



Clackmannanshire Children's Services Plan 2021-2024

Keeping our Promise

Annual Report 2021/2022

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Introduction

Welcome to Clackmannanshire's Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024 Annual Report, *Keeping our Promise*. This report sets out how Clackmannanshire Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership has worked collectively together during 2021/22 to implement agreed activities to make a meaningful and positive difference to improving the lives of children, young people and families in Clackmannanshire, keeping them safe and promoting their health and wellbeing. It contains examples of our key achievements focussed around our shared priority outcomes:

Children and young people are safe from harm

Children and young people have the best possible life experience and opportunities

Children and young people understand their rights and are engaged and involved in decision making

Children, young people and families can access the right services based on their needs

The health and wellbeing of children and young people is improved and inequalities are reduced

Appendix A sets out the outcome measures we are using to track our performance that helps us to know where we are making a positive difference, where we are making the greatest impact and where we need to focus our collective action to improve better outcomes. The pandemic has had an impact on the availability and quality of data. We have used the timeframe of 2021/22 for our data however where this has not been possible the most recent available data has been used.

Appendix B provides an update on our progress against actions agreed in our Children and Young People's Plan 2021-2024.

The impact of Covid-19 pandemic on our children and families, our workforce and services has been incredibly difficult and the significant pressures, challenges and direct effects and harms are still being felt as we continue in our response to, and recovery from the pandemic. This is against a backdrop of high need in our communities which continues to be challenging, with a higher than average care experienced population, higher levels of domestic abuse, rising poverty rates amongst our children and higher levels of deprivation currently being experienced within our communities. The growing cost-of-living crisis only risks making the current challenging context and complexity of need for families and communities worse.

As a community planning partnership we recognise more than ever the importance of maintaining a relentless focus to support recovery, reduce inequalities and improve better outcomes for our children, young people, families and the communities we serve through working together collaboratively and making the best use of our collective resources. Getting it right for every child, young person and family, our focus on holistic whole family support in keeping families together and Keeping our Promise to our care experienced children and young people has never been more important.

As Chair of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, I want to express my sincere thanks to all the staff across the community planning partnership who continue to make a positive difference to children and young people's lives. I also want to pay tribute to our children, young people, their families and carers for their resilience. The pandemic has impacted on relationships, mental health and wellbeing and placed many families under significant pressure. Through our Children's Services Plan activities, and our focussed activities on prevention and early intervention, we will continue to mitigate the potential for widening health and social inequities for children and families in Clackmannanshire.

Sharon Robertson, Chair, Clackmannanshire Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

Our Approach *Keeping our Promise*



Clackmannanshire Profile: Children and Young People

- *Across Clackmannanshire, there were 6731 pupils in our schools (3,895 primary school pupils, 2,758 secondary school pupils and 78 pupils who attend our Special Schools), an increase of 1.6% over the last 5 years.*
- *31.8% of all pupils in Clackmannanshire establishments live in our most deprived areas (SIMD Q1); 14.6% live in our least deprived areas (SIMD Q5); compared nationally to 22.4% and 19.3% respectively.*
- *In 2020/21, the rate assessed and/or declared as having a disability per 1,000 pupils was 13.7, much lower than the Scottish rate of 27.1. Across our schools, 29.6% of our primary school pupils have Additional Support Needs (ASN), which is slightly higher than the Scottish average of 27.7%. 37.6% of our secondary school pupils have ASN, lower than the Scottish average of 38.2%.*
- *63.7% of primary school pupils and 18.7% of secondary school pupils are registered for Free School Meals; an increase 23% since 2017/18 for primary school pupils and 15% for secondary school pupils (reflects changes in living costs). Scottish average 64.9% for primary & 17.7% for secondary).*
- *23.4% of children are living in poverty in Clackmannanshire, higher than the Scottish average of 20.4%, fourth highest in Scotland.*
- *Across Scotland, the teenage pregnancy rate (under 20yrs) is at its lowest level since reporting began in 1994. The rate fell from 30 per 1,000 women in 2018 to 23.9 per 1,000 in 2020/21. Despite a previous falling trend, the rate of teenage pregnancies increased from 34.9 to 46.8 per 1000 women – this figure has reduced to 32.8 per 1000 women in 2020/21.*
- *There is a higher than average rate of suicide in young people (11-25 year olds) – 16.3 per 100,000 population, while the Scottish rate is 10.8 per 100,000 population.*
- *Clackmannanshire has higher than average rates of domestic abuse – 151 per 10,000 population (with a Scottish rate of 115 per 10,000 population). The rate of domestic abuse remains the third highest in Scotland.*
- *In 2020/21, 161 children were referred to the Children's Reporter, a third less than the year before. The highest proportion of referrals came from the Police. The highest referral is in relation to parental care/neglect, which accounts for 50% of all referrals in 2020/21; followed by Schedule 1 offences (22%), committed an offence (16%) and experienced domestic abuse (8%).*
- *The total number of care experienced children and young people across Clackmannanshire as of 31st July 2021 was 270; 2.7% of the 0 to 17 year population; higher than the previous year at 2.5% and higher than the Scottish average of 1.3%.*

- *Of those care experienced children and young people “starting to be looked after during 1 August 2020 to 31 July 2021”, 21% were children aged under 5 years.*
- *The largest proportion of care experienced children and young people continue to be looked after by friends/relatives, almost half at 46%; this is higher than the Scottish average which is 33%.*
- *Clackmannanshire has a much higher use of external foster care provision for care experienced children and young people at 23% compared to the Scottish average of 10%.*
- *During 2021, 5% of care experienced children in Clackmannanshire had 3 or more placements and similar to the Scotland average of 4%.*
- *The number of children and young persons on the Child Protection Register as at 31 March 2022 equated to 19 children (rate of 2.1 per 1,000 of the 0-15 population). This is a significant decrease of 57% from 31 March 2021 where there were 44 children on the register (rate of 4.9 per 1,000 of the 0-15 population) compared to the Scottish average rate of 2.3 per 1000 population). In Clackmannanshire, neglect and domestic abuse were the highest registered concerns for children on the register for both 2021 and 2022.*

Key Achievements

Outlined below is a summary of our collective work and collaborative efforts we are undertaking as a partnership to improve the wellbeing, opportunities and life chances for children, young people and families in Clackmannanshire through the delivery of our Children's Services Plan. In particular, we highlight our effective approaches and activities to support prevention and early intervention and range of universal, targeted and specialist services and initiatives.

Children and young people in Clackmannanshire are Safe from Harm

Protecting our most vulnerable children, young people, and families is a key partnership priority. During 2021/22 we developed and implemented a new e-IRD (Initial referral discussion) process across Forth Valley. Appropriate staff across Social Work/Police/NHS/Education are all trained in using the system. The live/dynamic system is highly effective in enabling staff to view IRD information in real time, share information timeously and make joint decisions in response to child protection concerns that ensures the right support at the right time. A robust approach to quality assurance of the IRD process is through the e-IRD steering group and dip sampling undertaken to quality assure recording of information and decisions taken. We are progressing work on implementing the new Scottish Child Interview Model (SCIM) for joint investigative interviews with our Forth Valley partners that will ensure children and their families receive the practical and emotional support they require to recover.

Clackmannanshire Justices and Child Care Services are working collaboratively in the delivery of a pilot non court mandated Caledonian Domestic Abuse Programme. This pilot has now entered its second year with additional funding again being granted by the Scottish Government to allow a dedicated Women's Worker to be employed to support survivors of Domestic Abuse as part of the Caledonian systems approach. Clackmannanshire Council are being supported in the delivery of this system by SACRO. The aim of this programme is to provide earlier intervention and support at an earlier stage. It is taken from the court mandated accredited programme and provides clear guidance in terms of assessment and intervention with perpetrators and survivors. In conjunction with Criminal Justice Services, spaces for perpetrators to attend the group work element of the programme have been secured as well as training opportunities, support and guidance for staff.

Clackmannanshire Council continue to deliver Safe & Together Training; our approach to tackling domestic abuse and improving the support given to women and children, as well as to perpetrators of domestic abuse. The model provides staff with a perpetrator focus approach, developing awareness and understanding of areas such as coercive control whilst also highlighting multiple pathways to harm. This provides a recognised approach to assessment and delivery of service which holds the perpetrator accountable for actions. This approach is heavily embedded within the Caledonian System and provides staff with the necessary tool kit and shared language to provide a whole systems approach. This training is also provided to partner agencies and stakeholders. Our public protection learning and development advisor facilitates Safe & Together briefings to a multi-agency audience as part of the multi-agency public protection training agenda. The focus of the briefings is to make practitioners aware of the principles and components of Safe & Together to help in the systems change and the culture shift to domestic abuse. A four day Safe & Together Core practice training was delivered in December 2021 to a multi- agency audience including child care staff. Routine Enquiry is also undertaken in health settings.

Digital wellbeing within schools was identified as a focus across all council areas within the Forth Valley and West Lothian Regional Improvement Collaborative (RIC) which includes Clackmannanshire. This led to the Central E-Safety Partnership being re-established and rebranded as the Forth Valley West Lothian RIC E-Safety Partnership to help celebrate great uses of the internet and mobile technology and promote its safe use. The Partnership has established a website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/fwvwrlic/hwb/wize-digital-wellbeing/> and promoted Safer Internet Day (8th February 2022) the theme of which was “All fun and Games? Exploring respect and relationships online.”

Time 4 Us works across Forth Valley providing support to children and families who have been impacted by substance use. The service aims to increase parenting capacity and enhance children’s self-esteem, confidence and resilience whilst supporting families to make positive choices. The service works in partnership with children, families and professionals ensuring the best outcomes are achieved together. The Time 4 Us service receives referrals from social services, education, addiction services, health, and self-referrals, and has a proven track record of enhancing children and young people’s emotional and mental wellbeing and reducing risk and harm in relation to substances. Over the past year Time 4 Us seen an increase in referrals by 253% as a result of the complexity of situations for families escalating, all impacted by COVID and now the cost-of-living crisis. The average length of time supporting children and families is 35 weeks.

Work has continued at pace to develop evidence based trauma informed services for children and young people at risk of suicide. These include the development of digital crisis intervention services; participation in a multi-agency suicide prevention forum; and targeted communication and marketing activities. These areas of work sit under wider work streams within the **Mental Health and Wellbeing in Clacks Transformation Project**. This project aims to develop a whole-systems approach to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families within Clackmannanshire, to better promote prevention and early intervention within local communities. The project includes work on referral pathways, new services for specific age groups of children and young people and spaces/places to deliver support, through to staff health and wellbeing and workforce development.

Our **Digital Crisis Intervention Service** has been in operation since 1st April 2021. The service is offered via *Shout*, the UK’s first text-based, crisis intervention service that is available 24/7. We entered into a ‘keyword partnership’ with Shout to provide a bespoke point of access for Clackmannanshire residents (the first local authority in Scotland to do so) – by texting ‘Clacks’ to 85258. As predicted by *Shout*, our usage figures have taken time to build over the past year, but the impact of our extensive communication and marketing activities are beginning to bear fruit with more consistent usage of the service month on month. 26% of texters since April 2022 have used the service more than once, indicating that they found the service a useful source of support. The service has been used throughout all hours of the day, but usage figures mirror those of all of our digital services to indicate that out of hours services are necessary for our population.



Suicide is regularly the most common reason for individuals accessing *Shout*, highlighting the need for a service which can deal with this level of risk. However, no texters have yet required an active rescue by the emergency services, indicating that the risk assessment and de-escalation processes embedded within the service may be evidencing a reduction in harm. Suicide figures for Clackmannanshire fell in 2021, with no suicides taking place in anyone under the age of 43. So far in 2022 the youngest suspected suicide is for an individual aged 34. Work is ongoing to understand the reasons for this fall and what role the new services could be playing in suicide prevention.

A new Children and Young People's Suicide Prevention sub-group is in the process of being established which will feed in to the wider Suicide Prevention Group operating across Stirling and Clackmannanshire.

We continue to pursue a persistent and relentless communication strategy in relation to all of our mental health work, including suicide prevention. We have undertaken a number of creative approaches to sharing the information about our Digital Crisis Intervention Service to raise awareness of the service and confidence in Clackmannanshire residents in trusting the service. This includes ongoing social media campaigns themed around monthly content e.g. Alone in August (focusing on loneliness and isolation), Stay Safe in September (focusing on Self-Harm and Suicide), OCD in October on Twitter and Instagram. Printed media including posters, banners, stickers and badges continue to be displayed in prominent sites around Clackmannanshire including in secondary school hub areas, railings on busy roundabouts, on council vehicles and in local shops. Other activities include networking with colleagues across the authority in a variety of organisations including sports clubs, articles in local press and magazines such as 'Love Local' (delivered to every household in Clackmannanshire) as well as radio news coverage. An in-person event is planned to take place in Alloa Town Hall in November 2022 for children and young people, their families and professionals to drop in and learn more about the digital and face-to-face services that have been launched, including our crisis service.

We have developed a series of three Clacks Academy modules based around the *Ask, Tell, Save A Life* materials on suicide awareness and reduction from NHS Education for Scotland (NES) materials. We have listened to feedback from a variety of sources regarding the content that we share being less appealing to a male audience and have undertaken a scoping discussion to explore whether there are specific actions we need to take to target the male population of Clackmannanshire. Our November social media content will focus on men's mental health to tie in with *Movember*.

Children and young people in Clackmannanshire have the best possible life experiences and opportunities

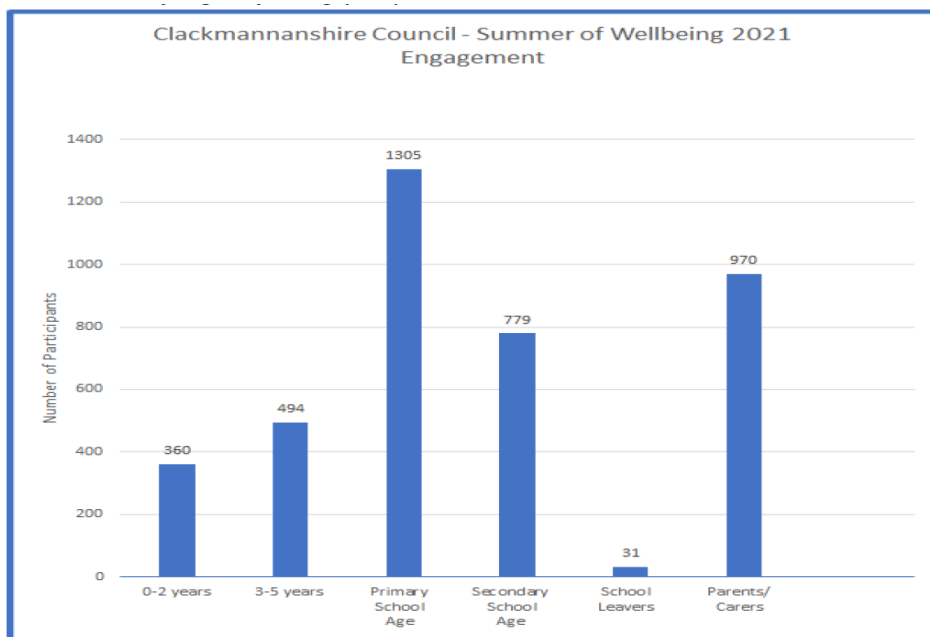
Since the re-introduction of free extra curricular Active Schools Clubs in August 2021 pupils from Primary 1 to Secondary 6 have had the opportunity to access weekly sport and physical activity sessions in their own schools. This additional activity is fully inclusive ensuring that children can get active, improve their skills and benefit from a safe, social setting on a weekly basis which was missing on this level during COVID. During this period 50% of the primary school roll attended sessions. This programme continues to be expanded and developed across all schools.

An annual programme of festivals and competitions has been fully re-introduced and as a legacy from the delivery model introduced during COVID restrictions events range from in-school to cluster to Council wide events. This variety of methodologies has allowed us to increase the reach of the events to every Primary 1 to Primary 7 pupil ensuring that children can experience a festival style sport, learning about being part of a team, building resilience and what it means to win or lose. During 2021/22 100% of primary aged pupils attended at least one event.

Sports Development introduced a new Learn to Swim programme on the back of survey results and this programme now enables 70 children a week to learn the important life skill of swimming. This programme continues weekly and more time is being sought to offer the programme more widely. In addition twice weekly water confidence sessions are offered to children and young people with additional support needs at Alloa Academy and over 50 attendees have benefitted from this 1-1 provision.

During Easter and Summer 2022 holiday camps and activities were again offered to children and young people across a range of sports. Working with Education colleagues a targeted programme of support was offered free to families to ensure that young people had access to safe environments during these holiday periods whilst socialising and getting active. 100% of families rated their enjoyment of the activities as excellent and 100% of their children enjoyed the experience.

Clackmannanshire's 'Summer of Wellbeing' Programme (June - September 2021) was part of the Scottish Government's 'Summer of Play' initiative, allocating £162,000 to Clackmannanshire Council to work in partnership with local community groups, to deliver enhanced summer holiday provision. In addition, £27,000 was provided to Active Schools from Sport Scotland to develop a Sport and Physical Activity programme. The aim of these programmes was to improve the wellbeing of children and young people and families across Clackmannanshire, particularly those adversely affected by the impacts of the COVID pandemic. Clackmannanshire Summer of Wellbeing 2021 offered free or low-cost access to a wide range of activities for children and young people within their communities, with £10,000 of funding distributed across 20 clubs/groups and organisations to enhance, support and subsidise summer activity. Funding applications ranged from paying for places, buying equipment, training coaches amongst others. Payments were given directly to a small group of families working with Community Learning Development, and all kinship carers and families of children who attend ASN specialist provisions.



"A fantastic programme was on offer to children in Clackmannanshire. Resources were well used and we would definitely sign up in any future programme offered" - Parent

Summer 2021 Stats

199 participants over all 8 programmes. Of these pupils 30 were identified vulnerable young people supported to attend

54 Sports Development Staff, Coaches, Sports Leaders, Volunteers and Community Club Coaches delivered the programme.

3960 hours of participant activity

533 hours of activity from targeted vulnerable young people

2460 hours of delivery from staff

Over 20 sports over 16 programmes on offer

Evaluation Data

When asked to rate from 1 = lowest and 5 = highest

83% rated the quality of activity as 5/5

87% rated the coaches as 5/5

86% rated their child's enjoyment as 5/5

No responses rated any of the aspect of the programme as lower than 3/5

The Summer of Wellbeing programmes were facilitated by 12 council education services, 17 community based partners and 16 local sports clubs, some of which are new partnerships. Activities were offered as universal and targeted and included art, music and craft, over 20 sports, camp craft, therapeutic sessions, visits, day trips and all included a free lunch. The programmes reached a total of 3168 children and young people and 970 parents/carers. Based on enrolment data for 21/22, this equates to participation of approximately 50% of 3 to 5 year olds, 36% of primary aged children and 29% of secondary aged young people.

Raising attainment in literacy and numeracy and closing the poverty related attainment gap continues to be an area of relentless focus and a key priority for all of our school establishments. In collaboration with our attainment advisor Local Authority Pupil Equity Fund Guidance was developed to support establishments to effectively plan targeted interventions. 100% of establishments report that their improvement planning clearly outlines how Attainment Scotland Funding is used to provide targeted interventions in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing to close the poverty related attainment gap.

A range of bespoke interventions to support closing the poverty related attainment gap and ensuring equity and excellence across the programme have resulted in:

- An increase in the percentage of learners living in quintile 1 achieving Literacy (P1, 4 and 7 combined)
- An increase in the percentage of learners living in quintile 1 achieving Numeracy (P1, 4 and 7 combined)
- A narrowing of the Literacy (P1, 4 and 7 combined) attainment gap between learners living in quintile 1 and quintile 5
- A narrowing of the Numeracy (P1, 4 and 7 combined) attainment gap between learners living in quintile 1 and quintile 5.

In 2021 Clackmannanshire Council agreed a programme to roll out digital devices for all school pupils including all care experienced children and care leavers. The programme aims to provide all pupils with a digital device to support their learning whilst ensuring equity of digital access for all pupils. Programme delivery is in its second year with over 1900 Chromebooks and 130 iPads distributed to all secondary cohorts and School Support Service. All EASN pupils at Lochies, Alva Primary ASD, Alloa Academy EASN pupils received an iPad.

In the 2020-21 academic years, 122 young people were supported by the **MCR programme** in Secondary Schools across Clackmannanshire. The tables below show the cohort characteristics and support type.

Group 1 (S1-S6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care experienced or previously care-experienced 	81
Group 2 (S1-S6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cusp of social care Informal kinship care Asylum seekers Experience of bereavement or serious illness Living with relative with addiction challenges Young carer Young people with experience of relatives being in prison 	41

Number of young people in each year group

S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	Total
32	26	34	19	9	2	122

Support type

Group Work Young people participating in weekly group work during the academic year. Group work focuses on building self-esteem and confidence, strengths and interests, teamwork, problem solving and employability skills.	58
Mentored Young people matched and meeting with their mentor on a weekly basis including those who left school during 20/21	52
PC supported Young people provided with additional, individual support from the PC. This is on a frequent and regular basis; 45 minutes or more each week. Often, PCs are asked to coach and mentor young people to support their wellbeing or attendance and prepare them to have a volunteer mentor in the future.	4
Young people engaging with PC towards Mentoring	8

Voices from Clackmannanshire schools

"It's just been a really positive experience. It's really easy, you're really supported by all the staff at MCR Pathways and you've got lots of resources. It keeps you really present with young people as well."

Francis* - Mentor, Lornshill Academy

"I was delighted to meet my mentee for the first time. We have already formed a fantastic relationship. I hope to guide and support her through some of the most important years of her life, pass on any sound knowledge and experience that may help her along the way as she moves on to her next stage in life and we become friends forever. I would encourage anyone to sign up to become a mentor and be part of Young Clackmannanshire Talent - you will not regret it!"

Helen* - Mentor, Alloa Academy

"I've really enjoyed having the opportunity to get to know a young person and hopefully made a positive difference to their life."

Ailie* - Mentor, Alva Academy

"My favourite thing about having a mentor is that they can give ideas of things I might like to do or try or take part in. They also have some similar interests to me that we can chat about."

Hannah* - Young Person, Alva Academy

"I feel a lot more confident with what I want to do when I leave school and the options available to me."

Joanne* - Young Person, Lornshill Academy

"That one-to-one meeting they have, the mentors maybe only speak to them for an hour, but we get the benefit on the other side and see the excitement of our young people as they wait to meet their mentors. We see the benefit it has once the mentor leaves, the difference just being able to talk openly and honestly about where they're at can make. We see that benefit in the classroom. That one hour the mentor gives up is absolutely vital. Sometimes they don't see it, but it's absolutely crucial now. It's a main part of our school and something we definitely want to continue to grow and utilise in the school."

Phil Arnold - Depute Head Teacher, Lornshill Academy

"I always look forward to catching up with my wee pal and I'm really excited to see her smiley face every week."

Justin* - Mentor, Lornshill Academy

Improving the mental and emotional wellbeing of children and young people continues to be one of our highest priorities. **Driving Change in Mental Health for Children, Young People and Families** is a programme about doing things differently to improve mental health and wellbeing for children, young people and families in Clackmannanshire and delivers across nine key work streams.



A continuum of digital and face-to-face supports has been developed to support mental health and wellbeing for children, young people and their families. This continuum offers a range of supports across different age groups, some of which offer 24/7 availability, delivered either virtually or face-to-face. This enables children, young people and their families to create packages of support that most suit their needs. Four new digital services have been introduced - *Mind Moose*, *Kooth*, *Togetherall* and *Shout* - covering the entire age range from 5-26 years (providing support for both mild/moderate and crisis level difficulties) and a directory of mental health supports created. To date, the digital services have been accessed by just over 600 individuals (around 5% of our target population - our digital services have usage aims of between 5 and 10%). Although time of use within the day fluctuates, all of our open-access services show a high level of use out of normal working hours, indicating the importance of providing services around the clock. The reported impact varies by service and is dependent on users engaging with optional evaluation activity, but evaluations indicate that users are making progress towards self-identified goals, have found the support they received helpful, and would recommend the service to others/use the service again.

- **Mind Moose:** 72% of Clackmannanshire primary schools using the Mind Moose programme
- 187 children and young people registered for Kooth, which is approximately 6% of the total 10-18 year olds
- 37.7% of logins to Kooth take place out of hours; highlighting the continuing need for services that operate outside normal working hours
- **Text Clacks:** 60 conversations taking place across the first year
- 17% of “texters” have used the service more than once indicates a need for “out of hours” services are needed
- Just under 30% of conversations mentioned Suicide [risk assessment protocols instigated]

Two new face-to-face services have also been introduced in the past year - **Creative Therapeutic Interventions for Children (CTIfC)** and **Counselling in Schools (CiSS)**. A third face-to-face service - the **Throughcare and Aftercare Wellbeing Worker Service** - is about to be introduced. Just over 550 children and young people have been referred to our two face-to-face services with statistically significant improvements in wellbeing scores for those accessing Counselling in Schools and improvements in wellbeing for those accessing Creative Therapeutic Interventions for Children that are heading towards statistical significance. This continuum of support will continue to be further developed and adapted based on feedback and any gaps in need identified by our communities.

Our Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) Forum, which meets bi-weekly, functions as a single point of access to allocate mental health and wellbeing supports and services. Thirty-five young people have been brought to the Forum since it started in October 2021 with key sources of support being *Creative Therapeutic Interventions for Children* and *Counselling in Schools*. Packages of support have been put in place for these children and young people and early signs of improvement in their wellbeing are being evidenced through CiSS and CTIfC evaluations.

The Youth Council secured funding through the Mental Health Transformation Programme for the Youth Bank, where young people make applications on behalf of a group to develop health and wellbeing activities. Eleven applications were made and 8 were successful.

The health and wellbeing of children and young people is improved and inequalities are reduced

The NHS Forth Valley **Family Nurse Partnership (FNP)** helps first-time parents aged 19 and under give their babies a healthier start to life and seeks to improve the rate of young mothers accessing ante natal care and post natal maternity services. The service provides support to teenage mothers to support them to engage with services early and throughout their pregnancy. The programme is research based that aims to ensure best outcomes for families through delivery of evidence based intense home visiting programme.

- 73.3% of eligible teenage parents from Clackmannanshire enrolled with the Family Nurse Partnership programme in 2021/22
- 80% of young mothers received the recommended optimum programme delivery during pregnancy.
- 2021 also saw a 58% reduction in teenage pregnancy across Clackmannanshire from 2020.

A new Baby Financial Health Service was established as a partnership between NHS Forth Valley (NHSFV) and Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). The service provides direct access for families referred from health visitors. In 2021/22 the service was fully funded by NHSFV April to September. During this period, CAB received 21 referrals which resulted in £27,120 financial gain for the clients who subsequently engaged. 85% of advice focused on benefits, 9% on housing and 3% on tax and utilities & communications, respectively. All families are offered referral to Income Maximisation Project (CAB) at or by 6-8 week review and at other contacts up to and including 13-15 months. In addition families transferring into area (particularly immigrant families) are offered referral.

During 2021 Health Visiting Service remained on a reduced Universal Pathway as dictated by COVID guidance from Scottish Government. Currently there are 2600 children on Health Visiting caseloads across Clackmannanshire. 20% of these children have been assessed as having additional or unmet health needs. All children assessed as having additional or unmet needs have been and continue to be offered the full Universal Pathway suite of visits as a minimum (11 in total, pre-birth to preschool) since the start of the pandemic, throughout 2021 and continue to be the case. Children assessed as having no unmet needs have been offered a reduced number of Universal Pathway contacts, typically 7 contacts across the 0-pre-school age span in accordance with SG and NHSFV COVID guidance for Health Visitors. Health Visitors deliver the full Universal Pathway to any child in kinship care as a minimum. There has also been a reintroduction of face to face groups for parents of children aged under 1 years and 2-3 year olds, with a Public Health focus delivered by HV Support staff.

