

---

## **Integrated Children & Young People's Plan 2021-23**

**Report by Service Director Young People, Engagement and Inclusion**

---

### **Community Planning Strategic Board**

**10 June 2021**

---

#### **1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report presents the Integrated Children and Young People's Plan for 2021-23 for endorsement before submission to Scottish Government.**
- 1.2 Part 3 of The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 requires that each Local Authority, Local Health Board and Partners prepare a Children's Services Plan.
- 1.3 This requirement is the responsibility of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) who have delegated the task to the Children and Young People's Leadership Group (CYPLG).

#### **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 I recommend that the Community Planning Strategic Board endorse the Integrated Children and Young People's Plan for 2021-23 before submission to Scottish Government.**

### 3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 An integrated approach to service planning by partners is a requirement under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. This is delivered through the Scottish Borders Integrated Children and Young People's Plan, which is the responsibility of the Community Planning Partnership, delegated to the Children and Young People's Leadership Group.
- 3.2 The current plan for 2018-21 has been refreshed to cover the two year period of 2021-23 to align it with other Integrated Children's Services Plans in Scotland, and sets out the strategic direction for the planning and delivery of services for Children & Young People in the Scottish Borders.
- 3.3 The Plan expresses the commitment of the Children and Young People's Leadership Group to use its combined resources and to work in partnership to achieve the best possible outcomes for all our children and families. It ensures that all our services look to support children, young people and families at the earliest point possible to prevent adverse childhood and family experiences through an early intervention and prevention approach.
- 3.4 The new plan continues the current vision of:  
*'Working together we will ensure all children and young people have a sense of belonging, self-worth and self-confidence to achieve their unique potential'.*
- 3.5 The plan is based on four shared priorities which are designed to deliver meaningful and sustainable improvements to the lives of our children, young people and their families to ensure that everyone can reach their full potential:
  1. Keeping children and young people safe
  2. Improving health and well-being and reducing inequalities
  3. Targeting support to maximise life experiences and opportunities and ensuring inclusion
  4. Increasing participation and engagement

### 4 INTEGRATED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2021-2023

- 4.1 The Integrated Children and Young People's Plan in the Scottish Borders for 2021-2023 is set out in Appendix 1.
- 4.2 The Children and Young People's Leadership Group are committed to using their combined resources to create a Strategic Plan to deliver the best possible services they can. The plan is designed to support all children, young people and their families in the Scottish Borders and help them achieve good outcomes. The plan is flexible in the delivery of services and can support additional services and resources where required.
- 4.3 The plan aligns to the outcomes in the Scottish Government's **National Performance Framework** 2018 (and in particular the outcome relating to Children and Young People: 'We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential') and locally, to the Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership's (CPP) Key Priorities and Actions. Additionally the plan addresses other key requirements of:

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- Child Poverty (in conjunction with the Child Poverty Planning Group)
- Covid-19
- The Promise
- Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework

4.4 The Children and Young People’s Leadership Group ensures that leadership is provided to services through collaborative partnership working using a whole systems approach. The plan is designed to work with children, young people and their families to ensure that their needs are understood and listened to, and that our decision making is informed and influenced by such actions. To maintain stability, this plan will continue with the same strategic priorities as the previous plan (2018-21) as these are still relevant, whilst the themes and actions in the plan reflect new and emerging opportunities.

4.5 The strategic priorities maintain a strong focus on early intervention and prevention and the GIRFEC approach and UNCRC are also embedded within the plan. It is important that children’s rights are at the forefront of our work around the four priorities and an illustration of how the rights of children are connected to our priorities is shown on page 8 of the Plan in Appendix 1.

4.6 To further the priorities of the plan, eight themes have been identified which apply at all stages of childhood and recognise that children and young people have different needs, interests, views and experiences. The themes are considered deliverable within the lifespan of this plan and are outlined below and further details are shown on page 11 of the Plan in Appendix 1:

<b>Priority 1:</b> Keeping children and young people safe	<b>Theme A</b> – Addressing Child Poverty <b>Theme B</b> – Trauma Informed Practice
<b>Priority 2:</b> Improving health and well-being and reducing inequalities	<b>Theme A</b> – Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health <b>Theme B</b> – Trusted Adults
<b>Priority 3:</b> Targeting support to maximise life experiences and opportunities and ensuring inclusion	<b>Theme A</b> – Delivering The Promise <b>Theme B</b> – Supporting Transitions
<b>Priority 4:</b> Increasing participation and engagement	<b>Theme A</b> – Children and Young People’s Participation and Engagement Strategy <b>Theme B</b> – Communication and social research with children, young people and their families

4.7 The delivery of the plan requires an integrated approach to service planning by partners. The Children and Young People’s Leadership Group provides strategic leadership and direction to partners to enable this and also monitors progress against the plan. The governance of the Leadership Group (shown on page 13 of Appendix 1) illustrates the various

relationships it has with other relevant groups, all of which have an input to the delivery of the plan.

- 4.8 A range of targeted services are commissioned and delivered through statutory and third sector services. These complement universal services and provide additional specialist support to children, young people and their families. The range of commissioned services are outlined in the plan in Appendix 1.
- 4.9 In order to ensure that outcomes are being met within the four priorities and eight themes, and that actions are making a difference to our children, young people and their families, various mechanisms are used to monitor, evaluate and report on the plan. This is a key task of the Children and Young People's Leadership Group.

## **5 IMPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Financial**

There are no costs attached to any of the recommendations contained in this report.

### **5.2 Risk and Mitigations**

There are no specific risks to be addressed as a result of this report.

### **5.3 Integrated Impact Assessment**

An integrated impact assessment has been carried out in relation to this report. There are not specific implications.

### **5.4 Sustainable Development Goals**

In considering each of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Integrated Children and Young People's Plan may make a difference to the following:

- End poverty in all its forms – local action is being taken through a Local Child Poverty Report and action plan, as well as an Anti-Poverty Strategy. Child Poverty actions are included as a theme within this plan.
- End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition – local action is taken in various forms through the multi-agency approach to service delivery in this plan.
- Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages - local action is taken in various forms through the multi-agency approach to working with partners outlined in this plan.
- Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all – vulnerable and marginalised individuals are offered support and given opportunities in this plan.
- Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls – priority one of this plan is 'keeping children safe' and may help to tackle violence and harmful practices towards women and girls
- Reduce inequalities – local actions to tackle poverty and exclusion are set out in the Local Child Poverty Report and action plan and the Anti-Poverty Strategy. These actions are part of a specific theme in this plan.

### **5.5 Climate Change**

There is no impact on climate change as a result of this report.

**5.6 Rural Proofing**

There are no rural proofing actions required as a result of this report.

**5.7 Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

**5.8 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

There are no changes required to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals in this report.

**6 CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Executive Director (Finance & Regulatory), the Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Service Director HR & Communications, the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have been consulted and any comments received have been incorporated into the final report.

**Approved by**

**Lesley Munro**

**Service Director Young People, Engagement and Inclusion**

**Signature .....**

**Author**

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Janice Robertson	Strategic Planning & Policy Manager, 01835 824000

**Background Papers: n/a**

**Previous Minute Reference: Community Planning Strategic Board 22.11.18**

**Note** – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Janice Robertson can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

Contact us at Janice Robertson, Council HQ, Newtown St.Boswells, Melrose, TD6 OSA, 01835 824000, jrobertson@scotborders.gov.uk