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**Service Director – Legal, Governance and
Commissioning**

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Thursday 5 March 2020

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Children's Scrutiny Panel

The **Children's Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the **Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **11.00 am** on **Friday 13 March 2020**.

This meeting will be webcast live and will be available to view via the Council's website.

The items which will be discussed are described in the agenda and there are reports attached which give more details.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Muscroft', on a light-colored background.

Julie Muscroft

Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

Kirklees Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair/Clerk of their intentions prior to the meeting.

The Children's Scrutiny Panel members are:-

Member

Councillor Andrew Marchington

(Chair)

Councillor Aafaq Butt

Councillor Paul Davies

Councillor Amanda Pinnock

Councillor Richard Smith

Councillor Paul White

Toni Bromley (Co-Optee)

Dale O'Neill (Co-Optee)

Linda Summers (Co-Optee)

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of the Committee

To receive apologies for absence of Members who are unable to attend the meeting.

2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1 - 6

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on the 17th January 2020.

3: Interests

7 - 8

The Councillors will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have disclosable pecuniary interests, which would prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items, or any other interests.

4: Admission of the Public

Most debates take place in public. This only changes when there is a need to consider certain issues, for instance, commercially sensitive information or details concerning an individual. You will be told at this point whether there are any items on the Agenda which are to be discussed in private.

5: Deputations/Petitions

The Committee will receive any petitions and hear any deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also hand in a petition at the meeting but that petition should relate to something on which the body has powers and responsibilities.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10 (2), Members of the

Public should provide at least 24 hours' notice of presenting a deputation.

6: Public Question Time

The meeting will hear any questions from the general public.

7: Number and age of Children in Care

9 - 14

The Panel will consider a report giving the latest data on the number and age of children in care.

Contact Officer: Julie Bragg, Head of Corporate Parenting
(Children in Care and Care Leavers)

8: Almondbury Community School update

15 - 20

To provide Children's Scrutiny panel with an update on the implementation of the Council's decision to change the age range of Almondbury Community School from the 1st September 2020.

Contact: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director (Learning and Early Support)
Martin Wilby, Senior Strategic Manager (Education and Access)

9: Review of 2019/20 Work Programme and consider items for 2020/21 municipal year

21 - 38

Members of the panel will consider the progress on the work programme during the 2019/20 municipal year and consider issues for inclusion in the Panel's work programme during the 2020/21 municipal year.

Contact Officer: Helen Kilroy, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

Contact Officer: Helen Kilroy

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL

Friday 17th January 2020

Present: Councillor Andrew Marchington (Chair)
Councillor Paul White

Co-optees Dale O'Neill
Linda Summers

In attendance: Julie Bragg, Service Manager (Children and Families)
Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources,
Improvement and Partnerships)
Mel Meggs, Director for Children's Services
Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director - Learning & Early
Support
Mary White, Commissioning & Partnerships Manager

Observers: Councillor Carole Pattison, Cabinet Member for Learning,
Aspiration and Communities

Apologies: Councillor Paul Davies
Toni Bromley (Co-Optee)

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Paul Davies, Cllr Richard Smith, Cllr Amanda Pinnock and Toni Bromley (Co-optee).

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED -

The minutes of the meetings of the Panel held on the 16th December 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

3 Interests

No interests were declared.

4 Admission of the Public

All items were considered in public session.

5 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

6 Public Question Time

No questions were received from the public.

7 Number and Age of Children in Care

The Panel considered a report giving an update on the number and age of children in care presented by Julie Bragg, Head of Corporate Parenting (Children in Care and Care Leavers).

In response to a question from the Panel relating to the number of children in care under 1 year old, Julie Bragg advised that there had been an increase in numbers following more pre-birth assessments and plans had been agreed for some children to come into care. The Chair of the Panel, Cllr Marchington, agreed to discuss this matter in more detail at the Lead Member Briefings and report back to the Panel.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to the placement of young people in unregistered homes, Mel Meggs advised that part of the plan for young people leaving care was for them to live in semi-independent accommodation when it was right for them to live without support. Mel Meggs further explained that some young people did not do well in children's homes and thrived when they moved into semi-independent accommodation and often made strides in that environment. Mel Meggs advised the Panel that it would not be appropriate for children to live in unregistered children's homes and Kirklees did challenge non-registered children's homes. The Panel was advised that all necessary checks were undertaken to ascertain if the home was the right place for the child but that it was often a complex issue. The Panel was advised that there had been a recent review of children in care by well qualified staff to ensure that all children were supported properly and officers had been looking at what provision was available in the next 2 years for the 16 plus age range. The Panel was informed that children leaving care still had a co-person until the age of 18 and that they could ring that person should they have any issues. Mel Meggs advised the Panel that it was important to the Service to nurture good relationships between young people leaving care and the Independent Reviewing Officers. Mel Meggs advised the Panel that the Independent Reviewing Officers would check that the quality of care was up to the required standard and as they were independent they provided challenge to the Children's Service and could also escalate issues if necessary.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to reducing the number of children placed outside Kirklees, Julie Bragg advised that the Council was constantly trying to reduce this figure but some children wished to stay in the area where they had been placed due to networks and attachments formed and schools that they were attending. The Panel was informed that placements of children in care outside the district were reviewed on a regular basis to ensure they were meeting the needs of the child. Tom Brailsford informed the Panel that the Council's ambition was to place as few children as possible outside the district and that officers were looking at a number of creative ways to achieve this. Mel Meggs advised that the Council's aspiration was to have no children living outside the area within approximately 5 years. The Panel was informed that the Children's Service were in discussions with other Local Authorities who did not have any children living outside the area to learn from their approaches and practices.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to how children in care felt about it and what their experiences were, Julie Bragg advised that the Children's Service did work with young people in care to help them to understand their situations which

Children's Scrutiny Panel - 17 January 2020

could often be complex and that there were forums such as the Children in Care Council where officers could listen to children and their experiences. Julie Bragg assured the Panel that it was very important to the Service to listen to children as the services and support could only be improved if the Council learnt from their feedback.

Cllr Marchington advised the Panel that a report would shortly be considered by the Corporate Parenting Board on the Voice of the Child and agreed to share the report with the Children's Scrutiny Panel when it was available. The Panel requested that information be included in future reports on the voice of the child and their experiences and officers should demonstrate to the Panel that children were being listened to. Tom Brailsford advised the Panel that a lot of good work was being undertaken within the Service on the children's voice and how this could be embedded across the service.

In response to a question from the Panel regarding special guardianships and what support was offered to wider families, Julie Bragg advised that the Council continued to support the transition from birth to being cared for by family members to make sure the carers were confident and had the support team they required. Julie Bragg further explained that the Carer and Connected Support Team supported carers, families and grandparents and it was about their needs and those of the family and what support they required. The Panel was informed that Children's Services had been working closely with Grandparents Plus and a carer's independent support group had been set up that met regularly and was run by themselves.

RESOLVED –

1. The Panel noted the report on Number and Age of Children in Care and thanked Julie Bragg for her contributions.
2. The Panel agreed to visit the Independent Reviewing Officers to further explore the support they give to young people leaving care or living in semi-independent accommodation.
3. The Panel agreed that the voice of the child and their experiences should be clearly demonstrated in all future reports to the Panel.
4. The Chair of the Panel agreed to discuss the numbers of children in care under 1 year old at Lead Member Briefings and report back to the Panel.

