



**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
4 MARCH 2020**

SUBJECT: CHILDREN'S SERVICES PLAN 2020-23

BY: CHIEF OFFICER, MORAY INTEGRATION JOINT BOARD

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the development of the Children's Services Plan (CSP) 2020-23.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (D) (2 and 12) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the functions of the Council under the Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Committee scrutinises and notes the content of this report.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Section 8(1) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 requires every local authority and its relevant health board to jointly prepare a Children's Services Plan for the area of the local authority, in respect of each three-year period. The second three year plan (2020-23) is required to be in place by 1 April 2020.
- 3.2 The GIRFEC Leadership Group (GLG) established a CSP Development Group in July 2019, comprising of representatives from across the Children's Services Partnership. A project plan was approved by GLG in July 2019.
- 3.3 In January 2020 the Scottish Government published revised Statutory Guidance on Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland Act) 2014 (Children's Services Planning), which required the project to be adapted. Risks and mitigating actions were approved by GLG.
- 3.4 The revised guidance outlines key steps to successful CSP. They have been developed by the Care Inspectorate with the aim of supporting the work of the Community Planning Partnership.

- 3.5 CELCIS reviewed the CSPs compiled in each of the 32 local authority areas, covering the period 2017-20. This feedback provided has informed our development of the 2020-23 CSP.
- 3.6 In response to the Care Inspectorates Joint Inspection of Children and Young People's Services, Moray Children's Services embarked on an ambitious 5 year improvement journey. As part of the journey, a successful application was made to the Scottish Government to be part of the Realigning Children's Services (RCS) programme. The outputs of the RCS programme have helped shape the 2020-23 CSP.
- 3.7 Sara Hampson, RCS Programme Manager, Scottish Government has supported the implementation of RCS in Moray. She is also the author of the revised Children's Services Planning Guidance. She has acted as both a facilitator and critical friend throughout the development of Moray's Children's Services Plan (2020-23).
- 3.8 Progress in relation to the development of the plan is summarised under the Care Inspectorate key steps to successful Children's Services Planning.

3.8.1 **An ambitious and compelling vision**

All key stakeholders; children and young people, parents/carers, front line practitioners and members of the GLG shaped the vision.

Moray Youth Matters, a group made of 20 young people from across Moray and including representation from a number of equalities groups finalised the vision in their own words:-

"It's my right to live in a community where my voice is heard and builds me up to be all I can be."

3.8.2 **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)**

The JSNA has been undertaken with input from all key stakeholders, including children and families. It is a 'live' document which will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and more frequently, as required. **(Appendix 1)**

The analysis was undertaken based on; current and relevant data which was compared where possible with comparator authorities and Scottish averages and extensive consultation and engagement with children, families, frontline practitioners and management within Children's Services.

Consultation and engagement activities are detailed below.

- RCS survey work undertaken with young people within schools (P5-S4). 81% of primary school pupils and 75% of secondary school pupils responded to the survey (5247 pupils in total)
- Face to face surveys with 194 younger children and 104 of their parents This was undertaken by nursery staff using age appropriate techniques
- An online survey completed by 959 parents/Cares throughout Moray

- Two workshops attended by 57 frontline practitioners. Their views were sought on the needs of children and families they work with and which priorities they feel need to be addressed with and for children, young people and families.
- Face to face engagement with parents. Engagement sessions were delivered in partnership with 2 local employers; Baxters and Moray Council.

Based on the JSNA, 4 key priorities were agreed:-

- Improved Wellbeing (The World Health Organisation's definition of wellbeing was adopted. It has 3 core components; mental, physical and social wellbeing)
- Mitigation of the impact of poverty
- Improved outcomes for looked after and care experienced children and young people
- Children and young people are safe from harm

3.8.3 Strategic mapping of services and identification of the totality of the resource

This is a core component of the RCS Programme. Services for children and families in Moray, delivered across the partnership have been identified and their associated costings have been collated and categorised.

This has proved to be a complex task and will be completed by 28 February 2020.

The identification of need and mapping of existing services and their associated costs will help the partnership to make informed strategic decisions about how to focus their collective resource to improve outcomes for children and families

3.8.3 Development of a SMART delivery plan

SMART delivery plans for each priority have been drafted by the CSP Development Group, based on the JSNA. They include range of outcome focused performance measures.

3.8.4 Governance and accountability

Responsibility for the implementation and ongoing review of the Children's Services Plan sits with the GLG.

Their associated subgroups will be responsible for the implementation of the each of the priorities.

3.8.5 Annual performance reporting

In accordance with the statutory guidance, annual reports will be submitted to the Scottish Government.

A programme of ongoing review of progress with all key stakeholders will be established. This will include the communication of key achievements.

3.9 The draft plan (**Appendix 2**) will be finalised by 28 February 2020, in accordance with the planning scheduled approved by GLG. Throughout March consultations are scheduled with all key stakeholders.

3.10 The final plan will be approved and signed off by the Local Authority and Health Board by 1 April 2020.

4 **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

(a) **Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

The finalised Children's Services Plan will be a core component of the revised Local Outcome Improvement Plan. It will support the Building a better future for our children and young people in Moray priority.

(b) **Policy and Legal**

Section 8(1) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 requires every local authority and its relevant health board to jointly prepare a Children's Services Plan for the area of the local authority, in respect of each three-year period.

A progress report must be submitted to the Scottish Government on an annual basis.

(c) **Financial implications**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

(d) **Risk Implications**

There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.

(e) **Staffing Implications**

There are no staffing implications arising directly from this report.

(f) **Property**

There are no property implications arising directly from this report.

(g) **Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

An Equalities/Socio Economic Impact Assessment is not required as this report is to inform Committee of the development of the Children's Services Plan (2020-23).

(h) **Consultations**

Chief Officer, Health and Social Care Moray, Head of Service, Sean Coady, Head of Service Operations (Adult and Children's Services) ,

Head of Education, Head of Integrated Children's Services, Head of Education Resources and Communities, Chief Social Work Officer, Senior Human Resource Adviser, Morag Smith, Senior Solicitor and Paul Connor, Principal Accountant have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report as regards their respective responsibilities.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 That the committee reviews the progress of the development of the Children's Services Plan (2020-23).

Author of Report: Susan Leonard, Quality Assurance & Locality Manager

Background Papers:

Ref: