

AGENDA ITEM NO 5

REPORT NO 311/23

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE - 14 NOVEMBER 2023

TAYSIDE PLAN FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2022-23 and TAYSIDE PLAN FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES 2023-2026

REPORT BY MARK ARMSTRONG, DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ABSTRACT

This report provides an update on the implementation of the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families over the last 12 months. The report highlights progress being made in relation to the five priorities outlined in the plan, with a specific focus on the local impact of shared actions of the regional collaborative. A full update is outlined in the [Tayside Plan Annual Report 2022-2023](#) (Appendix 1). This report also presents the [Tayside Plan for 2023-2026](#) (Appendix 2).

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Children and Learning Committee:

- (i) Note progress detailed within the annual update report; and
- (ii) Instruct that a further progress report be presented to Children and Learning Committee in autumn 2024.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/COUNCIL PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within:

The **Angus Community Plan 2017-30**:

- The best start in life for children
- Improved physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing
- More opportunities for people to achieve success

The **Council Plan 2019-2024**:

- We want to maximise inclusion and reduce inequalities.

The **Tayside Plan** for Children, Young People and Families 2021-23

- Our children having the best start in life in a nurturing environment.
- Our children and young people being meaningfully engaged with high quality learning experiences to extend their potential.
- Our children growing up healthy, confident and resilient with improving physical and mental health and strengthened emotional wellbeing.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The production of a Children’s Services Plan is a joint statutory requirement of local authorities and health boards as detailed in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. The Act requires partners to develop a strategic plan which promotes Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) and contributes towards our shared commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

In Tayside, partners worked collaboratively on the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2020-23 to complement local activities and help ensure that we realise our shared vision that ‘children and young people have the best start in life and that Tayside will be the best place in Scotland to grow up’. This ambition aligns with local priorities as detailed in section 2 above.

- 3.2 Governance arrangements involve a multi-agency Executive Group which includes each of the statutory partners, a Third Sector representative with links to Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate. Implementation is supported by five regional Priority Groups focused on delivery. The previous update considered by Committee in November 2022 (Report No. 381/22) outlined progress and improved outcomes in relation to a range of initiatives.

4. PROGRESS UPDATE 2022-23

Progress of work led by the Priority Groups is detailed in the Annual Report 2022-23 and is summarised below. Building on this work, the Delivery Plan 2023-26 details the actions and measures to be taken forward over the next 3 years.

Priority 1: Pre-birth and Early Years

Workstream	Progress
Transitions	Process maps were used to identify gaps in transition processes for children with developmental or additional support needs, identify Tayside-wide solutions and create a Pan-Tayside pathway.
Family Support: Welfare and Poverty	<p>In 2022-23, there was an additional 83 members of staff (including Midwifery, Health Visitors and Family Nurse Practitioners) trained on implementing referral pathways to Welfare Rights.</p> <p>164 people have accessed NHS Tayside’s Fuel Poverty sway module which will continue to be offered to support rollout of the Warmth Matters app which will be promoted across primary care services in October and November 2023.</p>
Early Years Tracking	An Early Years tracking tool to monitor the progress of children aged 3-5 years is being used across Tayside by ELC staff to provide timely and targeted support for children.

Priority 2: Learning and Attainment

Workstream	Progress
UNCRC	<p>Professional learning sessions on Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) were offered to schools to increase understanding of UNCRC and attended by over 500 participants.</p> <p>Across Tayside, 181 schools are involved with RRSA; 16 have achieved Gold; 36 Silver; 87 Bronze; and an additional 42 schools registered. This is an increase of 50 schools since 2021/22.</p>
Digital Learning	The Tayside Virtual Campus expanded to support 35 learners engaging with 6 Advanced Higher subjects. 180 young people are enrolled to study 7 Advanced Higher subjects and 1 Higher subject in 2023-24.