8 Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership Plan

The Panel considered a report on the new Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership agreements and the draft Children and Young People's Plan presented by Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources, Improvements and Partnerships) and Mary White, Commissioning and Partnerships Manager.

Mary White informed the Panel that the Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership was relaunched following consultation and engagement at an event in March 2019 which was attended by 80 participants from a cross section of organisations working with children in Kirklees. The new partnership model was developed at the March event and aspired to bring together collective insight, expertise and resources to collaborate to achieve the best start in life for children

Children's Scrutiny Panel - 17 January 2020

and young people. The Children's Partnership identified a need to improve outcomes in 3 new priority areas which were:-

- To work to alleviate the impact of poverty on children;
- To support inclusion and better outcomes for LGBT+ young people;
- To grow the Council's youth offer – places to go, people to see, things to do.

Tom Brailsford advised the Panel that a number of key performance indicators had been defined to inform the Service if the partnership arrangements were working as they should be.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to how success was measured and how confident the Service was that they were meeting their aspirations in terms of the Children and Young People's Partnership, Tom Brailsford agreed to bring a further update to the Panel in the future on this matter.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to the voice of the child and how this could be demonstrated, Tom Brailsford advised that formal boards were held where children could attend and give their opinion and children and young people would be asked to feedback into the Partnership Plan. Tom Brailsford informed the Panel that the voice of the child was very important to the Children's Service and that it was essential to engage with children and young people and talk to them about their experiences.

RESOLVED –

1. The Panel noted the report on the new Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership agreements and the draft Children and Young People's Plan and thanked Tom Brailsford and Mary White for their contributions.
2. That the Panel consider a future report on the measures for success of the Children and Young People's Partnership.

9 Children's Scrutiny Panel Work Programme and agenda plan for 2019/20

The Panel considered the work programme and agenda plan for the 2019/20 and considered issues for inclusion.

Jo-Anne Sanders gave an update on the Almondbury Community School and highlighted the following key issues:-

- The Ofsted report for Almondbury Community School following the inspection in November 2019 was now available to view on the Ofsted website; Leaders and Managers at the School were taking effective action towards removing special measures;
- The Learning Service was focusing on planning the staff transitions and working with the partnerships at the school to begin the staff engagements and would update the Panel at future meetings on progress;
- An evaluation would be taken of the Greenside Building to ensure it would be fit for purpose to house primary age youngsters to meet their learning outcomes and work had begun to assess what was required;
- Further work was being undertaken with the King James Partnership to progress the investment in their physical space.

Children's Scrutiny Panel - 17 January 2020

The Panel noted that future updates would be provided to the Panel on Almondbury Community School.

The Panel agreed to consider a report on the following:-

- SEND and the 10 point improvement plan – March 2020;
- Elective Home Education Ad Hoc Panel Final report – March 2020.

RESOLVED –

1. That the 2019/20 Agenda Plan and Work Programme for the Children's Scrutiny Panel be noted and updated as agreed.
2. That the Governance Officer be authorised to liaise with officers on agreed actions.

10 Dates of future meetings

RESOLVED –

The Panel noted the future meeting dates of the Panel during the 2019/20 municipal year:-

- 13th March 2020, 11 am
- 17th April 2020, 11 am

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL			
COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC			
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS			
Childrens Scrutiny Panel			
Name of Councillor			
Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]	Brief description of your interest

Signed: Dated:

NOTES

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your disclosable pecuniary interests under the new national rules. Any reference to spouse or civil partner includes any person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or as if they were your civil partner.

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.

Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -

- under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
- which has not been fully discharged.

Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) - the landlord is your council or authority; and the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

- (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
- (b) either -

the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or

if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Name of meeting: Children's Scrutiny Panel
Date: 13th March 2020
Title of report: Number and Age of Children in Care

Purpose of report

To provide information to the Panel on a regular basis relating to the number and profile of children in our care. Including information related to the number placed outside of the District.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	NA
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	NA
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	NA
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Elaine McShane for Mel Meggs (28.2.20)
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	NA
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	NA
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr V Kendrick Children's Portfolio

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: No

Public or private: Public

(Have you considered GDPR?)

Yes GDPR has been considered. The information in this report does not identify any individuals.

1. Summary

This graph shows the number of children in care (672 excluding any looked after children receiving only S20 short term breaks) alongside the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC).

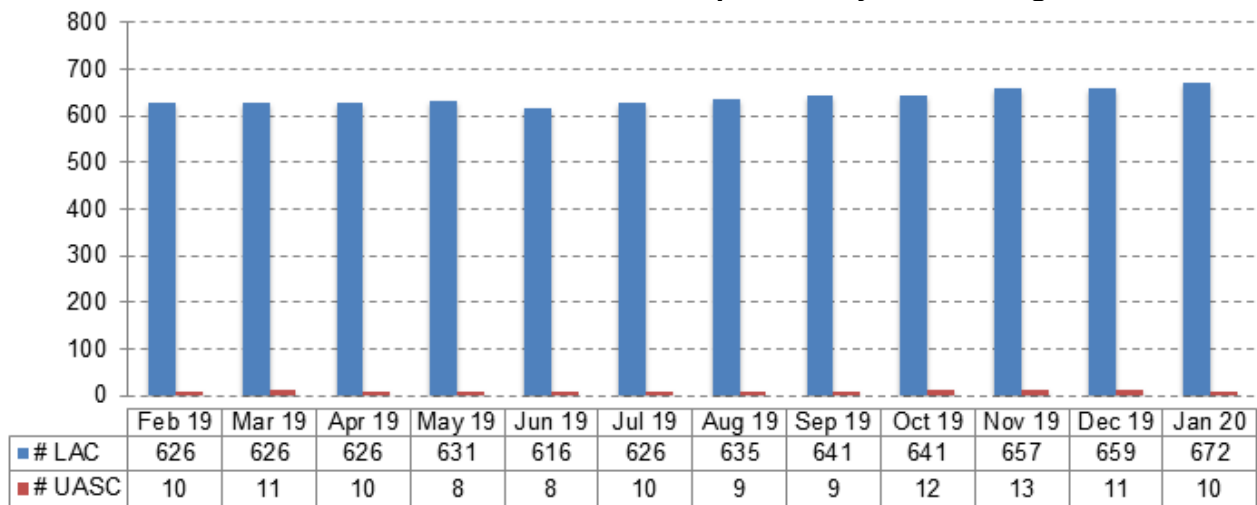
The current number of LAC equates to a rate per 10,000 population aged 0-17 of 67.1. This compares to a statistical neighbour average of 91.6 and a national average of 65.0 based on recently published data for March 2019.

