

## **AGENDA ITEM NO 7**

**REPORT NO 240/21**

### **ANGUS COUNCIL**

#### **CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 12 AUGUST 2021**

#### **TAYSIDE PLAN FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES: ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21 AND REVISED PLAN FOR 2021/23**

**MARK ARMSTRONG, DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

#### **ABSTRACT**

In 2017, Angus became partners in the Tayside Collaborative for Children, Young People and Families and agreed the [Tayside Plan 2017 – 2020](#). Due to the pandemic, this plan was extended to March 2021. Each year, summary reports have highlighted progress towards the ambition of the plan. The annual report for 2020-21 on progress against actions set out in the Tayside Plan is drafted for submission to Scottish Government. This report seeks approval from Angus Children and Learning Committee to submit the 2020-21 annual report which is the fourth and final report on the plan. The revised Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-23 is also presented to Committee for approval.

#### **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) Approve the annual report on Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2020-21
- (ii) Approve the revised Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-23
- (iii) Direct the Depute Chief Executive to bring an annual report to committee following the end of reporting period to March 2022.
- (iv) Note the intention to publish both documents on the Tayside Regional Collaborative Website after 7 September 2021 to enable all relevant Tayside authorities to consider and approve.

#### **2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COMMUNITY PLAN**

These reports contribute to the following local outcome contained within the Angus Community Plan 2017-2030:

- Children are given the best start in life
- Physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing is improved
- There are more opportunities for people to achieve success

It also seeks approval for the priorities in the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-23 to ensure Tayside is the best place for children and young people to grow up.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Angus Council, as part of Angus Integrated Children's Services, continue as core partners to the Tayside Collaborative for Children, Young People and Families. Part 3 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 and publish regular updates on the plan. The current plan was intended to run to March 2020 however due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, Angus Children and Learning Committee approved continuation of the current plan to March 2021 (Report no 237/20).

- 3.2 This annual report (appendix 1) covers the period April 2020 to March 2021 and reports on collaborative work across the region.
- 3.3 In Tayside, there remains a strong continued commitment to work in partnership with a comprehensive and inclusive approach across a wide range of public bodies, community planning partners (including the third sector) and alongside children, young people and families. At the conclusion of the period of the first Tayside Plan, partners have evaluated the collaborative position with a unanimous outcome that there remains significant benefit in continuation of the Tayside Collaborative shared planning approach and we therefore present the second iteration of the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-23.

#### **4. CURRENT POSITION**

##### **4.1 Annual Report 2020-21**

The annual report 2020-21 (see appendix 1) highlights the work undertaken against the 5 strategic priorities identified in the plan and progress of each of the priority groups charged with delivering improvements in the area.

- 4.2 Priority Group 1 have concluded and reported the findings of the Tayside extension pilot of Family Nurse Partnership (extended up to age 24); leadership coaching has been widely delivered and supported our approach to 1140 hours of early learning and childcare; income maximisation support for pregnant women and families has been tested and is ready for next phase of implementation and the Solihull programme for parenting has been adapted (virtual) and delivered across the region.
- 4.3 Work through Priority Group 2, Learning and Attainment was adapted significantly during 2020-21 as the focus was on delivering learning virtually and ensuring hubs were established and providing accessible and safe care for children and young people. Colleagues from across the region drew on the existing collaborative arrangements to share, adapt and deliver services during the pandemic.
- 4.4 Priority Group 3 have brought two important strategies to conclusion; Child Healthy Weight and Connected Tayside: An Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Children and Young People. The group have also supported regional approaches to the Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme and School Counselling.
- 4.5 Priority Group 4 have continued the focus on young people experiencing inequality with the conclusion of a regional review of respite and work on Secure Care Standards. As with Priority Group 2, planned work has not progressed at the intended pace as services were refocused on delivering core services to looked after and care experienced children and young people.
- 4.6 Priority Group 5 have concluded an independent review into initial and significant care reviews in Tayside. This will underpin the shared leadership and vision for protecting children over the next 3 years. There has been wide dissemination of research findings through learning materials. The key themes identified from this work has led to the development of 2 main areas of improvement: working together and relationships with children and families, as well as a series of priorities for practitioner training and workforce development.
- 4.7 **Tayside Plan for Children Young People and Families 2021-2023**  
In 2017 we published our first Children's Services Plan for children, young people and families in Tayside, working to our vision that Tayside will be the best place to grow up. We extended this plan to March 2021 as we worked through the Covid-19 pandemic. We have reviewed and evaluated progress on this plan, on the strengths and benefits gained through collaboration across our region and hearing from children and families about what difference our work makes and what more we need to do. This new plan for two years 2021/23 bring us into line with statutory reporting timescales for integrated children's services plans.
- 4.8 The new Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-2023 (see appendix 2) has been developed concentrating on fewer priorities to ensure focused collaborative work. The five key areas in the Plan remain the same. These are;
1. Our children having the best start in life in a nurturing environment.
  2. Our children and young people being meaningfully engaged with high quality learning experiences to extend their potential.