Work continues through the **Clacks Good Food Partnership** programme to review options for dignified food provision including holiday hunger programmes, promotion of Best Start Grants and community based kitchens. Delivery of REHIS training has continued, with support to some Primary schools for the Food, Families, Futures programme. Ongoing support to community food groups and gardens was provided by the Clacks Good Food partnership during the pandemic. Cooking and growing skills training has been delivered to young people, families and also to volunteers supporting their communities. This has helped build capacity in communities and bolster their resilience though improved access to nutritious food. 50 participants,

including 20 young people, showed increased confidence in preparing nutritious meals for themselves and others. Around 20% of participants are passing skills on to families they work with, or hosting community meals for larger groups of families – creating a significant multiplier effect regarding the level of increase in access to nutritious meals. Programmes have been delivered by founding partner of Clacks Good Food, NHS Forth Valley Nutrition's Community Development teams, contributing to its vision of making healthy food accessible and affordable for all. There is potential to deliver further food programmes as part of a wider wrap-around afterschool care pilot in 6 venues across South and East Alloa over Winter 2022/23.

Thrive to Keep well Programme in Clackmannanshire is a 16 week programme supporting parents in deprived areas to improve their mental health & well being and life circumstances a first step back into social connections and learning as part of stage 1 and pre-engagement into employability skills pipeline. The Prepare to THRIVE pilot began in August 2021 aimed to support participants to become comfortable being in groups after 18 months of COVID-19 restrictions and the development of a short programme to support future participants to gain confidence to attend the THRIVE to Keep Well Programme. Nine participants completed the programme with high attendance and all reported an improvement in wellbeing. Feedback suggested feeling more confident going out after Covid-19 and being with others as well as feeling calmer and life being a bit easier. In February 2022, 6 of these participants moved on to the THRIVE to Keep Well programme, with 5 completing it in June 2022. The participants recorded improved wellbeing, both mental and physical, and increased confidence to move on and engage with further community projects, including volunteering and further learning opportunities.

Since January 2022 **Pre Employability in Clackmannanshire** (PEC) has been operational with funding support from the Community Renewable Fund UK Fund. PEC provides a range of supports to help those who are unemployed and economically inactive to make progress towards stable employment. The programme seeks to help participants take steps to better opportunities and health through counselling, literacy, numeracy or digital support, confidence-building, travel support, a wide range of training options and access work placements locally. PEC is delivered by a consortium of third sector organisations, led by CTSi, including: CERT (the project managers), ApexScotland, Forth Valley College, Resilience Learning Partnership (providers of training), Dial a Journey (operators of pilot College Bus), Ceteris (deliverer of an enterprise programme), Japanese Garden and All Cleaned Up (providers of work placements), Recovery Scotland (provider of addiction support). To support the consortium others have been engaged to deliver specialist supports including Scottish Autism, Clacks CAB, a CLD practitioner to deliver literacy and a range of private sector training providers. In its first 3 months of operation to end March 22 it has supported 124 participants, against a target of 158. By the end of June this had increased to 250 participants. Around 40% of participants are economically inactive and the biggest barriers identified by participants are confidence/self esteem (45%) and mental health (38%).

Reducing the impact of poverty on children and families continues to be one of the highest priorities for Clackmannanshire Community Partners. Since 2018 the Clackmannanshire Alliance has supported annually a range of activities and events during **Challenge Poverty Week** to raise local awareness of the challenges that poverty brings but also to showcase local initiatives making a difference to people's lives in Clackmannanshire. In 2021 a week long programme of events, training and open days were held from the 4th-11th October in support of the national Challenge Poverty Week campaign. Events included virtual workshops, virtual and face to face awareness and training sessions, practical food events and a range of schools based activities. Additionally, we hosted a visit from the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, who was welcomed to Alloa Academy to hear from children, young people and families about how schools, supported by Clackmannanshire's Family Wellbeing Partnership, are supporting our families. A review and evaluation was undertaken following the programme in 2021 which informed how partners will support Challenge Poverty Week in 2022.

To support people in the community experiencing challenges with the changes to universal credit and other demands, Alloa Academy trialled an advice session within the school during September/October 2021. Staff from Clackmannanshire Council and the Citizens Advice Bureau were on hand to give

advice to the families on: benefits, school uniform support, Free School Meal Entitlement, study support / extra curricular Information, clothes/food bank information. Staff were available to help families complete paperwork, online forms and use the printing facilities. This was attended by 28 families, over two sessions.

As at April 2022, 137 eligible 2s received 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC). The estimated population of total 2 year olds for session 2021/22 was 506. The estimate of that population being eligible 2s in Clackmannanshire is 147. Based on these estimates we reached 93% of our eligible 2s population. A discretionary policy has been developed to allow placement's for children who do not meet the eligible 2's criteria. These children are able to be offered a couple of sessions a week to provide support to their families.

Clackmannanshire Family Wellbeing Partnership (FWP) seeks to improve the wellbeing and capabilities of families and young people in Clackmannanshire, working with our families to support what matters to them. Over the last year, the FWP has worked alongside young people, families and staff by giving parents and local stakeholders the chance to share and develop ideas on how to improve the delivery of vital services for local families. Those ideas were developed through a series of dedicated workshops hosted by The Lens Perspective, which provides a practical, structured, action-orientated approach to community development.

Multiple ideas have emerged from the Clax1400 families and Clackmannanshire staff and community members, who have participated in the Columba 1400 Value Based Leadership (VBL) experience. To explore these ideas and catapult these into action, the FWP was supported by The Lens Perspective to help the local people of Clackmannanshire realise their ideas with £50,000 funding from Clackmannanshire Council.

The Bowmar Borrowers was led by three parents and directly evolved from the Summer of Wellbeing 2021 success. The Bowmar Borrowers simply sought to extend the opportunity they had last year to develop the capabilities of other families affected by poverty. They proposed to loan out free access to items that they know families cannot afford; for example, gardening equipment, camping equipment, power tools, birthday party accessories. The bid also sought to help others develop the capabilities to use these tools. The bid was accepted, and The Bowmar Borrowers gained £4,500 from Clackmannanshire Council to test this project before scaling up and scaling out.

A further Family Wellbeing Partnership Investment Day is planned with The LENS for social entrepreneurs within the Clackmannanshire community to seek investment for their ideas and will be supported by an initial seed fund of £75,000 from Clackmannanshire Council.

Over the summer of 2022 the Family Wellbeing Partnership provided summer childcare, activities and food for priority families within Clackmannanshire through our summer hubs and partners. A flavour of these activities can be evidenced here: <https://padlet.com/vcully/ny0fmapeuwtx82zd>

- Our summer food and childcare programme reached 2328 children and young people.
- Based on enrolment data, this equates to 32% of 5 to 8 year olds, 46% of 9 to 11 year olds and 53% of 12 to 14 year olds.
- Cash First/Families First – families have taken ownership of funding for childcare and summer of wellbeing. For example £30,000 of investment by Clackmannanshire Council was allocated to kinship carers, families of children with additional supports needs and families with C1400 leadership experience.

The Family Wellbeing Partnership is continuing to focus on developing further opportunities to support families and tackle inequalities through early intervention activities, flexible childcare and routes into employment. The FWP has successfully secured £428,000 in Scottish Government funding to test out a model of school age childcare for families. The funding will improve the flexibility, affordability and accessibility of childcare and activities provision. Low income families will be helped with the cost of childcare for primary school aged children and families in most need will pay nothing.

PAMIS (Promoting a More Inclusive Society) is working in partnership with Clackmannanshire Council Family Wellbeing Partnership and parents, enabling our young children who live with severe complex health and disabilities to access out of school activity events. Two successful events have been undertaken and planning is underway for monthly future events.

Clax P&C, parents/carers led network for families of children with Additional Support Needs (ASN) was established to create a space for parents and carers of children and young people with additional support needs to connect with and support each other. Offering peer support from experienced parents, structured post diagnostic support groups and workshops with allied professionals, Clax P&C has created a community of support for parents and carers who often feel isolated. Coffee and chat mornings hosted by the ASN team run weekly. Attendees come from across Clackmannanshire but mostly the Alloa area. Some families were signposted to a third sector organisation within Alloa and have reported a positive impact for them and their children. Feedback from attendees has confirmed there is a need for support and is beginning to identify and respond to what parents and carers want this to look like. Workshop requests include general advice and strategies from professionals, understanding and managing sensory related behaviours, understanding aggressive behaviour and teen specific strategies.

Increased participation and confidence of parents and carers is supporting and encouraging active and meaningful engagement in their child's learning, health and wellbeing and life at school through family learning opportunities. For example, a Dad-Friendly school audit was carried out as a pilot with Banchory Primary School and staff from the school and four other settings attended Fathers Network Scotland workshop on "Understanding Dads" in January 2022. More schools have been invited to carry out the Dad Friendly School Audit during 2022. An audit was also carried out in early September to establish Family Learning Leads and review plans set within each school. Feedback from schools is indicating that most are engaging parents/carers and children to learn together, as and within a family, through quality formal or informal programmes.

Children and young people in Clackmannanshire understand their rights and are engaged and involved in decision making

During August 2021- August 2022, Clackmannanshire Council, as part of the Forth Valley West Lothian Regional Improvement Collaborative (FV WL RIC) UNCRC working group, has continued to implement the RIC UNCRC action plan. This involved developing a UNCRC toolkit in response to needs highlighted by authorities and their staff: The following progress has been made:

- UNCRC resources and toolkit are on the FVWL blog for all to access, including children's services staff
- ThinkLink has been developed by the FVWL UNCRC working group to raise awareness of UNCRC across FVWL in a fun and accessible way. This is now being used nationally.
- Self-evaluation resource has been developed and piloted for teams and educational establishments on their journey embedding UNCRC into practice. The resource provides ideas on next steps for areas highlighted as needing further development.
- Examples from good practice have been collated from across FVWL to illustrate approaches to incorporating UNCRC.

All authorities in FVWL have delivered training in UNCRC over this time. Training videos and ideas have been developed and made available on the blog to provide a consistent approach across FVWL. As part of the working group discussions, it has been agreed that when an authority in FVWL RIC is delivering training, it will be offered out to staff across FVWL where possible.

Moving forward into 2022-23, we will be developing a communications strategy to ensure all the UNCRC materials developed are accessible, available and known across FVWL. We will also be improving our approaches to ensuring children and young people and families are aware of the incorporation of UNCRC and what it means for them. A mobilisation group in Clacks will be formed to support this and a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment will also be taken forward. A Clacks specific Action Plan is also under development.

Children's Parliament Project Workers have been working with children in Banchory and St Serf's primary schools in Tullibody, in partnership with Clackmannanshire Council, on a project aimed at supporting the implementation of UNCRC while it is incorporated into Scots law. They produced a range of practical resources for adults to use to make children's rights real in jobs, and to provide practical tips on gathering children's views. These online interactive resources were officially launched by the Members of the Children's Parliament (MCPs) at an event at Tullibody Civic Centre on 4 May 2022. Alongside officers of the council, parents, carers and citizens in the wider community attended the event. The children presented their resources, including a short film they had made about UNCRC and shared their experiences of participation and the co-production process.

The Clackmannanshire & Stirling Lead Officer Child Protection and the Multi-agency Public Protection Learning and Development Advisor worked with the Who Cares? Scotland Advocacy and Participation Workers in Clackmannanshire & Stirling and with the Children's Rights Officer in Stirling to consult with children and young people with experience of child protection and care experienced regarding how to improve their participation in decision-making about their lives. Based on the findings from this work a participation checklist was produced which has been widely promoted with staff for use in preparation for multi-agency meetings.

Who Cares? Scotland provides an advocacy service for care experienced children and young people from Clackmannanshire. During 2021/22, 26 young people were referred to Who Cares? Scotland for advocacy support and 99 young people in total were supported. The service is open to young people from all care settings and from age 0 to 26. Support is comprehensive and relationship based and can span several years with young people returning for additional advocacy support at different times throughout their young lives. Young people engaging with the advocacy support benefit from Who Cares? Scotland's other services and groups which brings added value. The service aligns strongly with local needs and priorities, including the Children's Services Plan and The Promise.

Keeping the Promise in Clackmannanshire

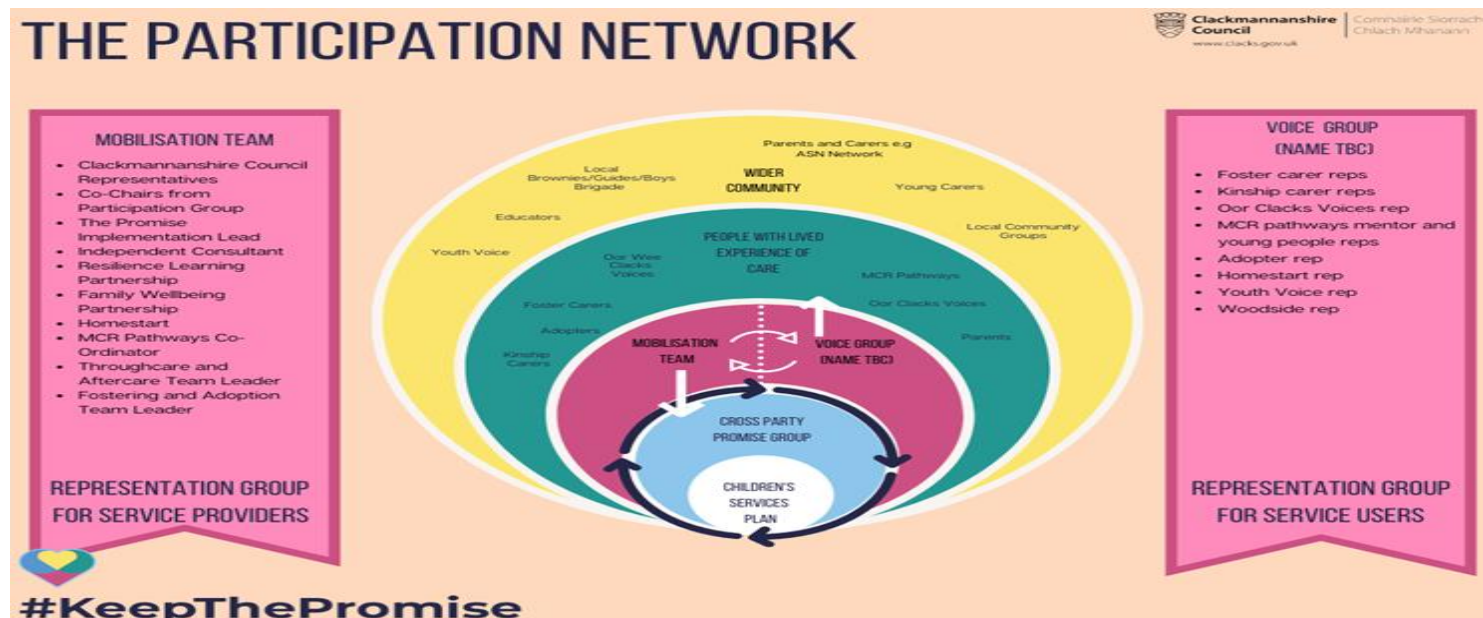
We have used Corra Funding, learning from The Promise Design School, support from The Promise Scotland Implementation Team and collaborative discussions with a number of different partners across Scotland to support the development of a **Participation Network** to improve the current collaboration and participatory opportunities for care experienced children and young people and their families and carers to support Keeping The Promise across Clackmannanshire. The network aims to support how we can better listen, strengthen and connect the voices of care experienced children and young people across all our schools, partners and other networks such as MCR Pathways. In particular, this includes the Oor Clacks Voices group which is continuing to meet with an integrated team of support around them to ensure their voices are influencing The Promise as we progress.

The development of the Participation Network has been shaped by the Scottish Approach to Service Design and its four phases (Discover, Define, Develop and Deliver). A Participation/Voice Group *Keeping the Promise Clacks group* and Mobilisation Team have been established to ensure accountability for progress and actions across the partnership which ultimately reports into the cross-party Promise Group (now the Children & Young People Board) and the Children's Strategic Partnership. The group has established key work streams to take forward, the first relates to the language of care. A survey was conducted amongst care experienced young people and those supporting care experienced young people which concluded at the end of September. The findings of this are not yet published. A working group has been established supported by the Design School and Promise Team to consider how language and framing can be incorporated into service redesign and existing work streams.

Other key milestones include:

- Hosting of an Adapted Design School Event in December 2021, facilitated by Clackmannanshire Council, The Promise Scotland and the Scottish Government's Office of the Chief Designer. It was attended by foster carers, kinship carers, young people from Oor Clacks Voices as well as social work staff from Through Care and After Care, Educational Psychology Service staff and Chief Social Work Officer.

- Development of a Visuals Pack to explain the purpose of the wider Participation Network (see illustration below)
- Developed bite size videos on Clackmannanshire's commitment to #KeepThePromise <https://www.clacks.gov.uk/social/thepromisepics/>
- Establishing a process for fair and transparent remuneration in relation to co-design and co-production across the Participation Network.
- A Corporate Sponsor Pledge co-produced to support the delivery of this work <https://www.clacks.gov.uk/document/6646.pdf>
<https://www.clacks.gov.uk/document/6724.pdf>
- The Mobilisation Team and Keeping the Promise Clacks held joint sessions with Each and Every Child to have collaborative discussions around framing and reframing language.
- Developing a process in relation to visitors attending Keeping the Promise Clacks meetings as well as potential introduction of a 'Having your say' form for individuals who are keen to give their views.



As well as the work of the Participation Network, there is a number of other work streams ongoing relating to Keeping The Promise including:

- Development of local care provision - A Supported Lodgings Service has been registered with Care Inspectorate and is awaiting approval
- Review of provision of our Children's House and opportunities to increase residential provision within Clackmannanshire
- Focus on foster carer support and recruitment which includes a review of fees and allowances.
- Keeping Siblings Together - Training has been commissioned which will take place in December 2022 relating to assessing siblings and maintaining meaningful links where it is not possible for siblings to be placed together. This training will provide a framework in which to develop a policy statement and framework for decision making and planning relating to children within siblings groups.

- Trauma Informed Practice - There is close partnership working between Children's Services and Psychological Services within the People Directorate which is shaping opportunities for training, support to carers, and support to care experienced young people. Examples of this include PACE training for all residential staff and educational psychologists, and adult attachment training planned for February 2023 for social work and educational psychology staff.

The Children & Young People Strategic Partnership is committed to using the Human and Economic Cost Model approach and with support from The Promise Scotland have progressed work on using money differently. The Partnership undertook scoping work to help us identify how much we are currently spending, directly and indirectly, on children and families in and around the care system and to support our work in jointly designing a model for how our money could be spent more effectively to improve outcomes and deliver better value for money. The Family Wellbeing Partnership is a key example of using resources differently to deliver person-centred approaches, by listening to families, and building up community assets and solutions to improve whole family wellbeing and outcomes.

Clackmannanshire Council has created strong links with Columba 1400, an organisation providing Values Based Leadership experiences focusing on the values of awareness, focus, creativity, integrity, perseverance, and service. Key members of the team have participated in these experiences and have been inspired and empowered to create the conditions to work creatively to #KeepThePromise and continue to support the authority to embrace the principles of empowering communities. The Columba 1400 approach is strengths based, offering opportunities for parents/carers to realise their own leadership qualities and abilities, focus on what matters to them, their children and their community. It also gives the opportunity to connect with other parents/carers, share learning and take collective action. It is recognised that to significantly improve outcomes for children and young people most in need, early help and strengths based support enables families to flourish. This work allows parents/carers the time and space to develop a growing awareness of self and the choices they have made and can make as the primary carer in their child's life.

Throughout November and December 2021, approximately 80 places across Council and its partners were offered the opportunity to attend a residential value based leadership opportunity at Columba 1400, funded by the Social Innovation Partnership. This opportunity was offered to senior leaders, frontline staff and key partners. A further cohort of partners from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, National Health Service and Police Scotland attended Columba 1400 in early 2022, following the success of the Safeguarding through Rapid Intervention (STRIVE) partners also participating in a values based leadership experience.

Whole Family Wellbeing Funding

The government has introduced a fund which is designed to support the development and implementation of one aspect of The Promise – The delivery of effective Whole Family Support. Clackmannanshire has been allocated £337,000. This fund has been developed as part of the Scottish Government strategy to help Community Planning Partnerships implement an effective range of early intervention provision and progress the agenda of system change required to deliver The Promise – toward family led, child centred and trauma informed services available locally at the point of need.

The key priorities to address in year one of this funding are:

- Strengthen investment in prevention and early intervention that enhances community and family support services.
- Investment in intensive resources for children and young people on the edge of care.
- Enable more looked after children to be maintained safely within their families at the point of need.
- Reduce reliance on out of authority placements and greater use of local family based placements.

The development of a range of local supports for our care experienced children and young people is a priority.

Therefore it is planned that our allocation of funding is used to focus on 3 key priorities:

- 1) Bolster our provision of intensive support services in order to reduce the number of children with care experience and to enable us to return children home from placements outwith Clackmannanshire
- 2) Increase the participation of children and families in the design of family support services, including creating opportunities for them to develop ideas regarding what services should be delivered.
- 3) Increase the range of early intervention services available to support communities at the earliest point, across the county.

Children and their families can access a range of support services and family therapies in Clackmannanshire

Our continued investment in holistic family support with our Third sector partners remain an important aspect to delivering early intervention and prevention services focussed on safely maintaining as many children at home with their families and within their community. The focus of family support continues through our review of our strategic commissioning approach to ensure we meet the changing needs of Clackmannanshire's children, young people and families. We know that the range of support currently provided by our commissioned Third Sector services is effective.



Action for Children delivers the Clackmannanshire Family Support Service, Clackmannanshire Additional Support Service, and Functional Family Therapy. The three services are focused on early intervention with children, young people and families. The Clackmannanshire Family Support Service (CFFS) provides a wide range of support and activities for families referred, mainly, by social work, health and education. Services include a play together group and baby group that models pro-social behaviours among parents/carers with pre-school age children from the local area. The service also delivers Incredible Years which is a 13 week evidence-based parenting programme that aims to strengthen parent-child interactions and attachment, fostering parents' ability to promote children's social, emotional, and language development. Seasons for Growth groups are also delivered over an 8 week programme to young people who have suffered loss and change. Other groups include an after school club, a cooking and gardening group, a mindful group, a Respecting You, Me and Us group, and a Tea and Natter group for parents/carers. During 2021/22, the service supported 95 children, young people (aged up to 18) and their families. The service reported that approximately a third of the children and families received support in relation to their emotional health and development, and a similar proportion were supported in relation to guidance and boundaries and improving relationships with parents/carers. Evidence presented for 2021/22 showed an improvement in 80% of outcomes during this period including increased confidence, increased capacity to cope, improved mental health, reduced social isolation. Positive feedback has also been reported from children, young people and parents/carers.

Clackmannanshire Additional Support Service (CLASS) is our evening and weekend family support service that seeks to improve outcomes for young people and families in crisis. It is delivered by Action for Children and Barnardo's Scotland in partnership with Clackmannanshire Council social work. The service supports families identified by Clackmannanshire Council as likely to benefit from a home-based early intervention support service. The service aims to improve the life chances of children and young people by proactively engaging with families to resolve problems before they escalate and work creatively to equip children and young people to deal with challenges, advocating a preventative approach to mitigate the risk of young people being accommodated outwith their local community, enabling them to remain living in their own home. During 2021/22 the service supported 73 children and

their families. Children of all ages were supported by the service: 22 aged under 5, 24 aged 5-9, 22 aged 10-15, and 5 aged 16+. The most frequently identified needs at referral were: guidance and boundaries; routines such as bedtimes, mealtimes, sleeping, and toileting; emotional health/development/warmth and behavioural support. Support is provided in the family home and focuses on practical issues such as establishing and maintaining routines, managing challenging behaviour and situations, and demonstrating positive parenting and play. Emotional support is also provided with the team working closely with the parents/carers. Support is regularly reviewed to ensure it is needs-led, outcome-focused and effective. The service reported that 80.5% of children recorded improved outcomes with significant impacts recorded in: improved relationships with parent/carer; improved parental/carer boundaries; parents/carers engagement with their children; improved mental wellbeing among parents/carers; increased feelings of safety; improved communication skills; and protection from parent/carer alcohol use, domestic violence, physical harm, and mental health. Positive feedback has also been reported from children, young people and parents/carers.



The Functional Family Therapy (FFT) service is an evidenced based programme aimed at improving outcomes for young people aged 8-18. The programme is delivered in 12 to 30 weekly sessions over 3 to 5 months and aims to avert individuals from behaviour that could result in the young person being accommodated away from home. Clackmannanshire Council funding supports 1 full time equivalent FFT Therapist. During 2021/22, there were 25 referrals of which 21 progressed to intervention. 80% of the referrals were made because of physical or verbal conflict between parent/carer and young people. A drop-out rate of 24% was in line with service implementation elsewhere. The

service has delivered very positive outcomes including youth and parent/carer perceptions of change in family functioning, communication, improved parenting skills, parental supervision and changes in family conflict.



Barnardo's Scotland - Clackmannanshire Open Door Service (CODS) is a specialist early intervention service for young people and families, many of whom are on the edge of care. During 2021/22, there were 55 new referrals to CODS and 27 young people were still open to the service from the previous year. The majority of young people were referred to CODS primarily due to offending (49) and substance misuse (24) issues; approximately half experienced both these issues. Mental health was also highlighted as a major issue affecting young people and parents/carers. Intensive support is tailored to the needs of the young

person and family and can include several visits per week to the family home, including in the evenings and at weekends, including programmed interventions such as Triple P and Solihull. Some young people who are experiencing similar issues are supported in short-life groups such as a girls group focused on sexual exploitation, and a group in a specific location that focused on antisocial behaviour. Young people have achieved very positive outcomes particularly in terms of increased resilience, reduced/safer consumption of controlled substances, increased knowledge of substances/risks, reduction in level of risks/harms (substances), understanding of own behaviours, and reduced offending. Positive outcomes are also reported for parents/carers including improved parenting capacity to prevent harmful behaviour, parenting, family relationships, and parents/carers taking responsibility for child welfare.



HomeStart Clackmannanshire supported 74 families during 2020/21 and 108 families during 2021/22, although delivery was affected by Covid-19 during these years. From April to the start of September 2022, HomeStart Clackmannanshire supported 91 families with approximately 230 children, representing a substantial increase. Families benefit from a range of practical and emotional support. There is an emphasis on meaningful engagement focused on managing challenging behaviour and situations, establishing routines, linking into local groups and activities, and addressing financial or other issues. Issues include mental health, domestic abuse, social

isolation, and behavioural problems. The organisation has reported that over 60% of parents/carers had mental health issues, 50% were identified as lone parents and 20% were care experienced. In the last 12 months, HomeStart Clackmannanshire has established several in-person weekly or fortnightly family support groups at a variety of locations (Hawkhill Community Centre, Ben Cleuch Centre, The Blue Hoose and the Bowmar Centre) as well as Mental Health & Wellbeing Group.



