CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CABINET COMMITTEE

Thursday, 23rd March, 2017

11.30 am

Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone





AGENDA

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CABINET COMMITTEE

Thursday, 23 March 2017 at 11.30 am Ask for: Theresa Grayell Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Telephone: 03000 416172

Maidstone

Tea/Coffee will be available 15 minutes before the start of the meeting

Membership (14)

Conservative (8): Mrs J Whittle (Chairman), Mrs A D Allen, MBE (Vice-Chairman),

Mrs P T Cole, Mrs V J Dagger, Mr G Lymer, Mr M J Northey,

Mr C P Smith and Vacancy

UKIP (3) Mr H Birkby, Mrs M Elenor and Mrs Z Wiltshire

Labour (2) Mrs P Brivio and Mrs S Howes

Liberal Democrat (1): Mr M J Vye

Webcasting Notice

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UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

A - Committee Business

A1 Introduction/Webcast announcement

A2 Apologies and Substitutes

To receive apologies for absence and notification of any substitutes present

A3 Declarations of Interest by Members in items on the Agenda

To receive any declarations of interest made by Members in relation to any matter on the agenda. Members are reminded to specify the agenda item number to which it refers and the nature of the interest being declared

A4 Minutes of the meetings held on 11 January 2017 and 16 January 2017 (Pages 7 - 20)

To consider and approve the minutes as a correct record.

A5 Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 20 January 2017 (Pages 21 - 30)

To note the minutes.

A6 Verbal updates by Cabinet Members and Directors (Pages 31 - 32)

To receive a verbal update from the Cabinet Members for Specialist Children's Services and Adult Social Care and Public Health, the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and the Director of Public Health.

B - Key or Significant Cabinet/Cabinet Member Decision(s) for Recommendation or Endorsement

B1 16/00133 - Proposed Revision of Rates Payable and Charges Levied for Children's Services in 2017-18 (Pages 33 - 44)

To receive a report from the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services and the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, and to consider and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member on the proposed decision to approve the proposed changes to rates payable and charges levied for Children's Services in 2017-18, note the rates which are dictated by external agencies, i.e. Inter-agency charges and Essential Living Allowance, confirm that the charge for other Local Authorities for use of in-house respite residential beds is to be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery, and delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

B2 17/00023 - Future Commissioning Arrangements for External Fostering Placements (Pages 45 - 52)

To receive a report from the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services and the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, and to consider and endorse or make recommendations to the Cabinet Member on the proposed decision to approve the approach to the future commissioning of external fostering placements for children and young people aged 0–18 years and delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to award the contract and implement the decision

C - Other items for comment/recommendation to the Leader/Cabinet Member/Cabinet or officers

C1 Draft Specialist Children's Services Divisional Business Plan 2017/18 (Pages 53 - 76)

To receive a report from the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services and the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, which presents the Specialist Children's Services Divisional Draft Business Plan for 2017/18. This sets out the high-level priorities for the coming financial year and also

describes the agreed business planning process for 2017/18, on which the committee is invited to comment.

C2 Financial Element of the Updated Care Leaver Policy (Pages 77 - 136)

To receive a report from the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services and the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, setting out the amendments to the financial elements of the Care Leaving Policy. This policy sets out what young people (both citizen and UASC) are entitled to post 18 through Kent County Council's Leaving Care service. The committee is asked to consider and comment on the proposed guidance documents and the content of the report and endorse the proposed changes and the publishing of the attached policy and guidance documents.

D - Monitoring of Performance

D1 Risk Management (Pages 137 - 182)

To receive a report from the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services and the Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, outlining the strategic risks relating to the Specialist Children's Services Division of the Social Care Health and Wellbeing Directorate, on which the committee is invited to comment.

D2 Specialist Children's Services Performance Scorecard (Pages 183 - 194)

To receive a report from the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services and the Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, outlining progress against targets set for key performance and activity indicators, on which the committee is invited to comment.

D3 Public Health Performance - Children and Young People (Pages 195 - 200)

To receive a report from the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health and the Director of Public Health, outlining current performance on key performance indicators of public health-commissioned services for children and young people, on which the committee is invited to comment.

D4 Work Programme 2017 (Pages 201 - 208)

To receive a report from the Head of Democratic Services on the committee's work programme.

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

John Lynch, Head of Democratic Services 03000 410466 Please note that any background documents referred to in the accompanying papers maybe inspected by arrangement with the officer responsible for preparing the relevant report.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CABINET COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Wednesday, 11 January 2017.

PRESENT: Mrs J Whittle (Chairman), Mrs A D Allen, MBE (Vice-Chairman), Mrs P Brivio, Mrs P T Cole, Mrs V J Dagger, Mrs M Elenor, Mrs S Howes, Mr G Lymer, Mr M J Northey, Mr C P Smith, Mr A Terry (Substitute for Mr B Neaves), Mr M J Vye and Mrs Z Wiltshire

ALSO PRESENT: Mr G K Gibbens and Mr P J Oakford

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Ireland (Corporate Director Social Care, Health and Wellbeing), Mr A Scott-Clark (Director of Public Health), Ms Jemma West (Democratic Services Officer) and Mr P Segurola (Director of Specialist Children's Services)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

186. Apologies and Substitutes (*Item A2*)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Neaves, and Mr Terry attended the meeting as a substitute in his place.

187. Declarations of Interest by Members in items on the Agenda (*Item A3*)

During consideration of item C1 relating to the Lifespan Update, Mrs Wiltshire asked it to be noted as a potential interest, in that her grandson had recently gone into adult education, but she received no remuneration for this.

188. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2016 (Item A4)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on 10 November 2016 are correctly recorded and they be signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

189. Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 9 November 2016 (Item A5)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held on 9 November 2016 be noted.

190. Verbal updates

(Item A6)

1. Mr P J Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services, gave a verbal update on the following issues:

The Children's Commission Takeover Challenge had taken place on 25 November, and 8 young people had attended, which included a mixture of care leavers and young people from schools. There had been a good agenda, and the participants had been sent papers in advance. They were given an opportunity to quiz officers on accommodation, fostering, and performance reports. It had been a useful day, and it had been agreed it should be repeated on an informal basis.

Tunbridge Wells Social Workers – On 13 December, he had spent the day with Social Workers for the Tunbridge Wells district. He would be visiting Social Workers in each district over a period of time.

Children's Commissioner – Following the letter sent to the Children's Commissioner focussing on other local authorities placing their children in care within Kent, a meeting had been held with the Children's Commissioners deputy, and Kent Police. A lot of material had been discussed, and a follow up note had since been received stating that the concerns raised would be built into the Children's Commissioners business plan.

- 2. In response to questions from members, Mr Oakford made comments including the following:
 - Over 250 young people arriving in Kent had been dispersed. Since July, all young people arriving had been dispersed. There had been fewer arrivals, resulting in the closure of one of the reception centres. The implementation of the dispersal programme was evidence that Kent had lobbied, and the Government had listened to the concerns raised.
- 3. Mr A Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, then gave a verbal update on the following issues:

UASC – there was a diminishing number of UASC, and this was partly due to there being fewer new arrivals, due to the activity in Calais, but those who had arrived had been dealt with by the dispersal programme in a timely fashion. January saw the balance switch towards more care leavers over the age of 18. Funding discussions with the Home Office were ongoing, both for those aged over 18, and for Millbank Place, which was an integral part of the scheme.

Following the dispersal in France, assessments were being carried out. There had been a group of young people arriving before Christmas under the Dublin III legislation, who had been placed at Millbank. Only six of that group remained. Where family could not be located, the young people would become part of the national dispersal programme. At present, there were 13 young people at Millbank Holding Centre, which was far less than in 2015 when there had been around 120 young people.

OFSTED Inspection Position – The new Inspection Framework would be introduced in 2018. There were still 35 local authorities waiting for an inspection prior to this, and Kent was one of those. The Joint Targeted Inspection Programme continued, with themes around Domestic Violence and neglect. It was likely that there would be more notice of that inspection. The themes and focus were likely to change in March, and Kent may or may not be a recipient of this. The new Inspection Framework following the SIF looked quite different and could include potentially critical changes. The Committee would continue to be appraised of the situation.

Children's and Social Work Bill – This had completed its transit through the House of Lords in November. Various amendments had been made to the bill, including a new social work regulator. It would be moving back through the House of Commons, and was due to conclude next week.

Peer review – Under the Regional Scheme, a peer review had taken place of the Adolescent support group. The scheme involved carrying out peer reviews across other authorities. Verbal feedback had been positive, and officers felt it was a worthwhile exercise.

- 4. Mr Ireland then responded to a question by a Committee Member, and stated that there was always a risk of UASC disappearing, but generally, the young people were unlikely to choose to be in Kent. If any of the young people were picked up by the Home Office, they would more likely be brought to Croydon.
- 5. Mr Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, then gave a verbal update on the following:

Children's Commissioner Takeover Challenge – This had taken place on 22 November, and a group of young people from the Canterbury Academy who were taking part in Youth Health Champion Training came to County Hall to take part in the takeover day in the Public Health Team. The young people had shown an interest in the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), and what KCC were doing with regard to the provision of Mental Health Services, including 'Six Ways to Wellbeing'. The young people had a good understanding of mental health issues, which indicated good coverage of the topic in schools.

As an outcome of discussions during the day, the young people would be meeting with Canterbury CCG to discuss improving care for people of their age in Primary Care services.

Peer review – He had taken part in a Peer review in November, and invited Members to volunteer to take part in one. He stated that he would be happy to point Members to the relevant contact officers within the LGA.

A Committee Member then commented on the work of the Youth Advisory Group in Thanet, and stated they had received an award for their work towards drugs and alcohol abuse. The Member added that young people were best placed to deliver the message, rather than local authorities.

6. Mr Scott-Clark, Director of Public Health, then gave a verbal update on the following:

Drug and Alcohol Strategy – The Strategy would be developed with partners, led by the Kent Drugs and Alcohol Partnership. The Strategy covered resilience, identification, early help, recovery and supply.

Mental Health – The Prime Minister had covered a range of issues in announcements. The detail was unclear at this stage, but it was good that the parity of physical and mental health had been recognised.

- 7. Mr Scott-Clark, then responded to a question of a Committee Member and stated that in terms of providing adequate services for mental health, it was a case of making the best of the funding received. There were improvements that could be made such as getting providers to communicate with each other, and getting the system to work right from beginning to end. It was good that the focus was on the parity between physical health and mental health.
- 8. Mrs P Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH, then responded to questions of the Committee Members and made points including the following:
 - She could not give a figure for how much it would cost to provide adequate mental health services, but discussions were taking place around this.
 - There was important developments in mental health, and the focus in Kent had moved away from totally focusing on crisis management to looking at prevention and recovery.
 - Those aged 14-24 were the group to focus on as it's the age when people
 will experience their first episode of mental health so it was crucial to have
 the right preventative services in place to support young people.
 - KCC needed to work in conjunction with the health service, and more preventative work was needed.

The Chairman then suggested that a Members Briefing on mental health would be useful.

Mr Ireland then added that there was a need to recognise that KCC played a minor role in comparison to the NHS and had limited influence.

9. RESOLVED that the verbal updates be noted.

191. Young People's Substance Misuse Services – Contract Extension (16/00144) (Item B1)

Ms K Sharp, Head of Public Health Commissioning, was in attendance for this item.

1. Ms Sharp introduced the report which explained that the contract for the contract for the Kent Young Persons' Substance Misuse Service was due for renewal in March 2017, and the existing provider was performing well. Under the terms of the contract, an extension could be granted until December 2017. Public Health would develop a new service specification and start a procurement process in order to have a new service in place from January

- 2018. Funding had already been identified and included within the 17/18 public health budget.
- 2. Ms Sharp then responded to questions raised by the Committee Members and made points including the following:
 - The £640,500 set aside in the budget for the nine-month extension was the maximum amount that could be paid, but potential efficiencies were being discussed with the provider.
 - There were 350 presently accessing the service, and the waiting period was less than 3 weeks. There were 110 on the waiting list.
 - The service did go out to schools. They were also promoting the use of the RisKit programme, which was a tool focussed on risk taking among young people, and how this behaviour could be managed.
- 3. RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health to endorse the proposed decision to extend the contract for the Kent Young Persons' Substance Misuse Service until December 2017, and the proposed commissioning approach to procure a new contract during 2017/18, be endorsed.

192. Lifespan Pathway update (Item C1)

Mrs P Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH, and Ms L Robinson, Strategic Commissioning Support Manager, were in attendance for this item.

- Mrs Southern introduced her report which provided an update on developments relating to transition arrangements for young people and the progress made in implementing the Lifespan Pathway for young people with disabilities.
- 2. Mrs Southern then responded to questions raised by the Committee Members, and made points including the following:
 - The restructure of the service would be live from April but changes would continue beyond this.
 - Alongside this work was the National Programme Transforming Care Programme, which included complex needs work. Funding received via Transforming Care was used to ensure a complex needs pathway. It had proved useful and successful in retaining people within their local communities, without having to travel to acute placements outside of Kent.
- 3. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health then stated that he wanted to give recognition to the Chairman of the Cabinet Committee for her work in pursuing the transition process. He also extended his thanks to the officers involved for their hard work.
- 4. The Chairman noted that there was an error at 4.3.8 of the report, and the partner should be "Kent Community Health Foundation Trust", rather than "Kent Community Hospital Foundation Trust".

- 5. The Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing then drew attention to the achievement in getting regulators to recognise a need for people to remain in their localities.
- 6. RESOLVED that the Cabinet Committee note the content of the report and support the on-going Lifespan Pathway work.

193. Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboard (*Item D1*)

Mrs M Robinson, Management Information Unit Manager, was in attendance for this item.

- 1. Mrs Robinson introduced the report which provided members with progress against targets set for key performance and activity indicators.
- 2. Mr Segurola then added that the figures shown were from October 2016. He stated that there had been a reduction in the numbers of young people in care, and it was the lowest figure in a number of years. Analysis was being carried out on this, but it was hoped to be partly due to the impact of early help. He then added that placement stability was still a concern, but a range of activities were being brought in in April to support foster carers, such as use of outdoor resources, education, and linking carers together to allow for respite.
- 3. Mr Segurola and Mrs Robinson then responded to questions raised by the Committee Members and made points including the following:
 - Analysis was being carried out around placement and stability. Lack of education was a key component. 'Firming up' of monitoring was needed to be able to see what the issues were.
 - There was a need to improve on the numbers of those not in education or employment or training (NEETs), but outcomes were improving. Part-time curriculums continued to be an issue. It had been two years since the remit of virtual schools had increased to allow 16 to 18 year olds, so it was anticipated that there would be an improvement. There was also scope to extend virtual schools to over 18 year old's, which would have an impact.
 - There was a need to be more pro-active in spotting disruptions before they occurred. Some carers had stated that they felt they received insufficient information about the child they were caring for, which was being addressed by KCC. There was also a need to ensure matches were correct, and the first step in the process was vital.
 - The geographical areas for Kent were as follows:
 - i. North Kent: Dartford, Gravesham, Sevenoaks, Swanley.
 - ii. East Kent: Swale, Canterbury, Thanet
 - iii. South Kent: Ashford, Dover, Folkestone.
 - iv. West Kent: Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone, Tonbridge and Malling.
- 4. The Chairman suggested that the issue around part-time timetables be referred to the Corporate Parenting Panel.

5. RESOLVED that the performance scorecard be noted.

194. Public Health Performance - Children and Young People (*Item D2*)

Ms K Sharp, Head of Public Health Commissioning, was in attendance for this item.

- Ms Sharp introduced the report which provided an overview on key performance indicators of Public Health commissioned services for children and young people.
- Mr Scott-Clark then added that with regard to smoking during pregnancy, Thanet and Swale had received funding from NHS England to assist in tackling this issue, and KCC would be joining with the trusts to ensure the money was used appropriately.
- 3. RESOLVED that the current performance and actions of Public Health commissioned services be noted.

195. Update on the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (*Item D3*)

Ms K Sharp, Head of Public Health Commissioning, and Ms C Maynard, Procurement Category Manager – Care, were in attendance for this item.

- Ms Sharp introduced the report which provided an update on the performance of the current Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) contract, including the service for Kent Children in Care. She added that Kent were one of six authorities receiving Headstart Big lottery funding to pilot resilience teaching in schools.
- 2. Ms Maynard then added the following points, relating to the procurement process:
 - KCC had opted for a competitive dialogue process, which had led to significant changes, including one service for the whole of Kent, with one point of access and one crisis pathway.
 - The Procurement Team were in the final stages of evaluating the bid for Public Health Services, with a view to award the contract at the end of January, to start on 1 February 2017.
- 3. Ms Maynard and Ms Sharp then responded to questions by the Committee Members and made points including the following:
 - A number of measures were being taken to ensure the robustness of the
 procurement process, including making a data room available for bidders
 to scrutinise the patterns of demand, and other data. The final solution
 would be required to submit a transformation plan to cover the period from
 May to 1 September, including every single step of implementation. The
 CCG would also be involved in scrutinising this plan. The provider would
 then continue to be held to account. Site visits were being carried out to

- ensure providers could do what they were promising. ICT were currently testing scenarios around current data.
- The contract management schedule was clear, and had been designed with the CCG, listing key performance indicator requirements. It was possible to have three providers, but there was a requirement that all providers worked together.
- The balance between resilience, versus identifying issues was difficult. Analysis showed a number of the referrals to CAMHS had not been required, and it was important to route people to the right part of the system in order to not de-value the system.
- 4. Mr Scott-Clark added that the whole system approach would provide a core data set across all the services, thus enabling better greater data analysis in future.
- 5. RESOLVED that the content of the report be noted.

196. Work Programme 2017 (Item D4)

- 1. The Chairman introduced the report which gave details of the proposed work programme for the Cabinet Committee.
- 2. RESOLVED that the Committee note and agree the work programme for 2017-18.

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CABINET COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Monday, 16 January 2017.

PRESENT: Mrs J Whittle (Chairman), Mrs A D Allen, MBE (Vice-Chairman), Mrs P Brivio, Mrs P T Cole, Mrs M Elenor, Mrs S Howes, Mr G Lymer, Mr M J Northey, Mr A Terry (Substitute for Mr B Neaves) and Mr M J Vye

ALSO PRESENT: Mr P J Oakford

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Ireland (Corporate Director Social Care, Health and Wellbeing), Mr A Scott-Clark (Director of Public Health), Mr P Segurola (Director of Specialist Children's Services) and Ms Jemma West (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

197. Apologies and Substitutes (*Item A2*)

Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs Dagger and Mr Neaves. Mr Terry attended the meeting as a substitute Member for Mr Neaves.

198. Declarations of Interest by Members in items on the Agenda (*Item A3*)

There were no declarations of interest.

199. Supported Accommodation in a Family Environment Service for Older Children in Care and Care Leavers (SAiFE) (Supported Lodgings) (15/00010) and Housing Related Support for Young People at Risk (HRS) (16/00150) (Item B1)

Mrs K Sharp, Head of Public Health Commissioning Mrs K Mills, Commissioning Manager (Specialist Children's Services Care Leavers), were in attendance for this item.

- Mrs Sharp introduced the report which set out contractual matters relating to contract awards for both the delivery of Supported Accommodation in a Family Environment, and also Housing Related Support for Young People at Risk.
- 2. Mrs Sharp then responded to the questions of the Committee Members, and made points including the following:
 - A review is being undertaken to ensure that the process was now robust enough to ensure that contracts did not require retrospective approval.

- An audit would be taking place which would provide Committee Members with assurance that there were no more contracts outstanding.
- The purpose of the contract was to ensure a smooth transition for those reaching the age of 18.
- Dover Young Person's Service and Dover Housing Support Services were two separate contracts. Further information could be provided around this. (Following the meeting, further information was provided to the Member setting out the differences between the two projects).
- 3. Mr Ireland then added the following points:
 - There had been an error, which was why the Committee's approval was now being sought.
 - In terms of legal costs, the vast majority were cases where there were individual family proceedings in court. Consultation on contractual matters was a small proportion of the totality of the cost.
- 4. Mr Segurola then added the following points:
 - KCC Policy was not to put 16 or 17 year olds in to bed and breakfasts.
 Sometimes, this happened as an emergency temporary measure for those over the age of 18.
- 5. RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services, as set out below, be endorsed.
 - a) To award a new contract to deliver Supported Accommodation in a Family Environment (SAiFE) for Kent's Older Children in Care, Care Leavers and vulnerable young people.
 - b) To re-award 24 short term interim contracts which deliver a total of 465 Housing Related Support units for Young People at Risk from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 and award a retrospective contract for the period up to 31 March 2017.
 - c) To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decisions.

200. Care Leavers Service

(Item C1)

(Naintara Khosla, Assistant Director, Corporate Parenting, was in attendance for this item).

1. Mr Segurola introduced the report which reviewed the Care Leaving Service in light of the significant increase in Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) who began arriving in July 2015 and became looked after by the Council and are now reaching 18 years of age and transitioning into the 18 plus Care Leaving Service. The review has been undertaken to ensure there are appropriate resources allocated to meet this increased need and manageable workloads for staff with sufficient management capacity to oversee the casework.

- 2. Mr Segurola then responded to questions of the Committee Members and made points including the following:
 - A substantial amount of work had been put into analysis of numbers of UASC. Pressure of cases was variable, but due to the dispersal scheme, and the situation in France, the numbers arriving in Kent had reduced significantly since July 2016.
 - The pathway needed to be overseen by a qualified social worker. There
 were also a number of solicitors active in seeking cases against authorities
 around UASC, in terms of age assessment, support and education.
 - The figure of 61 missing UASC was solely for Kent. This was a substantial challenge, where arrivals would declare they were under 18, but would disappear before there was a chance for assessment. KCC worked closely with Police to identify their whereabouts, but in many cases it was likely it was actually adults who disappeared, due to contacts in relation to work. All cases were risk assessed and if there were concerns in relation to trafficking, the response was measured proportionately to ensure every step was taken to identify whereabouts and safeguard young people.
- 3. Mr Ireland then added the following points:
 - It was not possible to calculate numbers with regard to those who go on to higher education. The numbers could be predictable, providing any new arrivals remained within the scope of the dispersal scheme. The levels of UASC in 2015 were much higher, and it was unclear if the service could have coped with these numbers.
 - The build-up for care leavers turning 18 and immediately after was a challenging time, as the young people's immigration status was not clear, and the service needed specialist immigration knowledge to deal with this. Personal advisors did not have this knowledge.
- 4. Mrs Khosla also added the following points:
 - Recruitment had been challenging, and allocation was prioritised through risk assessments for the young people, but all cases were allocated. Planning for next tranche of service increase would be dealt with by transitioning some workers from children in care services, where the need for under 18's had lessened.
 - The different geographical areas, North, West and South Kent, had met the requirements at the time of setting up. There were four teams two of which were in Dover, and two were at Worrall House.
- 5. RESOLVED that the proposed structure of the 18plus Care Leaving Service to meet the increasing demand of UASC transitioning into the Service be noted.

201. Budget 2017/18 and Medium Term financial plan (*Item C2*)

(Dave Shipton, Head of Financial Strategy, and Michelle Goldsmith, Finance Business Partner, were in attendance for this item).

- 1. Mr Shipton introduced the report which accompanied the final draft 2017-18 Budget and 2017-20 MTFP, and provided further details on the key assumptions which underpinned the budget proposals and savings relevant to the remit of Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee, and included information from KCC's budget consultation, the Chancellor's Autumn Budget Statement and provisional local government finance settlement.
- 2. Mr Shipton added that there were around £66 million additional spending requirements, of which £51 million was unavoidable, and £8 million were policy choices. There would also be a £46 million reduction in government funding. This meant that KCC had £112 million to find.
- 3. Ms Goldsmith then highlighted the service specific areas set out in the budget appendices.
- 4. Mr Segurola then responded to questions of the Committee Members and made points including the following:
 - There were always potential funding opportunities, and the service consistently scanned for these and put bids in where possible. They were not always successful but the team were certainly pro-active in utilising opportunities.
 - The staffing costs for the leaving care service, without the UASC component, for its citizen children was £1.3million. Demography moneys were being used to increase the amount.
 - There was a benefit from increasing staffing in the leaving care service, in that children could be moved forward to a position of independence sooner, and a return was expected in costs of accommodation as a result of this.
- 5. Ms Goldsmith also added the following points:
 - The Care Leavers aged 18 and over budget shown in Appendix two of the budget documentation showed that asylum was brought together in one service, and the £8.7 million included staff, as well as costs of accommodation support. The citizen young people care leavers line shown in line 61 showed an internal income which was a recharge to asylum.
 - Row 61 in appendix 2 showed the 16/17 budget position was £2.6, then 17/18 went up to £3 million, to include the demography monies.
 - The minus figures were where proposed savings could be made or there would be an income. Means testing of guardians for allowances would result in savings.
 - In total, the safeguarding spend was £5.8 million, but there was some income that would off-set that. The £6.82 was the recharge to the asylum budget. The £4.39 was a contribution towards the running of the Safeguarding Board.
 - The budget pages relating to Safeguarding only related to Social Care, not education and young people.
 - The budget book and the pages attached to the agenda showed different figures relating to Adults Social Care. Mr Shipton would provide further clarification around this.

- The Children's Public Health Service shown in line 64 of appendix 2 was fully funded by the current ring fenced care grant.
- 6. Mrs Duggal stated that the co-location of the Health Visitors in the Children's Centres was still in progress, but it was hoped to bring a report about this to the Committee at a later date.
- 7. Mr Ireland then added the following points:
 - 0-25 Services were presently being looked at in great depth. Instead of looking at opportunities for efficiencies across social care, health and wellbeing, those opportunities would be looked at across 0-25 as a unity. It was not clear as yet how this would be set out in the report.
 - More efficient commissioning of supported accommodation for young people aged 16 plus was an area KCC could target to create efficiencies and savings. Given the numbers looked at in the previous papers, market power was potentially much greater. Greater coherence in planning locations of accommodation was needed, rather than placing disproportionate numbers in a few locations.
- 8. Mr Oakford also added that this budget did not reflect anything to do with the ongoing 0-25 work. That work related to the integration of children's services and better pathways for the most vulnerable young people. Any savings would be a by-product.
- 9. RESOLVED that the draft budget and MTFP including responses to consultation and Government announcements, be noted.



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel held in Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Friday, 20 January 2017.

PRESENT: Mrs A D Allen, MBE (Chairman), Mrs Z Wiltshire (Vice-Chairman), Mrs T Carpenter, Mrs P T Cole, Mr T Doran, Ms M Emptage (Substitute for Ms S Dunn), Ms L Fisher, Mr R Graves (Substitute for Ms S Dunstan), Mr S Gray, Ms B Haskins, Mr A Heather, Mrs S Howes, Ms N Khosla, Mr G Lymer, Ms D Marsh, Mrs C Moody, Mr P Segurola, Mr M J Vye and Mrs J Whittle

ALSO PRESENT: Mr P J Oakford

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms M Hall (Commissioning Manager - Children Living Away From Home), Ms G O'Grady (Participation Co-ordinator, Specialist Children's Services) and Miss T A Grayell (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

187. Apologies and substitutes (*Item A1*)

Apologies for absence had been received from Sue Dunn and Sophia Dunstan.

Marion Emptage was present as a substitute for Sue Dunn and Reece Graves as a substitute for Sophia Dunstan.

188. Minutes of the meeting of this Panel held on 9 November 2016 (*Item A2*)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Panel's meeting held on 9 November 2016 are correctly recorded and they be signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

189. Meeting dates 2017/2018 (*Item A3*)

- 1. The Democratic Services Officer reported that, since publishing the list of meeting dates shown on the agenda, it had become necessary to move the May 2017 meeting to 1 June 2017.
- 2. RESOLVED that, taking account of the above, the dates reserved for meetings of the Panel in 2017 and 2018 be noted, as follows:

Friday 20 January 2017 – 10.00 am Monday 20 March 2017 – 1.00 pm Thursday 1 June 2017 – 10.00 am Friday 21 July 2017 – 10.00 am Monday 18 September 2017 – 1.00 pm Thursday 9 November 2017 – 10.00 am Monday 29 January 2018 – 1.00 pm Thursday 22 March 2018 – 10.00 am

All meetings will take place at County Hall, Maidstone.

190. Verbal Update from Our Children and Young People's Council (OCYPC) (Item A5)

- 1. Mr Graves gave a verbal update on recent work undertaken by the participation team on behalf of the Children in Care Councils (CICCs), the Super Council and Young Adult Council (YAC). The text of the update is appended to these minutes.
- 2. In response to questions from the Panel by Mr Graves, Ms O'Grady and Mr Segurola, and in subsequent discussion, the following points were raised:
 - a) challenge cards, seeking a free young person's railcard for members of the YAC, and asking about the possibility of corporate parents acting as guarantors for young people's rent, were passed around the table for Panel members to see. These and a previous challenge, asking that young people in care be given a free provisional driving licence at 17, were welcomed by the Panel as constructive suggestions which would encourage independence, and corporate parents' support of them would echo the support and help that a young person's own parents might normally offer them as they approached adulthood and needed to become independent. However, it was important to look carefully into the legalities of the County Council as corporate parent taking on the role of guarantor;
 - b) more challenge cards were to follow and would be introduced to the Panel gradually. Mr Segurola asked how the Panel wished challenge cards to be handled, as the former Kent Corporate Parenting Group had previously received them, and there was general agreement to the Corporate Parenting Panel being the recipient of them and acting as a conduit by which they could be passed on to the appropriate Portfolio holder to deal with, eg the railcard request would be passed to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport;
 - c) it was suggested that, in addition to supporting the previous challenge for a free provisional driving licence, the Panel write to driving schools to seek discounted fees on driving lessons, seek funds from the County Council with which the costs of driving lessons could be subsidised and/or approach reputable second hand car dealerships to help young people to afford a first car. This was another way in which corporate parents could offer the type of support that any other parent might offer;
 - d) another view was expressed that young people be made fully aware of the costs of maintaining, insuring and running a car and a suggestion made that young people be encouraged instead to start with a moped. This would have the added benefit of allowing them to learn about and become aware of road conditions and safety before moving up to owning a first car;

- e) County Council Members had previously used part of their Members grant to help fund participation events, and attended and enjoyed various events in their role as corporate parents. It was hoped that this would continue and that new Members joining the Council in the May 2017 elections would take up this option;
- f) the Panel was advised that the VSK apprentices continued to be involved, as the Recruit Crew, in the recruitment and training of social workers and foster carers, and were involved in preparing guidance on good practice in this field. For this they would receive accredited training in recruitment and selection issues, and this would help them build up useful employment skills and something good to add to their CV. The possibility of approaching universities to help train social work students was also being considered;
- g) the number of young people accessing advocacy services had increased, showing that young people's awareness of such services was good. However, the Young Lives Foundation was working with the Young Adult Council to further promote the use of this service;
- h) the Chairman referred to the County Council staff lottery, the Kent Fund for Children, which raised money from which small occasional payments could be made to families to help them cover expenses such as school uniforms;
- i) the challenge card about corporate parents acting as guarantors for young people's rent costs found support among Panel members, as this would help young people to afford better quality accommodation than they might otherwise manage on their own. However, the experience of one Panel member who had been a guarantor for a young person's rent, but had been left to pay off their debts, showed that anyone considering such an arrangement needed to be fully aware of what they could be letting themselves in for if the young person failed to manage their money properly or keep up with the required payments. It was generally agreed that such an arrangement should not be entered into lightly;
- j) Mr Segurola suggested that, as the provision of accommodation for young people was a complex and changing area and had not been discussed recently, an item be added to the Panel's work programme for a future meeting. He said he would shortly be attending a multi-disciplinary housing group and would start to address the need to prioritise care leavers' accommodation;
- k) it was suggested that the Panel write to John Littlemore at Maidstone Borough Council in his capacity as co-ordinator of district housing officers in Kent, to lobby for the issue to be addressed by district and borough councils; and
- the Chairman suggested to Mr Graves that VSK apprentices might like to suggest a topic affecting young people in care or care leavers to be looked at in depth by a County Council Select Committee.
- 3. RESOLVED that the verbal updates be noted, with thanks

191. Verbal Update by Cabinet Member (*Item A6*)

1. Mr P J Oakford then gave a verbal update on the following issues:-

Foster Carers Mr and Mrs Upton of Canterbury had each been awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours list. Over 32 years they had fostered 151 children and young people.

Takeover challenge day in December – young people had taken over Specialists Children's Services for a day and had run meetings and questioned officers and the Cabinet Member. The day had been challenging but successful and very useful for both sides.

Early help team scorecard shared with young people for their comments – challenging questions had also been asked about this.

Visit to Montague House social work team – here he had met social workers, management and the administrative team and had been able to see at first hand the challenges faced at all these levels.

Children's Commissioner – a recent meeting had successfully highlighted the issue of large numbers of children in care being placed in Kent by other local authorities. This issue had now been added to the Commissioner's Business Plan.

Unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) - The number of new arrivals had dropped dramatically, with only 20 arriving over the last 5 weeks, giving a current UASC population of 600. However, the pressure on services was now transferring to the 18+ service as large numbers of UASC turned 18. There were currently 700 young people in this category and this would rise to 1,000 by the end of May 2017. The former reception centre at Swattenden had now closed and only Millbank was still in use, currently housing 10 young people. Under the national dispersal programme, all UASC arriving since July 2016 had been successfully accommodated by other local authorities around the UK.

- 2. In response to comments and questions from the Panel, Mr Oakford explained the following:
 - a) training on child sexual exploitation given by Kent Police had been very well received and a film used as part of the training was praised by those who had seen it as being frank and hard-hitting. However, suggestions that this film be shared with a wider audience, including Kent MPs, foster carers and County Council Members, had been met with the view from the Police that its content was considered too disturbing. One particularly shocking aspect of the film was gangs' apparent awareness of vulnerable children in care; the first question they would ask of a child would be their care status:
 - b) the issue of other local authorities, particularly London boroughs, placing large numbers of children in care in Kent had long been a concern, and an added concern now was from media coverage that some of these young people may be bringing drug habits and other problems into Kent. Placing authorities were known not to be diligent in undertaking the necessary risk assessments ahead of placing a child out of their area, and concern expressed about what corporate parents in the receiving area could do, realistically, to address the issue. A view was expressed that it should not be the responsibility of the receiving authority to lobby the Government;

instead, the Secretary of State and Children's Commissioner should take an overview and take on this responsibility. Mr Oakford advised that he was a member of the Children's Board of the Local Government Association and undertook to raise this issue there:

- c) a school governor on the Panel spoke of a case of a 14-year-old being placed in Kent and smuggling drugs into the school in which she had been placed. The safety of the placed child and of other children in the school was of great concern, and it was suggested that this issue be referred to the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee. Segurola added that, at the time of a child in care being placed into Kent, if the County Council felt that the school placement found for them was inappropriate, it would be challenged. Mr Heather added that educational professionals in Kent were aware of the highly organised nature of gangs which sought to infiltrate schools with drugs. Ms Emptage added that the Kent education service had a support system for its own children in care but had no knowledge of issues potentially coming in with children placed by other local authorities. She confirmed that schools were rarely given any briefing prior to a placement being made, and there had been no application by a placing authority to set up any support system in advance of placing a child. It was suggested that a survey of schools be undertaken to identify the scale and breadth of the problem;
- d) Mr Doran added that it was difficult for anyone outside Kent to understand the scale of the challenge Kent faced. The national average population of children in care in secondary schools was 6%, but some areas of Kent had rates as high as 50%. Ms O'Grady added that Kent had a population of 1,300 children in care placed by other local authorities, yet placed only 300 of its own children in care out of the county;
- e) a view was expressed that young people should be helped to see and understand the whole issue of drugs and the damage they did to society and to individuals' physical and mental health. Any media or entertainment giving the impression that drugs were glamorous in any way should be banned;
- f) Mr Oakford was thanked for raising this important subject as the Panel had been able to have a frank and useful discussion about it; and
- g) the takeover challenge was welcomed as a good engagement exercise. If this were repeated, it would be most useful for the Panel to be involved.
- 3. RESOLVED that the verbal updates be noted, with thanks, and that the danger of drugs and gang culture coming into Kent with children placed by other local authorities be referred to the Local Government Association Children's Board and the County Council's Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee, as set out above.

