

Public Document Pack



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

Julie Muscroft

The Democracy Service

Civic Centre 3

High Street

Huddersfield

HD1 2TG

Tel: 01484 221000

Please ask for: Leigh Webb

Email: leigh.webb@kirklees.gov.uk

Friday 30 October 2020

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Children's Scrutiny Panel

The **Children's Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the **Virtual Meeting - online** at **2.00 pm** on **Monday 9 November 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 Paul Davies

Councillor Yusra Hussain

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

This is where Councillors who are attending as substitutes will say for whom they are attending.

2: Interests

1 - 2

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.

3: Minutes of the Previous Meeting

3 - 8

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 1 October 2020

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. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, questions must be emailed in advance to executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk no later than 2pm on Friday 6 November.

7: Number and Age of Children in Care

9 - 14

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.

Contact: Julie Bragg – Head of Corporate Parenting

8: Learning Strategy Update

15 - 20

This report provides an update on progress and next steps for developing a Learning Strategy

Contact: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director-Learning and Early Support

9: Children's Scrutiny Work Programme 2020-21

21 - 22

Members of the panel will consider the work programme and agenda plan for the 2020/21 and will consider issues for inclusion.

Officer: Leigh Webb, Principal Governance and Democratic Engagement Officer

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.

Contact Officer: Leigh Webb

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL

Thursday 1 October 2020

Present: Councillor Andrew Marchington (Chair)
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Yusra Hussain
Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor Amanda Pinnock
Councillor Paul White

Co-optees Dale O'Neill

In attendance Tom Brailsford, Service Director (Resources,
Improvement and Partnerships)
Julie Bragg, Head of Corporate Parenting
Elaine McShane, Service Director - Family Support and
Child Protection
Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director - Learning & Early
Support
Michelle Wheatcroft, Head of Service - Early Support

Observers:

Apologies: Linda Summers

1 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were received from Linda Summers. The Chair welcomed Councillor Yusra Hussain to her first Panel meeting and placed on record thanks to Cllr Aafaq Butt for his valuable contributions to the Panel.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meetings of the Panel held on the 1 October 2020 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 Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Update

The Panel received a report providing an update about the work undertaken in preparation for re-opening schools for the Autumn term, and the planning undertaken with school colleagues to enable a positive and safe return to education for children, young people and their families. It was reported that dialogue with schools about autumn term opening has taken place during the summer holiday period and builds upon the work of the Education and Learning Partnership Board, and the working groups established in May 2020 that ran weekly to the end of the school term.

During the Summer holidays, the Council has continued to meet as part of its Business Continuity planning to prepare for the return of schools, keeping in focus the Department for Education guidance as and when this has been updated. In addition, three focussed workshops have been run with council wide representation to consider the support schools, as well as families and children may need, with a further workshop planned to pick up any emerging issues as term gets underway.

It was reported that, in advance of term starting week commencing 7th September, schools were contacted by the Learning Service/HR Partners to check that plans were in place for a return for pupils, to offer support and to understand if there were any barriers to reopening. Further contact was made during the first week of term and there was a high level of confidence that all schools were fully open for pupils by Monday 14th September (allowing for a range of usual transitioning arrangements that take place at the beginning of an academic year, including INSET days).

The weekly engagement with a representative group of Headteachers and Multi Academy Trust CEOs resumed prior to the beginning of term and feedback was largely positive about readiness for re-opening and the opportunity to welcome children back.

The report concluded that the reopening of all schools across Kirklees has been hugely positive for thousands of children and families, and overall attendance levels so far have been good. However, given the scale of the pandemic, many schools across the country will need to close 'bubbles' or ask certain people to self-isolate at some stage, which is already happening, including in Kirklees. The Council will continue to work in partnership with our schools as the academic year progresses.

