

Moray Children's Services

Summary 2018/2019



**Moray
Community Planning
Partnership**

Foreword Chief Officers Group

We are delighted to present our second annual report following the publication of our Integrated Children's Services Plan 2017-2020. Our vision remains to create the right environment to enable children to be ambitious, confident, healthier and safe. Our ambition will only be delivered if we work together with children, young people and their families through a strong partnership.

This year has definitely been a year of change. We have listened to our communities, our staff and those who inspect us. We have spoken up about the things we need to change as individuals and as a partnership. We are beginning to deliver the improvements we sought.

We have spent time pulling all of our information together so we have a better picture of the needs of children, young people and their families. We have changed the way our services work so that if you need help it is getting easier to get the right help when you need it. We have introduced some new services; we have improved our existing services delivering access in a timelier manner. We have responded to feedback from our young people creating safe spaces to stay closer to their home town or village. We have supported our staff to make these changes by enhancing support and increasing opportunities to develop new skills.

When they came back to see us in 2018 the Care Inspectorate reported that the partnership had made significant improvements across several areas. They felt confident that we would succeed in our improvement journey and saw no need for any further review inspections to take place.

We have set out what we have achieved so far in this report but we know there is still more to do. As a group of Chief Officers we remain committed to ensuring that the good practice identified in the inspection report happens 100% of the time.

We would like to thank to everyone working in Children's Services for their hard work, dedication and support, without whom these improvements would not have been possible.

We would also like to give a special thanks to the young people who have given us their views, and we will continue to do our utmost to listen to the voices of all our children and families. This is essential if we are to focus on what really matters.

Susan Webb
Director of Public Health NHS Grampian

Campbell Thomson
Chief Superintendent Police Scotland

Roddy Burns
Chief Executive Moray Council

18,312 ▼

Children in Moray

11,778 ▼

Pupils in **53** schools

1,958 ▲

Registrations in
early learning childcare
centres

213 ▼

Looked after children

57 ▼

Children on the
Child Protection
Register



increase from last reporting period



decrease from last reporting period

The Children's Services Plan is a three-year plan. We are two years into our journey. This plan will develop over its lifetime because as we know, the needs of our children and young people change with time, and the plan needs to reflect those changes.

We have spent a large part of our time this year making sure we have the right processes and systems in place. We have invested in our staff through training to enable them to feel competent, confident and supported.

We have strengthened our supervision processes and given enhanced training to supervisors, to enable them to support and develop staff but also to challenge when performance is not meeting agreed expectations.

Contained within this summary is an overview of where we are now in relation to our three priorities; Ambitious and Confident Children, Healthier Children, and Safer Children.

More detailed information on our journey over the last year is available in the full Moray Children's Services Annual Report 2018-19

www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file128140.pdf





Moray Children's Services Plan – Two Years On

In Moray we have four strategic groups which report regularly to the Executive Leadership Group with progress on the areas of work they are responsible for. The groups are the Child Protection Committee, the Early Years Strategic Group, the Corporate Parenting Strategic Group and the GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child) Strategic Group. Outlined below are some of the areas of important progress made by the groups over the past year to improve children's services in Moray.

Early Years Strategic Group

- Early Talk Boost training package has been piloted by Speech and Language Therapy in 3 early years' settings and is being cascaded to upskill the workforce in child communication and development.
- The Family Nurse Partnership operating in Moray has broadened criteria to include mums aged 20-24 identified as having additional vulnerabilities such as mental health, drug and alcohol issues or a victim of domestic abuse.
- Funding was secured to expand breastfeeding support across Moray and facilitate staff capacity in relation to co-ordination and support/supervision of peer supporters.
- A 10 unit module of training has been developed for Early Years practitioners to improve standards in pre-school settings.
- Successful implementation of early year's expansion phase 1.

GIRFEC Strategic Group

- Development of an improved child planning process and plan through consultations and practice audits, using Quality Improvement Methodology.
- Young Carer Strategy co-produced with young carers and aligned with adult carers to strengthen the profile of the needs of young carers.
- Testing of a Young Carer Statement so that the needs of young carers can be identified.
- Producing a toolkit and information on mental wellbeing for practitioners which is available on a mental health website hosted by the Moray Council.
- Co-production of a Participation and Engagement Strategy with young people to meaningfully engage with young people.

Corporate Parenting Strategic Group

- Mental Health assessment is now part of the Looked After Child's health assessment and ongoing mental health monitoring is improving outcomes for Care Experienced Young People.
- Two scatter flats have been established to support young people's transition into adulthood and independence.
- Improvement project on minimising the time children and young people experience drift in achieving permanence, to improve their outcomes.
- 34 young people have accessed Fit Life cards to help support a healthy lifestyle and improve equality of access.
- Changes to the Fostering Scheme to better support foster carers and the children and young people placed with them.

Child Protection Committee (CPC)

- The Neglect Group was established and a Neglect Medical Pathway developed.
- Moray Care Profile being tested to identify neglect earlier.
- Moray Significant Case Review (SCR) Group have completed four Initial Case Reviews that have been reported to the CPC. Learning from these has been cascaded through Practice Reflection Intensive Short Module (PRISM) events.
- A Vulnerable Pregnancy Pathway has been developed to help support those expectant mothers who most need it.
- The Initial Referral Discussion (IRD) procedure was reviewed and updated. The quality of IRDs has improved. Highlighted previously as evidence of good practice.

Moray Learning and Development Group (MLDG)

MLDG consists of experienced professionals from Health, Education, Social Work, Police, and Third Sector. MLDG is responsible for developing, delivering, and quality assuring a multi-agency Child Protection, GIRFEC, Corporate Parenting and Early Years training calendar for all staff working with children and young people across Moray.

In the reporting period April to December 2018, 40 courses were delivered to 502 practitioners for a range of services and organisations within the community planning partnership covering 15 different topics.

Over 84% of participants indicated that their knowledge and understanding had increased by attending training provided by MLDG, with the quality of the delivery and quality of course rated 8 or above out of 10.

How Ambitious and Confident are our Children and Young People?

- **78.4% Moray pupils attaining SCQF 5 level in literacy** – National average 82%
- **62.4% Moray pupils attaining level SCQF 5 level in numeracy** – National average 69%
- **91.2% of 16 - 19 entering education, employment or training following school** – National Average 91.8%
- **90.2% Children with additional support needs entering education, employment or training following school** – National Average 90.4%
- **75% Looked After Children entering education, employment or training following school** – National average 80.4%
- **77% of schools in Moray are registered with the Rights Respecting Schools Award**
 - 32 schools have achieved Bronze award
 - 8 schools have achieved silver award
 - 3 schools have achieved gold award
- **286 Young People registered to take part in duke of Edinburgh award**
 - 131 achieved a Duke of Edinburgh award during this year.
 - Awards Achieved: 71 Bronze, 39 Silver, 21 Gold
- **14% reduction in the number of pupils excluded within primary schools**
- **65% reduction in the number of incidents of exclusion**
- **27% reduction in the number of pupils excluded within secondary schools**
- **27% reduction in the number of incidents of exclusion**
- **682 young People achieving Saltire Awards**
- **1,400 young people engaged in Place Standard events across secondary schools in Moray, having conversations about physical and social elements of their community and area.**
- **1,296 young people engaged and voted in participatory budgeting projects.**
- **£50,000 from Scottish Governments Community Choices Fund supported 7 participatory budget projects, delivered and led by young people in Moray**

How Healthy are our Children and Young People?

- **75% of our primary 1 school children have no obvious signs of tooth decay.** – 70.4% National figure
- **Babies exclusively breastfed at 6- 8 weeks has increased to 36.2 % from 32.7% in Moray –** National average in Scotland 29.7%
- **60% Looked After Children received Health Assessments within 8 weeks of notification to Health Board**
- **4207 young people involved in Active School provision 35% of the 2017/18 school roll**
- **34 care experience young people have accessed a free “Fit Life” cards to help support a healthy lifestyle and improve equality of access**
- **33 young people are benefiting from the support of the family nurse partnership service in Moray**
- **The Realigning Children’s Services (RCS) wellbeing survey asked over 6,000 children across Moray from Primary 5 to S4 about aspects of emotional and physical wellbeing such as family life, friendships, school, play and health**
- **Baby Steps won the Children and Young People’s Improvement Collaborative 2018 award for excellence in the Early Years category.**
- **100% of eligible women are invited to attend the multiagency, midwife led, fun interactive 8 week programme, actively supporting women with a BMI \geq 30 to take small steps to improve their health and wellbeing.**
- **80.7% children were assessed as having no developmental Concerns at 27-30months**
- **76.5% Primary 1 children with healthy weight**

How Safe are our Children and Young People?

- **At the end of July 2018, the rate of Children and Young People placed on the Moray Child Protection ‘at risk’ register declined to 3.7 children per 1000 0-15yr old population in Moray, reduction from 4.8 in 2017**
- **11.6 rate of Looked After Children 0-17yrs /1000pop Looked After Children –** National average 14.3
- **89% of children on the child protection register have been on the register for under 12months –** National average 84%
- **323 taxi drivers trained in raising awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation**
- **17% of Looked After Children in Moray are in Kinship Care –** 28% national average
- **78% of Looked After Children are in their own communities –** 90% national average
- **Police Scotland School Liaison Officers Delivered**
 - 114 lessons on substance misuse
 - 44 lessons on Internet Safety
 - 31 lessons on personal Safety
 - 63 lessons on social media

Key Priorities for 2019/20

The partnership is keen to build on the progress made over past year and focus their collective resources on driving forward the following key priorities:

- **Take steps to improve outcomes for all children in Moray, particularly those most vulnerable.**
- **Ensure Children's rights are met, their voice is heard and they are enabled to shape strategy, policy and service delivery.**
- **Evolve systematic approach to the identification of Young Carers.**
- **Take steps to ensure the Child Planning process is effective in providing early support through integrated working practices.**
- **Ensure there is a co-ordinated approach to reducing child poverty in Moray.**
- **Take steps to have a more co-ordinated wellbeing and mental health services are developed to ensure the needs of children and young people in Moray are addressed early.**
- **Early intervention supports needed by parents of children aged up to 18 years in Moray are developed.**
- **Ensure the practice of staff across the partnership is of a consistent, high quality.**
- **Take steps to ensure outcomes for children, young people and families are consistently measured so improvement actions can be taken as early as possible.**



