

**Children and Young People Board Workplan – April 2019**

The Board Plan contains the COSLA Priority:

- **Education and Children’s Services - Working with councils to put children at the centre of our approach, by delivering positive outcomes based on the principles of GIRFEC, and ensuring local accountability for all Children’s Services including Education**

<b>Priority 1: Early Learning and Childcare</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
<p>Policy development to support the commitment to delivery of 1140 hours of funded early learning and childcare (ELC) for all 3- and 4-year olds and eligible 2-year olds</p> <p>Lead: Matthew/Nicola</p>	<p><b>Scotland Excel Guidance</b> Following discussion at the last meeting of the Children and Young People’s Board, at their 26<sup>th</sup> April meeting Leaders approved the guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Transition options for contracting</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Sustainable rates</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Business sustainability</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Partnership Working</b> The fourth meeting of the ELC Partnership Forum (which includes Scottish Government, COSLA, Council Officers and private, third sector providers/childminders) met on 23 April in Glasgow and attended by Cllr McCabe and the Minister for Children and Young People.</p> <p><b>ELC Joint Delivery Board</b> The next meeting of the ELC Joint Delivery Board, which is co-chaired by Cllr McCabe and the Minister for Children and Young People, is due to take place on 25<sup>th</sup> June.</p>	<p><b>April 2019</b> Guidance on Sustainable Rates, Transition Options and assessing Business Sustainability published</p>	<p>All 3- and 4-year olds and eligible 2-year olds can access high quality funded ELC by 2020</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Priority 2: Looked After Children</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Current Update</b>	<b>Key Milestones</b>	<b>Outcome Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>Ongoing review and development of policy that ensures Local Authorities can fulfil their duties as corporate parents</p> <p>Lead: Nicola</p>	<p><b>Care Review</b> Officers are engaging with the Root and Branch review of Care which is looking at the legislation, practices, culture and ethos of the care system. COSLAs Chief Executive met with Fiona Duncan the Chair of the ICR on 1st May. Fiona Duncan will attend the CYP Board in May along with a paper provide an opportunity for Board Members to comment.</p>	<p><b>Care review</b> April 2017–19</p>	<p>The Care Review findings will inform future policy</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p><b>Secure Care</b> The successor arrangement for the Secure Care Strategic Board, the Secure Care Group continues to meet and an implementation plan for the national standards is being prepared for tabling at future meetings of the group.</p>	<p><b>Secure Care Standards</b> April 2020</p>	<p>Local Government has an informed, sustainable long-term approach to children in and on the edges of secure care</p>	<p>Next meeting of the Secure Care Group scheduled for May 2019</p>
	<p><b>Contracts</b> Scotland Excel manage the contracts for residential children services, fostering and continuing care services and secure care. Scotland Excel are continues to work with all interested parties around the next iteration of the contract and its interaction with the national secure care standards.</p>	<p><b>Contract Starts</b> April 2020</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p><b>Foster, Kinship and Adoptive Care Allowances</b> A National Review of Care Allowances was established to consider a national approach to care allowances for children living in foster care, kinship care and adoptive placements, within the current level of overall funding. These recommendations published in September and as per COSLA Leaders agreement COSLA officers work with Directors of Finance and Social Work Scotland to explore the practicalities around the recommendations. Work with civil servants to produce a joint response to the recommendations continues and a response is expected in coming months.</p>	<p><b>Allowances</b> Published in September 2018 COSLA officers continue to work considering the practicalities associated with the recommendations</p>	<p>Allowances for carers of Looked After Children are adequately funded</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Priority 3: Additional Support Needs</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