The Young Carers Project ensures Clackmannanshire Council fulfils its statutory obligation to young carers under the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 and the rights of young carers under the Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act 2014. The 2016 Act included a duty on local authorities to have its own information and advice service for carers and to provide support to carers based on their identified needs. For young carers, this meant a Young Carer Statement (YCS) which identifies their personal outcomes and support needs. Between October 2021 and March 2022, 33 young carers in Clackmannanshire were offered the opportunity to develop a YCS and 22 completed a YCS. The project also provides

young carers with regular individual support and monthly groups, as well as involvement in external events and meetings relevant to young carers. The young carers benefit from activities and individual grants which are not funded from the Council's Children's Services budget. Between October 2021 and March 2022, there were 280 individual contacts provided for young carers, and 11 groups attended by 49 young carers with 127 attendances. During the period there were 30 new referrals and there was no waiting list for support. Good relationships exist with the three secondary schools with each one having a champion and benefitting from staff training. The organisation has plans to strengthen relationships with primary schools.

The Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM) is based on a collaborative, early intervention model designed to influence risk and protective factors related to substance use within community, school, and peer and family contexts. It explores how to engage young people within the approach build on community capacity and assets and utilise the skills and expertise of local organisations to collectively influence wider policy implementation and improve outcomes. By engaging with young people, whole communities, statutory and third sector partners, the IPM aims to reduce substance use and promote greater mental health and development.

The Icelandic Prevention Model was introduced to all secondary schools in September 2021 with support from the Winning Scotland Foundation and 'Planet Youth Scotland'. During October 2021, all S2 and S3 pupils across all 3 Academies took part in an on-line survey. Survey data processed by the University of Reykjavik provided detailed insight into the lives and lifestyles of participating pupils. A School Network Group has been established to facilitate and support the Icelandic Prevention Model Survey Results across all secondary educational establishments.

Clackmannanshire data from the IPM Survey has been shared at meetings with individual colleagues from the Alcohol & Drug Partnership (ADP), Health Promotion, and Recovery Scotland and a Coalition Group is being formed to support establishments with their individual plans. Representatives from Planet Youth and the ADP have offered to support planned inputs at Parent Council Meetings within each of our Academies to highlight the Planet Youth Programme, Icelandic Prevention Model and share high level messages from the data capture as part of our Dissemination Plan.

Training has been organised by Planet Youth for School Leads on "Action Planning and Intervention Training" to support establishments with Phase 2 of the Icelandic Prevention Model. Discussions are underway regarding a Planet Youth Road Shows with an opportunity for Clackmannanshire to link our focussed work with wider engagement as part of the Family Wellbeing Partnership. In June 22, each school commenced capturing the opinions of their ASN community via planned Focus Groups to take account of their voice and experiences. The results will inform future planning.

Children and their families can access the right services based on their needs

Safeguarding through Rapid Intervention (STRIVE) is a multi-agency project which adopts the whole systems approach to service delivery. This initiative has progressed through 2021/2022. While we have continued to face various restrictions, the multi-disciplinary team have worked together to provide a rapid multi agency response to provide individuals and families much needed support to prevent the need for crisis intervention and diverted families from statutory intervention. For year 2021/2022, 168 families or individuals were supported with 68% of those referred reported concerns with their mental wellbeing, 37% referred suffered from addiction issues, 12% had immediate financial concerns, 14% were at risk of eviction and 11% had experienced domestic abuse. STRIVE use a chart for each client to rate each issue out of ten and the beginning and end of their STRIVE involvement.

The team are currently evaluating and analysing data to consider what interventions are working well, where there may be gaps in the services STRIVE can offer and how these can be addressed.

Some key outcomes:

- 37 customers referred onto mental health support services
- Homelessness prevented for 17 tenants
- 20 customers given immediate financial assistance or furniture to enable them to remain in their home
- 11 customers referred onto addiction support services

During 2021 an Early Help team was developed with the recruitment a Team leader, Family Support Workers and integration of our existing Family Group Decision Making Service. The development of this service and introduction of a new screening mechanism has enabled an early and effective response to be offered by the Early Help team. This has been especially helpful in relation to Police vulnerable person reports which are now being screened by the early help manager. Between May 2021 and March 2022 56% of new referrals to the social work service were offered early help via the new team which has had a positive impact both for the families who were offered early intervention as well as the associated reduction in the workload to area teams.

Alongside the family support element of the Early Help team, we have developed an early intervention Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) response which has enabled:

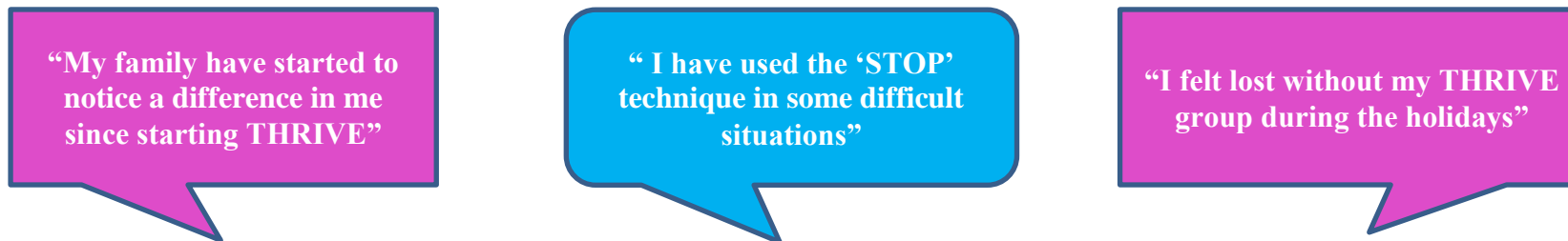
- Potential kinship families identified - for 36 of the 73 referrals made to the FGDM team.
- Prevention of accommodation - 18 children were placed with kinship families. Within these figures were several sibling groups of 2-4 children, all of which were kept together and not separated, in line with the foundations of The Promise.
- Prevention of accommodation – 16 children assessed as on the edge of care remained with their parents, with family support plans involving informal network support.

In addition, throughout the past year our commissioned third sector partners have worked flexibly with the practice teams to identify the families most in need of support and to ensure that a broad range of support was provided. Including effective partnership working with Health through the provision of Baby Massage and THRIVE.

Feedback received from parents who participated in Baby Massage:








Feedback received from group participants on THRIVE:



The Early Help Team will be working in partnership with the Health Visiting support team to enable the facilitation of an under 2’s drop in group. Each drop in session will involve a health care professional attending to offer support and advice to families to break down the barrier between families and professionals. Examples of services involved include Child Smile, Physiotherapy, Speech and Language and Breast Feeding Network.




Work is progressing to develop a blueprint for family and community support services in Clackmannanshire. The intention of this work is to increase the availability of services out with statutory social work, to ensure that children and their families receive support as early as possible. A family support focus group has been developed with key multiagency partners who have worked together to complete the evaluation tool: ‘Supporting Families: A National Self-Assessment Toolkit for Change’.

Appendix A: Performance Measures Clackmannanshire Children's Services Plan 2021-24 Annual Report 2021/22



	Data-only Indicator		Target or Value Not Available		Meeting Target, or Within 5%		5% to 15% Outwith Target		More Than 15% Outwith Target
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Performance Indicators




1. Indicators Where Most Recently Available Data is for 2019/20

Performance Indicator	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20			
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Scotland - Average
Child Dental Health in Primary 1	65.5%	64.7%	68.4%			72.4%
Child Healthy Weight in Primary 1	75.6%	72.5%	71.7%			76.3%
Drug-related Hospital Admissions, aged 11-25 years (3-year average per 100,000)	192.9	187.0	197.5			162.2

2. Biennial Indicators Where Most Recently Available Data is for 2020/21

Performance Indicator	2016/17	2018/19	2020/21			
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Scotland - Average
School attendance - Looked After Children (Biennial)	91.6%	89.5%	90.0%	86.8%		88.0%
School exclusions - Looked After Children (per 1,000 Looked After Children) (Biennial) *No value for 18/19 or 20/21 as figures were suppressed to protect anonymity (therefore our result must have been substantially lower than in 16/17, and lower than the Scottish average).	145.5	N/A	N/A	79.9		78.0

3. Indicators Where Most Recently Available Data is for 2020/21

Performance Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Scotland - Average
Looked After Children leaving school entering positive destinations	84.2%	100.0%	100.0%	91.7%		87.9%
Looked After School Leavers With 1 or More SCQF at Level 4	68.4%	66.7%	66.7%	91.7%		74.9%
Cost of Looked After Children in residential care per child per week ('real' cost - inflation cancelled out)	£2,702	£2,215	£2,828	£3,207		£4,380






3. Indicators Where Most Recently Available Data is for 2020/21

Performance Indicator	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21			
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Scotland - Average
Cost of Looked After Children in the community per child per week ('real' cost - inflation cancelled out)	£409	£328	£331	£345	✓	£382
Rate of Looked After Children (per 1,000 children aged 0-17)	22.1	18.8	27.8		?	12.9
Spend on Looked After Children (Residential & Community) as % of Total General Fund Budget	3.40%	3.62%	4.28%		?	3.11%
Looked After Children being cared for in the community	93.0%	93.1%	93.7%	90.1%	✓	90.3%
Looked After Children with more than 1 placement in the last year	22.2%	23.8%	16.7%	16.7%	✓	16.8%
Gross expenditure - residential services for looked after children (£,000)	£1,672	£1,836	£2,500		📊	
Gross expenditure - services for looked after children in the community (£,000)	£3,352	£3,691	£4,351		📊	
Child Protection re-registrations within 18 months	19.0%	12.9%	8.1%	6.9%	✓	6.9%
Children Referred to the Children's Reporter for Care & Protection (per 1,000 children aged 0-15 years)	11.6	24.6	14.7		?	8.8
Children Referred to the Children's Reporter for Offences (per 1,000 children aged 8-15 years)	8.0	9.0	7.7		?	4.7
Child Poverty Rate (After Housing Costs)	26.1%	27.3%	23.4%		?	20.4%
Alcohol-related Hospital Admissions, aged 11-25 years (3-year average per 100,000)	192.5	210.9	165.1		?	270.0
Exposure to Second hand Smoke at 6-8 Weeks (3-year average)	10.8%	9.3%	7.6%		?	7.3%
Babies Exclusively Breastfed at 6-8 Weeks (3-year average)	21.3%	21.6%	21.0%		?	31.8%
Children with 'no developmental concerns' at 27-30 month health review	84.8%	86.2%	78.6%	85.7%	⚠️	85.1%
Deaths from Suicide in Young People, aged 11-25 years (5-year average per 100,000 population)	18.5	20.9	16.3		?	10.8
Teenage pregnancies under 16 years of age (3 year average rate per 1,000 females aged 13-15)	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.6	⚠️	2.4
Teenage pregnancies under 18 years of age (3 year average rate per 1,000 females aged 15-17)	16.8	16.4	18.0	16.3	⚠️	15.0
Teenage pregnancies under 20 years of age (3 year average rate per 1,000 females aged 15-19)	34.9	46.8	32.8	27.7	🛑	23.9

4. Indicators Where Most Recently Available Data is for 2021/22





Performance Indicator	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22			
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Scotland - Average
Immunisation Uptake at 24 Months - 6 in 1 (3-year average)	97.6%	97.3%	96.9%		?	97.1%
Immunisation Uptake at 24 Months - MMR (3-year average)	94.9%	95.2%	94.8%		?	94.4%
Children Registered for Free School Meals (calendar year)	19.8%	27.7%	25.0%	20.0%	✓	18.0%
Referrals - With Initial Referral Discussion (IRD)	240	222	198		📊	
Children on Child Protection Register (per 1,000 children)	2.78	4.58	4.61		?	2.30
% Children and young people with foster carers provided by LA	12%	9%			?	23.8%
% Children and young people with foster carers purchased externally by the LA	23%	20%			?	9.9%
Number of children and young people in secure accommodation	0	0	0		📊	0
Three or more placement moves experienced by Looked After and Accommodated Children	6%	6%	5%	0%	✓	4%
% Looked after children who remain at home or in kinship placement	59%	66%	64%	55%	✓	55%
% of reviews result in a Having Your Say report being completed by the child/young person (8+)	36.7%	79.9%	66.7%		?	
% Care leavers aged 16+ who have an allocated (social worker) pathway coordinator	100%	100%	95%		✓	56%

Appendix B: Progress on our programme of work to deliver the outcomes set out in our Children's Services Plan 2021-24

	Already Complete
	Cancelled
	Will Complete Outwith Target
	Will Complete Within Target
	Will Fail to Complete

A. Priority Theme - A Good Childhood

1. Children in Clackmannanshire are Safe from Harm

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP A1a	Improve children and young people's capacity for personal safety and the avoidance of abuse and exploitation including from their use of the internet	Lead Officer Child Protection		Consultation work with children and young people being progressed by Stirling Champions Board Development Officer and Clackmannanshire and Stirling Who Cares? Advocacy and Participation Workers. Forth Valley and West Lothian RIC webpage on Digital Wellbeing developed and promoted through partner agencies - https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/fvwlric/hwb/wize-digital-wellbeing/
CHC CSP A1b	Ensure that there is early and effective support in place to identify children and families affected by substance misuse and to minimise the harm caused by this	Alcohol & Drug Partnership Lead Officer		Contractual and funding difficulties have held up the process of planning to date, but these are now resolved and planning across partners is due to begin in earnest shortly. We anticipate having an audit complete and plans for future spending in place for the beginning of 2023. An Impact of Parental Substance Use (IPSU) short life multi-agency working group was set up to progress work in relation to the roll out of the IPSU assessment tool across Forth Valley.
CHC CSP A1c	Strengthen our approaches to tackling and mitigating the effects of childhood neglect through implementation of the Neglect Toolkit across partners	Lead Officer Child Protection		Neglect toolkit promoted in multi-agency neglect toolkit training and E-module. Single agency audits progressing. Multi-agency audits had been suspended during the pandemic. Multi-agency case audit activity specifically focussed on notifications of concern and an audit on child participation is planned October 2022.
CHC CSP A1d	Implement a whole system approach for young people who are involved or on the cusp of involvement with youth or justice services	Senior Manager, Justice		Proposal has been placed with STRIVE board providing a perpetrator worker and women support worker for targeted intervention and support in relation to domestic abuse concerns. Referrals will be placed through STRIVE and open to Children Services. This initiative is part of collaboration between Police Scotland, Housing, SACRO and Social Work Services and utilises the skills and experience of existing staff. Justice Services are taking an active role in supporting Youth Justice through partnership working in areas such a diversion from prosecution, training and consultation. Further supports are being explored in partnership with the Alcohol and Drug Partnership. Consultation is ongoing with Street Soccer looking at how this could be delivered in Clackmannanshire.