Questions and comments were invited from Panel Members and the following issues were raised:

- In response to a question concerning measures to ensure isolated children are not disadvantaged Jo-Anne Sanders referred to Government funding available to schools to support pupils and acknowledge that no one size fits all model is appropriate. Schools are looking at working in partnership to share good practice and resources to deliver effective remote and blended learning programmes. A focus on how pupils are monitored is also key to the success of the delivery of remote learning.

Children's Scrutiny Panel – 13 March 2020

- With regard to the issue of catch up funding, discussions have been undertaken with schools to support pupil led interventions. It was reported that the National Tutoring Programme has been rolled out with the Education Endowment Foundation.
- With regard to the numbers of young people currently at home/ self isolating, it was reported that this equated to 1.5% of the total school cohort as at the end of w/c 23 September.
- In response to the issue of parental anxiety, it was acknowledged that there had been excellent communications from schools and Kirklees Council.
- With regard to digital inclusion, Members raised the issue of access to IT, particularly in socially and economically deprived areas. Jo-Anne Sanders provided an update in respect of the roll out of devices and wireless routers which had been initially targeted at vulnerable pupils. It was reported that a Strategic Group was in place and was working with schools and education settings to address this issue of digital inclusion and access, including looking at the associated financial considerations.
- In response to a question concerning the welfare of school staff, Jo-Anne Sanders referred to the employee healthcare offer in place and the ongoing work with Trade Unions to support staff at this difficult time.
- The Chair requested an update in respect of support provided to Colleges and University in Kirklees

RESOLVED –

1. The Panel noted and acknowledged the good work undertaken, in partnership with schools, to re-open safely.
2. That an update on the partnership work with Colleges and the University, to support pupils and assist business continuity, be submitted to a future Panel meeting.
3. That the Panel keep a watching brief on the longer term effect of Covid on educational outcomes including levels of family income and digital inclusion opportunities.

8 Number and Age of Children in Care

The Panel received a report providing an update relating to the number and profile of children in our care, including information related to the number placed outside of the District. The report also set out comparative data with statistical neighbours

The number of children in care currently stands at 689, which equates to a rate per 10,000 population aged 0-17 of 68.8. 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. With regard to breakdown by age and gender of the children in care it was reported that the largest age group for boys is 10 - 15 years with 153 children and the largest age group for girls is 10 - 15 years with 127 children.

It was reported that the number of looked after children placed outside Kirklees District and 20 plus miles from their home address was 81 on 31 August 2020. This follows a continuum of decline from 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.

Children's Scrutiny Panel – 13 March 2020

During discussion of this item, the Panel highlighted the issue of how to reduce the number of children placed outside Kirklees. Julie Bragg referred to local campaigns for Foster Carers and reported that more local provision had been provided as a result of the use of emergency placements. An update in respect of sufficiency for looked after children was provided.

RESOLVED-The Panel noted the report and requested that a refreshed sufficiency assessment for looked after children be submitted to a future Panel meeting.

9 EARLY YEARS AND BEYOND

The Panel received a report setting out an update on the Early Years and Beyond Summit and the resulting next steps. The Summit was held on 29th January 2020 and had around 100 attendees including internal and external stakeholders. The aim of the event was to engage with partners to contribute to shaping the vision and development of a 0-19 (25) integrated Early Support Offer for children and families of Kirklees.

There were a number of speakers throughout the event which included a keynote presentation from Professor Brid Featherstone (Huddersfield University) titled 'How we can work together to ensure Early Support Services are invested in and valued by Families in Kirklees'. Presentations were also heard from Andy Petrie, Local Services to you, about joining local community work to wider systems and Allison Simpson from BBEST Community Hub presented their School Readiness Project.

A draft vision for a hub to hub model was appended to the report.

