

# Public Document Pack



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

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Wednesday 6 January 2021

## Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

### Children's Scrutiny Panel

The **Children's Scrutiny Panel** will meet in a **Virtual Meeting - online** at **2.00 pm** on **Thursday 14 January 2021**.

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".

**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 Yusra Hussain

Councillor Amanda Pinnock

Councillor Richard Smith

Councillor Paul White

Vacancy

Toni Bromley (Co-Optee)

Dale O'Neill (Co-Optee)

Linda Summers (Co-Optee)

# Agenda

## Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

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### Pages

**1: Membership of the Committee**

To receive apologies for absence from those Members who are unable to attend the meeting and to note that Councillor Paul Davies has resigned from the Panel.

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**2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1 - 4

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

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**3: Interests**

5 - 6

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.

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**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.

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**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.

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## **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](mailto:executive.governance@kirklees.gov.uk) no later than 10am on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

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## **7: Number and age of children in care**

7 - 12

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 of children in care placed outside of the District.

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

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## **8: Emotional Wellbeing of Students**

The Panel will consider a verbal report on the Emotional Wellbeing of Students.

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

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## **9: COVID Catch up Fund - update**

The Panel will consider a verbal update on the COVID Catch up Fund.

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

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**10: Children's Scrutiny Panel Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 2020-21** 13 - 20

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

Contact Officer: Helen Kilroy, Assistant Democracy Manager

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Contact Officer: Leigh Webb

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL

**Monday 9 November 2020**

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

Co-optees Linda Summers

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

Observers:

Apologies: Councillor Kendrick and Councillor Pattison

**1 Membership of the Committee**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kendrick and Pattison.

**2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting 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 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 current number of children in care currently stands at 687, 2 less than the number included in the report, 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.

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

- In response to a question from Councillor White relating to comparisons with statistical neighbours, Julie Bragg explained that Kirklees figures were lower as a result of good oversight and checks and measures in place to ensure that those in care are those who need to be in the care of the local authority.
- In response to a question concerning those placed outside of the District, it was explained that robust processes are in place to support local placements, through measures such as the Mockingbird initiative. However it was acknowledged that in some instances there is value in maintaining settled placements which are out of the District.

**RESOLVED-**The Panel noted the report and the updated number of children in care provided.

**9 Learning Strategy**

The Panel received a report setting out an update about the development of the Kirklees Council Learning Strategy and the proposed approach and timeline. It was reported that 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 through a reduction in 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.



## Children's Scrutiny Panel – 13 March 2020

The report set out details of the many organisations that have a vested interest in the achievement of children, young people and communities the local authority. It was highlighted that 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. Jo-Anne Sanders explained that 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) which provides both a mandate and a responsibility for the Local Authority, working in partnership, to lead a cohesive strategy for education.

The report outlined proposals for a co-produced strategy to address the following key points:

- 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

With regard to the proposed approach, the report outlined a draft development timetable.

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

- Members highlighted the importance of developing resilience and self-esteem in Kirklees children in addition to academic success.
- Members welcomed the planned holistic approach and living nature of the proposed strategy to develop and work with schools and colleges across the district
- In response to a question concerning evaluation and monitoring, Jo-Anne Sanders explained that a measurable action plan will sit alongside the strategy. The Chair highlighted the role of the Scrutiny Panel in monitoring outcomes from the Learning Strategy when it is introduced.
- Councillor Pinnock highlighted the importance of ensuring that the strategy acts as a bridge to build skills for local young people to meet the needs for future local employment in Kirklees.
- Members identified that happiness, kindness and valuing diversity were all key to the development of a successful learning strategy.

**RESOLVED-**

1. That the report be noted.
2. That future reports be submitted to this Panel as the draft Strategy develops.

**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 Learning Strategy be added to the Panel's Work Programme as a means of feeding into the overarching Education Outcomes item
2. That details of the timeline for Cabinet consideration of the Elective Home Education report be provided to the Panel.
3. That an update on the Covid Catch-up Fund, including details of how the funds have been spent by local schools, be submitted to the next meeting of this Panel.

