

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILEDUCATION COMMITTEE21 January 2021Report by Director of EducationEAST RENFREWSHIRE'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES
PLAN 2020-2023**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. This report presents "*At Our Heart*" East Renfrewshire's Children and Young People's Services Plan for the period 2020-2023. Education Committee is requested to note the content of the plan prior to being considered by the Integration Joint Board, and remittance to Council for approval. The plan is also required to be submitted to the Scottish Government.

RECOMMENDATION

2. Elected members are asked to:
 - a) acknowledge the duties of the Children and Young People Act 2014 as they relate to Part 3 Children's Services Planning; and
 - b) note the content of the Children and Young People's Services Plan for 2020-2023, prior to remittance to Council for approval.

BACKGROUND

3. Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 places children's services planning duties on local authorities and health boards. Section 8(1) of the Act requires every local authority and its relevant health board to jointly prepare a Children's Services Plan for the area of the local authority, in respect of each three-year period. A range of other relevant local and national bodies are expected to be either consulted with, or obliged to participate, at various stages of the development of the plan. It also requires the local authority and relevant health board to jointly publish an annual report detailing how the provision of children's services and related services in that area have been provided in accordance with the plan. Statutory guidance to support the preparation of plans was updated and re published in January 2020 and has confirmed that completed plans should be submitted to the Scottish Government after local approval.
4. In April 2020 the Scottish Government extended the submission date for new children's services plans due to the Covid19 pandemic. In East Renfrewshire this provided us with a further opportunity to consult with families on the final plan and also consider the impact that the pandemic is having on children, families and communities.

CONTEXT

5. Section 9 of the Act sets out the strategic aims for a Children's Services Plan. Under these provisions every Children's Services Plan must be prepared with a view to securing the achievement of the following five aims: -

(a) that "children's services" in the area are provided in the way which -

- (i) best safeguards, supports and promotes the wellbeing of children in the area concerned,
- (ii) ensures that any action to meet needs is taken at the earliest appropriate time and that, where appropriate, action is taken to prevent needs arising,
- (iii) is most integrated from the point of view of recipients, and
- (iv) constitutes the best use of available resources,

(b) that "related services" in the area are provided in the way which, so far as consistent with the objects and proper delivery of the service concerned, safeguards, supports and promotes the wellbeing of children in the area.

6. In addition key messages from Part 3 revised statutory guidance state that plans should include:

- A focus on primary prevention and early help
- Targeting the most vulnerable children and families
- A commitment to reducing child poverty
- A joined up services approach
- A commitment to engage communities
- Further implementation of the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach
- The GIRFEC Wellbeing Indicators as the means to evaluate impact
- A strategic commissioning approach to planning together
- Constitute the best use of available resources

7. The statutory guidance states that the Children's Service Plan must align with existing plans or those in development, as well as legislation to include:

- Community Planning Partnership Local Outcome Improvement Plans
- Local Health Board's Strategic Plan
- Child Poverty Strategies
- Early Years Strategy
- Corporate Parenting Plans
- Community Learning and Development Plans
- Early Learning and Childcare Strategy
- The Community Justice Act
- Community Empowerment Act
- Specifically Parts 1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 18 of the Children & Young Peoples Act 2014

REPORT

8. The new East Renfrewshire Children and Young People's Services Plan 2020-2023 "*At Our Heart*" is our plan for children, young people, and families for the next three years and demonstrates our commitment to achieve the best possible outcomes for them during these challenging and uncertain times. Since 2002 when we published our first integrated children's services plan we have come a long way towards achieving our shared vision to get it right for children and young people. The new vision for the 2020-2023 Plan has been created by a group of local children, young people, families and staff during the summer of 2020 when covid19 restrictions had been eased. We believe the vision the children and their families have developed is an inspiring and ambitious one and clearly sets out what they believe to be important to them. Our new vision is:

"East Renfrewshire's children should grow up loved, respected and be given every opportunity to fulfil their potential. We want them to be safe, equal and healthy, have someone to trust, have friends, but most of all HOPE".

9. In order to achieve the new vision we have agreed to frame our new Children and Young People's Services Plan 2020-2023 within the national *GIRFEC* agenda and the wellbeing indicators – *safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, respected, responsible, included*. Along with this local partners have agreed a new *East Renfrewshire Approach to Improving Children and Young People's Wellbeing* for the following three years including a suite of new priorities which will make a significant contribution to achieving the wellbeing outcomes, and new success criteria will help us judge how well we are doing, and consider the impact on the lives of children, young people and their families.
10. The Covid-19 pandemic, the national lockdowns, and the ongoing impact of the extensive restrictions, continue to affect all communities in East Renfrewshire, as they have elsewhere in Scotland and the UK. As the effect on children, young people, and families becomes more apparent East Renfrewshire Council and partners will adapt our Children's Services Plan accordingly to ensure emerging needs are identified and where possible addressed.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

11. As the children's services plan is a multi-agency plan, costs associated with implementing the commitments detailed will be jointly met through individual departments and services devolved budgets.

CONSULTATION

12. Children's Services Planning takes place within the wider context of community planning in East Renfrewshire. As such the production of this plan has over the last twelve months involved a process of extensive collaborative working between children's services partners and related services as well as the important wider engagement that has taken place with children, young people, families/carers, and communities.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

13. The Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People Partnership is the principal multi agency group that has responsibility for joint strategic planning and development of services for children, young people, and families in East Renfrewshire. The Partnership oversees the work of the four multi agency thematic planning sub groups in relation to the plan itself and its annual reports. These are – Additional Support Needs Group, Early Years, Corporate Parenting Group, and Young People’s Group.
14. All children’s services and most of the related services are represented on the strategic high level partnership along with the four thematic sub groups. This includes East Renfrewshire Council, the Health and Care Partnership, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Police Scotland, and a range of other agencies including East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust, the Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration, Skills Development Scotland, Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire, and partners in local and national voluntary organisations.
15. Policy
No immediate policy implications have been identified.
16. Staffing
No immediate staffing implications have been identified
17. Property
No immediate property implications have been identified.
18. Equalities
An Equalities Impact Assessment or a Children’s Rights Impact Assessment of the new plan will be undertaken and the report will be issued once complete. The findings and recommendations will be adopted by the Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People’s Partnership and delegated to the relevant thematic group and or service/agency as appropriate.
19. IT
No immediate IT implications have been identified.

CONCLUSIONS

20. The purpose of “*At Our Heart*” the new Children and Young People’s Services Plan for 2020 - 2023 is to set out our vision for East Renfrewshire’s children, young people, and their families and demonstrate our commitment to achieve the best possible outcomes for them especially in these challenging and uncertain times. The new plan is framed around *The East Renfrewshire Approach to Improving Children and Young People’s Wellbeing* which includes a suite of new key priorities and success criteria. This approach is rooted firmly in the national Getting it Right for Every Child Wellbeing Framework which continues to underpin all that we do in East Renfrewshire.

RECOMMENDATION

21. Elected members are asked to:
 - a) acknowledge the duties of the Children and Young People Act 2014 as they relate to Part 3 Children’s Services Planning; and

b) note the content of the Children and Young People's Services Plan for 2020-2023, prior to remittance to Council for approval.

Mark Ratter
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21 January 2021

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Background papers

CYP Act 2014 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2014/8/contents>

Part 3 Statutory Guidance [Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014: Statutory Guidance on Part 3: Children's Services Planning – Second Edition 2020 \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

Key Words

Outcomes
Safe
Healthy
Active
Nurtured
Achieving
Respected
Responsible
Included
Vision
Wellbeing
Engagement

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“At Our Heart”

The East Renfrewshire Approach to Improving Children and Young People’s Wellbeing

East Renfrewshire’s Children and Young People’s Services Plan
2020-2023

FINAL DRAFT

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Executive Summary

Welcome to East Renfrewshire's Children and Young People's Plan for 2020-2023. The purpose of our plan is to set out the vision for children, young people, and families for the three years ahead, and to demonstrate our commitment to supporting them achieve the best possible outcomes especially in these challenging and uncertain times.

As in previous years and in accordance with the Children and Young People's (Scotland) Act 2014, local and national partners who deliver services for East Renfrewshire's children and families, have come together to design and publish our Children's Services Plan. Based on a wide ranging assessment of local needs, agencies have agreed a plan which has at its heart, the overarching aim of improving the wellbeing of local children, young people, and their families. Children's planning has a very high profile in East Renfrewshire and all partners have again demonstrated a genuine enthusiasm to engage with young people, parents and the communities they reside within. As such the assessment of needs includes what children and parents/carers have told us about their experience of living in East Renfrewshire and the challenges they may encounter.

During early spring this year East Renfrewshire's children's services partners agreed the approach for the next three year period and as a consequence the design of the Children's Plan began with a focus on our vision and values. Prior to completion a further consultation exercise with children and families was planned to ensure the framework was the right one however at this time the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic was apparent and the country entered a national lockdown. This subsequently resulted in a delay in finalising the East Renfrewshire children's services plan for 2020.

Another important event also took place earlier in 2020 with the publication of the national Independent Care Review report "The Promise". This long awaited report into the children's care system in Scotland is regarded as the most significant in a generation and it is anticipated it will have a fundamental impact on the design and delivery of *all* children and family services now and over the next decade. As local authorities are expected to commence with implementing the findings of "The Promise" report, East Renfrewshire Council and partners have reflected the importance it will have over the life time of the new children's services plan and beyond.

The Covid-19 pandemic, the national lockdown, and the ongoing restrictions, continue to affect all communities in East Renfrewshire, as they have elsewhere in Scotland and the UK. As the impact on children, young people, and families becomes more apparent East Renfrewshire Council and partners will adapt our Children's Services Plan accordingly to ensure emerging needs are identified and where possible addressed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the partner agencies for their contribution to the plan and for keeping children and young people at the heart of all that they do. We look forward to the delivery of the East Renfrewshire Children's Services Plan 2020-2023 and the improvements in the wellbeing of our children, young people and families.

Lorraine McMillan Chief Executive Officer
East Renfrewshire Council

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Introduction

Over the last year East Renfrewshire's children's services partner agencies have been working closely together to agree what our children and young people's service planning vision, outcomes, and priorities should be for the three years ahead. This is a very important task for us to undertake and all partners make a considerable commitment to participate in the development of the new three year plan as well as agree to oversee its delivery. Although 2020 has been an extraordinary year in every respect, we are publishing a plan based on a comprehensive analysis of existing local needs whilst at the same time we have attempted to quantify the impact Covid-19 is having on families and the unprecedented pressure it has placed on them. It is fair to say that our understanding of the impact is far from complete especially as we are still in the middle of living through the pandemic but our new plan has reflected some of the emerging evidence of need and will be flexible enough to allow us to further consider and respond and provide the help and support where and when it is needed. The new ***East Renfrewshire Approach to Improving Children and Young People's Wellbeing*** agreed for the following years is detailed below and illustrated on page 5.

Our Approach
East Renfrewshire's Children and Young People's Plan
2020-23

How we will measure our success

Our Vision

We want East Renfrewshire's children to grow up loved, respected and given every opportunity to fulfil their potential.

We want them to be safe, equal and healthy, have someone to trust, have friends, but most of all HOPE

7 Outcomes

1. Safe
2. Healthy
3. Active
4. Nurtured
5. Achieving
6. Respected/Responsible
7. Included

At our heart

Keeping children and young people safe
The mental and emotional wellbeing of children
Care experienced children and care leavers
Families
Children with complex additional needs

Our Priorities

1. Help families and carers give their children the best start in life in a nurturing, safe and stable home environment
2. Protect our most vulnerable children, young people, and families
3. Deliver on our Corporate Parenting responsibilities to our care experienced children and young people by fully implementing The Promise.
4. Respond to the mental and emotional wellbeing needs of children and young people
5. Ensure children and young people with complex needs are supported to overcome barriers to inclusion at home, school, and communities
6. Improve achievement and attainment for all children and young people
7. Support young people with their transition into young adulthood
8. Reducing the impact of poverty on children and families
9. Upskilling our children's services workforce

1. Exclusive breastfeeding 6-8 weeks most deprived SIMD
2. Dental decay decrease - P1 SIMD1
3. Uptake of free ELC for eligible two year olds
4. 0-2 year olds registered with a dentist
5. Children reach dev milestones start P1
6. Improved outcomes for children on completion of parent programme
7. Parents accessing family supports indicate improvement in their family wellbeing
8. Repeat GP presentations Family Wellbeing Service
9. Children accessing the Healthier Minds Service report improvements in their mental wellbeing.
10. Staff feel more knowledgeable and skilled to support mental wellbeing and trauma
11. Young people in transition with a plan at age 16
12. Young people with additional needs with an identified positive post school destination
13. Engagement/feedback sessions with parents/carers/young people
14. Community activities for children with complex needs
15. Young people report their school encourages them make healthy lifestyle choices.
16. SALSUS survey responses
17. Young people participating in diversionary activity
18. Young people involved in ERC Youth Participatory Budget
19. Pupils enter positive destinations
20. Pupils taking part in out of class activities/clubs
21. Number of identified young carers
22. Obese children in primary 1
23. Looked After Children more than one placement
24. Children looked after away from home who have a permanence recommendation within 6 months
25. School attendance looked after children
26. Looked after young people gain achievement awards
27. Looked after children/young people achieve their expected CfE levels in Literacy and Numeracy
28. Children/Young People participate in Champions Board/Mini Champs
29. Children/young people take up Who Cares Scotland advocacy service
30. For Your Entertainment scheme take up
31. Family Firm participation rates

Our Vision is underpinned by

Relational based practice

Listen to children and promoting their participation

A focus on the strengths and assets of families

A trauma informed workforce

The East Renfrewshire Approach to Improving Children and Young People’s Wellbeing

“At Our Heart”, Vision, Outcomes, Priorities

The **vision** for the 2020-2023 Children and Young People’s Plan, agreed by partners during this year is the following:

“East Renfrewshire’s children should grow up loved, respected and be given every opportunity to fulfil their potential.