192. Review of operation of the new Corporate Parenting Panel model (*Item B1*)

- 1. Mr Segurola introduced the report and sought views on how well the revised Panel was working, following its merger in summer 2016 with the Kent Corporate Parenting Group. In discussion, the following comments were made:-
 - a) it had been a concern that the new, larger Panel might prove too large, and perhaps be too daunting for young people to attend, but this concern had not been borne out;
 - b) the broader Panel membership had been able to have useful, in-depth conversations about issues of concern, for example the preceding discussion arising from the Cabinet Member's verbal update. This allowed Panel members to share and understand issues:
 - the inclusion of corporate parenting training in the induction pack for newlyelected County Council members had long been an aim, and training would be included for new entrants following the May 2017 elections;
 - d) the Panel's work programme was perhaps too focussed on social care issues. Suggestions for areas for inclusion were health and the voluntary sector; and
 - e) it was suggested that the Panel's membership should include representatives of the Police and professionals working with disabled children and young people.

2. RESOLVED that:-

- a) the report be noted;
- b) the Police and disabled children's service in the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate be approached to identify representatives to join the Panel:
- c) the work programme be shared with the whole Panel to seek items for inclusion; and
- d) the operation of the Panel be reviewed again in January 2018.

193. Review and Update of the Sufficiency, Placements and Commissioning Strategy - 2015 - 2018 (Item B2)

Ms M Hall, Commissioning Manager, was in attendance for this item.

- 1. Ms Hall introduced the report and highlighted key areas of work and progress since the Panel had last received an update, including much work on an intense review of the Strategy since December 2016. The Panel had been receiving updates twice-yearly on progress against achieving the eight measures in the Strategy, and this would continue. There were currently two areas in which improvement was sought measures 3 (placements beyond 20 miles from a child's family home) and 6 (children having three or more placements). In response to comments and questions from the Panel, Ms Hall, Mr Segurola and Ms Khosla explained the following:
 - a) in response to a concern that the present measures were not sufficiently robust or precise, worded as 'we expect to see..' rather than 'we will...', Ms

Hall explained that work was in hand to revisit and tighten these in the light of changing provision, eg the number of independent accommodation providers had increased greatly in the last 2 or three 3 years. Mr Segurola added that it would also be necessary to revisit the breadth and variety of provision, linking to the 0-21 and 0-25 strategies;

- b) in terms of placement stability, work was ongoing with VSK and the new Head of the Fostering service, Caroline Smith, under the 'Sense of Belonging' programme, to increase stability. Additionally, in the 'Mocking Bird' model, one respite household would be established for every three care households;
- all children's commissioning activity was now undertaken by one combined commissioning team under a new Interim Head of Children's Commissioning, Karen Sharp, which had made it more possible to achieve an overview of activity;
- d) Ms Khosla added that the County Council needed to use the Strategy to promote its activity in housing care leavers, particularly UASC, and could liaise particularly with district councils' housing departments. To get a clear and full picture of need and provision, which was a complex service area, it would be necessary to take account of patterns of adoption and special guardianship orders and their effect in freeing up foster care placements. In that way, the County Council could 'future proof' its service;
- e) safety pods were welcomed as a new initiative which would avoid the need to use bed and breakfast accommodation to house young people. Any shared accommodation would be used only for a maximum of 28 days while a young person's needs were being assessed;
- f) in response to a question about the provision of training accommodation for young people, in which they could learn cooking and budgeting skills, Ms Khosla commented that this would be a good project to take on;
- g) a request was made that future performance reports give actual figures, eg of the numbers of young people using a service, rather than the percentages shown currently; and
- h) in response to a concern about the rate of placement breakdown, and how breakdown could be avoided if signs were noticed early enough, Mr Segurola advised that support for foster carers taking on children with challenging needs was provided by the Sense of Belonging programme and Mocking Bird model. More support would also be given to foster carers at the start of a placement, and work currently being done to improve CAMHS would also help placement stability.
- 2. RESOLVED that the reviewed and updated Sufficiency, Placements and Commissioning Strategy 2015 2018 be welcomed and endorsed.

194. Head Teacher of Virtual School Kent (VSK) Annual Report 2015 - 16 (Item B3)

- 1. Mr Doran introduced the report and pointed out that the 2015/2016 academic year had been a successful one for VSK. He highlighted the difficulty of comparing that year with previous as it had been the first year of Ofsted's new performance measures and monitoring system. He updated the Panel on some latest figures, as follows:
 - a) the number of children who were NEET had dropped from 53% in September 2015 to 25.7% in September 2016. The 'snapshot' figure for January 2017 was 19.8%:
 - b) attendance and absence showed a variable picture across Kent. Attendance falling short of 90% was classified as 'persistent absence', but this threshold had been increased from 85%;
 - c) VSK was collaborating with the Fostering service on the Sense of Belonging programme and had added to its monthly performance dashboard the number of children experiencing two or more changes of placement. The Head of Fostering attended VSK team meetings and there was good two-way information sharing;
 - d) the VSK apprentices had continued their excellent work on increasing participation and engagement. One apprentice had taken a permanent post in the VSK team. Memberships of the various committees had increased, as follows:- Our Children and Young People's Council: 42, Young Adult Council: 19, Junior Council: 15 making an overall total of 76, which was very pleasing. There had been 19 activity days in the 2015/16 academic year, attended by a total of 450 children and young people. The number of activity days for young people aged over 16 had increased; and
 - e) Kent continued its record of innovative, collaborative support of individual pupils using Pupil Premium Plus (PP+).
- 2. Mr Doran responded to comments and questions from the Panel, as follows:
 - a) Mr Doran received congratulations for the VSK team's work and many years of dedication to supporting the educational success of children and young people in care. It was suggested that this work should be shared with a wider audience by the VSK annual report being reported to the County Council's Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee;
 - b) spending of PP+ was carefully monitored and Mr Doran offered to supply more detailed information outside the meeting. There had been much good practice and improvement since the inception of PP+ and it was hoped that more improvement would be achieved in the future. Examples were given of young people who had benefitted personally from PP+ investment;
 - c) Mr Doran explained that the figures quoted in the VSK dashboard and the scorecard presented to the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee at its December meeting, in terms of the number of care leavers who were NEET, were not based on the same information or the

- same cohorts of young people. Figures used in the VSK report were concerned with 16–18 year olds only, whereas the scorecard was concerned with 18–21 year olds;
- d) it was requested that induction training for newly-elected Members in May 2017 include details of the programme of participation events, so that all elected Members would have the opportunity to attend and become involved. Current Members who had attended such events had found them very enjoyable; and
- e) it was important to look at patterns of demand across the county and ensure that services were provided where young people wanted and needed them and could make the best use of them.

RESOLVED that:-

- a) the information set out in the report be noted, with thanks;
- b) Mr Doran and his team be congratulated on the work of VSK; and
- c) the annual report be referred to the County Council's Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee so that committee could be kept up to date with the work of VSK.



By: Mr P J Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

Mr G K Gibbens, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public

Health

Mr A Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing

Mr A Scott-Clark, Director of Public Health

To: Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee -

23 March 2017

Subject: Verbal updates by Cabinet Members and Corporate Directors

Classification: Unrestricted

The Committee is invited to note verbal updates on the following issues:-

Children's Social Care

Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services - Mr P J Oakford

Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing - Mr A Ireland

- 1. Education Select Committee fostering inquiry
- 2. Single Inspection Framework
- 3. Social Work Bill

Children and Young People's Public Health

Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health - Mr G K Gibbens

- 1. Visit from Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive of Public Health England 6 February
- 2. Attended Local Government Association Public Health Conference in London 9 March

Director of Public Health - Mr A Scott-Clark

- 1. Public Health Ring Fence extension
- 2. Public Health Mandate for 0-5 Healthy Child Programme extension
- 3. NHS Maternity Transformation Event 'Implementing Better Births'



From: Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's

Services

Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care,

Health and Wellbeing

To: Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee –

23 March 2017

Decision Number: 16/00133

Subject: PROPOSED REVISION OF RATES PAYABLE AND

CHARGES LEVIED FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN

2017-18

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: Social Care, Health and Wellbeing DMT – 18 January

2017

Future Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member decision

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This paper sets out the proposed revision to the rates payable and charges levied for children services listed below in 2017-18.

Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE** or make a **RECOMMENDATION** to the Cabinet Member on the proposed decision (attached as Appendix A) to:

- a) **APPROVE** the proposed changes to rates payable and charges levied for Children's Services in 2017-18 as detailed in sections 2 and 3 of the report;
- b) **NOTE** the rates which are dictated by external agencies i.e. Inter-agency charges and Essential Living Allowance;
- c) **CONFIRM** the charge for other Local Authorities for use of in-house respite residential beds is to be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery and;
- d) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report is produced annually and seeks approval of the Directorate's proposed rates and charges levied for the forthcoming financial year, along with any potential changes to the Directorates charging policy.
- 1.2 Members should be aware that in previous years, some of the children's rates were increased in line with the pay award. There is no fixed pay award as pay increases are linked with performance so it has been assumed that there will be an average increase of 2.2% for 2017-18.

- 1.3 Some charges proposed in this report have been increased based on the CPI rate as at September 2016 which was 1.0%.
- 1.4 The effective date is 1 April 2017.

2. Charges and Rates Payable for Children's Services

2.1 All rates and charges proposed for 2017-18 in respect of Children Services are shown in Appendix 1.

2.2 Adoption Service Charge

Inter-Agency Charges – Voluntary Adoption Agencies and Local Authorities

These charges are agreed by the following; Local Government Agency (LGA), Consortium of Voluntary Agencies (CVAA), Association of Directors of Children Services (ADCS) and Society of Local Authority Chief Executive (SOLACE) and therefore are not within our discretion to alter. The rates for 2017-18 remain unchanged from those published in 2014-15.

Local Authorities

- One Child £27,000.00
- 2 Siblings £43,000.00
- 3+ Siblings £60,000.00

Voluntary Adoption Agencies

- One Child £27,000.00
- 2 Siblings £43,000.00
- 3 Siblings £60,000.00
- 4 Siblings £68,000.00
- 5 Siblings £80,000.00

2.3 Foster Care Payments

(a) Reward Element

An increase of 1.6% based on the split between the assumed pay increase of 2.2% for 2017-18 and the CPI rate as at September 2016 of 1.0% is recommended for 2017-18.

Non related placements 0-8yrs £110.29
 Non related placements 9-18yrs £209.49

(b) Maintenance

The DFE published rates for 2017-18 are detailed below. The average percentage increase is 1.34% on 2016-17 rates.

2017-18 Rates	s*
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All placements under 2	£148.62
All placements 2-4	£152.92
All placements 5-8	£170.15
All placements 9-10	£170.15
All placements 11-15	£192.77
All placements 16-17	£227.23
All placements 18+	£227.23

^{*}The 2017-18 rates detailed above have been adjusted to include provision for payments to foster carers to cover holidays, birthdays, religious observances and Christmas (equating to four weeks).

(c) Disability Enhancement

An enhancement will be paid to all foster carers of disabled children who are open to the Disabled Children's Service or Sensory Loss Team. An assessment is undertaken by the child's social worker to determine the level of needs, presented to the funding panel. The enhancement rate is to be reviewed on a yearly basis. There are two rates:

Standard

Carers will receive an enhancement payment of 30% uplift of the higher reward element. From 1 October 2016 this is £61.88 per week.

Enhanced

Carers will receive an enhancement payment of 40% uplift of the higher reward element. From 1 October 2016 this is £82.53 per week.

No uplift to the above rates is proposed for 2017-18 which is in line with benefit increases for 2017-18.

2.4 Foster Care Skills Based Payments

Foster Care Skills Based Payments

It is recommended these receive an uplift in line with CPI rate as at September 2016 of 1.0%. The new rates for 2017-18 are:

- Level 2 £20.43
- Level 3 £51.05

2.5 Specialist Foster Care Payments

a) Single Placement Supplement

This is calculated as twice the age related reward element

- Age 0-8 yrs £220.58
- Age 9-18 yrs -£418.98

b) Therapeutic Fostering Supplement

This is calculated as twice the maximum reward plus maximum maintenance. The rate for 2017-18 is £646.21.

2.6 Parental Contributions

The council will use discretionary powers to raise charges for parental contribution in certain cases where children become looked after on a voluntary basis under section 20 of the Children Act.

In all cases any charge will be subject to means testing to ensure affordability.

2.7 Essential Living Allowance

This is the weekly payment to Care Leavers including Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC). The rate payable is in line with the Job Seeking Allowance for a single adult aged under 25 of £57.90 for 1 April 2017.

3. Other Local Authority (OLA) Charges

It is proposed to increase the rate by 2.2% which represents the assumed increase for the pay award.

a) Fostering service - Social work support

2017-18 - £70.27

b) General - Assessment hourly rate

This represents KCC social workers doing work on behalf of OLA 2017-18 - £70.27

c) Administration fee – rate per invoice

This represents the administration fee to cover time dealing with recharges, it is credited to the social work team claiming the recharge. 2017-18 - £10.46

d) Residential Respite Service

The charge to OLAs for the use of in-house respite residential beds will be agreed by the operational service on an individual home basis, and will be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 The report distinguishes between these rates and charges over which Members can exercise their discretion and those which are laid down by Parliament.

5. Equality Implications

None

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 **Recommendation:** The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE** or make a **RECOMMENDATION** to the Cabinet Member on the proposed decision (attached as Appendix A) to:
- a) **APPROVE** the proposed changes to rates payable and charges levied for Children's Services in 2017-18 as detailed in sections 2 and 3 of the report;
- b) **NOTE** the rates which are dictated by external agencies i.e. Inter-agency charges and Essential Living Allowance;
- c) **CONFIRM** the charge for other Local Authorities for use of in-house respite residential beds is to be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery and;
- d) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

7. Background Documents

None

8. Lead Officer

Michelle Goldsmith
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Lead Director
Philip Segurola
Director, Specialist Children's Services
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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY

Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services **DECISION NO.**

16/00133

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject: PROPOSED REVISION OF RATES PAYABLE AND CHARGES LEVIED FOR CHILDRENS SERVICES IN 2017-18

Decision: In line with the recommendations in the report on the Proposed Revision of Rates Payable and Charges Levied for Children's Services in 2017-18, as Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services I propose to:

a) APPROVE:

i. The increase to:

All Placements under 2	£148.62
All Placements 2-4	£152.92
All Placements 5-8	£170.15
All Placements 9-10	£170.15
All Placements 11-15	£192.77
All Placements 16-17	£227.23
All Placements 18+	£227.23

ii. The Foster Care Reward element to increase to:

Non related placements 0-8 yrs - £110.29 Non related placements 9-18 yrs - £209.49

iii. The Foster Care Skills based payment increase to:

Level 2 - £20.43 Level 3 - £51.05

iv. The Single placement supplement increase to:

Age 0-8 yr - £220.58 Age 9-18 yrs - £418.98

- v. To increase the Therapeutic Fostering Supplement to:£646.21
- vi. For Local Authority Charges for Children Services:
- vii. Assessment hourly rate to increase to £70.27 per hour.
- viii. Administration Fee increase to £10.46

b) **NOTE**

ix. The rates which are dictated by external agencies i.e Inter-agency charges and Essential Living Allowance.

c) CONFIRM

- x. The charge for other Local Authorities for use of in-house respite residential beds is to be calculated on the basis of full cost recovery.
- d) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to implement the decision.

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Reason(s) for decision, including alternatives considered and any additional information

The proposed rates payable and charges levied are considered annually, with any revisions normally introduced at the start of each financial year.

The report is focused on Children's Services and the rates and charges that are currently in place, with the Adult's Social Care Services presented separately.

The rates and charges payable for 2017/18 will be introduced the week commencing 1 April 2017. This has been confirmed with the Department of Education.

Legal Implications

The report distinguishes between those rates and charges over which Members can exercise their discretion, and those which are laid down by Parliament.

Financial Implications:

The increase in income and the increase in payments that these changes will bring have been included in the 9 February 2017 County Council agreed budgets for the services affected.

Equality Implications

None

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision will be discussed at the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 23 March 2017 and the outcome included in the paperwork which the Cabinet Member will be asked to sign.

Any alternatives considered:

As noted, elements of these revisions are set by external agencies and are not subject to discretion.

For the discretionary elements, alternative % were considered but, established principles of using the previous September CPI figure was retained, with one exception where a higher increase is recommended for the Foster Carer Reward element

Any interest	declared	when	the	decision	was	taken	and	any	dispensation	granted	by	the
Proper Office	r:											
None												

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oignad	doto
signed	date

Rate used	Proposed	Basis of Increase
for 16-17	Rates for	
	17-18	

Appendix 1

(2) Al

Care Leavers and Unccompanied Asylum Seeking Children

Inter Agency Charges				
Adopters Charge		07.000.00	07.000.00	D
Local Authorities	One Child	27,000.00 43,000.00		Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15 Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15
	2 Siblings 3+ Siblings	60,000.00		Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15 Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15
		00,000.00	00,000.00	100 con 11 mea, 10 change shide 202 10
Voluntary Adoption	One Child	27,000.00		Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15
Agencies	2 Siblings	43,000.00		Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15
	3 Siblings	60,000.00		Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15
	4 Siblings	68,000.00	-	Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15
	5 Siblings	80,000.00	80,000.00	Rates confirmed; no change since 2014-15
(3) FOSTER CARE PAYMENTS				
Reward Element (Ref 2.3a)				
age 0-8 yrs		108.61	110.29	Increase based on Average of CPI (1.0%) rate and TCP rate (2.2%)
age 9-18 yrs		206.29		Increase based on Average of CPI (1.0%) rate and TCP rate (2.2%)
(0. (2. 26)				
Maintenance (Ref 2.3b) Therease to match the national mi	nimum fostering allowances plus 4 weeks for			
holiday funding.	minum, rostering anomances plus + weeks for			
all placements under2		146.44	148.62	17-18 rates as published
all placements 2-4		150.78		17-18 rates as published
all placements 5-8		168.00		17-18 rates as published
ıll placements 9-10		168.00		17-18 rates as published
all placements 11-15		190.61		17-18 rates as published
allylacements 16-17		224.00	227.23	17-18 rates as published
က္ဆုံ placements 18+		224.00		17-18 rates as published
Φ				
Disability Enhancement (Ref 2.3	c)			
Enhanced		82.53		Increase based on Nil Increase (0.0%)
Standard		61.88	01.00	3 Increase based on Nil Increase (0.0%)
(4) FOSTER CARE SKILLS BASE	ED PAYMENTS (Ref 2.4)			
Allocation introduced in October i	2006			
Level 2		20.23	20.43	Increase based on CPI rate as at September 2016 - 1.0%
Level 3		50.54	51.05	i Increase based on CPI rate as at September 2016 - 1.0%
(5) SPECIALIST FOSTER CARE	PAYMENTS			
Single Placement Supplement (Re				
	addition to these reward payments carers also			
receive the age related maintenan	. ,			
Increase based on Average of Or	• •			
age 0-8 yrs		217.22	220.58	Option 3 in Report, average percentage increase of Options 1 and 2
age 9-18 yrs		412.58	418.98	Option 3 in Report, average percentage increase of Options 1 and 2
Therapeutic Fostering all ages (R	ef 2.5b)			
Twice the maximum reward plus m				Average Percentage increase of TCP (2.2%) increase and CPI increase (1.0%)
		636.58	646.21	for reward element.
(6) OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITY	CHARGES			
Other Local Authority Charges -	- (Ref 3.a-c)			
Fostering Service - Social Work S		68.76	70.27	Increase based on average TCP figure for 2017-18 - 2,2%
General - Assessment - rate per h	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	68.76		Increase based on average TCP figure for 2017-18 - 2,2%
Finance Administration Fee - rate	per invoice	10.36	10 46	Increase based on CPI rate as at September 2016 - 1.0%
	PS	10.50	10.40	. 2 325 2450 01 01 2 1 410 45 41 Deptember 2010 - 1.076
Essential Living Allowance (Ref 2				
Care Leavers and Unccompanied A	sylum Seeking Children	57.90	57 OO	DWP Published Rates for 17-18 (Single Adult Under 25)

57.90 DWP Published Rates for 17-18 (Single Adult Under 25)

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Foster Carer Payments

	17-18 Published	17-18 adjusted rates for 4 weeks		Weekly	
Maintenance	Rates	aholiday	16-17 Rates	Increase	%age increase
all placements under2	138.00	148.62	146.44	2.18	1.46%
all placements 2-4	142.00	152.92	150.78	2.14	1.40%
all placements 5-8	158.00	170.15	168.00	2.15	1.27%
all placements 9-10	158.00	170.15	168.00	2.15	1.27%
all placements 11-15	179.00	192.77	190.61	2.16	1.12%
all placements 16-17	211.00	227.23	224.00	3.23	1.42%
all placements 18+	211.00	227.23	224.00	3.23	1.42%
P 9 9 Therapeutic Fostering 43		646.21	636.58	9.63	1.49%

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From: Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's

Services

Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care Health

and Wellbeing

To: Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee –

23 March 2017

Decision No: 17/00023

Subject: FUTURE COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS FOR

EXTERNAL FOSTERING PLACEMENTS

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: Specialist Children's Services Divisional Management

Team

Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate

Management Team

Future Pathway of Paper: Cabinet Member decision

Electoral Division: All

Summary: The current commissioning arrangements for external fostering placements are due to expire in September 2017.

A detailed diagnostic of the current commissioning arrangements, along with market engagement has taken place in preparation for the new commissioning process. The result of this work has been used to inform the planned implementation of new commissioning and procurement arrangements for external fostering placements for children and young people aged 0–18 years. This report outlines the key findings from the work and the planned approach.

Recommendation(s): The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE**, or make a **RECOMMENDATION** to the Cabinet Member on the proposed decision (attached as Appendix A) to:

- a) **APPROVE** the approach to the future commissioning of external fostering placements for children and young people aged 0–18 years; and
- b) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to award the contract and implement the decision

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper provides an overview of the planned future commissioning and procurement arrangements for external fostering placements for children and young people aged 0–18 years.
- 1.2 The proposed decision links to two of Kent County Council's strategic outcomes:
 - Children and young people in Kent get the best start in life
 - Kent communities feel the benefits of economic growth by being in work, healthy and enjoying a good quality of life.

2. Background

- 2.1 Local Authorities as part of their Sufficiency Duty must take steps to secure, as far as reasonably practicable, sufficient accommodation within its area to meet the needs of children they are looking after.
- 2.2 The proposed decision directly relates to this duty by aiming to provide a sufficiency of foster care placements which meet demand and the needs of the children and young people, and helps support social workers in matching the requirements to providers and foster carers.
- 2.3 The council already has a comprehensive in-house fostering service. However, there are times when the needs of individual children cannot be met by the foster carers that are available.
- 2.4 The council also has contractual arrangements in place with Independent Fostering Providers, to ensure it meets its Sufficient Duty and is able to achieve the required outcomes for each child and young person.
- 2.5 During the financial year 2012/13 Kent County Council and Medway Council collaboratively procured a framework agreement for Independent Fostering Provision. Following a competitive tendering process a framework agreement with 33 Independent Fostering Providers became operational in June 2013.
- 2.6 The framework agreement was awarded as a four year arrangement with a two year review break clause in June 2015. The council utilised the option to extend the framework agreement for a further two years.

3. Commissioning Approach

- 3.1 With the framework agreement due to expire in September 2017, the council's Children's Commissioning team were tasked with carrying out a full analysis of the current commissioning arrangement and to use the findings to inform the future commissioning plan for external fostering placements. The review covered
 - Efficiency (demand and utilisation)
 - Effectiveness (quality and the framework in practice) and
 - Resources (spend and benchmarking).

- 3.2 The Access to Resource Team (ART) team has been sourcing and managing placements for Looked After Children from the framework agreement since June 2013. This has enabled the Children's Commissioning Team to capture more accurate demand data for externally sourced fostering placements in Kent than has previously been the case. In addition by working more closely with our commissioned fostering providers, improved market intelligence had been gathered.
- 3.3 The key findings from the analysis were as follows:
 - Demand for placements is falling, but there will still need to be an arrangement in place in order to meet the council's Sufficiency Duty
 - Placements made through the fostering framework are made with providers judged to be of good quality
 - The placement making processes could be simplified to support the work of Specialist Children's Services (SCS) and the ART in making timely, good quality placements
 - The current framework arrangements are too complex, but there are opportunities for simplifying the approach in any future commissioning arrangements

4. Consultation

- 4.1 Kent County Council and Medway Council have hosted engagement events held with the market in order to outline future demand, requirements, and updates on service developments.
- 4.2 Keys results from the engagement events included:-
 - The primary reason why the council's still spot purchasing was due to lack of suitability of foster carers and the difficulty in recruiting foster carers especially for child age ranges of 11-15 years and 16-18 years
 - 83% of those taking part in the interactive session said that the council's business only represented between 0-25% of their overall income
 - 55% agreed with the proposed placement types
 - 46% agreed the council could make efficiencies with cost and volume arrangements

5. Commissioning Approach

- 5.1 The results from the Diagnostic Report together with the consultation carried out with the market and in-house service, have assisted in identifying what needs to be commissioned in terms of external fostering placements.
- 5.2 To complement the council's in-house fostering service and to continue meeting the needs of our children and young people, core placements, placements for disabled children, sibling groups and parent and child placements will need to be externally commissioned.
- 5.3 These types of placements will be for the age ranges of 5-10 years, 11-15 years and 16-18 years. The intention going forward is that external placements for

those aged 5-10 years will reduce over time as the in-house fostering recruitment strategy is rolled-out.

- 5.4 The commissioning arrangement will also cover the following:-
 - Long term or permanent placements (as per care or placement plan; 12 months and over)
 - Short term placements
 - Emergency placements (same day, out of hours and/or within 24 hours of referral)
 - Solo placements (with no other children within the foster household)
- 5.5 It is clear that demand has previously been spread too thinly across the marketplace. To resolve this, the intention is to work more intensively with fewer providers. This will improve the quality of the provision and also strengthen the council's negotiations with providers.
- 5.6 The council's Children's Commissioning and Strategic Procurement Teams are working together on further market engagement in order to:-
 - Unlock access to placements
 - Build better relationships with suppliers we want to work with
 - Build a small Kent based supply structure
- 5.7 Next steps are to determine the preferred procurement option, an alternative plan/option, further collaboration with Medway Council and seek Strategic Commissioning Board approval to commence procurement.
- 5.8 It is anticipated that we shall go out to the market with this opportunity in April 2017.

6. Procurement Approach

6.1 Following completion of the analysis and market engagement, an options appraisal was carried out that sought to determine the advantages and disadvantages of each option giving the greatest likelihood of achieving the outcomes sought, balanced against levels of risk.

The options were:

- Single Source Justification
- Kent County Council Be-spoke Arrangement
- Joint Arrangement with Medway Council
- 6.2 The Specialist Children's Services Divisional Management Team endorsed the approach of continuing to work in partnership with Medway Council. Medway Council have also considered these options, and they too are supporting working jointly with Kent County Council in this regard.

7. Financial Implications

7.1 The Director for Specialist Children's Services budget lines for external fostering for the year 2017/18 are:

- Specialist Children's Services £6,576,000
 Disabled Children's Services £944,000
- 7.2 Following the transformation of the in-house service and the implementation of a Recruitment Strategy for in-house foster carers, it is anticipated that spend with the external market will reduce throughout the lifetime of the new arrangement.

8. Contract and Delegated Authority Requirements

- 8.1 The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to endorse the proposed decision to give delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing to award the contract following a competitive procurement process.
- 8.2 The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee will be presented with an award report on the outcome of the procurement process upon completion.
- 8.3 Due to the approximate value of the new arrangement it does mean that the contract will require Sealing by the council's legal department.

9. Legal Implications

- 9.1 It is anticipated that there will be no legal implications as a competitive procurement process will be undertaken.
- 9.2 The council is obliged to fulfil its statutory responsibilities regarding fostering as set out in The Children Act 1989, the Sufficiency Duty and other regulations and guidance such as the National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services.

10. Equality Implications

10.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out which indicated a low impact. A copy is available on request.

11. Conclusions

- 11.1 The current commissioning arrangements which, the council has run in partnership with Medway Council for external fostering placements are due to expire in September 2017. Following the completion of a Diagnostic Report on the Framework Agreement it has been determined that demand is falling but there is still a need for arrangements to be in place in order to meet the council's Sufficiency Duty. However, the Framework Agreement was overly complex and there is now an opportunity to simplify arrangements and processes when purchasing external fostering placements.
- 11.2 Going forward the preferred option is to continue working in partnership with Medway Council as this has worked well but also provides new opportunities to share resources, and our collective demand is more attractive to the market. Following consultation with the market and the results of the diagnostic we have

identified the types of placements we need to commission to meet future demand.

- 11.3 The Specialist Children's Services Commissioning Team are now working with the Strategic Procurement Team on producing a procurement plan with the aim of going to the market in April 2017.
- 11.4 Following completion of a procurement exercise delegated authority will be sought to give to the Corporate Director of Social Care Health and Wellbeing to award the contract.

12. Recommendation(s)

- **12.1 Recommendation(s)**: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **ENDORSE**, or make a **RECOMMENDATION** to the Cabinet Member on the proposed decision (attached as Appendix A) to:
- a) **APPROVE** the approach to commissioning external fostering placements for children and young people aged 0 18 years;
- b) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to award the contract and implement the decision

13. Background Documents

None

14. Contact details

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Relevant Director

Philip Segurola Director, Specialist Children's Services 03000 413120 philip.segurola@kent.gov.uk

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - PROPOSED* RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

DECISION	NO
17/0002	3

For publication

Key decision

Expenditure is over £1m

Subject: Future Commissioning Arrangements for External Fostering Placements

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services, I propose to:

- a) **APPROVE** the approach to commissioning external fostering placements for children and young people aged 0–18 years; and
- b) **DELEGATE** authority to the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, or other nominated officer, to undertake the necessary actions to award the contract and implement the decision.

Reason(s) for decision:

The current commissioning arrangements, in partnership with Medway Council, for external fostering placements are due to expire in September 2017. This has provided an opportunity to carry out a detailed diagnostic of the current commissioning arrangements, along with market engagement. The results of this work has been used to inform the planned implementation of new commissioning and procurement arrangements for external fostering placements for children and young people aged 0–18 years

Financial Implications

The Director for Specialist Childrens Services budget line for external fostering for the year 2017/18 is:

Specialist Children's Services £6,576,000

Disabled Children's Services £944,000

Following the transformation of our in-house service and the implementation of a Recruitment Strategy for in-house foster carers, it is anticipated that spend with the external market will reduce throughout the lifetime of the new arrangement.

Equality Implications

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed which indicated a low impact.

Legal Implications

It is anticipated that there will be no legal implications as a competitive procurement process will be undertaken.

KCC is obliged to fulfil its statutory responsibilities regarding fostering as set out in The Children Act 1989, the Sufficiency Duty and other regulations and guidance such as the National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision will be discussed at the Committee on 23 March 2017 and the outcome Member will be asked to sign.	
Kent County Council and Medway Council have host to outline future demand, requirements and provide u	
Any alternatives considered:	
As part of the business case analysis other options v	were considered, but for the reasons outlined in
the accompanying recommendation report, they we the Council.	•
Any interest declared when the decision was t Proper Officer:	aken and any dispensation granted by the
·	
signed	date

From: Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist

Children's Services

Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care,

Health and Wellbeing

To: Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet

Committee – 23 March 2017

Subject: DRAFT SPECIALIST CHILDREN'S SERVICES

DIVISIONAL BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper Social Care, Health and Wellbeing DMT 18 January

and 8 February 2017

Future Pathway of Paper Cabinet- April 2017

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This report presents the Specialist Children's Services Divisional draft Business Plan for 2017/18 (Appendix 1 to this report). This sets out the high-level priorities for the coming financial year. The paper also describes the agreed Business Planning process for 2017/18.

Recommendations: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the draft Directorate Business Plan 2017/18 for the Specialist Children's Services Division, prior to the final version to be approved by the Corporate Director and the Cabinet Member.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This paper presents the draft Specialist Children's Services Divisional Business Plan 2017/18, as well as the arrangements for developing and approval of Business Plans as agreed by the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee in December 2016. The draft Business Plan is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.2 The Business Plan is intended to provide a high-level summary of the Divisional priorities, along with a brief assessment of progress on the 2016/17 priorities. In addition, the Business Plan includes information about the Division's operating environment, along with finance and staff resourcing, key risks, organisational development priorities and key performance management information.
- 1.3 The Divisional Business Plan will be approved by the Cabinet Member and Corporate Director. Final approval by the Leader and Cabinet Members will be made following consideration by the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee.

2. POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 The priorities set out in the Specialist Children's Services draft Business Plan are intended to support the overall objectives of the County Council as set out in 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement 2015 -2020 and 'A Commissioning Framework for Kent County Council: Delivering better outcomes for Kent residents trough improved commissioning'.
- 2.2 The Divisional Business Plan identifies key priorities in respect of service delivery, transformation and integration to meet the current and future challenges. This is in the context of KCC's new operating framework, the 'Medium Term Financial Plan 2017 20 Managing Kent's money responsibly' and 'Your life, your well-being a vision and strategy for adult social care 2016 2021'.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The KCC Budget 2017/18 sets out the funding allocated to the Specialist Children's Services Division. A breakdown of the total allocation can be found in the approved budget.
- 3.2 The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan which also influences the delivery of the business plan priorities provides further contextual information and financial implications for the medium term period.

4. REQUIREMENTS FOR DIVISIONAL BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18

- 4.1 As in the previous three years, the intention is to iteratively improve the process again in 2017/18 to support KCC's move to become a strategic commissioning authority.
- 4.2 In response to the findings of the review the changes to the content of the Directorate Business Plans was agreed by the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee in late 2016. As a result the following requirements were agreed:
 - Each Business Plan will reflect on progress against last year's priorities, given the emphasis on a three year rolling plan. Business Plans will also set out the approach for ongoing monitoring and review of the plan
 - A new section will be added on the operating environment context which may have an impact on service delivery over the next three years, anticipating cost and demand management pressures, legislative or regulatory change and demographic change. This will provide context for priority setting
 - The list of internal and external services will remain, but be simplified
 - Each Directorate/Division will define the most appropriate 'significant' commissioning and service activity to include for the next three years (2017-2020), with flexibility to consider complexity, risk, strategic importance and profile. The commissioning

information will be simplified with an emphasis on the expected costs and key decision date (if required). More detailed commissioning and procurement information will continue to be available on the contracts register

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 KCC's statutory obligations as a council with children's social care responsibilities are defined in the relevant legislation such as the Children Act 1989, the Children Act 2004 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Measures in the Business Plan will be taken forward in a way that is consistent with KCC duties under the Equality Act 2010 and KCC's Equality and Human Rights policy.

7. NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 Following any final changes, including comments expressed by the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee, the final draft version of the Specialist Children's Services Divisional Business Plan for 2017/18 will be cleared by the Corporate Director and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health. All Directorate Business Plans and this Divisional Business Plan will be collectively agreed by the Leader and Cabinet. The approved Business Plans will be published on the County Council's website.
- 7.2 In support of their oversight role in an evolving strategic commissioning authority, the Business Planning process requires the Division to provide revised information to assist Members to better identify forthcoming issues they may wish to explore in more detail. Relevant Information about this is set out in sections G and H of the draft Business Plan.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 The Specialist Children's Services Divisional draft Business Plan 2017/18 provides high level summary information about the functions that are in the Division and its seven top-level priorities for 2017/18. The Business Plan sets out how the Directorate will be contributing to KCC's strategic operating framework objectives and outcomes that are described in KCC's 'Strategic Statement' and the 'Commissioning Framework'.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Recommendations: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the draft Divisional Business Plan 2017/18 for the Specialist Children's Services Division, prior to the final version to be approved by the Corporate Director and the Cabinet Member.

10. Background Documents

None

11. Report author

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Relevant Director

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Specialist Children's Services

BUSINESS PLAN 2017-18

Children, Young People and Education



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:	
Corporate Director:	Andrew Ireland
Responsible Director:	Philip Segurola
Assistant Directors:	Sarah Hammond, Karen Graham Patricia Denney, Mark Thorn Stephen Fitzgerald, Naintara Khosla
Gross Expenditure:	£148.3M
FTE:	1082.18 Page 57
Version 3	Last modified 04/03/47



Foreword by

Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, Social Care Health and Wellbeing; Director of Children's Services (DCS)

Philip Segurola, Director, Specialist Children's Services

The next financial year will bring with it a number of significant changes to the way we deliver children's services at Kent County Council. During this time we will be undergoing a period of structural realignment to ensure that our services are configured in the best possible way to enable us to provide the right support at the right time and in the right way to meet the needs of children, young people and their families. To achieve this, we will be bringing together Specialist Children's Services and Early Help & Preventative Services into one Directorate: Children, Young People and Education (CYPE). The CYPE Directorate is being created to deliver the council's vision for 0-25 services under one single Corporate Director who will also be KCC's statutory Director of Children's Services.

Our current Corporate Directors for Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, Andrew Ireland, and Education and Young People's Services, Patrick Leeson, will lead the way in managing the transition to the new arrangements. As such, during this time they will retain their current responsibilities and we will continue to focus on delivering our 2017-18 business plan priorities as laid out in this strategy.

This Business Plan sets out the important steps we will be taking to provide Specialist Children's Services in 2017/18. Our key objective as a Division is to make Kent the best place for children and young people to grow up, be supported and safeguarded so that they can flourish and achieve their potential. During this year, as in previous years, we will have to deal with additional pressures relating to our high numbers of care leavers and unaccompanied asylum seeking children. We will also carry on working with neighbouring authorities in response to changes in the adoption arrangements which are being introduced nationally. Furthermore, we have recently been subject to an Ofsted Single Inspection Framework inspection and will work hard to respond positively to the findings of this external review of our services, in-line with our commitment to continual learning and improvement. Finally, we need to continue to work hard to sustain a well-trained, high calibre workforce equipped to carry out consistently high standards of practice.

Despite the challenges that we will undoubtedly face this financial year, we are confident that we have the necessary resourcefulness, skills and abilities to deliver our priorities and achieve the right outcomes.



Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHWB



Philip Segurola, Director, SCS

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SECTION A: SCS Divisional Structure and Purpose

Who We Are and What We Do

Specialist Children's Services has a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Our Division is responsible for the protection, health and wellbeing of Kent's most vulnerable children and young people. Our driving vision is to deliver the best outcomes we can for these children, young people and their families.

"We want Kent to be the best place for children and young people to grow up, be supported and safeguarded so that they can flourish and achieve their potential."

We place our children at the heart of everything we do, and their voices drive our service delivery and commitment to the process of continual improvement.

'The Kent Our Children and Young People's Council ensures that the voices and opinions of Children in Care across Kent are heard....the aim is to improve the lives of Children in Care, offering them the chance to be heard and listened to and give them the motivation to reach whatever they desire without any limitations'

Annabelle Taylor, Chair of Our Children and Young People's Council

Our service supports all children and young people across the county, including:

- Children in need and their wider families. We work with children and families who are vulnerable and need
 extra support, in collaboration with colleagues at children's centres and with our partners in health, the
 police and adult services.
- Children requiring protection that are at risk of abuse or neglect. We safeguard all children and young people at risk in their homes and communities as well as those who are in local authority care. We do this working with adult social care services to ensure a better continuity of support through transition.
- Children requiring early support: we work to identify children and young people's needs as early as possible to improve their chances of success and to get the best from our limited resources.
- Children in our care. We strive to meet the needs of the children we look after and work to achieve permanence and stability.
- Children with a disability: whilst our service for disabled children has been realigned with Adult Services to
 form the Disabled Children and Adults Learning Disability and Mental Health Division, we ensure we maintain
 good links between our services so that these young people receive seamless support.

We, along with the rest of the council, are working together to attain the outcomes set out in our organisational Strategic Statement 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes.' Most centrally, we are working to ensure that children and young people in Kent get the best start in life.

Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes: Kent County Council's Strategic Statement 2015-2020

In 2017-18 the Division is composed of the following key business areas:

Central Referral Unit (CRU)

Deals with all child contacts and enforces robust and consistent management of thresholds; includes representatives from Police, Health and Adult Services. During 2017 the CRU and Early Help Triage are being brought together into one team to provide a single front door which will ensure that contacts and referrals received are appropriately directed to the service which best meets the needs of individual children. The Out of Hours Service provides an emergency response outside normal working hours. Whilst the CRU focuses on the identification of cases meeting the threshold for targeted and specialist support, it works closely with the Early Help and Preventative Services Division which provides the intervention to respond many of these cases.

District Children's Social Worker Teams

At district level there are a dedicated number of Children's Social worker teams that are responsible for all cases from the point of referral up to the completion of any further engagement. The team works with Children in Need and those subject to Child Protection plans.

Adolescent Support Teams

Deliver front line services to adolescents and their families on the edge of care across Kent. Statutory tasks include completing C+F assessments and joint assessment with Housing and the formulation and implementation of robust CIN plans. There will be a focus on those in need of protection, and the wider safeguarding agenda, through the provision of high quality social work interventions and effective liaison with local partners.

Children in Care Service

Provides support to all Children in Care including unaccompanied seeking children. The service develops and drives the Child in Care plan, undertake lead professional for Children in Care and discharge parental responsibilities in partnership with parents' dependent upon the legal status of the child.

Fostering Service

Kent's Fostering Service seeks to provide stable and high quality foster care placements for children of all ages that value, support and encourage them to grow and develop as individuals. A key focus is ensuring appropriate matching is in place and there is support to enhance placement stability. In addition to promoting their health and general well-being, the service is also committed to ensuring that every foster carer recognises the importance of the educational achievement of Children in Care and work with KCC in raising the academic attainment for all Children in Care.

Adoption Service

Provides a comprehensive social work service under the Adoption and Children Act (2002) and offers expertise in adoption and permanency. There is placement choice, robust recruitment and assessment of adopters and decision making which reflects the individual needs of the children. Adopters are offered comprehensive post adoption support and the post adoption offer is supplemented with commissioned services which has supported the post adoption service development. The adoption service is responsive to national developments and new performance expectations.

The Care Leavers 18+ Service

Enables and assists care leavers to develop their skills and enhance life opportunities as they progress into adulthood. The service works to guide young people through the complexities of adulthood and the transition from care into independence. The care leaving service is ambitious for young people and seeks to provide the support that any parent would want for their child in order that they achieve their full potential. The service supports all young people having the opportunities to remain in education or training aged between 18 to 24 years. The care leaving service works with the Skills and Employability Team and Education and Young People's Services to ensure

there are clear pathways and matched placements to secure opportunities for young people to gain access to work experience, traineeships and apprenticeships.

Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Unit

The core purpose of the Safeguarding unit is to provide a quality assurance service and ensure that the provision of services for vulnerable children and young people is compliant with national statutory requirements and performance standards. The unit also oversees that safeguarding practice across the directorate is effective and supports improved social work practice.

Local Authority Designated Officer service

Oversees and advises on allegations against those working in the children's workforce in Kent.

Virtual School Kent

The VSK is the champion for education and ensuring it meets the needs of looked after children. The virtual school is successfully improving the educational attainment of Children in Care and Young Care Leavers. It has been promoting their educational achievement as if they were in a single school. Ensuring that they receive a high quality education is the foundation for improving their lives. There has been success in narrowing the attainment gap between children who are in care and those who are not, but attending Kent schools.

Family Group Conferencing

Ensures all children in Kent at risk of entering care are given the opportunity of having a Family Group Conference; this is a partnership and decision-making process that engages the child's family and family network with Children's Social Services and other service providers in making safe plans for the child's care.

The Management Information Team

The team works with Specialist Children's Services, other directorates and partners to provide accurate, timely and relevant management information and performance data relating to children's social care. This covers data relating to levels of demand, performance and outcomes, and helps to promote and embed a culture of performance management within the Service. The team also oversees the centralised recording of information relating to: notifications of other local authority children placed in Kent; Persons who pose a risk to Children; and notifications to other local authorities when vulnerable children go missing. The team is also responsible for National Statutory Returns, Corporate reporting to Cabinet Committee, and the Cabinet Member, Freedom of Information requests, activity monitoring and analysis, and working with the Regional Performance Groups to influence the national developments of performance frameworks.

SECTION B: Progress Made Against the 2016-17 Divisional Business Plan Priorities

Priority	Progress
Priority 1 Continued development of best practice around Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and missing children at a strategic and operational level	We have continued to make progress in tackling CSE in 2016. We have recruited two qualified social care practitioners to work in the multi-agency CSE Team that was set up in 2015 to follow up intelligence, identify people and places linked with CSE and to secure prosecutions. We have also set up and run more training workshops on the use of the CSE Toolkit and return interviews with young people who have gone missing to enable professionals to quickly and efficiently identify and act upon risk factors relating to exploitation.
Priority 2 Embedding the outcomes of Transformation and ensure sustainability	Over the past year, we have embedded the learning from the first phase of the children's transformation programme. The Care Leavers Pathway Project continues to focus on activities aimed at supporting young people to achieve independence. We have also run a series to roadshows to ensure staff are kept up-to-speed with the transformation agenda. Lastly, we have embedded Signs of Safety across the whole service, producing tangible benefits for families who appreciate the clarity of its approach.
Priority 3 Development of the Corporate Parenting agenda	We have worked hard to obtain a better, more comprehensive understanding of our corporate parenting responsibilities across our officer and Member groups in 2016-17. We have held a number of well-attended Member briefings to ensure that our political leaders are aware of their duties towards Kent's Children in Care and care leavers. Following on from the findings of the Corporate Parenting Select Committee convened in 2015, we have also taken action in response to the Committee report's recommendation. To view a full breakdown of what we have done in order to strengthen corporate parenting provision in Kent, please click here. Finally, we have developed Challenge Cards, which give Children in Care the opportunity to have their voices heard and to hold their corporate parents to account.
Priority 4 Recruitment and Retention of Qualified Social Work staff and ongoing development	In order to build and maintain employee resilience we have worked hard to recruit and retain our social workers over the past year. The majority of our caseholding posts (81.3% in January 2017) are now filled by qualified, permanent staff. We have further driven down the average caseload levels in our Children in Care and fostering teams and this has allowed our caseholders more time for direct work with families. We remain committed to maintaining a manageable caseload 'ceiling'. As a result of our efforts, staff turnover has reduced. We have also encouraged significant numbers of Newly Qualified Social Workers (NQSWs) to join our organisation; following the successful recruitment of 46 NQSWs in September 2016, a further campaign is underway to recruit additional new social workers to Kent.

SECTION C: Divisional Priorities for 2017/18

We have a number of overarching priorities for the next year, which will guide our work with children, young people and their families. They are:

Priority 1: Budget

Planning and delivery of services in-line with the budget requirements for the 2017/18 financial year.

Priority 2: Transformation

Sustaining and embedding the transformation changes (phase 1) and planning for the next phase of the Children and Young Person's Integration Programme.

Priority 3: Safeguarding

Maintaining good safeguarding practice and ensuring we remain responsive and adaptable in order to protect, support and promote the welfare of children and young people.

Priority 4: Corporate Parenting

Making sure that KCC Members and Officers understand their corporate parenting responsibilities and act to provide the right support to Kent's Children in Care and care leavers.

Priority 5: Inspections

Ensuring effective planning for, and management of, all inspection activities with the aim of securing a good inspection outcome.

Priority 6: Corporate

Making sure that key corporate responsibilities are effectively discharged (i.e. PREVENT, equalities duties, Keeping Active – SSAR Priority 2 - risk register, business plan, internal audit etc.)

Priority 7: Building and Maintaining a Strong and Resilient Workforce

Recruiting and retaining adequate numbers of qualified social work staff that have the right skills and are effectively equipped to continually learn and develop.

Our Division has agreed four equalities objectives for the year which will align to KCC's corporate equalities objectives. These are: to safeguard children and young people from harm with regard to sex, disability, race and age; improve life chances and outcomes for children and young people through service developments and transformation; the quality and range of services are improved through increasing engagement with service users; and recruit, retain and develop a workforce that reflects the communities we serve, and we will ensure our people feel valued and respected.

NB: These priorities are consistent with the key objectives set out in the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate Business Plan for 2017/18.

Balanced Scorecard

These high-level priorities are supported by a number of detailed, operational priorities which will enable us to deliver our services in the best way possible to achieve the right outcomes. Our operational priorities are shown below in our Balanced Scorecard of key deliverables:

Performance	Practice
 Ensure full compliance with statutory requirements for placement arrangements and delegated authority Maintain rigour of engagement and case progression in planning for Children in Need cases Progress innovative practice arising from the Sense of Belonging programme in order to improve placement stability Review PEP processes and practices to deliver good educational outcomes for Children in Care Coordinate corporate resources in order to facilitate good accommodation options for care leavers whilst delivering best value 	 Enhance the team around the Looked After Child to ensure quality of placement and safeguarding needs are met Consolidate best practice to ensure the Voice of the Child continues to inform service delivery Use case chronologies to inform assessment and decision-making Progress our use of the Signs of Safety methodology into mature deployment in order to become a Centre of Excellence Refine the Quality Assurance framework to deliver a measurable impact on service delivery
Partnerships	People
 Engage constructively in the development of the new directorate and service structures to ensure an ongoing focus on outcomes for safeguarding and corporate parenting Implement the revised model for the 'Front Door' Contribute to the development of a Gang strategy suitable for Kent to combat the impact of developing gang culture Increase EET opportunities through closer engagement with interdepartmental and cross-agency groups Maintain liaison and engagement in the roll out of the Lifespan Pathway Programme Actively engage and contribute to the Kent & Medway Domestic Abuse Partnership Board 	 Implement the agreed action plan for the roll out of mobile working for frontline staff Progress options for the formalisation of a post-qualification framework within the context of a Teaching Partnership Further increase recruitment and retention levels and continually reduce the use of agency staff in frontline posts Consolidate a framework to identify and celebrate success and increase engagement of staff Maintain caseload ceilings consistently across the county

Details of how these operational priorities will be delivered are set out in the relevant service-level action plans.

Section D: Divisional Operating Environment

Internal Factors

KCC is undergoing a period of significant change to ensure that our services are configured in the best possible way to provide the right support to children, young people and their families. As part of this, we will be bringing together Specialist Children's Services and Early Help & Preventative Services into one Directorate: Children, Young People and Education (CYPE). Whilst we move to the new arrangements, our current Corporate Directors will lead the way in our managed transition. We recognise that a considerable amount of work will need to be undertaken over the coming months to establish how we can best forge and maintain linkages between our various Divisions and Directorates in order to provide a seamless service to children, young people and families. It will also take some time for the new operating environment to become embedded. But we know that the new arrangements will enable us to provide the best possible services into the future, and to help facilitate this we will resolutely focus on delivering the outcomes set out in this strategy.

Other internal challenges are likely to include responding to the findings of the Single Inspection Framework inspection as soon as possible, building on strengths identified and countering any areas of weakness; moving into new arrangements for the delivery of better adoption services at a regional level; and providing the best services to our large number of care leavers.

External Factors

There are also a number of external factors which are likely to have an impact on our service over the next three years. These are as follows:

1. Inspection:

As part of the Ofsted Single Inspection Framework, Kent will receive an inspection of our safeguarding and Looked After Children services in 2017. The results of this inspection are likely to have a significant impact on our operating environment in the short to medium term. To add to this, SCS may also be subject to a Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) over the next three years. The focus of the JTAIs change over time, but the current themes are domestic abuse, intra-familial abuse and neglect.

2. Attracting adequate numbers of experienced staff and team managers:

The national shortage of experienced children's social workers continues to have an impact on KCC's recruitment success; it has meant we are yet to reach our target of 85% of our caseholding posts being filled by permanent staff. Whilst this problem is likely to continue into the future, we have - and will continue - to undertake a variety of recruitment activities to attract the best people to work in Kent.

3. Government reforms to social care:

Throughout 2016 Government has published a series of documents setting out its vision for the future of children's social care. This vision outlines various aspirational reforms to the sector, including a range of changes to child protection processes and improvements in the quality of service provision. Government has committed to making, or have begun implementing, these reforms by the end of this Parliament (2020). This means the operating environment for social care is likely to be subject to fundamental transformation over the next three years. These changes are likely to include: development of a new career pathway and targeted recruitment process for social workers; creation of a new centre of excellence for social work; the more widespread introduction of alternative modes of service delivery (e.g. via Trusts and social enterprises); and enabling children leaving residential care to 'stay close' to their former children's homes so that they can live independently but with ongoing support from that home.

4. Legislative change:

As part of the reform agenda there will be a number of changes to primary and secondary legislation over the coming years. These changes will put the Government's reforms on a statutory footing. The legislative changes will have a significant impact on the way local authorities provide children's services, and look set to include: an increase in the age at which local authorities have to provide support to care leavers up until 25; the abolition of Local Safeguarding Children Boards and the introduction of new local arrangements for the protection of children; changes to the Serious Case Review process; the creation of a new social work regulator and providing select local authorities with the ability to trial 'new and innovative' ways of working via exemptions from some elements of child protection regulation.

5. Delivering high quality services within limited finances:

The climate of austerity and cuts to local government finances mean that our budgets have been stretched over recent years. At the same time, we have seen a rise in demand for children's social care services – particularly in relation to the high numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children which Kent supports. Whilst a significant number of these young people will become care leavers over the next year, the Government's reforms mean Kent may be expected to support more care leavers up until the age of 25 over the next three years. These factors combined mean that financial constraints will remain a challenge for Specialist Children's Services in the medium to long term.

6. Brexit:

Whilst the impact that the Brexit negotiations will have on local government is currently unclear, what is certain is that we will need to regularly review the implications of Brexit on the operation of our local services as the national and international situation progresses.

Section E: Risk Management

We recognise that proactive and effective risk management is essential to enable us to recognise and respond to threats and opportunities both now and into the future. KCC's risk management processes both inform our business planning and performance management activities — as well as our Divisional priority setting. Likewise, our Divisional Risk Register helps us to monitor and mitigate risks as they arise. In the coming financial year, we recognise that the following risks need to be taken into consideration as part of our strategic planning and service responses:

Key Topic	Key Areas of Risk	Impacts	Mitigation
Failure to ensure consistency of practice	Effective management and preparedness for Ofsted inspection	Failure to maintain service improvement could adversely impact on safeguarding, outcomes for children and young people, budget and staffing. A critical inspection could result in being placed on an improvement notice.	The 0-25 programme board provides a strategic overview of the work being carried out to ensure continuous service improvement. Following removal from improvement notice the Children's Improvement Plan has been revised and re-launched as a development action plan. The joint plan with EH&PS addresses high priority actions and addresses the recommendations made in the recent Ofsted CSE themed inspection and the actions identified during a recent external review.
Recruitment and Retention	Difficulty in recruiting and retaining experienced social workers	Reduction in the stability of the workforce effecting frontline delivery. Reduction of options surrounding savings linked to permanence within the workforce	A single data set was established in order to analyse performance and an enhanced recruitment and retention offer was introduced to ensure a more competitive offer for both current and new staff. Loyalty incentives are also in place in order to help attract and retain permanent front line staff. A recruitment action plan is in place to streamline the recruitment process and build upon progress to employ high quality permanent staff and this is regularly monitored through the resourcing group and DMT.
Safeguarding	KSCB Effectiveness and Challenge	Failure to demonstrate a high level of quality assurance, scrutiny and challenge, and the impact this will make, may result in Insufficient safeguarding of children and young people, lack of engagement with children and front line staff and an Ofsted rating of 'requiring improvement' or 'inadequate'	KSCB has developed a challenge log which records partnership challenges that are made at the board, these challenges are then followed up at future meetings to ensure resolutions are found. The chair of the quality and effectiveness group has overseen the development of an agreed multi agency dashboard and outcomes framework that provides the board with information from which It can gain re-assurance. The KSCB

Key Topic	Key Areas of Risk	Impacts	Mitigation
			business unit has been re-
			configured to offer more effective
			support to the board and the
			subgroup membership is
			reviewed annually.
Protect	Effective delivery of	Failure to meet statutory	A single robust data set is in place
children at	the CSE Strategy and	safeguarding responsibilities could	in conjunction with Early Help and
risk of going	action plan to	leave children and young people at	Kent Police and the KSCB led
missing and	protect children at	greater risk of exploitation.	action plan has been developed
Child Sexual	risk of going missing		with work being progressed
Exploitation	or CSE, and response to the		through the emerging vulnerabilities subgroup of the
	response to the needs of those who		KSCB. A multi-agency Sexual and
	are already victims		Criminal Exploitations panel also
	of CSE.		runs to share and make best use
	01 632.		of hard and soft intelligence
			between agencies with an
			ongoing programme of audit
			activity to ensure quality
			assurance with regular reporting
			to SCSDMT and dissemination of
			lessons learnt.
Care leavers	There is a risk that	KCC has always had a significant	We will be increasing staff
	there will be	shortfall on the Home Office grant for	capacity within the asylum duty
	insufficient	care leavers. However the Authority	team in the short term. We will
	appropriate	will soon be supporting more over 18	also make representations to
	accommodation for	former UASC than under 18, causing	Government to request that
	care leavers as well	severe budget pressures going	adequate funding is provided to
	as a funding	forward.	support these young people.
	shortfall, once new		
	legal requirements		
	are put in place.		

Section F: Services Provided by the Division

Service Name	Internal or External	Contract end date.
Independent Adoption & Special Guardianship Order Support Services	External	30/09/2018
Safer Stronger Families	External	31/03/2017
Representation, Rights & Advocacy (RRA)	External	31/03/2018
Independent Fostering Framework	External	02/06/2017
Independent / Children's Homes	External	Spot purchasing (no end date)
Semi-Independent Accommodation	External	Spot purchasing until new accommodation services are in place
Adoption Improvement Support Services	External	31/03/18
Risk Assessments and Harmful Sexual Behaviours services	External	31/03/2019
Young Healthy Minds	External	30/03/2017
Post Sexual Abuse Services	External	31/03/2017
Community CAMHS contribution	External	31/03/2017
Supported Accommodation in a Family environment	External	31/05/2018

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Section G: Significant Commissioning and Service Activity

Name of activity	Description	Lead Service	Expected value	Key decision date (if required)	Public consultation required
Specialist Children's Servio	ces				
Independent Fostering Services	Recommissioning of external fostering for Children in Care.	scs	Approx £8M p/a (excluding UASC)	March 2018	N/A
Rights, Representation and Advocacy services	Review future service options for Rights, Representation and Advocacy services	SCS	£270K p/a	N/A	To be established
Independent Adoption and Special Guardianship Order Independent Adoption and Special Guardianship Order Guardianship Order Support Services		SCS	£376K p/a	N/A	To be established
Support Services Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Enter into relevant legal arrangements with WK CCG as lead commissioner of CAMHS	WG CCG	£2.3M		
16-25 Accommodation and Support Programme		SCS	Approx. £2.9M p/a	Jan/Feb 2018	Already undertaken
Shared accommodation	Commissioning of a new shared accommodation service- investigation of both internal (GEN2) and external options	SCS	Approx. £2.4- £3.4M	Autumn 2017/Spring 2018	Covered under wider programme consultation

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Section H: Budget and Staffing Resources

The summary of the budget allocated to our Division is shown below.

The Division has a provisional total budget allocation for 2017/18 is set out below:

Division	Responsible Manager	Staffing	Non staffing	Gross expenditure	Internal income	External income	Grants	Net cost
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
SCS	Philip Segurola	£53,253.1	£95,063.3	£148,316.4	-£6,883.4	-£1,562.6	£27,486.6	£112,383.8

NB: Based on the draft budget book for County Council, with some pressures and savings are still to be allocated following the Council debate. Final resources information will be updated prior to publication, to reflect the final budget book and MTFP that is circulated to all Members before 31st March. Further details on financial resources are available in the Medium Term Financial Plan and Budget Book

We will also be working hard to achieve efficiencies and to improve what we do and the way we do it in 2017/18.

As part of this, we are undertaking a review of our administration functions to reduce any duplication in activity, improve performance and develop our staff group. It is anticipated this review will generate savings in the region of 7% on our staffing budget.

Section I: Organisational Development

Organisational priorities taken from the Organisation Development Medium Term Plan 2017-2022.

The County Council's organisational development vision builds on our history in workforce development and other ways of improving organisational performance and learning so that KCC, staff and partners are equipped to improve lives of Kent residents, communities and business. We do this through ways such as delivering change in direction, skills and culture that improves our performance; building resilience in all our people by anticipating and adapting to the factors affect public services; improving the employee deal through effective leadership and management and using people management processes, systems and data to empower our people.

The County Council's organisational development (OD) strategic priorities are set out in the Organisation Development Medium-Term Plan 2017-2022. The OD priorities for the whole council are set out in the diagram below.



Source: KCC Organisation Development Priorities - 2017-2022

The following priority areas have been agreed by the SC Directorate Organisational Development Group as key areas which we will take forward during this financial year. It is essential that we help staff to develop and maintain the necessary skill-set required for meeting our strategic and operational objectives of our businesses. The specific directorate actions that we will take forward this year include:

Development of workforce in relation to:

- Professional practice improvement and development
- Implementation of national accreditation scheme for children's social workers

Workforce planning in relation to

- Senior level succession planning and talent management
- Identifying gaps in critical roles and resourcing plans across the directorate
- Wider workforce and integrated workforce

Retention of staff

- Career progression pathways
- Apprenticeships

- Open University and "growing our own qualified staff"
- Step up to Social Work/Frontline Children's
- Think Ahead Mental Health
- Connections with universities

Social Work Health Check – Minimum Standards for Employers

Complete and evaluate current activity in Children's

To compliment this, we are developing Teaching Partnerships between Kent's higher education institutes (HEIs), our local authority and Medway Council to forge new approaches to achieving high quality training for social work students and qualified practitioners in the county. It is hoped this partnership will grow and develop over the coming year.

Furthermore, as part of our Administration Review we will also be recruiting greater numbers of apprentices. This will give us the opportunity to help Kent's young people into employment and to develop their future work skills.



Section J: Performance Indicators and Targets

We need to know that we are providing our services in the right way and to help us do this we have a number of key performance measures and milestones that reflect what we set out to achieve. These Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) support the delivery of our key priorities set out in this business plan.

We routinely use our weekly and monthly performance reports to track how well we are doing. This allows us to quickly identify any areas where we may need to improve or take corrective action. Our overall performance in delivering against our Divisional priorities will be measured by these indicators, which are published in our various Performance Reports and reports to Members.

KPIs taken from quarterly performance reporting

The figures below have been identified as the six measures which most closely align with, and allow us to monitor performance against, the strategic priorities. However, we record a whole range of other performance indicators which enable us to track and assess the impact of our services across SCS. These figures are regularly scrutinised by KCC officers, Members and colleagues in partner agencies.

Figures updated in **January 2017** to reflect actual out-turns in 2016/17 and indicators for use in 2017/18. Floors and Targets have been revised where necessary.

Key Performance Indicators				
Ref	Indicator Description	2016-17	2017-18	2017-18
		Actual	Floor	Target
SCS01	Children in Care placement stability: same placement	71%	65%	70%
	for last 2 years			
SCS02	Percentage of current CIC Foster Care Placements that	86%	75%	85%
	are either KCC Foster Care or Relatives and Friends			
SCS03	Average number of days between BLA and moving in	310 days	650 days	426 days
	with adoptive family (for children adopted)			
SCS04	Percentage of case holding posts filled by KCC	81%	75%	85%
	Permanent qualified social workers			
SCS05	Percentage of children becoming child protection for a	20%	<10% or	<15 or
	second or subsequent time		>25	>20
SCS06	Percentage of online case file audits completed that	67%	50%	70%
	were graded good or outstanding			

We also undertake further review activities, to complement our quantitative analysis and inform and enrich our process of continual improvement. These range from internal reviews conducted by ourselves or the Kent Safeguarding Children Board, to external reviews undertaken by third parties. For example, in November 2016 we requested that a Peer Review team come to assess the work of our Adolescent Support Teams. This Review was led by individuals from Southampton City Council, Bracknell Forest Council and Medway Council. The findings of the Review are helping to shape the work undertaken by of the service and are informing the team's revised objectives and action plans. The findings from such reviews are regularly reported to Members via mechanisms such as the Children's Services Improvement Panel.

To add to this, SCS undertakes regular performance surgeries or 'deep dives' into our KPI figures with staff and managers in our District offices. These sessions allow us to examine and interrogate our performance in detail, to ensure we are providing high quality provision to children from across the county.

Section K: Monitoring and Review

We will monitor our performance against our KPIs and other methods of delivery linked to our Divisional priorities. These monitoring activities will also be set out in the Strategic Statement Annual Report business planning priorities most relevant to the business of the future Directorate.

We will adopt a proportionate approach to how we do this, via our 'business as usual' processes such as regular management meetings and in our regular reports to Members.

The review process will be heavily informed by reviews of our business plan activities. These take place on a frequency determined by each Director. Furthermore, the review of the business plan is not undertaken in isolation. It will be informed by the monitoring and reporting activities which are reported in the KCC Cabinet Quarterly Performance Report, 0-25 Portfolio Board, Cabinet Committee performance report and through the budget monitoring processes at Divisional and Directorate levels. Depending on the outcome of the reviews the necessary remedial actions will be put in place.



From: Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's

Services

Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care,

Health and Wellbeing

To: Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee –

23 March 2017

Subject: FINANCIAL ELEMENT OF THE UPDATED CARE

LEAVER POLICY

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: None

Future Pathway of Paper: None

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This report details the amendments to the financial elements of the Care Leaving Policy. This policy sets out what young people (both citizen and UASC) are entitled to post 18 through Kent County Council's Leaving Care service.

Recommendations: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the proposed guidance documents and the content of this report and **ENDORSE** the proposed changes and the publishing of the attached policy and guidance documents.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Kent County Council's (KCC's) "Care Leaver Offer" was taken to the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 20 January 2015 and the proposed decision (decision number 15/00005) regarding the Care Leaver offer was endorsed. Prior to February 2015, the council did not have a clear, formal policy on Care Leaver entitlement and what the 'offer' was.
- 1.2 By updating the Care Leavers and Transition Policy, Specialist Children's Services (SCS) seeks to expand on the work already undertaken, and to ensure the information available publically to Care Leaving young people is explicit and clear about what they can expect from the council as they become independent adults. In keeping with this objective, the "Staying Put" policy for 18plus young people wishing to remain with their foster carers is also being amended. Foster carers who are able to support young people to "Stay Put" with them whilst they finish their A-levels (or equivalent qualification), will receive the same level of payment they did prior to the child's 18th birthday, as opposed to receive the lower payment for Supported Lodgings providers. This payment recognises the additional support young people require whilst they complete their studies; and is paid until June of the academic year that the young person reaches 18 years and completes their course.

1.3 The changes to the current Care Leaving entitlements, as represented in the appended policy, are detailed at section 6 of this report.

2. Additional investment to the 18plus Leaving Care Service

- 2.1 As members of the Committee will be aware, since 2015, KCC's 18plus Leaving Care Service has seen some fundamental changes. Most notably, in 2015, the council received 948 Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) into its care; the majority of whom were older teenagers: aged 16 or 17. In terms of impact, numbers of young adults open to the council's Leaving Care Services have grown from 1007 in January 2016 to 1359 in February 2017. This growth has come as a result of growing numbers of young people who have sought or are seeking asylum or other leave to remain, having their 18th birthday and transitioning to Leaving Care.
- 2.2 As a result of this increased demand, a decision was taken to ensure that the Leaving Care Service had sufficient staffing. This decision demonstrated strong commitment to Corporate Parenting, ensuring caseloads remain manageable and work with young people is meaningful to their needs and timescales. It also ensured compliance with regulation and case law. The council's Leaving Care team consists of team managers, social workers, senior personal advisors, and personal advisors.

3. Entitlements as defined by law

- 3.1 The "Children Act 1989 Volume 3: planning transition to adulthood for care leavers" sets out the statutory obligations to young people who have been in local authority care. The specific support a young person may receive depends on the length of time they spent in care, and whether they were still in care when they had their 18th birthday.
- 3.2 For young people aged 16 or 17
- 3.2.1 An eligible child is a child who:
 - At aged 16 or 17 is still a Looked After Child
 - Has been looked after by the local authority for a period of 13 weeks, or periods amounting in total to 13 weeks, which began after they reached 14 and ended after they reached 16.
- 3.2.2 A **relevant** child is a child who:
 - Is 16 or 17 years old but is no longer Looked After
 - Was, before ceasing to be looked after, an eligible child (i.e. had been in care for 13 or more weeks); and potentially:
 - a) at the time they attained the age of 16 was detained (i.e. remand, youth offending institution, other centre pursuant to a court order or hospital)
 - b) Returned home to live with parents or someone else who has parental responsibility.

3.2.3 But a young person will **not be a "relevant child"** if:

- The child has successfully lived with their family for a period of six months or more, they will be considered "Qualifying for help and advice" only; (but will become a relevant child if the placement breaks down and they return into care)
- Where the total period of 13 weeks was through respite or pre-planned "short breaks".

3.2.4 A **Qualifying child** is someone who:

- is entitled to an assessment of need by a Kent County Council Leaving Care personal advisor or social worker to determine whether they require ongoing advice or assistance.
- 3.2.5 Unlike "Eligible", "Relevant" or "Former Relevant" young people, Qualifying children *may* be entitled to a service, but this is dependent on their needs and more importantly whether they want any help or support. Young people who may qualify for leaving care support are aged 16-21 (or up to 24 if in higher education) and could be:
 - A young person who was Looked After for less than 13 weeks at age 16 or 17, and therefore do not qualify as Eligible, Relevant or Former Relevant
 - A young person who was Privately Fostered beyond the age of 16 as a result of their disability (private fostering arrangements are mostly considered to end at age 16)
 - A young person who was the subject of a Special Guardianship Order (SGO) at age 16 or 17, and was Looked After immediately before the SGO was made
 - Was previously an eligible child, but then returned home to someone with Parental Responsibility for more than six months before their 18th Birthday.

3.3 For young people aged 18+

3.3.1 A former relevant child is a child who:

- Has been a relevant child and would be one if s/he were under 18
- Was looked after immediately before their 18th birthday, and was an eligible child.

4. Legal Implications - Draft legislation that may affect Leaving Care financial entitlements in the future

- 4.1 Members of the Cabinet Committee may be aware, that the Children and Social Work Bill [2017] currently at the Report Stage in the House of Commons, proposes:
 - i. Corporate Parenting principles be enshrined in primary legislation at s.1;
 - ii. That the Local Authority must publish its' "local offer for care leavers" at s.2, including financial entitlements;

- iii. To extend the offer of local support from 21 up to the age of 25 for *all* Former Relevant young people if they so request it, regardless of whether they are in full-time education or not; at s.3.
- 4.2 This Bill has not yet received Royal Assent however, and members of the Committee will be kept aware of developments.