It was reported that Kirklees commissioned a review of the Early Support Services in 2019. This review was undertaken by a company, Peopletoo, who have extensive experience in supporting transformation projects in children's services. The recommendations from the Peopletoo work, that were outlined in the report to Scrutiny in November 2019 have been actioned, these included the development of an Early Support Task and Finish Group chaired by the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Partnership (KSCP) which is still meeting and is supporting the developments of the service. It also included a recommendation to increase management capacity within the Early Support Service, three Service Managers were recruited into the service, which are a lead for Youth, Family Support and the Children Centre/Community Hub Offer and were all in post by 23rd March 2020. Early Support service are also in the process of recruiting and Outcomes, Data and Performance Manager to complete the management team supporting the Head of Service.

The report highlighted that the added capacity into the service has enabled the Early Support Service to develop with some pace including the proposal for an Integrated 0-19 (25) Early Support Offer, which we are proposing will be called Family Hubs.

During discussion of this item, Panel Members recognised the importance of early intervention and supported the model.

The Chair, Councillor Marchington, highlighted the importance of tracking the effectiveness of early interventions to prevent children becoming looked after and

Children's Scrutiny Panel – 13 March 2020

improve educational outcomes. An update was provided in respect of a number of specific interventions and the opportunities for increased partnership work through the hub model.

RESOLVED- That the report be noted.

10 Work Programme for 2020/21 municipal year

The Panel considered the progress on the work programme during the 2020/21 municipal year and considered issues for inclusion.

RESOLVED –

1. That the progress on the 2019/20 work programme for the Children's Scrutiny Panel be noted.
2. That the recommendations from the Elective Home Education Group would be monitored by this Panel

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Name of meeting: Children's Scrutiny Panel
Date: 9th November 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
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

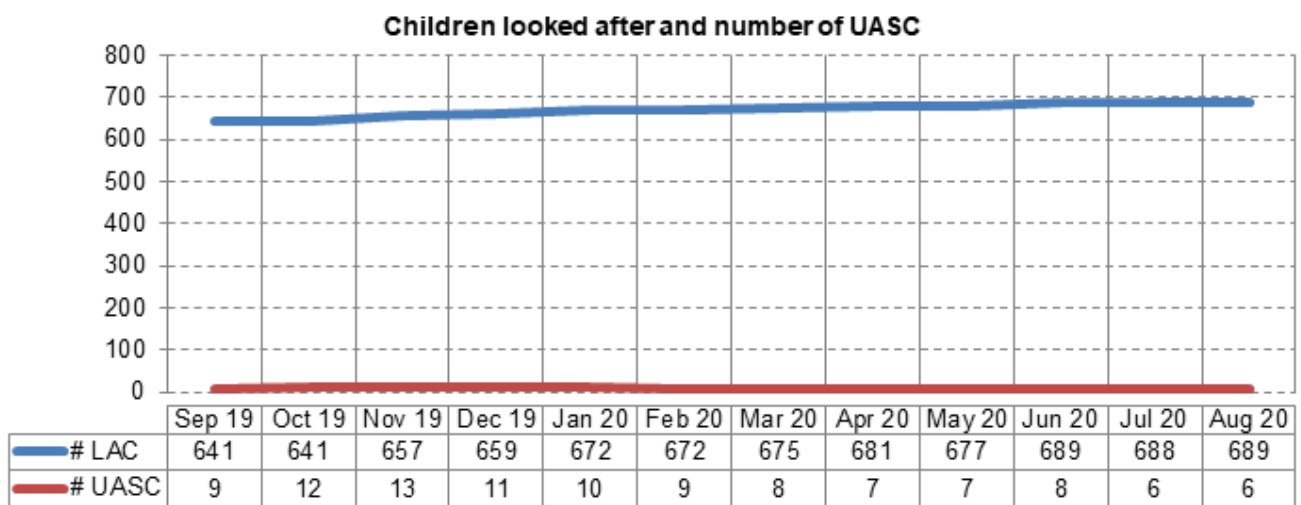
This graph shows the number of children in care (689 excluding any looked after children receiving only S20 short term breaks) alongside the number of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC).