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP A1e	Develop evidence based trauma informed services for children and young people at risk of suicide	Principal Educational Psychologist	✓	A number of areas of work contributing to this priority action include the development of digital crisis intervention services; the multi-agency suicide prevention forum; and targeted communication and marketing activities. This includes ongoing social media campaigns themed around monthly content on Twitter and Instagram; printed media including posters, banners, stickers and badges displayed in prominent sites around the local authority including in secondary school hub areas, railings on busy roundabouts, on council vehicles, in local shops; articles in local press and magazines such as 'Love Local' (delivered to every household in Clackmannanshire), as well as radio news coverage. A series of three Clacks Academy modules developed based around the Ask, Tell, Save A Life materials on suicide awareness and reduction from NHS Education for Scotland (NES) materials. These are due to go live at the end of June. These areas of work are part of the wider workstreams within the Mental Health and Wellbeing in Clacks transformation project.
CHC CSP A1f	Effective GIRFEC systems and processes are in place to allow early identification of needs and provide the right support	Chief Nurse, Universal Children's Services	✓	The Scottish Government is updating Policy and Practice Guidance on Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) to promote and support GIRFEC good practice. This includes developing information and guidance for children, young people, and parents. A Forth Valley GIRFEC working group has been established to implement refreshed GIRFEC materials. Multi-Agency GIRFEC meeting commenced with plans to report into the Forth Valley Child Protection Guideline group. Target completion date of Sept 2023.

2. Children & young people in Clackmannanshire have the best possible life experiences and opportunities

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP A2a	Implement the Transforming Mental Health Services Programme and measure its impact in 2021/22	Principal Educational Psychologist	✓	Building a social media presence through persistent communication and marketing work, seen by over 127,000 individuals and increased social media following by 20%. Since its launch in Sep 2021, the new Directory of Mental Health Supports website has received over 4000 hits. Clackmannanshire Council's Annual Mental Health and Wellbeing Survey which took place in June 2020, June 2021 and again in June 2022. The Counselling in Schools Service received 327 referrals by Dec 2021. The Creative Therapeutic Interventions for Children Service established in March 2021 to complement the Counselling in Schools Service received 65 referrals. Four digital mental health services covering the age range 5-26 years, shows Out of Hours usage (outwith Mon-Fri, 9-5) of 54% for Kooth, 48% for Together all and 66% for Shout. 72% of primary schools are accessing the referred programme Mind Moose providing structured early intervention support to pupils in an effort to stop emerging mental health difficulties becoming too entrenched. Workforce Development Training and development mapping tool and self-evaluation questionnaire developed ready to be piloted by two 3rd Sector partners with support from CTSI.

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP A2b	Ensure that all Attainment Scotland Funding is targeted to close the poverty related attainment gap	Education Senior Manager ELC & Primary	✓	The refresh of the Scottish Attainment Challenge (SAC), now part of Strategic Equity Funding (SEF), has reduced the finance available for the Clackmannanshire Programme Plans, with funding tapered over the next 4 years (2022-2025). Interventions supporting closing the poverty related attainment gap and ensuring equity and excellence across the Programme have been reviewed with those interventions and programmes having the greatest impact being the focus of the 2022-2023 plan. Wider engagement, involvement and communication with all stakeholders continues to be undertaken to ensure that there is a clear transition to Year 2 of the refreshed plan and sustainability beyond. Continued focus on supporting schools to identify their poverty related gaps through planned Improvement Discussions; coaching, professional learning and supporting the effective use of the Authority Tracker. This combined with the use of the Scottish Attainment Challenge Logic Model, will ensure that there is a shared understanding of the programme aims and monitoring, performance and progress needed to achieve our stretch aims.
CHC CSP A2c	Increase opportunities for all children and young people to access leisure, wellbeing and sports programmes and as part of our development of the Wellbeing Hub in Clackmannanshire	Education Senior Manager ELC & Primary	✓	Active Schools re-introduced free in-school extra curricular sports clubs for children in every primary school providing a minimum of 2 clubs per week across a 24 week period. Centralised cluster clubs delivered led by community sports clubs/coaches across a range of sports widening the opportunities for children to take part. Learn to Swim survey circulated through schools in November 2021 to determine the need for lessons as pools become available in Clackmannanshire (Dollar Academy, Interim Pool, Wellbeing Hub) 730 individual responses received to survey encompassing 1158 children. 94% of parents rated their child's learning as very good or excellent. Holiday activities provided free to Clackmannanshire families throughout summer 2021. 16 programmes delivered with over 200 individuals taking part. 3960 hours of participant activity took place with 325 free lunches to children and young people. A Six week Active Summer programme for 2022 being planned. 11 festivals and 9 different events delivered using a mixture of in-school and central venue to maximise participation of schools whilst adhering to the changes in Covid restrictions.
CHC CSP A2d	All eligible 2 year olds and some children under 2, particularly from vulnerable, at risk, care experienced and teenage parents will take up the offer of Early Learning and Child Care places	Education Senior Manager ELC & Primary	✓	In September 2022, 155 eligible 2 year olds received 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC). Of those 155 children, 34 children received their placement in a private nursery, 4 children with a partner childminder with the remaining 117 children in a local authority setting. A discretionary policy was developed August 2022 to allow placement's for children who do not meet the eligible 2's criteria. These children are able to be offered a couple of sessions a week to provide support to their families.
CHC CSP A2e	Implement whole systems approaches to ensure children and young people with additional support needs are supported to overcome barriers to inclusion at home, school and in the community and achieve	Senior Manager Inclusion & Partnerships	✓	Recruitment for revised ASN model completed. A 'Team around the Flexible Space' has been identified for each setting to ensure a smooth transition. Two Lens bids successful, 'Without Exception' to test barriers and solutions to providing out of school activities for children with Profound and Complex ASNs and 'ClaxP&C' to create parents/carers network for families of children with ASNs. Both Parent/carers led. Allocation of Families First/Cash First funding offered to all families of children and young people at Lochies and Alloa EASN through the

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
	positive destinations			Summer Food and Childcare Programme. Pilot of hydrotherapy for non ambulant children trialled in July 22 (Active Clacks/Lochies).
CHC CSP A2f	Deliver MCR pathways which aim to improve the outcomes gap for care experienced young people	Education Senior Manager (Secondary)	✓	MCR continues to support students participating in the Young Clacks Talent programme to achieve their academic potential and reach a positive destination. There are 65 established mentored relationships across Clackmannanshire with an average of 65 hours of volunteering across the authority every week .Despite the challenges of Covid there are 9 active Mentors who are Clacks Council employees a further 6 waiting a match to provide 1-1 bespoke support and guidance.
CHC CSP A2g	Increased citizenship through youth volunteering offered widely and recognised through the Government framework of the Saltire Award	Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface	✓	The Saltire awards registration with increased citizenship through youth volunteering grew to 93 new volunteers for the year 21/22 from 54 in 20/21. The aim for 22/23 is to attract new volunteers and encourage retention and completion of longer awards. Activities include: Working with DYW team to link in with schools; Promotion of saltire awards during volunteers week; Working with CLD and CYV programme; Return to face to face events/activity; School visits planned for August/September; Designing a short volunteer workshop for partners to promote youth volunteering and Saltire awards; and Working with PEC to promote the awards.

3. Children & young people in Clackmannanshire understand their rights and are engaged and involved in decision making

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP A3a	Develop a rights-based approach that puts the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) at the centre of everything we do	Education Senior Manager (Secondary)	✓	Regular meetings with Forth Valley and West Lothian Regional Improvement Collaborative and resultant UNCRC related resources shared with establishments. People Directorate training in UNCRC, developed by FVWL RIC in partnership with Education Scotland. Children's Parliament continuing to work with our primary schools on child-friendly materials.
CHC CSP A3b	Ensure access and increased opportunity for advocacy and participation for all care experienced children and young people	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	Keeping the Promise Clacks (Participation Forum) have highlighted the need for further avenues of support and advocacy as well as participation to ensure that Clackmannanshire Council are taking a holistic approach to ensuring the Voice foundation of the Promise is upheld. The Assistant Educational Psychologist is working alongside colleagues in Social Work to ensure delivery of high-quality support groups to ensure foster carers, kinship carers and young people have regular access to support. Senior managers and colleagues at the Promise are working together to develop a clear restorative pathway.
CHC CSP A3c	The Children Hearing advocacy services are promoted and made available to children and young people	Locality Reporter Manager (SCRA)	✓	Section 122(2) requires the chair of any children's hearing to inform the child of the availability of children's advocacy services unless the chair, taking account of the age and maturity of the child, considers it would not be appropriate to do so. In practical terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The duty applies only if the child is present at the hearing.

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the child is accompanied at the hearing by an advocacy worker there is no expectation that the chair will inform the child of the availability of advocacy services. • The requirement is for the chair to inform the child that advocacy services are available. Chairs are likely to do this by asking the child if anyone has already spoken to them about advocacy and if they know they can have an advocacy worker. • It is not necessary for the chair to elicit a response from the child as to whether the child wants to seek advocacy support, though the chair may give the child the opportunity to do so. • A hearing may choose to defer in order to enable the child to seek advocacy support. The hearing is not obliged to defer and the hearing should take into account all the relevant circumstances before deciding to do so. <p>The Scottish Government has contracted with various providers of children's advocacy services. The Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 (Children's Advocacy Services) Regulations 2020 require children's advocacy workers under the contract to act in accordance with the National Practice Model for Advocacy within the Children's Hearings System,</p> <p>Reporters are aware of the following points in relation to the operation of advocacy services: The child must be capable of instructing the advocacy worker. It is understood that Children's Advocacy Services generally regard children from the age of 5 as potentially being capable of instructing an advocacy worker.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reporter is not to provide an advocacy worker with papers or other information relating to the hearing. It is expected that advocacy workers will operate with information provided to them by the child or on occasion, if additional information is required, by discussion with professionals involved directly with the child. • The usual approach to providing papers to the child applies. Where the child would not be capable of understanding the papers the reporter is not to provide them. • The reporter is not to refer a child to an advocacy service or worker. • Within the hearing the advocacy worker will generally be a representative (non-legal) of the child. However chairs are expected to allow the attendance of an advocacy worker even where the child has another person as a non-legal representative. • Within the record of proceedings, attendance should be recorded as 'child's advocacy worker' <p>SCRA is fully supportive of the provision of children's advocacy services and has played a key role in developing an information leaflet and setting up a website on advocacy services for hearings, a link to which is on our website. We consider that social work play the key role in advising the child in advance of a hearing of the availability of an advocacy service. We expect that the contracted advocacy providers will have made contact with local social work teams to</p>



Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
				raise this expectation.
CHC CSP A3d	Deliver the Youth Engagement Framework for Clackmannanshire	Education Senior Manager (Secondary)	✓	Initial survey has been distributed through primary and secondary schools, 16+ survey has been promoted through college, LEP and social media. The second youth voice survey went out in June 2022. Key findings will be used as a baseline for the planned youth assembly in October 2022. Youth Council secure funding through the mental health transformation programme for the youth bank; 11 applications were made and 8 were successful.
CHC CSP A3e	Deliver the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Youth Scheme for young people in Clackmannanshire	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service	✓	<p>The main objective of Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Youth Volunteer Scheme (YVS) is to provide a safe, welcoming, enjoyable and fun environment where young people can learn as individuals, develop positive relationships and actively work together for a safer Scotland. The scheme provides a great opportunity for young people across Scotland to develop their skillset and make a valuable contribution to their local communities, whilst gaining a unique insight into life at a working fire station.</p> <p>The YVS is not about recruiting future firefighters and we cannot guarantee any young person further employment or involvement in SFRS. However, what we can guarantee is that we will offer as much support and guidance as possible to young people with an interest in the Service and anyone who participates in this scheme will grow in confidence and be equipped with improved life skills as they volunteer as young ambassadors for SFRS.</p> <p>By participating in the programme, young people will have a practical understanding of the SFRS and play a supportive role in their communities as SFRS youth volunteers; supporting development and enhancing inter-personal skills and confidence.</p> <p>A SFRS YVS was developed within Clackmannanshire, a diverse group of eight 12-18 year olds work together and meet every Thursday night at Alloa Fire Station. The scheme launched locally in April 2020, meeting online initially due to COVID restrictions, this has now progressed to physical group meetings as restrictions eased. All young persons are now working through the YVS syllabus.</p>
CHC CSP A3f	Place based provision for children and young people in communities delivered in partnership with community, voluntary organisations and public sector partners	Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface; Senior Manager Inclusion & Partnerships	✓	The total of referrals for our Befriending Project, before it closed. There were 35 referrals which were not able to be matched before the funding ended, with another 80 referrals which were able to be actioned during the duration of the project.
CHC CSP A3g	Review plans in place for young carers in Clackmannanshire	Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface; Falkirk & Clacks Carers Centre	✓	Between October 2021 and March 2022, Central Carers Centre offered 33 young carers in Clackmannanshire the opportunity to develop a Young Carers Statement (YCS) and 22 completed a YCS. The project also provides young carers with regular individual support and monthly groups, as well as involvement in external events and meetings relevant to young carers. The young carers also benefit from activities and individual grants. Between October 2021 and March 2022, there were 280 individual contacts provided for young carers, and 11

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
				groups attended by 49 young carers with 127 attendances. During the period there were 30 new referrals and there was no waiting list for support. Positive feedback from young carers has been reported by the organisation.