<b>KIRKLEES COUNCIL</b>			
<b>COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC</b>			
<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>			
Childrens Scrutiny Panel			
<b>Name of Councillor</b>			
<b>Item in which you have an interest</b>	<b>Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")</b>	<b>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]</b>	<b>Brief description of your interest</b>

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:** 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021  
**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 <a href="#">Council’s Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a>	NA
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	NA
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	<b>TBC</b>
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 <a href="#">portfolio</a>	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.

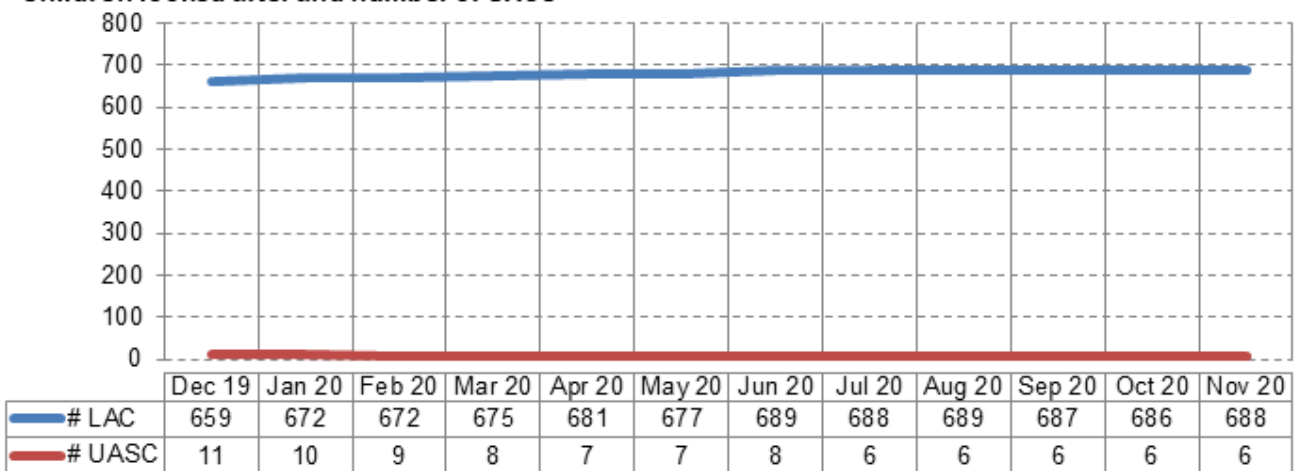
## 1. Summary

This graph shows the number of children in care (688 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 68.6. This compares to a statistical neighbour average of 92.2 and a national average of 67.0 based on recently published data for March 2020.

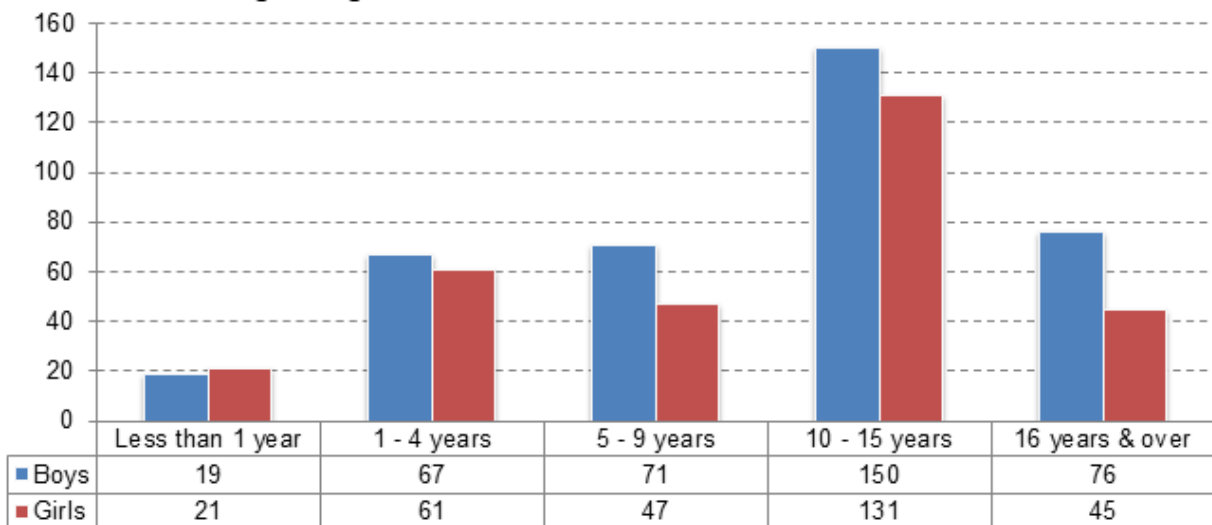
- Kirklees (Nov 20) = 68.7
- Statistical Neighbours (2020) = 92.2
- England (2020) = 67.0