3. Our children growing up healthy, confident and resilient with improving physical and mental health and strengthened emotional wellbeing.
  4. Our children, young people and families at risk, who face significant inequalities and disadvantage, having improved life chances.
  5. Our children and young people being safe from harm
- 4.9 We have refined the actions to support this work to ensure that they are aligned to the collaborative approach agreed and these are being taken forward by the Priority Groups already established. The overview of the action plans for each group are attached as appendices to the new plan.

The Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-2023:

- Reviews our collective vision and values as a collaborative, on which our actions are based.
- Identifies the longer-term priorities for improvement, which we have identified as a collaborative. These remain the key shared issues that we need to address to build on current successes and to tackle the emerging challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Outlines how these actions will be implemented. This Plan may be updated during the course of the year, as and when needed, to reflect the impact of Tayside's recovery from Covid-19 and the further development of our Collaborative actions.
- Provides the context for our agile planning approach, through our data subgroup, Priority Groups and leadership and governance process.

## **5. PROPOSALS**

Angus Council as core partners to the Tayside Collaborative for Children, Young People and Families, will continue this commitment through delivery of the proposed plan covering the period 2021–2023 with annual reports providing opportunity for scrutiny and oversight. This report and Plan will be laid before a relevant committee/board of each of the statutory partners', by their local officers, for approval. It is therefore proposed that Committee:

- (i) Approve the annual report on Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2020-21.
- (ii) Approve the revised Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-23.
- (iii) Direct the Depute Chief Executive to bring an annual report to committee following the end of reporting period to March 2022.
- (iv) Note the intention to publish both documents on the Tayside Regional Collaborative Website after 7 September 2021 to enable all relevant Tayside authorities to consider and approve.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

## **7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

An Equality Impact Assessment is attached below. The assessment highlights benefit to some protected groups; there are no specific risks highlighted and the Tayside Plan seeks to address identified inequalities.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

Consultation has taken place via the Tayside Collaborative including with officers of Dundee City Council, Perth and Kinross Council and NHS Tayside. Broader local consultation has also taken place via Angus Integrated Children's Services Group and directly involved young people with care experience.

**NOTE:** No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Tayside Plan Annual Report 2020-2021

Appendix 2 - The Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021-2023



## Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Form

(To be completed with reference to Guidance Notes)

### Step 1

**Name of Proposal** (includes e. g. budget savings, committee reports, strategies, policies, procedures, service reviews, functions):

Annual Report Tayside Plan, 20-21

Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2021 – 2023

### Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment

**No**

**(A)** If Yes, please choose from the following options **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

(i) It does not impact on people

Yes/No

(ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics

Yes/No

(iii) It is for information only

Yes/No

(iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year

**Yes**

(v) It is technical

Yes/No

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

**(B)** If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment

**YES**

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment

**No**

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

### Step 3

(i)Lead Directorate/Service:

Children, Families and Justice and Education and Life Long Learning

(ii)Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

Part 3 Children & Young People Scotland Act 2014

(iii)What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

5 priority areas for collaborative work across Tayside to improve outcomes for children and families across the region.