The current number of LAC equates to a rate per 10,000 population aged 0-17 of 68.8. 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.

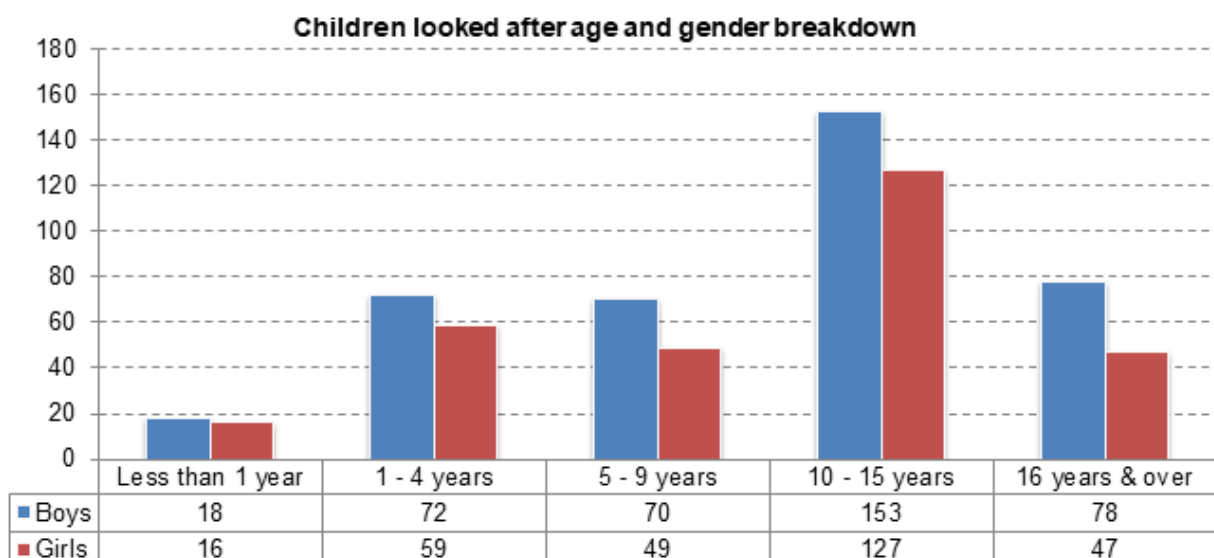
Kirklees (Aug 20) = 68.8

Statistical Neighbours (2019) = 91.6

England (2019) = 65.0



This graph shows the breakdown by age and gender of the children in care. The largest age group for boys is 10 - 15 years with 153 children and the largest age group for girls is 10 - 15 years with 127 children.