Kirklees (Jan 20) = 67.1

Statistical Neighbours (2019) = 91.6

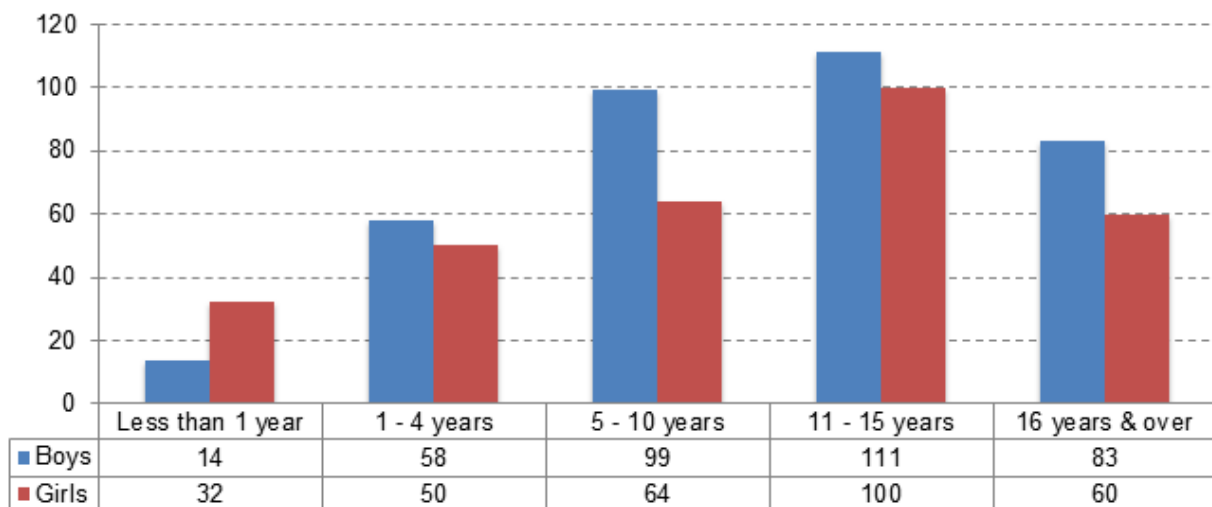
England (2019) = 65.0

Number of Looked After Children and Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children



This graph shows the breakdown by age and gender of the children in care. The largest age group for boys is 11 - 15 years with 111 (112) children and the largest age group for girls is 11 - 15 years with 100 (99) children.

Looked After Children age and gender breakdown

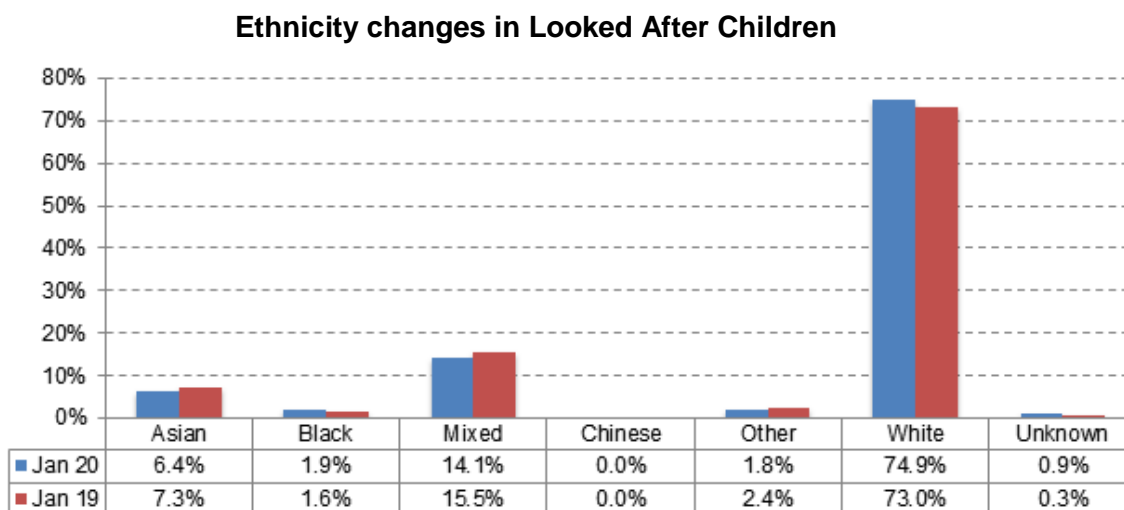


Statistical Neighbours

Local Authorities that the Department for Education regard as similar and close socio economically to Kirklees, not measured by population size.

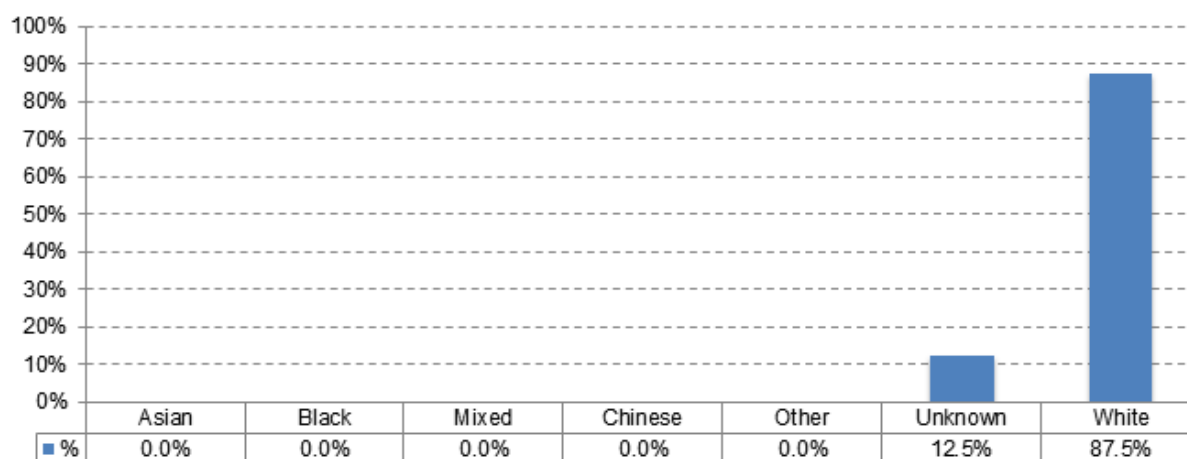
Local Authorities "Very Close"* to Kirklees (* Source LAIT)
Kirklees Council
Rochdale Borough Council
Bolton Council
Calderdale Council
Bury Borough Council
Dudley MBC
Derby City
Lancashire Council
Stockton-on Tees Borough Council
Leeds City Council
Telford & Wrekin Council

This graph shows the ethnic breakdown of the children looked after population at the end of January 2020 and the same point 12 months ago. This has been relatively stable throughout the period.



This graph shows the percentage breakdown by ethnicity of children entering care this month. Note that this outcome is based on small numbers. In January 2020 there were 8 young people who were recorded as entering care at the point of data extraction in the month of whom 7 were White and 1 did not yet have an ethnicity recorded.

Ethnicity of children becoming looked after this month



Children and Young People placed more than 20 miles outside of Kirklees

The number of looked after children placed outside Kirklees District and 20 plus miles from their home address was 85 on 31 January 2020. This follows a continuum of decline from a number of 127 in 2017. The majority of our children and young people placed out of area are placed in foster care, the remainder are placed in children's homes, semi-independent homes, a small number in youth custody or other specialist settings.

The current Number of Children and Young People placed outside Kirklees and more than 20 miles from home is 85. This equates to 12.6% of the total LAC cohort. The recent historical position is detailed below:

	30 Nov 2019		31 Dec 2019		31 Jan 2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Placed outside Kirklees & over 20 miles from home address	80	12.2%	81	12.3%	85	12.6%

Semi Independent Accommodation aged 16 plus

On 31st January there were 36 young people accommodated in semi-independent accommodation, 25 within District and 11 of our young people placed outside of the Kirklees District as detailed below.