5. Financial support: the relationship between the Immigration Act 2017 and the Children Act 1989

- 5.1 As members of the Cabinet Committee will be aware, an increasing number of the council's Care Leavers are young people who were formerly UASC. Prior to 2015, 389 former UASC were open to the council's 18plus service. Many young people who arrived into the council's care during 2015 and 2016 have since had their 18th birthdays. As such, in February 2017, the council has over 710 Care Leaving young people who have sought, or are continuing to seek, asylum nearly double the number of young people within an 18 month period.
- 5.2 The Immigration Act 2016 received Royal Assent in May 2016. Schedule 12 of this legislation proposes that the local authority can cease giving a care leaving service to young adults aged 18+ (regardless of how long they were in care) if the Home Office refuses them any further leave to remain, and any right to appeal this decision. The Immigration Act 2016 essentially overrides the Children Act duties in those specific circumstances.
- 5.3 The Statutory Instrument to bring these specific provisions into force has not yet been released, but it is anticipated this will be made available later in 2017. In the meantime, the council's Leaving Care team conducts Human Rights Assessments when a young person no longer has any neither leave to remain, nor right of appeal and faces removal from the UK. This assessment considers on a person-by-person basis whether a young adult's needs can be met through the existing Home Office-led support networks for individuals who have been refused leave to remain, or whether additional, local authority support is still required. Once the Statutory Instrument for Schedule 12 comes into force, the need for Human Rights Assessments will be greatly reduced.

6. The key changes proposed within this policy

- 6.1 The council's Care Leaving policies have been updated in line with and influenced by the best practice of local authorities (such as Trafford who were found to have "Outstanding" Care Leaving Services by Ofsted). These new documents are attached as appendices to this report.
- 6.2 The document at Appendix 1 has been updated to ensure compliance with the regulations. Appendix 1 primarily proposes an increased focus on discretionary payments tailored to an individual's assessed needs. Additional to the Policy are a Care Leaving Entitlement document which clearly notes for Young People what the Kent offer is; this is attached as Appendix 2.

- 6.3 In reviewing the entitlements amendments have also been made to the Pocket Money and Savings Policy. This is attached at Appendix 3. Some revision has been made to the payments that can be made to Care Leavers; savings in this area will be reflected in the extra costs associated with the staying put increases.
- 6.4 The staying put policy is also attached at Appendix 4 highlighting the changes in payments providing clarity of expectations for young people and for foster carers including Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA). Residential establishments are not currently subject to staying put regulations but maybe in the future.
- 6.5 These changes do not require any increase in the budget for Leaving Care currently.

7. Equality Implications

The proposed policy changes ensure that financial support available has parity for both citizen and non-UK born young people, except in specific circumstances (such as an emergency clothing allowance for asylum-seeking children). These two considerations, assist Specialist Children's Services in meeting its' equalities obligations, eliminating unlawful discrimination (s.149 Equality Act 2010), and the wider Equalities and Human Rights objectives for Social Care Health and Wellbeing.

8. Conclusions

- 8.1 The entitlements contained within these policy and guidance documents are in line with the practices of the best performing local authorities, and ensures that support available is in an accessible, straight-forward format. The information is being given to those in Kent County Council's Young Adult's Council (YAC) in order to gather their views on format and content.
- 8.2 Furthermore, the proposed policy changes ensure that financial support available has parity for both citizen and non-UK born young people, except in specific circumstances (such as an emergency clothing allowance for asylum-seeking children). These two considerations, assist Specialist Children's Services in meeting its' equalities obligations, eliminating unlawful discrimination (s.149 Equality Act 2010), and the wider Equalities and Human Rights objectives for Social Care Health and Wellbeing.
- 8.3 Equally the proposed policy and guidance notes are in line with KCC's practice and Corporate Parenting ethos, encouraging young people to work towards independence, and become self-supporting(for instance claiming Housing Benefit to fund the placement costs of a Staying Put arrangement), just as parents would.

9. Recommendations

9.1 Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER and COMMENT ON** the proposed guidance documents and the content of this report and **ENDORSE** the proposed changes and the publishing of the attached policy and guidance documents.

10. Background Documents

Care Leavers Support Policy Executive Decision https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=814

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Care Leavers Support Policy

1. Introduction

Kent County Council, in partnership with other agencies who have a responsibility to support young people, recognises its responsibility to assist and support our young people who are leaving care make a successful transition to adulthood; either through re-integration with their families or becoming as self-supporting as possible.

This document refers to care leavers who were looked after by Kent County Council following their 16th birthday and are entitled to leaving care support from the local authority. The aim of this document is to set out how Kent County Council will meet its responsibilities to these care leavers.

2. Legislative Framework

The Children Act 1989 and its support regulations and statutory guidance place a legal duty on local authorities to provide support for care leavers. The local authority is the "corporate parent" for children in care and therefore has a responsibility for their wellbeing. The precise level of care required by each care leaver will depend on their assessed needs and on their leaving care "status", as defined by statute.

The 2010 (and 2011, 2014) regulations set out under Volume 3 of the Children Act 1989 have strengthened an emphasis on leaving care as being a transitional period rather than something that occurs at a particular point in time. Care leavers are expected to receive support from their responsible authority (the local authority that last looked after them) up to their 25th birthday if they so wish and are eligible. The aim of such continued support is to ensure that care leavers are provided with comprehensive personal support so that they achieve their potential as they make the transition to adulthood. [Further examples legislation and guidance that underpin Volume 3 of the Children Act 1989 are set out in Appendix 1].

3. Definitions

Volume 3 of the Children Act 1989 regulations and statutory guidance define 5 categories of care leavers entitled to leaving care services. [See Appendix 2].

4. Equality and Diversity

This policy has been subject to an equality impact assessment, as set out in the equality impact assessment guidance.

All staff are subject to the Kent County Council Equality & Diversity Policy Statement and Objectives 2012 – 2016 and all work is undertaken in accordance with the Cultural Competence in Kent Policy and Guidance.

All interactions with care leavers should consider the "About You" monitoring guidance and templates and will be in line with the Kent Code.

5. Care Leaver's entitlement to support from Kent County Council

The type and level of support a care leaver can expect from their responsible authority will vary according to their legal status as a care leaver. These areas of entitlement to support are summarised in Volume 3 of the Children Act 1989 statutory guidance.

Eligible Children

These are children in care and they will continue to receive children in care services including:

- The allocation of a social worker;
- An Independent Reviewing Officer and
- Compliance with statutory minimum timescales regarding visits to them by their social worker.

The responsible authority must provide a range of services dedicated to their successful transition to adulthood. These are:

- A personal advisor;
- A pathway plan; this is to be in place at least 3 months following becoming an eligible child (this is to be formulated by the care leaver's personal advisor or other appropriate worker and based on a comprehensive assessment with the care leaver). Regular reviews and a revision of the pathway plan at least every 6 months (it is usual practice for the review of the pathway plan to take place at child in care statutory reviews, which are overseen by the care leaver's Independent Reviewing Officer).
- A duty to keep in touch with the care leaver;
- Kent's Pledge and Leaving Care Charter Commitments

Qualifying children and young people under Section 24 of the Children Act 1989

These care leavers are not entitles to a person advisor or pathway plan. The local authority has a duty to provide advice and support (which at the discretion of the local authority can be financial) to this group of care leavers under Section 24 of the Children Act 1989. This also includes:

- A duty to keep in touch;
- Provision of <u>vacation</u> accommodation or the means to secure it where needed for young people who are in Higher or Further Education.

Former Relevant Children

Care leavers aged between 18 to 21 years, which can extend up to their 25th birthday if they are disabled or engaged in a Higher Education Course that began prior to their 21st birthday. The responsible authority is not responsible for meeting all financial needs of former relevant children, although they are expected to provide financial support to assist in promoting their welfare; especially in relation to maintaining suitable accommodation and promoting their education and training. The responsible authority must provide:

- A personal advisor;
- A pathway plan, which must be reviewed and updated every 6 months (this is to be formulated by the care leaver's personal advisor or other

- appropriate worker and based on a comprehensive assessment with the care leaver);
- To provide assistance with expenses arising from education and training;
- The provision of <u>vacation</u> accommodation (only) or the means to secure it for care leavers in Higher or Further Education where needed;
- A duty to keep in touch with the care leaver;
- Kent's Pledged and Leaving Care Charter Commitments.

6. Personal Advisors

All **eligible**, **relevant** and **former relevant children** are required to be provided with a personal advisor. By the time a care leaver reaches the age of 18 the local authority should have appointed a personal advisor to support them. The personal advisor will act as a focal point to ensure that young people are provided with the right kind of personal support.

For **eligible children**, their personal advisor will be their allocated social worker.

For **relevant** and **former relevant children**, an appropriate personal advisor will be appointed for them from the range of professionals/staff within the Care Leaver Service from which they are receiving support. For this group of care leavers, the personal advisor need not be a qualified social worker but will meet the requirements of a personal advisor set out under Volume 3 of the Children Act 1989 statutory guidance (see paragraphs 3.20 to 3.26).

Examples where the personal advisor will be the care leaver's initial source of advice might include:

- i. Basic information and assistance to develop the practical skills they will need as they assume the responsibilities of greater independence;
- ii. Information about financial capability;
- iii. Information about the housing options potentially available to the care leaver and how to access accommodation and advice:
- Support to the care leaver to develop their confidence and decisionmaking capacity;
- v. Information about education, training and employment opportunities;
- vi. Support in finding and sustaining employment;
- vii. General information about maintaining positive health and wellbeing; knowledge about how to access targeted and specialist health services;
- viii. Information about leisure, sporting and cultural opportunities to enable care leavers to enjoy and participate in community life.

7. Pathway Plans

A pathway plan must be prepared with and for care leavers (Children Act 1989).

The pathway plan should be prepared prior to the care leaver ceasing to be looked after and should be considered at each statutory review. In developing the plan, the personal advisor should involve the care leaver and consult with

various others such as parents, current carers, teacher or tutor, nurse, reviewing officer and any advocate.

Ideally, the pathway plan should be produced before the care leaver reaches the age of 18 but if there isn't a pathway plan in place, the personal advisor should develop a plan with the care leaver. The pathway plan is to be reviewed and revised regularly. The care leaver should be asked who they want to contribute to the plan and it will usually include the care leaver's carer along with someone able to advise on the care leaver's education, training and employment pathway.

Each care leaver's pathway plan will be based on and include their care plan and will set out the actions that must be taken by the responsible authority (in this case Kent County Council), the care leaver, their parents, their carers and the full range of agencies involved/needing to be involved with them.

Pathway plan needs assessment

The pathway plan will be based on an up-to-date and thorough assessment of the care leaver's needs, which will be completed in the following timeframes:

- A. For children in long term care where it is confirmed in their plan more than 6 months prior to their 16th birthday that they will continue to be looked after; the pathway plan assessment will be completed prior to their 16th birthday so that a pathway plan can be put in place immediately.
- B. For any child in care not coming under (A), the pathway plan assessment should, start prior to their 16th birthday, once it is expected they will become an eligible child, and no later than 3 months following the care leaver becoming an eligible child.

The pathway plan must address in particular:

- The care leaver's health and development, (building on the information included in the care leaver's health plan, identified within their care plan);
- The plan should support the care leaver's access to positive activities;
- Education, training and employment. Information within the care leaver's Personal Education Plan (PEP) will feed directly into the pathway plan.
- Contact with the care leaver's parents, wider family and friends and the capacity of this network to encourage and enable the care leaver to make a positive transition to adulthood;
- The care leaver's financial capabilities and money management capacity, with strategies to develop the care leaver's skills in this area;
- The pathway plan should include details about the kind of support that the care leaver can expect their personal advisor to provide;
- The pathway plan will also need to include scope for contingencies that might be required to be followed as the relationship changes over time.

Where the care plan for the care leaver has been maintained and kept up to date, the development of the pathway plan should build on information and

services set out in the care plan, incorporating the services that will be provided to the care leaver to develop their resilience and equip them to make a positive transition to adulthood so that they can manage the challenges of more independent living.

A copy of the pathway plan must be given to the care leaver.

Care leavers who are service users of adult social care services should have their own support plan. The additional requirements set out in the pathway plan should be supplementary to the adult social care support plan.

8. Review of the Pathway Plan

It is necessary for every care leaver's pathway plan to be reviewed and updated regularly and <u>at least</u> every 6 months.

For **eligible children**, the review of the pathway plan would normally coincide with the statutory child in care review and would be overseen by the care leaver's Independent Reviewing Officer.

For **relevant** and **former relevant** children, the timeframe for reviewing the pathway plan is the same as it is for eligible children although these care leavers will not have an Independent Reviewing Officer to oversee the review.

For **eligible**, **relevant** and **former relevant children**, it is recommended that the review of the pathway plan is undertaken by a qualified social worker who is not the allocated personal advisor.

9. Eligible and Relevant Children who Return Home (Regulation 3 (2) (B)) When an eligible person not subject to a care order (Section 31 of the Children Act 1989) or a relevant child is successfully living at home for more than 6 months they become a qualifying child/young person under Section 24

of the Children Act 1989.

If the return home breaks down and they are aged 16/17 years old, they will automatically revert to being a relevant child.

10. Staying Put Arrangements

The intention of 'Staying Put' arrangements is to ensure that care leavers can remain with their former foster carers until they are 21 or adequately prepared for adulthood, whichever is first. This allows for the care leaver to experience a transition similar to their peers, avoid social exclusion and be less likely to experience a subsequent housing and tenancy breakdown.

It is important that the term 'arrangement' is used rather than 'placement' as once a care leaver reaches 18 they are no longer legally 'in care', and the Care Planning Regulations and Fostering Services Regulations and guidance no longer apply.

Kent County Council's Staying Put arrangements are applicable to all care leavers in the care of the local authority who are living with foster carers on

their 18th birthday. The carers may be Kent Foster Carers, Connected Person's Carers or Independent Fostering Agency Carers (Appendix 4).

This arrangement also applies to unaccompanied asylum seeking children who reach the age of 18, and who have 'leave to remain'.

Care leavers in residential placements are not covered by Staying Put arrangements.

Regulatory Framework

Staying Put enables supports and encourages care leavers to remain with their former foster carers beyond their 18th birthday and is set out in Section 23CZA of the Children Act 1989.

Standard 12.4 of the National Minimum Standards for Fostering Services sets out the service standards to be applied to local authority Staying Put arrangements.

Definition of a Staying Put Arrangement

In the 'Staying Put' Guidance 2013, the Department for Education outlines when the term 'staying put' arrangements can be used, which is as follows:

- 1. A care leaver who was looked after immediately prior to their 18th birthday (as an eligible child) continues to reside with their former foster carers:
- 2. The carers were acting as foster carers to the child immediately prior to the care leaver's 18th birthday, (that is, the carers were approved foster carers in accordance with the Fostering Service (England) Regulations 2011, and the child had been placed with them by the local authority, or via an Independent Fostering Agency);
- 3. A care leaver is deemed an eligible child, within the meaning of paragraph 19B(2) of Schedule 2 of the Children Act 1989, immediately before he/she reached 19;
- 4. The 'Staying Put' arrangement is needs-led and is set out in the care leaver's pathway plan:
- 5. A proportion of the allowance paid to the 'Staying Put' carer is paid by the Local Authority's Children's Services under Section 23C of the Children Act 1989;
- 6. The 'Staying Put' arrangement extends until:
 - The care leaver leaves the 'Staying Put' arrangement;
 Or
 - The care leaver reaches their 21st birthday, if continuously, and is still living in the arrangement;
 - The care leaver completes the agreed programme of education or training being undertaken on or before their 21st birthday, if continuously living in the arrangement since their 18th birthday.

Planning for Staying Put Arrangements

The leaving care 'assessment of need' undertaken around a care leaver's 16th birthday should begin to establish the timescale required for a care leaver to

be adequately prepared for moving into independence. This will be reviewed via the statutory review of the care leaver's pathway plan, and consideration will be given to the appropriateness of a 'Staying Put' arrangement being agreed once the care leaver reaches 18.

If it is agreed that a 'Staying Put' arrangement is appropriate, the care leaver's pathway plan should set out in detail all the practical arrangements regarding the care leaver remaining as a young adult in the 'Staying Put' arrangement. This will cover arrangements such as:

- Preparation for adulthood and independence skills;
- Education, training and employment activities;
- Financial issues, such as income and benefits claims;
- Health arrangements;
- Friends/partners visiting and staying at the address;
- Moving on arrangements;
- Safeguarding issues including consideration of any younger foster children in placement at the same address

The change from foster child to an adult member of the household, and for the carer from foster carers to landlord (Staying Put Carer), should be carefully and sensitively planned in order to ensure that both parties understand the nature of the arrangement. The positive aspects of the earlier foster placement should not be diminished by the new legal and financial arrangements and terminology.

Following a care leavers 18th birthday, the legal basis on which they occupy the property changes, and they become an 'excluded licensee' who is effectively lodging in the 'Staying Put' carer's home. In accordance with this change, fostering payments will be replaced by funding for a lodging arrangement.

Consideration will need to be given to the impact on the foster carers' terms of approval.

11. Financial Arrangements for Kent County Council Care Leavers Entering Higher Education Principles

- For the purpose of this document Higher Education is divided into two parts:
 - 1. <u>Further Education</u> (FE) includes any study after secondary education that is not part of higher education (that is, not taken as part of an undergraduate or graduate degree). Courses can range from basic English and Maths to Higher National Diplomas (HNDs). FE also includes <u>technical level qualifications</u> and <u>applied general qualifications</u>, which replace diplomas and vocational qualifications.
 - 2. <u>Higher Education</u> (HE) primarily describes post-18 learning that takes place at universities, as well as other colleges and institutions that award academic degrees, professional qualifications and Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

- The Care Leaver Service, children in care teams and fostering service will work together to ensure that children in care begin preparation for financial independence as early as possible and receive guidance on developing the necessary skills.
- The Care Leaver Service will provide an assessed package of financial support for all care leavers that will contribute to maintaining them up to independence and support their overall pathway plan by meeting their identified needs and helping them to achieve their potential.
- All decisions on eligibility and levels of financial support will be based on a thorough assessment of all the care leaver's needs. The level of financial support available to care leavers will be reviewed on a yearly basis and will involve input by the Children in Care Council (OCYPC). The document will be made available to all stakeholders including the care leaver.
- Social workers and personal advisors will ensure that young people are aware of and fully understand the criteria and how decisions have been made regarding any financial support package.
- In order to encourage care leavers to learn budgeting skills, financial support will, where possible, be paid directly to care leavers unless assessment shows that this is not in their best interest.
- Decisions on how financial support will be delivered to a care leaver will be taken by their allocated social worker or personal advisor following assessment of their budgeting skills during the pathway planning process.
- The Care Leaver Service will help care leavers access sound financial advice in relation to investing any other monies they receive.
- Care leavers who are the responsibility of Kent County Council and who live outside of Kent will not be financially disadvantaged and will receive the same level of financial support as if they were care leavers living in Kent.

Policy Statement

A key purpose of financial support is to help care leavers transition successfully into adult life, so much of the focus of financial support is around enabling care leavers to make the most of their opportunities for education, training and employment as well as ensuring their maintenance and accommodation and health promotion.

Much of the work carried out with care leavers will focus on learning key budgeting skills so that they are able to manage their finances in the future. Kent County Council believes it is essential that care leavers are aware of their own responsibilities and that financial support is used for the purpose it is given.

The Care Leaver Service will attach conditions, such as attendance at college, to any discretionary payments, and will use a variety of financial sanctions such as reducing maintenance allowances for care leavers who fail to co-operate with the service or do not engage with the pathway plan process. Equally, the Care Leaver Service may also consider payment of

incentives to encourage care leavers to commit to education and training plans.

Eligibility

Eligibility for financial support packages is based on the care leavers leaving care status which is described as follows:

- Eligible Children are eligible for accommodation and living expenses and support with education, training and employment costs is assessed accordingly.
- Relevant Children are eligible for accommodation and financial maintenance if not living at home, and support with education, training and employment costs if assessed accordingly. Single parents and disabled care leavers can apply for income support but not housing benefit.
- Former relevant children are entitled to support with education, training and employment costs and vacation accommodation if in higher education and is assessed accordingly.
- Adults who come within this category are those aged 21-24 years who
 were former relevant children to Kent County Council and who are
 looking to return or begin another course of FE/HE or training. They
 may receive support with education or training costs including support
 for higher education costs for the duration of the course. This would
 include any former relevant child whose status as such went past 21
 years of age whole they were continuing to study for a FH/HE course
 that began prior to their 21st birthday.
- Qualifying children under Section 24 of the Children Act 1989; care leavers aged between 16 and 21 who were looked after by Kent County Council but do not qualify as an eligible or relevant child. These care leavers can be assessed for support needs relating to their education and training including travel expenses.

Process for Agreeing Financial Support

Financial support can only be agreed as part of the care leaver's pathway plan. The care leaver's needs regarding financial support should be assessed within the pathway needs assessment and areas of support plus amounts to be paid, along with the frequency of payment, will be set out in the care leaver's pathway plan.

Many payments made by the Care Leaver Service are discretionary and the amount paid will be dependent on the care leaver's need; payment of discretionary allowances will only be authorised following an assessment of need.

Financial support will be reviewed every 6 months at the pathway plan review but care leavers can ask their social worker or personal advisor to review their support needs earlier where their circumstances have changed or where they are having difficulty in managing their finances.

Payment

All care leavers will be expected to have a bank account and payment of all allowances and grants from the Care Leaver Service will be made directly into this bank account unless there are concerns about the care leaver's ability to manage their money. For those care leavers who are unable to access mainstream banking services, payments will be made through the use of a payment card administered by Kent County Council.

For those individuals about whom concerns exist, the social worker or personal advisor may agree with the care leaver to release small amounts of allowances to them at more regular intervals while they develop the skills to budget more effectively. Social workers and personal advisors should regularly assess how the care leaver is managing their money and whether they need extra support in learning how to budget.

In a crisis or other emergency where a care leaver makes a request for emergency funds, the social worker or personal advisor must carry out an assessment to look into the circumstances of the request before agreeing any support.

Requests for emergency payment may also be indicative of other issues, for example substance misuse or debt, and this should be explored during the assessment. Wherever possible, emergency assistance should be given in the form of a food parcel rather than cash.

In exceptional circumstances, and following assessment, the Care Leaver Service can provide payment for clothing or emergency accommodation, but this must be authorised by the Care Leaver Service Manager.

If payments are to be stopped for any reason, this must be discussed with the social worker or personal advisor's line manager and the social worker or personal advisor should write to the care leaver to explain the reasons for this.

Change of Circumstances

It is important that social workers and personal advisors remind care leavers of the need to notify the Care Leaver Service of any change of circumstances that may affect their entitlement to financial support or payments, for example, where they:

- Start or finish employment
- Start at or leave an educational course or an unpaid training provision
- Receive benefits or have benefits stopped
- Become pregnant or have a baby
- Change accommodation
- Any change to their immigration status.

Also, social workers and personal advisors should be aware of those care leavers who are approaching their 18th birthday when eligibility for financial support changes, and ensure that the care leaver receives the right kind of support ahead of this change. This should be addressed at the pathway plan review prior to the care leaver's 18th birthday.

12. Financial support for eligible young people in foster care

Eligible care leavers who live with their foster carer will continue to have all payments made directly to their foster carer. However, in order to help them learn budgeting and financial management skills as part of their next steps assessment, care leavers and their foster carers will agree any sums of money to be paid to the care leaver by their foster carer for specific items such as clothing, travel, books or equipment.

13. Financial support for eligible and relevant children aged 16 and 17 living in semi-independent accommodation

Accommodation and maintenance

Care leavers will receive a weekly allowance **[see Appendix 1]** for their maintenance subject to their continued engagement with their education, training or employment plan. The care leaver's social worker or personal advisor will actively seek information from colleges, trainers and employers regarding the young person's level of attendance and commitment to their plan.

The care leaver's social worker or personal advisor should discuss with their supervisor whether or not to reduce the young person's allowance, if any of the following circumstances arise;

- Failure to comply with conditions relating to education, training or employment plans
- Failure to stay in pathway accommodation or failure to meet the terms of the licence agreement, including causing damage to the property.
- Failure to engage with the pathway process or attend pathway reviews.
- Failure to meet regularly with their social worker, personal advisor (if different) and keyworker.

Care leavers who can demonstrate a commitment to their pathway plan and comply with regulatory requirements to attend statutory medicals, dental check-ups and engagement in Education, Employment or Training can receive up to an additional [see Appendix 3] incentive payment per week, on the recommendation of their social worker.

Support for education, training and employment

Care leavers remaining in further education or training will be expected to apply via their school, college or training provider for a 16-19 vulnerable student bursary to fund their education. The social worker or personal advisor will be expected to support care leavers to make the necessary applications in accordance with the bursary guidance.

In the event that a care leaver is refused a bursary, the social worker should actively investigate the reason for this. The Care Leaver Service can contribute towards enrolment costs and equipment for courses following an assessment of the care leaver's need if a bursary is not received.

It is likely that the school, college or training provider will place conditions on the bursary such as levels of attendance and behaviour. Social workers and personal advisors should liaise with colleges to ensure that the care leaver is able to meet the conditions set.

Clothing

Additional payments may be available to assist with clothing needs
 [Appendix 1]

Contact

The Care Leaver Service has a duty to support contact for eligible care leavers. Any financial support for contact will be based on an assessment of need.

14. Financial Support for former relevant children aged 18 to 21 years old.

Accommodation and maintenance

The use of supported accommodation will be explored where it is identified via the pathway plan that a young person reaching 18 years of age has not yet acquired adequate independent living skills or the emotional resilience to live alone. A support fee will be paid to the supported lodgings provider by Kent County Council and the care leaver will pay the rent element via the housing benefit paid for that area or from the income received if in employment. If a care leaver is in an apprenticeship then consideration will be made to 'topping up' the rent. The placement will be kept under regular review and the development of the necessary skills would be monitored.

At 18, the Care Leaver Service will no longer provide the care leaver's maintenance and the care leaver will be expected to be self-supporting either through working, claiming benefits or a combination of both unless they are in higher education.

Where appropriate, care leavers will be expected to apply for either Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance and Housing Benefit to cover whole or part of the costs of their accommodation.

The Care Leaver Service will ensure that all care leavers get expert advice on maximising their income and claiming any benefits to which they are entitled. Social workers should ensure all benefits have been applied for prior to handing over the case to the personal advisor.

The Care Leaver Service will pay up to 4 weeks subsistence **[Appendix 1]** while a benefit claim is being processed. If payment of benefit is delayed following 4 weeks, the Care Leaver Service will continue to pay a subsistence rate but only if the care leaver has complied with all the requirements from the DWP regarding the claim. After 4 weeks the payments would be reduced and a food voucher to a specified value **[Appendix 1]** plus utility meter card would be provided rather than money/

In individual circumstances and depending on assessment, the care leaver may be expected to sign a "benefit waiting loan agreement" stating that they will pay back any monies advanced by the Care Leaver Service once benefits are paid, and should agree to share information about the claim with the Care Leaver Service so that their personal advisor can liaise with the DWP regarding the progress of the claim.

If the loan is not repaid, the Care Leaver Service may deduct the amount from the care leaver's setting up home allowance and any further requests for financial help may not be considered until the money is repaid.

The exception of this are UASC care leavers who are all rights exhausted and have no recourse to public funds prior (NRPF) to a human rights assessment being undertaken.

Support for education, training and employment

The Care Leaver Service will carry out a needs assessment and may make a contribution to the young person's enrolment, travel and equipment costs.

Savings and other monies

Any savings that have been accrued on behalf of the care leaver whilst in care will be paid to them on their 18th birthday unless there are concerns about a care leaver's lifestyle, for example substance misuse, that means it would not be in their interests to do so. A decision may then be taken by the Care Leaver Service to hold the money until it is thought the care leaver is financially competent.

Where a care leaver has received other monies, either from the Criminal Injury Compensation Board or by way of inheritance, the Care Leaver Service will help them to access independent financial advice on investing the money.

15. Financial support for former relevant children aged 21-24 (incl) years returning to education or training

The Care Leaver Service can consider providing financial support for care leavers aged 21 to 24 who wish to pursue a programme of education and training for the duration of the course.

The provision of financial assistance will be based on a needs assessment and may be agreed in order to cover enrolment fees, equipment and travel allowances. Other alternative funding streams will be also sought by the personal advisor. The level of financial support provided would be identified in the amended pathway plan. If the care leaver is not provided with financial assistance based on their needs assessment, the care leaver would be expected to be self-funding through income or savings.

If the care leaver wishes to pursue a higher education course, see section 20 onwards.

16. Birthday allowances

Birthday gifts, gift vouchers or a cash payment will be given to the care leaver by their social worker or personal advisor following a discussion as to what their preference is but only if the care leaver has remained in contact with the 16+ service. [The gift rates are set out in Appendix 1]

17. Travel expenses

All eligible care leavers in foster care or children's homes have their travel costs met through the allowance provided.

All care leavers aged between 16 and 21 years who are in care or are care leavers are eligible for a passport. The care leaver will be expected to provide a passport photograph and the social worker or personal advisor will then forward the application.

If the care leaver travels to College in an area not covered by their Young Persons Travel Pass then the Care Leaver Service will assess the travel costs and all available options for paying for travel. The best route and cheapest means of travel will be taken into consideration as will their income. A care leaver may also be expected to use part of the bursary payments as a contribution to the travel costs.

Transport costs can be supported in order to maintain a care leaver in education, training or employment. This payment is discretionary and based on the care leaver's continued engagement with their education, training and work programme.

Social workers and personal advisors should therefore regularly check with colleges, training providers and employers to monitor engagement.

Where the care leaver is not engaged, the social worker or personal advisor will discuss this with their supervisor and a decision made about whether or not to stop the payment.

The costs of any travel will not be routinely paid for unless:

- The necessary travel is not covered by the Kent Young Persons Travel Pass (or equivalent)
- The travel is to support contact arrangements for an eligible child
- Where assessment shows the care leaver needs support for travel due to any additional needs.

18. Allowances related to accommodation

Setting up home allowance

A setting up home allowance **[as specified in Appendix 1, with conditions]** is available to care leavers aged 18 plus who have been nominated for their own tenancy or approved long-term private rented property before their 21st birthday (up to 24 years if the care leaver is engaged in a HE course that began <u>prior</u> to their 21st birthday).

It is expected that care leavers moving on from foster care will have basic items. Other funding streams to compliment the allowance will be sought by the social worker of personal advisor.

Deposits for private rented accommodation

The Care Leaver Service will:

- Pay any accommodation related administration fee to the landlord or agent.
 (In addition to the Setting up Home allowance.)
- Pay for the first month's rent, which will be deducted from the Setting up Home allowance on the assumption that the young person will recoup this money from benefits, salary if in paid employment or a mixture of both.
- Pay the deposit for the private rented accommodation if all other avenues to pay for this have been exhausted.

It is important that care leavers and their social worker or personal advisor check that the rent payable will be covered by housing benefit before taking on any tenancy. The Manager of the Care Leavers Service must agree to any advance under this scheme having considered all the facts.

Moving costs

Costs incurred by 16 and 17 year olds moving on and former relevant children aged 18 plus who are moving to their own independent tenancy will be paid on a discretionary basis following an assessment of need by the Care Leaver Service.

Staying Put arrangements

Kent County Council's "Staying Put" arrangement allows care leavers to remain with their foster carer post 18 because they are classed as vulnerable and unable to move on to independence, because they need continuity while completing higher or further education or simply because both the care leaver and the foster carer are in agreement to the arrangement continuing until the care leaver reaches the age of 21 and this is thought to be in the care leaver's best interest.

- Care leavers remaining with their foster carer during Year 13 (A Level) or final year BTEC year will continue to receive their fostering allowance up to their 18th birthday or until the end of June to cover the exam period. If they are going on to university in the September/October of this same year the Care Leaver Service will pay a Staying Put Allowance for the summer period, with it being specified in each circumstance what this allowance is paid to cover.
- Former relevant children remaining with their former foster carers because they are still in further education can claim benefits. Care leavers in full time further education can also claim income support. Care leavers in part time education need to claim Job Seekers Allowance and seek part time employment.
- Care leavers who are eligible to claim benefits will be expected to make the
 necessary claims, supported by their personal advisor, including a claim for
 Housing Benefit that should be paid in full to the carer. Disability allowance
 must be retained by the young person. If the foster carer is claiming benefits,
 being in receipt of Housing Benefit for the care leaver will have to be taken
 into account for their own benefit entitlement.
- Care leavers who work will be expected to pay a contribution to the carer for their rent and maintenance.

19. Care leavers in exceptional circumstances

It is recognised by the Care Leaver Service that care leavers have a variety of needs stemming from exceptional circumstances and to reflect this, the finance policy will be as flexible as possible based on assessment of the care leaver's circumstances.

Young Parents

Care leavers who are single parents are expected to maximise their income and may claim the following benefits:

 16 and 17 year old eligible and relevant children may claim income support but not housing benefit; accommodation costs will be met by the Care Leaver Service.

- Care leavers aged 18 and over may claim income support if they are a lone parent with a child under the age of 5 and will also need to claim housing benefit. Once the child is 5 years the care leaver will be expected to transfer to Job Seekers Allowance.
- Mothers to be aged 16 or 17 living in semi-independent accommodation will receive a one-off payment from the Care Leaver Service once they have passed 20 weeks of pregnancy [specified in Appendix 1].
- Young parents may also claim a Maternity Grant [specified in Appendix 1]
 on the birth of their first baby (or subsequent multiple birth e.g. twins) if they
 are in receipt of benefits to help pay for essential equipment. A claim should
 be made as soon as a claim for income support is submitted.

The Care Leaver Service will help parents who wish to take up education, training or employment opportunities to identify possible funds to cover child-care costs. The Care Leaver Service will carry out an assessment of the young parent's needs and decide what contribution will be made to other costs of education such as enrolment fees, travel and equipment.

- Care leavers in higher education who have dependent children can claim a Childcare grant available from the DWP for help with childcare costs.
- Care leavers who wish to return to or remain in further education can apply for a Care to Learn grant available from the DWP for help with child-care costs.

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)

Ordinarily, the Care Leaver Service will support UASC aged 16 and 17 in a manner consistent with all children in care and the provisions mentioned above. In circumstances where additional support is required this will be subject to agreement by the relevant Assistant Director.

At, or immediately before the age of 18 the care leaver's immigration status will be determined. When applying the guidance above, it is important that planning for UASC reflects the various options around that determination of immigration status. It is also important to understand that post 18, the status will affect their entitlement to benefits in the UK.

It is important that in order to ensure the care leaver can access financial support, their personal advisor encourages them to pursue relevant immigration applications and appeals to secure their right to residence in the UK. This includes supporting them to access a solicitor so that they can get legal advice.

The cost of access and advocacy support from a solicitor in relation to their asylum claim/immigration status id funded solely by legal aid and KCC will not ordinarily provide any additional funding for this.

Once UASC are 18, their entitlement is as follows:

- UASC whose immigration status beyond the age of 18 has been resolved and who have right of residency in the UK are expected to claim benefits and can receive support from the Care Leaver Service as for any other former relevant child.
- UASC who are still waiting to hear the outcome of their application for asylum
 or extension of leave to enable them to remain in the UK beyond the age of
 18 can be supported by the Care Leaver Service as a former relevant child.

- UASC whose application for asylum has failed or who are unlawfully in the UK because they have exhausted all rights to appeal will have no recourse to public funds and legally, should not be supported by the Care Leaver Service. They should agree to a voluntary return to their country of origin and be referred to the National Asylum Support Service (NASS).
- However, the care leaver could be entitled to support under the Human Rights Act 1998. The social worker or personal advisor will carry out a human rights assessment in all cases where this is applicable to ensure that the young person's basic needs are met up to the point that they are removed from the UK by the Home Office or choose to leave independently, in which case the Home Office should be informed by the social worker or personal advisor.

Social workers and personal advisors should seek specialist advice if necessary given the complexity of immigration law.

Eligible Children returning home

Eligible children aged 16 or 17 who are returning home as part of a planned reconciliation become relevant children and will receive financial support from the Care Leaver Service initially whilst their parents re-apply for appropriate benefits such as child benefit.

The care leaver will be expected to be in education, training or employment and should be receiving a bursary or other financial support or income or should be being supported by their parents. However, the Care Leaver Service can carry out an assessment of need and provide financial support in order to support the reconciliation plan.