(iv)Is it a new proposal?        **No**        Please indicate        OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function?        **Yes**        Please indicate

### Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees	No
Job Applicants	No
Service users	Yes
Members of the public	Yes

**Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:**

**Internal data** (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

Schools and learning data, social work data on child protection, referrals and looked after children, feedback from care experienced young people, advocacy representatives etc.

**Internal consultation** (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

Via Integrated children's services consultation event in January 2021 including wide range of partners, care experienced young people, community planning reps, third sector reps etc.

**External data** (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

Tayside Performance Reports for Looked After Children, Child Protection, Child Health, School attainment and attendance.

Child Poverty data.

**External consultation** (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils.

Angus Integrated Children's Services Group  
Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative

**Other** (general information as appropriate).

#### **Step 6: Evidence Gaps.**

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold?      No

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need.

**Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups?** Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.**

Age

#### **Impact**

Positive as this plan covers birth to young adults and maintains a focus on outcomes for children and young people

Disability

#### **Impact**

Positive – focus on transitions, developmental checks for children and early help and support.

Gender reassignment

**Impact**

Neutral – nothing specific in the plan however support is in place via counselling and mental health services to deal with a range of issues that may impact a young person health and wellbeing.

Marriage and Civil Partnership

**Impact**

Neutral

Pregnancy/Maternity

**Impact**

Positive – focus on reducing poverty for pregnant woman, access to support services including parenting support via strategy for parents and ties in the work on the Tayside Pregnancy and Parenthood Strategy.

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

**Impact**

Positive – focus on reducing inequalities for all young people and closing the attainment gap.

Religion or Belief

**Impact**

Neutral

Sex

**Impact**

Neutral

Sexual orientation

**Impact**

Neutral

**Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected**

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?

Parental engagement has taken place on what is needed from a strategy.

Engagement with a group of care experienced young adults on what is important to them for Angus.

**Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?**

Plan actively addresses negative impacts – monitoring of data measures, benchmarking, pooling of resources where this brings added value and with local work continuing via community planning and other plans such as Angus Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme.

**Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.**

**Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to:** eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

Advances equality of opportunity, as the aim is to reduce inequalities for all young people, and as referenced focus on our most vulnerable and ensuring system approaches to early help through to intensive help and protection.

**Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?**

N/A

**Step 13: FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY**

This step is only applicable to **strategies** which are key, high level decisions. If your proposal is **not** a strategy, please leave this Step blank, and go to Step 14.

Links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance.

**Step 13(A) What evidence do you have about any socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome in relation to this strategic issue?**

**Step 13(B) Please state if there are any gaps in socio-economic evidence for this strategy and how you will take measures to gather the evidence you need.**

**Step 13(C) Are there any potential impacts this strategy may have specifically on the undernoted groupings?** Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

**Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each grouping.**

**Low and/or No Wealth** (e.g. those with enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future.

**Impact**

**Material Deprivation** (i.e. those unable to access basic goods and services e.g. repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure and hobbies).

**Impact**

**Area Deprivation** (i.e. where people live (e.g. rural areas), or where they work (e.g. accessibility of transport).

**Impact**

**Socio-economic Background** i.e. social class including parents' education, people's employment and income.

**Impact**

**Other** – please indicate

**Step 13(D) Please state below if there are measures which could be taken to reduce socio-economic disadvantage/inequalities of outcome.**

**Step 14: What arrangements will be put in place to monitor and review the Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment?**

This is an annual report and any new/amended actions will also be impact assessed

**Step 15: Where will this Equality Impact/Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment be published?**

Alongside the committee report.

**Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation.** Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: Kirsty Lee, Service Leader

Reviewed by: Doreen Phillips, Senior Practitioner Equalities

Approved by: Kathryn Lindsay, Director Children, Families and Justice

NB. There are several worked examples of separate EIA and FSD Assessments in the Guidance which may be of use to you.

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