Placements outside of Kirklees in semi-independent living accommodation (not subject to Children's Home regulations)			
As at 31/01/2020			
LA of Placement	Aged 16	Aged 17	Total
Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council		3	3
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	2	1	3
Leeds City Council		4	4
London Borough Merton		1	1
Total	2	9	11
Legal Status	Aged 16	Aged 17	Total
Full Care Order	2	5	7
S20 CA 1989 - Single Placement		4	4
Total	2	9	11

2. **Information required to take a decision**

No decision is required, this report is submitted at the request of the Board to monitor the number of children in care. This report is also shared with the Children's Scrutiny Panel on a monthly basis.

3. **Implications for the Council**

3.1 **Working with People**
Not applicable

3.2 **Working with Partners**
Not applicable

3.3 **Place Based Working**
Not applicable

3.4 **Climate Change and Air Quality**
Not applicable

3.5 **Improving Outcomes for Children**
This information is provided at the request of Corporate Parenting Board to monitor the number of children in care their age and location of placements.

3.6 **Reducing demand of services**
Not applicable

3.7 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**
Not applicable

4. **Consultees and their opinions**
Not applicable

5. **Next steps**
A similar report will be presented to future meetings of the Corporate Parenting Board.
6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**
That the report be noted.
7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**
Not applicable
8. **Contact officer**
Julie Bragg, Head of Corporate Parenting
9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**
Previous reports to the Children's Scrutiny on number and age of children in care.
10. **Service Director responsible**
Elaine McShane, Service Director (Child Protection and Family Support)

Name of meeting: Children’s Scrutiny Panel
Date: 13th March 2020
Title of report: Almondbury Community School update

Purpose of report: To provide Children’s Scrutiny panel with an update on the implementation of the Council’s decision to change the age range of Almondbury Community School from the 1st September 2020.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	n/a
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council’s Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision – n/a Private Report/Private Appendix – n/a
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not Applicable
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Jo-Anne Sanders (for Mel Meggs) – 03/03/20
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	n/a
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	n/a
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Carole Pattison – Learning and Aspiration Cllr Viv Kendrick – Children’s Services

Electoral wards affected: Almondbury

Ward councillors consulted: Ward members are receiving regular updates

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? GDPR has been considered. The information in this report does not identify any individuals.

1. Summary

A report was provided to Children's Scrutiny panel on 16th December 2020 outlining the progress made in implementing the decision to remove the secondary phase of Almondbury Community School by 1st September 2020.

This report aims to provide Children's Scrutiny panel with a further update on progress including information previously requested about the Academy Trust sponsoring Newsome High School and Almondbury Community School as a Primary School.

2. Current position

Working in partnership with Almondbury Community School, King James's School, Netherhall High School and Newsome High School

The partnership between Kirklees, Almondbury Community School, King James's School, Netherhall High School and Newsome High School remains positive with all parties committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for all pupils affected by the closure of the secondary phase of ACS.

This has resulted in decisions being made across a number of areas of this programme of work, details of which are included in this report.

Allocation of school places for current pupils at Almondbury Community School (current years 7 to 10) from September 2020

All parents who submitted a preference were offered a place for their child at their preferred school from September 2020.

Where a preference was not submitted extensive support was offered to ensure to parental/carer preference was considered and that the child was offered a school place.

Remaining pupils were auto allocated a place in their PAA school, in all cases this resulted in a place being offered at King James's.

There is currently one child who has yet to be allocated a place for September, but this is due to them currently being involved in another process. Monitoring of this case continues, and support will be provided if required.

All the partner schools have been fully involved in this process and plans for transition are well underway. Communications directly from the chosen schools are expected during March which will include information about parental engagement opportunities.

Uniform support

Parents of children who have moved schools in-year have been contacted regarding provision of a contribution towards the cost of uniforms already purchased and these payments are currently being processed.

The process for providing items of uniform for pupils still to move has been agreed and information about this shared with affected parents. Free uniform vouchers will be issued to parents before the planned transition for their child/ren.

Admissions Arrangements

Following temporary changes to priority admission areas agreed by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator for September 2020, steps have been taken to normalise these arrangements for 2021 onwards.

Following the required consultation, the proposal for King James's School change to their catchment area (PAA) to include the primary admission areas of Almondbury Community School and All Hallows' CE(VA) Primary School was agreed in February 2020.

Following the required local authority consultation the proposals to changes the catchment areas of Newsome High School to include Lowerhouses CE(VC) Junior, Infant and Early Years School primary catchment area and Netherhall Learning Campus High School to include parts of Moldgreen Community Primary School primary catchment area were agreed at cabinet on Tuesday 25th February 2020.

Staffing/HR

Briefings have taken place with all Almondbury Community School staff, keeping them updated on the process going forward.

All staff have been aligned to either the primary or secondary phase based on where they carried out the whole or majority of their duties within the school. Staff received individual letters advising them of the phase to which they had been aligned and were given a period of time to consider this and discuss if they had queries. This period has now ended, and subsequently staff are now aligned to either the primary or secondary phase.

Primary phase staff will be engaged in a formal consultation about a new staffing structure to be implemented for September 2020, the consultation will be starting in early March. The proposed structure for the primary phase for September 2020 has been discussed and agreed by the Interim Executive Board and this has been shared with the trade unions and professional associations.

ACS Staff have been informed of a deployment agreement that has been agreed with the three partner schools, and have started to be given early access to vacancies. Vacant posts at King James's School, Netherhall Learning Campus High School and Newsome High School have been shared with secondary phase staff providing them with an opportunity to apply for suitable positions ahead of wider advertising. Further opportunities are expected to follow.

Ofsted monitoring

Following the Ofsted monitoring visit that took place at ACS on the 12th and 13th November 2019 the outcome was published on 19th December 2019 in the form of a letter to the school. The inspector concluded "Leaders and managers are taking effective action towards the removal of special measures" and the local authority's statement of action is fit for purpose and that the school's improvement plan is fit for purpose

The full letter is available at the following link:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/28/107758>

The Academy Trust sponsoring Newsome High School and Almondbury Community School as a Primary School

Scrutiny previously requested information about Impact Multi Academy Trust, the Academy Trust that has been approved as sponsor for both Newsome High School and Almondbury Community School as a Primary school.

Impact currently have the following schools in their Academy Trust;

Calderdale

The Halifax Academy – for 4 to 16 year olds

Ofsted rating: Good September 2017

Founding Academy in Impact Education MAT: September 2016

Warley Road Academy – for 4-11-year olds plus Nursery
Ofsted rating: Good November 2017
Joined Impact Education MAT: March 2019

The Whitley AP Academy – Alternative Provision for 7-16 year olds
Ofsted rating: Good July 2017
Joined Impact Education MAT: August 2019

Kirklees

Castle Hall Academy - for 11 to 16 year olds
Ofsted rating: Not yet inspected (Predecessor Inadequate November 2016)
Joined Impact Education MAT: Sept 2018

Approved sponsor for Newsome High School, Almondbury Community School and Old Bank Junior, Infant and Nursery School.

Impact Multi Academy Trust has the following mission statement and vision;

Mission

Impact Education Multi Academy Trust is on a mission to improve the life chances of children and young people and improve social mobility for the disadvantaged.

Vision

A Trust where hearts and minds connect; values-driven partners who work collaboratively to ensure education impacts positively on students, families, communities and staff.

Impact is a values driven organisation with the belief that collaborative leadership and strong partnership development can lead to significant positive impact on the quality of education. We believe that this can happen without schools losing their own identity.

