks to their children and protect them, and themselves from future harm.

Children's social work department are still committed to implementing 'Signs of safety' as an approach to supporting families with a four day learning and development programme for all social work staff covering the tools for practice.

<sup>10</sup> Link to EMPPC annual report 2018/19

The Public Protection office is also committed to implementing 'Safe and Together'

## **CSP commitment 5.**

### **Improving young people's mental health and wellbeing**

#### **Safe, Healthy, Respected, Responsible and Included**

Mental health and wellbeing is of central importance to the development, attainment, social and emotional health and positive destinations for children and young people. From birth to 25 years a young person's life is made up of relationship building, challenges, transitions, and experiences that shape and make the adult they become, the identity they hold, and the view of the world and others they retain.

In common with other HSCP areas, East Lothian has:

- Issues with accessing CAMHS in a timely manner- long waiting times for children and young people to access support from CAMHS
- A high percentage of rejected referrals from CAMHS due to inappropriate referrals – between 20-40% month to month
- An increase over the last 5 years in number of referrals made to CAMHS (by 22%)
- An increase over the last 5 years in number of referrals to CAMHS for neurodevelopmental disorders

#### **Current performance**

- Average time children and young people waited between referral and first appointment in 2017/18 was 13 weeks in NHS Lothian, compared with 11 weeks nationally
- At August 2018, 65.5% of children and young people were seen within 18 weeks
- There is an improving trend for numbers of accepted referrals although around one third are rejected.

#### **Specific challenges faced by East Lothian:**

- There has been a dramatic increase in CAMHS referrals in the last 5 years, resulting in extremely long waiting times. 6 months on average but longer at times. There has been a particular rise in neurodevelopmental issues and in anxiety.
- The East Lothian CAMHS team is a small resource and there has been a focus on tightening up on which referrals can be accepted, bearing in mind that CAMHS is a service aimed at meeting the needs of the most mentally unwell young people in our community. The need to focus on reducing waiting times has meant that CAMHS clinicians have had to focus away from community capacity building.

- As part of the budget recovery plan (Sept 2016), Tier 2 support (community mental health workers) was stopped initially for a 12m period but has yet to be reintroduced.
- A significant gap in support and services at Tier 1 and 2 level for children and young people means there is a real deficit in provision for young people with lower level mental health problems. Although there are some good supports for young people in particular areas of East Lothian there is no 'across the piece' provision and there is not a clear network of support for young people who require more than the support that is available in schools, but less than the support offered through CAMHS
- Without early intervention, mental health problems often persist and develop, resulting in referral back to CAMHS with more serious issues
- There is not yet the partnership working to develop Tier 1 and 2 support with the third sector. In other HSCP areas, the third sector are supported, part funded and encouraged to take a lead role in supporting young people and children around mental health and wellbeing. Third Sector and Education service do not work as closely together as we need here in East Lothian. There is also a real lack in primary age, intensive parenting support and education and in early intervention around school refusal.
- A lack of evidence-based parenting programmes coordinated through the H&SCP PoPP (psychology of parenting project, an evidence-based parenting programme) was supported several years ago but has not been maintained by teams locally.

#### Summary of next steps:

- We have established a multi-agency group to develop a coordinated and coherent tiered approach that will reflect the differences between our communities but ensure we offer consistent evidence-based services that all children can access.
- Prioritising- giving support and funding to- Tier 1 and 2 support for children and young people who do not require the specialist CAMHS support but do require some level of intervention that can allow their mental health to be supported while it is vulnerable. This would include finding a level of funding to support Third Sector or partnership approaches across East Lothian, to ensure parity and equity of support across localities
- All staff will be trained in dealing with distressed and challenging behaviours to support children and young people with wellbeing concerns
- Ensuring that key messages about supporting mental health and using evidence about protecting wellbeing and encouraging resilience are utilised in universal child and adult services. There is good evidence about the importance of consistent quality relationships with adults, of the impact of early experience and of ways in which activities can support wellbeing and resilience which cut across the work of both adult and child practitioners within the HSCP

- Strengthening and coordinating parenting support programmes locally. This again needs to be across localities in East Lothian, recognising that there are different needs in different areas- for example isolation in rural areas, impact of deprivation in some areas.

### **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.

## **CSP commitment 6.**

**Additional support needs and disability: children with a disability are enabled to make appropriate progress to the best of their abilities**

**Included, Achieving, Respected**

### **Children's services disability team**

During 2018/19, in partnership with parents, the team completed work to re-design a new Section 23 and 24 (Children (Scotland) Act) assessment process. Families told us that the existing assessment process felt intrusive and not always proportionate. The team started from the premise that the assessment needed to provide sufficient information to establish eligibility and then level of support needs which would then indicate the level of personal budget required to meet child's outcomes. Work achieved included:

- Replacement of the S24 Assessment with the new Carer's Assessment. Following consultation the new assessment is ready for use.
- Designed a new SHANARRI-based tool to replace the vulnerability tool. Following completion of the S23 assessment and carer's assessment, the tool is completed by the worker with the family which is then presented at the multi-agency resource panel. Panel members score using the tool independently of the family.

- Design of a new funding table in partnership with Martin Donkin from In Control Scotland. This was the culmination of detailed work to review current spend on each child and young person receiving support; numerous desk top exercises with the team (the composition of which has changed over time) to reach shared thresholds i.e. shared understanding of the difference between small, some, lots and exceptional support for each of the aspects of the tool. The funding table was successfully piloted at the six panels held in 2018.
- Piloting a “Small Budget for Under 5s” in recognition that these children are growing and developing and therefore it’s often not the most appropriate time to be undertaking a full assessment. Most children of this age do not require a significant budget and therefore where there was eligibility we offered the family the option to go straight to Support Planning with a small budget to meet the child’s outcomes and with the option of a fuller assessment when they start school. The small budget did not have the option of purchasing “support” for example a personal assistant.

Learning from the Small Budgets for Under 5s it was apparent that some children and young people (not just the under 5s) only require a very small personal budget to make a difference and to support them at home. Completing a full Section 23 Assessment is time consuming for families and workers. We recognised there was scope for extending the small budgets and feedback told us families wanted the option of purchasing support. Following our Away Day in October 2018 we have introduced a “Proportionate Assessment”. Where eligibility has been established families are now given the choice of assessment - either fuller or more proportionate under Section 23 of Children (Scotland) Act and can use the budget to purchase their own support.

### **Scoping task – Support and services for children and young people with autism**

The East Lothian Autism Strategy 2015 was the result of consultation with families, carers and professionals from health, the third sector and the local authority. The strategy set out the commitment of the East Lothian Partnership to support people with autism, their families and carers and how this would be delivered. An autism implementation group was tasked with implementing the improvement actions within the plan.

We received feedback that families and carers and professionals would value consistency in the application of skills of those working with autistic young people. In response to this a Learnpro module on autism awareness was developed. A post diagnostic autism worker was also in post from 2017- 2019 based with CAMHS in Musselburgh. This post allowed for trouble shooting where professionals were able to access support when working with complex, challenging situations which can arise at any time. Funding from the Scottish Government ceased in February 2019 and the post was not continued.

We know that autistic children and young people are more likely than their typically developing peers to need to access a range of services resulting in multiple referrals and repetitive assessments. Currently there is not a centralised contact point and some families describe feeling overwhelmed when faced with navigating through the different agencies. Further areas for development include developing links with community based resources, further education, employment and training and transition to adult services.

Summary of recommendations from the scoping exercise:

- maintain and develop: Family and Carer ASD Post Diagnosis Group, Family and Carer Follow Up Meetings, Family and Carer ASD Information Sessions
- Increase take up of Learnpro module across all services
- Consider a dedicated ASD specialist support service which could support children's planning and both formal and informal training opportunities for professionals within East Lothian Services as well as providing a direct point of contact for families and carers
- A refreshed East Lothian Autism Strategy Implementation Group should maintain an overview and delegated responsibility for the updating of the East Lothian ASD Information Pack for Families and Carers

## 5. What's ahead for children's services in 2019/20

2018/19 provided an opportunity to review the effectiveness of the partnership and test out new approaches to children's services planning. This included better use of data to inform priorities and demonstrate the impact of our collaborative work. 2019/20 will see the full implementation of the new integrated education and children's services department and the work to re-launch our approach to Getting it Right for Every Child in East Lothian. This has been informed by findings of work to review our approach and offer to children with additional support needs and a significant piece of work to review the drivers for the significant increase in demand for care placements in children's services. Developing a strategic partnership approach to family and parenting support and improving young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing are strong themes that have emerged within 2019/20 and will be prioritised within the new children's services plan 2020-23.





## 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](#)