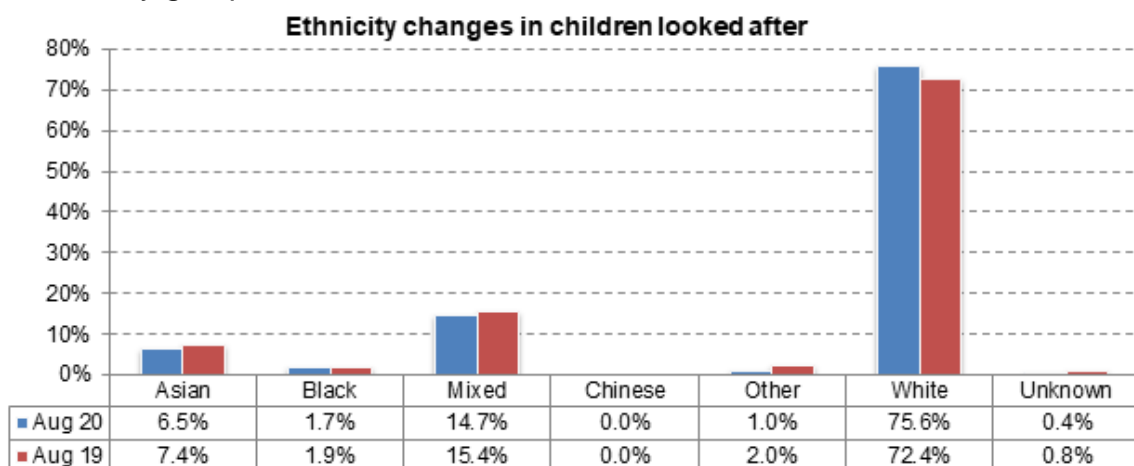


Statistical Neighbours

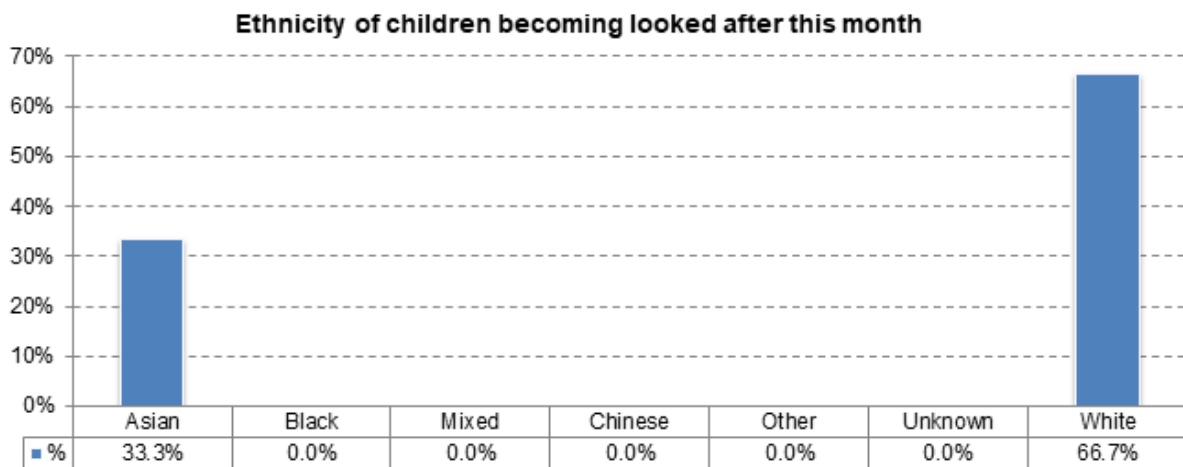
Local Authorities that the Department for Education regard as similar and close socio economically to Kirklees, not measured by population size.

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 August 2020 and the same point 12 months ago. There has been an increase of 3.2 percentage points in the proportion of LAC who are of White ethnicity compared to reductions in all other ethnicity groups.



This graph shows the percentage breakdown by ethnicity of children entering care this month. Note that this outcome is based on small numbers. In August 2020 there were 6 young people who were recorded as entering care at the point of data extraction in the month of whom 4 were White and 2 were of Asian ethnicity.



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 81 on 31 August 2020. This follows a continuum of decline from 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 81. This equates to 11.8% of the total LAC cohort. The recent historical position is detailed below:

	30/06/2020		31/07/2020		31/08/2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Placed outside Kirklees & over 20 miles from home address	83	12.0%	83	12.1%	81	11.8%

Semi Independent Accommodation aged 16 plus

On 31st August there were 32 young people accommodated in semi-independent accommodation, 20 within District and 12 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 31/08/2020				
LA of Placement	Aged 15	Aged 16	Aged 17	Total
Bradford		1	5	6
Calderdale		1	2	3
Leeds			1	1
Liverpool			1	1
Warrington	1			1
Total	1	2	9	12
Legal Status				
Legal Status	Aged 15	Aged 16	Aged 17	Total
Full Care Order	1		3	4
S20 CA 1989 - Single Placement		2	6	8
Total	1	2	9	12

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

Date: 01/10/20

Title of report: Learning Strategy

Purpose of report: This report provides an update on progress and next steps for developing a Learning Strategy

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?	Not Applicable
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?	N/A
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance? Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Give name and date for Cabinet / Scrutiny reports Jo-Anne Sanders for Mel Meggs 02/11/20
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr Carole Pattison – Lead Members for Schools, Aspiration and Communities

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: N/A

Public or private: public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes

1. Summary

This report provides an update for Children's Scrutiny about the development of the Kirklees Council Learning Strategy and the proposed approach and timeline.