We want them to be safe, equal and healthy, have someone to trust, have friends, but most of all HOPE”.

We are immensely proud of our vision specifically the role our children, young people and families played in creating it.

In order to achieve the vision, we have agreed to frame and name our Children and Young People’s Services Plan 2020-2023 around **The East Renfrewshire Approach – “At Our Heart”** as illustrated above on page 5. This approach is rooted firmly in the national **Getting it right for every child** wellbeing framework which underpins all that we do in East Renfrewshire. We have also established a suite of new **priorities** which we believe will make a significant contribution to achieving the **wellbeing outcomes** and the new **success criteria measures** will help us judge how well we are doing across the partnership and the impact we are making to the lives of our children and young people and their families. The message we want to communicate to East Renfrewshire’s families is that the needs and concerns of children and young people are **at the heart** of what we do and we will ensure this is the case for the life of this plan and beyond.

Progress towards achieving our vision, outcomes, and priorities will also contribute towards the success of the local **East Renfrewshire Community Plan** and the **Scottish Government’s National Performance Framework**. The Community Plan sets out the high-level ambition for East Renfrewshire for the following ten years and is structured around five strategic priority areas following the key life stages of local people, the most relevant for children’s planning being **Early Years and Vulnerable Young People**, the key outcomes which sit alongside this and the emphasis on tackling inequalities.

Similarly the values and aspirations of the **National Performance Framework** very much mirror those agreed by East Renfrewshire’s local partners in that we will do all we can to ensure:-

“..our children grow up in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding. We enhance their life chances through our early years provision and by supporting families when they need it. We ensure childhood is free from abuse, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, poverty and hunger. Our children are not left worried or isolated. We include and involve children in decisions about their lives and world, and protect their rights, dignity and wellbeing. Our communities are safe places where children are valued, nurtured and treated with kindness. We provide stimulating activities and encourage children to engage positively with the built and natural environment and to play their part in its care. We provide the conditions in which all children can be healthy and active. Our schools are loving, respectful and encouraging places where everyone can learn, play and flourish. We provide children and young people with hope for the future and create opportunities for them to fulfil their dreams.”

(Scottish Government’s Vision for Children and Young People National Performance Framework).

At Our Heart

Mental and Emotional Wellbeing of Children and Young People

For most of the time children and young people will experience good mental health along with the normal challenges and stresses of growing up. They will benefit from positive and helpful support for their wellbeing from their family at home, in the early years and at school, and they will not require any extra help over and above that from the people they see on a daily basis. There will of course be a proportion of children and young people who will need extra help at some point, some of whom may even require additional or specialist services intervention. This may be because of factors relating to their development or health profile or because of the impact of adverse experiences on them, their family or community.

There is a recognition however that mental and emotional health issues among children and young people appear to have significantly increased in the past few years. This is not only the case in Scotland but also across the UK, and other developed countries. A Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce was jointly commissioned by the Scottish Government and COSLA in 2018 to investigate the level of need and in particular the barriers to accessing specialist services. In the Taskforce’s report findings it provides recommendations and advice to support the redesign and rapid expansion of service responses to mental health problems from birth to 25 years and concludes “*a whole system approach to addressing children’s mental health needs, ensuring preventative action to reduce need, and a prompt and proportionate response which improves outcomes for all children who need support or treatment.*”

As a local authority, East Renfrewshire has recognised the extent of mental health concerns among our children’s population, and in our previous Children and Young Peoples Services Plan 2017-2020, we agreed mental and emotional wellbeing as a key priority.

In November 2019 a co-production event which included children, young people and parents/ carers as well as a cross section of the local children's workforce took place. The purpose was to determine what support would best meet the needs of our families and school communities locally. Overwhelmingly, there was support for relationship-based and nurturing approaches which bridged the gap between school and home. In particular there was a shared view that in many instances help for a child or young person would be best placed in the context of the child's family network. It was agreed from this event to develop a blended model of support which would incorporate new as well as existing approaches.

Since this time the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated the circumstances of many children, young people and families, and we are now seeing a significant rise in the number of those experiencing challenges with their mental health and wellbeing. In response to this a multi-stakeholder Healthier Minds Service approach aligned to school communities has been developed to identify and ensure delivery of mental wellbeing support to promote children and families' recovery. This will work alongside our existing Family Wellbeing Service which links to GP practices. Furthermore during the last year we launched our Healthier Minds Framework.

This evidence based guide for children, young people, families and practitioners, outlines ways to support mental wellbeing in a holistic way and provides information about service and resources that can help at different stages in time.

Improving the mental and emotional wellbeing of children and young people will continue to be one of the highest priorities for East Renfrewshire Council Education Service and for East Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) as we go forward over the next three years. Together all partners in East Renfrewshire are building an approach to mental health support for children, young people and families that will ensure they receive the right care and interventions at the right time and in the right place.

Our Corporate Parenting responsibilities and our commitment to #KeepThePromise

When a child or young person becomes looked after– at home or away from home - the local authority, health board, and a number of other public bodies take on the role of Corporate Parent. Corporate Parenting is the collective responsibility of the council, elected members, employees, and the other key partner agencies, to provide the best possible care and protection for our looked after children. This also means that each specified public body has the statutory responsibility to act for a looked after child in the same way that every parent wants to act. We want the best for our children, to see them flourish with good health, to be safe and happy, to do well in education and enjoy healthy relationships. We want our children to make the most of the available cultural and leisure opportunities, and to develop towards adulthood fully prepared to lead independent lives. Importantly, we want young people to progress into a positive post school destination, whether this be further or higher education or employment and to be financially secure.

Whilst East Renfrewshire's partner agencies are fully committed to improving the life chances of our looked after and care experienced children and young people we are also aware that there is more to be done to enable us to achieve our goal of being the best possible parent we can

be. Recently our multi agency Corporate Parenting Group worked with the East Renfrewshire Champions Board - our care experienced young people's participation group - to agree a set of new local priorities. These priorities are now included in this Children and Young People's Service Plan for 2020-2023, along with a suite of measures to track the progress we are making. Integral to these priorities are the findings of *The Promise*, the national 'root and branch' review of the Scottish care system which was published in February 2020. The Care Review has set out how change will take place in a phased way, from 2020-2030.

The publication of *The Promise* is important because over the three years between 2017 and 2020, the Care Review heard from over 5,500 care experienced infants, children, young people and adults about their experiences of the 'care system' in Scotland, and listened to their views about what needed to change. We are proud that looked after and care experienced young people from East Renfrewshire participated in many of the Care Review's events and activities, sharing their stories about what has worked for them, but also articulating very clearly what could have been done better. As implementation of phase one of *The Promise* is from 2020-2024 and the East Renfrewshire Children and Young People's Services Plan timeline is 2020-2023, there will be opportunities to incorporate newly emerging learning and actions as they unfold. This will also enable local partners to consider how these actions can best be achieved and the resources required. This is why one of our agreed priorities is to implement *The Promise*. We will continue to work closely with our local Champions Board and our Mini Champs to ensure that East Renfrewshire delivers on the priorities agreed with our looked after and care experienced children and young people and #KeepThePromise.

Keeping children and young people safe – Our commitment to working with children, young people, their families and carers

We understand that when a child or young person has been harmed or is at risk of harm this can be a very difficult time for them and their family/carers. The East Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee Improvement Plan 2020-2023 focusses on how we can work with children, young people and their families as well as our partners to ensure that children are kept safe in their families and communities.

We recognise that Covid-19 and the lockdown restrictions have had an impact on our children, young people and their families. We want to work with them and our partners to ensure that they receive the right support at the right time to minimise any risks that have arisen from the pressures created by lockdown. We will ensure that children, young people and their families are involved in every step of the process and where we need to do an assessment of their needs and circumstances that they are part of this. We also want children, young people and their families to be part of meetings so that they can contribute to their plans for keeping them safe. We also want children, young people and their families to tell us what is working well and what we can do to improve our services. This feedback will allow us and our partners to ensure that we all work together to keep children safe.

The National Child Protection Guidance for Scotland (2014) is being revised and due for publication in 2021. We will ensure that our local guidance and processes reflect this national guidance.

Supporting families

In East Renfrewshire we recognise the important role that local services can play in promoting family wellbeing and supporting families to lead safe, happy and healthy lives. Although families are generally the best source of care and nurture for their children, many parents and carers across the authority will from time to time need help, and we want them to be able to access this help where and when they need it, and for as long as is required, to protect and promote their children's wellbeing. In East Renfrewshire services for families are primarily based on prevention and early help such as those provided by the universal services of health visiting, early years settings, and schools but there is also a range of more targeted or specialist support available for those who require it, from health, social work, education and local third sector providers. Family support is already effectively integrated into existing service provision, is strengths based in the way it works in partnership with parents and children, and is rooted in the *Getting it right for every child* wellbeing approach.

The need for well-resourced, supportive, accessible and timely supports for families, was a strong theme throughout the Independent Care Review and this has now been articulated in *The Promise*. As we go forward with making the changes required by The Promise we will be evaluating areas of support to families to ensure they will meet the new emerging needs that families will present with over the next three years.

Children and young people with complex additional needs

Our Children and Young People's Services Plan has placed improving the wellbeing of children and young people with complex additional needs within our highest priorities for the following three years. Engagement activity carried out by East Renfrewshire Council, HSCP, and local third sector organisations indicates that families are satisfied with many of the services their children can access from early years settings, schools, health and social care and wider community support, but there are areas where improvements need to be made to remove barriers and widen access and inclusion further. In particular personalisation and transitions are areas parents and young people have identified as requiring re-evaluated and we agree there is more to be done to make these experiences more meaningful ensuring we fully meet expectations.

The key to improving quality and access for children with complex needs is effective multi agency partnership working within the communities children reside, especially between health, social care, education, local third sector organisations. The local children's planning sub group tasked with improvement work in this area draws its membership widely and from all the key partner organisations that can effectively contribute to making the necessary improvements. Importantly established links with parents and young people's groups and forums already exist but our intention is to build upon these to ensure we can capture the breadth of views and experiences that may be held.

The Rights of Children and Young People

East Renfrewshire is committed to ensuring that children and young people are at the heart of decisions which affect them and effectively participate in wider civic society. This is important at both national and local level, including the Scottish Government, local authorities, community planning partnerships, health boards, schools, community councils and other places where decisions are made that will affect children and young people.

We are committed to ensuring the rights of and improving outcomes for all of our children and young people. We respect children's right to family life and to grow up loved, safe and respected so that they can reach their potential. We also understand our additional responsibility to protect the rights of particular groups of children and young people who experience barriers to success and achievement or whose rights are threatened by abuse or poverty. For those children who need additional support, we work with children and their families to assess their circumstances and make decisions with families. We seek children's views on a wide range of issues using appropriate and inclusive tools. We routinely consult with children when new policies are being developed and reviewed.

In December 2018 the Scottish Government published an Action Plan, setting out the activities to be undertaken until 2021 to progress Children's Human Rights. This Action Plan was developed with children and young people and key stakeholders and acknowledges the need for strategic actions that can deliver genuine transformational change in how children's rights are understood and experienced. A progress report on the first year of the Action Plan was published on 20 November 2019. These actions include commitments to incorporate the UNCRC into domestic law; develop and deliver, through co-production, a programme to raise awareness and understanding of children's rights; develop a strategic approach to children and young people's participation; and to evaluate the Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment. East Renfrewshire Council, and our Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) and Culture and Leisure Trust (ERCL) take full account of all national legislation, plans, policies and strategies. All our departments and teams are committed to the promotion and protection of children's rights, in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Creating a Trauma Informed Workforce

Adverse childhood experiences are highly stressful and potentially traumatic events or situations that occur during childhood and/or adolescence. These experiences can include violence, neglect, grief and loss, and can have a long lasting effect on people's physical and mental health, affecting how they behave and their relationships with other people in their lives. Acknowledging the impact of such adversity East Renfrewshire HSCP Children's Services along with other local children's services partners have for a number of years, been working from a trauma informed standpoint. By definition being *trauma informed* means being able to recognise when someone may be affected by trauma, adjusting how we work to take this into account, and responding in a way that supports recovery, does no harm, and recognises and supports people's resilience.

