

Progress Update – Review of Child’s Journey – July 2022

SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE	
Review:	Child’s Journey
Link Officer/s:	Martin Gray / Jackie Ward
Action Plan Agreed:	March 2019

Updates on the progress of actions in relation to agreed recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews are required approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan. Progress updates must be detailed, evidencing what has taken place regarding each recommendation – a grade assessing progress should then be given (see end of document for grading explanation).

Recommendation 1:	The Council requires all those working with children and young people to promote a culture and use of language which recognises individuality, respects young people’s preferences on language, avoids labelling and use of jargon, and emphasises the child or young person at the heart of all we do.
Responsibility:	Martin Gray
Date:	May 2019
Agreed Action:	To include a specific requirement as part of the new practice framework being developed.
Agreed Success Measure:	Message is communicated to staff See changes in use of language and jargon in the children’s individual plans
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	Practice framework developed and its purpose reflects that the child will be at centre of everything we do and we use a shared language and ensure that practice is child focussed. TACT report – ‘Language that Cares’ circulated to all staff. Report of case record audits (Dec 19) contains reflections that there is evidence that the child is at heart of all we do. New Children in Our Care documentation implemented in November 19 the design of which was influenced by young people and this includes the words and language used in the documents.
Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	2- On track
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	This work has been included in the development of our new practice framework which is being launched in June 2022. This includes the adoption of consistent language to describe children, young people and families and reinforces the key requirement to keep a focus on the voice and views of the child and working with families. Completed and mainstreamed in our key commitments and practice framework

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Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully achieved
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Recommendation 4:	The Council ensures that future safeguarding partnership arrangements retain a focus on the voice of the child as part of its active learning process.
Responsibility:	Kim Staff
Date:	May 2019
Agreed Action:	To include in active learning reviews.
Agreed Success Measure:	The training strategy ensures that the delivery of all learning and development complies with a number of principles, this includes the focus of all practice being child centred and evidence based – incorporating and promoting children’s rights and their views and focus on the child’s lived experience.
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	<p>Hartlepool and Stockton -on-Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership model has an ‘Active Learning’ approach and applies a culture of continuous learning and development.</p> <p>The framework for inter-agency safeguarding and child protection learning and improvement includes training and development activities in relation to outcomes from all learning sources; audits, observations, inspections, case reviews (i.e. Learning Review, Safeguarding Children Practice Reviews (SCPR) or Child Death Reviews) and these also influence future training and development activities.</p> <p>https://www.hsscp.co.uk/</p>
Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	Documents have been reviewed to ensure that the child’s voice is central and embedded into all training and practice.
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	<p>The voice of the child is incorporated into our key commitments and practice framework.</p> <p>Voice of the child is embedded into the governance arrangements for the HSSCP and an ongoing strand of work is included ion the business plan on an annual basis.</p> <p>We continue to work with Let’s Take Action Group on the engagement of children in our care, and mechanisms to ensure children’s views and voices and sought and heard is included in all of our procedures and documentation.</p> <p>Audits have been undertaken around case recording and the child’s voice – February 2021, August 2021 and February 2022. Auditors found clear evidence of the child’s voice, views, wishes and feelings. A variety of tools had been used to carry out direct work.</p> <p>Two minute briefings were collated on the back of the findings and shared with staff as a training/developmental opportunity.</p> <p>Completed and mainstreamed.</p>

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Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully achieved
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Recommendation 5:	The Council supports the expanded role of the Young Inspectors beyond residential care home inspection.
Responsibility:	Jo Lee / Dave Willingham
Date:	September 2019
Agreed Action:	To expand into additional services areas.
Agreed Success Measure:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young Inspectors Will carry out a minimum of 6 inspections per year. 2. Young inspectors group will develop to give opportunities to an increased number of young people
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	<p>Young Inspectors has been owned by the let’s take action group, who will be supported to develop the programme.</p> <p>1 inspection has taken place so far since recommendations were agreed.</p>
Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	<p>Progress has been slower than expected. and it has been identified that the group need more support to deliver inspections and further develop the programme.</p> <p>Additional staff resources have been agreed to support this.</p>
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	<p>A framework has been developed with the ‘Let’s take action group’</p> <p>Review of children’s services has added additional work to support the development of ‘young inspectors’ also increase numbers of young people involved.</p>
Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully achieved

Recommendation 6:	The Council undertakes a specific piece of work with the Big Committee on how the Council can evidence young people’s views have an impact on care planning.
Responsibility:	Rhona Bolland / Kim Staff
Date:	October 2019
Agreed Action:	To complete a specific piece of work on understanding of social worker roles.
Agreed Success Measure:	
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	2 – On track

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Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	Meeting was held with representatives of the Big Committee and a programme of work set which included considering how to redesign child protection conference process and format to encourage engagement from young people and developing surveys that would capture the views of young people. This work didn't continue as the representatives of the Big Committee identified themselves that they were unable to provide insights to influence this work as they had not had 'the lived experience' and withdrew from the work. This piece of work is to be referred to the Let's Take Action Group to take forward.
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	This work is now being developed through Family Hubs Plans underway to hold focus groups with families and children coming up. This will include themed sessions. Alongside this Let's Take Action we be looking at specific and focused pieces of work on understanding social worker roles. Work will feed into workforce development.
Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1- Fully Achieved

Recommendation 7:	The Council undertakes consultation with children and young people to redesign the children in care / looked after review process.
Responsibility:	Kim Staff
Date:	September 2019
Agreed Action:	To review the process by which reviews are held to encourage greater involvement.
Agreed Success Measure:	
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	Young people from Lets Take Action group have met with Independent Review Officers and have explored the following : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What has been a good review and why? - What has been a bad review and why? - What would you like to discuss at your reviews - Who do you want to attend your reviews - Where would you prefer meetings were held? - What revisions to the young person’s consultation document is needed - Can we use technology more to ascertain wishes and views and what do the YP think about MOMO? Results shared with wider Independent Review Officer Group Young people developed a ' feedback questionnaire' Feedback questionnaire has recently been implemented.

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Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	Ongoing engagement and feedback is built into the practice framework and continues to be a focus for the Let’s Take Action Group and is the key priority in the Children in our Care Action Plan.
Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully achieved

Recommendation 8:	The Council encourages all schools to respond to views expressed by pupils through examples such as the secondary school wellbeing survey (Schools Health Unit Exeter - SHUE) survey, which demonstrate the need for a strong pupil voice.
Responsibility:	Deborah Merrett / Rob White
Date:	June 2019
Agreed Action:	Follow up with schools at safeguarding Forum.
Agreed Success Measure:	
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	Report to People Select Committee re; SHEU SHEU; comms plan and action plan undertaken with schools Kidscreen 52 presentation on key findings to the Primary School Head Teachers at The Education Matters Forum
Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	Survey was completed as planned in 2018 and communication plan was produced that showed progress and change from the 2016 figures. Presentation to People Select Committee in November 2019 In terms of primary schools data was collected using Kidscreen- 52. Over 1000 pupils aged 8 – 10 year old completed this survey. Results and key feedback can be obtained on request. Health watch are planning to do a survey around children’s wellbeing prior to the end of 2020
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	Pupil voice and engagement embedded in Healthy Schools model. BMBF established with links to school Councils Further survey to be undertaken this year.
Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully achieved

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Recommendation 9:	The Council notes that the Committee welcomed the commitment to using appropriate tools for engagement, and consideration should be given to widening their use where appropriate.
Responsibility:	Jackie Ward
Date:	October 2019
Agreed Action:	Report further in roll out of tools currently used by Disabled Children’s Team.
Agreed Success Measure:	
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	<p>The ‘tools’ used by a number of teams and workers including the tools used by the Disabled Children Team have been collated together and the Stockton Information Directory developed to hold a dedicated site for social work practitioners where they can access these tools and resources. Workers have been informed about the site and are being encouraged to access the ‘tool box’ as well as well as research and guidance held on this site.</p> <p>Children’s Quality and Practice Lead is leading on around the use of tools. There is also a Teesside group looking at tools and good practice examples.</p>
Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	2 – On track
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	Tools are widely used and built into training and the practice framework
Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1 - Fully achieved

Recommendation 10:	The Council ensures a continued focus on the child’s lived experience is embedded into assessment and care planning and that this is monitored through audit and supervision.
Responsibility:	Rhona Bollands
Date:	May 2019
Agreed Action:	To be reviewed as part of review of supervision process.
Agreed Success Measure:	
Evidence of Progress (March 2020):	<p>Supervision document has been amended to include a section on the voice of the young person and the manager during supervision considers the plan of direct work and its purpose and what impact this is having on the young person and the young person’s understanding and views of their circumstances and whether these views are informing planning.</p> <p>The audit format also includes the above and themes in terms of the child’s experiences will eb reported upon within the audit findings report which is produced following the audit period.</p>

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Assessment of Progress (March 2020): (include explanation if required)	2. Themed audits for supervision were undertaken March 2021 and September 2021.
Evidence of Progress (July 2022):	<p>In each case auditors found that the workers were appropriately supervised by the Team Manager. Auditors found evidence of timely and effective decision making preventing drift and delay. A briefing of findings was shared with staff as a training/development opportunity.</p> <p>Improved management reports have increased scrutiny of supervision timeliness and frequency. Supervisions are being held within the supervision frequency procedural guidelines.</p> <p>Work is underway to improve CYP voice as part of embedding the practice model and also redesign of relevant processes and paperwork including care planning.</p>
Assessment of Progress (July 2022): (include explanation if required)	1- Fully achieved

Assessment of Progress Gradings:	1 Fully Achieved	2 On-Track	3 Slipped	4 Not Achieved
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