2. Overview of activity

Kirklees Council has a long and rich tradition of very high-quality education provision with many excellent: schools, settings, colleges, and a highly regarded university. Building on this, the council and its partners are ambitious that many more children and young people across Kirklees achieve more success.

Analysis indicates that the children and young people most likely not to achieve at the highest levels are those that suffer some form of disadvantage. A successful and thriving education and skills system across Kirklees will drive both social and economic development. It will reduce public sector spend on remedial health care and crime whilst promoting inward investment.

Above all it will improve the life chances of children, young people and communities making Kirklees a better place to live, work and visit for everyone.

The role of the Local Authority and the Education and Learning Partnership Board

Amongst the many organisations that have a vested interest in the achievement of children, young people and communities the local authority, through the Education and Learning Partnership Board, is uniquely positioned in that it has a holistic ambition for every child, every young person and every community in Kirklees. With that in mind it also is unique in that it is the one strategic leadership organisation that has a statutory responsibility to all its people.

At a local level Kirklees Council is also unique in having both a comprehensive and a holistic overview of population outcomes (economic, environmental, social, health and educational). Emerging from this unique position there is both a mandate and a responsibility for the LA, working in partnership, to lead a cohesive strategy for education.

Key moment in time

Given that the points above could have been written at any point over the past 10+ years, any interested stakeholder might scrutinise any further developments or proposals for a strategy with an eye to what will actually be done differently this time?

The global pandemic and the impact that it has brought for individuals and communities, has meant that world-wide it is the most disadvantaged that have been the hardest hit, and has brought into sharp focus the impact of pre-existing inequalities.











At the same time, the education system in Kirklees has come together with the other 'key-worker' agencies to tackle the impact of the pandemic. The reviews of parents and carers of this support has been overwhelmingly positive. The response of the agencies to Covid19 has been notable for its coordination, collaboration and for its breadth. It has seen health colleagues work *with* education and schools and settings working *with* social care colleagues. It has crossed boundaries of public, private and third sectors and it has been driven by a strong sense of common purpose.

Kirklees benefits from healthy and positive relationships with key stakeholder groups as has been exemplified in the local response to the pandemic. It is therefore a moment in time to build upon this experience and the lessons learnt and apply them to the long-term task of improving the life chances of its children and young people and their families.

In July, the Education and Learning Partnership Board reflected upon the partnership approach and the strengths that were exemplified over the last academic year;

- collaboration and challenge in equal measure
- Building capital, capacity and creativity to respond and react to the impact of the pandemic – children and their families being at the centre of all activity
- Assessed risk balanced with practical possibilities, advice, expertise and guidance to enable decision making
- A restorative approach to system leadership – working with, not directing or instructing

In doing so, the key areas below emerged as priorities to underpin the development of our approach for not just this academic year, but for the long term Learning Strategy.