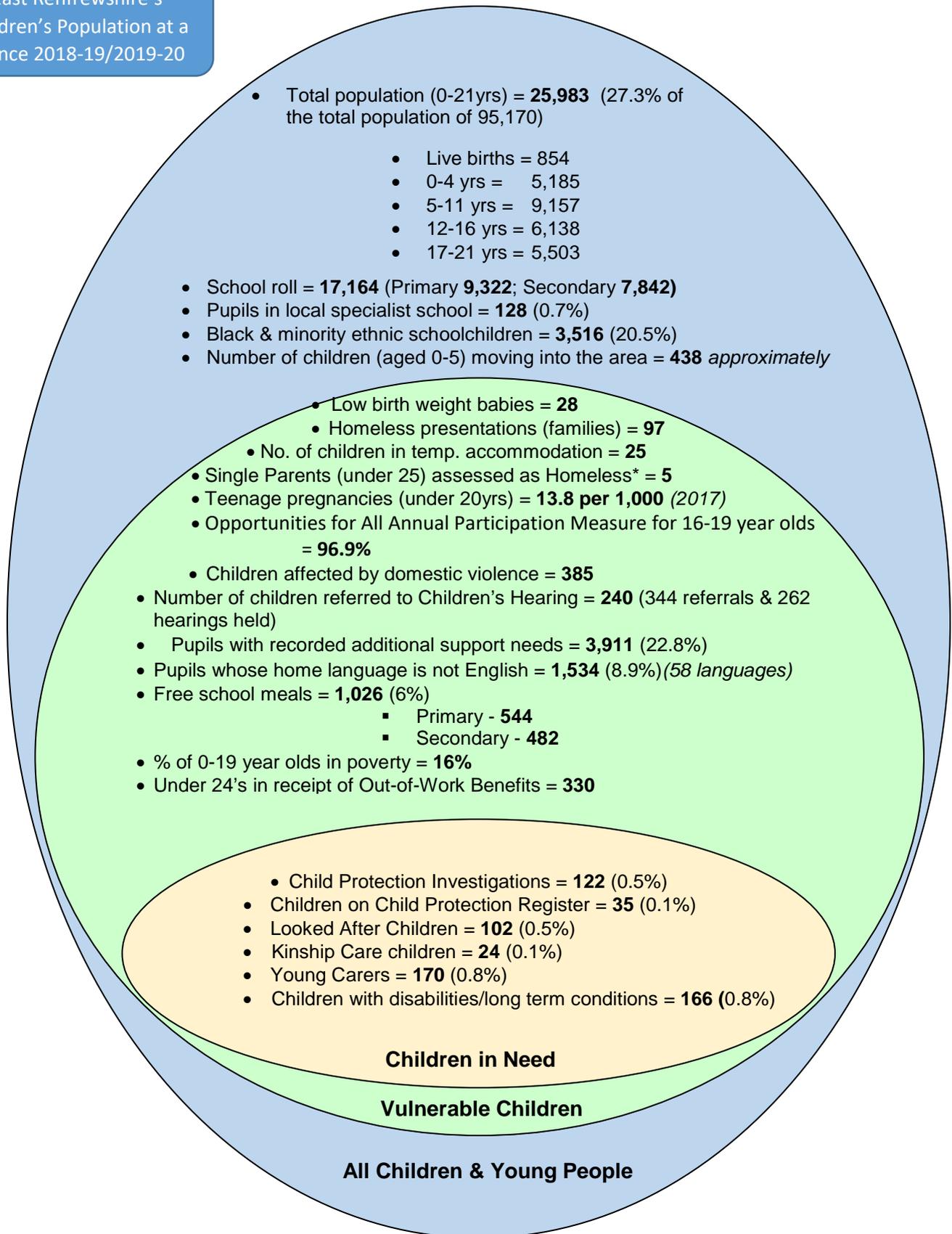
Recently the Scottish Government's Programme for Government made a commitment to preventing adverse childhood experiences (ACES) and to supporting the resilience and recovery of all children and adults affected by trauma. In order for this aim to become a reality a National Trauma Training Programme has been created for the purpose of developing a trauma-informed and trauma-responsive workforce across Scotland. In East Renfrewshire partners have agreed that equipping our children's workforce to respond to trauma in the right way is vital and as such we have agreed to participate in the national training program to develop our own local Trauma Champions and embed the knowledge and skills necessary across all partners who work with children and young people. This will ultimately enable us to build on the considerable work already undertaken in this area and effectively develop and sustain a workforce that is able to respond to the needs of everyone affected by psychological trauma.

Impact of child poverty

Whilst East Renfrewshire Council has some of the lowest levels of child poverty in Scotland local rates have been increasing since 2012. Although it has tended to be more concentrated in specific communities, it is important to understand that child poverty exists across the whole authority. As we are all aware poverty impacts on the health and wellbeing of parents/carers and children and young people and can have long term effects on outcomes into adulthood. The need to tackle the damaging effects of child poverty is now in sharper focus during the Covid-19 pandemic and although this pandemic is primarily a public health emergency it is also having a hugely significant financial impact on communities and the lives of individuals and families.

East Renfrewshire's Community Planning Partnership is committed to reducing the impact of poverty on children and families. The *Fairer East Ren Delivery Plan* focuses on the actions local partners have agreed to undertake together as well as individually to reduce inequalities. These are particularly focused on reducing the impact of poverty on children and links to the broader landscape of children's services which focuses on enhancing wellbeing. Tackling child poverty is at the core of Fairer East Ren's focus to minimise inequalities of outcomes across East Renfrewshire and is in line with the Scottish Government's Fairer Scotland Action Plan taking into account the new duties required under the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act. Our Local Child Poverty Action Report details our local actions focussing on maximising incomes, reducing costs and improving the wellbeing of families facing poverty. Our Children and Young People's Services Plan 2020-2023 will complement this work.

East Renfrewshire's
Children's Population at a
Glance 2018-19/2019-20



The East Renfrewshire Approach to Improving Children and Young People's Wellbeing

2020-2023

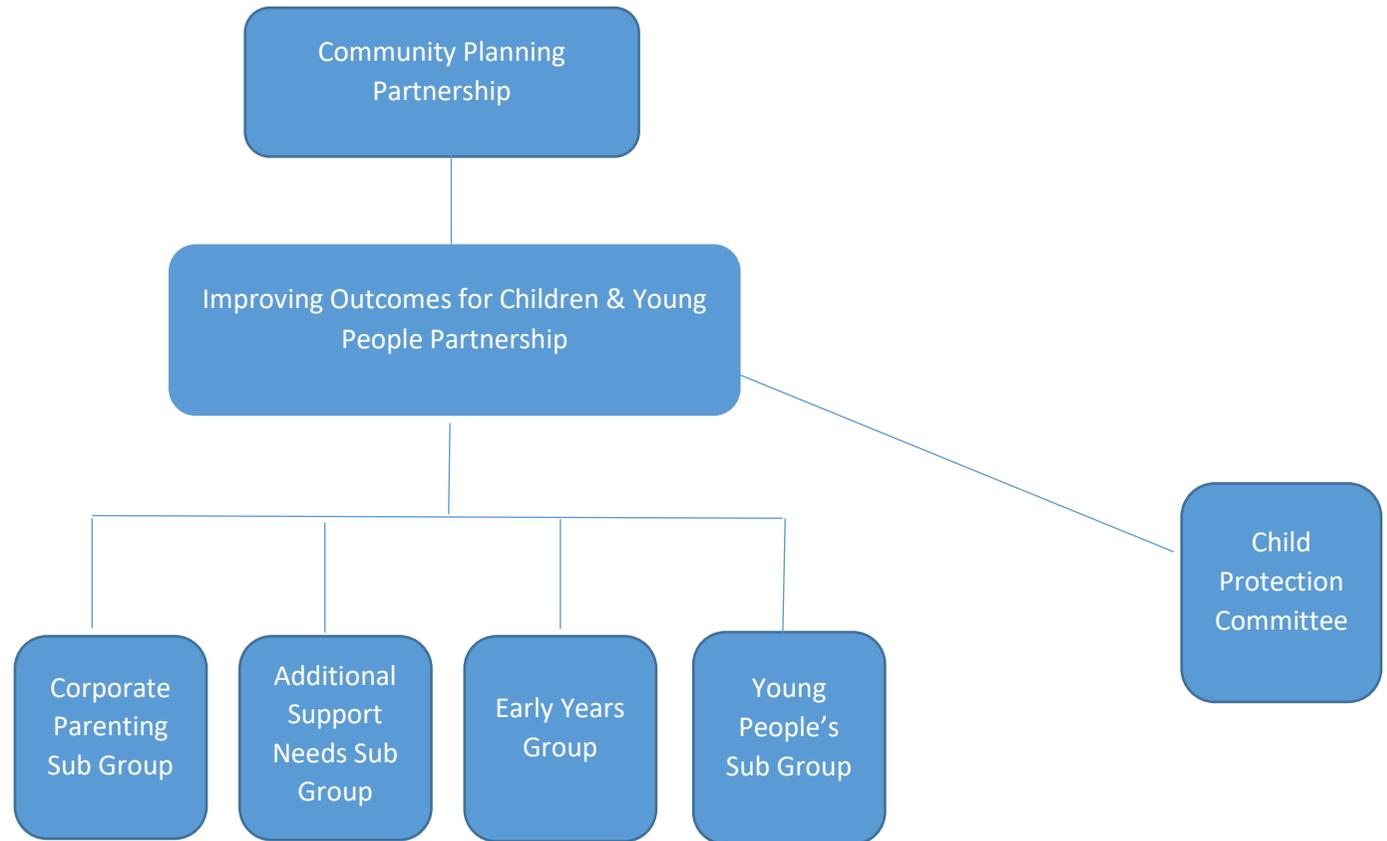
Priority 1. We help families and carers give their children the best start in life in a nurturing, safe and stable home environment	
Our contribution to making this happen	How we will measure our progress
Increase in activities which support prevention and early intervention, improve outcomes and reduce inequalities.	% increase in exclusive breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks in most deprived SIMD data zone (INCREASE) % of 0-2 year olds registered with a dentist Proportion of children reaching their developmental milestones by start of P1. Percentage of obese children in primary 1 Dental decay - P1 SIMD1 (most deprived areas)
Priority 2. Protect our most vulnerable children, young people, and families	
Our contribution to making this happen	How we will measure our progress
Increase in activities which support prevention and early intervention, improve outcomes and reduce inequalities.	% increase in improved outcomes for children on completion of parent programmes % of parents accessing family supports indicating an improvement in their family wellbeing % increase in number of identified young carers Young people participating in diversionary activity

Priority 3. Ensure children and young people with complex needs are supported to overcome barriers to inclusion at home, school, and communities	
Our contribution to making this happen	How we will measure our progress
A community which supports and promotes inclusion for young people with additional support needs.	<p>% of young people in transition to young adulthood with a transition plan by age 16 years</p> <p>% increase in community activities for children with complex needs</p>
Priority 4. Deliver on our Corporate Parenting responsibilities to our care experienced children and young people by fully implementing The Promise.	
Our contribution to making this happen	How we will measure our progress
<p>Settled, secure, nurturing and permanent places to live, within a family setting for all care experienced children and young people.</p> <p>Services and Corporate Parents that are welcoming, inclusive, supportive, and provide opportunities for children and young people to express their views.</p> <p>Accessible, timeous, and effective health interventions.</p>	<p>% Looked After Children with more than one placement within the last year</p> <p>% of children who are looked after away from home who have had a permanence recommendation within 6 months</p> <p>% increase in children and young people who take up Who Cares Scotland advocacy service</p>
Priority 5. Respond to the mental, emotional, and health and wellbeing needs of children and young people	
Our contribution to making this happen	How we will measure our progress
<p>Learning opportunities and activities that provide accurate information to support young people to make safer and informed lifestyle choices.</p> <p>Our children and young people experiencing the highest standards of physical,</p>	<p>% reduction in the number of repeat presentations to GP's for children/young people (Family Wellbeing Service)</p> <p>% of pupils reporting they take part in out of class activities and clubs</p>

<p>mental and emotional health, with access to universal and specialist healthcare services.</p>	<p>Children and young people accessing the Healthier Minds Service report improvements in their mental wellbeing.</p> <p>SALSUS survey responses</p>
<p>Priority 6. Improve achievement and attainment for all children and young people</p>	
<p>Our contribution to making this happen</p>	<p>How we will measure our progress</p>
<p>Our care experienced children and young people enjoying high quality, nurturing learning experiences which support opportunities for personal achievement.</p> <p>Nurturing the interest and talent of our children and young people in sports, arts, and leisure.</p> <p>Learning experiences which are high quality and support opportunities for personal achievement.</p>	<p>% increase in looked after young people gaining achievement awards</p> <p>% of looked after children and young people achieve their expected CfE levels in Literacy and Numeracy, by the end of P1, P4, P7 and S3.</p> <p>% school attendance for looked after children (Primary and Secondary)</p>
<p>Priority 7. Support young people with their transition into young adulthood</p>	
<p>Our contribution to making this happen</p>	<p>How we will measure our progress</p>
<p>An increase in activities which support young people with complex needs to achieve and sustain a positive transition into young adulthood and make safer and informed lifestyle choices</p> <p>Policy and processes to support children and young people to remain in a positive care placement until they are ready to move on and / or good quality accommodation with options to support their needs.</p> <p>An increase in activities which support young people to achieve and sustain a positive transition from school into further or higher education, training, or work.</p>	<p>% increase in young people with additional needs with an identified positive post school destination</p> <p>Young people report their school encourages them to make healthy lifestyle choices.</p> <p>Number of young people involved in ERC Youth Participatory Budget process</p> <p>% increase in looked after Children and Young People participating in Champions Board and Mini Champs activity</p>

<p>Services that promote the UNCRC and opportunities for children and young people to be involved in decision making concerning their life, health and community.</p>	
<p>Priority 8. Reducing the impact of poverty on children and families</p>	
<p>Our contribution to making this happen</p>	<p>How we will measure our progress</p>
<p>Frontline staff recognise the signs of poverty.</p> <p>Children and their families have opportunity to be involved in shaping local policies and measures to reduce the social and economic impact of poverty</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">% increase in FYE scheme take up</p> <p style="text-align: center;">% increase in uptake of free ELC for eligible two year olds</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Family Firm participation rates</p> <p style="text-align: center;">% of pupils entering positive destinations</p>
<p>Priority 9. Upskilling our children's services workforce</p>	
<p>Our contribution to making this happen</p>	<p>How we will measure our progress</p>
<p>A workforce who can provide appropriate and proportionate mental health responses for children and young people and have the confidence to support families most in need.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A speech, language and communication informed workforce.</p> <p>A community and workforce which promotes, encourages and supports healthy relationships, tolerance and inclusion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Relational based practice</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Number of engagement/feedback session with parents/carers and young people's groups</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Staff report that they are more knowledgeable and skilled to support mental wellbeing and trauma.</p>

Working in Partnership – East Renfrewshire Children’s Services Planning Partnership



What we spend on services for children and families

Expenditure on Children's Services 2020/2021		
East Renfrewshire Council		£s
	Education	141,554
	Community Learning and Development	633,800
	Housing	560,000
	Environment - Family Firm/Youth Employability Programme/ Parental Employment Support	131,500
East Renfrewshire HSCP		
	Children and Families	9,674,542
	Health Visiting and School Nursing	1,615,000
	Specialist Children's Services	714,000
	Speech and Language Services	229,000
Community Planning Partners and Partner Agencies		
	Culture and Leisure Trust	3,202,000
	Skills Development Scotland	1,704,000
	Children 1st	375,000
Total		£18,980,396.00

How we evaluate and report on improvement

Implementation of the plan and evaluating its impact is a key responsibility of all children's planning partners. To support this task each year through the work of the Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People Partnership we will produce an annual performance report to demonstrate progress towards achieving the actions, outcomes and targets that have been agreed.