Where the care leaver returns home in an unplanned manner, the Care Leaver Service will continue to pay their weekly allowance and any other discretionary payments for 6 weeks until it is established whether the care leaver will remain at home. In these circumstances, the social worker should convene an early pathway review to consider the situation and adjust the pathway plan.

Once a child remains at home for 6 months, their status under the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 (amending the Children Act 1989) changes to Qualifying Young Person and the Care Leaver Service will cease to provide financial support except under exceptional circumstances and following an assessment of need.

If the placement breaks down prior to the care leaver's 18th birthday, and they need to be provided with accommodation, they would return to being a former relevant child.

Care leavers who are detained

Care leavers who are detained are likely to need financial support to cover the costs of clothing, personal items and toiletries but all other payments will be suspended.

All eligible children who receive a custodial sentence will be entitled to an assessment of their needs while detained regardless of their care status, and this assessment should include what personal allowance they will need subject to any

rules the secure establishment has on what monies young people are allowed to receive.

If the care leaver is subject to a care order or is a relevant child who will continue to be eligible for birthday and Christmas allowances, these allowances should continue to be paid into their bank account or set aside for them on release.

Care leavers who are sentenced to more than 6 months in custody will receive if the need arises their clothing allowance entitlement on release or during sentence if the secure establishment does not provide a uniform.

Whilst detained in prison, care leavers will be expected to take up and engage fully with any education and training opportunities and to earn money by working in the institution where possible.

20. Higher education costs

Care leavers entering higher education will receive:

- A yearly grant. The amount paid for the duration of the 3 year degree course is inclusive of the government bursary [see Appendix 1 for rates]
- Travel costs to return during holiday periods.
- Reasonable accommodation costs during holiday periods.
- All relevant Pledge commitments, including the provision of a lap-top (from the 2nd year of A level or equivalent BTEC).
- Assistance from their personal advisor to apply for all available student loans and bursaries to cover fees and maintenance.

The costs of term time accommodation must be met by the student through the use of the student maintenance loan, the yearly grant and/or part time working.

21. Identification documents

The Care Leaver Service will ensure that all care leavers are supported to obtain important documents such as birth certificates, passports and other documents that prove their identification.

The Care Leaver Service will pay for each care leaver's copy birth certificate and fund applications for passports or travel documents on a discretionary basis following an assessment of need.

22. Suitability of accommodation

In determining the suitability of accommodation for relevant children (under schedule 2 of the Care Leavers Regulations 2010 and Schedule 6 of the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations 2010) regard should be had to:

- A. In respect of accommodation:
 - a) The facilities and services provided
 - b) The state of repair
 - c) The safety
 - d) The location
 - e) The support

- f) The tenancy status, and
- g) The financial commitments involved for the relevant child and their affordability
- B. In respect of the relevant child:
 - a) His or her views about the accommodation
 - b) His or her understanding of their rights and responsibilities in relation to the accommodation, and
 - c) His or her understanding of funding arrangements

23. Children in care with a disability – transition to Adult Services

This section applies to Children in Care with a Disability (CWD) meeting Specialist Children's Service eligibility criteria who are supported by the Disabled Children's Service (DCS).

At the age of 16 or shortly after, DCS start the planning of a child's leaving care with a Year 11 (Y11) review and the development of a pathway plan.

- A. If a Kent Child in Care with a Disability at 18 is assessed as being eligible for Kent Adult Service Support (KASS) then KASS are responsible for their:
 - Eligible adult service support
 - Care leaving support entitlements (18-25)
- B. If a Kent Child in Care with a Disability at 18 is not eligible for (KASS) then the Kent 18+ Care Leaver Service are responsible for their:
 - Care Leaving support entitlements (18-25).

Appendix 1 - Financial Support to Care Leavers

1. Income / Maintenance

For eligible children aged 16 and 17 living in foster care, (either KCC or IFA), agreement as to your weekly allowance given to you by your carer will be agreed as part of your Pathway Plan and this will be reviewed every 6 months. (KCC's pocket money guidance advises: £11.20 a week)

For eligible and relevant children aged 16 and 17 living in semi-independent accommodation; a weekly allowance for maintenance is payable in line with DWP payments (£57.95 as of 2016 /2017)

For former relevant (aged 18+) - Maintenance payments are paid at a rate in line with DWP payments (£57.95 as of 2016 /2017), while a benefit claim is being processed (for up to 4 weeks).

2. Clothing

For eligible children living in Foster care (either KCC or IFA), agreement as to your clothing allowance will be agreed as part of your Pathway Plan and this will be reviewed every 6 months. However, as a minimum it is expected that for each year between 16-18 years of age, a young person is given £120. (1 x £50 summer payment and 1 x £70 for winter clothing) to go shopping for their own clothing. How this money is given to young people, (cash, vouchers etc) and is to form part of the independent living skills work which is to be agreed as part of the Pathway Plan

For eligible and relevant children aged 16 and 17 living in semi-independent accommodation; or supported lodgings they will receive up to £120 a year. (1 x £50 summer payment and 1 x £70 for winter clothing) to go shopping for their own clothing. How this money is given to young people, (cash, vouchers etc) is to form part of the independent living skills work which is to be agreed as part of the Pathway Plan

Emergency clothing to the value of £50 will be given to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children if they arrive in the UK with limited clothing. This will be based on an assessment of their needs.

Emergency clothing allowance of £50 is also available If a care leaver has no suitable clothes. This will be based on an assessment of their needs.

3. Birthday Allowances

17th birthday £30

18th birthday £60

For eligible children living in Foster care where KCC pays the maintenance to the provider, then agreement will be sought for the provider to give you this payment either through gifts / vouchers or cash. (These are minimum requirements)

For eligible and relevant children aged 16 and 17 living in semi-independent accommodation and receiving maintenance direct from KCC, then KCC will pay the amounts above direct to the young person. Agreement between the young person and the social worker will be sought as to how this is paid either through gifts / vouchers or cash.

4. Travel

All care leavers will have access to the Kent Travel Pass, allowing them free bus travel across the county.

Where young people are travelling to and from college outside of Kent, then it is expected that they are able to use some of their bursary allowance to support their to Education. (This is particularly the case if a young person has chosen to go to a college further afield and there is a college nearer that is offering the same course). Kent care leaving service do not fund travel outside of Kent unless there are individual assessed reasons for doing so and this is agreed at senior management level or through resources panel.

If young people are having to travel further afield to access their chosen course, (as there is no local provision), then consideration will be given for KCC to make additional payments. (This may include the purchasing of a rail card) . This will be based on an assessment of need and will need to be authorised by management or at Panel.

5. Setting up Home Allowance

A setting up home allowance of <u>up to</u> £2000 (or £2200 for single parents), the following conditions apply:

- The allowance should only be used to purchase household items.
- Up to £500 can be accessed in advance to buy essential items (as defined by the Care Leaver Service).
- At least £50 should be spent on health and safety items such as smoke alarms.
- Some of the money should be used to purchase a TV licence and home contents insurance.

6. Young Parents

Mothers aged 16 or 17; living in semi-independent accommodation will receive £150 one-off payment from the Care Leaver Service once they have passed 20 weeks of the pregnancy.

Maternity Grant rate of £500

7. Care Leavers who are Detained

It is not Kent County Council's practice to continue the payment of pocket money and other allowances to <u>Looked After Children</u> or Care Leavers when they are in custody.

Whilst detained young people will have opportunity to earn privileges through attendance and engagement in different opportunities provided by the detention centre and young people should be encouraged to engage in these activities to earn pocket money / privileges.

Providing a young person has attended and engaged in suitable education / training opportunities and has engaged fully with their Pathway Plan, then they can make specific requests to KCC for additional funding for specific personal items and clothing from the detention centre shop. This has to be agreed by a manager and payments must be made to the young person's prison account and sent direct to the establishment to allow the young person to purchase their requested items through the Detention centre's shop.

Birthday payments will still be made as per the birthday allowances entitlements. The social worker / personal advisor will discuss with the young person whether the young person will receive this money into their detention centre's account to allow them to make purchases or whether it will be placed into a savings account. (Consideration will need to be taken into account in regards any rules for the establishment where the young person is held).

As a young person approaches release it will be appropriate to consider issues such as clothing, housing needs etc. and where appropriate to make arrangements for funding these through the pathway planning processes.

8. Care leavers and Higher Education Payments

A £1000 yearly grant. The £3000 paid for the duration of the 3 year degree course is inclusive of the £2000 government bursary.

9. Discretionary Payments

Other costs associated with specific individual needs are available to Care Leavers. These might include costs of child care, travel costs associated with family contact, any associated costs with special needs and / or cultural religious needs.

These will need to be discussed between the young person and their social worker / personal advisor, and based on assessed need.

The social worker / personal advisor will need to discuss with their line manager to seek approval.

10. Incentive Payments

Care leavers can receive up to an additional £20 per week incentive payment on the recommendation of their social worker for demonstrating a commitment to their pathway plan and compliance with regulatory requirements and engagement in Education, Employment or Training.

These will need to be discussed between the young person and their social worker / personal advisor, and based on assessed need.

The social worker / personal advisor will need to discuss with their line manager to seek approval.



Care Leavers Entitlement

Now that you are aged 16+ and have been in the Care of Kent County Council, (KCC), you are legally entitled to ongoing support from Kent County Council. (KCC)

KCC works within **The Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000** and the **Children act Transition Guidance (vol3)** which is designed to give 16 and 17 year olds still in care, and care leavers, the support and advice that you need to enable you to move successfully into adulthood.

This leaflet describes the support and financial help you should receive from Kent County Council as a Care Leaver and also gives you details of other information that you can access to help you understand what support you can expect to receive from KCC.

What specific support you will get will depend your "Care Leaving status", which is based on how long you have been in care and how old you are. Depending on this you may get help with housing, education and training. However, all care leavers, (no matter what your status) can expect the same quality service which is set out in Kent's charter for care leavers. This sets out 14 key promises to you which means we "promise to listen, support and guide you to grow into healthy, happy and successful young adults".

Care Leavers Status:

There are 4 different types of status that you might hear people talk about:

Eligible child – If you are 16 or 17 years old who is still in care and who has been in care for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14.

Relevant child – If you are 16 or 17 years old who has left care but were in care on or after your 16th birthday and had been in care for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14. This can include if you have been part of youth justice system or hospitalised on your 16th birthday.

Former Relevant child - if you are now aged 18 - 21 years old who was previously either an eligible or relevant child.

Qualifying child – If you are aged 16 - 21 years old, and have been Looked After or, if disabled, have been <u>Privately Fostered</u> after reaching 16, but do not qualify as Eligible, Relevant or Former Relevant. (i.e you spent less than 13 weeks in care).

You may also qualify if you are the subject of a <u>Special Guardianship Order</u> (SGO) and were Looked After immediately before the SGO was made.

Or if, you were previously an eligible child but returned to live with someone with Parental Responsibility (PR) for more than 6 months before your 18th Birthday.

What support you can expect from KCC:

Eligible or Relevant child, you can expect to receive:

An allocated social worker / personal advisor

A full assessment based on your needs

A detailed Pathway Plan (based on your assessed needs) which will be overseen by a qualified social work Team manager

Your plan will be reviewed every 6 months

We will keep in touch / visit you every 6-8 weeks (more often if necessary)

Provide you with financial support (see table below)

Support you to access safe and suitable accommodation

Financial support to help you maintain education / training / employment (see table below)

Ensure that you have a bank account / NI number and passport (unless your legal status prevents you)

If you are aged 18+ and Former Relevant

An allocated personal advisor

A full assessment based on your needs

A detailed Pathway Plan (based on your assessed needs) which will be overseen by a qualified social work Team manager

Your plan will be reviewed every 6 months

We will keep in touch / visit you every 6-8 weeks (more often if necessary)

Ensuring that you are in relevant safe and suitable accommodation

Financial support to help you maintain education / training / employment (see table below)

Provide you with vacation accommodation if in higher or further education

Qualifying:

If you contact us requesting support we will:

Assess your current needs and provide you with the appropriate advice and support based on those needs

Provide you with vacation accommodation if in higher or further education

Financial support

The type of financial help you receive from KCC will depend on whether you are an eligible, relevant, former relevant or qualifying young person. The details below are a guide to the kind of help you might receive and your social worker / personal advisor will assist you to understand your entitlement.

It is important that you discuss the timings and amounts with your social worker / personal advisor as some of these amounts are fixed and others are discretionary, meaning that they may have to be agreed by a group of managers before they can be agreed in your pathway plan. (This is often referred to as a Panel).

For a detailed explanation of what you are entitled to visit www.becomecharity.org.uk – monies

http://www.becomecharity.org.uk/media/1066/factsheet-1-finances.pdf

	Eligible(aged 16-18)	Relevant (aged 16-18)	Former Relevant (18+)	Qualifying (16-21)
Income maintenance	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
(personal allowance / essential living allowance (ELA) (This is in line with payments made by DWP) (As of 2016 = £57.95p per week)	If in foster care an agreement as to your weekly allowance given to you by your carer will be agreed as part of your Pathway Plan and this will be reviewed every 6 months	If in Supportive Lodgings or a Semi-independent living home then a personal allowance will be paid which is equivalent to the benefits rates for young people (£57.95 as of 2016)	Only paid for 1st month whilst claim is being processed with the DWP. (in exceptional circumstances this may be extended and food vouchers provided if needed)	
	If in Supportive Lodgings or a Semi-independent living home then a personal allowance will be paid which is equivalent to the benefits rates for young people (£57.95 as of 2016)	If you have returned to live with someone with Parental Responsibility (PR) we will continue to pay upto the 1st 6 weeks only, until person with PR has claimed Child benefit		
		After 6 months you will move to Qualifying status		
Accommodation Costs		N/4		N1/A
Foster care	Yes	N/A	N/A – unless in a staying put arrangement at which point placement changes from foster care to supported lodgings	N/A
Supported lodgings	Yes	Yes	Y.person to claim housing benefit and pay utilities fees and for own food LA to pay top up support needs where assessed (staying put)	
Semi independent living	Yes	Yes	As above	
Vacation accommodation if in HE or residential FE (amount to be agreed by Pa and young person).	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes (subject to assessment)
Independent accommodation + Setting up home allowance	Yes to setting up home allowance if moving into independent accommodation (up to max of £2,000)	Yes to setting up home allowance if moving into independent accommodation (up to max of £2,000)	1st month rental deposit paid if no other source available (depending on needs and financial assessment) Max of £2000, paid in	No
Education employment training	Yes	Yes	instalments	No
Fees / materials	Bursary to be used where eligible	Bursary to be used where eligible	Bursary to be used where eligible	INU
Travel costs	Yes through Kent travel pass – bursary can be used	Yes through Kent travel pass – bursary can be used	Yes through Kent travel pass – bursary can be used	

Higher Education (university)	In exceptional circumstances consideration will be given to additional payments if having to travel outside of Kent - To be agreed at Panel	In exceptional circumstances consideration will be given to additional payments if having to travel outside of Kent – To be agreed at Panel N/A	In exceptional circumstances consideration will be given to additional payments if having to travel outside of Kent – To be agreed at panel	
Bursary			Yes £1000 per annum	No
Travel back to Kent during holiday time			Yes	No
Accommodation during vacancies			Yes	No
Other support payments				
Birthday (17 th and 18 th)	Yes £30 17 th b day £60 18 th b day (If you are in a placement where KCC pays the maintenance to the provider then agreement will be sort for the provider to give you this payment either through gifts / vouchers or cash)	Yes (unless returned home for more than 6 months as you then become Qualifying)	No	No
Clothing	£100 (£50 + £50) If you are in a placement where KCC pays the maintenance to the provider then agreement will be sort for the provider to give you this payment either through vouchers or cash and will form part of your independent skills within your pathway plan	f100 (£50 + £50) If you are in a placement where KCC pays the maintenance to the provider then agreement will be sort for the provider to give you this payment either through vouchers or cash and will form part of your independent skills within your pathway plan If you receive maintenance direct from KCC then your social worker will agree with you as to how this will be paid and will form part of your independent skills within your pathway plan	No	No
Other discretionary payments – (to be agreed with social worker or Personal advisor as part of PWP and agreed at Panel)				
Costs associated with special needs	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Costs of child care	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Travel Contact with family	Yes	Yes	Yes (only for contact with younger siblings (under 18) or own children – to be discussed with pa	
Counselling therapeutic needs	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Cultural religious needs	Yes	Yes	Yes	

individual colleges you will be assisted		
to claim where appropriate – bursary		
payment expected to used for travel /		
trips for part of course / equipment.		

Shaded entitlements are discretionary. If following discussion with your social worker or personal advisor it is felt that you are entitled to some of these payments and it has been assessed within your pathway plan then your worker will take your request to a Panel of senior managers to seek approval.

Advocacy and complaints

We always try to give a high standard of service, but if you are unhappy with the service you receive, you should discuss this first with the staff who are working with you, for example your Social Worker/Personal Adviser or your advocate.

As a care leaver you have an entitlement to have an advocate. In Kent this is run by the Young Lives Foundation who will work with you on your behalf. www.ylf.org.uk. Please talk to your social worker / Personal Advisor about this and can they advise you on the process to request an advocate.

An Advocate can support you whilst in care and can support you if you are feeling unhappy about any aspect of the care you are receiving.

If you are unable to solve things this way you can make a complaint to Kent County Council

www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/contact-us/complaints-and-feedback/specialist-childrens-services-complaints

If you are unhappy about the responses from Kent County Council you can contact The Local Government Ombudsman who has a fast-track procedure for dealing with complaints made by or on behalf of children and young people up to the age of 19 (or 25 if they have a disability).

Contact details:

Local Government Ombudsman PO Box 4771, Coventry CV4 0EH

Phone: **0845 602 1983** Fax: **024 7682 0001**

Email: advice@lgo.org.uk



Pocket Money and Savings

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1. Pocket money

Children and young people in our care have asked Kent County Council to have set amounts agreed for their pocket money and savings. Whether they are being looked after by a relative or friend, by in-house or independent foster carers, or living in a residential home, pocket money is often an issue that needs a resolution.

It is not expected that pocket money is paid to children under the age of five. They can have occasional treats instead of pocket money. For the over 5's the table is a guide to what is thought to be appropriate, based on 5% of the weekly maintenance payments to foster carers. Kent's maintenance allowance is already significantly higher than the recommended (Government and Fostering Network) payments.

Age	Recommended weekly maintenance element	KCC weekly maintenance element	5% of weekly maintenance
5 - 10 years	£156.00	£168.00	£8.40
11 - 15 years	£177.00	£190.61	£9.53
16 - 18 years	£208.00	£224.00	£11.20

Foster carers' maintenance payments include money for pocket money, savings and one off payments such as Birthday's. Our procedures say that pocket money should be agreed as part of the Placement Plan and should be in line with your family's usual practice. Each child should be encouraged to have a bank account set up in their name and carers should help the child to make small savings each week/month.

2. Savings

There are two types of saving schemes set up for young people who are in care until they are 18.

Both of these schemes are to help them with the expenses of becoming independent, such as setting up their own home, moving to supported lodgings, or 'staying put' and remaining with their foster carers.

2.1 Money that carers will save for them

It is expected that all carers (mainstream in-house foster carers, IFA foster carers, connected relatives and friends carers, or key workers in residential care settings) set aside, in a separate savings account from the child's personal savings account (if they have one for their pocket money and any small amounts from their birth or extended family), and in the child or young person's name, as a minimum the sum of £5 per week for each child under 11 years old and £10 per week for a child over 11 years old from their foster carers' maintenance payments.

2.2 Consultation on a new procedure

The existing procedure with regard to pocket money and savings is too open to interpretation, and inconsistently applied across the County. KCC agree that children in care over 5 years old are entitled to regular and reasonable pocket money and savings. KCC agree that 5% of the maintenance allowance for children over 5 should be spent on pocket money and 5% on savings for every child in care. That's a total of £16.80 a week for children aged 5 to 10, £19.06 for children aged 11 to 15, and £22.40 for young people aged 16 to 18. What isn't given as pocket money should go into a savings account.

Savings accounts must be opened for all children and young people from the time of the second review of arrangements (the statutory review) after the date the child or young person comes into care, and the plan is for the child or young person to remain in care at least until the next review.

There can be guidance and advice about how to set up a bank account, if this is needed.

From 1st April 2016, all children who have been in care for at least 3 months and for whom the plan is to remain in care for at least 6 months, and who do not yet have a savings account, must have an account set up for them immediately.

The child's social worker must ensure that the child or young person's personal finances are discussed at the Placement Planning Meeting and that the carers are made aware of our expectations and procedure.

This will apply to all carers whether short term, long term or respite, unless there is a different arrangement agreed by the birth parents and/or the social worker. This exception must be clearly recorded on the child's file and reviewed by the IRO at every statutory review.

The savings book for the child or young person must accompany the child on their move to different carers within the care system. Young people can sometimes get money from their savings account before they reach 18, but only if their social worker agrees to it or if this responsibility is delegated (this must be recorded) to their foster carer.

If and how children and young people get their pocket money must be agreed between the social workers and the foster carers or the children's home when they come into care, set out as an important part of any Placement Plan, and monitored by the IRO at every Review.

The child's social worker must record an initial financial statement for each child in care and update this information, using a 'Finances' case note on Liberi.

2.3 Money we will save for young people

In 2012, a commitment was made within the Kent Pledge to invest £100 into a savings account for Children in Care and Care Leavers (born before September 2002) for every full year they spent in care between April 2008 and March 2011. Kent County Council have opened a Kent Pledge savings account for eligible young people and deposited the money owed into their account (this amount has been backdated to each full year they spent in care post April 2008).

When these young people turn 18, their account can be closed and they are entitled to receive this money. NB: some money may have already come from KCC and be in a bank account. The information should be included in a case note on Liberi.

Some money comes from the Government. The Share Foundation operates the Junior ISA scheme for children and young people in care on behalf of the Department for Education. They are responsible for opening their accounts with an initial Government contribution of £200.

The Foundation ensures that these accounts are properly operated and invested appropriately with a range of Junior ISA providers, and are busy raising additional voluntary contributions by donation or fund-raising to build the value of the accounts. Money can be transferred by carers or local authorities to individual accounts.

Either of these existing accounts, a Kent Pledge Account or a Share Foundation Account can be used as the account referred to above as a savings account until the child's 18th birthday.

3. Additional funding available for Children in Care

3.1 Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA) may pay compensation to the victims of crimes of violence, including children. Compensation may be paid whether the child is in care or living with his/her family. Applications are normally made by the victim, but in the case of a child or young person, may be made on his/her behalf by their social worker.

If the payment is offered and accepted, the CICA will then normally put the money in an interest-earning deposit account in the child's name, the payment to be paid to the child (together with all interest earned) when they reach 18. The CICA may consider requests to make payment into a Child Trust Fund/Junior ISA or another type of account where the full value of the payment is protected until the child is 18 years old.

The CICA may allow advances before the young person is 18 if these are needed for the child's sole benefit, education or welfare. It is expected, however, that any request will be purposeful, supportive of the young person's aspirations and development and not simply a means of providing income support. If the CICA receive evidence that it would not be in the child's best interests to be given the payment as a lump sum at age 18, they may consider the use of an annuity or a trust at that time.

Some money may have been inherited and put in a Trust Fund for the young person

The CICA are right to ask if it is in the child's best interests to be given a large lump sum payment from any account at age 18. Young people may want to spend it all at once and regret that afterwards. Whilst it is their money, to do with as they like, it is very good practice to offer young people advice – to encourage them to seek financial advice – before their 18th birthday. This advice should start soon after their 17th birthday if not before. They themselves may opt for the use of an annuity or a trust.

Children and young people should be made aware of any money that is being saved for them. This money cannot (usually) be touched until they are 18, and when a young person approaches their 18th birthday, they or their foster carers should ask their child's social worker or a supervising social worker about getting the money out of any account opened in their name.

3.2 Birthdays and Christmas money

Amounts for birthdays and Christmas – for gifts and money as presents for children up to their 16th birthday are included in maintenance payments, but not specified.

Our Care Leavers Policy sets out a minimum expectation for birthday gifts, gift vouchers or a cash payment that should be made to Care Leavers aged 16-18. For those young people in foster placement, (either mainstream in-house foster carers, IFA foster carers, residential care settings) where Kent is paying a maintenance fee, the expectation is that the provider pays the minimum amount to the care leaver from their maintenance fee. This can be in the form of gifts / vouchers / money, as agreed between young person, provider and KCC. For those young people aged 16+18 that are in a SLODS or semi-independent living

accommodation and receive a maintenance payment direct from KCC, then KCC will pay the relevant birthday allowance. Again in what form this will be paid will be agreed between the young person and social worker.

Birthday	y Allowances
Age	Amount
17th birthday	£30.00
18th birthday	£60.00

4. Leaving Care

When a young person leaves care, they get all sorts of help about where and how to live more independently, whether they decide to continue their education, start some form of job training, or get a job. When they have made their plans for leaving care and know what they want to do, it is the job of their social worker or personal adviser to find out and help them understand what financial help they can get.

- personal allowances
- benefits
- travel and housing costs while they are studying
- educational grants for books
- setting-up home grants
- emergency payments in times of crisis

Young people should talk to (be encouraged to talk to) their social worker or personal adviser about getting the money that has been saved for them.4.1 What we are likely to say to young people

If you are in full-time education or training

If you are in full-time further education (sixth form and college) or training, you may be able to get:

- living allowance (to pay for food) if you are in further education and you do not qualify for benefits
- housing payments if you do not get Housing Benefit.
- grants to support you in your education or training
- travel payments

To get these payments, you must show us you are in education and give us evidence of your learning agreement and that you are attending the course. We will regularly check your attendance.

University

If you are in full-time higher education (at university), we can only give you financial help if you are doing a two, three or four year diploma or degree course, you will be able to get:

- payments for rent for the duration of your degree
- £1000 bursary per year towards your fees. You will need to apply for a student loan to cover the rest of your course fees and your living expenses.

If you are not in full-time education or training, you can get:

- allowances to buy clothes for job interviews
- emergency payments while you are applying for benefits

Part-time education

If you would like to do a course which takes up less than 16 hours a week, we will expect you to be either in work or claiming Jobseeker's Allowance so that you can pay for the course yourself. We may give you financial support for a part-time course if you can't study full-time because of your physical or mental health.

Claiming benefits when you leave care

When you reach 18, you may have to claim benefits to pay your day-to-day living costs. The benefits you can claim will depend on your age, whether you are in full-time education, whether you are on your own or part of a couple, whether you have a disability and your immigration status.

Housing Benefit

If you are over 18 years old and you are not working or you are working but on a low income, you may be able to get Housing Benefit to help you pay your rent.

Help with paying your Council Tax

If you are a student, disabled or you are on a low income you can cut the amount of Council Tax that you have to pay or you may not have to pay any at all.

Please note:

https://www.pfeg.org/resources/details/financial-capability-and-looked-after-children-guidance-carers-and-residential takes you to a useful guide called "Financial Capability and Looked After Children: Guidance for carers and residential care workers" produced by the DfE and others. (Click on view resource images)

Staying Put Policy

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This policy sets out Kent County Council's Specialist Children's Services approach towards promoting and supporting young people in foster care remaining with their former foster carers in 'Staying Put' arrangements, once they reach their 18th birthday.

1. Scope of this Policy

This policy is applicable to all young people in the care of Kent County Council (KCC) who are living with foster carers on their 18th birthday. The carers may be Kent foster carers, Connected Person's carers or Independent Fostering Agency carers.

This policy also applies to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) who reach the age of 18 and are in foster care.

Young people in residential placements are not covered by this policy.

This policy is intended to be read in conjunction with Kent County Council's Leaving Care Policy 2015:

http://kentchildcare.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/leaving_care_policy.pdf?zoom_highlight=leaving+care+policy#search="leaving care policy"

2. Legal framework

The policy builds upon the statutory guidance on staying put which is contained in the May 2014 revision of The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations Volume 3. Planning transition to adulthood for care leavers and should be read in conjunction with the statutory guidance.

It is also supported by **Staying Put:** Arrangements for care leavers aged 18 and above to stay on with their former foster carers, which is joint guidance produced by the Department for Education (DfE), Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). This provides more detail relating to many of the financial aspects of staying put arrangements.

3. Definition of a "Staying Put" Arrangement

NOTE: Staying Put arrangements should replicate as far as possible normal family life. Foster carers are required to care for any child placed with them as if they were a member of their family, and this expectation should carry through into staying put arrangements. Families all have different rules, expectations and ways of doing things, and staying put arrangements should take account of this and be sufficiently flexible to be tailored to individual circumstances and needs.

The term 'Staying Put' arrangement can be used as follows:

- A young person who was looked after immediately prior to their 18th birthday (as an eligible child) continues to reside with their former foster carers
- The carers were acting as foster carers to the child immediately prior to the young person's 18th birthday, (that is, the carers were approved as foster carers in accordance with the Fostering Service (England) Regulations 2011, and the child had been placed with them by the local authority, or via an Independent Fostering Agency)
- A young person is deemed an eligible child, with the meaning of paragraph 19B(2) of Schedule 2 of the Children Act 1989, immediately before he/she reached 18
- The 'Staying Put' arrangement is set out in the child/young person's Pathway Plan
- Staying Put arrangements end when the young person becomes 21, or stops living in the household, depending on which comes first.

Local authorities themselves have significant statutory obligations to:

- monitor and support staying put arrangements, and these are reflected throughout this policy.
- support care leavers whether or not they participate in staying put, detailed in the Children Act 1989 statutory guidance. A former relevant child who is pursuing further education or training may be entitled to support until the age of 25, but beyond their 21st birthday this cannot be defined as staying put.

<u>NOTE:</u> It is important to understand that government departments have differing approaches to defining staying put within the statutory framework applicable to their area of responsibility. The definition given above comes from the Children Act 1989 and is the one which gives English local authorities a duty to monitor and support, as outlined in this policy.

4. Guiding Principles

Staying put arrangements will be most effective in meeting these principles if they are underpinned by clear principles. This practice guidance is based on the principles listed below.

Best Interests

The best interests of the young person should be at the heart of decision making about staying put, enabling them to have the best possible opportunities to lead successful lives.

Recruitment of Foster Carers

Foster carers recruited for caring for children through permanency, will be advised from the point of their initial application and training that young people will need to be cared for up until the age of 21 years. This is to ensure there is a clear culture and understanding from foster carers, that when committing to

permanency for a child, they will be supporting them into adult life, alongside information on the financial implications of this for the family.

Support

Support to both carers and young people should be geared to their specific circumstances and needs. Carers should be enabled to develop the skills required to best help the young person to do well in life and kept safe from harm. Foster carers should be provided with training to promote a culture of supporting young people into independent living, through learning the essential skills such as budgeting and personal care.

Clear Information

Foster carers and young people should be provided with clear information about the support available from local authorities and fostering services to help them to make choices about whether or not to enter into staying put arrangements. This will always include information about financial arrangements and implications for benefits and tax. This is a joint responsibility of the Independent Reviewing Officer at reviews, the social worker for the young person and fostering social worker.

Early Planning

Early planning for staying put is crucial and arrangements should be considered as part of the care planning process, from the time that a long term foster placement is planned and permanency planning is undertaken. Decisions in principle about whether or not staying put is an option should be taken as early as the young persons' 16th birthday when discussions should start to take place with the young person and their foster carers. This discussion and decisions should be clearly recorded in the young person's pathway plan/care plan and reviewed at each subsequent review by the Independent Reviewing Officer. At age 17 ½ years, there must be planning meeting to finalise arrangements. (Appendix A)

Equality of Opportunity

In order to maximise the opportunity for young people to participate in staying put, fostering services — both local authorities and agencies, should do everything possible to ensure that all foster carers have equal opportunities to become staying put carers. This includes family and friends foster carers and foster carers approved by independent fostering providers.

Flexibility

Arrangements should be sufficiently flexible to enable support to be provided over and above the minimum legal duty, recognising that the relationship between carer and young person will not always end at age 21 or when the staying put arrangement ceases.

5. Criteria for Staying Put

There are no eligibility criteria for entering into a staying put arrangement, other than the young person being an 'eligible child' for care leaver support. If, on the day before their 18th birthday, the young person was a looked after child placed with a foster carer, and had been looked after for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14, then by continuing to live with their former foster carer this constitutes a

staying put arrangement. This applies whether the foster placement was long term or short term, and includes placements made at any time up to the young person's 18th birthday.

Local authorities have a general duty to do all they can to support care leavers into further and higher education, training or employment, but these are not preconditions for starting or maintaining a staying put arrangement.

Foster carers are not required to undertake an additional assessment or approval process to become Staying Put carers, because it is an arrangement made between adults and is not regulated. Catch22 who manage the Staying Put placements will ensure a meeting takes place between their Accommodation Officers and the carers once they have been alerted to the forthcoming transfer of the placement to a Staying Put placement to ensure all information has been provided, expectations in respect of the placement and placement payments are accepted.

6. Arrangements for disabled young people

A young person with a disability, who meets the Fair Access to care criteria, will at the age of 18 convert (pending assessment) to an Adult Care Services placement, at which point case and financial responsibility transfers to Adult Services. Foster Carers are able to transfer to offer a Shared Lives placement for a disabled child they have cared for, to ensure they continue to be supported and the young person has consistency in care provision. (Shared Lives is lead through adult services).

7. Preparation for a Staying Put placement

To ensure maximum sufficient time is available to make the necessary planning arrangements for extending a placement beyond a young person's 18th birthday the following preparation should place.

- A meeting should take place three months before a young person's 16th birthday or 3 months after a young person becomes Looked After if this is after they are 16. This should include the foster carer(s), the carer's supervising social worker and young persons allocated social worker. This meeting should seek to establish:
- The viability, appropriateness and likelihood of a "Staying Put" arrangement occurring.
- The key tasks and roles and responsibilities related to extending the former fostering arrangement.
- The impact on the foster carers' financial circumstances should the placement continue after the young person's 18th birthday. Clear information on the funding for the Staying Put arrangement must be given to the foster carer at this stage.
- Foster Carers approved after 2016, will have been recruited specifically to offer permanency, will have been advised of the Staying Put policy and expectation to be able to care for young people up until the age of 21 years.
- Any potential barriers to achieving a successful Staying Put arrangement.
- The expectation that the carer will be expected to prepare the young person for independence and ensure they are accessing education training and employment opportunities.

• The difference between caring for a child/young person and supporting an adult.

The possibility and practicalities of the placement changing to a Staying Put placement upon the young person 18th birthday should then be discussed in every statutory care planning/pathway plan review. Following on from the review around the young person's 17 and a half birthday the social worker will be responsible for submitting a referral to the Access to Resources Team (ART) regarding the change to Staying Put on the young person's 18th birthday. The Access to Resources team will inform Catch22 of the pending change. This review should also ensure any final arrangements, paperwork and requirements will be in place by the young person's 18th birthday (see flowchart). All meetings should make reference to the criteria and financial framework for extending the "Staying Put" arrangement and the National Insurance, Income Tax and Welfare Benefits issues for the foster carer/s and Welfare Benefit issues for the young person.

At all stages of the Staying Put preparation process the planning for the child should be:

- Integrated into the child's Pathway Plan
- Ratified by an Independent Reviewing Officer and the reviewing process should be used as a method of monitoring and tracking progress.

If the foster carer does not wish to sign up to the Staying Put arrangement then the Fostering Social Worker (SW) will inform the young person's social worker. The social worker will carry out a needs led assessment and formulate a plan which will be drawn up in order to prepare the young person to acquire their independent living skills required to move into semi- independent living. This will be written in to the Pathway Plan. The options for moving on and timescales should be written in to the Pathway Plan and discussed in the review. This decision and future planning will form a basis of the ongoing statutory review of the care plan/pathway plan

Support for the Young Person

Following the decision by the carer to become a Staying Put placement a meeting to discuss this option should be arranged with the young person by their social worker. At this meeting the changes, process and expectations of such placements should be explained to the young person. The expectation is that young people can remain with the foster carer up to their 21st birthday where appropriate.