We are an organisation where Hearts and Minds Connect and have developed a culture and ethos that ensures children and young people achieve the very best outcomes whilst developing a life-long love of learning. We have high expectations academically but we also place a great emphasis on positive attitudes to learning and building effective relationships with others. Our children and young people are encouraged to develop themselves as fully rounded, emotionally intelligent individuals. Our people are highly valued and encouraged to take advantage of the wealth of developmental opportunities across the Trust.

<https://www.i-mat.org.uk/>

Colleagues from Impact have worked closely with officers in the Learning and Early support service since Castle Hall became part of their Trust in 2018. Impact continue to collaborate with officers and with the leaders of the schools that are to be sponsored by the Trust and are fully committed to partnership working to improve outcomes for children and their families.

Further information about the Academy Trust is available at the following link to their website <https://www.i-mat.org.uk/>.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1. Working with People

We are continuing to work with the partnership of local schools to plan smooth transition arrangements for all pupils to ensure that all children and young people enjoy the best possible standards of care and education in a school which is sustainable for the long term.

We continue to meet with a small group of parents, and we are ensuring that parents, staff and other key stakeholders are fully informed of progress through a robust plan of co-ordinated communication across the partnership of schools and continue to offer opportunities for questions to be asked and for any concerns to be raised.

3.2. Working with Partners

Regular meetings continue to be held with the Almondbury Community School Interim Executive Board and with leaders of local secondary schools regarding the future of the secondary school pupils.

Regular meetings are taking place with staff, school leaders and trade unions around ensuring that staff are clear on the process and are aware of opportunities available to them going forward.

We are continuing to build relationships with Impact Multi Academy Trust who are the future sponsor for Almondbury Community School and we are ensuring that they are included in discussions relating to the future of the school to ensure that the school meets the needs of the primary pupils and is sustainable in the long term.

3.3. Place Based Working

Following the recent preferencing exercise, all current Almondbury Community School pupils have been offered a place at their preferred local school.

We continue to work with the local partnership of schools to ensure that all local children have access to high quality educational opportunities.

3.4. Climate Change and Air Quality

The close collaboration between the partnership of schools have enabled parents to access schools local to where they live. This is supportive of enabling sustainable travel to schools.

3.5. Improving outcomes for children

Throughout programme of works involved, improving outcomes for children is at the heart of everything. In addition to ensuring that there are sufficient secondary places in the local area we continue to aim to maximise opportunities to:

- Offer high quality and inclusive education and diversity of provision to all
- Provide a breadth of curriculum offer that enables young people to have access to the widest opportunities to fulfil their aspirations and ambitions
- Be financially viable and therefore have future security
- Promote equality of opportunity
- Strengthen community cohesion
- Use sustainable travel and transport for school

3.6. Other (e.g. Legal/Financial or Human Resources)

Plans are in place for a cabinet process for consideration and approval of financial commitments relating to capital works in schools.

Work as outlined above relating to staffing and HR is underway and clear processes and timelines are being developed in line with agreed policy. Communications and engagement with staff is a priority and we are working with all affected staff to keep them fully informed, to ensure that they are aware of opportunities available and that that they are supported throughout the process where possible to reach an outcome that is right for them.

4. Consultees and their opinions

Communication with all stakeholders and keeping them up to date with progress and key milestones remains a priority.

A co-ordinated plan of communications to coincide with secondary school national offer day was devised in order to share key messages around plans for all King James's school year groups from September 2020.

Briefings and individual meetings have been held with staff at ACS and Trade Union colleagues are being kept fully involved in the HR process as it progresses.

Engagement opportunities are being planned for parents of pupils in each year group to give them the opportunity to ask further questions and raise any concerns they may have about the planned changes.

5. Next steps and timelines

- Continue to work with local schools on high quality transition arrangements for all ACS pupils
- Continue with the review of the primary phase staffing structure to ensure that it is fit for purpose for September 2020
- Continue to support staff aligned to the secondary phase with opportunities
- Issue school uniform payments as soon as possible and vouchers in advance of planned transitions
- Begin cabinet process to discuss and agree capital projects in partner schools going forward

6. Contact officer

Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director Learning and Early Support
Jo-anne.sanders@kirklees.gov.uk

Martin Wilby – Senior Strategic Manager – Learning Places and Access
Martin.wilby@kirklees.gov.uk

7. Background Papers and History of Decisions

[Future Options for ACS - Cabinet Report - 19 March 2019 \(agenda item no 20\)](#)
(Background and seeking permission to consult)

[Future Options for ACS - Outcome Report for Cabinet 29 May 2019 \(agenda item no 9\)](#)
(Outcomes of the consultation and next steps including publication of statutory notices)

[Future Options for ACS - Final Decision report for Cabinet - 16 July 2019 \(agenda item no 8\)](#)
(Final decision)

[Call-in of Cabinet decision in relation to Almondbury Community School](#)
(Call-in in relation to the decision taken by Cabinet)

8. Service Director responsible

Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director Learning and Early Support
Jo-anne.sanders@kirklees.gov.uk