**Children looked after and number of UASC**



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 150 children and the largest age group for girls is 10 - 15 years with 131 children.

**Children looked after age and gender breakdown**



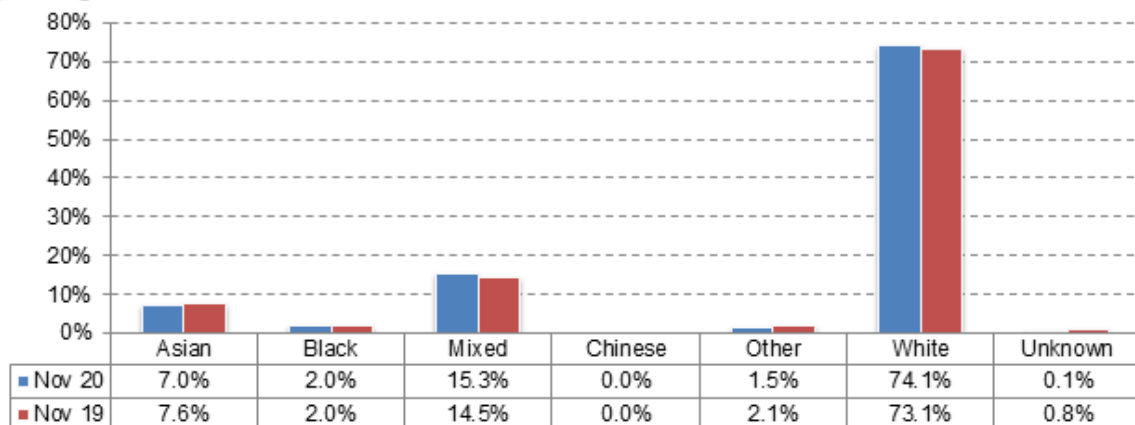
## Statistical Neighbours

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

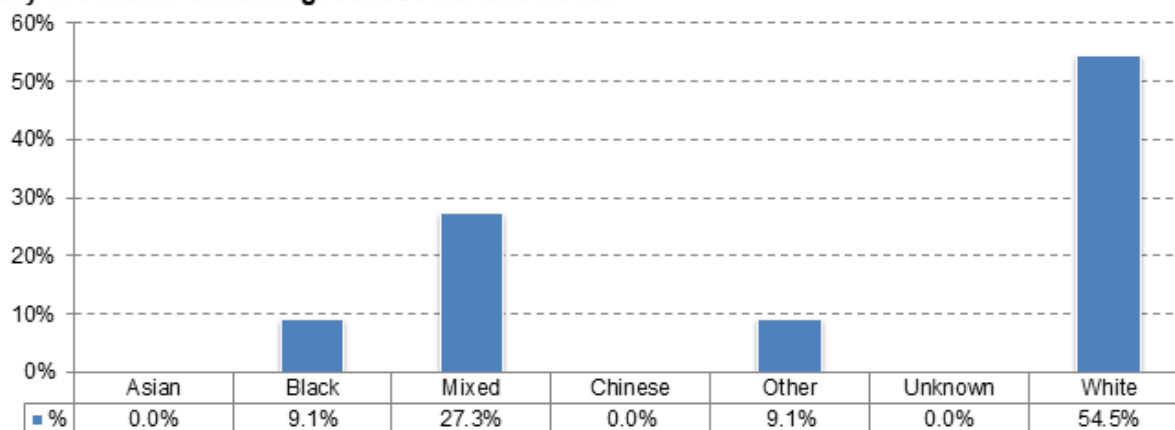
This graph shows the ethnic breakdown of the children looked after population at the end of November 2020 and the same point 12 months ago. There has been a relatively small change in the percentage split over the last 12 months.