B. Priority Theme - Whole Family Support

1. Children, young people and their families can access a range of support services and family therapies in Clackmannanshire

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP B1a	Undertake a full strategic needs assessment and commissioning of Children's Services in Clackmannanshire. This work will be part of the Human and Economic Cost Modelling work	Senior Manager Early Intervention	✓	Strategic Needs Analysis underway supported by Iconic Consulting. The review consists of two phases. The first phase will develop a clear set of objectives for the future commissioning of third sector children's services in Clackmannanshire. Phase 2 will review third sector children's services currently commissioned by the local authority against these objectives. Strategic stakeholder interviews with senior officers from Clackmannanshire Council Children's Services and Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership to identify existing strategic and operational objectives and future priorities undertaken. Strategic stakeholder Workshop and survey has been undertaken. Consultation workshops with third sector children's service providers concluded and review process ongoing. It is planned for the activity to be concluded and by end October 2022, in order to establish arrangements for service delivery after 1.4.23. The strategic needs analysis and review of commissioned services have now been concluded and the report has been provided. This has been considered by Senior Managers within the council and a paper has been submitted for consideration by the Council. Thereafter services will be commissioned in line with the findings, in order to be in a position to deliver the required services from 1.4.23.
CHC CSP B1b	Develop a blueprint for family and community support services in Clackmannanshire	Senior Manager Early Intervention	✓	Whole Family Support Sub Group are using the self evaluation framework "Supporting Families: A National Self Assessment Toolkit for Change" to help evaluate current provision and highlight gaps and areas of duplication. The intention is to utilize this learning, alongside the Commissioning activity to ensure a broad range of effective family support is available from early intervention through to intensive support for young people on the edge of care. The implementation of this plan will take place in the year 23-24. The intention of this work is to increase the availability of service out with statutory social work, to ensure that children receive support as early as possible. We know that the range of support currently provided is effective. For example: The Action for Children Clackmannanshire Additional Support Service reported that in 21/22 80.5% of children recorded improved outcomes with significant impacts recorded in: improved relationships with parent/carer;

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
				<p>improved parental/carers boundaries; parents/carers engagement with their children; improved mental wellbeing among parents/carers; increased feelings of safety; improved communication skills; and protection from parent/carers alcohol use, domestic violence, physical harm, and mental health. Positive feedback has also been reported from children, young people and parents/carers.</p> <p>In addition, In 2021/22, 161 children were referred to the Children's Reporter, a third less than the year before.</p>
CHC CSP B1c	Develop integrated early intervention pathways for vulnerable children and explore options to link this work with Strive	Senior Manager Early Intervention		<p>There are two key strands for the upstreaming of Strive: 1) the development of a locality based early intervention strive team which aims to offer the strive response before a crisis occurs and 2) the roll out of training across health service staff in primary settings to enable a solution focussed, multi agency response at first point of contact.</p> <p>In addition, the early help team are working with partner agencies to provide an early response to resolve issues as early as possible. This work needs to sit alongside the refresh of GIRFEC processes detailed above. This will involve staff training and development and will take time to be fully embedded. However, it is on target to be embedded by the end of the children's services plan period.</p> <p>Analysis of early intervention this year has highlighted that between May 2021 and March 2022 56% of new referrals to the social work service were offered early help via the Early Help team which has had a positive impact both for the families who were offered early intervention as well as the associated reduction in the workload to area teams. Alongside the Family Support element of the early help team, we have developed an early intervention Family Group Decision Making Response which has enabled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential kinship families identified - for 36 of the 73 referrals made to the FGDM team. • Prevention of accommodation - 18 children were placed with kinship families. Within these figures were several sibling groups of 2-4 children, all of which were kept together and not separated, in line with the foundations of The Promise. • Prevention of accommodation – 16 children assessed as on the edge of care remained with their parents, with family support plans involving informal network support. <p>For year 2021/2022, 168 families or individuals were supported via STRIVE: Some key outcomes reported:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 customers referred onto mental health support services • Homelessness prevented for 17 tenants • 20 customers given immediate financial assistance or furniture to enable them to remain in their home • 11 customers referred onto addiction support services
CHC CSP	Implement the Icelandic Prevention Model for Alcohol and Drug use in	Senior Manager Inclusion &		<p>Sept 2021 - Icelandic Prevention Model (IPM) introduced to all secondary schools with support from the Winning Scotland Foundation and 'Planet Youth Scotland' .Oct 2021, all S2 and S3</p>

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
B1d	Clackmannanshire	Partnerships		pupils across all 3 Academies took part in an on-line survey. Survey data processed by University of Reykjavik provided detailed insight into the lives and lifestyles of participating pupils. A School Network Group has been established to facilitate and support the Icelandic Prevention Model Survey Results across all secondary educational establishments. Key areas for the authority and at school level form the basis of planning for 2022-2023 and ensure alignment with wider strategic planning across People Services. Dissemination plan is being shared with the National IPM Network (July 2022) to highlight good practice and provide an overview of our planned involvement with parents/carers, communities and CPP partners.

2. Children, young people and their families can access the right services based on their needs

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP B2a	Review the pathways that integrate youth, adult and mental health services to ensure a continuum of services and supported transitions to adulthood	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	<p>The pathway for children with disabilities has been reviewed. An operational group meets monthly to ensure that all children who are approaching adulthood have a clear plan in place regarding which service will support them. The intention is that children are discussed at the group at the age of 15. This will allow them to be highlighted to the relevant adult support services and allow time for them to be allocated and assessed prior to leaving school. This also allows time for services to engage with parents in order to establish whether legal measures are necessary, such as guardianship. alongside this activity, a review of the transition policy and procedure has begun. This will be concluded by March 2023.</p> <p>A wellbeing worker is currently being recruited by Wellbeing Scotland to compliment the supports already available to children in education. This post will offer support to care experienced young people aged 16-25. This is intended to support the mental health and wellbeing of young people as well as supporting the transition between child and adult mental health services.</p>
CHC CSP B2b	Implement processes to ensure that housing services attend pathway review meetings at earliest opportunity to enable early exploration of the housing options available for care experienced young people	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	<p>A monthly meeting is established between housing and TCAC Team to highlight housing needs of care experienced young people at the earliest opportunity. The aim of this group is to ensure planned transitions to living independently, and to maximise the opportunities for young people to return to their local area. Examples of good outcomes from this group include provision of a tenancy close to Woodside to allow a young person to be supported by Woodside in their transition from residential care to their own tenancy. Another young person has been supported to move from an intensive purchased supported accommodation option to their own tenancy. Work is underway within the TCAC to progress pathway planning and review for all young people open to the team involving housing and other key professionals important to the young person. This will compliment the work of the group above at a more individual level.</p>
CHC	Develop a family and community	Senior Manager	✓	The mental health and wellbeing directory has been completed. This has signposting for mental

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CSP B2c	support directory of all community based family support services and family therapies in Clackmannanshire	Early Intervention		health and wellbeing supports and services for children and young people and some information for parents / carers. This has been well used and reviewed. There is a cross over with this directory. In addition plans are underway to develop a directory of family support services for the ADP. Therefore, efforts are underway to ensure we don't duplicate effort and to consider whether a separate family and community support directory is required and if so, how this directory would be maintained before deciding on the best method for its collation.
CHC CSP B2d	Improve the support available for Kinship families	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	Kinship care strategy – working group is being set up to further develop the kinship care strategy and the support available to kinship carers across services. This will include scoping out support available to kinship carers within the third sector and wider community. Work is underway to progress two posts within education to support care experienced young people, one priority group identified in relation to attainment is children in kinship care. This is being developed following feedback from kinship carers. Support groups for kinship carers have recently began meeting face to face again, and a summer outing to the Safari Park took place which facilitated an opportunity for kinship carers to make links with one another as well as the team.

3. The health and wellbeing of children and young people is improved and inequalities are reduced

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP B3a	Develop opportunities for early intervention and family support for financial inclusion at earliest opportunity	Senior Manager Partnership & Transformation; Principal Public Health Officer	✓	A number of initiatives are being developed aimed at supporting outcomes around financial inclusion and specifically mitigating the worse impacts from the cost of living crisis. This work includes improving information and advice as well as working with local community based organisations to ensure that practical support is provided to families at the earliest opportunity. Work has also commenced to scope out longer term financial inclusion needs and gaps through the Tackling Poverty Partnership and initial benchmarking in other areas to identify good practice and opportunities in underway. This work will consider initiatives and partnerships already embedded such as the Family Wellbeing Partnership and Strive but will also seek to build on partnerships with Social Security Scotland and Citizens Advice Bureau.
CHC CSP B3b	Implement family learning opportunities and access to support services to minimise poverty impacts as a result of Covid	Senior Manager Inclusion & Partnerships	✓	The Period Products (free provision) (Scotland) Bill became an Act in January 2021 and states that everyone in Scotland who menstruates should have reasonably convenient access to period products, free of charge, as and when they are required. Discussions with colleagues in the Third Sector is ensuring that we are able to extend the provision to ensure our most vulnerable community members are able to access the products. The Scottish Government has commissioned the production of a Period Products App, showing the location of free period products throughout Scotland. This App is now "live" (November 2021) across

Cod e	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
				Clackmannanshire and is increasing awareness and access to products across Clackmannanshire communities. Analysis of its use will be available early in 2022. Information regarding all access to period products is now available on Clacks web. https://www.clacks.gov.uk/community/sanitaryprov . A Period Poverty Working Group has been established to ensure that approaches and engagement will be refined to enhance and tailor central support to meet identified needs. A representative from the Working Group attends the National Network to ensure that we continue to support the development, implementation and delivery of the policy as it relates to wider settings. and continues to build on partnership with the Third Sector and the Tackling Poverty Partnership as a means of consulting with the local community over product/location, etc., to ensure a high standard of service delivery is available across Clackmannanshire and that those most in need of the service are supported.
CHC CSP B3c	Extend the range of interventions to support young parents in improving outcomes - All eligible teenage parents are supported by the Family Nurse Partnership to engage in targeted programmes	NHS; Chief Nurse, Universal Children's Services	✔	All young parents (those who are 19 years at last menstrual period [LMP]) are offered FNP when booking with maternity services. The overall stretch aim for FNP programme is 70% of eligible client will be enrolled with in FNP programme by 16+6 weeks of pregnancy. 2021 saw 73% enrolment (2021 also saw a 58% reduction in teenage pregnancy across Clackmannanshire from 2020). In order to achieve best out comes from FNP programme a minimum input of contact must be achieved, the overall stretch aim for client receiving FNP Programme in pregnancy is 80%. This target was met in 2021. The overall stretch aim for client receiving FNP Programme in infancy (first year) is 65%. FNP Team in Clacks is currently achieving 58%. Improvement work carried out to increase optimum programme delivery includes regular 1:1 supervision and ongoing staff training at monthly meetings. Nationally the offer of FNP programme is being extended to young women who are 21 years at LMP, and 24 years at LMP for those who are care experienced. This is being implemented incrementally from December 2022. In NHS Forth Valley this will commence in Dec 2022 and will be offered to young parents under 20 years and will extend to those aged 21 years and 24 years where socially indicated by June 2023.
CHC CSP B3d	Expand opportunities to address food insecurity and improve the nutrition, engagement and confidence of parents/carers	Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface; Principal Public Health Officer	✔	Ongoing communications - good publicity generated locally through local media channels. Tackling Poverty Partnership launched Clacks Good Food on 18th May. Strong alignments with the Pre-Employability Clacks programme of work – participants are attending hospitality training. Part time Coordinator has started (hosted by Forth Environment Links). The steering group moving forward with plans around launching this agenda further and generating 'buy in' from a wider range of partners. Developing Food Charter which will set high level vision and create an identity for the programme of work. Alignments with community wealth building agenda and new LOIP will be made.

C. Priority Theme - Planning

1. The Children & Young People Partnership Group is meeting planning and reporting requirements under Children's Services legislative framework

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP C1a	The CYP Partnership will undertake a Strategic Needs Assessment every 2 years. This will include horizon scanning to ensure early sight of developing legislation or national policy	Senior Manager Partnership & Transformation; Chief Social Work Officer	✓	Clacks Demographic Profile 2022 updated. Drawing on range of local data to identify local priorities and gaps in provision and inform service development.
CHC CSP C1b	The CYP Partnership will prepare annual reports on the delivery of this plan and our ambitions in meeting The Promise commitments	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	Promise subgroup has been formed and work is ongoing to scope out all workstreams relating to The Promise and encompassing into broad themes the activity within the service as well as actions in the CSP e.g. participation, development of care provision. The implementation plan will be reflected in the refreshed corporate parenting plan to align with the themes of the Children's Services Plan.

2. Joint investment plans for Children's Services in Clackmannanshire are in place and reviewed at least annually

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP C2a	Our Human and Economic Cost Modelling review will support our work in jointly designing a model for how current investments in Children's Services can be spent more effectively in Clackmannanshire	Chief Social Work Officer	✓	Work undertaken to estimate how much we are currently spending on children and families in and around the care system applying Follow the Money mapping. The HECM approach aligns with our strategic review of commissioned services to shift our resources to early intervention and prevention. The Family Wellbeing Partnership is a key example of using resources differently to deliver person-centred approaches, by listening to families, and building up community assets and solutions to improve whole family wellbeing and outcomes.
CHC CSP C2b	Current service provision will be reviewed to inform commissioning decisions of current and future need that support early intervention and prevention	Senior Manager Early Intervention	✓	The strategic needs analysis and review of current commissioned services have now been concluded and the report has been provided. This has been considered by Senior Managers within the council and a paper has been submitted for consideration by the Council. Thereafter services will be commissioned in line with the review findings, in order to be in a position to deliver the required services from 1.4.23.