	<p>The Open Tay Learning website provided a bespoke resource for young people with additional support needs. In 2022/23, this was developed to include English and Maths resources.</p> <p>26 schools achieved their Digital Schools Award with a further 106 now enrolled across the Tayside region.</p>
Moderation and Assessment	The online Quality Assurance and Moderation Support Officers (QAMSO) programme continued to be delivered to practitioners from across Tayside. In September 2022, a full day session was held for 140 school leaders across Tayside. Feedback was very positive.
Leadership	The Tayside Leadership, Development and Induction programme continued in 2022/23 with participation of a further 15 headteachers from across Tayside.
School improvement	Reciprocal visits resumed in session 2022/23 to support local authority central teams and build the capacity of school leaders across Tayside.
STEM	National 1- National 3 resources were developed for learners in the Senior Phase in all STEM subject areas.

Priority 3: Health and Wellbeing

Workstream	Progress
Child Healthy Weight	The Dundee Healthy Weight Partnership was refreshed, and membership expanded to partners outside Dundee to increase capacity to support the Tayside wide roll-out of a whole systems approach.
Mental health and wellbeing	<p>An implementation plan was developed to support 'Connected Tayside: An Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Children and Young People'. Posters of the Children and Young People's Charter, including a QR code to access resources, were distributed to schools and services across Tayside.</p> <p>The Counselling in Schools programme continued to be delivered across Tayside. During the reporting period April 2022 to March 2023, 3752 children and young people were supported.</p> <p>An evaluation of the impact of the Counselling in Schools programme in Tayside is being developed in conjunction with Abertay University.</p>

Priority 4: Care Experienced Children and Young People

Workstream	Progress
Education	Data pertaining to the school attendance of care experienced children and young people was reviewed and actions to develop better support were identified including work on transitions and additional support at home, school and the community.
Secure Care	A regional self-evaluation of practice against the new national Secure Care Standards was carried out by the 3 local authorities, NHS Tayside, and Strathclyde University Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice.
Brothers and Sisters	A focus on maintaining relationships with brothers and sisters was taken forward in Angus, with a view to scaling this up to a Tayside-wide model. This will inform action plans on how to maximise opportunities to maintain relationships, including in respect of brother/sister informed assessments, obtaining the views of brothers and sisters and placement capacity.

Priority 5: Safeguarding and Child Protection

Workstream	Progress
Workforce development	Workforce development, practitioner guidance and peer learning were the themes focused on. In Angus, the learning and development framework is updated every 2 months with new learning resources ensuring the workforce has access to the most up-to-date and relevant materials. Tayside Practitioner Guidance on Chronologies, Concern for Unborn Babies and Inter-Agency Referral Discussions (IRDs) were all reviewed and refreshed, ensuring compliance with the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (2021).
Performance	Following the publication of National Guidance for Child Protection Committees Undertaking Learning Reviews, local arrangements have been updated and Significant Case Reviews (SCRs) and Initial Case Reviews (ICRs) replaced with multi-agency Learning Reviews. Angus has jointly commissioned a consultant with Dundee Protecting People to review and develop local learning review guidance for all Protecting People committees.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Children and Learning Committee approves the Tayside Plan Annual Report 2022-2023 and the Tayside Plan for Infants, Children, Young People and Families 2023-2026.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 To support delivery of the aims of the Tayside Plan and the Tayside Regional Improvement Collaborative (TRIC), TRIC activity was supported by the Scottish Government via a grant allocation for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 amounting to £758,726.

7. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required as this is an update report not a new strategy.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The Angus Council Director of Children, Families and Justice and Director of Education and Lifelong Learning are members of the Tay Collaborative. Professional partners Perth and Kinross Council, Dundee City Council, the National Health Service and Police Scotland have contributed to this update report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are: None.

REPORT AUTHOR: Audrey Osborne, Service Leader, Education and Lifelong Learning

EMAIL DETAILS: childrenandlearning@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Tayside Plan Annual Report 2022-23

Appendix 2 – Tayside Plan 2023-26

Appendix 3 – Grant Funding Breakdown