All four of the children's planning groups will work to a delivery plan with clear actions and the co-chairs of each group will report directly to the Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People Partnership on what is being achieved and also any challenges that are being experienced. The latter will scrutinise performance reports and provide support to the children's planning groups when necessary to find solutions to any challenges they encounter. The Children's Plan Annual Reports will be submitted to appropriate Council and HSCP committees each year.

Measuring Success

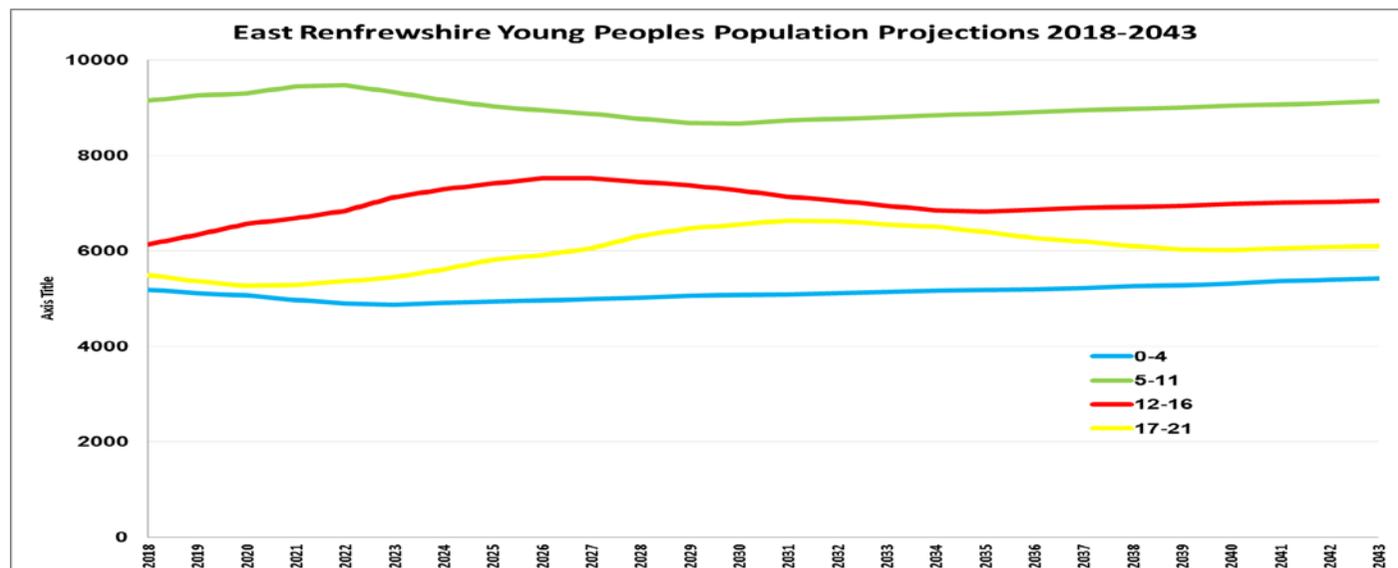
A suite of critical indicators has been agreed by local partners - drawn from national and local data sources - to gauge the extent to which we are collectively making progress on the wellbeing outcomes for children, young people and families. We are confident this set of indicators will allow us to measure improvement and identify areas of strength as well as areas where we need to redouble our efforts. In addition to these we will draw on other evidence and information to determine whether our activities are having the intended impact. This will include analysis of local improvement and evaluation activity carried out by partners. However the most important source of information on how well we are doing is from children, young people, and families themselves, and their experiences and views will be the final arbiter of whether we have got it right or not. In view of this we will be working even harder to ensure our services operate in a way that openly invites feedback and encourages frequent communication and dialogue with those who are using our services. This is especially important for children and families who are disadvantaged, or experiencing a range of complex difficulties.

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Appendix 1**Profile of Children and Young People's Needs in East Renfrewshire****Children and Young People's Population**

East Renfrewshire has a population of approximately 96,000 people that is projected to grow to 108,000 by 2043 (2018 based). Some 22% of the population are aged 16 years or under. The total children and young person's population (0-21 years) is currently around 26,000 with live births per year numbering around 800. This equates to a fertility rate of 51 live births per 1,000 women (aged 15-44) and compares favourably with the Scotland rate of 48.4 live births per 1,000 women. There are 19,525 individuals aged between 0 and 15, this is the highest proportion of children in any local authority in Scotland. One in every five people living in East Renfrewshire is a child.

From the graph below we can see that approximately 5,000 children are currently under 5 years, 8,600 are between five and eleven, and just over 6,000 fall within the twelve to sixteen age group; it is this group.



The number of children and young people aged 0-15 has consistently increased over the last 10 years and has increased by nearly 3% since 2017. The picture across East Renfrewshire differs with the communities of Giffnock (-0.7%), Netherlee and Stamperland (-1.8%) and Clarkston and Williamwood (-2.3%) experiencing a reduction in the number of children and young people. However, all other areas increased the number of children and young people living within them. Projections also show the children and young people cohort continuing to grow over the next 25 years.

There is an increasing pattern of more people entering East Renfrewshire than leaving. In 2018/19 nearly 500 more children (0-14) migrated into the area than left, further adding to the number of children in the population. These levels of migration were the highest levels of any local authority. In comparison between 2017 and 2019, East Renfrewshire experienced a 8.8 per cent decrease in the number of births, dropping from 886 in 2017 to 808 in 2019. The number of births in Scotland declined by 5.7 per cent between 2017 and 2019.

Household Composition

East Renfrewshire has a higher than the Scottish average percentage of households with married / civil partners and dependent children (21.1 per cent). Joint second highest in Scotland for percentage who are married or same sex couples with the second lowest proportion of divorcees. Lone parent families accounted for 10 per cent of all households.

Ethnicity

Most people in East Renfrewshire (94 per cent) report their ethnicity as 'White'. The majority of these people belonged to the 'White: Scottish' category (87 per cent). The 'White: other British' was the second largest category at 4.1 per cent. Of the 'White' ethnic group, 2.9 per cent identified as 'non-British White' including 1.5 per cent of 'White: Irish' and 1.2 per cent 'Other: White' with 0.2 per cent 'White: Polish'.

Minority ethnic groups in East Renfrewshire have grown in size between 2001 and 2011, and generally, lived in more mixed areas in 2011, compared to 2001 (Table 4). The 'Asian' population showed the largest increase and now represents 5 per cent of the total East Renfrewshire population. 'Mixed or multiple' ethnic groups represented 0.4 per cent and 'Other Ethnic' groups 0.3 per cent of the population. The 'African, Caribbean or Black' groups made up 0.1 per cent of the population.

Religion

In the Census of 2011, there was a much higher percentage of people in East Renfrewshire who stated they have a religion (73 per cent) when compared with Scotland as a whole (63 per cent). After Christianity, the next largest reported religion is 'Muslim' which represents 3.3 per cent with an increase of 1.2 per cent from 2001. This is followed by 'Jewish' at 2.6 per cent which represents 41 per cent of the 'Jewish' population in Scotland. The other religions combined (including 'Hindu', 'Buddhist', 'Sikh' and 'Other religion') represented a further 1.4 per cent.

Socio Economic Factors

There are around 3,600 children living poverty within East Renfrewshire. This amounts to 16% of children living in East Renfrewshire. This is lower than the Scottish average and comparable with East Renfrewshire's family group in the Local Government Benchmarking Framework. However, there is disparity in levels of poverty across the authority; varying from around one in twenty children living in poverty in the more affluent areas, to almost one in three in the less affluent areas.

Within East Renfrewshire there are over 11,500 households with children. Around 2,200 of these are lone parent households, a group at greater risk of poverty. It is projected that there will be over a 30% increase in the number of lone parent households 2026, which is much higher than the average Scottish increase. It is projected that lone parent households will make up a greater proportion of the households in East Renfrewshire by 2026 growing to 7%.

However within East Renfrewshire there are some communities considerably more deprived than others. Across East Renfrewshire 6.6% of the 18-24 age group were unemployed and claiming benefit in October the Scotland wide figure was 8.8%. Although East Renfrewshire has a proportionately large population of children living in the area, proportionately child poverty levels in comparison to the national average, are very low. However, there is disparity in levels of poverty across the authority; varying from around one in twenty children living in poverty in the more affluent areas, to almost one in three in the less affluent areas.

Out-of-Work Households: Six per cent of children in East Renfrewshire live in out of work households. This is significantly below the Scottish rate of 13.9%. However, there are significant differences across the authority area - 1.3% of children in Netherlee, Stamperland and Williamwood live in out of work households, whilst this figure rises to 18.7% in Barrhead. In terms of children with complex additional needs 3.9% of East Renfrewshire's 0-15 population were also in receipt of Disability Living Allowance compared to 4.7% nationally.

Free School Meals Entitlements: Another useful indicator of levels of deprivation among families is free school meals entitlement rates. At September 2019 6.3% of the primary and secondary school population were in receipt of free school meals, taking standard entitlement into consideration (however all P1-P3 children are entitled to and registered for free school meals). As expected, entitlement is concentrated mainly within the localities where deprivation levels are highest.

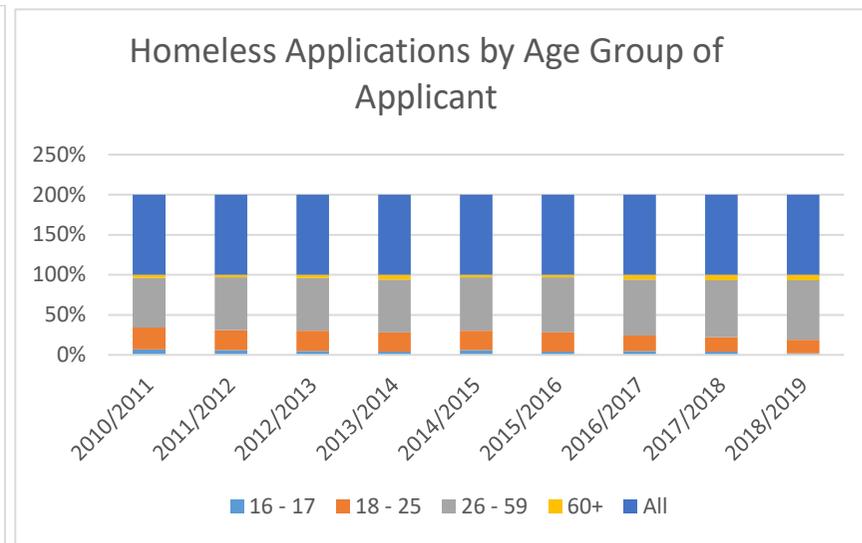
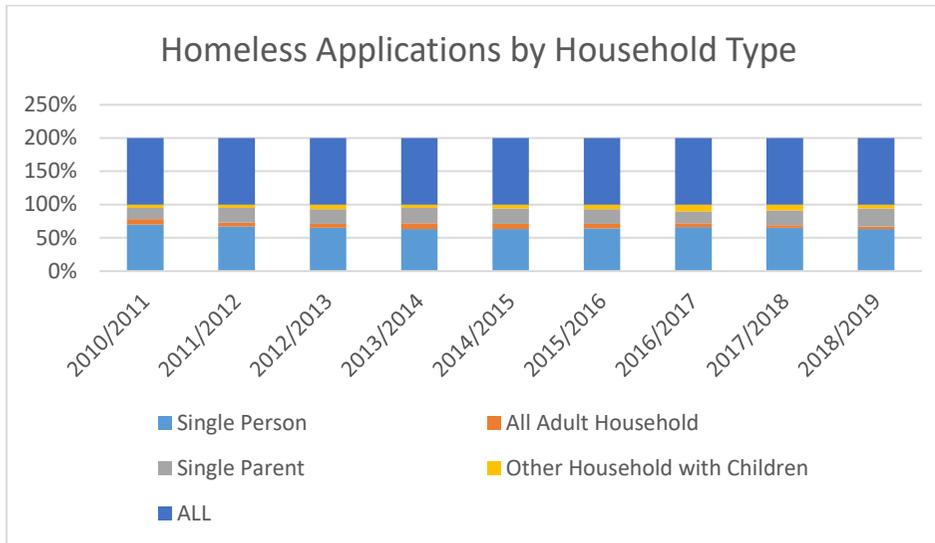
Economic Impact of Covid – top level data

ERC has had a 137.1% increase in unemployment between January and May 2020 (third highest % increase in Scotland). 2300 ERC residents are on the Income Support Self Employment scheme and 744 Business Support Grants have been issued. By end of first lockdown 10,100 residents were on furlough.

Housing

The Council's Housing Service and partners RSLs continue to prioritise the rehousing of vulnerable households faced with homelessness, and to respond to the Scottish Government's requirements to drive down the instances of homelessness and length of time people who are homeless wait to be suitably rehoused. The average length of time in temporary accommodation in 18/19 for homeless households was 98.5 days; a decrease from 108.9 days in 17/18, and reflects the pressure we have for additional affordable housing to be made available.

While applications from homeless families have increased slightly in 2018/19 as a proportion of overall applications, there has been an ongoing drop in the young people 25 and under who have had to make a homeless application, in part due to the other protocols we have in place to prevent this occurring.



Education

East Renfrewshire Council's Education Department has a strong reputation and record of high levels of attainment and sector leading evaluations of pupil experiences from HMIE evaluations. East Renfrewshire Council's Education Department is fully committed to securing positive outcomes for all children and young people.

The department's vision statement – 'Everyone Attaining, Everyone Achieving through Excellent Experiences' – clearly demonstrates an ambition for all children and young people and sets out the responsibility placed on everyone who works in education to meet the needs of all and develop their skills and capabilities. There is a consistent focus on excellence and equity and all educational establishments ensure that efforts and resources are targeted towards those who need support most

Attainment in the Broad General Education

Pupil progress in reading, writing, talking and listening and numeracy through the Broad General Education (P1 to S3) is measured by teacher professional judgement. Teachers make a professional judgement of each pupil's progress, with evaluations based on a wide range of evidence which takes account of breadth, challenge and application of learning. The evidence comes from a range of assessments including standardised assessments and on-going observation of learner progress. Teacher professional judgements at the P1, P4, P7 and S3 year stages are gathered each year by the Education Department and are submitted to the Scottish Government. Regrettably, as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic, teacher judgements will not be collected for the academic year 2019-20. The following tables provide details of the proportion of pupils who achieved the expected levels of progress within the Broad General Education in each of the curricular areas:

Primary Attainment (P1, P4, P7 Combined Values)

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
% Attaining or Exceeding Expected Levels - Reading	88.4	89.2	91.2	90.7
% Attaining or Exceeding Expected Levels - Writing	85.5	86.6	89.4	88.3
% Attaining or Exceeding Expected Levels – Talking & Listening	90.5	91.6	94.0	94.5
% Attaining or Exceeding Expected Levels - Numeracy	88.6	90.3	90.8	90.7

Primary attainment in reading, writing, talking and listening and mathematics has increased over the last four years. The 2018-19 performance in talking and listening was the highest to date.

Secondary Attainment (S3)

At the S3 year stage, pupil attainment is recorded as achieving the 3rd or 4th level of the Broad General Education. The table below provides details of the proportion of S3 pupils which achieved the 4th level in each curricular area.

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
% Attaining Fourth Level – Reading	69.7	77.0	78.4	80.9
% Attaining Fourth Level – Writing	63.5	71.7	76.6	79.7
% Attaining Fourth Level – Talking & Listening	72.5	76.9	80.1	81.5
% Attaining Fourth Level - Mathematics	76.2	76.1	78.2	78.4

Secondary attainment (S3) at fourth level in reading, writing, talking and listening and mathematics has increased over the last four years, with the 2018-19 performance the highest to date in all four curricular areas.

Performance in SQA examinations:

East Renfrewshire continues to outperform similar authorities and performance is well above the national average. In academic year 2019-20:

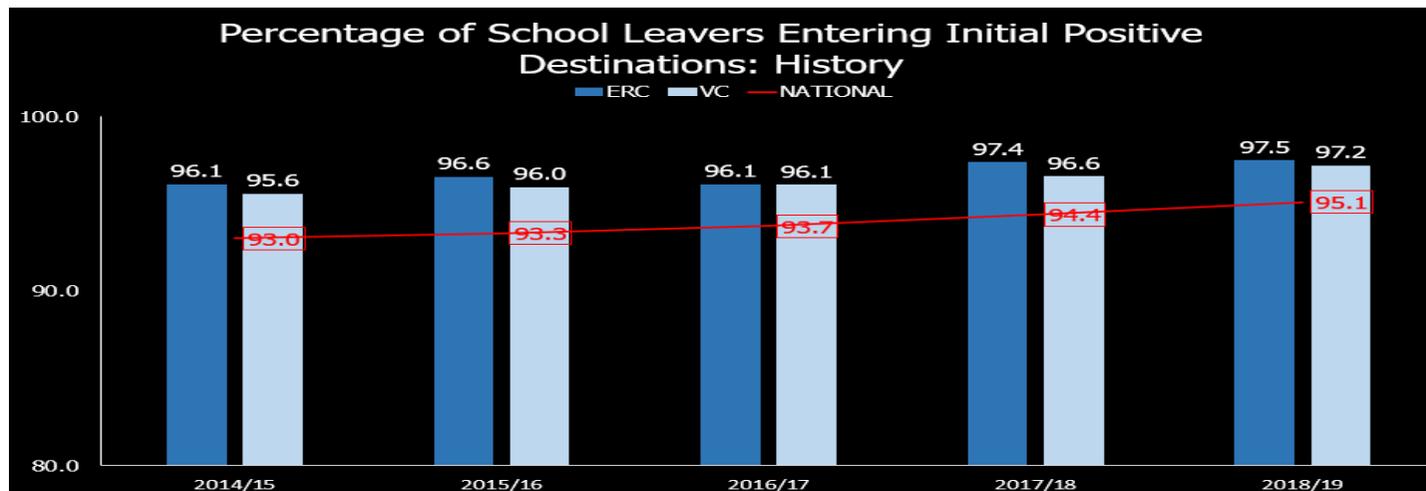
- Some 85% of S4 pupils achieved 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5; this is the highest recorded for the Council and is 19% above the local authority's virtual comparator value.^[1]

^[1] Virtual comparator values provide context for the data. The virtual comparator is a standard benchmarking measure. The virtual comparator is a sample group of pupils from other parts of Scotland who have similar characteristics to the young people in the local authority (matched on gender, additional support needs, stage of leaving school (S4, S5 or S6) and the social context in which they live.

- Since 2018 the average amount of Insight points S4 pupils from the most deprived areas as defined by Scottish Index of Deprivation (SIMD) has increased by 11 percentage points; whilst the attainment of all SIMD groups increased over the period, the deprivation gap decreased as the middle and most affluent groups increased by 5% and 2% respectively.
- SCQF Level 6 (Higher) results for S5 year pupils continues to demonstrate very strong performance, with the proportion of pupils attaining 1 or more, 3 or more or 5 or more SCQF Level 5 awards being 14%, 19% and 20% above the Council’s virtual comparator, respectively.
- At Advanced Higher in S6, 48% of the original S4 cohort achieved 1 or more SCQF Level 7 (Advanced Higher) awards, an increase of 4.5% since 2018 and 16% above the Virtual Comparator.
- East Renfrewshire continues to out-perform its virtual comparator for all key indicators at SCQF Levels 3 to 7.

School Leaver Destinations

The proportion of school leavers entering a positive destination has increased over the past 5 years to an all-time high for the Council of 97.5% in 2018-19. In each of the last 5 years the proportion of pupils leaving school for a positive destination has been in keeping with or above the virtual comparator and is significantly above the national values.



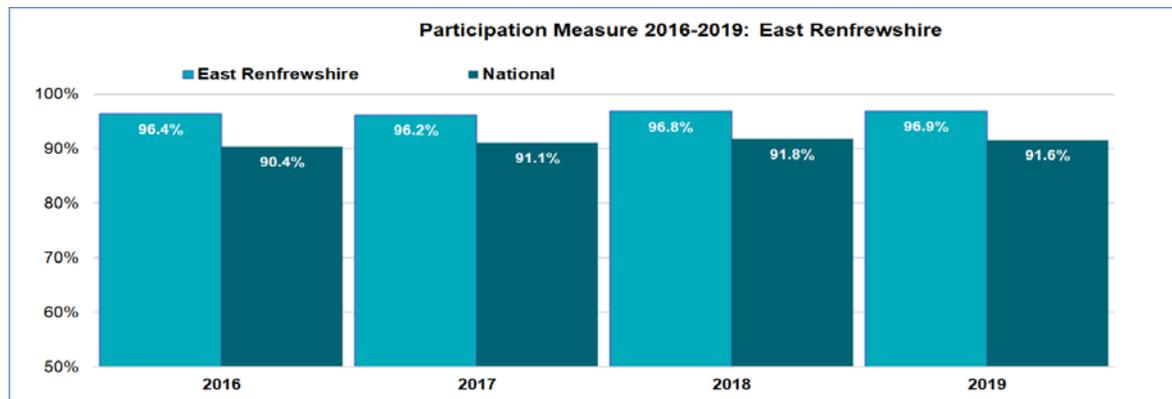
The proportion of young people residing in less affluent areas as defined by SIMD, leaving school and entering a positive destination has increased at a significantly greater rate than those from other decile groups.

Annual Participation Measure

The Scottish Government's Opportunities for All commitment offers a place in learning or training to every 16-19 year old who is not in employment, education or training. Skills Development Scotland (SDS) worked with the Scottish Government to develop a measure of participation which allows for the identification of the participation status of the wider 16-19 cohort.

The latest Annual Participation Measure report (published August 2020) marked the sixth release of statistics on the participation of 16-19 year olds at a national and local authority level. As agreed by Scottish Ministers the Annual Participation Measure has been adopted in the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework as the measure of young people's participation. This has replaced the school leaver destination follow up as the source of the national indicator, "Percentage of young adults (16-19 year olds) participating in education, training or employment".

The measure is drawn from records on SDS's Customer Support System, which are updated by SDS and by partners (including East Renfrewshire Council/schools, colleges, SAAS, DWP). It allows all partners to better understand the impact of interventions and the outcomes they deliver at every transition point for 16-19 year olds. The graph below shows the results over a four-year period in relation to levels of 'participation' within East Renfrewshire compared with the national averages. East Renfrewshire is above the National Comparator in the last 4 years as illustrated:



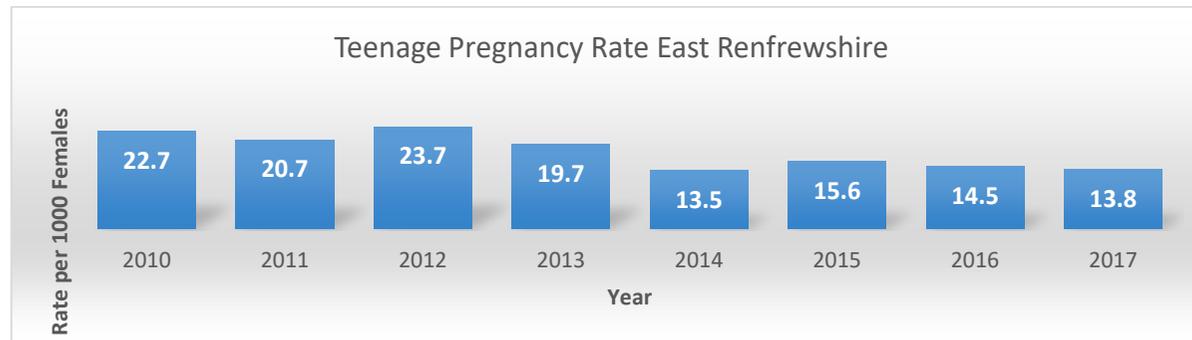
Attendance and exclusions: In the primary sector, the attendance rate for 2019/20 was 95.6%. In the secondary sector the attendance rate for 2019-20 is 92.8%. School exclusions remain very low within East Renfrewshire. In 2019-20 there were no temporary exclusions in the primary sector and there has been only one temporary exclusion in the primary sector over the past 5 academic years. Nationally, in 2018/19 the rate of exclusions in the primary sector is 4.9 exclusion incidents per 1000 pupils.

In the secondary sector, in 2019/20 the rate of temporary exclusion was 4.6 exclusions per 1000 pupils and is a decrease from the 2018-19 rate of 6.8 exclusions per 1000 pupils; nationally in 2018/19, the rate of exclusion is 24.7 exclusions per 1000 pupils.

Child and Maternal Health

East Renfrewshire Teenage Pregnancy rate

The most recently published data for teenage pregnancy is for the calendar year ending 2017 (published July 2019). Teenage pregnancy rates in East Renfrewshire have generally been decreasing since 2010. In 2017, East Renfrewshire had the lowest rate of all council areas for the second year running. In 2017 the teenage pregnancy rate (per 1000 births) in East Renfrewshire was 13.8 compared to 29.8 for NHS GGC, and 30.2 for Scotland.