<p>Review and development of policies and procedures that enable children and young people with additional support needs to achieve their potential in education</p> <p>Lead: John</p>	<p>Following the publication of the Not Included, Not Engaged and Not Involved Report a working group has been established with a remit to increase the knowledge and skills of teachers and support staff about autism. The working group meets for the first time on 30<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>The Scottish Parliament agreed to a review of mainstreaming (“founded on a continuing commitment to a presumption to mainstream”), COSLA and ADES officers have held a series of discussions with Scottish Government and agreed that local government will be fully involved in the review process. COSLA Officers are working with Scottish Government on agreeing the terms of reference for the review and seeking to identify a independent Chair, this work is ongoing.</p>	<p><b>End of May 2019</b> Working Group to report on training options for teachers in autism.</p> <p>COSLA officers continue to discuss the terms of reference and scope of review with Scottish Government.</p>	<p>Teachers have knowledge and skills to support children with autism</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Development of the wider preventative mental health and support for children and young people’s mental health agendas</p> <p>Lead: Laura</p>	<p>The Children and Young People’s Mental Health Taskforce next meets on 16 May and will consider making early recommendations to COSLA and Scottish Government before the summer recess. Due to timing, these will be considered in draft by the Health and Social Care Board and then COSLA Leaders.</p> <p>The National Suicide Prevention Leadership Group is progressing well, and COSLA, jointly with the Samaritans, are leading on an action around local suicide prevention planning. Initial information gathering has been carried out and a subgroup will consider next steps later in May. A further action is around ensuring all actions adequately meet the needs of Children and Young People, therefore the work around local planning will be considered through this lens.</p>	<p><b>Spring 2019</b> First set of Taskforce recommendations expected</p>	<p>To increase the priority and visibility given to children and young people’s mental health</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Priority 4: Developing Scotland's Young Workforce (DYW)</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
Support the implementation of the seven-year DYW Programme (2014-2021) that is jointly led by local government and the Scottish Government  Lead: Matthew	At the May meeting board members will consider a paper which provides an update on recent developments within the DYW programme and be invited to shape priorities over the coming months.	<b>DYW Strategy</b> 2014- 2021	Reduction in unemployment for young people by 40% by 2021 and increase in work-based learning provision.	Ongoing
<b>Priority 5: Child Poverty</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
Child Poverty  Lead: Matthew	Following the meeting between Cllr McCabe, Cllr Parry, COSLA Spokesperson for Community Wellbeing and Aileen Campbell, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government in December to discuss how local government and the Scottish Government work together strategically to address child poverty COSLA officers and Scottish Government officials meet regularly to discuss national priority setting (including the forthcoming Action Plan progress report and the Income Supplement) and resourcing for Child Poverty Action Reports.	<b>11 December 2018</b>	Reduce child poverty with local government having a lead role as a major stakeholder.	Ongoing

