

NHS Board Meeting
31st March 2021

Lanarkshire NHS Board
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SUBJECT: NORTH AND SOUTH LANARKSHIRE'S CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLANS 2021-2023.

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to provide Board Members with a copy of North and South Lanarkshire's Children's Services Plans 2021-2023.

For approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	For endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/>	To note	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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2. ROUTE TO THE BOARD

This paper has been prepared by Geraldine Queen and Vivian Boxall and approved by NHSL Corporate Management Team.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, requires NHS Boards and Local Authorities to work together to produce and update a Children's Services Plan that sets out how we deliver services and supports for children, young people and families (CYP&F) and outline what we aim to achieve.

In both North and South Lanarkshire this is progressed through the relevant Children's Services Partnerships (CSP's). Key agencies and organisations work together to plan, deliver and improve the services and support for children, young people and their families.

Both plans reflect the National Performance Framework Outcomes with a focus on the most relevant "*We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential*".

With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government advised that while the statutory responsibility to have a plan remained, some key timescales could be relaxed.

Both CSP's agreed to roll over their current plans for an interim year to allow the desired level of participation and engagement of all partners, including service users, and inform the final versions of the new Children's Services Plans. Plans were revised to incorporate Covid-19 response and recovery, as well as the United Nations Convention for the Rights of Children (UNCRC) and will run from April 2021 – March 2023.

This will be a key part of the Inequalities Development Event that the Board wishes to hold, in conjunction with a range of statutory and third sector partners once the pandemic allows for time to develop the event.

4. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

North and South Plans have been informed and developed in partnership with a range of health staff as well as other key agencies and, where relevant, are aligned to the NHS Lanarkshire Children and Young People's Health Plan.

4.1 North Lanarkshire Children's Services Plan 2021-2023

The framework for this plan is built around the 5 foundations of The Promise:

Voice – the views of children, young people and families are included in partnership and planning integrated children's services.

Family – Children feel safe and loved in their families and are supported to remain there

Care – We recalibrate the whole system and culture to ensure children and young people currently experiencing care have nurturing relationships in which to thrive.

People – Our workforce are skilled and empowered to work with children, young people and families to deliver the vision for NL CSP

Scaffolding - Our governance, culture, systems and processes empower staff to support children, young people and families to realise our shared vision.

The Plan includes activities delivered on a multi- agency basis where the added value of joint working is evidenced. In addition, relevant single agency activity will also be signposted.

Participation, engagement and UNCRC

During the initial stages it was agreed to engage with young people around UNCRC as part of the planning process. Although all rights are important North Lanarkshire Youth Council (NLYC) identified ten children's rights they think are most relevant to children and young people. A live questionnaire during January and February 2021 generated a total of 366 responses and provided information about awareness of children's rights as well as a baseline for future assessment.

Responses were from across North Lanarkshire and there was representation from often marginalised groups such as care experienced young people and children and young people with a disability.

Initial analysis led to identification of two actions to be progressed by the CSP over the 2021-23 planning cycle. These will support a rights based approach and focus on awareness of UNCRC, not just amongst children and young people but also adults in their lives such as staff, parents and carers..

Planning progress

Work is underway with young people to review 'Our Vision' and the outcomes from this will also be incorporated.

A planning group, with membership from the council, health board and community and voluntary sector meets regularly, with themed sub-groups identified to progress actions and tasks between meetings.

Detailed information will underpin the plan, gained from a range of sources including self-evaluation, service mapping, Realigning Children's Services data (RCS), young people's priorities, Health & Well Being surveys in schools (Spring 2021).

4.2 South Lanarkshire Children's Services Plan 2021-2023: Working Together: making a difference – A Foundation for Recovery

The framework for this plan is built around 3 High level themes, with 20 key priorities and linked SMART outcomes. There has been a slight re-focusing of the third theme around child protection and corporate parenting.

1. Prevention and Early Support
2. Health and Wellbeing
3. Children and young People in need of care and protection

This Plan was informed by the voice of children and young people through a joint strategic needs' assessment and will:

- Help inform service provision – against budget restrictions
- Target resources to greatest need
- Address inequalities
- Use GIRFEC resources to ensure proportionate and timely intervention

In addition to the formal plan, a summary version and an animation have been developed by children young people.

Participation and engagement with children and young people

Creating ways to engage with children and young people has been central to our planning process. We have:

- Established our Champions Board
- Undertaken online surveys with C&YP to inform this Plan
- Supported a comprehensive questionnaire/survey as part of the 2019 inspection of children in need of care and protection
- Implemented 'Mind of My Own' app
- Held online Focus Groups

We will build on this further through six specific Tests of Change designed as part on Inclusion As Prevention in partnership with Dartington Design Labs.

This paper links to the following:

Corporate objectives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AOP	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government directive	<input type="checkbox"/>	Statutory requirement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AHF/local policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Urgent operational issue	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

5. CONTRIBUTION TO QUALITY

This paper aligns to the following elements of safety and quality improvement:

Three Quality Ambitions:

Safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	Effective	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Person Centred	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Six Quality Outcomes:

Everyone has the best start in life and is able to live longer healthier lives; (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
People are able to live well at home or in the community; (Person Centred)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Everyone has a positive experience of healthcare; (Person Centred)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Staff feel supported and engaged; (Effective)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Healthcare is safe for every person, every time; (Safe)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Best use is made of available resources. (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

6. MEASURES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Are contained within each of the plans.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any financial implications will be met within existing budgets.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Children's Services plans will be a point of local and national scrutiny. There is existing and emerging evidence of the considerable impact of COVID-19 including inequalities on some of our children and young people. Going forward, their health and welfare will require to be closely monitored and appropriate resources required to reduce impact and mitigate all factors which may have long-term implications for our children and young people.

9. FIT WITH BEST VALUE CRITERIA

This paper aligns to the following best value criteria:

Vision and leadership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Effective partnerships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Governance and accountability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use of resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Performance Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	Equality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sustainability Management	<input type="checkbox"/>				

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT / FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

EQIA in progress and Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact assessment will be completed.

11. CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Locality workforce and senior management consultation sessions were undertaken. Children and Young People online surveys completed to inform both Plans. There will be further engagement with a focus on UNCRC and consultation around priorities as COVID recovery allows.

12. ACTIONS FOR THE BOARD

Approve	<input type="checkbox"/>	Endorse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify further actions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Note	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accept the risk identified	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ask for a further report	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about any aspect of this paper, please contact:

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