	Curriculum – ambitious, rich and broad, needs based, curriculum intent that meets the needs of the children we educate – the whole child, Black Lives Matter, RSHE
	Relationships and Trust – working restoratively between professionals, between and within schools, with our families and children, ethical system leadership
	Healthy – tackling poverty, sport and physical activity, health inequalities
	Wellbeing – personal and collective resilience, support for families, mental health
	Climate – Green and sustainable the opportunity to change the future environment
	Happiness, inclusion and kindness – mutual respect
	Inquisitive and independent – skills and entrepreneurial ambition
	Technology and connectivity – accessibility to IT , data and intelligence to drive improvement and narrow gaps
	Nurturing growth, development and research – invest in personal, individual and collective capacity
	Resources, funding and investment – not just money, expertise, ideas, practise...what's in it for our children...not what's in it for me



The proposal for a co-produced strategy is therefore made in such a way as to enable the LA to work with partners and address the key points of:

- Building upon the existing strengths and expertise in Kirklees
- Addressing the issues that face the children, young people and communities of Kirklees
- Bring together the entire community of Kirklees
- Enable the LA to clarify and fulfil its role and meet both its moral and statutory duties
- Learn from best practice both within the district and elsewhere
- Develop policy and strategy that is informed by the voice of children, young people and Communities
- Science: the evidence from both research and data

So, in short the answer to what will be done differently this time is that the entire commonwealth of Kirklees is proposed to come together to tackle the issues and will draw on the best practise and research locally, nationally and internationally.

Principles

In developing a strategy for Kirklees it will aim to be:

- Ambitious and visionary: high expectations and inspirational for all citizens
- Innovative: creative, risk-taking, entrepreneurial and adventurous
- Inclusive: prioritising disadvantage & promoting diversity
- Holistic: developing academic, social, physical and emotional

- Collaborative: professionals working cooperatively to a common good
- Realistic but optimistic: promoting a “can do” approach with resource led realism

Values

There are some non-negotiable values that will underpin the development of the strategy:

- **Aspiration:** the system will have high aspirations for all its children and families, it will expect professionals to do the same and will challenge.
- **Diversity:** Kirklees will celebrate the diversity of its citizens and promote cohesion, and understanding. It will explicitly tackle disadvantage and inequality and it will challenge discrimination.
- **Restorative:** the system will be one that prioritises the building of strong relationships and empowers working ‘with’ children, families and communities and does not “do to” or “do for” them. It will provide high levels of support with high levels of challenge.

Proposed approach

Phase 1: Vision and commission Oct 20 -Jan 21

Working with the Education and Learning Partnership Board, identify a high-level Kirklees Education Commission Steering Group to lead, commission and drive a long term comprehensive multi agency education and skills strategy.

And,

Research, data analysis and engagement Nov 20 - Feb 21

Listening to key stakeholders across Kirklees:

- Children, young people and families
- Strategic leaders including: elected members, headteachers, principals, governors and trustees, LA officers.
- University and College leaders
- Educational and children’s services professionals
- Community and faith leaders
- Business and economic leaders
- Arts, cultural and sporting organisations
- Relevant national and regional agencies eg: DFE, RSC, OFSTED, Dioceses, TUs, etc

These individuals and groups will be engaged through a range of mechanisms including:

- One to one and group discussions (notably with existing groups)
- Surveys
- Through written submissions
- Workshops

Closely looking at:

- Outcomes for children and young people across Kirklees. A forensic and detailed analysis of outcomes for different groups, localities, organisations and communities
- Other successful models of system leadership: both nationally such as the ‘London Challenge’ and also internationally.
- Academic research into best practice for school and education systems
- Key national policy frameworks eg: OFSTED inspection framework, national curriculum, relevant legislation.

The commission will synthesise the learning from phase 1 and create an interim report for the Kirklees community. Following a period of feedback based on the recommendations the final report and recommendations will be developed.

Phase 2: Moving from Vision to strategy May 21 - Jul 21

Adoption of the strategy and launch

Phase 3: Implement and Review Sept 21 onwards

The strategy would be regularly monitored for its implementation and evaluated for its effectiveness. In terms of the latter any information garnered would inform amendment and iteration of policy and strategy.

3. Information required to take a decision

N/A

4. Implications for the Council

4.1 Working with People

The proposed approach is to have Kirklees people at the centre of the development of the strategy and that the strategy is meaningful for our children and young people and their families.