<b>Priority 6: Youth Justice</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
<p>Supporting Implementation of the National Justice Strategy and WSA</p> <p>Lead: Nicola</p>	<p>COSLA officers attend the Youth Justice Improvement Board (YJIB) on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 along with local government professional officers from SOLACE, Social Work Scotland and Youth Justice. A paper will be brought to the CYP Board on 10<sup>th</sup> May to highlight the work completed to date and forward look for the last year of the youth justice strategy.</p>	<p>Youth Justice Implementation Board Meeting on <b>4<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>.</p> <p><b>NYJAG meeting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019</b>.</p>	<p>Reducing offending by young people.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Bill</p> <p>Lead: Matthew</p>	<p>The Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Bill will be considered by the Scottish Parliament at stage 3 on 7 May 2019.</p> <p>Cllr McCabe wrote to the Convener of the Equality and Human Rights Committee in March to highlight COSLA views on the Bill after it had completed stage 2. Officers are continuing to engage with the Scottish Government on implementation of the bill.</p>	<p><b>7 May 2019</b></p>	<p>Raising the age of criminal responsibility in Scotland from 8 years to 12 years old.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Priority 7: Education Delivery Plan (including Governance Review and Fair Funding)</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Current Update</b>	<b>Key Milestones</b>	<b>Outcome Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
<p>Influence the development of policy around the Education Governance Review and Fair Funding</p> <p>Lead: Eddie</p>	<p><b>Education Reform</b></p> <p>Work is progressing on developing guidance which will populate each section on an empowered system diagram. COSLA officers have oversight of each section and will liaise with the workstream chairs to ensure that the guidance fits with local priorities. It has been noted that a June deadline for this work is extremely ambitious and this will be discussed at the next School Empowerment Steering Group. Work continues self-evaluation tool and an evaluation strategy.</p> <p>At their meeting in February 2019 the Board agreed that good progress had been made in implementing the joint agreement.</p> <p>A meeting took place DFM and the COSLA President where it was agreed that good progress was being made on implementing the Joint Agreement. A full update will be considered by the Board at its May meeting</p> <p>The Steering Group have proposed that agreed drafts of guidance and evaluation materials will be introduced to the system for engagement with full political sign off in June 2020. The Board and Leaders will be asked to endorse this approach.</p> <p>A final draft of new DSM Guidelines have been produced and will be discussed at the Board at the May meeting before being considered by COSLA leaders.</p>	<p><b>June 2019</b> Work of School Empowerment Steering Group complete</p>	<p>Developing policy is workable, prioritises GIRFEC and does not harm local democratic accountability</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Priority 8: Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Strategy</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
Influence the Scottish Government Science Technology Engineering and Maths Strategy  Leads: Eddie and John	The STEM annual report was published in November 2018. The Implementation group continues to meet and regular updates will be provided as appropriate.	<b>November 2018</b> STEM Strategy Implementation Group – annual report produced	Increase the number of child and adult learners studying STEM subjects.	Ongoing
<b>Priority 9: Children's Hearings</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
Engage with partners in the Children's Hearing System  Lead: John	COSLA Officers meet with the National Convener of Children's Hearings Scotland and the Chief Executive/Chief Reporter of SCRA to discuss areas of mutual interest and consider how these organisations and COSLA can work together to improve outcomes for children and young people involved in the Children's Hearing system. COSLA Officers participate in the Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership with stakeholders in the Children's Hearings system.		Good relations are maintained with stakeholders in the Children's Hearings	Ongoing