A needs led assessment will be carried out and formulated into a Pathway Plan which will be drawn up in order to prepare the young person to acquire their independent living skills. It is expected that the young person should be supported to continue to develop a range of skills including:

- Relationships getting on with neighbours; understanding acceptable behaviour; when and how to communicate with relevant professionals;
- Emotional Resilience managing isolation and where to go for support. Building self-esteem;

- Finance and budgeting opening a bank account, safe borrowing and managing debt, understanding basic financial products, benefits and welfare reform; budgeting for priority bills, household appliances and everyday shopping on a budget;
- Cooking cooking healthily and on a budget; understanding nutrition and its impact on overall health;
- Managing a home washing and ironing, cleaning, basic DIY, operating appliances and what is allowed within a tenancy; and
- Applying for jobs understanding strengths and areas for personal development; developing job skills, understanding job/volunteering pathways and support available; understanding bursaries and other financial support; where to go for advice; understanding the impact of work on benefits, amount they will be expected to contribute to the placement.

If the young person is in agreement to remain with the carer under the staying put arrangement then the young person's Social Worker will inform the Foster Carer and ensure that this is covered and features in future pathway planning and statutory reviews.

The Provider (currently Catch22)

Once Catch22 have been informed of the proposed Staying Put arrangement and prior to the young person's 18th birthday the accommodation officer from Catch22 will visit the carer and explain and confirm in more detail the expectations of the placement plus the financial payment arrangements. Ongoing support advice and training opportunities for the Staying Put carer will be explained. From the young person's 18th birthday the ongoing support for the placement will transfer from fostering to Catch22. Once the young person reaches 18years of age a placement meeting will take place between the young person, the carer, Catch22 accommodation officer and the Personal Adviser. Tasks, targets and timescales for the young person and carer will be set at this meeting. These will be incorporated into the Pathway plan. Placement reviews will take place quarterly and will inform all future pathway plan reviews. The paperwork required for continuation of placement under staying put are attached as Appendix 1-6.

8. Professionals Roles

Fostering Social Worker

The Fostering Social Worker will support the foster carer/provider throughout the setting up of the Staying Put process and will ensure that the foster carer is fully aware of all the implications for themselves and the young person. Any changes in decisions by the foster carer of the young person should be taken to the statutory review process.

Young Person's Social Worker

The young person's Social Worker will support the young person throughout the development of the Staying Put process and ensure the young person is aware of the implications and expectations of the placement. If the young person decides not to accept the Staying Put placement arrangements they will be supported to look for other alternative accommodation/support options. A plan

will be in place for the transition into accommodation; this plan will be in place and agreed not later than the young person reaching 17 ½ years. Young people must not be left in a position of being unsure what their accommodation options are if they chose to move from foster care. Where there is a lack of knowledge about housing and its availability, the accommodation service, that supports the 18+ service, should be approached and options discussed.

Personal Adviser (Leaving Care Service)

All Staying Put arrangements will be supported by a Personal Advisor in the Care Leaving service who will undertake all statutory requirements in respect of the young person (care leaver). In situations when the household continues to foster, a supervising social worker will remain allocated to support the care of the younger children.

Catch22 Accommodation Officer

The Catch22 accommodation officer will provide regular individual and group support sessions to the Staying Put provider, they will ensure the provider can access a level of training in order for them to undertake the tasks as required by the placement.

9. Funding

Foster Carers

The fee payable to the Staying Put provider will be dependent on the amounts agreed by the Authority at the time. There are 3 levels paid - standard, complex and intensive. Payment will be dependent on a needs assessment being undertaken by the social worker and an agreement being given by the Access to Resources Panel and confirmed by the Service Manager of the 18plus Service. The current provider Catch22 will be responsible for all payments made to the carer.

The payment to the Staying Put provider therefore will be made up of funding from:

KCC fee

 Local Housing Allowance (LHA) or Housing Benefit - the amount varies according to area;

 Defined contribution from the young person, from income or entitlement to grants, allowances or benefits;

Level of support	Maximum weekly support payment	Accommodation payment ¹	Support provided per week
Intensive	£240	In line with Local Housing Benefit rate	30 + hours
Complex	£190	In line with Local Housing Benefit rate	15 -29 hours

¹ Kent is a two tier authority and as such Housing Benefit payments vary across the County but are typically between £50-80.

In line with Local	Up to 14 hours
Housing Benefit rate	

These payments will be reviewed annually.

£140

Standard

The combined Staying Put payment detailed above covers all accommodation, support, utilities, food and associated placement costs; it does not cover pocket money and clothing as this will be replaced by the young person's personal benefit allowance or earnings. Travel costs other than in the event of an emergency or pre agreed by the personal adviser will not be paid.

Young people, in all circumstances, must claim all benefits they are entitled to and should be supported to do this, by their allocated social worker/personal advisor. The Local Authority will fund their placement in full, if there is any delay in benefits being received, however this will then be claimed back, once in receipt of full benefits.

Young people studying "A" levels

Where a young person is studying for their "A" levels during their 18th year in order that they do not face disruption in placement the full fostering payment will be granted from their 18th birthday until the end of the exam period in June of that academic year. The placement will still be classed as a Staying Put placement and Catch22 will support as for other placements. Where a young person aged 18 is eligible for welfare benefits including housing benefit and DWP benefits, this amount will be used towards the cost of the Staying Put arrangement and deducted from the fostering payment. The expectation will be that the young person's benefits will be used towards the costs of the staying put arrangements. The allocated social worker/personal advisor must support the young person to claim all available benefits, to support the Local Authority maximise all funding. Housing benefit will be paid to the foster carer and this amount will be deducted from the overall payment made by the Local Authority. Young people will claim Income Support from their 18th birthday and this amount will also be deducted from the fostering payments. Young people will contribute from their income support, £20 towards food and £7 for utilities. The remaining amount of Income support will be to cover pocket money and clothing; the foster carer will not be required to cover this from their maintenance. (This should be covered in detail in the placement agreement)

Staying Put for the period between the end of A Level exams and start of university (where applicable) will revert to the standard Staying Put funding structure and foster carers are not eligible for the fostering rate.

Young People Attending University returning at holiday periods

Living away from the foster carer's home for temporary periods of time, such as attending higher education courses, should not preclude young people from remaining in a Staying Put arrangement. It is recognised that supporting Staying Put arrangements enables the continuation of familial relationships which gives the young person the security and stability they require whilst they are focusing on their education.

In such circumstance providers will be paid the standard Staying Put rate plus rent for the time that the young person stays with the provider during the holiday period. During term time, no retainer rent payment or support element will be paid.

Young people Attending University whilst remaining in placement

Some young people may wish to attend a local university and therefore remain in their staying put placement. In these cases the staying put support element will be paid all year but the young person will be required to pay towards their rent during term times via their student loans. The authority will pay the rent element during the holiday times and all other allowances paid to higher education students supported by the 18plus Service.

All carers receiving a Staying Put payment have a duty to inform the Local Authority of any changes in circumstances

Young People

At 17 ½ years the young person's Social Worker will ensure that the young person is aware of the financial contribution they will be expected to make to the cost of their Staying Put placement, in line with current policy at the time.

It is expected that the young person will contribute towards the cost of food, household items and utilities from their income support payments, and claim Housing Benefit where applicable, in line with the KCC Leaving Care Policy 2015:

http://kentchildcare.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/leaving_care_policy.pdf?zoom_highlight=leaving+care+policy#search="leaving care policy"

The young person at 18 years of age will be eligible to claim Income support if in full time education (excluding University). The social worker will assist the young person in submitting an Income Support claim to the Department of Work and Pensions six weeks before the young person's 18th birthday.

See https://www.gov.uk/income-support for further information regarding application process and levels of payments.

The young person will also be eligible for housing benefit when claiming benefits if under 21 years of age and not in higher education. Applications can be made via the Job Centre Plus or from the local council. The housing benefit should be paid direct to the Staying Put Provider not directly to the young person. See https://www.gov.uk/housing-benefit for full details.

The benefit allowances will be reviewed as part of the Pathway Planning process by the young person's Personal Adviser after their 18th birthday.

Consideration should also be given to ensure that applications for benefits do not discourage a young person from obtaining or maintaining part or full-time employment.

10. Independent Fostering Agencies

Young people placed in Independent Fostering Agency placements will be considered against the same criteria as Kent foster carer placements. The local authority will ensure that the process as detailed in Section 6 of this policy involves the IFA at all key stages.

It is expected that foster carers for Independent Fostering Agencies will be paid at the same rate i.e. standard, complex or intensive as offered to KCC foster carers. There will be the same expectation of IFA carers, in that if offering permanency they are provided with the Staying Put information, with the expectation for the young person to be able to stay up until age 21 years. When entering into permanency agreements with the Local Authority, IFA's enter into the agreement on the basis that when the young person is aged 18 years, the foster carers will transfer to the Kent Staying Put funding structure. Kent do not commit to funding placements at an IFA fostering rate for Staying Put arrangements.

The post 16 planning, professionals meetings and child care reviews will be the medium by which all IFAs will be involved in the Staying Put process. There will be occasions where the decision by the young person and their carer/s to enter into a Staying Put arrangement will not follow the processes in Section 4, for instance the young person may have come in to placement post 16, however at whatever point discussions occur, the IFA will be fully involved. The local authority expects that those representing the IFA at meetings/reviews have the authority to agree with the decisions made by the carer/s and the young person when considering Staying Put arrangements.

Once the Access to Resources Panel has formally acknowledged the decision made by the young person and their carer/s to enter into a Staying Put arrangement post 18, the IFA will be notified and requested to ensure their carers formally notify the IFA of their change in circumstance.

It is expected that IFAs with whom the local authority commission placements will fully embrace the legislative and good practice guidance associated with the Staying Put initiative. The local authority Commissioning Unit can be contacted on: fsccommissioning@kent.gov.uk

11. Income Tax and National Insurance Issues for "Staying Put" Arrangements

All foster carers and "Staying Put" carers must register with HMRC as selfemployed.

The Simplified Tax Arrangements apply and Foster Carers and Adult Placement Carers will continue to be able to claim under their existing simplified tax arrangements. Full Tax details are provided in the HMRC help sheet 236.

Where young people remain living with their former foster carer/s under a "Staying Put" arrangement, the Income Tax and National Insurance framework and liabilities that apply are set out in the new "Shared Lives Carers" Guidance. The 'Shared Lives' - 'Qualifying Care Relief Guidance' sets out that "Staying Put" carers receive tax exemptions up to a given qualifying amount for each "Staying

Put" young person living with them. The "Staying Put" qualifying rate mirrors the system and amounts that applied when the placement was previously a foster care placement.

The "Staying Put" exemption does not affect any income you may have from other sources, for example, from employment or from investments. Such other income will be taxed in the normal way.

"Staying Put" carer/s as well as foster carer/s should note that they may be able to claim Working Tax Credit which is administered by HMRC. Fostering/"Staying Put" care is counted as work for tax credit purposes. The carer's taxable income is used to assess the amount of tax credits that they are entitled to. So, where the carer receives less in Staying Put payments than the tax free allowance is their income from Staying Put for Working Tax Credit purposes is treated as nil, which means they get the highest rate of WTC.

12. National Insurance

The same Class 4 National Insurance contributions apply as for fostering.

13. "Staying Put" Placement Guidance

Young people, "Staying Put" carer/s, leaving care personal advisers and supervising social workers should meet to ensure all appropriate paperwork is completed (see appendix 1-6). This meeting should take place 4 weeks prior to the final looked after review. The tasks should be incorporated into the young person's pathway plan.

14. Health and Safety

The same health and safety principles that applied under the Foster Placement will continue.

The carer's car insurance should include appropriate cover for their role as a carer and the vehicle must have a current MOT. The carer should ensure that they have advised their insurance company re the placement of young people in their accommodation, as some companies will advise to have business cover.

15. Monitoring and reviewing arrangements

The Staying Put arrangements should be reviewed as part of the Pathway Plan Review every six months and ensure any targets are being met. The Pathway Plan Review will ensure that the young person is developing and acquiring the independent living skills. This should record any problems or difficulties that have emerged and what is working well in the arrangement and continue to plan for the future.

A review can be arranged earlier if needed by agreement between the young person, the carers and the personal advisor involved.

16. Safeguarding Measures

The same safeguarding measures that apply under the foster placement will continue to apply to a Staying Put Arrangement.

If the former carer is going to continue to be a Foster Carer the young person in the Staying Put arrangement will need to have a DBS Check as they become an adult living in the home.

If the former carers are still registered with KCC as foster carers their DBS checks will continue routinely.

Catch22 will be responsible for ensuring all Staying put former foster carers have an up to date DBS

Any adult safeguarding concerns must be referred to Kent Adult Safeguarding in line with KSAB procedures.

17. Ending the Staying Put arrangement

The Staying Put arrangement can be ended at any time before the young person reaches their 21st birthday, by either the young person or the carer by giving 14 days' notice. A placement planning meeting should be held to prepare for the transition to new accommodation.

NOTE: When planning to end a Staying Put arrangement it is worth remembering that as the young person reaches their 21st birthday they will no longer qualify as having a "priority need" for social housing. Therefore it is essential that plans are made in advance in order to maximise their opportunities to be considered for social housing.

If the young person wishes to remain with the carer post 21 then it will become a private arrangement, and no longer funded by the Local Authority.

There will be circumstances whereby a planned ending to a Staying Put placement doesn't work and a return to the Staying Put Placement is in the young person's best interest.

Should this option be available, within a 4 week period a young person may be able to return to their previous Staying Put household and the original payment arrangement will resume. In these circumstances the arrangement will continue to be considered as Staying Put.

Documents to be completed

At age 17½ years meeting:

- Accommodation placement agreement
- Service Level Agreement
- License agreement
- Providers bank details.

All documents will be provided by the current provider.

Staying Put Process

Pre 16 Staying Put meeting - 3 months prior to young person's 16th birthday

To include Foster Carer/s, fostering social worker, young person's social worker, to discuss viability, appropriateness, key tasks, financial impact of Staying Put, expectations and process

Stage

Not Agreed

Alternative provision to be discussed via IRO reviews

Agreed to Progress

Put into Pathway Plan reviewed by IRO (6 monthly)

17 ½ years Referral to Access to Resources Panel, Care Leavers Service and Catch22

Meeting between Catch22, social worker, carers and young person to confirm financial arrangements/ expectations including claiming Housing Benefit and Income Support. To complete accommodation placement agreement, bank details and license agreement.

Head of Leaving Care Service to confirm decision to enter Staying Put arrangements.

Young Person, Foster Carer/s, IFA informed of decision (as applicable)

stage 232 age

Stage

Stage 4





Kent Supported Accommodation in a Family Environment Accommodation Placement Agreement

For:	(young person)	Date of Birth:	Legal status:
	() ()		

Care status

With: (Provider Name) at: (Provider Address)

KCC Social Worker/Case Worker: Tel:

Accommodation Officer: Tel: 01233 223761 Mobile:

This Agreement is a statement of the commitments and undertakings agreed

Between: YP Name & Provider Name

KCC Social/PA Social worker

Catch22 Accommodation Officer, AO Name

Provider Name is an Accommodator approved by Kent County Council Social Services

A Licence will be signed between the young person, Accommodator, KCC Social/Case Worker and Catch22 Accommodation Officer

Date of signing of Licence:

Date of Agreement meeting: Date of move in:

Present at Agreement meeting:

Social worker
Young person

Accommodation Officer

Provider

Aim of the supported accommodation:

To provide a safe and secure base where the young person can receive support and guidance necessary for future independent living

Anticipated length of stay:

Practical Arrangements. This supports the placement and there is an expectation that transition planning and workbook has been completed.

Accommodation

(young person) will have sole use of a bedroom, and will share use of kitchen, sitting room/s and bathroom

No one in the house will go into other people's bedrooms

However, as the householder, (provider), must retain the right of entry to the young person's room if necessary for safety reasons.

(young person) will keep own room clean and tidy up after use in communal rooms.

Laundry

(young person) to learn to use machine and take responsibility for his/her own washing.

Telephone

Not to use home telephone except in extreme emergencies and with permission.

Visitors

As lodgings are in someone's private home, visitors:

- May be invited to the house <u>only</u> with the accommodator's prior knowledge and consent – and to start with, only when accommodator is at home.
- Should the accommodator be uncomfortable with a particular visitor, he/she has the right to insist that person does not come again

Finances

- no borrowing money
- £7.00 to be paid weekly for utilities
- £20.00 for food per week
- £ per week rent

Default of payment may lead to loss of placement

General rules of the house, and expectations for everyone

- no illegal substances to be brought into the house
- property will be respected, any losses/breakage/deliberate damage reported
- music to be kept to an agreed acceptable level
- everyone in the house will respect each other's privacy & need for personal space
- (young person) will let (Provider) know when they expect to be home, and make a phone call to say if plans change. This will save worrying that something might have happened.
- staying away overnight, to be done only with prior arrangement with case worker.
- smoking is in the garden only
- To be in placement a minimum of 4 nights a week

Accommodator agrees to:

- take an interest in support weekly . (young person) and provide a minimum of 14 hours of
- keep regular diary entries.
- keep confidential any information relating to (young person).
- notify KCC immediately and also anybody on the young person's list if there is a serious illness or accident.
- notify KCC if the young person is missing for more than 24 hours without prior arrangement or contact, or immediately if the young person is on a Care Order, and is not back as expected. Out of Hours to be called if outside office hours.
- notify KCC if young person is not staying at/using the accommodation even if it is know where he/she is.
 - notify KCC in advance if accommodator is planning to be away overnight or planning holiday.
 - liaise with KCC Social/Case Worker over plans for (young person) and with Accommodation Officer over placement, discuss any problems without delay as and if they arise

(name) Social worker KCC Social Worker/Case Worker agrees to:

 Support the young person through the placement and liaise with the accommodator over plans for young person, and be available for consultation when needed.

(name) Accommodation Officer, agrees to:

- support accommodator throughout the placement: contact regularly and discuss any problems as and if they arise
- monitor finance and ensure proper payments are being made
- liaise with worker over plans for young person
- ensure house meetings take place as required
- to attend pathway plans and agree to invite accommodator to meetings
 - All parties agree to attend meetings when arranged, so that the Agreement might be reviewed, any amendments made, and any problems resolved.
 - Two week's notice from Accommodator to both young person and Catch22 to end of placement
 - However, any criminal or anti social activity would mean the placement could, by agreement with Catch22, be ended without the two weeks notice.
 - I agree to my Pathway Plan/CIC review to be shared with Catch22 Kent SAiFE team.

SIGNED:	
	Young Person
	Accommodator(s)
	KCC Social Worker/PA
	Accommodation Officer
	Date
The first house meeting (to ensure all is going well) will take meetings at regular intervals as agreed .	place onthen

From: Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist

Children's Services

Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care,

Health and Wellbeing

To Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet

Committee - 23 March 2017

Subject: RISK MANAGEMENT

Classification: Unrestricted

Electoral Divisions: All

Previous Pathway of Paper: None

Future Pathway of Paper: None

Summary: This paper presents the strategic risks relating to the Specialist Children's Services Division of the Social Care Health and Wellbeing Directorate.

Recommendation(s): The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the risks presented in the Directorate Risk Register.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The draft Directorate Business Plan is reported separately to this Cabinet Committee as part of the authority's business planning process. The plan includes a high level section relating to key Directorate risks, which are set out in more detail in this paper.
- 1.2 Risk management is a key element of the council's Internal Control Framework and the requirement to maintain risk registers ensures that potential risks that may prevent the authority from achieving its objectives are identified and controlled. The process of developing the registers is therefore important in underpinning business planning, performance management and service procedures. Risks outlined in risk registers are taken into account in the development of the Internal Audit programme for the year.
- 1.3 The Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate Risk Register is reported to the Cabinet Committee annually. It contains strategic or cross-cutting risks that potentially affect several functions across the Directorate, and often have wider potential interdependencies with other services across the Council and external parties.

1.4 The Directorate's "red risks" are also logged in the council's Corporate Risk Register. The Corporate Risk Register was reported to the Policy and Resources Cabinet Committee on 8 March 2017.

2 Risks relating to the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate

- 2.1 It continues to be a time of significant risk for the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate. Specific concerns include the on-going financial pressures affecting the Directorate; the fragility of the wider social care market and the need to manage capacity and demand particularly during the winter pressures where health trusts are under particular pressure which impacts on social care. At the same time the Directorate continues to transform services and to meet statutory duties such as safeguarding vulnerable adults and children. The risks relating to the number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) arriving in Kent has reduced however there continues to be a significant risk regarding the resource pressure in meeting the needs of UASC children and young people in Kent particularly the needs of care leavers.
- 2.2 The forthcoming structural changes to the Directorates in Kent County Council will bring opportunities but also some risks which will need to be managed. Any major change programme will have risks associated with the change process itself to ensure there are no gaps when responsibilities are transferred. A coproduction approach is being adopted to manage the changes.
- 2.3 There are several risks specific to Specialist Children's Services that are currently within the Social Care Health and Wellbeing Risk Register. With the forthcoming changes, these risks, for example Safeguarding, OFSTED preparedness and the capacity to meet the needs of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children in Kent, will need to be included in a new Risk Register for the Children, Young People and Education Directorate.
- One potential risk is the need to ensure that the commissioning activity retains close links with the social work assessment and care planning functions. The social care market needs to be sufficiently sustainable and flexible to meet the individual needs of vulnerable children assessed as requiring care and support. As stated in the report to the County Council on 26 January 2017, regarding the Directorate and Commissioning structures, "there is a need for the professional commissioning function to work collaboratively and seamlessly with the services"
- 2.5 The Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Risk Register is attached in Appendix 1, however a summary risk profile as at end of February 2017 is as follows:

Risk No.	Risk Title	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating
SCHW 01	Transformation of adult social care services	20	9
SCHW 02	Transformation of children's services	9	6
SCHW	Safeguarding – protecting vulnerable	16	9
03a	children		
SCHW 03b	Safeguarding – protecting vulnerable adults	25	15
SCHW 04	Austerity and pressures on public sector funding	25	16
SCHW 05	Working with health, integration, Pioneer, STP (Sustainability and Transformation Plans) and BCF (Better Care Fund)	16	9
SCHW 07	Increasing demand for social care services	20	16
SCHW 08	Managing and working with the social care market	25	9
SCHW 09	Information and communication technology	12	6
SCHW 10	Information governance	9	6
SCHW 11	Business disruption	9	9
SCHW 12	KCC/KMPT partnership agreement	9	6
SCHW 15	Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Assessments	20	8
SCHW 17	OFSTED preparedness and service improvement	12	8
SCHW 19	Capacity to support and accommodate the number of UASC under Leaving Care regulations	20	12
SCHW 20	Prevent	12	4
SCHW 21	Facilities Management	16	4

- 2.6 A standard reporting format is used to facilitate the gathering of consistent risk information and a 5x5 matrix is used to rank the scale of risk in terms of likelihood of occurrence and impact. Firstly the current level of risk is assessed, taking into account any controls already in place to mitigate the risk. If the current level of risk is deemed unacceptable, a 'target' risk level is set and further mitigating actions introduced with the aim of reducing the risk to a tolerable and realistic level. If the current level of risk is acceptable, the target risk level will match the current rating.
- 2.7 The numeric score in itself is less significant than its importance in enabling categorisation of risks and prioritisation of any management action. Further information on the council's risk management methodologies can be found in the risk management guide on the 'KNet' intranet site.

- 2.8 The risk registers should be regarded as 'living' documents to reflect the dynamic nature of risk management. The Directorate Management Team formally reviews the risk registers, including progress against mitigating actions, on a quarterly basis, although individual risks can be identified and added to the register at any time.
- 2.9 In addition to the Directorate Risk Register there is also a Risk Register for each Division. The Specialist Children's Service Risk Register also contains the following risks:
 - Failure to ensure consistency of practice
 - Difficulty in recruiting and retaining experienced social worker
 - Kent Safeguarding Children Board effectiveness and challenge
 - Protect children at risk of going missing and child sexual exploitation.
- 2.10 The Specialist Children's Service risks are reviewed by the Divisional Management Team and any high level risks are escalated to the Directorate Risk Register.

3. Recommendation

3.1 Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the risks presented in the Directorate Risk Register.

4 Background Documents

4.1 KCC Risk Management Policy on KNet intranet site.

5 Contact details

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Social Care Health and Wellbeing Risk Register

FEBRUARY 2017

Risk ID SCHW 01	Risk Title Transform	ation of adult social care se	ervices			
Source / Cause of risk Transformation of adult social care services. The Transformation Programme is being implemented in adult social care. Adopting new ways of working and implementing a programme of significant change is not without risk.	Risk Event A phased approach has been adopted to the Transformation Programme in Adult Social Care. Savings need to be made through more efficient and effective ways of working. Carrying out the transformation is a demand on resources. Phase 3 of the Transformation Programme is in progress. As part of Phase 3 there has been a transfer of skills from N.E to KCC to ensure the Transformation work is sustainable in the longer term.		Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	Current Likelihood V. Likely (5)	Current Impact Serious (4)	
		pressures on the	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	Target Residual Likelihood	Target Residual Impact	
		the phases of the Transformation	Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH	Possible (3)	Significant (3)	
		to as it has a major impact on the service including productivity and performance.	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability			
Control Title					Control Owner	
A Transformation Portfolio Board is established with agreed Governance arrangements. A Portfolio Management office is in place to ensure the right change initiatives are being delivered in the right way.					Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	
Support of Efficiency partner with diagnostics, design and implementation of the Transformation agenda. Training has taken place to enable a skills transfer to KCC staff.				Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning		
There is a separate risk register being produced for Phase 3.				Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning		
Oversight and monitoring by Budget Board and Cabinet Committee.				Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning		

Transformation Programme in place with links and interdependencies with the Challenge Programme.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	
6 monthly reporting to Cabinet Committee and monthly programme reporting Commissioning Board, Budget and Programme Delivery Board.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	
Monthly meeting to assess whether the programme benefit is achieving expe	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	
A sustainability programme is in place in OPPD to monitor the impact of charensure the performance management measures are achieving intended outc Engagement Team continues to ensure staff are engaged and leading chang level.	omes. A virtual Transformation	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability
Programme/project management arrangements in place in DCLDMH services the Lifespan Pathway Project, Your Life Your Home, in-house services and c	Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH	
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Agreed on-going work with an Efficiency Partner as Phase 3 of	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	March 2017
Transformation. Work in progress to transfer skills to KCC staff.	Commissioning	
Manage the interdependencies and relationship between transformation and other Corporate and Directorate programmes.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Manage the interdependencies and relationship between transformation	Andrew Ireland, Corporate	March 2017 March 2017
Manage the interdependencies and relationship between transformation and other Corporate and Directorate programmes. Ensure effective two way communication re the Transformation Programme. Need to ensure staff are informed and there is "ownership" of	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/ Thom Wilson,	

Risk ID SCHW 02	Risk Title Tra	nsformatio	on of children's services			
Source / Cause of risk Transformation of children's services	Risk Event SCS Transformation continuous improve services for vulners children and young Kent.	rements to rable	Consequence Failing to Transform and continuously improve services could adversely impact on vulnerable children and young people. Failure to maximise the benefits of the work would also be detrimental to service delivery, budgets and key performance indicators.	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	Current Likelihood Possible (3) Target Residual Likelihood Unlikely (2)	Current Impact Significant (3) Target Residual Impact Significant (3)
Control Title					Control Owner	
SCS and EHPS are working with Newton Europe on Phase 2 of the transformation programme					Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
0 to 25 Programme is part of the overarching cross directorate 0 to 25 portfolio. The programme is led by the relevant Corporate Directors through 0 to 25 Portfolio Board which reports to the Transformation Advisory Board (TAG) a member led body.					Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW/Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
There is a separate risk register for the programme, which is presented at each portfolio board meeting.					Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW/Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
A Fostering Action Plan has been produced following an external audit. The actions are being developed, monitored and progressed. A report has been submitted to Governance and Audit Committee.					Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
Robust performance management through audit activity, management information reports, deep dive meetings, 0 to 25 programme board and SCS DivMT.					Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW/Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
Performance framework, operational framework and quality assurance framework in place.					Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW/Philip	

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		Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Through Resource Group maintain the continued focus on recruitment to permanent Social Work and Management vacancies and the retention of experienced qualified social work staff.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW	March 2017
Progress will be monitored in part through a rolling programme of audits of services. Peer review audits of services including children in need, child protection and children in care. Progress will be tracked against previous audits and results presented to SCS DivMT with six monthly and yearly audit reports. KSCB to host multi agency audits.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Regular reporting and cascading of learning through meetings with Director and monthly attendance at joint SCS and EHPS DivMT meetings.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
A series of eight joint roadshows held across the county in December for SCS and EHPS staff, giving staff the opportunity to hear the messages direct from the two directors and discuss areas of concern	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 03a	Risk Title	Safeguardin	g – Protecting vulnerable	children		
Source / Cause of risk Safeguarding - Protecting vulnerable children.	ng - Protecting The Council must fulfil its children. Statutory obligations to effectively safeguard Its ability to fulfil this obligation could be affected by the	Its ability to fulfil this obligation could be affected by the	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW	Current Likelihood Likely (4)	Current Impact Serious (4)	
	vulnerable ch	llidren	adequacy of its controls, management and operational practices or if demand for its services exceeds	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's	Target Residual Likelihood	Target Residual Impact
			its capacity and capability.	Services	Possible (3)	Significant (3)
Control Title					Control Owner	
Safeguarding Boards in place for agencies.	children's servic	es, providing a	strategic countywide overvie	ew across	Andrew Ireland, (Director, SCHW/I Segurola, Director Children's Service	⊃hilip or Specialist
Multi-agency public protection arrangements in place.			Andrew Ireland, O Director, SCHW/I Director Commiss Segurola, Director Children's Service	Mark Lobban, sioning/Philip or Specialist		
Quarterly reporting to Directors a	nd Cabinet Mem	oers and Annua	al Report for Members		Andrew Ireland, O Director, SCHW/I Segurola, Directo Children's Service	Philip or Specialist
Consistent scrutiny and performance monitoring through Divisional Management Team, Deep Dives and audit activity.		t Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW/Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services				
Deep dives for constructive challed deep dive process with visits to D				s an extended	Andrew Ireland, O Director, SCHW/I Segurola, Directo Children's Service	⊃hilip or Specialist

The SCS Development Action Plan has been updated to reflect the recomm Sexual Exploitation themed inspection. The plan is a joint plan with EHPS are	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
SCS and EHPS have adopted the Signs of Safety model of intervention, a so of risk analysis, risk management and safety planning.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW/Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Ongoing provision of safeguarding training for the relevant staff.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW	March 2017
Continue with recruitment programme to attract and retain high calibre social workers and managers	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director, SCHW	March 2017
Support KSCB in delivering business plan.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
A revised deep dive process has been agreed and is in place. Deep Dives taking place throughout 2016 and into 2017	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Progressing delivery against plans and oversight through SCS DivMT and joint SCS and EHPS DivMT meetings.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 03b	Risk Title	Safeguarding	g – Protecting vulnerable	adults		
Source / Cause of risk Statutory responsibility of the Corporate Director and his staff to ensure effective safeguarding	arrangements	guarding s in place it	Consequence Failure to achieve this could lead to the wellbeing of vulnerable	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	Current Likelihood V. Likely (5)	Current Impact Major (5)
arrangements are in place to protect vulnerable adults.	could place vipeople at risk		people being compromised and put at risk.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical	Target Residual Likelihood Possible (3)	Target Residual Impact Major (5)
Control Title				Disability	Control Owner	
The Kent and Medway Safeguard agreement between partner agend of the Care Act in April 2015. Their -Quality Assurance Working Grouincluding a dashboard of key indicates the control of the care and the control of the care and the care agent	cies. The KMSA re are 3 key work p: This group ha	B has been on a king groups with s introduced a ra	a statutory footing following in the KMSAB: ange of performance impro	g implementation	Andrew Ireland, C Director SCHW	corporate
An Independent Person in place to			Mework			
-A Learning and Development Grotraining package in response to the	oup; This group o e Care Act chan	carry out structu ges	-	multi-agency		
- Policy Protocols and Practice C		ロロコさいるた いいけいに	,J.			
 Policy, Protocols and Practice G Multi agency public protection arra 	.	<u>'</u>			Andrew Ireland, C Director SCHW	corporate

		Commissioning/ Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding
Consistent scrutiny and performance monitoring through Divisional Management Teams, Deep Dives and Audit Activity. Also through the Quality Assurance Working Group and the Adult Safeguarding Quarterly Report.		Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/ Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding/ Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability
The Safeguarding and MCA capability framework in place and being implem mandatory staff training programme has been rolled out for staff to complete	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/ Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	
Safeguarding Adults Work Plan in place.	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	
In Kent a Transforming Care Steering Group is in place. Governance establis additional support commissioned by NHS England is in place. A number of son delivery within LD, autism and children services.		Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
On-going programme of safeguarding audits and feedback sessions from the audits.	Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	May 2017
Implementation of the Capability Framework for safeguarding and associated training is provided for staff.	Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	March 2017
Corporate Audit of adult safeguarding practices in 2016/17. Management action plan in place.	Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	March 2017
A task and finish group set up to re-commission multi-agency safeguarding training.	Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	March 2017
Making Safeguarding Personal project work to develop service user involvement in safeguarding - link to ADASS national project. Initial project completed and has been rolled out. Review of MSP literature feedback	Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	March 2017

mechanism and reporting processes.

