

APPENDIX 1

PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Narrowing the Gap in Educational Attainment

SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE	
Review:	Scrutiny Review of Narrowing the Gap in Educational Attainment
Recommendation Lead:	Ellen Parkin

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). Any evidence on the impact of the actions undertaken should also be recorded for each recommendation.

Recommendation 4:	Identify and support young carers
Responsibility	Ellen Parkin
Date:	July 2025
Agreed Action:	Research: 1. Ensure a clear system for identification becoming known to schools and the support services 2. Embedding a consistent offer of support for young carers within schools. What does that look like? 3a. Mapping with schools to understand what their knowledge is around young carers and 3b. Identify what support they would need to develop a robust offer of support within their setting. Communication 1. Awareness raising across schools around young carers and the role of schools. 2. Ensure that the profile of AI is raised within Operational Group as a standard agenda item. Events: 1. Young carers conference to be held annually. 2. Raise the agenda and profile of young carers internally.
Agreed Success Measure:	Research: 1. Review current policy and strategy to identify: a. What works well at present b. What needs to be improved Prepare any recommendations. 2. Review current offer: a. What works well at present b. What needs to be improved Prepare any recommendations.

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	3. Embedded within Health Schools Criteria- to apply a level of consistency across all schools. 4. Gather school intelligence on what schools know about young carers and related services – prepare overview report 5. Develop a clear map of support for young carers to support them in their setting to: • Have early and increased identification for young carers. • Reduce absences from school for a young carer. • Increase use of young carers card. 6. Increase staff awareness within schools around the role of young carers Communication: • School to embed a clear process to support and identify young carers. • Developed processes or defined offer of support within schools. • Increase in identification of young carers. • Accountability for driving tasks forward. Events: • Increased attendance of educational settings. • Staff have an increased awareness of young carers.
Evidence of Progress: 15 July 2026	Development of young carers card; this has been coproduced with young carers accessing Eastern Ravens service Five task-and-finish group meetings have taken place, each exploring how awareness of young carers within schools can be strengthened. As part of this work, a school questionnaire assessing baseline understanding of young carers' needs was circulated to all Stockton-based schools. Although the response rate was limited, the findings clearly demonstrate a need for further training, which can be delivered through Eastern Ravens.
Assessment of Progress: (include explanation if required) 15 July 2026	2 – On Track Mandatory E-learning which will sit in My Development has been produced Eastern Ravens, as the commissioned young carers support service, report a notable increase in requests from schools for assemblies, staff training, and online delivery. During this period, 15 primary, secondary schools and college's have received interventions, representing a marked increase on the previous year
Evidence of Impact: 15 July 2026	The Strategic Partnership reviews referral information and case studies. It is clear that focused work with Eastern Ravens is increasing schools understanding of young carers and referrals into services continue.

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