Children's Scrutiny Panel

Agenda Plan 2019/20

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p>19 July 2019</p> <p>9am -10am Informal meeting</p> <p>10-12 noon Public meeting</p> <p>Meeting Room 1, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 9.7.19</p> <p>Apologies: Mel Meggs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Informal items:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Performance report</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Public Items:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Educational Challenges ahead and progress update and action plan for attendance and exclusions</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Number of Children in Care (to include an update on future plans for CIC outside the district)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">H Kilroy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J Sanders/ E McShane to present</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(H Sohel/M Cameron)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">S Comb</p>
<p>23 August 2019</p> <p>10-10.30 am Informal meeting</p> <p>10.30-12.30 pm Public meeting</p> <p>Reception Room, HTH</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr R Smith, E Brayford, T Bromley, Cllr Kendrick, J Sanders, Cllr Pattison</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Informal items:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Performance report</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Public Items:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Number of Children in Care</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Update on Exploitation Strategy and next steps</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ofsted report (Children's Services)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J Sanders/E McShane to present</p> <p style="text-align: center;">S Comb</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C Jackson/O Rix</p> <p style="text-align: center;">E McShane/S Comb</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p>23 September 2019</p> <p>10.30-11 am Informal meeting</p> <p>11am-1pm Public meeting</p> <p>Council Chamber, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 11.9.19</p>	<p>Informal Items</p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>SEND progress on recommendations</p> <p>New arrangements for Children’s Safeguarding and the KSCB Business Plan</p> <p>Verbal update on Almondbury Community School</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present</p> <p>Steve Comb</p> <p>Mandy Cameron/Victoria Bruce</p> <p>Sheila Lock, KSCB</p> <p>J Sanders</p>
<p>11 October 2019</p> <p>10-10.30 am Informal meeting</p> <p>10.30-12.30 pm Public meeting</p> <p>Meeting Rm 1, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 1.10.19</p> <p>Apols: D O’Neill</p>	<p>Informal Items</p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Update on Almondbury Community School – transitional arrangements and support to children with additional needs</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present</p> <p>J Sanders/M Wilby</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p>8 November 2019</p> <p>10-11 am Informal meeting</p> <p>11am-12.30 pm Public meeting</p> <p>Council Chamber, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 25.10.19</p> <p>Apols: M Meggs</p>	<p>Informal Items</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Update on repeat referrals and second time on CP plan action</p> <p>Update on Early Support Partnership</p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Almondbury Community School update</p>	<p>J Sanders/E McShane to present</p> <p>Elaine McShane (S Miles writing report)</p> <p>M Wheatcroft/R Singleton</p> <p>Steve Comb</p> <p>Jo-Anne Sanders/Martin Wilby</p>
<p>16 December 2019</p> <p>10.30-11.30 am Informal meeting</p> <p>11.30 am-1pm Public meeting</p> <p>Council Chamber, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 3.12.19</p> <p>Apols: T Bromley, M Meggs</p>	<p>Informal Items</p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes (31.10.19)</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Review of Improvement Journey</p> <p>Almondbury Community School update</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present</p> <p>Julie Bragg</p> <p>E McShane/T Brailsford/J Sanders</p> <p>J Sanders/M Wilby</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p>17 January 2020</p> <p>10-11 am Informal meeting</p> <p>11am-12.30 pm Public meeting</p> <p>Council Chamber, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 7.1.20</p> <p>Apols: Cllr P Davies, E McShane</p>	<p>Informal Items</p> <p>Educational Outcomes</p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership Plan</p> <p>Almondbury Community School – verbal update (under Work Programme item)</p>	<p>E Brayford</p> <p>H Kilroy</p> <p>Julie Bragg</p> <p>Tom Brailsford</p> <p>J Sanders</p>
<p>13 March 2020</p> <p>9.30am-10.30 am Informal meeting</p> <p>10.30 am-12.30 pm Public meeting</p> <p>Council Chamber, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 3.3.20</p> <p>Apols: M Meggs</p>	<p>Informal Items</p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes (for info)</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>SEND update</p> <p>Elective Home Education Adhoc Panel –Final report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Almondbury Community School update</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present (S Grigg to provide report)</p> <p>R Hartley</p> <p>H Kilroy (report from S Dykes)</p> <p>J Bragg</p> <p>J Sanders/M Wilby</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p>17 April 2020</p> <p>10-10.30 am Informal meeting</p> <p>10.30 am-12.30 pm Public meeting</p> <p>Council Chamber, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline 7.4.20</p> <p>Apols: E McShane, M Wheatcroft</p>	<p>Informal Items</p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Exploitation Strategy Update</p> <p>Early Years Event (Jan 2020) – feedback and next steps</p> <p>Learning Strategy</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present</p> <p>Julie Bragg</p> <p>E McShane</p> <p>Andrew Carden attending meeting (M Wheatcroft drafting report)</p> <p>H Sohel/J Sanders</p>

Future items (date to Panel to be agreed)

- Exclusions to include particular focus on early intervention, monitoring, the practice in Kirklees and temporary exclusions (H Sohel)
- Future report outlining how the new Ofsted framework for Education was working for schools and learners within Kirklees (H Sohel)
- Visits to schools to talk to children, young people and staff about the Learning Support Strategy (H Sohel)
- Children and Young People’s 10 Point Plan outlining the Service’s priorities (E McShane/J Sanders)
- Secure and Sufficient School Places (J Sanders) – 2020/21 municipal year
- Intervention work families to reduce tensions and impact in terms of repeat referrals, children coming into care and child protection plans (CSP 8.11.19) (M Wheatcroft)
- Outcomes of referrals to Family Group Conferencing (inc reasons where not been successful)(CSP 8.11.19) (M Wheatcroft)
- Child referrals of domestic violence/abuse (inc impact on young people and origins of referrals)(CSP 8.11.19) (E McShane)
- Results of Professor Thorpe’s research on development of front door (inc responses to child protection enquiries and referrals)(CSP 8.11.19) (E McShane)
- Support in place for children and young people once Child Protection Plan finishes (CSP 8.11.19) (E McShane)
- Updates on Almondbury Community School (as and when appropriate) (J Sanders/M Wilby)

- Youth Model (CSP 16.12)(E McShane) – date tbc
- Examples of good practice of placement stability – scenarios (CSP 16.12)(J Bragg)
- Kirklees Children and Young People’s Partnership Plan – success of Plan and how measured (T Brailsford) – date tbc
- Educational Outcomes - Longitudinal data from early years to KS1 (H Sohel/E Brayford) – date tbc

Visits

- Sufficiency Placement meetings (Lead Officer – Elaine McShane to advise) – to be arranged
- Early Years Event in January 2020 and consider a formal report at a future meeting giving feedback and next steps (Lead Officer: Michelle Wheatcroft) – to be arranged
- Practice Progress meetings (Lead Officer – Elaine McShane to advise) – to be arranged
- Key health partners (Lead Officer – Tom Brailsford to arrange)
- Northorpe Hall Single Point of Access (Locala) on 9.12.19
- Multi Agency meeting (Children’s) on 2.12.19
- Multi System Therapy Team (31st March 20)
- Youth Offending Team (27th Jan 20)
- Youth Offending Board (7th Feb 20)

Items for 2020/21 Municipal year

- Stronger Families (M Wheatcroft) – date tbc
- Visit to Early Support Teams to scrutinise impact – date tbc
- SEND Progress update – July 20

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

MEMBERS: Cllr Andrew Marchington (Chair), Cllr Paul White, Cllr Amanda Pinnock, Cllr Aafaq Butt, Cllr Richard Smith, Cllr Paul Davies, Linda Summers (Education Co-Optee), Dale O'Neill (Co-Optee), Toni Bromley (Co-Optee)

SUPPORT: Helen Kilroy, Principal Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
<p>1. Special Educational Needs</p>	<p>Monitor the progress of the recommendations from the Panel made to Cabinet following an investigation by the Panel into how SENDACT interacted and worked with parents and carers. The report contained the response of the Cabinet Portfolio Holders to the investigation findings which was approved by Cabinet in March 2019.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to consider progress updates during the 2019/20 municipal year.</p>	<p>That the Panel are confident that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children with SEND are receiving the appropriate support. • That SENDACT are fully prepared for the Ofsted inspection. • That SENDACT is a service that is regarded as 'good', with partners working alongside to ensure there is no delay for children. <p><u>Panel Meeting on 23 September 2019</u> The Panel considered a report giving an update on the recommendations made by Scrutiny and actions taken on the SENDACT Action Plan.</p> <p>The Panel agreed –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That they wanted to see greater clarification in the timescales outlined in the SENDACT action plan; 2. That the panel wanted to see that the voice of young people was captured and reflected in the work of SENDACT. <p><u>Informal Panel meeting 13th March 2020</u> The Panel will consider an update on the development and progress of the SEND 10 Point Improvement Plan and to provide an oversight of data.</p>
<p>2. Exploitation Strategy</p>	<p>The Panel considered a joint presentation by West Yorkshire Police and Senior Officers from Kirklees on CSE, Safeguarding and Licensing in March 2019 and agreed to be kept informed and to be able to contribute to the future work on the Exploitation Strategy and consider the findings of the Dr Peel Review in the new 2019/20 municipal year.</p>	<p>That the Panel is assured that lessons had been learned from previous cases of CSE.</p> <p>That the Panel is convinced that the best practices identified following the review by Dr Peel are being implemented in Kirklees, and ensure good outcomes for vulnerable children.</p>