**Ethnicity changes in children looked after**



This graph shows the percentage breakdown by ethnicity of children entering care this month. Note that this outcome is based on small numbers. In November 2020 there were 11 young people who were recorded as entering care at the point of data extraction in the month of whom 6 were White, 3 were or Mixed ethnicity, 1 was Black and 1 was of "Other" ethnicity.

### 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 80 on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020. This follows a continuum of decline from 127 in 2017. This equates to 11.6% of the total LAC cohort. 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 recent historical position is detailed below:

	30/09/2020		31/10/2020		30/11/2020	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Placed outside Kirklees &amp; over 20 miles from home address</b>	84	12.2%	79	11.5%	80	11.6%

### Semi Independent Accommodation aged 16 plus

On 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 there were 33 young people accommodated in semi-independent accommodation, 19 within District and 14 of our young people placed outside of the Kirklees District as detailed in the following table:



<b>Placements outside of Kirklees in semi-independent living accommodation (not subject to Children's Home regulations)</b>				
As at 30/11/2020				
<b>LA of Placement</b>	<b>Aged 15</b>	<b>Aged 16</b>	<b>Aged 17</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bradford			7	7
Calderdale		1	3	4
Leeds			1	1
Lancashire			1	1
Liverpool			1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Legal Status</b>	<b>Aged 15</b>	<b>Aged 16</b>	<b>Aged 17</b>	<b>Total</b>
Full Care Order		1	3	4
S20 CA 1989 - Single Placement			10	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>

## 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)

## Children's Scrutiny Panel

### Agenda Plan 2020/21

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p><b>13 August 2020</b></p> <p><b>1.30pm -2pm</b> <b>Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>2pm-4pm</b> <b>Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Virtual Meeting</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 03.08.20</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Informal items:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Performance report</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Number of Children in Care</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SEND Progress update</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exploitation Strategy Update</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Learning Strategy (to be confirmed) <b>Deferred</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">H Kilroy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J Sanders/E McShane to present (S Grigg to provide report)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J Bragg</p> <p style="text-align: center;">R Hartley</p> <p style="text-align: center;">E McShane</p> <p style="text-align: center;">H Soheli/J Sanders</p>
<p><b>1 October 2020</b></p> <p><b>1.30pm -2pm</b> <b>Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>2pm- 4pm</b> <b>Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Virtual Meeting</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 21.09.20</p> <p>Apols:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Informal items:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Performance report</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Number of Children in Care</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Early Years Event (Jan 2020) – feedback and next steps</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COVID 19 Virus - effectiveness and robustness of the Children's Service response and to identify lessons learned <b>deferred</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J Sanders/E McShane to present (S Grigg to provide report)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">H Kilroy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J Bragg</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Michelle Wheatcroft</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To be agreed/confirmed</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p><b>9 November 2020</b></p> <p><b>1.30pm-2pm Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>2pm-4pm Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Virtual Meeting</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 28.10.20</p>	<p><b>Informal Items</b></p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Learning Strategy</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present (S Grigg to provide report)</p> <p>J Bragg</p> <p>Jo-Anne Sanders</p>
<p><b>14 January 2021</b></p> <p><b>1.30pm-2pm Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>2pm-4pm Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Virtual</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 04.01.21</p> <p>Apols:</p>	<p><b>Informal Items</b></p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Exam Results <b>deferred</b></p> <p>Emotional Wellbeing of Students (verbal)</p> <p>Covid Catch Up Fund Update (verbal)</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present (S Grigg to provide report)</p> <p>J Bragg</p> <p>Jo-Anne Sanders</p> <p>Jo-Anne Sanders</p> <p>Jo-Anne Sanders</p>
<p><b>25 February 2021</b></p> <p><b>1.30pm-2pm Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>2pm-4pm</b></p>	<p><b>Informal Items</b></p> <p>Improvement Board Minutes</p> <p>Performance report</p>	<p>H Kilroy</p> <p>J Sanders/E McShane to present (S Grigg to provide report)</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p><b>Public meeting</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 15.02.21</p>	<p><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Number of Children in Care</p> <p>Exam Results</p>	<p>J Bragg</p> <p>J Sanders/E Brayford (to be confirmed)</p>

