

**Name of meeting:** Corporate Parenting Board  
**Date:**  
**Title of report:** Statement of Purpose for Registered Children's Homes  
 (Annual report)

### Purpose of report

This report and attached documents give an overview of the Statement of Purpose of the five Kirklees Council Ofsted registered children's residential homes. All Ofsted registered children's homes are required to have a statement of purpose to comply with children's home regulations. This report is to highlight to the Corporate Parenting Board the annual review and update of the statement of purpose.

<b>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?</b>	NA
<b>Key Decision - Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)</a></b>	NA
<b>The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?</b>	NA
<b>Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> &amp; name</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?</b>  <b>Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?</b>	  N/A  N/A
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	<b>Cllr V Kendrick Children's Portfolio holder</b>

**Electoral wards affected:** n/a

**Ward councillors consulted:** n/a

**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 report gives an overview of the Statement of Purpose of the three mainstream and two disability children's residential homes run by Kirklees Council. Due to Covid-19 there have been some changes to the use of one of the homes and an additional home was opened on a temporary basis. The Statement of Purpose for the homes are appended to this report.

The running of children's residential homes is regulated by Ofsted and involves a full inspection once per year and depending on the outcome a home could receive an interim inspection in-between. The Children's Home Regulations 2015 is the regulatory framework which informs Ofsted's inspections.

The two disability homes are:

- Elm Grove – 6 beds (Heckmondwike)
- Orchard View – 8 beds (Mirfield – short breaks and respite) Orchard View is currently being used temporarily for mainstream children whilst short breaks provision is suspended. It is our intention to resume short break services in early October.

The three mainstream homes are:

- Healds Road – 4 beds (Dewsbury)
- Copthorne House – 4 beds (Huddersfield)
- Woodlands – 4 beds (Huddersfield)

Crescentdale in Heckmondwike was temporarily used as a 4 bed mainstream children's home due to pressures on placements during Covid-19; this home closed on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

All the homes provide a homely, warm and caring environment in which young people have a right to choice, to be listened to, to feel safe, to have a sense of belonging, to be valued, to be protected from harm, to feel secure and where they can always be themselves irrespective of age, gender, disability, culture, religion, and background. The homes will encourage all aspects of each young person's development; physical, emotional, educational and social, adopting a person-centred model of care.

Elm Grove provides medium to long term care for up to six children and young people with a physical or learning disability, complex needs and/or sensory impairment. The ages of children vary and are dependent on need, group dynamics and compatibility coupled with any presenting risks at the time of the move into placement.

Orchard View is currently caring for mainstream children with emotional and behavioural difficulties between 12 and 17 years old on admission. Its aim is currently the same as the other mainstream homes detailed below.

Healds Road, Copthorne Gardens, Woodlands and Crescentdale care for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties between the ages of 12 and 16 years old on admission. Their primary purpose is to keep young people safe, provide good quality care and support young people to achieve good outcomes in their lives. This includes:

- Education
- Contact and relationships with their family and friends
- Having good health
- Accepting specialist help and support when it's needed
- Having hobbies and interests outside of the home and school
- Helping a young person prepare for semi-independence or independence

Many of the young people who come and live in our residential homes have had traumatic experiences in their lives and therefore our focus is on providing a warm, nurturing environment where young people are safe and can begin to engage positively. This takes much longer for some young people than others; the relationships staff and young people develop are essential to enabling good outcomes

All the residential homes are supported by a Clinical Psychologist from the Placement Support Team who provides monthly consultations to each staff group to ensure that the care provided and strategies used to work with young people are clinically informed and backed by theory. Evidence from attachment theory is used; this recognises that a positive relationship with an adult, who has day to day contact with a young person, provides the greatest potential to bring about therapeutic change for the young person.

The Statement of Purpose also sets out the following important factors in the care of a young person:

- The arrangements for supporting the cultural, linguistic and religious needs of young people
- Consultation with young people about the care they receive – ensuring that the young person's voice is heard and acted upon
- Equality and Children's Rights – the Children's Rights Service is actively promoted within the homes and each young person has their contact details
- A Safe Area Assessment is done for each home to assess the risk factors associated with its geographical location
- Approach to safeguarding, preventing bullying and young people who go missing – ensure that robust procedures are in place to keep young people safe
- Matching criteria and procedure – this sets out how young people are assessed for suitability and how a young person moves into the home
- Positive behaviour and physical intervention – a restorative approach is used in each of the homes; the focus is on using a positive approach to resolve any issues inside or outside of the home. This approach will ideally prevent the need for consequences or physical intervention.
- Moving on from the home
- Complaints procedure including details of the Children's Commissioner for England
- The staff team – this details each staff member and their qualifications. The Registered Manager of a home has to be approved by Ofsted and pass a Fit and Proper persons interview.

A young person friendly guide is also produced for young people to be given on or before they move into the home. This is available on the Kirklees website and gives young people information on what they can expect living in one of our homes.

Our key partners are:

- Children's Services Social Work teams (Assessment & Intervention and Children in Care Service)
- Child Protection and Review unit (Independent Reviewing Officers)
- Virtual School
- SENDACT (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Assessment and Commissioning Team)
- Kirklees Risk and Vulnerability team
- West Yorkshire Police
- Youth Offending Team

- Looked after Children Nurses and Nurse Advisor for Children
- The Base (drug and alcohol support services)
- West Yorkshire Fire Service
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS Psychiatry and Psychology)
- Learning Disability Nurses, Dieticians, Occupational Therapists, Movement and handling Advisors,

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

No decision is required.

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 Statements of Purpose of the six children's homes run by the Council.

3.6 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

Not applicable

5. **Next steps and timelines**

Statements of Purpose will be reported on annually

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

That the report be noted.

7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**

Not applicable

8. **Contact officer**

Laura Counce – Acting Head of Sufficiency

9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**

Statements of Purpose for each home attached

10. **Service Director responsible**

Tom Brailsford – Service Director Resources, Improvements and Partnerships

Elaine McShane, Service Director Child Protection and Family Support is currently the Responsible Individual registered with Ofsted. This will be reviewed due to Tom Brailsford now being in post permanently.