

NHS Ayrshire & Arran



Meeting:	Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board
Meeting date:	Monday 4 December 2023
Title:	South Ayrshire Children's Services Plan Annual Report 2022-2023
Responsible Director:	Tim Eltringham, Director, South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership
Report Author:	Mark Inglis, Head of Service, Children's Health Care and Justice

1. Purpose

This is presented to the Board for:

- Discussion

This paper relates to:

- Annual Operational Plan

This aligns to the following NHS Scotland quality ambition(s):

- Safe
- Effective
- Person Centred

2. Report summary

2.1 Situation

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 introduced new duties on a range of public bodies on planning and reporting. Part 3 of the Act requires that a Children's Services Plan be prepared jointly by local authorities and health boards. In line with this Act, the South Ayrshire Children's Services Plan was prepared for a three-year period from 1 April 2017. A refreshed Children's Services Plan was agreed in April 2020 for the three years until 2023.

An Annual Report is provided to give a progress update on the actions identified in the Plan and is provided as **Appendix 1**.

This paper provides assurance to members on ongoing progress in the Children's Services Plan 2020 - 2023 in Ayrshire and Arran. There is also a new Children Services Plan for 2023 - 2026 which will follow as a separate paper. The Board is asked to reflect upon the work of Children Services in South Ayrshire over the past year and take assurance from the ongoing work.

2.2 Background

Following widespread consultation in 2019/20, South Ayrshire's Children's Services Plan was published in April 2020 following agreement both by the Council and the Community Planning Partnership.

Partners agreed a shared vision underpinning the Plan:

"All children and young people in South Ayrshire deserve the chance to reach their full potential. We will support those who start at a disadvantage and remove barriers for those who are struggling; we will stretch the most able and protect and nurture all children, especially the most vulnerable. Our aim is to reduce inequalities in outcomes for children and young people, in particular, to close the gaps in outcomes related to deprivation so that all can achieve their potential".

This Shared Vision is supported by five high level priorities:

1. Outstanding Universal Provision

Ensure South Ayrshire's children get the best start in life, it is the best place to grow up and all children and young people are successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

2. Tackling Inequalities

Reduce the gap in outcomes between the most deprived and least deprived children and young people in South Ayrshire

3. Love and Support for our Care Experienced Young People and Young Carers

Ensure children and young people who are care experienced or young carers are loved and supported to improve their life experiences and life chances.

4. Good Physical and Mental Health and Wellbeing

Ensure young people and children are supported to achieve and maintain good physical and mental health and wellbeing.

5. Promoting Children's Rights

Work to ensure we are delivering on the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) as incorporated into Scots Law.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 places a duty on the local authority and relevant health board to publish an annual report on the extent to which children's services and related services have, in that period, been working towards improving local priorities for children and young people.

The Children's Services Plan Annual Report 2022-2023 was agreed by South Ayrshire Council Cabinet on 26 September 2023 and then on to the South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership on 26 October 2023.

2.3 Assessment

Coordination, management and monitoring of the Children's Services Plan is undertaken by a range of partners through the Children's Services Planning Partnership (CSPP). The 2022/23 Annual Report demonstrates progress against the five priorities. The CSPP met regularly throughout the time frame to review support for young people and where partnership work would be beneficial as we emerged from the Pandemic.

2.3.1 Quality/patient care

There are no implications on quality/patient care as the paper is reporting on progress of the Children's Services Plan 2020-2023.

2.3.2 Workforce

There are no workforce implications as the paper is reporting on progress of the Children's Services Plan 2020-2023.

2.3.3 Financial

There are no financial implications as the paper is reporting on progress of the Children's Services Plan 2020-2023.

2.3.4 Risk assessment/management

A risk assessment has not been carried out at this stage.

2.3.5 Equality and diversity, including health inequalities

A full Equality Impact assessment has not been carried out as this paper is reporting progress of the Children's Services Plan 2020-2023.

2.3.6 Other impacts

- Best value

- Vision and Leadership

The vision of the Children's Services Plan is:

All children and young people in South Ayrshire deserve the chance to reach their full potential. We will support those who start at a disadvantage and remove barriers for those who are struggling, we will stretch the most able and protect and nurture all children, especially the most vulnerable. Our aim is to reduce inequalities in outcomes for children and young people, in particular, to close the gaps in outcomes related to deprivation so that all can achieve their potential.

- Effective Partnership

Partnership working across Community Planning Partners is critical to make progress on the priorities identified in the Plan.

- Governance and accountability

The Plan is monitored and governed by the Children's Services Planning Partnership which, in turn, is accountable to the Community Planning Partnership. Partners also adhere to their own organisation's governance arrangements.

- Use of resources

The Children's Services Planning Group is comprised of members from a number of Community Planning Partners who use their own resources to deliver services in their own services and will, at times, deliver services in partnership.

- Performance management

Performance of the Plan is monitored through Pentana on a regular basis.

- Compliance with Corporate Objectives

The Plan supports the following Corporate Objectives:

- deliver transformational change in the provision of health and social care through dramatic improvement and use of innovative approaches.
- protect and improve the health and wellbeing of the population and reduce inequalities.
- create compassionate partnerships between patients, their families and those delivering health and care services which respect individual needs and values; and result in the people using our services having a positive experience of care to get the outcome they expect.
- attract, develop, support and retain skilled, committed, adaptable and healthy staff and ensure our workforce is affordable and sustainable; and deliver better value through efficient and effective use of all resources.

Partnership working within the content of the CPP is at the heart of the Plan. Supporting care experienced children and young carers is identified as a LOIP priority and is also a priority of the Children's Services Plan.

2.3.7 Communication, involvement, engagement and consultation

There has been no public consultation on the contents of this report. Public consultation took place regarding the priorities of South Ayrshire Children's Service Plan 2020 – 2023.

Consultation has taken place within the Children's Service Planning Partnership and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

2.3.8 Route to the meeting

This has been previously considered by the following groups as part of its development. The groups have either supported the content, or their feedback has informed the development of the content presented in this report.

- South Ayrshire Council Cabinet – 26 September 2023
- South Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership – 26 October 2023

2.4 Recommendation

The Board is asked to discuss and take assurance from the ongoing work.

3. List of appendices

The following appendices are included with this report:

- Appendix 1 – Link to [Children's Services Plan Annual Report 2022 - 2023.pdf](#)