3. Plans, policies, information and systems for Children's Services are shared seamlessly across the partnership

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP C3a	Partners will strengthen sharing of information in order to safeguard children young people and vulnerable adults to align with the national refresh of GIRFEC	Lead Officer Child Protection; Chief Nurse, Universal Children's Services	✓	Forth Valley GIRFEC working group progressing implementation. As per A1F - Multi-Agency GIRFEC meeting commenced with plans to report into the Forth Valley Child Protection Guideline group. Target completion date of Sept 2023.
CHC CSP C3b	The CYP Partnership will ensure that the Community Planning Partnership can respond to national policy and developing legislation including consultations on these	Chief Social Work Officer	✓	CYP partnership has engaged in a range of national consultations. Implemented Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019; the Equal Protection from Assault Act, 2019; and progressing implementation of the new National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland, 2021.
CHC CSP C3c	Implement the EIRD process in Clackmannanshire	Police Scotland	✓	E-IRD now implemented. A review of the e-IRD system after 3 months of introduction identified a number of amendments were suggested to improve the functionality which were approved by the IRD Steering Group and have now been implemented. The IRD Steering Group will continue to monitor the quality of the eIRD process and any additional amendments to functionality as required. Each agency now has a SPOC in place. The group will focus on bedding in e-IRD, e-IRD reviews and the implementation of the national CP Guidance.

D. Priority Theme - Supporting the Workforce

1. Partners will have the skills and competencies they require to deliver high quality services when working with our children, young people and their families

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP D1a	The CYP Partnership will undertake a skills audit and integrated workforce development plan across the partnership	Service Manager; Police Scotland	✓	Public Protection Unit DI's to review available training from across the partnership and have undertaken to match staff from within the teams in the PPU to this to ensure the development and upskilling of staff in the multi agency environment.
CHC CSP	The CYP Partnership will progress specific workforce development	NHS; Lead Officer Child Protection	✓	Multi-agency Public Protection Learning and Practice Development Workforce Strategy, 2020-23, developed, regularly updated and shared with all partner agencies. The Learning and

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
D1b	around protection safeguarding children and young people from abuse, exploitation and neglect			Development subgroup has been an increase in the multi-agency take up of training courses, in particular the UNCRC. A total of 1015 e-learning modules have been completed across the multi agency workforce, ensuring partnership staff have the appropriate training to respond to keeping children and young people within Clackmannanshire Council safe from harm.
CHC CSP D1c	We will implement the Transforming Psychological Trauma Knowledge and Skills Framework	Principal Educational Psychologist; Principal Public Health Officer	✓	Initial discussions have been had to consider a spending plan including strategic oversight of governance structures and accountabilities; appointing a co-ordinator within the Council to support the development of trauma-informed practice across the Council and partners including a gaps-analysis to identify existing needs and innovative models of delivery, and partnership with the third sector to support the delivery of training and to support implementation of trauma-informed practice across the partnership. A Steering Group is being established to oversee this work and links made with Trauma Champions across Forth Valley to ensure consistency of approach.
CHC CSP D1d	We will implement the Safe and Together Strategy across the partnership as part of our wider domestic abuse strategy and ensure that there is collaborative investment in Safe and Together and the Caledonian Model for working with families and children who have experienced domestic abuse	Senior Manager, Justice	✓	Non Court Mandated Caledonian Programme has been moved into Justice Services. 5 referrals are now at various stages of progression through assessment, including full Caledonian and SARA 3 Risk Assessments. Referral process continues to be from Children Services. SACRO Women's Support Workers are now located onsite alongside the Justice Team. Safe and Together Training events are scheduled for December. New Child Care staff are to participate as part of their induction. A perpetrator and women's support worker have been identified to work in partnership with STRIVE where domestic abuse has been identified. This initiative is part of collaboration between Police Scotland, Housing, SACRO and Social Work Services and utilises the skills and experience of existing staff. Community Justice Partnership has agreed to financially support a similar service to that offered to STRIVE for men who wish to self refer for support to address domestically abusive behaviours. This will be delivered by workers trained in the Caledonian Programme and will be launched as part of the initiatives from Clackmannanshire council for the 16 Days of Action.
CHC CSP D1e	Embed the Readiness for Learning Programme in Clackmannanshire	Principal Educational Psychologist	✓	Educational Psychology Service Improvement Plan contains specific actions to embed Readiness for Learning. This includes: Provision of 50 e-modules through the Council's online e-learning portal, ongoing consultation to identified target schools and through educational psychology case work, development of range of materials for both children, young people and families relating to the R4L approach available on the FLIPClacks website for use at home or in school. Ongoing provision of an Intensive Therapeutic Service offering Eye-Movement Desensitisation and Re-processing (EMDR) to those pupils displaying the highest levels of need. All educational psychologists within the authority are currently training in the Neurosequential Model in Therapeutics to further enhance and extend the support to the most vulnerable pupils, specifically those at risk of requiring out of authority residential care.

2. Partners will have common and shared workforce values when working with our children, young people and families

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP D2a	The partnership will review its good employment and fair work practices across all commissioned children's services	Senior Manager Partnership & Transformation	✓	A good employment charter has been developed as part of the Wellbeing Economy and CWB work. This will be shared with Alliance partners in the Summer, and thereafter will be shared with CPP partnerships. Needs to link with other key priority actions particularly FWP and Strategic commissioning review.
CHC CSP D2b	We will develop policies and workforce development strategies to meet the new Keeping Brothers and Sisters Together legislation and National Practice Guidance	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	Work is under way to quantify how many young people we have in care who are placed with siblings as well as having siblings elsewhere. This will help us measure success in this area. Work is required to consider more creative ways of linking siblings while work is underway to develop our care provision. As above, working is ongoing to ensure that a broad range of young people are represented in the participation group including siblings and yp placed out with Clacks.
CHC CSP D2c	We will develop values and workforce development strategies to fully implement the UNCRC across Children's Services	Education Senior Manager (Secondary)	✓	Children's Parliament Project Workers have been working with children in Banchory and St Serf's primary schools in Tullibody, in partnership with Clackmannanshire Council, on a project aimed at supporting the implementation of UNCRC while it is incorporated into Scots law. They produced a range of practical resources for adults to use to make children's rights real in their jobs, and to provide practical tips on gathering children's views. These online interactive resources were officially launched by the Members of the Children's Parliament (MCPs) at an event at Tullibody Civic Centre on 4 May 2022. Alongside officers of the council, parents, carers and citizens in the wider community attended the event. The children presented their resources, including a short film they had made about UNCRC and shared their experiences of participation and the co-production process. All these resources have now been shared across the People Directorate.
CHC CSP D2d	Implement The Clackmannanshire Family Wellbeing Partnership to understand what it takes to shift a whole system towards a wellbeing and capabilities approach to service design & delivery. This will look at family wellbeing budgets; values based leadership and community around the child	Senior Manager Inclusion & Partnerships	✓	Work is progressing the key workstreams including, moving Strive to early intervention model by focussing activity around a feeder primary school to Alloa Academy. The FWP obtained funding for employability research, which is being undertaken by Wellbeing Economy Alliance and a range of partners will come together at a Values Based Leadership event in November to explore the barriers, challenges and opportunities of employability in Clacks from a community wealth building lens.
CHC CSP D2e	Develop access pathways to training for wider workforce working with children and young people within communities and third sector through the new TSI Scotland Network online training platform	Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface	✓	Work is underway and the learning platform is likely to be launched January to March 2023. Once the learning platform is up and running it will be emailed across any identified e-modules to be uploaded. At present 3rd sector partners who work in Clackmannanshire are able to access all multi agency public protection training through the training calendar.

1. The partnership and its public agencies have plans in place to meet Children Service Planning emerging legislative framework

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP E1a	The CYP partnership will review and put in place appropriate plans around the following key areas of new and developing legislation: UNCRC	Education Senior Manager (Secondary)	✓	Work being taken forward as part of the Regional Improvement Collaborative (RIC) workstream on the implementation of the UNCRC Scotland Bill is continuing, with the caveat that the Scottish Government still has to address the decision of the UK Supreme Court in October 2021, that the Bill lies outwith the legislative powers of the Scottish Parliament. As part of The Promise and in readiness for when the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is embedded in all aspects Scottish law, Multi-Agency United Nations on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Training taking place in 3 Cohorts during Sept 2022.
CHC CSP E1b	The CYP partnership will review and put in place appropriate plans around the following key areas of new and developing legislation: Children's' Hearing	Locality Reporter Manager (SCRA)	✓	Work is under way through the 'Keeping the Promise' project in order to advise on any reform/changes in legislation relating to the children's hearing.
CHC CSP E1c	The CYP partnership will review and put in place appropriate plans around the following key areas of new and developing legislation: Keeping Brothers and Sisters Together	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	Work is under way to quantify how many young people we have in care who are placed with siblings as well as having siblings elsewhere. This will help us measure success in this area. Work is required to consider more creative ways of linking siblings while work is underway to develop our care provision. As above, working is ongoing to ensure that a broad range of young people are represented in the participation group including siblings and yp placed out with Clacks.
CHC CSP E1d	The CYP partnership will review and put in place appropriate plans around the following key areas of new and developing legislation: Age of criminal responsibility	Lead Officer Child Protection	✓	7 minute briefing, briefing note for practitioners and operational guidance PowerPoint briefing developed and shared with multi-agency staff and on Forth Valley Practitioner Pages - https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/fvpp/child-protection-age-of-criminal-responsibility-act/ . At the last meeting of the Forth Valley ACRA Implementation Group on 13th June it was agreed that the short life working group was no longer required and any update to guidance or processes would become the responsibility of the Forth Valley Child Protection Policies, Procedures and Protocol subgroup. It was also agreed that a Forth Valley Practitioner Forum session will be arranged when it is felt there is learning to be shared.
CHC CSP E1e	The CYP partnership will review and put in place appropriate plans around the following key areas of new and developing legislation: Domestic Abuse (Protection) (Scotland) Bill	Senior Manager, Justice	✓	Whilst the Bill became Law on 5 May 2021 introducing use of new protection notices and orders to protect people from domestic abuse, it hasn't yet been implemented.
CHC CSP	The CYP partnership will review and put in place appropriate plans around	Lead Officer Child Protection	✓	Forth Valley National Child Protection Guidance Implementation Group established and meeting regularly. Gap analysis undertaken and priorities identified. Communication strategy

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
E1f	the following key areas of new and developing legislation: Support implementation of the National Guidance for Child Protection within the broader context of local GIRFEC practice			has been developed to keep staff updated as work progresses. First newsletter shared with all partner agencies. FV agreed a go live date from 31 October 2022 of the change in language to Child Protection Planning meeting as feedback sought from children/young people and families advised that the language was oppressive.
CHC CSP E1g	The CYP Partnership will refresh the Corporate Parenting Strategy for Clackmannanshire and oversee its delivery	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	The Corporate Parenting Plan is in the process of being refreshed to reflect the implementation of the Promise to our care experienced young people in Clackmannanshire. Priorities to be achieved by the end of March 2023 include completion of this work, re-establishment of a corporate parenting group within Clackmannanshire, and development of the Oor Clacks Voices group.
CHC CSP E1h	The CYP Partnership will take forward the recommendations and oversee local implementation of #keepthepromise and report on progress	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	<p>There are a number of work streams ongoing relating to keeping The Promise. This is reported on to CYP Strategic Partnership and to elected members through Children & Young People's Board. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of local care provision: A Supported Lodgings Service has been registered with Care Inspectorate and is awaiting approval - Review of provision at Woodside and opportunities to increase residential provision within Clackmannanshire <p>Focus on foster carer support and recruitment which includes a review of fees and allowances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation Network <p>The group has established key work streams to take forward, the first relates to the language of care. A survey was conducted amongst care experienced young people and those supporting care experienced young people which concluded at the end of September. The findings of this are not yet published. A working group has been established supported by the Design School and Promise Team to consider how language and framing can be incorporated into service redesign and existing work streams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keeping Siblings Together <p>Training has been commissioned which will take place in December 2022 relating to assessing siblings and maintaining meaningful links where it is not possible for siblings to be placed together. This training will provide a framework in which to develop a policy statement and framework for decision making and planning relating to children within siblings groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trauma Informed Practice <p>There is close partnership working between Children's Services and Psychological Services within the People Directorate which is shaping opportunities for training, support to carers, and support to care experienced young people. Examples of this include PACE training for all residential staff and educational psychologists, and adult attachment training planned for February 2023 for social work and educational psychology staff.</p>

2. The partnership will have robust governance plans in place and will keep these under regular review

Code	Action	Lead	Expected Outcome	Progress Update
CHC CSP E2a	The CYP partnership will have clear operating arrangements and governance structures in place. This will include links to sub groups and other partnerships and reporting on progress to the CPP and other appropriate committees	Chief Social Work Officer	✓	Membership of the CYP Partnership reviewed ensuring Senior Manager representation from across the partnership. All have a senior leadership and strategic role Reporting templates developed for CYP accountable leads to report on progress against priority actions. Cycle of 6 weekly meetings in place.
CHC CSP E2b	The CYP Partnership will improve its use of data to drive performance and improvement and will have robust performance management processes and systems in place	Senior Manager Partnership & Transformation	✓	Performance framework developed for the CYP outlining performance reporting requirements and schedule. Performance dashboard established (using Pentana) which will enable regular monitoring at strategic level of key performance measures. Strategic needs assessment process will consider horizon scanning. Data and insight sources which will inform this work to be mapped. Reporting templates developed and shared with CYP leads.
CHC CSP E2c	The CYP Partnership will develop and embed creative approaches that ensure the views and voices of children and young people are sought, listened to and taken into account into work undertaken to #KeepThePromise	Service Manager - Permanence	✓	Development of a Participation Network to improve the current collaboration and participatory opportunities for care experienced children and young people and their families and carers to support Keeping The Promise across Clackmannanshire. A Participation/ Voice Group and Mobilisation Team have been established to ensure accountability for progress and actions across the partnership. Developing a fair and transparent policy for remunerating individuals who are involved in co-designing and co-producing aspects of service design, including a successful bid into the Lens to develop a prototype for remunerating individuals involved in codesigning services. Reframing Language Survey was released in June 2022 and shared with members of the Participation Network. Survey closed on 31.07.22