Risk ID SCHW 04	Risk Title Austerity and	pressures on public sec	tor funding		
Source / Cause of risk Austerity and pressures on public sector funding impacting on capital and revenue budgets. Public sector finance pressures and the need to achieve significant efficiencies for foreseeable future.	Risk Event KCC has to find major savings in 2016/17 and it is expected to be even more difficult in 2017/18 with the Council having to make savings in the region of £80m. Partner organisations and private sector providers also experiencing funding challenges potentially putting joint working at risk. Financial pressures in the health sector having repercussions for social care. Increased stress on some families due to financial pressures. Insufficient central government funding to support UASC care leavers.	Consequence Major funding pressures impacting on the delivery of social care services. The capital strategy putting specific projects at risk. Business viability of independent providers could be impacted with providers going out of business and a very fragile care market.	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Michelle Goldsmith, Finance Business Partner (FSC)	Current Likelihood V. Likely (5) Target Residual Likelihood Likely (4)	Current Impact Major (5) Target Residual Impact Serious (4)
Control Title	•			Control Owner	
Robust financial and activity monito	oring regularly reported to DMT	and budget reporting within	n the DivMTs	Andrew Ireland, (Director SCHW/N Goldsmith, Finan Partner (FSC)	/lichelle
Robust debt monitoring				Andrew Ireland, (Director SCHW/N Goldsmith, Finan Partner (FSC)	/lichelle
Transformation programme to ensu	ure efficiencies and the best use	e of available resources.		Michelle Goldsmi Business Partner Andrew Ireland, (Director SCHW/ I	(FSC)/ Corporate

		Director Commissioning/ Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/ Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability
More efficient use of assistive technology and equipment to reduce depende	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/ Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/ Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/ Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	
The 0 to 25 Portfolio Board is overseeing the joint Transformation projects of Preventative Services and Children's Commissioning - working closely with Needs into the overarching 0 to 25 Change Portfolio.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
Business Plans in place for 2016/17 and drafts produced for 2018/18.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	
Dialogue with the Home Office re the increasing numbers of unaccompanied supporting UASC care leavers.	minors and the costs of	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Building community capacity. In LD services moving from segregated facilities to inclusive settings with partners.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Focus on prevention, enablement and independence for vulnerable adults.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Development of appropriate incentives within the commissioning framework	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	March 2017
SCS to continue to manage budget reductions including care cost reduction and placement reconfiguration. Improve business processes. Management Actions in place, close monitoring of spend which is reported to Budget & Programme Delivery Board on a monthly basis. Finance staff engaged in monthly DivMT slot and savings targets part of 0 to 25	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017

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programme. Also a substantive item on the joint DivMT meetings between SCS and EHPS.		
Continued drive to deliver efficient and effective services through transformation and modernisation agenda.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Continue to work innovatively with partners, including health services, to identify any efficiencies.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 05	Risk Title Working with	n Health, Integration, Pior	neer and BCF		
Source / Cause of risk Working with health, integration of health and social care services.	Risk Event There is a need to develop integrated health and social care services. There is a risk if services do not become fully integrated. Local Authorities are required to have a plan in place and to be ready for integration by 2020. There are risks associated with joint working including ensuring commitments to Section 75 agreements. Pressures on NHS Trusts particularly at winter having repercussions for social care. A risk of Better Care Fund with funding only agreed for two more years.	Consequence Increased health and social care integration will impact on ways of working and the delivery of services. If services are not integrated there is a risk of gaps between services or in some instances duplication of services or inefficient use of the available joint resources. If health services are not meeting needs there can be increased pressures on social care services and budgets.	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's	Current Likelihood Likely (4) Target Residual Likelihood Possible (3)	Current Impact Serious (4) Target Residual Impact Significant (3)
Control Title			Services	Control Owner	
Reporting and inputting to Transformation Board regarding integration but also to Health and Well Being Boards, and Locality boards and Clinical Commissioning Groups and Vanguard Groups.			AnneTidmarsh, D People and Physi		
Programme management arrangements in place for integration with a Programme Plan and local action plans based on the Programme Plan. Co-ordination by a programme manager.			AnneTidmarsh, D People and Physi		
Kent is one of the Integrated Care a programme in Kent. An Integration				AnneTidmarsh, D People and Physi	
The Better Care Fund is supporting	the integration programme and	the development of joined	d up working and	AnneTidmarsh, D	irector Older

commissioning. High level county wide BCF finance and performance meeti implementation, performance and delivery including issues and risks. An integraduation from BCF and a separate group is working with District Councils Disabled Facilities Grants.	People and Physical Disability	
Close working at a leadership level seeking to develop a shared transformat Board in place. Meetings with CCG Accountable Officers.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability/ Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
JSNA to support health and social care commissioning.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	
Joint working with health on Section 75 agreements including the Section 75 the Community Equipment Service.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	
Already integrated working and commissioning in place for Learning Disabili	ty and Mental Health.	Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH
KCC having input to STP at various levels. Working with CCGs on 'Local Co of STP.	are and Hospital models' as part	AnneTidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Developing integrated performance measures and monitoring	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	March 2017
Information management and technology strategy being developed within the CCG area Digital Roadmaps to support a shared integration plan.	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	March 2017
Work closely with the CCGs to focus on long term conditions to improve people's ability to self-care.	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	March 2017
Kent has Pioneer Status for Health and Social Care Integration. This	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older	March 2017

broadens the integration programme to include commissioning and provision. Further work to be done to develop and take forward the integration programme and wider Pioneer work.	People and Physical Disability	
The Better Care Fund plan has been produced and agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board and submitted to NHS England. Further updates to be provided to the Health and Wellbeing Board.	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	March 2017
Local BCF delivery groups working on local action plans.	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	March 2017
To ensure alignment of the commissioning plans for social care and CCGs.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
To continue to monitor the Section 75 agreements.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	March 2017
Ensure adherence to the CHC Framework and monitor joint working arrangements to prevent cost shunting.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability/ Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 07	Risk Title Increasing de	emand for social care se	rvices		
Source / Cause of risk Risk that demand will outstrip available resources.	Risk Event Fulfilling statutory obligations and duties becomes increasingly difficult against rising expectations and increased demand for services. Increased demand due to: - demographic changes in population i.e. more people living longer, more people with dementia and an increase in clients with complex needs and migration of population (see separate risk for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children).	Consequence Austerity potentially leads to more stress, family breakdown and need for support from specialist children's services. More reliance on informal carers leads to strain on families and individuals. More pressure on services to respond to increased demand, a risk of service failure if there is insufficient capacity to respond	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	Current Likelihood V. Likely (5) Target Residual Likelihood Likely (4)	Current Impact Serious (4) Target Residual Impact Serious (4)
Control Title				Control Owner	
Robust monitoring, reporting and	analysis to DMT and Business P	lanning		Andrew Ireland, ODI Director SCHW/ND Director Commission Southern, Director Children Adult LE Tidmarsh, Director People and Physics	Mark Lobban, sioning/Penny or Disabled D/MH/Anne or Older
Working towards joint planning a	nd commissioning with partners.			Andrew Ireland, ODIrector SCHW/NDIrector Commis Southern, Director Children Adult LE Tidmarsh, Director People and Physics	Corporate Mark Lobban, sioning/Penny or Disabled D/MH/Anne or Older

Tendering taking place for Residential and Nursing Care to shape/manage the	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	
Adults Transformation Programme in progress. Phase One implemented including: Care Pathways, Commissioning and Procurement and Optimisation. Phase 2 and LD projects now in progress.		Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability
Early intervention and Preventative services aimed at reducing demand-ena equipment, short-term care with step down and step up support.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	
Continued monitoring of Ordinary Residence regarding the disproportionate number of people in need across the age ranges (children and adults) being placed by other local authorities into Kent.		Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/ Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/ Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
Developing community capacity particularly in relation to prevention and early help.		Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
As part of the 0 to 25 programme, streamlining back office processes and systems via the Admin Review to make admin support more focused and relevant. Freeing up social worker time for more direct work. Focus on quality and effectiveness of intervention and ensuring an appropriate and timely throughput of cases.		Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
Action Title Action Owner		Planned Completion Date
Review of care ensuring good outcomes linked to effective arrangements for support. Monitoring of trusted assessor arrangements eg carers ssessments.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Continued use and development of Assistive Technology (Telecare).	Andrew Ireland, Corporate	March 2017

Extend scope of Telecare.	Director SCHW	
Continued working to ensure children in care are supported with a permanency plan. Early help for families. Promoting adoption and permanency where it is right for the child and ensuring that a range of permanency options are always considered for children in order that they secure the best outcomes.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Continue to invest in preventative services through voluntary sector partners.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Adult social care Transformation Programme - tracking and monitoring the impact of delivery -on going.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Checking cases to ensure that where SCHW is approached to take cases on then the individual case does "qualify" under the Ordinary Residence guidance - on going.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Continued modernisation of Older People Services and of Learning Disability Day Services through the Good Day Programme.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
To monitor demand for services including new referrals and people requiring services for longer - often with complex needs.	Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH	March 2017
SCS working with Strategic Commissioning and EHPS to negotiate improved contracts with providers.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
To further improve the adoption journey for children and adopters in Kent and achieve earlier permanence and improved outcomes for children in the care system.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
A review of the Central Duty Team and Early Help Triage is being undertaken to see whether there could be greater efficiencies in bringing the two teams together into a single management structure.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 08	Risk Title Managing and	d working with the Socia	oare market		
Source / Cause of risk Managing and working with the Social Care Market.	Risk Event SCHW adult services commissions about 90% of services from outside the Directorate. Many of them from the Private and Voluntary sector. Although this offers efficiencies and value for money it does mean the Directorate needs the market to be buoyant to achieve best value and to give service users real choice and control. A risk is the care home and domiciliary care markets not being sustainable. Becoming increasingly difficult to obtain provider supply at affordable prices. The introduction of the Living Wage has severely impacted on the care market and could result in home closures/service failures due to workforce retention issues. There is evidence of an increase in the rate of closure of care homes. Also, there is a need to develop and promote the Children's social care market to ensure the sufficient supply to meet the needs of children in need and children in care.	Consequence Some parts of the social care market are facing severe financial pressures. This has been compounded by a significant increase in the minimum wage. If some providers fail then there could be gaps in the care market for certain types of care or in geographical areas. This would make it difficult to place some service users. Financial pressures could result in difficulties purchasing care at affordable prices. A risk that providers will choose not to tender for services at Local Authority funding levels or accept service users with high levels of complex needs.	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	Current Likelihood V.Likely (5) Target Residual Likelihood Possible (3)	Current Impact Major (5) Target Residual Impact Significan (3)

Control Title	Control Owner
Strategic Commissioning and Access to Resources functions in place to ensure KCC gets value for money - whilst maintaining productive relationships with providers.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Regular market mapping and price increase pressure tracking	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Opportunities for Joint Commissioning in partnership with key agencies (health) being explored. Joint work regarding the provision of dementia nursing beds.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Regular meetings with provider and trade organisations	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
A risk based approach to monitoring providers	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Reviewing relationships with voluntary organisations	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Commissioning framework for children's services	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Develop commissioning plans for specific service areas to determine if a tendering process is required and then implement.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
On-going monitoring of Home Care and market coverage. Commissioners and operational managers reviewing the capacity of the Home Care market with a view to developing a strategy to ensure market coverage.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Every provider has signed the National Fostering Framework agreement and KCC's service specification.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Tracking placement data through the County Placement Team	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
An Accommodation Strategy is in place developed with partners and key stakeholders.	Mark Lobban, Director

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Procurement and Contract Controls		Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Where possible ensuring market is able to offer choice of providers.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	March 2017
Strategic Commissioning and Procurement tendering for residential and nursing home care. Implementation phase following the tender.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	March 2017
Project to improve quality of care in independent sector. Further work to be done to make it operational through phase 2.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	March 2017
Need to ensure there is sufficient local foster and residential care for disabled children to reduce the need for out of county placements.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 09	Risk Title Information a	nd Communication Tech	nnology		
Source / Cause of risk Need to ensure that information and Communication systems are fit for purpose and support business requirements.	There is a risk that failure of critical systems or network ose and support significantly on the delivery of services. There are risks if systems are slow or if there is down time. An example is a problem with systems There is a risk that failure of critical systems or network failure will impact purpose to assist service delivery and performance management - if systems are not fit for purpose this could have a significant	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning Philip Segurola, Director	Current Likelihood Likely (4)	Current Impact Significant (3)	
			Target Residual Likelihood	Target Residual Impact	
	A second risk is that systems are not updated so that they become obsolete and are no longer fit for purpose, or the system provider decides not to retain a commitment to the product. A third risk is if systems do not have disaster recovery systems in place. Another risk is that the Transformation Programme will radically impact on the requirements for a replacement case management system but the requirements may not be known in time to go out to tender and replace SWIFT/AIS before the end of the current contract. The system provider has announced that they are planning to cease providing social care applications and will not be providing support	impact on the service. If there is a lot of down time or if systems are slow it can impede staff from accessing key information about service users and carers.	Specialist Children's Services	Possible (3)	Moderate (2)

beyond April 2020.		
Control Title	Control Owner	
Upgrade to version 29.1 of SWIFT/AIS has taken place.		Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Children's System Programme Board oversees ICT related projects for SCS improvements to the ICS system (Liberi), the procurement and integration of Liberi.		Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
SCS Progression of new technology options to improve remote access and fl	exible recording	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
Reconfiguration of roles and responsibilities undertaken to clarify accountabil owner.	ities including the role of system	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning
Work on going with SWIFT/AIS software provider. Meetings with account hole Northgate recently taken over by a private equity company - Cinven. Monitori implications in terms of their commitment to the social care market. SWIFT/A April 2018 with the option to extend to April 2019 in two six month increments	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	
		Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
ICT is currently working with the business to schedule disaster recovery case systems. This will include SWIFT/AIS and Liberi as well as e-mail and Oracle		Linda Harris, Infrastructure Business Partner
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Any issues and risks regarding the Liberi system are dealt with in the Children's Systems Programme Board/ Separate Risk Register	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
The contract with the current provider is time limited and decisions will need to be taken regarding future arrangements. The Provider has announced that they are planning to cease delivering social care applications and will not provide support beyond April 2020.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	March 2017
Implementation of tablet option with remote access to Liberi for frontline social workers as part of TRP refresh programme.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Following outsourcing of Digital Services to Agilisys, need to ensure there is no disconnect between back office systems (managed by ICT) and the customer facing website (managed by Agilisys).	Linda Harris, Infrastructure Business Partner	March 2017

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ICT to schedule business recovery of all main Business Systems including SWIFT/AIS and Liberi and corporate systems such as e-mail and Oracle.	Linda Harris, Infrastructure Business Partner	March 2017
CCGs working towards local health and care economies being paper free by 2020. Expected that Local Authorities will participate.	Linda Harris, Infrastructure Business Partner	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 10	Risk Title Infe	rmation Governance			
Source / Cause of risk With New Ways of Working, flexible working and increased information sharing across agencies there are increased risks in relation to data protection. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) will be enacted in 2018. These will have an impact on social care.	Risk Event The success of heave social care integrated dependent upon organisations being share information and agencies boundaried working means that information may be with other organisation on information or equipment. Delet functions to other organisations raised about information of and what controls, and I.G assurance mechanisms the other organisations have It is expected that the Regulations will characteristics.	breaches of the Data Protection Act if protocols and procedures are not followed and the new regulations are not adhered to when issued. nation also d lead to s of data ated issues arring ystems breaches of the Data Protection Act if protocols and procedures are not followed and the new regulations are not adhered to when issued.	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Michael Thomas-Sam, Head or Strategy and Business Support	Current Likelihood Possible (3) Target Residual Likelihood Possible (3)	Current Impact Significant (3) Target Residual Impact Moderate (2)
Control Title				Control Owner	
Information sharing agreements and PMO process. Where information sliead to greater security				Andrew Ireland, C Director SCHW/M Director Commiss Southern, Directo Children Adult LD Tidmarsh, Directo People and Physi Philip Segurola, D	ark Lobban, ioning/Penny r Disabled /MH/Anne r Older cal Disability/

	Specialist Children's Services
Organisational policies on IT security and the principles of Data Protection in place.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability/ Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
E Learning training for staff to raise awareness. All staff to complete the e-learning training on Information Governance and Data Protection.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability/ Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
Clause in employment contracts requiring compliance with data protection requirements.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW/Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability/ Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services
Caldicott Guardian in place for SCHW and Caldicott Guardian Guidance and register in place. The Caldicott Guardian officers have regular formal meetings.	Michael Thomas-Sam, Head or Strategy and Business Support
Policy impact Assessment for the information governance aspects of projects such as the residential re-let.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW
Authority wide group in place to provide strategic leadership on Information Governance.	Ben Watts, Interim General Counsel
Annual Information Governance Statement completed by all contracted providers. This information is now on	Mark Lobban, Director

line.		Commissioning
In Shared Offices there are designated areas for SCHW staff to ensure phore	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning/Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH/Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability/ Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
All projects need to have information protocols and agreements where information is to be shared across agencies.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Need to continue to raise awareness across staff groups. all staff to undertake E-learning in information governance	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
On-going work with health partners regarding information sharing through the Pioneer Programme.	Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability	March 2017
Information Governance reports to DMT on an annual basis with updates.	David Oxlade, Head of Operational Support	March 2017
Regular communication with SCS staff to remind them of data protection requirements and the need to use secure e-mails etc. Learning to be shared from Data Protection breaches	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
The new Case Certificate will replace the I.G Tooolkit in April 2018.	Janice Grant, SCHW Policy & Standards Manager	March 2018
CQC will introduce more rigour to IG inspection and it is expected this will have more power to hold organisations to account.	Janice Grant, SCHW Policy & Standards Manager	March 2018

Risk ID SCHW 11	Risk Title	Business dis	ruption			
Source / Cause of risk Possible disruption to services	the ability of the to provide ess	ss disruption on he Directorate sential services	Consequence Such an event would impact on the customers of our services and possibility	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW Penny	Current Likelihood Possible (3) Target	Current Impact Significant (3)
	to meet its statutory obligations.	the reputation of the service would suffer	Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH	Residual Likelihood Possible (3)	Residual Impact Significant (3)	
Control Title					Control Owner	
A range of in-house and multi-ager responsibilities in responding to but					Andrew Ireland, C Director SCHW/P Southern, Directo Children Adult LD	enny or Disabled
Service Level Business Continuity Analysis and Risk Assessment. Se or events.					Andrew Ireland, (Director SCHW/P Southern, Directo Children Adult LD	enny or Disabled
Management system in place to quo flessons arising from the way inc			ements including review a	nd identification	David Oxlade, He Operational Supp	
System resilience plan in place set and/or service demands as a resul and Medway Health and Social Ca	t of seasonal pre				Andrew Ireland, 0 Director SCHW	Corporate
Business continuity planning forms providers	part of the cont	tracting arranger	nents with private and volu	untary sector	Andrew Ireland, C Director SCHW/P Southern, Directo Children Adult LD	enny or Disabled
Good partnership working across he NHS organisations.	CC department	ts and multi-agei	ncy partners including join	t planning with	Andrew Ireland, (Director SCHW/P	•

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		Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH
Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Business Continuity Risk Assessment to identify actions at divisional level	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	March 2017
Advanced Business Impact Analysis and Risk Assessment to be undertaken for all services, reviewed annually or when substantive changes in policy, process or procedure occur.	David Oxlade, Head of Operational Support	March 2017
Business Management Systems Team to work with Commissioning to ensure that business continuity arrangements are in place for contracted services to meet requirements. If necessary make recommendations for improvement as part of contract monitoring process.	David Oxlade, Head of Operational Support	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 12	Risk Title KC	CC KMPT partnership agreem	ent		
Source / Cause of risk Partnership agreement with KMPT to deliver mental health services.	Risk Event Risk that a failure to mental health status requirements would legal, financial and reputational risks for Local Authority and impact on service of service users.	utory reputational risks f ld have the Local authority impact on service for the users. d would	for Southern,	Current Likelihood Possible (3) Target Residual Likelihood Possible (3)	Current Impact Significant (3) Target Residual Impact Moderate (2)
Control Title				Control Owner	
DivMT oversight of the joint opera	ting framework and im	nproved data quality to monitor	services.	Cheryl Fenton, Ho Health Social wor	
KMPT required to implement social responsibilities for mental health social seek assurance at DivMT.				Cheryl Fenton, He Health Social wor	
Increased monitoring of the number Needs Panel, the review of placent Care Mental Health Service. Newtoplacement and review practice to swell as use or alternatives. This will of MH SIS/SIS plus and housing remaining the MH budget pressures in service limited.	nents, and the transfe on Europe transforma seek to improve use; i ill dove tail with currer elated support. Servic	er of a number of residential clie ation programme for M.H is focu review and timely discharge fro nt review of MH accommodation be Managers have agreed savin	ents to the KCC Primary using on residential om residential care as n strategy and the re-let		
CQC highlighted a concern with his has been introduced to monitor cargoing at DivMT and include a focu	seloads on a weekly l	basis through a RAG rating too	I. Discussions are on-	Cheryl Fenton, He Health Social wor	
Improved governance and perform	nance monitoring arra	ungements in place.		Penny Southern, Disabled Children	
Introduction of a new model to del providing designated senior officer			2014 with KCC	Cheryl Fenton, He	

Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Improve the supervision, support and Continuous Professional Development for social care staff. Arrangements for professional supervision in place. Supervision audits on-going. Targeted recruitment and succession strategy has been implemented.	Cheryl Fenton, Head of Mental Health Social work	March 2017
Partnership/Operating Agreement between KCC and KMPT monitored through DivMT on an on-going basis. Annual report to Members regarding the Agreement.	Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH	March 2017
Continue to promote the personalisation agenda with social care clients in mental health services. Transfer of KERS service to new Primary Care Mental Health Service to ensure early intervention and prevention via enablement.	Cheryl Fenton, Head of Mental Health Social work	March 2017
Monitor KPIs -focus on red indicators and exception reports. Address IT issues - action plan to do this.	Cheryl Fenton, Head of Mental Health Social work	March 2017
Establishment of a Primary Care and Well Being Service to deliver mental health social care. Part of a wider multi agency approach to community mental health service. This includes a primary care social work service. To monitor activity and consider resource transfer from secondary if required.	Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH	March 2017
Annual Review of Partnership Agreement to take place.	Cheryl Fenton, Head of Mental Health Social work	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 15	Risk Title MCA and	d Deprivation of Liberty asse	ssments		
Source / Cause of risk The Supreme Court Judgement has led to a significant increase in demand for Deprivation of Liberty Assessments. There is a concern that the Government Grant for DoLs work will not be forthcoming in 2016/17.	Risk Event With the significant increa in Deprivation of Liberty assessments, a large number have not been do with in the statutory framework and there is n a backlog of cases.	some people living in circumstances where ealt they are deprived of their liberty based on	Risk Owner Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning	Current Likelihood V. Likely (5) Target Residual Likelihood Likely (4)	Current Impact Serious (4) Target Residual Impact Moderate (2)
Control Title				Control Owner	
Briefings provided to DMT on the ju	dgment and its implication	S.		Annie Ho, Interim Adult Safeguardir	
Capability Framework developed fo	r adult social care includin	g MCA and DoLs for KCC.		Annie Ho, Interim Adult Safeguardir	
There is an increased capacity of B	IA Assessors including 7 F	TE Assessors.		Annie Ho, Interim Adult Safeguardir	
New Contracts produced for Sectio	n 12 Doctors for DoLs wor	K		Annie Ho, Interim Adult Safeguardir	
Support provided to staff through the Team and appointment of a BIA Ma		ncreased administrative suppor	rt in the DoLs	Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	
Strong Triage Arrangements in place to risk assess and prioritise DoLs Assessments.				Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	
MCA/DoLs Business Plan produced	d.			Annie Ho, Interim Adult Safeguardir	
Action Title		Action Owner	•	Planned Comple	tion Date
As this risk is the result of a national	ı <mark>l judgment - most Local Aı</mark>	uthorities are Mark Lobban,	Director	March 2017	

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facing similar challenges. To keep abreast of any national (DH) developments or further court judgments.	Commissioning
Internal audit to audit the DoLs service and produce recommendations. Management action plan in place.	Annie Ho, Interim Head of March 2017 Adult Safeguarding
Predicting a significant overspend - management actions have reduced this but reviewing all budgets of adult safeguarding unit to bring budget in line.	Annie Ho, Interim Head of March 2017 Adult Safeguarding

Risk ID SCHW 17	Risk Title	OFSTED pre	paredness and service ir	nprovement		
Source / Cause of risk Preparedness for an Ofsted Inspection	Risk Event An announced Ofsted Single Inspection Framework and/or Joint Targeted Area Inspection is expected in 2016	Consequence Failure to maintain service improvement could adversely impact on children and young people, budget and staffing. A critical inspection could result in being placed on an improvement notice.	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	Current Likelihood Likely (4)	Current Impact Significant (3)	
			Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	Target Residual Likelihood Likely (4)	Target Residual Impact Moderate (2)	
Control Title					Control Owner	
Following removal from improveme launched as a development action addresses the recommendations midentified during a recent external research.	plan. The joint p ade in the rece	olan with EHPS	addresses high priority act	ions and	Philip Segurola, E Specialist Childre	
A children's improvement group has Help and Preventative Services.	s been establish	ned, comprising	of senior manager from So	CS and Early	Philip Segurola, I Specialist Childre	
The 0-25 Portfolio Board provides a	strategic over	/iew.			Philip Segurola, I Specialist Childre	
Recruitment and retention plan in p	lace and monito	ored through the	resource group.		Philip Segurola, E Specialist Childre	
Progress is robustly monitored loca area deep dive meetings.	lly, at monthly p	performance slot	ts at divisional manageme	nt teams and at	Philip Segurola, I Specialist Childre	
Engagement with expert practitioner group. Ensure implementation of the social work contract. Philip S			Philip Segurola, I Specialist Childre			
CSE action plan incorporated into the Children's Development Plan. Philip Segurola, Direction of the Children's Development Plan. Specialist Children's						
Children's Development Plan has n improvement, identified through Q8				eas for	Philip Segurola, I Specialist Childre	

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Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Annex A documentation collated and updated in readiness for an Ofsted inspection.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Teams to identify and collate good practice examples	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
There is a continuous programme of audits with regular reporting to Senior Managers. A mock audit has recently taken place, working to Ofsted criteria and timescales, and the report on the findings is being presented to DivMT, with key findings and learning being disseminated to all teams	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Weekly monitoring of key performance indicators and caseloads at director, AD and service manager levels.	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 19				pport and acco		creased arrival rate	e of
From May 2015 there was an unprecedented increase in the numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children arriving in Kent, which decreased following the introduction of the National Transfer Scheme in July 2016. Over 600 of the young people have now turned 18 and entered the leaving care service and this number is predicted to continue to increase substantially over the next two years. There is a risk of a financial shortfall unless there is sufficient funding in the financial settlement from the Home Office.	Risk Event There is a risk the be insufficient ap accommodation fleavers as well a shortfall.	propriate for care	significanthe Homfor care I was previous a surp grant for However will soon more over UASC the Homes with the soon more over th	a always had a ant shortfall on the Office grant eavers but this riously offset olus on the under 18s. If the Authority be supporting er 18 former an under 18, severe budget	Risk Owner Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	Current Likelihood Likely (4) Target Residual Likelihood Possible (3)	Current Impact Major (5) Target Residual Impact Serious (4)
Control Title						Control Owner	
The Leader, Members and Senior Officers continue to make representations to the Home Office regarding funding, particularly in respect of care leavers					Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services		
SCS DivMT authorised an increase in staff for asylum duty team, IRO service and district teams. This will be scaled back once the impact of the National Transfer Scheme is clear				Philip Segurola, D Specialist Childre			
Action Title				Action Owner		Planned Comple	tion Date
Following the implementation of a volume of the original original of the original orig				Philip Segurola Specialist Child	a, Director dren's Services	March 2017	
Continue to review staffing levels a impact of the National Transfer Sch		red in light of	the	Philip Segurola Specialist Child	a, Director dren's Services	March 2017	
Weekly updates to Senior Manager accommodation and support require				Philip Segurola Specialist Chile	a, Director dren's Services	March 2017	

required.		
Continue to work with other providers to source accommodation as cost effectively as possible	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Multi-agency board set up to take a strategic overview of whole system of services contributing to and impacted upon in managing the needs of UASC in Kent and to provide opportunities for shared learning	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
Following the introduction of the National Transfer Scheme and the closure of the camps in Calais, the reduction in the number of new arrivals has resulted in the agreed closure of one of the reception centres from January 2017	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services	March 2017
A review of the 18+ care leavers service is underway to ensure appropriate resources are allocated to meet the increased need and there is sufficient management capacity to oversee the casework with manageable workloads for staff	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services/Naintara Khosla,	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 20	Risk Title	Prevent dutie	s			
requires the Local Authority to act to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Local	Risk Event Failure to meet the requirements of the "Prevent Duty" could lead to more		Consequence Could lead to more terrorism and terrorist activity.	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	Current Likelihood Possible (3)	Current Impact Serous (4)
	people being drawn into terrorism and terrorist activities.	Mark Lobban, Director Commissioning		Target Residual Likelihood Unlikely (2)	Target Residual Impact	
		Penny Southern, Director Disabled Children Adult LD/MH			Moderate (2)	
				Anne Tidmarsh, Director Older People and Physical Disability		
	Director Speciali Childrer	Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services				
Control Title					Control Owner	
Prevent Duty Delivery Board established to oversee the activity of the Kent Channel Panel, co-ordinate Prevent activity across the County and report to other relevant strategic bodies in the county such as the Kent Safeguarding Boards.				Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW		
Kent Channel Panel (early intervention mechanism providing tailored support to people who have been identified as at risk of being drawn into terrorism) established at district and borough level.				Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW		
Briefings produced and communication on KNet regarding the PREVENT agenda. Mandatory training package produced.				Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW		

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Action Title	Action Owner	Planned Completion Date
Awareness raising "Prevent" training for those working with people directly at risk.	Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW / Philip Segurola, Director Specialist Children's Services/ Annie Ho, Interim Head of Adult Safeguarding	March 2017
Mandatory training being rolled out.	Nick Wilkinson, Head of Youth Justice and Safer Young Kent	March 2017

Risk ID SCHW 21	Risk Title Facilities	Management				
Source / Cause of risk The delay and lack of prioritisation by the contracted service of work required within the in house care provision service. This includes	Risk Event The implications of this at Health and Safety risks to residents and service use and the possibility of a KO	Health and Safety risks for service users and	Risk Owner Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director SCHW	Current Likelihood Likely (4)	Current Impact Serious (4)	
works to the building and the maintenance of facilities and equipment within the buildings such as lifts and hoists.	provider unit failing an inspection by CQC or OFSTED	reputational risk for the Council if a registered unit should fail an inspection by CQC or OFSTED.		Target Residual Likelihood Unlikely (2)	Target Residual Impact Moderate (2)	
Control Title				Control Owner	()	
Working with the three contractors to been on ensuring statutory complia		mprove performance. Immedia	ate focus has	Linda Harris, Infrastructure Business Partner		
Clarification of the Escalation Path	to address issues that have	not been resolved satisfactor	ily.	Linda Harris, Infra Business Partner	astructure	
Action Title		Action Owner	ſ	Planned Comple	tion Date	
To review performance of the contra	nfrastructure ner	March 2017				
To review the FM call logging proce from the call is clear so that the con impact of not resolving.	nfrastructure ner	March 2017				

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From: Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist

Children's Services

Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care,

Health and Wellbeing

To Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet

Committee - 23 March 2017

Subject: SPECIALIST CHILDREN'S SERVICES

PERFORMANCE SCORECARD

Classification: Unrestricted

Electoral Divisions: All

Previous Pathway of Paper: None

Future Pathway of Paper: None

Summary: The Specialist Children's Service performance scorecard provides members with progress against targets set for key performance and activity indicators.

Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the performance scorecard attached as Appendix 1.

1. Introduction

1.1 Appendix 2 Part 4 of the Kent County Council Constitution states that:

"Cabinet Committees shall review the performance of the functions of the Council that fall within the remit of the Cabinet Committee in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and the customer experience."

1.2 To this end, each Cabinet Committee receives performance scorecards.

2. Specialist Children's Services Performance Report

- 2.1 The scorecard for Specialist Children's Services (SCS) is attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The SCS performance scorecard includes latest available results which are for January 2017.
- 2.3 The indicators included are based on key priorities for SCS as outlined in the Strategic Priority Statement, and also includes operational data that is regularly used within the Directorate. Cabinet Committees have a role to review the

- selection of indicators included in scorecards, improving the focus on strategic issues and qualitative outcomes.
- 2.4 The results in the scorecard are shown as snapshot figures (taken on the last working day of the reporting period), year-to-date (April-March) or a rolling 12 months.
- 2.5 Members are asked to note that the SCS scorecard is used within the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate to support the Transformation programme.
- 2.6 A subset of these indicators is used within the KCC Quarterly Performance Report which is submitted to Cabinet.
- 2.7 As an outcome of this report, members may make reports and recommendations to the Leader, Cabinet Members, the Cabinet or officers.
- 2.8 Performance results are assigned an alert on the following basis:

Green: Current target achieved or exceeded

Amber: Performance is below current target but above minimum

standard.

Red: Performance is below a pre-defined minimum standard

3. Summary of Performance

- 3.1 For January 2017 there are 44 measures within the SCS performance scorecard which have a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rating applied. One performance measure "percentage of CIC who have a PEP updated in the last 6 months" has been removed from the scorecard following a change in process. The reporting against Personal Education Plans is being amended to move away from the PEP meeting having taken place to a measure on the completion of the plan document being stored on the child/young person's Liberi (Management Information System) record.
- 3.2 For January 2017, 27 performance measures are rated as Green, 16 as Amber and one as Red. Exception reporting against the 'Percentage of Returner Interviews completed within three working days' which has a Red RAG rating has been included within the Report attached as Appendix 1. A separate page showing the impact of the cohort of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) upon the relevant performance measures has also been included.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **COMMENT** on the performance scorecard.

5. Background Documents

None

6. Contact Details

Lead Officer

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Lead Director

Philip Segurola
Director, Specialist Children's Services
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Kent Specialist Children's Services

Performance Management Report

January 2017

Produced By: SC SCS Management Information

Publication Date: 15 February 2017



Guidance Notes

POLARITY

- The aim of this indicator is to achieve the highest number/percentage possible.
 The aim of this indicator is to achieve the lowest number/percentage possible.
 The aim of this indicator is to stay close to the target that has been set.
- **RAG RATINGS**



A red rating indicates that the current performance is signficantly away from the target set.

An amber rating indicates that the current performance is close to the target set.

A green rating indicates that the current performance has met the target that has been set.

No RAG Rating RAG ratings are not applied to indicators that have a denominator less than 5.

DIRECTION OF TRAVEL (DOT)



A green arrow indicates that performance has improved this month when compared to last month. Depending on the polarity of the indicator, an improvement in performance could either be a reduction or increase in numbers/percentage.



An amber arrow indicates that performance has remained the same as last month.



A red arrow indicates that performance has worsened this month when compared to last month. Depending on the polarity of the indicator, a worsening in performance could either be a reduction or increase in numbers/percentage.

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

Num	Numerator	СР	Child Protection
Denom	Denominator	CIC	Children in Care
R12M	Rolling 12 Months	BLA	Becoming Looked After
SS	Snapshot	SGO	Special Guardianship Orde

C&F Assessments Child and Family Assessments UASC Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children

CIN Child in Need QSW Qualified Social Worker
PF Private Fostering CSWT Childrens Social Work Teams
IHA Initial Health Assessment PEP Personal Education Plan

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR GRAPHS AND CHILD LEVEL DATA

The latest graphs and Child level data are published on the SCS Performance Management website (see screenshot below)



KEY CHANGES MADE TO THE REPORT THIS MONTH

None

SMALL DENOMINATORS

Caution should be applied in the overinterpretation of the results for those performance measures which are calculated against low numbers. In order to highlight this, any denominators with a value between 1 and 9 have been highlighted in light blue. Any indicators that have a denominator that is less than 5 have no RAG rating applied to them.

ROLLING 12 MONTHS

The rolling 12 month period that is being used in this report is: 01/02/2016 to 31/01/2017

ADOPTION & SG TEAM, ADOLESCENT TEAMS AND CRU

Please note that these teams do not have an indivdual scorecard as their caseholding numbers are very small, however, the performance of the children associated with these teams is counted within the county and relevant area level pages

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CONTACT DETAILS

 Maureen Robinson - 03000 417164
 Celene Benjamin - 03000 417022

 Chris Nunn - 03000 417145
 Ian Valentine - 03000 417189

 Paul Godden - 03000 417078
 Vikky Best - 03000 415846

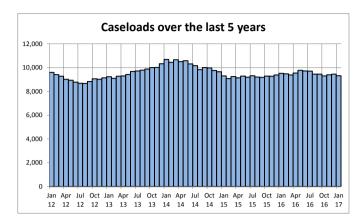
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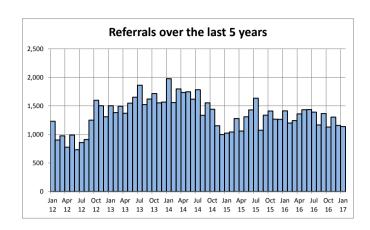
SCS Activity

	Caseloads - This month	Caseloads - Last month	Caseloads - Change	Referrals in last	month	CF Assessments in last month	diament and the		CP Plans - Last month	CP Plans - Change	CP Starts in last month	CP Ends in last month		Total LAC - This month	Total LAC - Last month	Total LAC - Change	UASC LAC - This month	UASC LAC - Last month	UASC LAC - Change	LAC Starts in last month	LAC Ends in last month	PF Cases - This month	PF Cases - Last month	PF Cases - Change
Kent	9312	9443	-131	1	138	1307	11	42	1142	0	68	66		1948	2076	-128	553	660	-107	41	155	42	39	+3
North Kent	1131	1145	-14		29	207	20	E	208	-3	12	12	1	258	264	-6	65	69	-4	4	17	2	2	0
East Kent	2299	2354	-55		54	405	36		366	+2	28	32		611	631	-20	66	82	-16	13	24	5	5	0
South Kent	1813	1799	+14		78	303	35		351	0	19	14		343	365	-22	49	64	-15	5	26	16	13	+3
West Kent	1227	1290	-63		13	294	20		204	+1	9	8		337	351	-14	76	82	-6	3	18	13	13	0
Disability Service	1181	1183	-2		17	77	1		13	0	0	0		102	102	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Disability Service	1101	1103	-2		.,	//		,	13	U	U	U		102	102	U	U	U	U	1		U	U	0
Ashford CSWT	436	413	+23	!	94	68	10	14	103	+1	4	3	Ī	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	4	0
Caterbury CSWT	343	360	-17		34	113	7	6	72	+4	10	8		3	3	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	1	0
Daftford CSWT	209	224	-15		52	78	5	1	57	-6	3	3		3	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
D ‱ r CSWT	462	450	+12	1	08	108	10	13	111	-8	4	3		4	9	-5	0	0	0	0	0	11	8	+3
Gravesham CSWT	355	366	-11		36	75	8	2	98	-16	7	9		1	0	+1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Maidstone CSWT	367	385	-18		99	123	9	0	92	-2	7	3		2	5	-3	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	0
Sevenoaks CSWT	235	232	+3		77	47	4	1	39	+2	2	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Shepway CSWT	513	521	-8		1	113	14	.0	131	+9	11	6		2	1	+1	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0
Swale CSWT	608	581	+27	1	42	106	12	.9	125	+4	6	5		7	6	+1	0	0	0	2	0	4	4	0
Thanet Margate CSWT	376	404	-28		51	77	9	8	110	-12	7	13		2	7	-5	0	0	0	3	1	2	2	0
Thanet Ramsgate CSWT	261	288	-27	(55	95	4	9	49	0	2	4		2	0	+2	0	0	0	2	0	4	4	0
The Weald CSWT	441	476	-35	1	07	157	9	4	99	-5	2	4		7	7	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	5	0
North Kent CIC	302	296	+6		0	3	3	1	14	+17	0	0		250	256	-6	65	69	-4	0	17	0	0	0
East Kent (Can/Swa) CIC	365	382	-17		0	5	Ç)	9	0	0	1		328	345	-17	45	60	-15	0	15	0	0	0
East Kent (Tha) CIC	293	291	+2		0	2	7	,	1	+6	3	1		259	258	+1	21	22	-1	1	6	0	0	0
South Kent CIC	373	390	-17		1	9	4	ļ	6	-2	0	2		332	351	-19	49	64	-15	2	25	0	0	0
West Kent CIC	384	398	-14		3	7	2	1	13	+8	0	1		326	338	-12	76	82	-6	1	18	0	0	0
SUASC Service	329	389	-60		L5	21	()	0	0	0	0		297	357	-60	297	357	-60	14	67	0	0	0
Disability EK	608	611	-3		9	51	g)	9	0	0	0		69	69	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Disability WK	573	572	+1		8	26	4	ŀ	4	0	0	0		33	33	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Adoption & SG	110	113	-3		7	0	()	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Care Leaver Service (18+)	1209	1149	+60		0	0	()	0	0	0	0]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

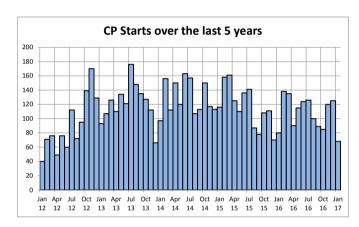
SCS Activity

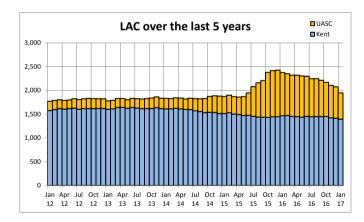
County Level

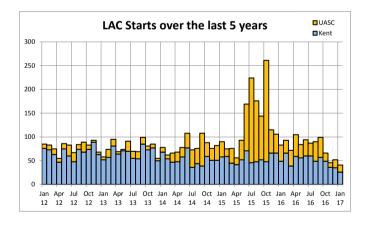


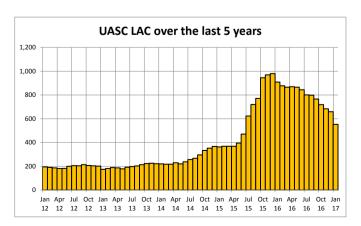


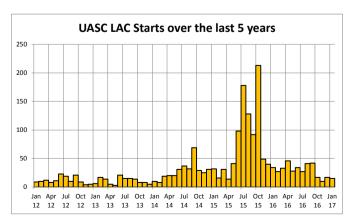












Scorecard - Kent Jan 2017

					Late	est Result			1 month a	go	1 year ago	Chart Tarre
												Short Term Performance:
ID	Indicators	Polarity	Data	Latest I		Num	Denom	Target for 16/17	Result	DoT	Result O	Rolling 3
10	mulators	Pola	Period	Stat				16/17	Result	ă	Result o	months and
												RAG Status
	REFERRAL AND ASSESSMENTS			_								
1	% of referrals with a previous referral within 12 months	L	R12M	23.0%	G	3521	15324	25.0%	23.0%	₩	22.1%	22.3% G
2	% of C&F Assessments that were carried out within 45 working days	Н	R12M	91.0%	G	15241	16745	90.0%	90.6%	1	90.2%	92.7% G
3	Number of C&F Assessments in progress outside of timescale	L	SS	17	G	-	-	75	15	1	30	
4	% of Children seen at C&F Assessment	Н	R12M	98.1%	G	15645	15946	98.0%	98.2%	1	97.9%	97.4% A
_	CHILDREN IN NEED					_	1	i i		-	T I II I	
5	% of CIN with a CIN Plan in place	Н	SS	85.1%	_	1993	2343	90.0%	90.3%	*	87.6%	
6	% of CIN who have been seen in the last 28 days	Н	SS	92.0%		1699	1847	80.0%		1	85.6%	
7	Numbers of Unallocated Cases	L	SS	1	Α	-	-	0	0	*	2	
	PRIVATE FOSTERING											
8	% of PF visits held in timescale (Current PF Arrangements only)	Н	SS	82.3%	A	190	231	90.0%	79.5%	4	T T	
0	70 OFFE VISIES HEIGHT UNICSCALE (CUITETEEF ATTAINGEMENTS ONLY)	- 11	33	02.3/	, A	190	231	30.076	73.370			
	MISSING CHILDREN											
9	% of Returner Interviews completed within 3 working days	Н	R12M	72.5%	R	1239	1710	90.0%	72.3%	1		71.7% R
-									· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	_		
	CHILD PROTECTION											
10	% of Current CP Plans lasting 18 months or more	L	SS	5.1%	G	58	1142	10.0%	4.5%	1	7.8%	
11	% of CP Visits held within timescale (Current CP only)	Ι	SS	90.1%	G	19983	22184	90.0%	90.4%	1	90.7%	
12	% of CP cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Ι	SS	100.09	6 G	833	833	98.0%	100.0%	\Rightarrow	100.0%	
13	% of Children becoming CP for a second or subsequent time	Т	R12M	20.5%	6 A	269	1315	17.5%	21.3%	1	21.4%	18.2% G
14	% of CP Plans lasting 2 years or more at the point of de-registration	L	R12M	3.4%	G	40	1189	5.0%	3.3%	1	3.0%	5.9% A
15	% of Children seen at Section 47 enquiry	Н	R12M	98.5%	G	4563	4631	98.0%	98.5%	1	98.0%	98.3% G
16	% of ICPC's held within 15 working days of the S47 enquiry starting	Н	R12M	85.6%	G	1155	1349	80.0%	84.8%	1	85.3%	87.2% G
	CHILDREN IN CARE						,					
17	CIC Placement Stability: % with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months	L	SS	12.9%	_	252	1948	10.0%	13.8%	1	12.3%	
18	CIC Placement Stability: % in same placement for last 2 years	Н	SS	71.3%		400	561	70.0%	71.3%	*	71.1%	
19	% of CIC Foster Care in KCC Foster Care/Rel & Friends placements (exc UASC)	Н	SS	86.3%		968	1122	85.0%	86.5%	1	87.5%	
20	% of CIC placed within 20 miles from home (exc UASC)	Н	SS	80.8%	_	1085	1342	80.0%	81.4%	1	80.1%	
21	% of Children who participated at CIC Reviews	Н	R12M	96.1%		5613	5841	95.0%		1	94.9%	95.4% G
22	% of CIC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Н	SS	98.6%		1884	1910	98.0%	98.1%	1	77.8%	
23	% of CIC cases where all Dental Checks were held within required timescale	Н	SS	92.3%	_	1424	1542	90.0%		1	90.4%	
24	% of CIC cases where all Health Assessments were held within required timescale	Н	SS	89.4%	_	1378	1542	90.0%	88.8%	1	88.8%	
25	% of IHA referrals within 5 working days of becoming Looked After	Н	R12M	82.2%	_	521	634	90.0%	82.8%	*	28.6%	78.3% R
27	% of CIC for 18 mths and allocated to the same worker for the last 12 mths	Н	SS	49.2%	A	558	1134	60.0%	50.5%	₩	58.8%	
	ADOPTION											
28	% of cases adoption agreed as plan within 4mths, for those with an agency decision	Н	R12M	75.8%	G	69	91	75.0%	73.5%	4	60.4%	66.7% A
29	Ave. no of days between bla and moving in with adoptive family (for children adopted)	-	R12M	309.6		27554	89	426.0		1	512.7	331.6 G
30	Ave. no of days between one and moving in with adoptive family (for children adopted).	+	R12M	107.8			81	121.0		1	220.4	116.7 G
31	% of Children leaving care who were adopted (exc UASC)	Н	R12M	14.2%			634	13.0%	14.1%	4	15.5%	17.9% G
71	you of simple the annual well adopted (exe onde)	'''	1112111	17.27		30	034	13.070	17.1/0	-	13.370	17.370
	CARE LEAVERS											
32	% of Care Leavers that Kent is in touch with	Н	R12M	68.0%	A	1202	1768	75.0%	67.2%	1	57.5%	65.3% A
33	% of Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation (of those we are in touch with)	Н	R12M	91.5%			1278	90.0%	92.4%	1	92.4%	90.6% G
34	% of Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training (of those we are in touch with	Н	R12M	59.3%		758	1278	65.0%		1	57.2%	63.0% A
35	% of Care Leavers with a Pathway Plan updated in the last 6 months	Н	SS	93.5%	G	1189	1272	90.0%	90.7%	1		
	QUALITY ASSURANCE							, <u> </u>				
36	% of Case File Audits completed	Н	R12M	96.9%		723	746	95.0%	98.2%	₩	98.7%	92.3% A
37	% of Case File Audits rated Good or outstanding	Н	R12M	67.2%	_		723	60.0%		1	56.5%	67.8% G
38	% of Case File Audits rated inadequate	L	R12M	2.1%			723	0.0%	1.8%		3.1%	2.1% A
39	% of CP Social Work Reports rated good or outstanding	Н	R12M	63.1%		1438	2278	75.0%	62.9%	1	70.8%	64.3% A
40	% of CIC Care Plans rated good or outstanding	Н	R12M	68.6%	A	3943	5748	75.0%	68.4%	T	61.3%	71.0% A
	STAFFING											
41	% of caseholding posts filled by KCC Permanent QSW	Н	SS	81.3%	A	428.7	527.2	83.0%	81.2%	1	75.1%	
41	% of caseholding posts filled by ACC Permanent QSW % of caseholding posts filled by agency staff	L	SS	14.0%		74.0	527.2	17.0%		1	20.6%	
43	Average Caseloads of social workers in CIC Teams	L	SS	15.1	A		113.6	15.0		1	16.3	
44	Average Caseloads of social workers in CSWTs	L	SS	19.6	A	4606	234.4	18.0		1	20.2	
45	Average Caseloads of fostering social workers	Į.	SS	16.9	G	788	46.6	18.0	16.6	Ţ	18.4	
	0	÷			_	, 30	10.0	20.0	10.0	*		

LATEST PERFORMANCE RAG RATING

GREEN

AMBER

RED

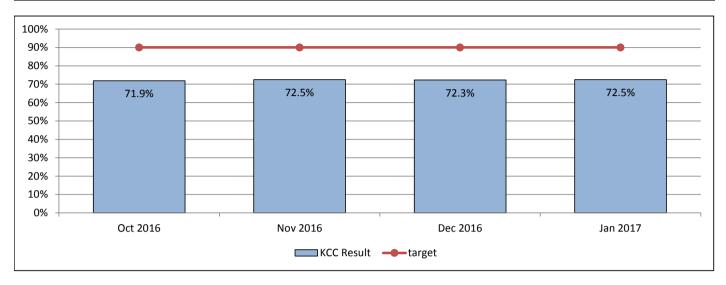
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Scorecard - Impact of UASC

Numbers of Unallocated Cases

			IN	ICLUI	DING UAS	С			EXCLUI	DING UAS	C	
Indicators	Polarity	Data Period	Latest Re and RA Status	G	Num	Denom	Target for 16/17	Latest R and R State	AG	Num	Denom	Variance with UASC excluded
CHILDREN IN CARE - KENT												
CIC Placement Stability: % with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months	L	SS	12.9%	Α	252	1948	10.0%	12.9%	Α	180	1395	-0.0%
CIC Placement Stability: % in same placement for last 2 years	Н	SS	71.3%	G	400	561	70.0%	71.4%	G	397	556	+0.1%
% of Children who participated at CIC Reviews	Н	R12M	96.1%	G	5613	5841	95.0%	98.2%	G	3492	3555	+2.1%
% of CIC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Н	SS	98.6%	G	1884	1910	98.0%	99.5%	G	1365	1372	+0.9%
% of CIC cases where all Dental Checks were held within required timescale	Н	SS	92.3%	G	1424	1542	90.0%	93.4%	G	1015	1087	+1.0%
% of CIC cases where all Health Assessments were held within required timescale	Н	SS	89.4%	Α	1378	1542	90.0%	92.1%	G	1001	1087	+2.7%
% of IHA referrals within 5 working days of becoming Looked After	Н	R12M	82.2%	Α	521	634	90.0%	77.8%	R	371	477	-4.4%
% of CIC for 18 mths and allocated to the same worker for the last 12 mths	Н	SS	49.2%	Α	558	1134	60.0%	51.8%	Α	479	925	+2.6%
CHILDREN IN CARE - NORTH KENT AREA												
CIC Placement Stability: % with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months	L	SS	15.5%	R	40	258	10.0%	14.0%	R	27	193	-1.5%
CIC Placement Stability: % in same placement for last 2 years	Н	SS	69.2%	Α	54	78	70.0%	69.2%	Α	54	78	0.0%
% of Children who participated at CIC Reviews	Н	R12M	97.9%	G	695	710	95.0%	98.6%	G	508	515	+0.8%
% of CIC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Н	SS	99.2%	G	252	254	98.0%	99.5%	G	188	189	+0.3%
% of CIC cases where all Dental Checks were held within required timescale	Н	SS	96.7%	G	204	211	90.0%	95.4%	G	146	153	-1.3%
% of CIC cases where all Health Assessments were held within required timescale	Н	SS	89.6%	Α	189	211	90.0%	92.2%	G	141	153	+2.6%
% of IHA referrals within 5 working days of becoming Looked After	Н	R12M	77.8%	R	56	72	90.0%	77.8%	R	56	72	0.0%
% of CIC for 18 mths and allocated to the same worker for the last 12 mths	Н	SS	36.3%	R	58	160	60.0%	38.0%	R	49	129	+1.7%
CHILDREN IN CARE - EAST KENT AREA												
CIC Placement Stability: % with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months	ΤL	SS	13.4%	R	82	611	10.0%	12.7%	Α	69	545	-0.8%
CIC Placement Stability: % in same placement for last 2 years	Н	SS	73.7%	G	160	217	70.0%	74.0%		159	215	+0.2%
% of Children who participated at CIC Reviews	Н	R12M	96.5%	G	1523	1578	95.0%	98.6%		1330	1349	+2.1%
% of CIC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Н	SS	99.7%	G	599	601	98.0%	99.8%	_	534	535	+0.1%
% of CIC cases where all Dental Checks were held within required timescale	Н	SS	87.6%	Α	415	474	90.0%	89.4%		371	415	+1.8%
% of CIC cases where all Health Assessments were held within required timescale	Н	SS	88.2%	Α	418	474	90.0%	90.8%		377	415	+2.7%
% of IHA referrals within 5 working days of becoming Looked After	Н	R12M	74.3%	R	136	183	90.0%	74.3%		136	183	0.0%
% of CIC for 18 mths and allocated to the same worker for the last 12 mths	Н	SS	50.4%	Α	210	417	60.0%	49.5%	_	181	366	-0.9%
CHILDREN IN CARE - SOUTH KENT AREA												
CIC Placement Stability: % with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months	ΤL	SS	16.9%	R	58	343	10.0%	16.3%	R	48	294	-0.6%
CIC Placement Stability: % in same placement for last 2 years	Н	SS	66.7%	Α	70	105	70.0%	67.0%	_	69	103	+0.3%
% of Children who participated at CIC Reviews	Н.	R12M	97.0%	G	941	970	95.0%	97.4%	_	781	802	+0.4%
% of CIC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Н.	SS	98.8%	G	334	338	98.0%	99.0%	_	286	289	+0.1%
% of CIC cases where all Dental Checks were held within required timescale	Н	SS	97.4%	G	267	274	90.0%	97.5%	_	231	237	+0.0%
% of CIC cases where all Health Assessments were held within required timescale	Н	SS	94.2%	G	258	274	90.0%	94.1%	+-	223	237	-0.1%
% of IHA referrals within 5 working days of becoming Looked After	Н.	R12M	80.3%	Α	98	122	90.0%	80.3%	_	98	122	0.0%
% of CIC for 18 mths and allocated to the same worker for the last 12 mths	Н	SS	59.8%	Α	131	219	60.0%	58.8%	_	110	187	-1.0%
CHILDREN IN CARE - WEST KENT AREA												
CIC Placement Stability: % with 3 or more placements in the last 12 months	ΤL	SS	12.8%	Α	43	337	10.0%	12.3%	Α	32	261	-0.5%
CIC Placement Stability: % in same placement for last 2 years	Н	SS	69.4%	Α	77	111	70.0%	69.1%	_	76	110	-0.3%
% of Children who participated at CIC Reviews	Н	R12M	98.3%	G	886	901	95.0%	98.8%	_	642	650	+0.4%
% of CIC cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Н	SS	99.7%	G	333	334	98.0%	99.6%		257	258	-0.1%
% of CIC cases where all Dental Checks were held within required timescale	Н.	SS	89.8%	A	228	254	90.0%	92.2%	_	177	192	+2.4%
% of CIC cases where all Health Assessments were held within required timescale	Н	SS	88.6%	Α	225	254	90.0%	92.7%		178	192	+4.1%
% of IHA referrals within 5 working days of becoming Looked After	Н	R12M	88.4%	Α	76	86	90.0%	88.4%		76	86	0.0%
% of CIC for 18 mths and allocated to the same worker for the last 12 mths	Н	SS	46.9%	Α	98	209	60.0%	52.7%	_	88	167	+5.8%
OTHER INDICATORS - KENT												
% of Care Leavers that Kent is in touch with	Н	R12M	68.0%	Α	1202	1768	75.0%	76.7%	G	647	843	+8.8%
% of Care Leavers in Suitable Accommodation (of those we are in touch with)	Н	R12M	91.5%	G	1170	1278	90.0%	89.5%		588	657	-2.1%
% of Care Leavers in Education, Employment or Training (of those we are in touch with)	Н	R12M	59.3%	Α	758	1278	65.0%	48.4%		318	657	-10.9%
% of Care Leavers with a Pathway Plan updated in the last 6 months	Н	SS	93.5%	G	1189	1272	90.0%	94.4%		559	592	+1.0%
% of C&F Assessments that were carried out within 45 working days	Н	R12M	91.0%	G	15241	16745	90.0%	91.2%		14803	16224	+0.2%
Numbers of Unallocated Cases	Ŧ.	SS	1				0	1		,,,,		

% of Returner Into	erviews completed within 3	working days	Red
Cabinet Member	Peter Oakford	Director	Philip Segurola
Portfolio	Specialist Children's Services	Division	Specialist Children's Services



Trend Data – Month End	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Dec 2016	Jan 2017
KCC Result	71.9%	72.5%	72.3%	72.5%
Target	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
RAG Rating	Red	Red	Red	Red

Commentary

This performance indicator was added to the Scorecard in August 2016 to reflect the priority of SCS to undertake timely Returner Interviews for children and young people that have gone missing. The target of 90% has been set to drive up performance on the completion rates within 3 working days following a missing episode and performance shows month on month improvement.

During the 12 month period to January 2017 there were 1710 missing episodes, and of these 1239 (72.5%) had a Returner Interview that was completed within 3 working days. The number of Returner interviews out of timescale by 1 day is significant (84), combined with the high number of forms not completed (76) or where no date has been added (83). This suggests that the target can be achieved through awareness raising and more robust management oversight. It is also of note that for a significant number of Children in Care missing episodes last no longer than 0-3 hrs and are often connected to contact with friends and family. These episodes can also form part of a repeat pattern of behaviour where for a small but significant minority the value of repeatedly completing a Returner interview can be compromised. As such further work is required around the management of these episodes through placement plan reviews.

Data Notes

Target: 90% (RAG Bandings: Below 80% = Red, 80% to 90% = Amber, 90% and above = Green)

Tolerance: Higher values are better

Data: Figures shown are based on a rolling 12 month period. The result for Oct 2016 for example shows performance for

Nov 2015 to Oct 2016. **Data Source:** Liberi



From: Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member, Adult Social Care and

Public Health

Andrew Scott-Clark, Director of Public Health

To: Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee

23 March 2017

Subject: Public Health Performance – Children and Young People

Classification: Unrestricted

Previous Pathway: This is the first committee to consider this report

Future Pathway: None

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This report provides an overview on key performance indicators of Public Health commissioned services for children and young people.

Performance of the Health Visiting service on the universal checks was mixed although actual the number of visits completed has continued to rise.

National Child Measurement Programme figures for 2015/16 show increased in participation and stable rates of excess weight among children in Year R and Year 6.

Extensive partnership work to reduce the numbers of women who smoke during pregnancy continued in Q3.

Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **COMMENT** on and **NOTE** the current performance and actions of Public Health commissioned services.

1. Introduction

1.1. This report provides an overview of the key performance indicators for Kent Public Health which directly relate to commissioned services for children and young people.

2. Performance

Health Visiting Service

2.1. KCC Public Health and Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust (KCHFT) have continued to work together to drive the Health Visiting Transformation Programme forward in recent months. Public Health have

facilitated a series of workshops with health visitors and children's centre staff to explore opportunities for closer joint working and co-location of services where possible. This programme of work is designed to deliver efficiencies on the contract whilst also ensuring that the service responds to consultation feedback about the need for a clear service offer from health visitors and joint working with children's centres.

- 2.2. There has been a decrease in the proportion of children receiving either their new birth assessment or their 2-2½ year assessment within the expected timeframes compared to the previous quarter. The Health Visiting Service has reported that the reduction is due to a number of different factors including an increase in the number of children in these age groups and an increase in the number of families declining the offer for a 2-2½ year check or not attending the scheduled appointment. The service is reviewing the process for offering this check to improve uptake and increase the proportion of children who receive this check for Q4.
- 2.3. Public Health are seeking further assurance that the service is on track to achieve performance targets by increasing the frequency of performance monitoring submissions by the provider from quarterly to monthly.

Table 1: Health visiting mandated interventions delivered in 15/16 and 16/17. Kent figures

Health Visiting Service	Q3 15/16	Q4 15/16	Q1 16/17	Q2 16/17	Q3 16/17	DoT¹
No. of mothers receiving an Antenatal Visit	866	1,083	1,370	1,466	1,609	仓
% of New Birth Visits within 14 days	68%	75%	78%	88%	87%	Û
% of New Birth Visits in total (0-30 days)	98%	95%	92%	99%	95%	Û
% of infants due a 6-8 week check who received one	65%	76%	79%	84%	88%	仓
% of infants receiving their 1 year review at 12 months	35%	56%	67%	77%	79%	仓
% of infants receiving their 1 year review at 15 months	72%	93%	78%	81%	81%	‡
% of children receiving their 2-2½ year review	71%	91%	76%	78%	74%	Û

Source: KCHFT

2.4. Increasing rates of breastfeeding remains an important public health priority. The proportion of women reported to be at least partially breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks is around 45%. This is very similar to the national average.

Table 2: Health visiting 6-8 week check infant feeding continuance figures. Kent figures

Health Visiting Service – Infant Feeding	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Status	15/16	15/16	16/17	16/17	16/17
Number of infants due a 6-8 week check by the end of the quarter	4,196	4,058	4,181	4,177	4,524
Number and percentage with an infant feeding	3,411	3,853	3,691	3,849	4,026
status (needs to be 95% to be robust)	(81%)	(95%)	(88%)	(92%)	(89%)

¹ Direction of Travel, compared to previous quarter

Health Visiting Service – Infant Feeding Status	Q3 15/16	Q4 15/16	Q1 16/17	Q2 16/17	Q3 16/17
Number recorded as totally breastfed	1,124	1,192	1,228	1,259	1,363
Number recorded as partially breastfed	460	536	507	489	573
Number recorded as not at all breastfed	1,827	2,125	1,956	2,101	2,090
% total or partially breastfed of the statuses recorded	46%	45%	47%	45%	48%

Source: KCHFT

National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)

- 2.5. The proportion of children weighed and measured as part of the NCMP in Kent (participation rate) in 2015/16 exceeded the 85% target for the year. The latest data show that participation rates increased to 97% for Year R and 96% for Year 6.
- 2.6. The figures show the proportion of children recorded as being having excess weight (overweight or obese) remained relatively stable for Year R and Year6. However in comparison to national, at 22%, Kent is recorded as being as being worse than the national average and is therefore reported as red.

Table 3: Excess weight in Kent, published RAG against national.

NCMP measured excess weight	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Proportion excess weight for Year R (4-5 year olds)	22% (a)	21% (g)	23% (a)	23% (r)
Proportion excess weight for Year 6 (10-11 year olds)	33% (a)	33% (g)	33% (a)	33% (g)

Source: PHE Fingertips NCMP Local Authority Profiles

- 2.7. In addition to the work of the Local Children's Partnership Groups (LCPGs) reported the previous paper to the Cabinet Committee, seven LCPGs have prioritised childhood obesity for their small grant applications 2017.
- 2.8. A paper was taken to the LCPG Chairs group in December 2016 to discuss proposed changes to the Terms of Reference and membership of local groups that have been overseeing the local arrangements for implementing the NCMP. The aim of the paper was to discuss with Chairs whether they could provide governance of local childhood obesity groups, with a 0-19 remit. The Chairs group has taken this for consideration, in the context that they need to consider what other locality groups would benefit from this oversight.
- 2.9. Examples of work by the Local Health & Wellbeing Boards include a Childhood Obesity workshop for Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley (DGS) Board Members and a monthly Healthy Weight Task and Finish Group in Ashford.
- 2.10. Public Health are extending the reach of the national Change 4 Life campaign which is now live. In addition to involving stakeholders and providing resources, plans are to recruit and train families to try out the top tips and change behaviours. It is anticipated that this will result in video and media coverage.

Young People's Substance Misuse Services

2.11. The Young Person Substance Misuse Service continues to deliver over 90% planned exits from specialist treatment services.

Table 4: Proportion of planned exits from specialist services in Kent

			15	/16			16/17		
	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	DoT
% with a planned exit	85%*	94% (a)	94% (a)	96% (a)	94% (a)	91% (a)	93% (g)	90% (g)	Û

Source: Addaction, provider of young people's substance misuse services *Target change as of Q2 16/17

- 2.12. As well of providing specialist community treatment, the provider delivers DUST (Drug Use Screening Tool) training for a wide range of professionals working with children and young people across the county.
- 2.13. The service also delivers a range of early intervention and targeted support for the most vulnerable young people to prevent substance misuse issues escalating. The service is closely linked into the wider service provision to support children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing.

Smoking during pregnancy

- 2.14. Smoking in pregnancy continues to present a significant public health challenge for Kent where the rates smoking rates (as measured by those with a smoking status at time of delivery) remain above national average.
- 2.15. Q2 figures correspond to women who would have had a BabyClear contact at the end of 2015/16; a contact at a time when the programme was undergoing local adaptions following the identification of blockers to the referral process and under-utilisation of CO monitoring.
- 2.16. Since then a number of training and resource solutions have been implemented to ensure that more women are routinely CO monitored and appropriately referred to stop smoking services. There have been increases in CO monitoring from an average of 43% to 66% in December 2016. The smoking status of these women (ie currently 8 weeks into pregnancy) will be checked and reported in Q2 2017/18 SATOD figures.

Table 5: Published smoking status at time of delivery Kent and England

Table 5: Published smoking status at time of delivery Kent and England								
Smoking status at time of	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
delivery ²	14/15	14/15	15/16	15/16	15/16	15/16	16/17	16/17
% of women with a smoking status at time of delivery Kent	13%	12%	12%	12%	14%	14%	13%	14%
No. of women with a smoking status at time of delivery Kent	531	473	500	514	561	549	534	606
% of women with a smoking status at time of delivery England	11%	11%	11%	10%	11%	11%	10%	10%

Source: NHS Digital

² Number or proportion of pregnant women who reported that they were smokers at the time of giving birth.

3. Quality Exceptions

There are no quality exceptions to report.

4. Conclusion

4.1. Public Health are taking a number actions to address concerns within the performance of the commissioned services whilst progressing good delivery, as well as in key areas concerning the health of the public such as smoking in pregnancy and excess weight in children.

5. Recommendations

Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to **COMMENT** on and **NOTE** current performance and actions taken by Public Health commissioned services.

6. Background Documents

None

7. Appendices

Appendix 1: Key to KPI Ratings

8. Contact Details

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Relevant Director:

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- Director of Public Health
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Appendix 1

Key to KPI Ratings used:

(g) GREEN	Target has been achieved or exceeded; or is better than national		
(a) AMBER	Performance at acceptable level, below target but above floor; or similar to		
(r) RED	Performance is below a pre-defined floor standard; or lower than national		
仓	Performance has improved		
Û	Performance has worsened		

 \Leftrightarrow

Performance has remained the same

Data quality note: Data included in this report is provisional and subject to later change. This data is categorised as management information.

From: John Lynch, Head of Democratic Services

To: Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee – 23 March

2017

Subject: Work Programme 2017

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: None

Future Pathway of Paper: Standard item

Summary: This report gives details of the proposed work programme for the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee.

Recommendation: The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and agree its work programme for 2017.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed Work Programme has been compiled from items on the Forthcoming Executive Decisions List, from actions arising from previous meetings and from topics identified at agenda setting meetings, held six weeks before each Cabinet Committee meeting, in accordance with the Constitution, and attended by the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, and the three Group Spokesmen.
- 1.2 Whilst the Chairman, in consultation with the Cabinet Member, is responsible for the final selection of items for the agenda, this item gives all Members of the Cabinet Committee the opportunity to suggest amendments and additional agenda items where appropriate.

2. Terms of Reference

2.1 At its meeting held on 27 March 2014, the County Council agreed the following terms of reference for the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee:- "To be responsible for those functions that sit within the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate which relate to Children". The functions within the remit of this Cabinet Committee are:

Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee

Commissioning

- Children's Health Commissioning
- Strategic Commissioning Children's Social Care
- Contracts and Procurement Children's Social Care
- Planning and Market Shaping Children's Social Care
- Commissioned Services Children's Social Care

Specialist Children's Services

- Initial Duty and Assessment
- Child Protection
- Children and young people's disability services, including short break residential services
- Children in Care (Children and Young People teams)
- Assessment and Intervention teams
- Family Support Teams
- Adolescent Teams (Specialist Services)
- Adoption and Fostering
- Asylum (Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC))
- Central Referral Unit/Out of Hours
- Family Group Conferencing Services
- Virtual School Kent

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Children's Social Services Improvement Plan

Corporate Parenting

Transition planning

Health – when the following relate to children

- Children's Health Commissioning
- Health Improvement
- Health Protection
- Public Health Intelligence and Research
- Public Health Commissioning and Performance
- 2.2 Further terms of reference can be found in the Constitution at Appendix 2, Part 4, paragraphs 21 to 23, and these should also inform the suggestions made by Members for appropriate matters for consideration.

3. Work Programme 2017

- 3.1 An agenda setting meeting was held on 11 January 2017, at which items for this meeting's agenda were agreed and future agenda items discussed. The Cabinet Committee is requested to consider and note the items within the proposed Work Programme, set out in the appendix to this report, and to suggest any additional topics that they wish to be considered for inclusion in the agenda of future meetings.
- 3.2 The schedule of commissioning activity which falls within the remit of this Cabinet Committee will be included in the Work Programme and considered at future agenda setting meetings. This will support more effective forward agenda planning and allow Members to have oversight of significant service delivery decisions in advance.

3.3 When selecting future items, the Cabinet Committee should give consideration to the contents of performance monitoring reports. Any 'for information' or briefing items will be sent to Members of the Cabinet Committee separately to the agenda, or separate Member briefings will be arranged, where appropriate.

4. Conclusion

4.1 It is vital for the Cabinet Committee process that the Committee takes ownership of its work programme to help the Cabinet Members to deliver informed and considered decisions. A regular report will be submitted to each meeting of the Cabinet Committee to give updates of requested topics and to seek suggestions of future items to be considered. This does not preclude Members making requests to the Chairman or the Democratic Services Officer between meetings for consideration.

5. Recommendation:

The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and agree its work programme for 2017.

6. Background Documents

None.

7. Contact details

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CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CABINET COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18

Agenda Section	Items
30 JUNE 2017	
B – Key or Significant Cabinet/Cabinet Member Decisions	
C – Other items for Comment/Rec to Leader/Cabinet Member	Action Plans arising from Ofsted inspection (replaces former CSIP update) to alternate meetings Business Plan for the Fostering Service – RAG rated is going to CPP on 1 June, poss to CSCH as well, tbc (note 8/3/17)
D – Performance Monitoring	 Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards Public Health Performance Dashboard Work Programme
E – for Information - Decisions taken between meetings	
22 SEPTEMBER 2017	
B – Key or Significant Cabinet/Cabinet Member Decisions	
C – Other items for Comment/Rec to Leader/Cabinet Member	Equality and Diversity Annual report Annual Complaints report
D – Performance Monitoring	 Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards Public Health Performance Dashboard Work Programme
E – for Information - Decisions taken between meetings	
1 DECEMBER 2017	
B – Key or Significant Cabinet/Cabinet Member Decisions	
C – Other items for Comment/Rec to Leader/Cabinet Member	Action Plans arising from Ofsted inspection (replaces former CSIP update) to alternate meetings
D – Performance Monitoring	 Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards Public Health Performance Dashboard Work Programme
E – for Information - Decisions taken	

between meetings	
between meetings	
24 JANUARY 2018	
B – Key or Significant Cabinet/Cabinet Member Decisions	
C – Other items for Comment/Rec to Leader/Cabinet Member	Budget Consultation and Draft Revenue and Capital Budgets
D – Performance Monitoring	 CAMHS monitoring (relative roles of CSCH and HOSC around governance and service monitoring will need to be clarified) Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards Public Health Performance Dashboard Work Programme
E – for Information - Decisions taken between meetings	
13 MARCH 2018	
B – Key or Significant Cabinet/Cabinet Member Decisions	Rates and charges 2018/19
C – Other items for Comment/Rec to Leader/Cabinet Member	 Draft Directorate Business Plan Strategic Risk Report Action Plans arising from Ofsted inspection (replaces former CSIP update) to alternate meetings
D – Performance Monitoring E – for Information -	 Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards Public Health Performance Dashboard Work Programme
Decisions taken between meetings	

month	section B/C/D/E	item
JUNE	C C D D D	 Action Plans arising from Ofsted inspection (replaces former CSIP update) to alternate meetings Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards Public Health Performance Dashboard Work Programme Equality and Diversity Annual report Annual Complaints report Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards Public Health Performance Dashboard Work Programme
DECEMBER	C D D	 Action Plans arising from Ofsted inspection (replaces former CSIP update) to alternate meetings Specialist Children's Services Performance Dashboards

D	•	Public Health Performance Dashboard
	•	Work Programme