Maternal Smoking

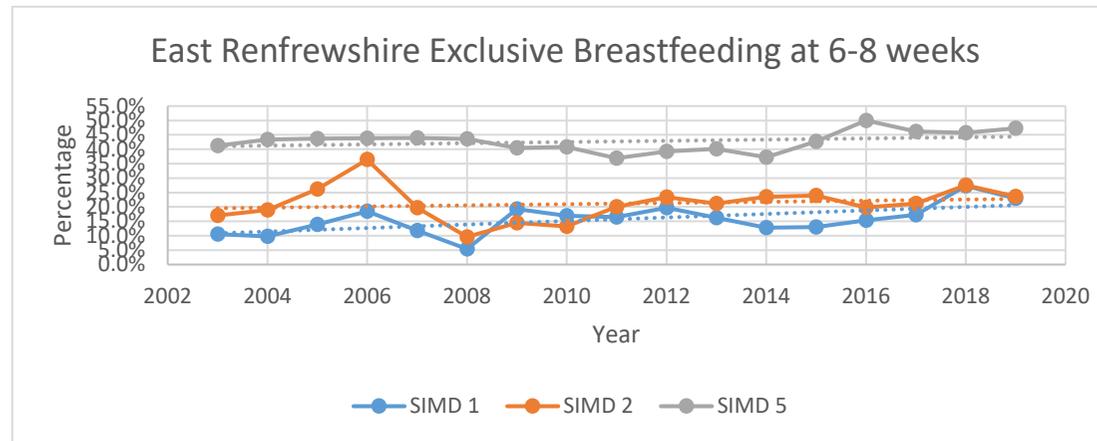
The health of a pregnant woman and her baby are closely linked and are influenced by a number of different factors including maternal smoking. In 2019, 5.7% (46) of women living in East Renfrewshire were recorded as smoking at the time of their antenatal booking appointment compared to 4.6% (39) in 2018. Maternal smoking in pregnancy in women living in East Renfrewshire remains significantly below figures for Scotland and NHS GGC at 14.6% and 11.7% respectively.

Maternal Smoking at Antenatal Booking Appointment

AREA	2018 (count)	2019 (count)
East Renfrewshire	4.6 (39)	5.7 (46)
NHSC GGC	11.5 (1340)	11.7 (1277)
Scotland	14.4 (7363)	14.6 (6989)

Breastfeeding Rates and Deprivation

There continues to be a difference in breastfeeding rates between women living in our most deprived areas of SIMD 1 &2 and our most affluent in SIMD 5. In 2019 23% of women living in the most deprived areas of the authority (SIMD 1) were exclusively breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks compared with 47% of women living in our least deprived areas (SIMD 5). Indeed, this is a trend that is seen in our most deprived areas across Scotland. However, East Renfrewshire does continue to have one of the highest exclusive breastfeeding rates as a whole at 6-8 weeks in Scotland.

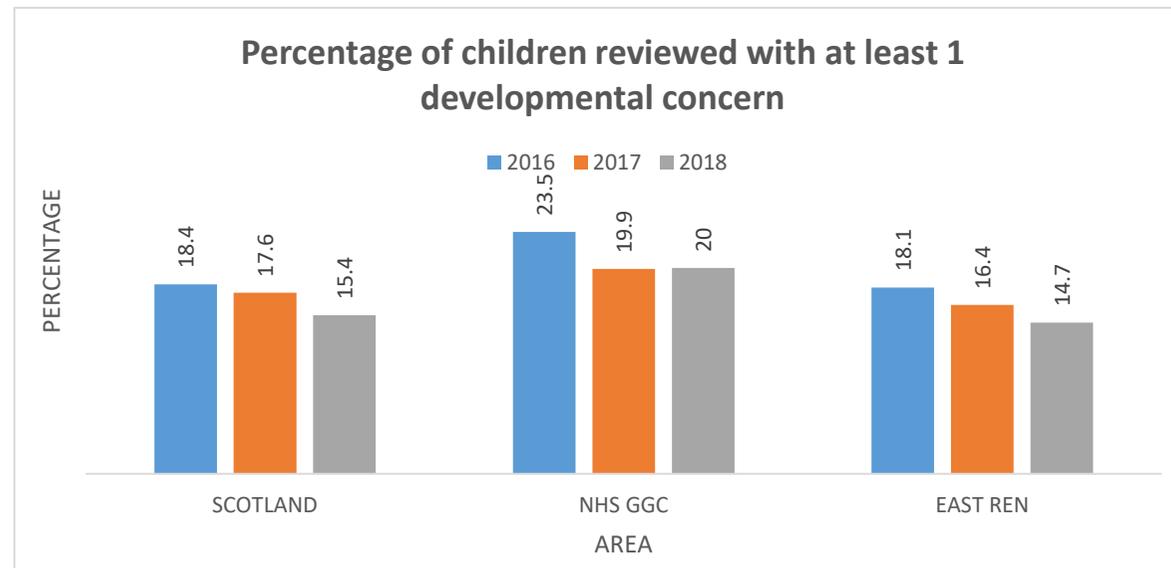


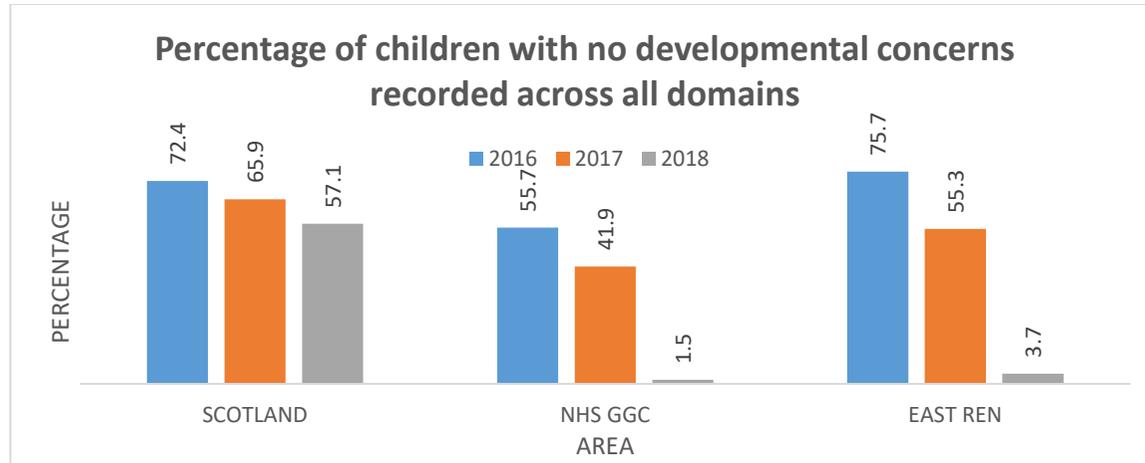
Children's development 27-30 month assessment

27-30 Month Review

Children's development is assessed during the health visitor 27-30-month child health review.

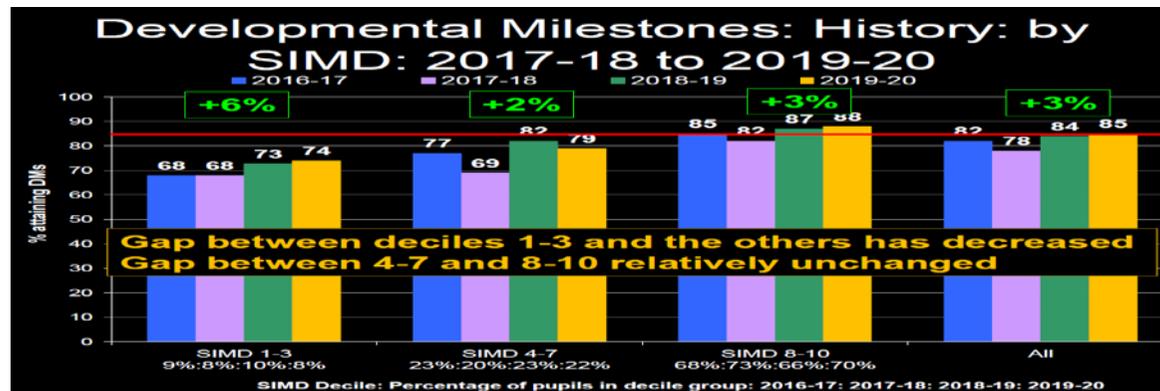
The latest information available comes from reviews provided to children turning 27 months between April 2017 and March 2018. In 2017/18, 15% of children in East Renfrewshire, undergoing a 27-30-month child health review had a concern recorded about at least one area of their development. This compares to 18% in 2016. The slight decrease is in comparison to other areas across GG&C. The recording of concerns may be due to the increase in number of Health Visitors within East Renfrewshire resulting in earlier interventions and management of developmental concerns with children and families.





P1 Pupils reaching developmental milestones

Since 2013-14 data has been gathered on the percentage of children achieving the expected levels of development on entry to primary 1. The following components are assessed: Attention, Speech, Expressive Language, Receptive Language, Communication, Gross Motor Skills, Fine Motor Skills and Behaviour. In East Renfrewshire, within each decile range, the increase in the percentage of children achieving their developmental milestones is greatest within the least affluent communities, SIMD deciles 1-3. This has contributed to a reduction in the gap between the achievement of those from the most affluent, SIMD 8-10, and least affluent, SIMD 1-3 residencies, which has decreased from around 26% in 2014-15 to 14% in 2019-20.



Oral Health

Dental Registrations 0-2 year olds

NHSGGC's target for children aged 0-2 years is - *a minimum of 60% should be registered with an NHS dentist*. Although this target has been in existence for several years no local authority in the health board area has reached it. Nor has the target been reached across NHSGGC as a whole, or in Scotland. As can be seen from the table below since 2016 the registration rate has fallen by almost 4% in East Renfrewshire.

Area	Year 2016	Year 2017	Year 2018	Year 2019
GGC	52.2 %	53%	52.9%	52.5%
East Renfrewshire	56.0%	55.1%	53.6%	52.4%
Scotland	49.0%	48.5%	48.2%	47.4%

Dental Caries in Primary 1 Pupils

The National Dental Inspection Programme (NDIP) is carried out annually but alternates on a sample of P 1 and P 7 children in each Local Authority area. The latest data for children age 5 years is from the school year 2018. As can be seen in the table below the percentage of P1 pupils in East Renfrewshire with no obvious decay experience in 2018 was 82.6%. This is an increase from the 2016 figure of 79.6%. East Renfrewshire also compares favourably with NHSGGC and Scotland wide too.

Percentage of P1 Children with no obvious decay

Area	Year 2018
East Renfrewshire	82.6%
NHS GGC	67.1
Scotland	71.0%

There is a link between deprivation and oral health and this is also reflected in local data. In 2018 only 33% of Primary 1 pupils living in the most deprived areas of East Renfrewshire had no obvious decay in their teeth compared with 90% of children living in the most affluent areas. These figures are however based on a very small number of children.

Childhood Obesity

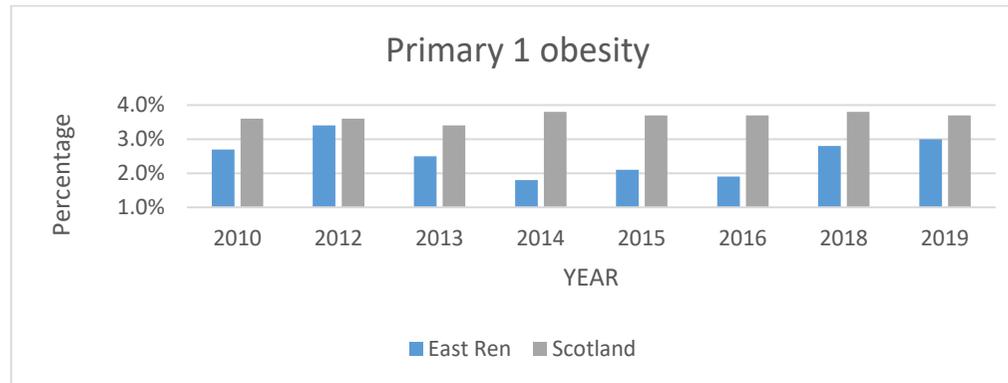
This data is derived from height and weight measurements recorded at Primary 1 Health Reviews and recorded on the Child Health Surveillance System Programme – Schools. Data is published annually in Nov/Dec by Information Services Division Scotland (ISD).

As can be seen from the graph below East Renfrewshire has a lower percentage of obese P1 children than Scotland wide, however this gap had narrowed over the last 4 years primarily due to an increase in East Renfrewshire figures. In 2019, 3% of P1 Children in East Renfrewshire who were measured, were classed as obese. This figure increased slightly from 2.8% in 2018. This compares to 1.4% in East Dunbartonshire (a comparator authority) and 3.7% Scotland wide.

The proportion of severely obese children in East Renfrewshire is less than the National average.