4.2 Working with Partners

The Education and Learning Partnership Board provides strategic system leadership. Representation is included from all phases and types of schools, Governors, MAT leaders, Trade Unions and Council Officers. The proposed approach seeks to widen engagement with partners.

4.3 Place Based Working

Kirklees as a place is made up of different communities and the diversity of its communities is one of its key strengths. It is proposed that the strategy meets and reaches the needs of all children and their families.

4.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

There are real opportunities to consider climate and the environment in developing the strategy and has been identified by the Education and Learning Partnership Board as a key consideration.

4.5 Improving outcomes for children

The entire purpose of the strategy is to collaborate and use every opportunity available to improve our children and families outcomes.

5. Officer recommendations and reasons

This report is for information and to provide an overview of activity. No decision is required.

6. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

N/A

7. Contact officer

Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director for Learning and Early Support

8. Service Director responsible

Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director for Learning and Early Support

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CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

MEMBERS: Cllr Andrew Marchington (Chair), Cllr Paul White, Cllr Amanda Pinnock, Cllr Yusra Hussain, 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
1. Review of the Improvement Journey	The Panel will continue to review the Improvement Journey of Children's Services.	(Lead Officer: Elaine McShane)
2. Educational Outcomes	<p>The Panel will consider the impact of children being out of school during the current pandemic and the measures in place to mitigate the impact, recognising the different experiences in respect of home schooling and digital inclusion/engagement.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to link in and scrutinise the work being undertaken by the Learning Partnership on this issue.</p> <p>The Lead Member agreed to keep a watching brief with regard to what the educational impact had been for the children who had transferred from Almondbury Community School to alternate schools and to ensure that the children were getting the right amount of results and opportunities.</p>	<p>(Lead Officer: Jo Sanders)</p> <p>(Lead Officer: Martin Wilby)</p>
3. Number of children in care	A standing item for each meeting containing details of how many children are in care, and particularly how many are placed out of area. *	(Lead Officer: Julie Bragg)
4. Youth Services and Initiatives	The Panel agreed to look at the Youth Practice Model, providing input into the development of the model with a view to scrutinising the effectiveness of the model following its introduction (based on data/evidence).	(Lead Officer: Elaine McShane)
5. Partnership Arrangements	The Panel will continue to scrutinise partnerships and boards during the 2020/21 municipal year, for example, Corporate Parenting Board and Health and Wellbeing Board and the Panel	(Lead Officers: Elaine McShane/Jo Sanders/Tom Brailsford)

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
	will look at how data was collected and used to improve outcomes. *	
6. Special Educational Needs and High Needs	6 monthly reports to be considered by the Panel and visits to be arranged to some of the SEN Teams to corroborate the information in the presentations provided to Panel Meetings. Arrangements to be made for virtual visits, where appropriate, during the current pandemic.	(Lead Officer: Ronnie Hartley/Jo-Anne Sanders)
7. Performance Information (Children's Services)	The Panel will continue to monitor the performance of the Learning Early Support Service and Child Protection & Family Support in the Informal meetings. *	(Lead Officer: Steve Comb/Julie Bragg – reports produced by Sue Grigg and Andrew Wainwright from Performance Team)
Lead Member Briefings		
(Bi-monthly LM Briefings to be arranged with Cabinet Members for Learning and Children's; and Mel Meggs/Elaine McShane and Jo-Anne Sanders during 20/21) – Actions from these meetings will be included within the Panel's Work Programme where appropriate		
Exploitation Strategy	The Lead Member agreed to keep a watching brief to monitor the impact on children and young people in the borough.	(Lead Officer: Elaine McShane)

*It is suggested that arrangements be made for representatives from the Panel to attend relevant meetings of Partnership bodies to ensure relevant scrutiny of performance data and information is being effectively scrutinised "upstream". This will not prevent onward referral the Panel where appropriate but will act as a means of avoiding un-necessary duplication.