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
	<p>Future reports should provide an update on sexual harm prevention orders and what has been learned from the historic cases.</p>	<p>That as many takeaways and accommodation providers as possible receive exploitation safeguarding training. That these providers begin to feel more comfortable and better informed as to how and when to report potential safeguarding issues.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 23rd August 2019</u> The Panel considered and noted an overview of the work that had been undertaken in response to improving the quality of practice and to prevent children being at risk and vulnerable to harm and abuse from Exploitation and or from going missing from home or care.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 17th April 2020</u> The Panel will consider an update report on the Exploitation Strategy.</p>
<p>3. Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Board (KSCB)</p>	<p>Review the improvements of the KSCB.</p> <p>The Panel will consider an update report on KSCB at a future meeting of the Panel in the 2019/20 municipal year.</p> <p>Future reports to the Panel should advise how Kirklees will implement the new national strategies on children's safeguarding.</p> <p>The Panel will consider the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Board Business Plan.</p>	<p>That the Board is considered as 'good' and that the Panel is satisfied that it is effective and accountable.</p> <p>That the Panel is convinced that the best practices identified following the review by Dr Peel are being implemented in Kirklees, and ensure good outcomes for vulnerable children.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 23 September 2019</u> The Panel considered a presentation from Sheila Lock, Chair of the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Board, outlining the following highlights:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - her role to Chair the multi-agency arrangements in Kirklees which was aimed at safeguarding and protecting children.; - the process that had been followed in establishing the new partnership arrangements that included Kirklees, the police and health through the clinical commissioning groups; - Kirklees had submitted its revised safeguarding arrangements to Government in May 2019 and the new arrangements were currently being implemented.

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
		<p>The Panel agreed –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That they acknowledged the need to continue to focus and promote openness and transparency in safeguarding matters and would investigate the effectiveness of this approach; 2. That they would consider further the Panel’s role in supporting and challenging the work of safeguarding partnerships in helping to reduce the risks to young people. <p>The Panel will scrutinise partnership working and will attend and observe meetings. See Improvement Journey of Children’s Services for further information.</p>
<p>4. Early Support Partnership (Edge of Care)</p>	<p>To maintain an overview of the work done to improve the Edge of Care in Kirklees.</p> <p>In April 2019, the Panel considered an update on the development on the three programmes funded through the Department for Education (DFE) Innovation Funding and agreed to consider an update in the 2019/20 municipal year giving data and statistics on the Early Support Partnership following development of the practices.</p>	<p>The Panel is assured that the Early Support Strategy in Kirklees is clarified and enhanced, and should include consideration of whether good practice from other areas might be effectively adapted for use in Kirklees.</p> <p>That as part of clarifying the Early Support approach, the role of Schools is considered and schools have the opportunity to be part of the approach.</p> <p>The Panel will consider arranging a visit to the Early Support Teams to gain a better understanding of the work that was being undertaken and the impact it was having and that this be considered as part the Panel’s work programme for the 2020/21 municipal year.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 8th November 2019</u></p> <p>The Panel considered an update on the Early Support Partnership. The Panel agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Panel consider data and analysis on the key areas of the Early Support approach when it was available. 2. That the Panel consider information at a future meeting regarding how the intervention work being carried out could have an impact in reducing the risks of tensions within families and how this might impact in terms of repeat referrals, children coming into care and child

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
		<p>protection plans.</p> <p>3. That the Panel consider information giving further detail on the outcomes of all referrals to Family Group Conferencing or the reasons why these may not have been successful.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 17 April 2020</u> The Panel will consider a report following the Early Years Event in March 2020 which will outline feedback from the event and next steps.</p>
<p>5. Review of the Improvement Journey</p>	<p>The Panel considered the Ofsted report following the inspection of Children’s Services in June 2019 and will receive future updates as appropriate.</p> <p>The Panel will review the improvement journey of Children’s Services and gather evidence as part of holding the service to account.</p>	<p>That the Panel is confident Children’s Services is continuing to improve and protect the vulnerable children and young people of Kirklees.</p> <p><u>Panel meeting on 23rd August 2019</u> The Panel considered and noted the outcome of the Ofsted Inspection regarding Children’s Social Care Services and agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the continuing work and actions to be taken to achieve improved outcomes as the next stage of the improvement journey, and the role of the Panel in supporting this, be noted. 2) That arrangements be put in place to arrange a Panel session regarding improving partnership working and governance structures. <p>The Panel will attend and observe the following meetings to scrutinise the partnership arrangements within Children’s Service and gather evidence:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sufficiency Placement meetings - Multi-Agency meeting on 2nd December 2019; - Early Years Event in January 2020 and consider a formal report at a future meeting giving feedback and next steps; - Practice Progress meetings; - Visits to key health partners – Northorpe Hall (Locala) Single Point of Access on 9th December 2019; - Visit to Youth Offending Board and YOT team; - Visit to Multi Systemic Therapy Team. - Independent Reviewing Officers

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
		<p><u>Panel Meeting 16 December 2019</u> The Panel considered an update on the Review of the Children’s Services Improvement Journey during 2019 and agreed to consider the Youth Model at a future meeting. The Panel also agreed that the voice of the child and their experiences should be reflected, clearly demonstrated and lessons learned in all aspects of work undertaken by the Children’s Service.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 17th January 2020</u> The Panel considered a report on the new Kirklees Children and Young People’s Partnership agreements and the draft Children and Young People’s Plan and agreed to consider a future report on the measures for success of the Children and Young People’s Partnership – date to be confirmed.</p>
<p>6. Educational Outcomes and the Learning Support Strategy</p>	<p>The Panel agreed to consider –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Draft Learning Support Strategy early in the 2019/20 municipal year; • what alternative provisions were available for children with different needs and abilities who are not able to attend mainstream education; • how isolations within secondary schools were being managed and what the planned approach was for the future; • a progress update on the educational challenges ahead, attendance and exclusions – July 2019. <p>The Panel on the 19th July 2019 agreed to consider educational outcomes for looked after children.</p> <p>The Corporate Parenting Board is looking at the issue of educational outcomes for looked after children and specifically the number of placement moves taking place which impact on the educational outcomes for looked after children.</p>	<p><u>Panel Meeting on 19th July 2019</u> The Panel considered a report outlining the educational landscape in Kirklees and agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That further information on exclusions be considered by the Panel to include particular focus on early intervention, monitoring, the practice in Kirklees and temporary exclusions. 2. That the Panel consider a future report outlining how the new Ofsted framework for Education was working for schools and learners within Kirklees. <p>The Panel agreed as part of their work programme for 2019/20 to visit schools to talk to children, young people and staff about the Learning Support Strategy.</p> <p>The Panel will consider whether to scrutinise Secure and Sufficient School places – provisionally for the 2020/21 municipal year.</p>