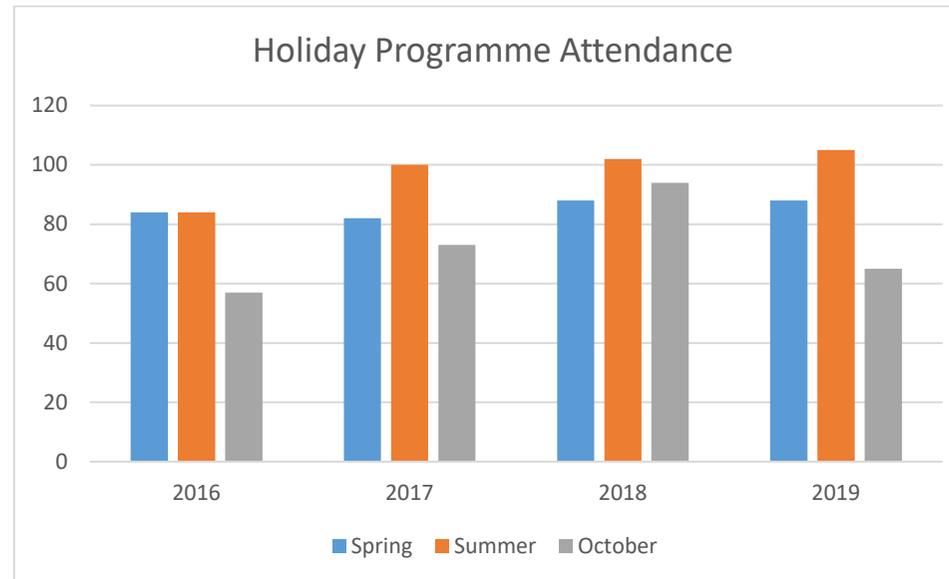
The proportion of children recorded as severely obese in East Renfrewshire increased between 2014 and 2018, similar to the national trend toward increasing overweight and obesity. In 2019 only 1.4% of P1 pupils were recorded as severely obese. This compares to 1.7% and 2.8% in East Dunbartonshire and Scotland wider respectively.

Proportion of Obesity in Primary 1 Pupils



Children with disabilities

Over recent years there has been an increase in children and young people with complex needs in East Renfrewshire. Information in the graph below highlights an increased trend in the number of children and young people with complex support needs attending holiday programmes offered by the Inclusive Support Service. The summer programme continues to be welcomed by families as they advise they struggle to cope during the long school break. The lack of structure and routine when not at school can be particularly challenging. Support levels required are also increasing in response to children and young people with complex health issues and behavioural support needs.



Alcohol and Drug Consumption among young people

The 2018 SALSUS survey findings indicate a change in attitudes and behaviours towards alcohol and drugs amongst young people in East Renfrewshire since the 2013 study. More 13 year olds believe it is "ok to try alcohol" compared to 2013 (43%). Three quarters of 15 year olds believe this, but there has been no change since 2013. Over a third of 15 year olds reported "being drunk more than ten times" – an increase of 14% from 2013 and 12% higher than in Scotland as a whole.

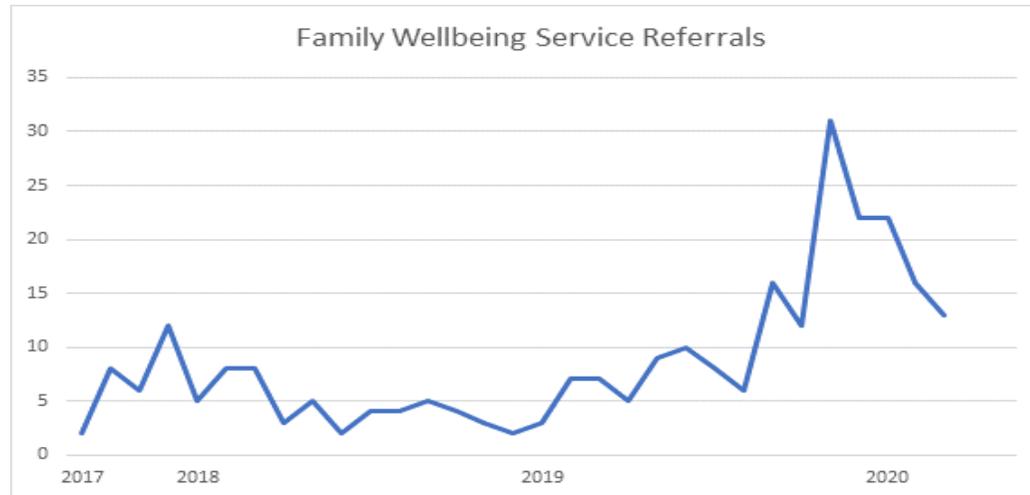
Positively the vast majority of 13 and 15 year olds respondents have not tried drugs. However half of 15 year olds say they have been offered drugs and agree it is easy to get access to drugs if they want to – cannabis is the most common drug.

Vulnerable Children and Young People

Mental Health of Children and Young People

Family Wellbeing Service (ERHSCP partnership with Children 1st and Robertson Trust)

The graph below shows the growth in referrals to the Family Wellbeing Service since the pilot began within 2 GP practices in September 2017. The service was then made available to a further 4 GP practices in early 2019 and again increased by a further 4 by autumn of 2019. The final 5 practices were offered the service late 2019; however only 2 of these practices have taken up the offer thus far. Currently the service can receive referrals from 12 out of a possible 15 GP Practices across the region. The tailing off of referrals coincides with the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic; however, just prior to this period the service experienced a substantial rise in referrals, spiking at 31 in November 2019



Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS)

As detailed in the table below whilst there has been a slow rise in overall referral rate, in keeping with all CAMHS teams in the west of Scotland, the number of cases which do not meet criteria has significantly decreased increasing overall demand on services. The reasons for this reduction in referrals which do not meet criteria are threefold.

- 1) Updated guidance from the Scottish government on criteria for camhs service specification.
- 2) All referrals to be provided with a telephone mental health check up to confirm details
- 3) Updated referral from for GPs

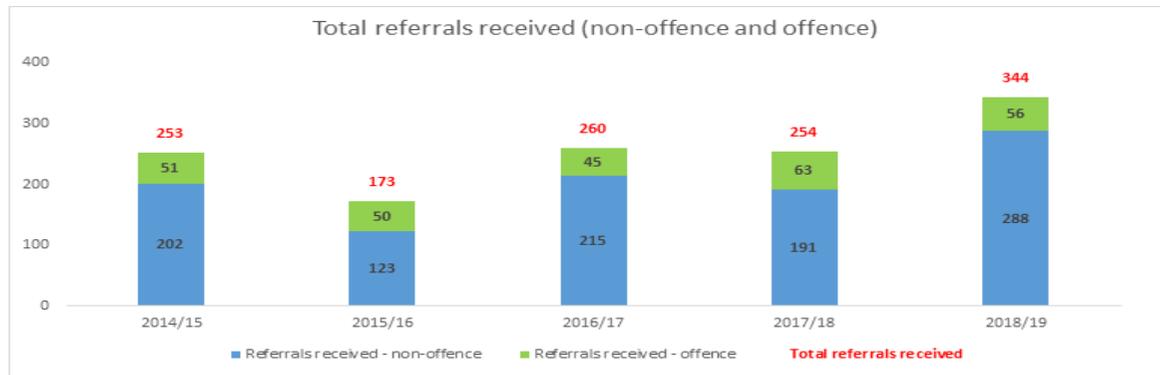
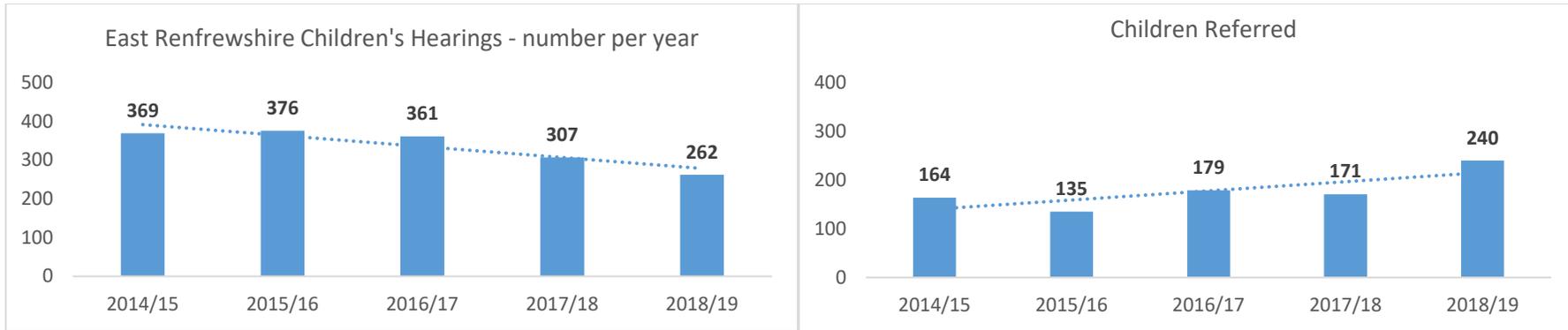
East Renfrewshire CAMHS Referrals 2017-2019			
Year	Total Received	Total Did Not Meet Criteria	Total Accepted
2017	657	216	441
2018	717	95	622
2019	733	52	681

Scottish Children’s Reporters Administration Activity

There were 262 Children's Hearings in East Renfrewshire in 2018/19; this is a decrease when compared to previous years as illustrated in the graph 1 above. However 240 children were referred to SCRA in 2018/19 reflecting an upward trend since 2014/15 (164 children).

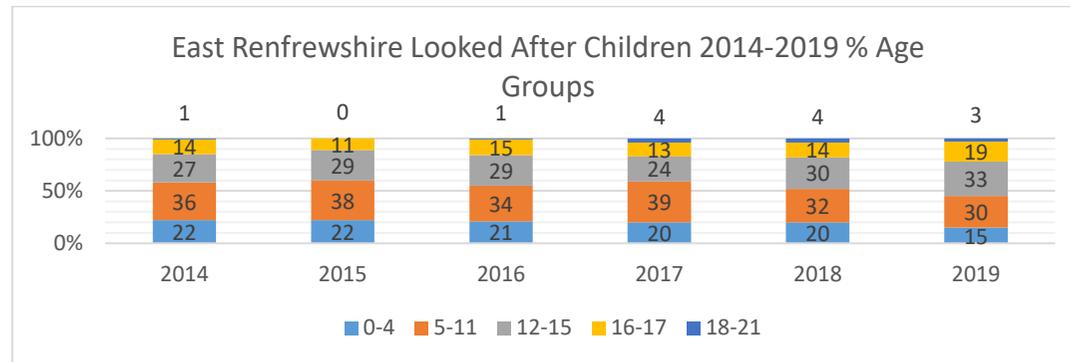
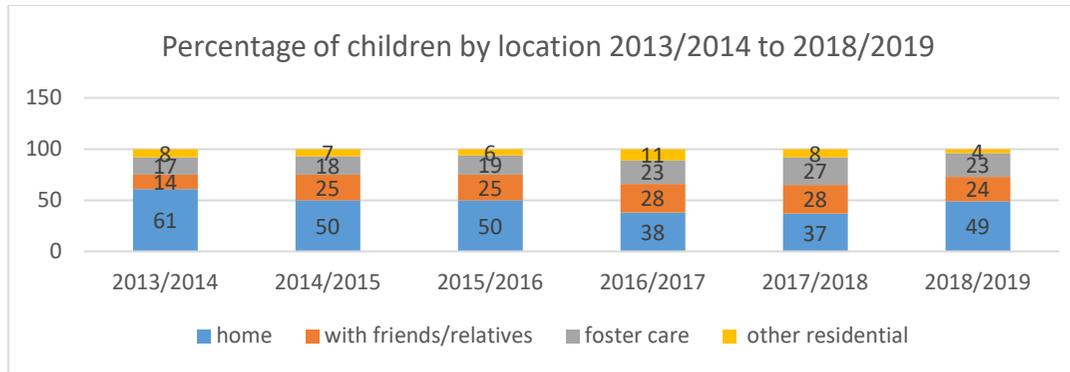
These children were involved in 344 referrals, again this has mirrored the increase in individual children referred since 2014/15 (253 referrals). Non-offence referrals accounted for some 90% of all children and 84% of all referrals received.

The breakdown of the number of offence and non-offence referrals to the Reporter show that children and young people have overwhelmingly been referred on care and welfare grounds with the most common grounds being “close connection with person who has carried out domestic abuse”, followed by “lack of parental care”.



Looked after Children and Young People

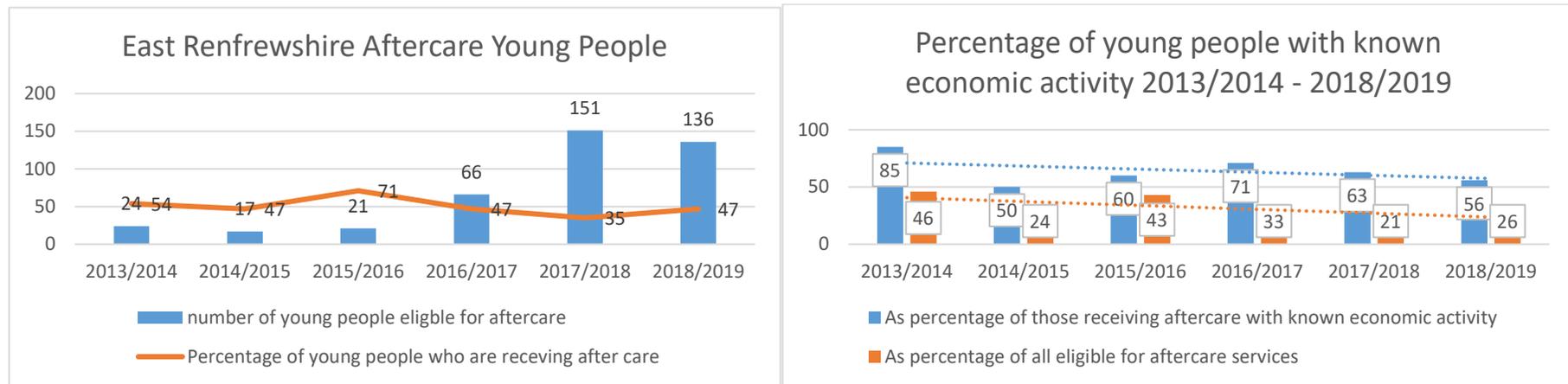
The long term trend has seen the number of children and young people who are looked after fall. The proportions of children looked after at home and away from home has remained fairly consistent with around half of children being looked after at home.