**Future items (date to Panel to be agreed)**

COVID 19 Virus - effectiveness and robustness of the Children's Service response and to identify lessons learned

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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, Assistant Democracy Manager

<b>FULL PANEL DISCUSSION</b>		
<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS</b>	<b>OUTCOMES</b>
<b>1. Review of the Improvement Journey</b>	The Panel will continue to review the Improvement Journey of Children's Services.	(Lead Officer: Elaine McShane)
<b>2. Educational Outcomes</b>	<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. Input and monitoring of the draft Learning Strategy.</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>
<b>3. Number of children in care</b>	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)
<b>4. Youth Services and Initiatives</b>	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)

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
5. <b>Partnership arrangements</b>	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 will look at how data was collected and used to improve outcomes. * (see note below)	(Lead Officers: Elaine McShane/Jo Sanders/Tom Brailsford)
6. <b>Special Educational Needs and High Needs</b>	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.  The Panel will keep a watching brief on the longer-term effect of Covid on educational outcomes including the levels of family income and digital inclusion opportunities.	(Lead Officer: Ronnie Hartley/Jo-Anne Sanders)  <u>Panel 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020</u> The Panel received an update report in respect of the impact on children and families with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) of the Covid 19 public health pandemic. The report also provided an update on progress in relation to the SEND Improvement Plan. The Panel noted the report requested that a future update report include an analysis of figures relating to assessments.  <u>Panel 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020</u> 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. The Panel agreed – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Noted and acknowledged the good work undertaken, in partnership with schools, to re-open safely.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol>



## FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
<b>7. Performance Information (Children's Services)</b>	The Panel will continue to monitor the performance of the Learning Early Support Service and Child Protection & Family Support in the Informal meetings. * (see note below)	(Lead Officer: Steve Comb/Julie Bragg – reports produced by Sue Grigg and Andrew Wainwright from Performance Team)
<b>8. Learning Strategy</b>	The Panel will consider updates on the development of the Kirklees Council Learning Strategy and the proposed approach and timeline.	<u>Panel 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020</u> The Panel considered a report providing an update on progress and next steps for developing a Learning Strategy. The Panel agreed that future reports be submitted to the Panel as the draft Strategy develops.
<b>9. Elective Home Education</b>	The Panel will monitor implementation of the Action Plan being considered by Cabinet on the 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2020.	(Lead Officer: Jo-Anne Sanders)

### 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

<b>Exploitation Strategy</b>	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)  <u>Panel 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020</u> The Panel received a report providing an update in respect of the Kirklees Exploitation Safeguarding Strategy 2019 -2021, which was launched earlier this year. The Panel noted the report and highlighted the work of the Practice Learning Review as a means of informing the work of scrutiny in this area.
<b>Children transferred from Almondbury Community School</b>	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.	(Lead Officer: Martin Wilby)

## FULL PANEL DISCUSSION

ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
<b>Petition – St John’s (CE) Junior School</b>	The Council received a petition objecting to the council’s decision at Cabinet in September 2020 not to allow St John’s Infant school to be made available for junior places in September 2021. The Lead Member will keep a watching brief with regard to the issues raised within the petition from a scrutiny perspective.	(Lead Officer: Martin Wilby)

\*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.