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
		<p>The Lead Member for Children's Scrutiny Panel will keep a watching briefing on this matter and ask the Corporate Parenting Board to report back to the Panel with their findings.</p> <p><u>Informal Panel Meeting on 17th January 2020</u> The Panel will consider an update on the Educational Outcomes for 2019.</p>
<p>7. Number of children in care</p>	<p>A standing item for each meeting containing details of how many children are in care, and particularly how many are placed out of area.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to consider a more detailed report on children in care living outside Kirklees with some case studies showing the case history, challenges involved including financial demand on Kirklees and different types of placements. The report should also include the number of children who cannot be placed in Kirklees and the reasons why.</p>	<p>The Panel is satisfied that the Early Help initiatives are having an impact on the number of children in care.</p> <p>That children are placed in foster care as near to home as possible, unless they are placed with family connected persons which may be a further distance.</p> <p>The latest reports showing number of children in care will be considered by the Panel as a standing item.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 19th July 2019</u> The Panel agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the figures for data for children looked after age and gender breakdown be checked for accuracy and an update be provided at the next meeting of the Panel in August 2019. 2. That the Panel consider educational outcomes and stability for looked after children as part of the work programme for 2019/20. <p><u>Panel Meeting on 8th November 2019</u> The Panel agreed that officers should continue to monitor the stability of the data for looked after children less than 2 years old due to the fact that the numbers had increased over the previous 3 month period.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 16th December 2019</u> The Panel considered an update on the number and age of children in care and agreed to consider scenarios at a future meeting which demonstrated</p>

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
		<p>examples of good practice of placement stability.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting on 17th January 2020</u> The Panel considered a report on the number and age of children in care and agreed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To visit the Independent Reviewing Officers to further explore the support they give to young people leaving care or living in semi-independent accommodation – date to be confirmed. - That the voice of the child and their experiences should be clearly demonstrated in all future reports to the Panel; - That the Chair of the Panel would discuss the numbers of children in care under 1 year old at Lead Member Briefings and report back to the Panel.
<p>8. Future Options for Almondbury Community School</p>	<p>The Children’s Scrutiny Panel on the 7th August 2019 considered a Call-in request in respect of the decision made by Cabinet on the 16th July 2019 on Future Options for Almondbury Community School.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to consider regular updates on Almondbury Community School and the transitional arrangements for Children on roll at the school for the school year 2020/21.</p>	<p><u>Panel Meeting 7th August 2019 – Call-in Hearing</u> The Panel agreed that the Decision by Cabinet taken on the 16th July 2019 could be freed for implementation, however, recommended that Cabinet consider learning points on capacity and openness. The Panel agreed to consider regular updates on Almondbury Community School.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 23rd September 2019</u> The Panel considered a verbal update which highlighted the following key areas:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - planning was in place to create the right opportunities for transition for young people currently receiving secondary education at Almondbury; - the council had made applications to the agencies requesting a variation to the admission arrangements as they wished for every child in the Almondbury school catchment area had priority to attend another local school; - the approach the council was taking to communicating with parents

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
		<p>and would be writing directly to the families whose children were affected by the changes.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 11th October 2019</u> The Panel considered an update regarding Almondbury Community School, following the Council's decision to change the age range of the school from 1st September 2020.</p> <p>The Panel agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to consider an update report to the November meeting outlining next steps and progress and which would include an outline of the transitional arrangements for children years 7 to 10. 2. to consider a future report on the success rating of the Academy Trust that was sponsoring Newsome High School and that the report should include an update on the management arrangements for the school, which had received an Ofsted judgement of special measures. 3. to attend meetings with parents regarding the transitional arrangements for children from Almondbury Community School for the school year 2020/21. <p>The Chair of the Panel attended the Opening Evening at Almondbury Community School on 24th October 2019.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 8th November 2019</u> The Panel considered a verbal update on Almondbury Community School and agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To continue to attend future meetings with parents regarding the transitional arrangements for children from Almondbury Community School for the school year 2020/21. 2. That the Panel consider future updates on the transition arrangements for children from Almondbury Community School for the school year 2020/21 – next report will be considered at Panel on 16th December 2019.

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
		<p><u>Panel meeting on 16th December 2019</u> The Panel considered an update on the implementation of the Council's decision to change the age range of Almondbury Community School for the 1st September 2020 and agreed to monitor progress via future Panel meetings and Lead Member Briefings.</p> <p><u>Panel meeting on 17th January 2020</u> The Panel considered a verbal update on Almondbury Community School which highlighted the following key issues:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ofsted report for Almondbury Community School following the inspection in November 2019 was now available to view on the Ofsted website; Leaders and Managers at the School were taking effective action towards removing special measures; • The Learning Service was focusing on planning the staff transitions and working with the partnerships at the school to begin the staff engagements and would update the Panel at future meetings on progress; • An evaluation would be taken of the Greenside Building to ensure it would be fit for purpose to house primary age youngsters to meet their learning outcomes and work had begun to assess what was required; • Further work was being undertaken with the King James Partnership to progress the investment in their physical space. <p><u>Panel meeting on 13th March 2020</u> The Panel will consider an update on the implementation of the Council's decision to change the age range of Almondbury Community School from the 1st September 2020.</p>
<p>9. Performance Information (Children's Services)</p>	<p>The Panel will continue to monitor the performance of the Learning Early Support Service and Child Protection & Family Support in the Informal meetings.</p>	<p>The latest performance reports will be considered informally by the Panel as a standing item.</p> <p><u>Panel Meeting 8th November 2019</u></p>

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		<p>The Panel considered a report giving an update on repeat referrals and second time on Care Protection Plan following a request for further information from the Panel. The Panel agreed:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Panel consider a future report giving more detail on child referrals of domestic violence/abuse, including what impact this was having on young people and information on the origins of the referrals. 2. That the Panel consider a report outlining the results of the research undertaken by Professor Thorpe assessing how the front door has developed and is performing including responses to child protection enquiries and referrals. 3. That the Panel consider a future update outlining what support is put into place for children and young people once their Child Protection Plan finishes.
<p>Lead Member Briefings</p> <p>(Bi-monthly LM Briefings arranged with Cabinet Members for Learning and Children's; and Mel Meggs/Elaine McShane and Jo-Anne Sanders during 19/20 – no issues currently identified) – Actions from these meetings are included within the Panel's Work Programme where appropriate</p>		
<p>CAMHS Transformation Plan</p>	<p>To maintain an overview of the work of CAMHS in Kirklees, particularly to update on the autism assessment waiting list.</p> <p>The Panel agreed on the 19th July 2019 that the Lead Member would keep a watching briefing on the CAMHS Transformation Plan</p>	<p>That the Panel is satisfied that CAMHS continue to improve the service offer, and that the waiting lists for autism assessments continue to reduce.</p> <p>The Panel will consider an update report in the 2019/20 municipal year giving a summary of the CAMHS Local Transformation Plan and outlining what is available digitally when making a request for an assessment and an outline of what support and help was available for families whilst awaiting an assessment – date to be confirmed.</p> <p>The Panel would also like to receive a summarised version of the CAMHS Transformation Plan as soon as it is available.</p>
<p>Elective Home Education Ad-Hoc Panel</p>	<p>The next steps from the Ad-Hoc Panel will be to gather further evidence which will be sought from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A leading elective home education expert 	<p>That the Panel be assured that that children who are home educated receive the best offer from Kirklees council.</p> <p>That the Panel is content that any new Elective Home Educating policy is</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other local authorities in the area, to consider their offer for elective home educators • Parents of those local authorities mentioned above to explore their experiences • Head Teachers forums (primary, secondary and special schools) 	<p>updated and fit for purpose.</p> <p>The EHE Ad-Hoc Panel will commence its work and produce a final report on its findings early in the 2019/20 municipal year.</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 4th November considered an update report on the progress of the Ad-Hoc Panel and agreed that the findings report be shared with the Informal meetings of the Children’s Scrutiny Panel on the 13th March 2020 and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in April 2020, prior to submission of the report to Cabinet in due course.</p>

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