<b>Priority 10: Behaviour in School</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
Support and co-Chair the Scottish Advisory Group on Respect and Behaviour in Schools  Lead: John	Our Spokesperson Co-Chairs SAGRABIS with John Swinney the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills.  SAGRABIS most recently met in December 2018 where they discussed;  Recording and Monitoring of Bullying in Schools (RAMBIS) Preparation for the next Behaviour in Schools Research survey Physical Interventions and Restraint Review of “Included, Engaged and Involved part 1”  The next meeting of SAGRABIS is scheduled for 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2019.	The Behaviour in Schools research will be carried out in 2019 with the report to be published in early 2020.	SAGRABIS provides COSLA with a forum with key stakeholders and an opportunity to provide a united message on creating a positive ethos in all schools.	Ongoing.
<b>Priority 11: Accessible and inclusive services and education</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
Working to ensure that children’s services and education, including the curriculum, are accessible and inclusive  Lead: Nicola	<b>LGBTI Inclusive Education</b> LGBTI Inclusive Education working group implementation group continues to meet and further detail will be provided to future Board meetings as implementation plans are published and enacted.	<b>LGBTI Inclusive Education</b> Autumn 2019	Education and children’s services are accessible and inclusive	Ongoing



Developing policy to support the Access to Sanitary Products in school's commitment  Lead: Hannah Axon	<b>Access to Sanitary Products in Schools</b> In December 2018 The Board agreed a set of principles in relation to delivery of this Programme for Government commitment. Funding was agreed by COSLA Leaders in May 2018 and a post has been funded by Scottish Government at COSLA to support the roll out and evaluation. Implementation across all schools now taken place. Additional work in relation to access to sanitary products in other areas of public sector was considered by Leaders in November 2018 and work is now ongoing to increase access to products in other community venues people visit.	<b>Jan/Feb 2019</b> Light touch review of uptake and funding ongoing	Free sanitary products are available to young people	Ongoing
<b>Priority 12: GIRFEC/Named Person</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Current Update</b>	<b>Key Milestones</b>	<b>Outcome Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Continue to champion GIRFEC and to engage with policy at both a strategic and implementation level around Named Person  Lead: Eddie	The Chair of the Practice Development Panel has written to the Deputy First Minister to say that there are significant challenges in developing a Code of Practice. In essence he is recommending that the policy is taken forward in based on GDPR and the UK Data Protection Act rather than creating a new legislative framework with an Information Sharing Bill.  The Practice Development Panel have not yet produced their report.	<b>Oct/Nov 2018</b> Draft Code of Practice produced	Named Person policy can be fully operationalised and GIRFEC is reinvigorated	Ongoing
<b>Priority 13: Child Protection</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Current Update</b>	<b>Key Milestones</b>	<b>Outcome Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Participation in the Child Protection Leadership Group  Lead: Nicola	COSLA continues to participate in the Child Protection Leadership Group. An event for Chief Officers with responsibility is planned for June 2019 and updates will be provided to future meetings on this and updates to the Child Protection Guidance.	Updated Child Protection Guidance Spring 2020	Sufficient in the child protection landscape to subvert the need for further legislation	Ongoing

<p>Equal Protection from Assault Bill</p> <p>Lead: Matthew</p>	<p>The Scottish Government announced John Finnie MSP's proposed Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill on 7 September 2018 which would make all forms of physical punishment of children against the law. COSLA, alongside Social Work Scotland are represented on the officer implementation group, which has met twice to date.</p> <p>Following written evidence submitted in January, COSLA officers gave evidence at the Equalities and Human Rights Committee March.</p>	<p><b>21 March 2019</b></p>	<p>All forms of physical punishment of children against the law</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>Priority 14: Workforce Planning - Teachers</b></p>				
<p>Activity</p>	<p>Current Update</p>	<p>Key Milestones</p>	<p>Outcome Description</p>	<p>Status</p>
<p>Teacher workforce planning and the teacher vacancy survey</p> <p>Lead: Tom Young</p>	<p>COSLA and Scottish Government will be working together shortly to develop the Teacher Vacancy survey for September 2018. COSLA will be involved in meetings of the SG Teacher Workforce Planning Advisory Group. The Advisory Group met from October through to December 2018. Input from the SG workforce planning model, the Teacher Vacancy survey results and the teacher census determined the need to continue to focus on key subject gaps in the recruitment to teacher training in universities. SG will maintain funding for a number of alternative routes into teaching through the Scottish Universities, with continued focus on STEM subjects. It is likely that a further vacancy survey will take place in September 2019, to coincide with the annual Teacher census.</p>	<p><b>September 2019</b></p>	<p>Scottish Councils have the workforce required relating to teaching and related professions</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<b>Priority 16: Future Investment in the Learning Estate</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
To work in partnership with SG to develop the new strategy and investment programme of the Learning Estate across Scotland.	Scottish Government and COSLA's current joint School Estate Strategy.COSLA Leaders approved the draft Learning Estate Strategy at their meeting in April. Discussions continue with the Scottish Government and Scottish Futures Trust on the development of the investment programme.	Investment of £1bn from 2021 supported by strategy and investment programme.	Learning Estate is fit for purpose Wider community benefits are shared across Scotland	Ongoing
<b>Priority 18: Equally Safe Strategy</b>				
Activity	Current Update	Key Milestones	Outcome Description	Status
Activity supporting implementation of the Equally Safe Strategy and the Delivery Actions relevant to children and young people  Lead: Katie Brown	A celebration of 10 years of work of the National Cedar Project in 11 local authority areas across Scotland will take place on Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May. Members of the Children and Young People Board are invited to attend lunch and meet Cedar mother and young people graduates, representatives from local Cedar projects and experts in domestic abuse. Details to be circulated after the CYP Board Meeting.  The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018 (DASA) comes in to force on on the 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019. The DASA creates the specific offence of domestic abuse. Further information is available here and reports will be provided to future CYP Boards as appropriate.	Gender-based Violence interventions are early and effective, preventing violence and maximising the safety and wellbeing of women, children and young people	Women, children and young people access relevant, effective and integrated services	Ongoing

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