The age groups of children and young people who are looked after has remained fairly constant too with only a slight decrease in the number of under 0-4 year olds being looked after and a similarly small increase in the number of children older than 12 who are looked after.

Care Leavers and After Care

The figures for known economic activity show that those young people who receive a services are twice as likely to be engaged in economic activity. 56%of young people receiving after care services have known economic activity in 2018/2019 with compares favourably with national average of 44%. This However there appears to be a decline in economic activity in general for young people eligible for After Care with 26% in East Renfrewshire matching the national average of 25% for 2018/2019.

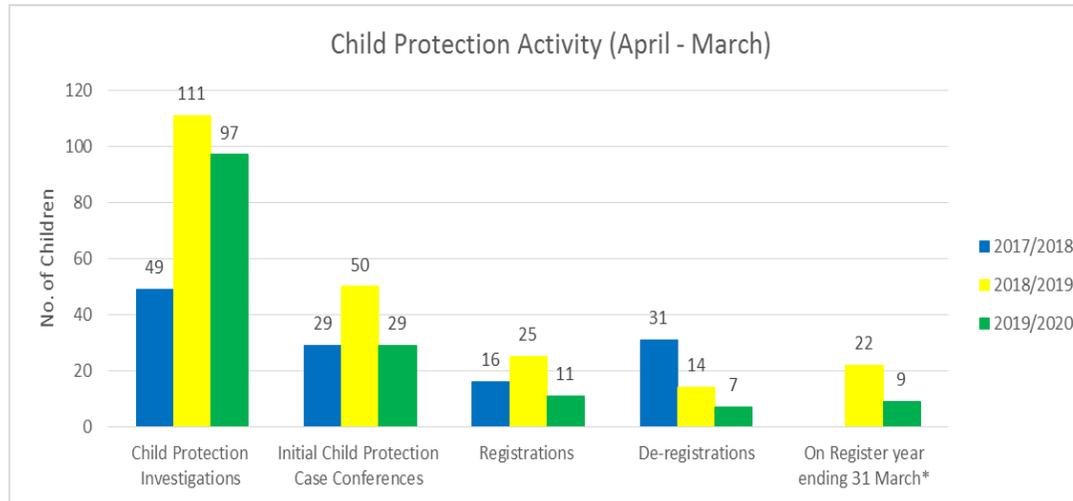
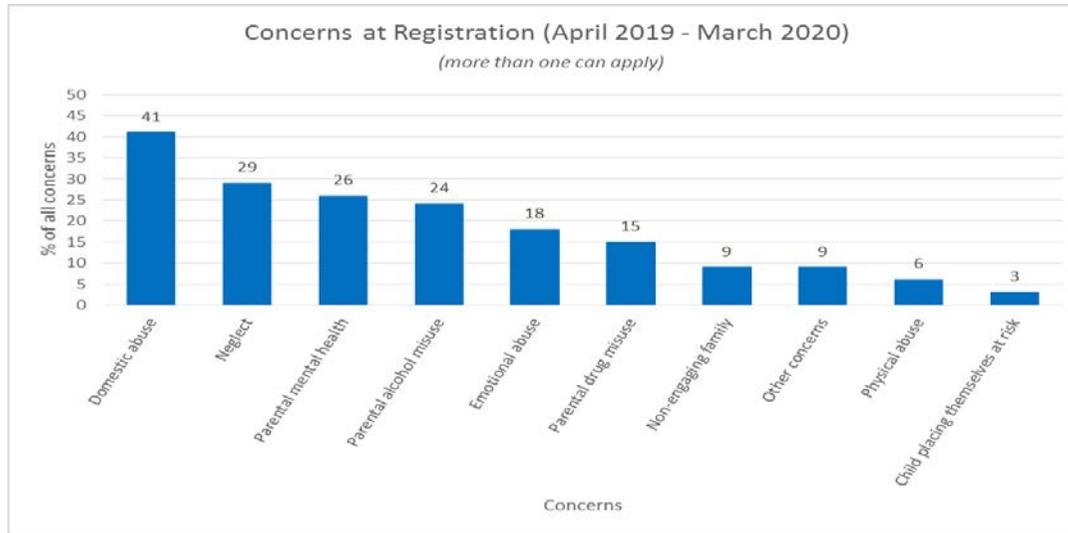


Child Protection

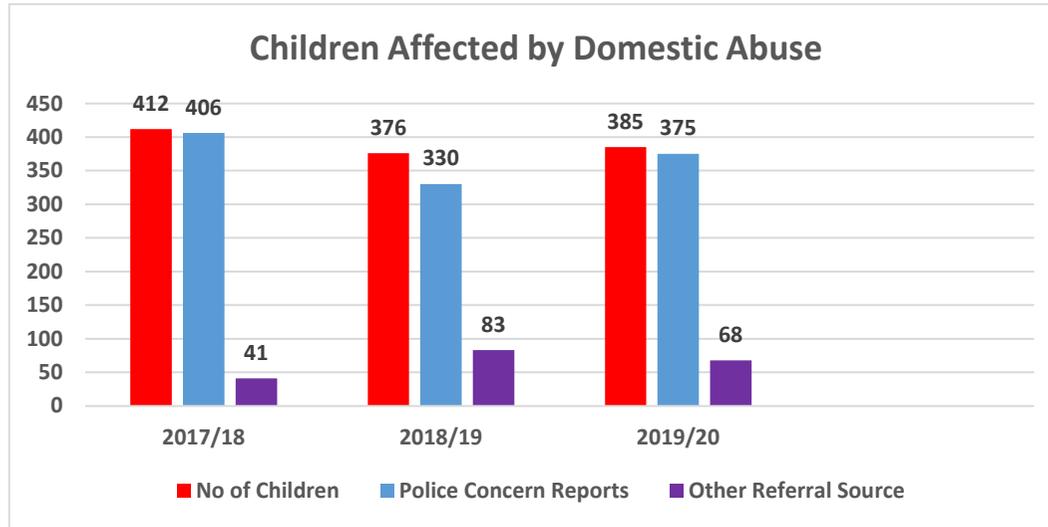
From 2018/2019 to 2019/2020 the proportion of children who were registered at the Initial Child Protection Case Conference stage decreased from 45% to 30%. Our total number of children registered in 2019/2020 more than halved from 2018/2019.

This decrease could be attributed to the implementation of the Signs of Safety approach allowing us to work with families in a more strengths based way. A child can be placed on the child protection register with more than one concern noted. Domestic abuse was the highest concern at the point of registration followed by neglect, parental mental health and parental alcohol misuse.

* Figure for 2017/2018



Domestic Abuse



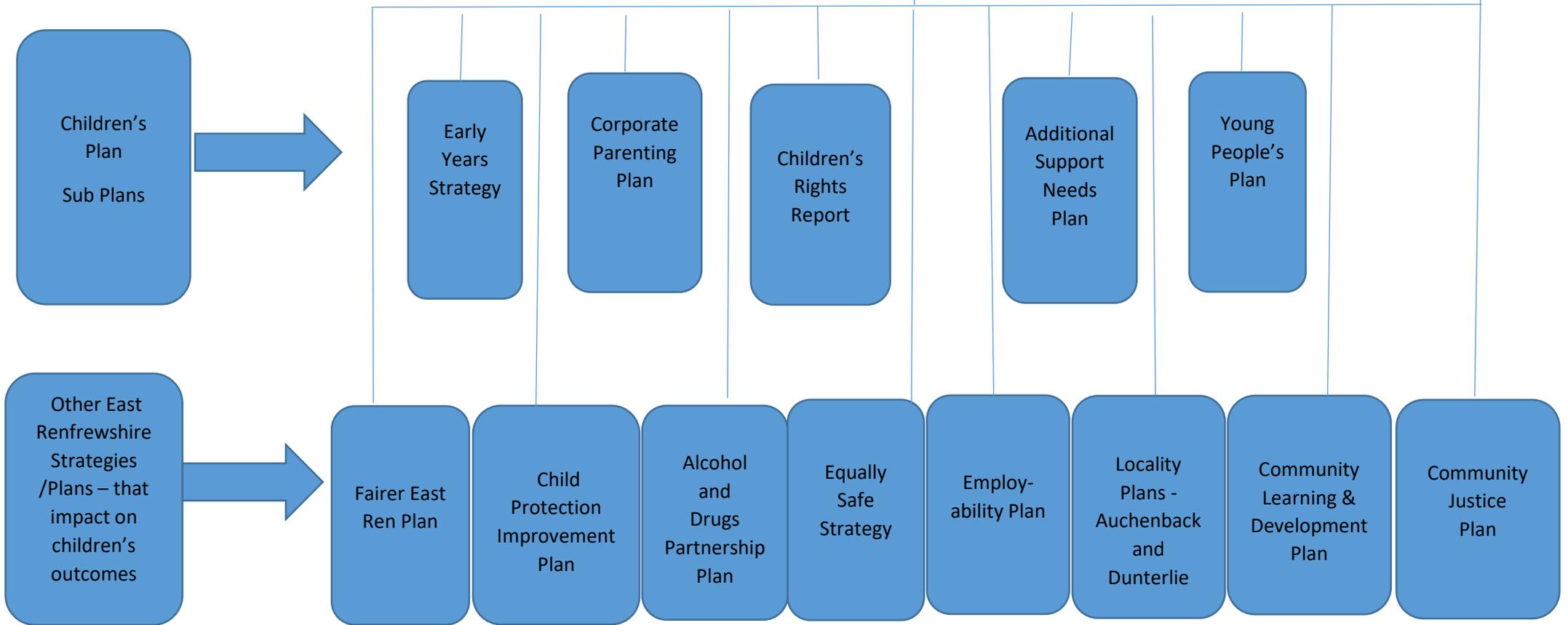
There has been a very small reduction in the total number of referrals for children affected by domestic abuse from 447 in 2017/18 to 443 in 2019/20. The number of police child concern reports for domestic abuse reduced from 406 in 2017/18 to 375 in 2019/20. The number of referrals from other agencies for children affected by domestic abuse increased from 41 in 2017/18 to 68 in 2019/20.

Over the last three year period there has been a reduction in the number of individual children affected by domestic abuse from 412 in 2017/18 to 385 in 2019/20 however it is evident that a significant number of these children each year were exposed to domestic abuse on more than one occasion; 17/18 – 35 (8%) of children, 18/19 – 37 (10%) of children and 19/20 – 58 (15%) of children.

Domestic Abuse continues to be the predominant reason for referral to the Request for Assistance Team.

Appendix 2

East Renfrewshire's Children's Services Planning Landscape



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Appendix 3Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People Partnership – Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
Kate Rocks	Chief Social Work Officer (Chair)	ER HSCP	Kate.Rocks@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Janice Collins	Head of Education Services (Equality and Equity) (Chair)	ER Education	Janice.Collins@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Nick Smiley	Principal Educational Psychologist	ER Education	Nick.Smiley@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Claire Coburn	Strategic Services – Senior Lead	ERC	Claire.Coburn@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Susan Craynor	CLD Manager, Community Learning and Development	Corporate and Community Services	Susan.Craynor@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Arlene Cassidy	Children’s Services Strategy Manager	ER HSCP	Arlene.Cassidy@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Dougie Fraser	CAMHS	ER HSCP	Dougie.Fraser@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Brian Dunigan	Money Advice & rights Team manager	ERC	Brian.Dunigan@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Elaine Byrne	Senior Nurse	ER HSCP	elaine.byrne2@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
Fiona McBride	Assistant Director	Children 1st	Fiona.McBride@children1st.org.uk
Kirsty Gilbert	Service Manager	ER HSCP	Kirsty.Gilbert@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
David Gordon	Quality Improvement Officer	ER Education	David.Gordon2@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Julie Paterson	Locality Reporter Manager	SCRA	Julie.Paterson@scra.gsi.gov.uk

John Kelso	Housing Services	ERC	John.Kelso@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Debbie Lucas	Child Protection Lead Officer	ER HSCP	Debbie.Lucas@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Maurice Gilligan	Area Manager East Renfrewshire & Renfrewshire	Skills Development Scotland	Maurice.gilligan@sds.co.uk
Raymond Prior	Senior Manager: Children and Families (Intensive Services) & Criminal Justice	ER HSCP	Raymond.Prior@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Kay McIntosh	Strategic Services Development Manager	ER Corporate & Community Services	Kay2.McIntosh@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Alan Coughtrie	Group Commander, Response and Resilience	Scottish Fire and Rescue	Alan.coughtrie@firescotland.gov.uk
Ken McKinlay	Area Convener	Children's Hearings Scotland	ken.mckinlay@childrenshearings.org.uk
Ian Pye	Head of Sport and Physical Activity	ER Culture and Leisure	Ian.Pye@ercultureandleisure.org
Kirstie Rees	Depute Principal Educational Psychologist	ER Education	Kirstie.Rees@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Ally Robb	Senior Manager	ER HSCP	Ally.Robb@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Karyn Shields	Lead Officer – Child's Plan	ER HSCP	Karyn.Shields@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk
Rosamund Rodriguez	Quality Improvement Officer	ER Education	Rosamund.Rodriguez2@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk